Warmest Thoughts & Best Wishes for a

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MARIES COUNTY Advocate

Special "In Remembrance" section, for everyone we lost in 2022, in this issue.

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DONNIE CHAMBERS (above) could regularly be found volunteering at many different community events in Vichy and Vienna.

Community members mourn the loss of Donnie Chambers

Members of Maries County are mourning the loss of a firefighter, law enforcement officer, volunteer and father.

Donnie Chambers passed away Thursday morning after a brief battle with cancer.

Chambers had been a Vichy volunteer firefighter for over 35 years and spent over 30 years as a Maries County Sheriff's deputy. He was currently serving as a Phelps County Sheriff's deputy.

"Donnie completed almost 35 years of service with the volunteer fire department, assuming he started when he was 18," said Bonnie Prigge. "But he was there at the firehouse years before that. His dad was one of the original volunteer firemen when the department was formed. Donnie was small and he was there for events. Donnie grew up with the fire department. He's

See **Chambers** on Page 3





Cold, white Christmas

Maries County residents experienced a very cold and white Christmas this year. The National Weather Station at the Vichy Airport reported a low temperature of -8 degrees Fahrenheit on Thursday and Friday. MoDOT (above) worked to clear snowfall from Highway 63 on Thursday. More photos can be found on pages 8 and 12.

PHOTOS BY JACOB WARDEN



Maries R-2 receives first clear audit since 2018-19

BY ROXIE MURPHY
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BELLE — The Maries County R-2 School District received its first unencumbered audit, conducted this fall by Gerding, Korte, and Chitwood, CPA, since the 2018-19 school year.

The district has been experiencing uncertain audits since former superintendent Dr. Patrick Call's administration experienced a staff transition and software collapse that left district financials questionable. During that time, Call himself retired and current Superintendent Dr. Lenice Basham has been working with the board of education to correct the issue.

"We were very excited to have completed, a clean audit this year," Basham said. "Sara Rehmert worked incredibly hard to make sure that our reconciliation was complete.

Rehmert is the board of education secretary as well as the administrative assistant to Basham.

"She worked with the auditors to make sure they had the correct information and accurate documents," Basham continued. "She did an exceptional job and the district is very fortunate to have her in the position."

During Dec. 20 board meeting, which was moved up a week due to the impending holiday season, Basham addressed the board with excitement that the audit came back good.

"So this time I feel like you really need to applaud and give congratulations to Sara," Basham said. "I feel like you need to buy her dinner."

The district's only issue was over the segregation of duties — a problem all rural school districts share as there are not enough funds or staff to segregate duties the way the state recommends.

"It's always going to be an issue because they are saying we don't have enough people to segregate duties and

See **R-2 audit** on Page ?

TAC chooses Highway 63, 28 intersection as third-place priority

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — At the Dec. 12 meeting of the Maries County commissioners, Presiding Commissioner Victor Stratman shared information from a Dec. 8 meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission's (MRPC) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

TAC reviewed the transportation priority projects selected by counties that MRPC helps. In October, the Maries County commissioners selected the south intersection of Highway 63 and Highway 28 near the Rolla National Airport as their top priority. A project there would add a left turn lane onto Highway 28 for drivers going south on Highway 63.

Second on the priorities list were safety improvements at the intersection of Highway 42 and Route 133, which would improve vision at the "Y" intersection. Third on the commissioners' priorities list was a project to add shoulders to Highway 28 throughout the county.

The commissioners' fourth priority was safety improvements to the "Y" intersection at the north intersection of Highway 63 and Highway 28, which would improve sight lines by changing the intersection from a "Y" shape to a "T" shape.

The fifth priority on the commissioners' list was the extension of the climbing lane on Highway 63 at the intersection of Highway A.

"We got third place," Stratman told the other commissioners. "I felt pretty good about that because we were one of eight counties presenting there."

The commissioners' top priority, the left turn lane from Highway 63 onto Highway 28 received 74 votes at the TAC meeting, which places it as a high-priority project for the entire Meramec region. The top project, repairs to a bridge over Crooked Creek in Dent County, received 85 votes. Second place, capacity and safety improvements at an interchange on Highway V in Phelps County, received 76 votes.

Stratman said he thinks there is a "pretty good shot" the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) will fund the project.

TAC selected two Maries County projects as medium-priority. The commissioners' fourth priority, the safety improvements at the north intersection of Highway 63 and Highway 28 received 38 votes.

"The only bad thing about that one is that if they redo the highway (63), that's really going to be a waste," Eastern District Commissioner Doug Drewel said.

"There would still be the same amount of traffic on (Highway) 28," Stratman said. "There just wouldn't be as much on (Highway) 63. What they're talking about doing there is moving it (the intersection) south of the crest of that hill so you can see both ways instead of being over the hill."

"It would still be dangerous, but not as bad," Drewel said.

The commissioners' second priority, the safety improvements at the intersection of Highway 42 and Route 133, received 28 votes.

TAC determined the other two Maries County projects were low-priority for the region. The commissioners' fifth priority, an extension to the climbing lane on Highway 63 near Highway A, received 23 votes. The commissioners' third priority, the addition of shoulders on Highway 28, received five votes.

"They're (TAC) not much on that," Drewel said.

"That would be an expensive one, too," Stratman said. "It would be time-consuming and have a lot of interference from traffic."

Stratman reminded the other commissioners that even though Maries County projects placed high and low on the list, MoDOT has the final say.

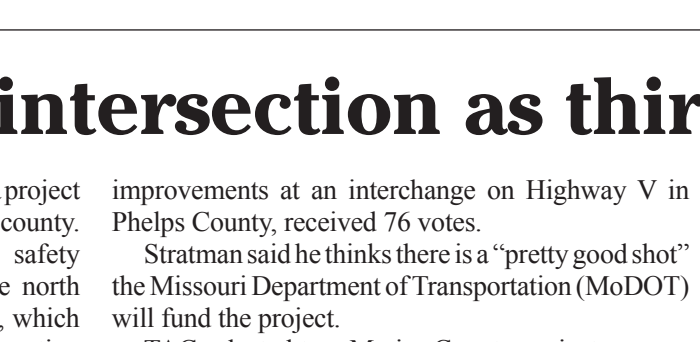
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Maries R-1 school board approves audit

See Page 9

Vintage blow mold Santas fill yard

See Page 7



Eagles fall to Newburg at homecoming

See Page 9

"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves." — WILLIAM E. VAUGHAN

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A NEW ADVENTURE

The big lie of 2022



by DENNIS WARDEN

Let's get one thing straight, politicians lie. No matter what their political leanings, they lie, believing that many, if not most, voters will never discover the truth.

There is one lie that President Joe Biden and his administration have pushed since he took office almost two years ago. It is the "big lie" that there is no immigration crisis at our southern border.

This may be one of the most repeated lies in history.

In August, responding to a question from Fox News's Peter Doocy, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said that "it's not like somebody walks over" the border. That's exactly what happens. There is video proving this happens every day.

Last month, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas maintained in a congressional hearing that the border is secure. At the same hearing, FBI Director Christopher Wray contradicted Mayorkas when he said the FBI sees "significant criminal threats coming from south of the border — whether it's guns, drugs, money, violence."

Democrat pundits on TV perpetuate the lie. Even after Customs and Border Protection reported a record of over 230,000 border encounters in October, two MSNBC analysts in November, Maria Hinijosa and Fernand Amandi, both agreed there is no "crisis" at the border.

A country is defined as a nation with its own government that occupies a particular territory. Without a secure border, you don't have a country.

Democrats, as a political party, have never cared about securing our border from illegal immigrants. President Biden's actions are proof. According to a report on Fox News.com in October, "The Biden administration and Congress did nothing to boost funding for two key border security agencies in the last fiscal year, leaving them each at the same level as last year even as they coped with a record surge in illegal immigrants."

Yet the omnibus spending bill, put forth by Democrats and passed last week, requires $410 million for "enhanced border security" for Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia and Oman.

Democrats continually get in the way of a secure U.S. border. The Biden Administration not only stopped the construction of President Trump's wall on the border, they recently sued Arizona to stop its construction of a border wall using shipping containers and razor wire.

And, of course, since Biden sees no problem at the border, there is no reason for him to visit it. Earlier this month, he skipped a chance to visit the border in Arizona, saying, "there are more important things."

I could argue against that line of reasoning.

It's easy to overlook this in Missouri. We are not a border state. That is why Florida and Texas transport migrants to Democrat cities and states like Chicago, New York, Washington D.C. and Martha's Vineyard. These transports can't compare with the 2,400 arrivals seen daily in El Paso, Texas.

For these deeds, Democrats have called for Texas Gov. Greg Abbot and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis to be prosecuted for "human trafficking."

But, of course, this is what the Federal Government has been doing since Biden took office. The Biden Administration uses non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to resettle illegal immigrants. The Heritage Foundation found that NGOs helped transport immigrants to all 50 states and 431 of the 435 U.S. congressional districts, proving that Biden and his administration are aware of this crisis. They continue to lie when confronted with the facts.

Biden's open-door policy is letting in more than illegal immigrants. It lets in drugs, specifically fentanyl. Starting in 2021, fentanyl overdoses became the No. 1 cause of death among U.S. adults ages 18-45.

Between 2020 and 2021, nearly 79,000 people between 18 and 45 years old — 37,208 in 2020 and 41,587 in 2021 — died of fentanyl overdoses, the data analysis from opioid awareness organization Families Against Fentanyl shows. More adults between 18 and 45 died of fentanyl overdoses in 2020 than any other leading cause of death, including COVID-19, motor vehicle accidents, cancer and suicide.

Last week border officers confiscated over 896,000 fentanyl pills coming from Mexico in Arizona.

How many migrants do you think cross our border illegally each year: a) 250,000 to 500,000; b) 500,000 to 1,000,000; c) 1 to 2 million; d) 2 to 3 million. In a recent Harvard Caps / Harris poll, 18 percent picked a, 20 percent b and 12 percent c. Only 6 percent chose the correct answer of, 2 to 3 million.

Do local supporters of Biden believe the lie, ignore it, or are they just ignorant like those who were part of the above poll?

TIMELY COMMENTARY

November Sister's Day

Eleven articles down and one to go, can you believe we only have one more month left before we change that third 2 to a 3? I know it's been a year by all the changes in my life. The biggest one was selling my three-story condo and moving into a three-room apartment. I'm still going through boxes. Well, enough about that it's time to talk about Sisters' Day.

The November sisters' day was held at the home of Pam Hale. Pam is our niece, the daughter of our oldest sister, Georgia Hood. She stepped up to take her mother's place in our scheduled celebrations. Those in attendance were our hostess Pam Hale, Lucy Branson, Mary Jo Crider, Shirley Huffman Linda Crider and Susie Kleffner. Those present in heart, Betty West in South Dakota. Those above but still in our hearts are Georgia Hood, Katie Risse and Lois Crider plus two brothers Norman Crider and Leo Crider.

Pam's house was, as usual, warm and welcoming. We gathered around that big beautiful farmhouse table. It was set and decorated for fall. Her son Sam decorated the dining and living room with fall wreaths and pumpkins and such. It looked great and added another layer of love to our day. Kudos Sammie.

Breakfast was surprising and delicious. We had a baked pancake with maple syrup, crispy bacon and sausage patties. OMG was it great. It is amazing how we keep finding new things to try. Most of the sisters say "I hope that's fit to eat, it's a new recipe." No one has failed yet.

Lucy told a story about being at our niece Jackie's house on a snowy afternoon. They looked out the window and there in a tree with the limbs covered in snow. In the center of the tree sat a bright red cardinal. Can't you just imagine how beautiful it was?

Shirley and Bob are home from their trip to the east coast. From Maine to Tennessee, they visited lots of places they had never been to before. They visited a baseball hall of fame. They also stopped at a place that had a blacksmith shop in operation. Next door was a store full of woodworking tools. Rob, Shirley and Bob's son, is very much into those kinds of things. They saw breath taking fall colors along the way. Most of all, they enjoyed spending time with their son and his wife Jodi.

On their trip, they passed a little building with yarn in it. That's Jodi's thing. The sign said, "Yarn shop put your money to pay in the bird house, if you need change it is in the gallon jug." Only in the rural American South.

We spent some time passing Shirley's phone around and looking at the pictures she took. There were a thousand memories captured in a 3 x 5 piece of technology.

In an antique shop, Shirley found a set of canisters just like the ones Bob's Grandma had. It was a 15-piece set with spice jars and all. Bob asked her when she got back to the car if she found anything she couldn't live without. She told him "No, but I found something I really wanted." He wanted to know what it was. Bob said if she wanted it to go buy it, but she said it was too expensive. She came home with it for him because she wanted it. It was a challenge to get home, but they made it all the way in 15 pieces.

Shirley has a terrible habit of bringing us the most thoughtful and unique souvenirs from her trips. This time she brought us each a small laminated card with a poem on the back. It was very nice. She also found us each a cool finger thimble and a very pretty filigreed Christmas ornament made from soda cans. Thank you, dear sister.

Lucy got a very large pumpkin to make pies with. It took a crew to get it in her house. Once inside, it was cooked and cut and made into filling for two pies. The remains were bagged into pie-sized portions and placed in the freezer.

Sister Georgia used to say, "I can't cook anymore." We no longer think she was exaggerating. Every one of us is experiencing the same phenomenon. Things that used to be staples in our kitchens just don't turn out anymore. What the heck? I know it takes longer to make everything now, and that shouldn't affect the quality of the food, but something does.

We passed around some cards to sign for Sister Betty. She has a birthday coming up next week and guess what… she is still older than dirt. Ha! Ha! We all have birthdays, but she has had more than any of us. When she was young, rainbows were still black and white. I can tease them all about their age because no matter how old I get, I will still be younger than them.

Pam's husband Darrell grew up spending a lot of time with his Grandma and Grandpa Hickey. When Pam's kids were little, they lived in Grandpa's backyard. The old house they lived in has been empty for years since their passing. It is now getting so bad it is time to take down. Pam's girls wanted to go see what was left in it, if anything. Well, as it turned out they came out with a couple of treasures. A baby quilt Grandma made. We don't know for who, but it is beautiful. They also found an old cookbook with recipes for cooking on a wood stove. Boy, did that confuse her kids.

Lunch rolled around and again it was something made in a new way. Spicy pineapple chili and cornbread with cookies for dessert: chocolate chip, oatmeal and snickerdoodles. Everything was incredibly delicious, not that I was surprised. After all, the women raised seven kids.

We talked about problems with pharmacies. They refill prescriptions until you would have to live three years after you die to get all the pills taken.

Has anyone ever seen an aloe vera plant that turned white? Shirley found hers that way when she got home from her trip. We discussed this some but mostly we just scratch our heads.

Well, that's about enough of that for another month. Hope you enjoyed it. Happy Thanksgiving to one and all.

Thought: Home - where toys litter the floor, dishes crowd the sink, fingerprints shine through windows, artwork covers the fridge, dandelions wait for a vase and laughter echoes through the hall. In other words, a wooden box filled with love.

Fun Fact: One day Thomas Edison came home and gave a paper to his mother. He told her, "my teacher gave this paper to me and told me to only give it to my mother."

His mother's eyes were tearful as she read the letter out loud to her child: "Your son is a genius. This school is too small for him and doesn't have enough good teachers for training him. Please teach him yourself."

One day, many years after Edison's mother died and he was now one of the greatest inventors of the century, he was looking through old family things. Suddenly he saw a folded paper in the corner of a drawer in a desk. He took it and opened it up. On the paper was written: "Your son is addled [mentally ill]. We won't let him come to school any more."

Edison cried for hours and then he wrote in his diary: "Thomas Alva Edison was an addled child that, by a hero mother, became the genius of the century.

GUEST COMMENTARY

SHS awards three fellowships

COLUMBIA — The State Historical Society of Missouri is awarding Center for Missouri Studies fellowships to three history scholars in 2023.

Sarah S. Jones, interpreter and educator at the Missouri State Museum in Jefferson City, has won a fellowship for her proposal, "Missouri's Post Office Murals: Artistic Expression, Local Collaborations."

Brooks Blevins, the Noel Boyd Professor of Ozarks Studies at Missouri State University, has been awarded a fellowship for his proposal, "The Missouri Scenic Rivers Act and the Rise of the Rural Right."

Jenny Barker-Devine, professor of history at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois, has won a fellowship award for her proposed study, "'Protection for All Citizens': Civil Defense and the Problem of Evacuating Missouri's Urban Centers during the Cold War, 1960–1980."

In her study, Barker-Devine will examine conflicts between rural and urban Missourians that arose while planning how to defend Missouri and its citizens from the unimaginable destruction of a nuclear war. In the event of such a war, state and federal policymakers envisioned evacuating urban populations to mines and caves in rural Missouri. While some ordinary citizens embraced the plan, others reacted with skepticism and even hostility to the massive demands it would place on rural areas to support large numbers of refugees.

"I first learned about Missouri's 1960s civil defense plan while visiting Bluff Dwellers Cave near Noel, Missouri in 2009," Barker-Devine said. "I asked our tour guide about the fallout shelter sign over the door. As a historian of the Midwest, I realized that Missouri's unique geography and geology presented an exceptional case study that is unlike any other state in the region. Thanks to the StateHistorical Society of Missouri, I now have the resources and support to delve into the archival record and learn more about how Missourians coped with the unthinkable."

Blevins will examine urban-rural conflicts over environmentalism and property rights that arose in the late 1960s during legislative efforts to pass a scenic rivers bill in Missouri. Created in the wake of the 1964 federal bill establishing the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, the Missouri bill attempted to bring more than 800 miles of Ozarks streams under state control.

Jones plans to examine murals painted for post offices as part of a program under the U.S. Treasury Department's Section of Fine Arts during the New Deal. About 30 of the murals created for Missouri post offices in the 1930s still exist, although they are not all in their original locations.

"I'm honored and excited to have been selected as a Center for Missouri Studies fellow for 2023," Jones said. "The post office murals physically connect our present to a past that is growing ever distant. They represent an important moment in the history of American art and culture, when local and national interests aligned to create images meant to inspire, educate, and comfort viewers. Documenting the history of Missouri's post office murals allows us to understand this exceptional artistic resource before it is potentially lost to the inevitable march of time."

Each fellowship award includes a $5,000 stipend. The fellowship offers an opportunity to write an article for publication in the Missouri Historical Review, a scholarly journal published by the State Historical Society. Center for Missouri Studies fellows are also invited to make a public presentation of their work. Barker-Devine, Blevins, and Jones will hold their appointments for the 2023 calendar year.

Attorney General Schmitt announces first payments from opioid settlement

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt announced Dec. 23 that the state of Missouri has received the first two payouts from the historic opioid settlement that the Missouri Attorney General's Office coordinated and finalized earlier this year. The payments, totaling $35 million, are the first collected from the opioid settlement, and will be directed towards aiding victims and funding treatment and abatement programs.

"This settlement is historic not only because it's the largest victim-centric settlement in Missouri's history, but also because that money will go toward helping those desperately in need," said Attorney General Schmitt. "Rather than going into general revenue, the funds from this settlement are being deposited directly into a fund that will aid the communities who need it most. It has been a great privilege to lead the charge on obtaining this settlement, and I look forward to seeing the good that this settlement money will do for the communities who were ravaged by the opioid crisis."

In July of 2021, Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt announced the preliminary settlement in the Office's opioid litigation against Johnson & Johnson and major opioid distributors. In order to obtain the full amount of the settlement, the Office was required to obtain sign-on to the settlement from Missouri cities and counties. Through the Fighting Addiction, Saving Lives program, the Office made a full court press to get those sign-ons.

In working with litigating and non-litigating cities and counties, the Office has unlocked the full amount of the settlement to ensure that victims of opioid abuse and their families get resources they desperately need.

While other states opted to use outside counsel to litigate these cases, Missouri handled these cases internally, ensuring that all the money designated for the State of Missouri through these settlements goes directly to opioid abatement and treatment.

The Johnson & Johnson and distributors' settlements brings an estimated $458,000,000, with roughly $274,800,000 going to the State of Missouri, and $183,200,000 going to localities.

These settlements will be paid out over a term of 18 years, on a graduated scale that pays larger sums in early years and decreases over time.

MARIES COUNTY Advocate

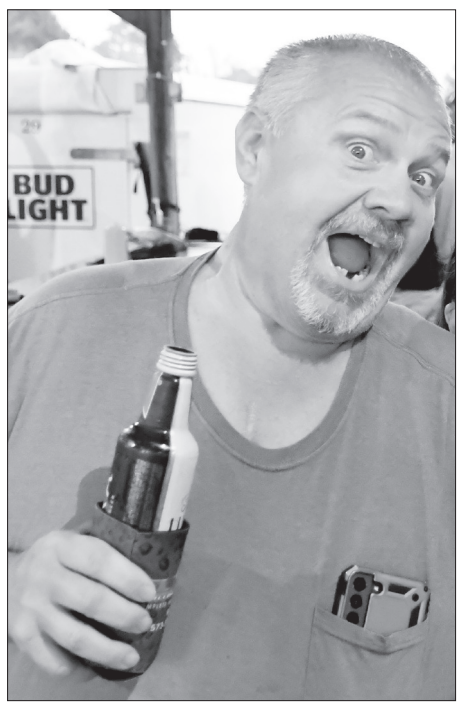
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Chambers • from page 1

certainly an integral part of our department both from the firefighting perspective, from the organization to the fundraising."

Donations to the Chamber family can be made through a Go Fund Me page or the Donnie Chambers Assistance Fund at any Maries County Bank.

Facebook was filled with posts of memories and condolences to the family:

Maries County Sheriff's Office said, "Donnie also served more than 30 years in law enforcement — serving most of his career here at the Maries County Sheriff's Office. He worked as a dispatcher, deputy, transport officer, and bailiff. He also served the Phelps County Sheriff's Office for the past few years as a court bailiff. Please join our entire Sheriff's Office in prayers and support for his family and friends."

Phelps County Sheriff Michael P. Kirn said, "Donnie was a hard-working, thoughtful, and just person who lived to serve the people of both Phelps and Maries counties. Donnie was not only a deputy but also a firefighter for many years. This servant of the people will be greatly missed!

"I extend my deepest sympathy and unwavering support to the Chambers family. I am wishing you peace, comfort, courage, and lots of love at this time of sorrow. My heart goes out to you at this difficult time."

Cindy Barbarick said, "Donnie was a great guy. Always willing to help. Many good times were shared with him at the Belle Fair. Gone way too soon. Rest in peace, Donnie."

Vickie Jones said, "I am so sorry to hear that. I have known Donnie and his family since he was a small child. Prayers for his family."

Greg Long said, "Donnie is a great guy and lifelong friend. He will be missed by many. Rest easy brother, we've got it from here."

Mary Jean Woody Breeden said, "Loved court days when Donnie would come to visit in the Associate Circuit Court Office with me and Debbie. Always had a smile for us. Donnie also DJ'd my daughter's wedding reception. He made it a family night. So much fun watching his girls dance on the stage next to his DJ booth. He loved his girls! Donnie, you will be missed. Fly high, my friend."

Nick Lovell said, "I had the opportunity and privilege to work with this man right after I finished school. I'm very thankful to have known this man and I'm very saddened by his passing. Donnie was such a great human to be around. He was always a source of light in a very dark world. Thinking of him and his family."

Brad Highman said, "A true fixture at MCSO that made me feel so welcome there. Always a story, a laugh, or advice to share. RIP, sir."

Jacob Burke said, "He was the best man and a dear friend. He will be truly missed by all. I hold a special spot in my heart for this man. My deepest sympathies to family and friends. Love you, Donnie"

Lisa Gould said, "I've known Donnie most of my life. RIP. Praying for comfort for Ramona and his family."



Maries R-1 December elementary report, students recognized character traits

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — At the Dec. 13 Maries R-1 School Board meeting, Vienna Elementary Principal Shanda Snodgrass updated board members about activities at the elementary school.

During the last week of the semester, elementary students finished their child safety measure training. The program gave students five rules to follow in unsafe situations. Topics included bullying, cyberbullying, child abuse and neglect, safety awareness and recognizing safe adults.

On Dec. 9, the elementary parent-teacher organization and elementary teaching staff hosted a free parents' night out "to give back to the community and all their support for our teachers," Snodgrass said. "Fun was had by all, including the teachers and the students." She said 58 students and 22 adults were at the event.

Board member Kacie James said that she had heard a lot of positive comments about the parents' night out from parents and kids.

The school district supported 28 families through its Giving Tree Christmas program.

Snodgrass reported standing-only attendance at the Dec. 7 elementary choir concert.

"Thankfully Santa was able to drop by for a visit," she said. "We got lots of pictures."

Snodgrass said that the Scholastic Book Fair was a success in part because the school also hosted a grandparents' lunch during the book fair.

"Grandparents were very excited to get to the building, do an activity with their students and also do a little shopping at the book fair," she said. The lunch ended a weeklong celebration of grandparents.

On Dec. 14, elementary school students participated in the third Character Trait Walk of Fame of the year. Olyvia Hoelscher received an award for outstanding optimism, and the school recognized Emerson Allsup and Samuel Hayes for their perseverance. Lakota Curtis, Marissa Fannon, Jeremiah Forthman, Veronica Helton, Haven Holterman and Michael Pickering received awards for their empathy.

Parents had the opportunity visit the building for the Dec. 16 class Christmas parties.

R-1 school board approves audit, reviews cyber-security requirements

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — The Maries County R-1 school board approved the audit for the 2021-22 school year at the board's Dec. 13 meeting. Superintendent Teresa Messersmith said the district would submit the results to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) by the end of the month.

Messersmith said internal control was one of the audit's biggest concerns for the district.

"It's very difficult to have internal control when you only have a one or two-person accounting staff, " board vice-president Penny Schoene, who works as a certified public accountant, said. "The risk we run is the risk of fraud and collusion. The way to mitigate that is to have the people. As long as you have proper approval of invoices, and payrolls and things like that, it (internal control) is a common finding. It doesn't indicate anything bad."

Messersmith said the audit also showed concerns for the district's cybersecurity, but the district was working to address those.

Later in the meeting, Messersmith updated board members about upcoming changes to the district's cybersecurity measures. Next month, the district must sign a document with its insurance provider Missouri United School Insurance Council (MUSIC) that states the school district is aware of upcoming changes to MUSIC's cybersecurity insurance requirements.

The district's cybersecurity deductible will increase from $10,000 to $50,000 if it does not make the necessary changes by next July. If the district does not make the changes by next December, it will be ineligible for cybersecurity insurance from MUSIC.

Messersmith outlined seven cybersecurity requirements MUSIC has for the school district.

First, the district will need to implement multi-factor authentication on its devices. Whenever a district employee wants to access an online account, they will receive a security code by text message or email to verify they are logging into their own accounts. Messersmith said technology director Kevin Schwartze had begun implementing multi-factor authentication on the email accounts of some district staff.

Second, the district needs backups for its important documents. Messersmith said MUSIC requires a 3-2-1 backup plan, which breaks down to three copies of documents and two different storage devices. One of the storage devices must be offsite. Board members asked if the district already has offsite storage, and Messersmith said that it does.

Third, the district needs to have a cyber incident disaster response plan in place.

Fourth, the district needs endpoint detection and response (EDR), which detects unusual use and activity that might indicate the presence of ransomware and malware. Messersmith said the district's current Microsoft Defender antivirus program is inadequate for MUSIC's requirements, so it will need to upgrade.

Fifth, district staff will need proper training and planning against cyber attacks. Training includes phishing simulation and awareness.

Sixth, district email addresses need secure filters and configurations, and seventh, privileged accounts need better security.

"Kevin (Schwartze) says a lot of this we have in place but not all of it, so we will be working toward those," Messersmith said. "That could cost us some money to be able to get those things in place."

She said she expects to complete the process by the July deadline.

Schoene said that her work as an auditor has shown her the importance of the first two security measures because she has seen clients lose sensitive data to phishing scams or not having proper backups for their information.

Messersmith said Midwest Computech would run tests on the district's cybersecurity measures once they are in place.

In a discussion continued from the previous month's meeting, Messersmith told the board that she contacted Catapult Learning to discuss adding an opt-out clause to a summer school contract the board considered signing. At the Nov. 22 meeting, the board decided it would not vote on a contract until the company responded to a request to add an option for the school district to end the contract early.

A representative for Catapult Learning told Messersmith that the company would add an option into the contract for the district to opt out by the first Friday of December each year for the upcoming year. The option will allow the district to opt out of the contract for either the upcoming year or the entirety of the remaining contract.

The board approved a four-year contract that included the opt-out option. The rates the district pays to Catapult Learning for summer school services will remain constant under the new contract.

Board members also approved a summer school schedule that will last from May 22 to June 21, 2023. The session will comprise 22 in-class days like in previous years. Summer school days will last from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

May 16 is the last day of the regular school year. Board members asked if the last day of the regular school year could be moved back because of potential snow days.

"We have several (snow days) built in," Messersmith said about the school's calendar. "I don't think that will be a problem."

In other business, board members accepted the resignations of high school English teachers Kimberly Obenauer and Debra Starkey. Both teachers will leave at the end of the 2022-23 school year. The board also approved the hiring of Michael Weeks as an elementary paraprofessional on the recommendation of Special Education Director Joe Edwards.

The board approved a continuation of the district's Safe Return to School Plan regarding COVID-19 policies. Messersmith recommended no changes to the plan because it had been going well. The plan needs approval every six months.

Maries R-1 high school principal, special education director reports

BY COLIN WILLARD
ADVOCATE STAFF WRITER
cwillard@wardpub.com

VIENNA — Maries R-1 High School Principal Ian Murray presented a report to school board members at the board's Dec. 13 meeting.

Murray told the board that the high school's teachers were working to align their standards with the needs of current students.

"We've looked at the data from last year and have been addressing areas where improvement is needed," he said. "I've been able to meet with some departments, but I still need to meet with others in regards to checking on their progress. They've been going through and dissecting the standards we did very well on, the standards we did decently and the standards we didn't do very well on."

Murray said teachers are reviewing how they have taught standards in the past to adapt for current students.

"It's always a war trying to find everything because nothing is the same year after year," he said.

Murray also told the board that teachers were working to rewrite finals ahead of the end of the semester.

"We really try during our concerts and home games during December to bring out that special time of year," Murray said. "I know the students really enjoy it, and that's what it's all about."

During his report, Murray acknowledged the work district Maintenance and Facilities Department Supervisor Mike Shaughnessy put into decorating the school for Christmas. Other recognitions included teachers Anita Phipps, Ray Spiller and Jessica Colliver and choir, band and art students who contributed to the winter concerts and art show.

District Special Education Director Joe Edwards followed Murray's report.

On Oct. 24, the special education staff met with Leasa Day, the compliance consultant for the South Central division of the state's Regional Professional Development Center (RPDC) program. They reviewed corrective action plan items and compliance changes made to Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) guidelines. Edwards said the meeting went very well. He also said that on Nov. 21 he submitted all individual corrective action plans to DESE, which approved them all.

Edwards said that as of Dec. 13, there had been 31 Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings or meetings to determine IEP eligibility for students in the district. IEPs outline the experiences of students eligible for special education services. There are 42 students in the district served by IEPs, three students in the evaluation process and four students in the reevaluation process.

Edwards submitted registration paperwork to the Missouri School Boards' Association's (MSBA) Missouri Emergency Operations Plan Tool. He said it is a free two-year subscription offered to attendees of a school specialist

See **R-1 reports** on Page 4



AREA OBITUARIES

Donald Chambers
1970-2022



Donald "Donnie" A. Chambers, 52, of Vienna, passed away Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022, at Phelps Health in Rolla.

He was born June 10, 1970, in Rolla, a son to the late Donald E. Chambers and Betty Sue Prigge, who survives of Vichy.

He was a 1988 graduate of Belle High School.

Donnie was united in marriage to Ramona Stroud, Feb. 19, 2005, at the First Pentecostal Church in Vichy. She survives at their home in Vienna.

He worked all his working life in law enforcement, first with the Maries County Sheriffs Department for over 30 years and then for the Phelps County Sheriff's Department where he worked until his health no longer allowed. He was also a longtime member of the Vichy Volunteer Fire Department, which his dad helped to establish.

Donnie was a member of the Tabernacle of Praise Church in Rolla and the Vichy Community Park, where he served on the board, most recently as vice-president.

He enjoyed boating on the river, fishing, baking and cooking with his family, going to local sporting events and cheering on the players and cheerleaders, getting together with family and friends around a campfire, serving as a DJ at local events and most of all spending time with his loving family.

Donnie was preceded in death by father, Donald; paternal grandparents, Thomas and Marie Chambers; and maternal grandparents, Edwin and Verle Prigge.

He is survived by mother, Betty; wife of 17 years, Ramona; daughters, Dimesha Chambers and Elizabeth Chambers both of the home; brother, Mark Chambers of Vichy; stepsister, Theresa Theberge of Houston, Texas; stepmother, Brenda (Matthews) Chambers of Houston, Texas; father-in-law, William Stroud of Vienna and mother-in-law Tammy Achter of Anniston; uncle-in-law, James Daniel Stroud of Vienna; sisters-in-law, Tasha Woodworth of Anniston, and Amy Achter of East Prairie; nieces and nephews, Shayne Shaul, Austin Achter, Dakota Woodworth, Amber Woodworth, Nathaniel Achter, Dominic Gasper, Nevaeh Achter, Gabriella "Gabby" Gasper, Theidora Theberge and Emeri Hamm; and great-niece Everly Hill; as well as many other cousins extended family and friends that loved him dearly.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 27, at the Tabernacle of Praise Church in Rolla, with Pastor Tim Blackwell officiating. Interment will be at a later date in the Macedonia Cemetery in Vichy.

Memorials suggested to the Chambers family through an account set up at Maries County Bank.

Arrangements entrusted to Sassmann's Chapel, Belle.

Ronald Giesler, Sr.
1928-2022

Ronald Kieth Giesler, Sr., 94, St. James, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022.

He was born Dec. 5, 1928, to Roy Russell Giesler and Flora Elva (Warner) Giesler in Vichy.

He was united in marriage to Retha Venitta Chambers, Sept. 23, 1950, in Salem, Ark.

Ronald graduated from Vienna High School in 1946. He served in the U.S. Army in the Korean War. He worked for International Shoe Company for 22 years until the company closed. He worked cattle and later worked for West Asphalt.

Ronald was preceded in death by wife Venitta; parents Roy and Elva; parents-in-law Ernest and Mabel Chambers; brother, Roy Giesler, Jr., and wife Freddie Lou; sister, Evelyn Barta; brothers-in-law Donald Chambers and J.C. Hargrove; and grandson-in-law Will Rogers.

Ronald is survived by children Kimberly Giesler, Ronald Giesler, Jr., Tami Felan all of St. James, and Cheryl Moreland of Rolla; seven grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter; brother Raymond Giesler of Rolla; sisters Geneva and husband Bill Feeler of Rolla, and Lylis Hargrove of St. James; sister-in-law Rosemary Chambers of St. James; and brother-in-law George Barta of Bloomington, Minn.

Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 29, from 10–11 a.m. at Jones Funeral Home in St. James, with a memorial service immediately following with Pastor Barrett Payne officiating.

Memorials suggested to Southard Cemetery in St. James.

Arrangements entrusted to Jones Funeral Home in St. James.

Dorothy Withers
1932-2022



Dorothy "Dot" Joann (Farley) Slone Withers passed away on Friday, Dec. 23, 2022, at the age of 90 years. Dot was born on July 23, 1932, in Doolittle, to the late John and Ruth (Stevenson) Farley. She married Bill Slone and had five children. After Bill passed away Dot married William Withers.

Preceding her in death are her parents, husband Bill Slone, second husband William "Bill" Withers, three brothers, Jerry Moose, Bobby Farley, Bill Farley, and one son Ricky Slone.

Dot will be greatly missed by her surviving family which includes: one son, Randy Slone of Anchorage Ala.; three daughters, Linda Hoffman and husband JR of Freeburg, Debbie Fajardo and husband Dino of Anchorage, Ala., Barbara Cochran and fiancé David Caverly of Spokane, Wash.; two sisters, Bonnie Earhart of Rolla, Donna Sisk of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; eight grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren.

Dot loved being a part of the Dixon Saddle Club and spending time with family and friends. She attended the Santee Community Church in Dixon.

A funeral service for Dot J. Withers will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2022, at the Null and Son Funeral Home in Rolla. Interment will follow in the Ozark Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery. A visitation for family and friends will be held prior to the service beginning at 10 a.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

All arrangements are under the direction of the Null and Son Funeral Home of Rolla.

Carla Woodcock
1956-2022



Carla Jean Woodcock, 66, beloved mother and grandmother passed away quietly Saturday, Dec. 14, 2022, at home with her daughters by her side.

She was born Dec. 8, 1956, in St Louis.

Carla graduated high school in Kokomo, Ind., then became a CMT a job she loved and held for 22 years, 18 of which were caring for veterans at the Missouri Veterans Home in St. James. She also enjoyed going to casino's, traveling, spending time with her friends and family, most especially her grandson Pierce who was her best friend. Carla also owned and operated the bar "Just Killin Time" in Bland for 10 years. She loved to sing and dance and just put a smile on everyone's face.

She is preceded in death by parents, step-father Carl King and mother Lillie (Gollahon) King; grandmother Leatha Otis; sisters Melba Rohan King of Owensville and Billy King; grandson Dylan Nichols; and niece Amanda Thompson.

She is survived by daughters Letha (Juan) Nichols of Cuba, Kelly (Tom) Gliser of Belle; grandsons Pierce Nichols, Blane (Christina) Gliser of Atlanta, Ga., Dolan Gliser of Rolla, Carson Gliser and his girlfriend Kaylei Robertson of Rolla; granddaughter Jamilhia Markiet of Las Vegas, Nev.; and sisters Verna Jones of Bland and Debbie (Darrin) Cantlon of Owensville; brothers Bruce Bradford of Belle and Larry (Patti) King of Gerald; plus many nieces and nephews, and friends that will all miss her dearly.

There will be a service at a later date

Cremation services were under the direction of Rolla Cremation and Memorial.

NOTICE

Obituaries that are published in the Maries County Advocate, are formatted according to our style and are run free of charge. When specific information is asked to be included in an obituary, a charge will then occur. There is also a charge to process a photo that is to run with an obituary.

MARIES COUNTY COURT

JUDGE KERRY G. ROWDEN

Kyle S. Barch, Sullivan, pleaded guilty to failure to equip passenger vehicle with two sets of front seat safety belts (motor bus excluded); fine.

Daniel H. Barger, St. Peters, pleaded guilty to failure to equip passenger vehicle with two sets of front seat safety belts (motor bus excluded); fine.

Donald D. Dailey, St. James, pleaded guilty to speeding (16-19 over); fine.

Nathaniel J. Hale, Belle, pleaded guilty operating motor carrier vehicle with vision reducing damage/vision discoloration/glazing; fine.

Brenna R. Heavin, Joplin, pleaded guilty to failure to display plates on motor vehicle/trailer; fine and court costs.

Carson T. Hunter, St. James, pleaded guilty to failure to wear a seatbelt; fine.

Kyle L. Lackey, Rolla, pleaded guilty to failure to register a motor vehicle; fine.

Aaron P. McDaniel, Kansas City, pleaded guilty to failure to equip passenger vehicle with two sets of front seat safety belts (motor bus excluded); fine.

Cierra C. Pauley, Jefferson City, pleaded guilty to failure to equip passenger vehicle with two sets of front seat safety belts (motor bus excluded); fine.

Paul E. Piazza, O'Fallon, pleaded guilty to failure to register motor vehicle; fine and court cost.

CIVIL CASES

Discover Bank v. Sana K. Macclugage, Belle, suit on file; judgment entered in favor of plaintiff in the amount of $6,252.55.

DNF Associates, LLC v. Johna Spencer, Dixon, suit on file; judgment entered for plaintiff in the amount of $1,936.66 plus court and process server costs.

MARIES COUNTY REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

12/01/2022 to 12/15/2022

Backues Estates, LLC, parcel in Section: 30, Township: 40, Range: 8; to Jacob Massman, Jenna Massman.

Terry R. Geiler, Myrna L. Geiler, parcel in Section: 35, Township: 39, Range: 7; to Robert J. Bethune.

Oscar Hart, parcel in Section: 8, Township: 39, Range 8; to Haley Hart, Jasmine Hart.

Rober Steuber, Kathleen Steuber, parcel in Section: 36, Township: 41, Range: 9; to Brittany Long.

Curtis D. Honse Personal Rep, Estate of Nathan A. Honse, Deceased, parcels in Lot 61, Gasconade Getaway; Section: 31, Township: 40, Range: 8; Section: 36, Township: 40, Range: 9; Section: 1, Township: 39, Range: 9; to James J. James.

Joseph Delisle, Julie Brand, parcel in Section: 8, Township: 39, Range: 8; to APKE Investments, LLC.

Guffey Properties, LLC, parcel in City of Vienna; to Realty Income Properties 27, LLC.

Pamela M. Karr, Mark H. Karr, parcel in Section: 34, Township: 40, Range: 7; to Chris Zang, Amy Zang.

Michael E. Boyle, Nancy M. Boyle, parcel in Section: 10, Township: 39, Range: 7; to Michael E. Boyle Trustee, Nancy M. Boyle Trustee, Boyle Trust Agreement.

Jeffrey L. Snitker, Marsha R. Snitker, parcel in Section: 4, Township: 40, Range: 7; to Roland D. Snitker, Alicia D. Snitker.

Rocky D. Branson, Tammy Branson, parcels in Lot: 1, Block: C, H.H. Johnson Subdivision; Lot: 2, Block: C, H.H. Johnson Subdivision; Lot: 3, Block: C, H.H. Johnson Subdivision; Lot: 4, Block: C, H.H. Johnson Subdivision; James Macrae, Mary Macrae.

BFR Investments, LLC, parcel in Section: 22, Township: 40, Range: 9; Eric Williams, Kendall Stratman.

Frank J. Tomiser, III, parcel in Section: 3, Township: 39, Range: 8; to Frank J. Tomiser, III, John L. Tomiser, Joseph W. Tomiser.

Annetta Honse, Michael S. Honse Deceased, parcel in Section: 36, Township: 40, Range: 9; to James Capital Development LLC.

Michael Cook, Leigh Cook, parcel in Section: 14, Township: 40, Range: 8; Michael B. Erwin, Shannon Erwin.

Michael Southard, Susan Southard, parcel in Section: 24, Township: 39, Range: 8; Nathan P. Walka, Kathryn A. Walka.

Ruth G. Rebernak, parcel in Section: 29, Township: 40, Range: 9; to Jason Reeves, Laurie Reeves.

Randy W. Ray, Kelly Ray, parcel in Section: 2, Township: 38, Range: 11; to Maci Ray.

R-1 reports • from page 3

training meeting in August.

"It addresses every natural hazard, active shooter, fire, everything," he said.

Edwards attended a webinar outlining the process of developing an emergency operations plan. One of the topics was the length of time it would take to complete their plans. Edwards said that at the webinar someone shared that one administration worked every day through summer to complete their plan in three months. Most schools take about a year. The regular price for the tool is "very costly," so he said he plans to make the most of it during the free two-year subscription.

The district has emergency operations plans that Edwards says are still good, but they can use the new information to update the plans.

Edwards also updated the board on a potential salary committee. He said he had reached out to the Missouri State Teachers Association (MSTA), which will conduct a financial review for the district. District employees interested in joining the salary committee include Edwards, Murray, Colliver, Patrick Bresnahan, Malinda Howard and Rachel Johnson. Edwards said he would probably have another update at the January meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Charge for Birth, Engagement, Anniversary or Wedding Announcements.
Submit your's today: news@wardpub.com

Card of Thanks

The family of

Darin McKinney

would like to thank everyone for the memorials, cards, flowers, food, kind words and prayers during the loss of our father and brother.

We especially want to thank Pastor Chris Slocum, the pallbearers, Birmingham-Martin staff and First Baptist Church kitchen crew. Your kindness during this time will always be remembered.

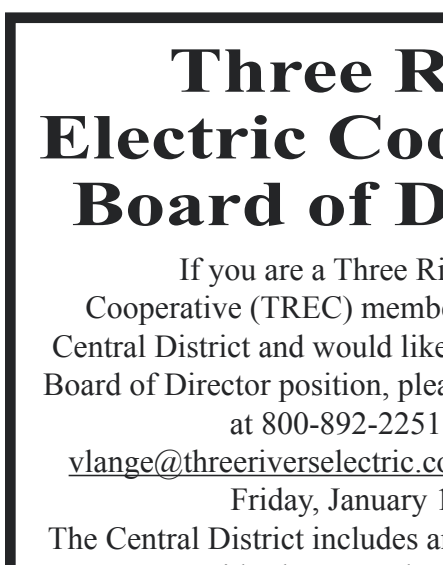
Kole & Kylie McKinney,
Dennis, Denise, Dawn, Dee, Darla,
and families

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Filing closed Tuesday, several local offices with contested races

BY ROXIE MURPHY
ADVOCATE STAFF WRITER
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE — Filing closed for local government boards on Dec. 27 with several candidates declaring their intentions to run in multiple races.

The city of Belle has a two-year term seat open for Alderman Ward One, both Aldermen Ward Two positions open with one and two-year terms, a one-year term for the mayor seat and a three-year term for the marshal position.

Belle Mayor Daryl White, Jr., appointed July 21, 2022, filed at 7:01 a.m. on Dec. 6 to retain the seat for another year. Former alderman Kayla Bray, who stepped down Nov. 1, 2022, filed her intentions at 9:19 a.m. to run for the mayor seat.

Barb Howarth, who ran in April 2022 to fill Josh Seaver's remaining one-year term, filed at 7:50 a.m. on Dec. 12 for the Alderman Ward One position that now has a two-year term.

John Allan Green filed at 2:50 p.m. on Dec. 12 for Alderman Ward Two, a two-year term. Green will run against incumbent Ward Two Alderman Adam Padgett, who was appointed in August to former alderman Ken Stanfield's seat. Padgett filed at 1:53 p.m. Dec. 27 for the two-year term.

James (Pud) Mitchell signed up at 3:08 p.m. on Dec. 27 for the Alderman Ward Two seat with a one-year term.

Chief of Police Jerry Coborn filed at 3:17 p.m. on Dec. 6 to fill the remaining three-year marshal term.

Former police chief Joe Turnbough filed at 3:39 p.m. on Dec. 15 to run for the marshal.

At Maries County R-2 School District, four board candidates have filed for three open three-year terms.

Amy Kiso filed at 7:36 a.m. and Garret Bialzcyk filed at 8:02 a.m. — both on Dec. 6.

Newcomer Ashley Harris filed at 1:12 p.m. on Dec. 14 for the board.

Incumbent Brent Stratman filed at 9:04 a.m. on Dec. 21 to run again.

Offices were open on Dec. 27 from noon to 5 p.m. as it was the last day to file.

The city of Bland has two Aldermen At-Large seats open, that of Ron Shafferkoetter, formerly occupied by Ned Steiner, and Diana Mayfield.

Shafferkoetter filed at 8:30 a.m. on Dec. 6 and former alderman Jim Carpenter filed at 1 p.m. on Dec. 7 for the open seats.

Mayfield submitted a letter of resignation to retire from her seat early.





DECEMBER STUDENTS of the Month at Maries County R-2 include (top left) Belle High School (BHS) student Neveah Kinsey for her positive attitude. At Bland Middle School Alex Serrano (top right), an eighth-grade student who is new to the district is always ready to participate. He is respectful and responsible and a good role model. Belle Elementary awarded Lillian Jones (bottom left) for the Tigeriffic Trait Be Confident. BHS's McKenna Loughridge (bottom left) was awarded Athlete of the Month.





R-2 audit • from page 1

when I asked, they said we would need at least seven office people in order to pass the proper segregation they are asking for," Basham said. "I have not been in a school that doesn't have this segregation when you are a small district. So, great audit. The only thing was we don't have enough people to separate the financial part of it."

Basham asked the board to approve the audit findings from Gerding, Korte, and Chitwood, CPA.

Director Amy Kiso made the motion and congratulated employees on their hard work to make the positive audit happen. Director Garett Bialzcyk seconded the motion.

"I really like these auditors," Basham said. "They are very kind, very professional. They really knew what they were doing and they were great auditors."

The district advertised for a new auditor in May after its auditor Graves and Associates withdrew from their three-year contract a year early.

The district also renewed the Safe to Return to School Plan.

"We are required to continue to revise our Safe to Return to School Plan. There were no changes this time. The only thing we changed this time was the date to enroll in the second-semester virtual instruction," said Basham. "Other than that, it is the same thing you approved in June."

While the district is still spending its American Rescue Program Act (ARPA) funds it is required to keep an updated Safe Return to School Plan. The board passed the Safe to Return to School Plan with a 7-0 vote.

In addition to updating the Safe Return to School Plan in June and December, the district is also required to allocate a percentage of the ARPA funds to specific educational items. Board President Joey Butler II asked about a line item he thought was labeled cleaning supplies.

"How does the board spend 20 percent of its ARPA funds on cleaning supplies?" Butler asked.

"It is a learning loss, Basham said. "Learning loss is 20 percent. At least 20 percent of funds have to be spent on learning loss and that is tutoring and that sort of thing that we have been spending 20 percent of that."

Board Director Dawn Hicks asked if the state still mandates the district pay for virtual learning.

"Yes, unless it is MOCAP," Basham said. "They can enroll, but it doesn't count for our instruction. MOCAP is us."

Dec. 14 was the deadline to sign up for second-semester virtual learning.

The board passed the new deadline with a 7-0 vote.



JOEY BUTLER II, Maries R-2 Board of Education president, thanked Student Advisor to the Board Rachel Baretich for her year-and-a-half of service. Baretich is being replaced in January.



Belle boil advisory lifted, clear water samples reported

BY ROXIE MURPHY
ADVOCATE STAFF WRITER
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE — Following eight water samples that were clear of Coliform Bacteria, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on Dec. 21 lifted the city of Belle's boil advisory. However, the old water tower remains offline.

Public Works Director Tony Baretich said on Tuesday afternoon that the source of the bacteria has not yet been confirmed, although they suspect what the culprit may be.

"We took two days' worth of sampling, eight samples total, and it was all clear," Baretich said. "The old water tower is currently offline."

The old 1937 water tower, located behind the Lonnie Feeler Memorial Building, was inspected in 2017 by Coding Inspection Services located in Eureka. During the Dec. 12 meeting, aldermen agreed the situation was an emergency and couldn't wait to go out for bid. They hired the company to complete inspections on both towers immediately.

"Due to the weather last week, the company was unable to squeeze us in on the tower inspections," Baretich said. "Now they are supposed to be here on Dec. 29 for the tower inspections."

Baretich said that the date is still weather dependent.

"It has not been confirmed that the Coliform Bacteria came from the old tower but that is still what we are thinking," Baretich said. "Once we get the tower inspection we will know more from there. Until we get that information we don't have anything else."

During the boil advisory, Baretich said his department was taking water samples daily. Since the water tests passed clear of the bacteria, Baretich said they won't take another sample until January during the routine sampling.

"I feel like we are good," Baretich said. "We got a good chlorination and everything cleaned out."

There was some previous discussion during the Dec. 12 meeting that taking the old tower offline would result in changes in water pressure, however, Baretich said there haven't been any complaints.

"I have not noticed any change in the water pressure and have not heard of any change from anybody," Baretich said.

He added that the city can do without the second water tower while they figure out how to proceed with the old tower, but it is not an ideal situation in the long run.

"We can survive off one tower for a little bit of time," he said. "But we are still going to try to move forward and make upgrades to our system and one of those is another tower."

Baretich said after the towers are inspected at the end of the month, the next step will be to meet with the city's engineer and decide how to move forward.

Christian Youth Group

You are cordially invited to our new youth group at **First Christian Church of Belle,** beginning Wednesday, Jan. 4 and meeting every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Call Theresa at 573-259-8208 for more information.





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Figo's Mexican Restaurant	Highway 50 West Gerald, MO 573-764-4888	Snowensville Diner	Owensville, MO 573-437-7669	1st Street Eats	115 N. 1st Street, Owensville, MO 573-437-3287
				Bistro at the Mill	315 S. Pine Street Gerald, MO 573-764-2224

1 Buy One Get One Free Meal, or one **Buy One Get One 1/2 Price Meal** of equal or lesser value at each of the participating restaurants, unless noted above. Dine In Only. Drinks excluded. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other sale or promotion. Other exclusions may apply. See rules sheet or individual restaurant for details. Cannot be used Feb. 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14. Card Expires Feb. 28, 2023. Limit one card per household.

LEGALS

1 Administrator's Notices

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

Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22MS-PR00046
In the Estate of WILLIAM DAVID RODDEN, Deceased.

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED

(Independent Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of WILLIAM DAVID RODDEN, Decedent:

On December 13, 2022, the last will of the decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative(s) of the estate of WILLIAM DAVID RODDEN, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Maries County, Missouri. The personal representative(s) may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court. The name(s), business address(es) and phone number(s) of the personal representative(s) is:

ANITA P RODDEN,
718 W. Wilmot Street,
Chillicothe, IL 61523

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

MARK CHARLES PRUGH,
328 Historic Rte. 66 East,
Waynesville, MO 65583.

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: 11/09/2022

Date of first publication: 12/21/2022
/s/ Mark Buschmann, Clerk

Published in the Maries County Advocate on: December 21 and December 28, 2022, and January 4 and January 11, 2023.

4t-122122 mca

1 Administrator's Notices

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

Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22MS-PR00048
In the Estate of MARY LORETTA GODFREY, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of MARY LORETTA GODFREY, Decedent.

On 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 September 21, 2022, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.

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

Date of first publication is December 21, 2022.

/s/ Mark Buschmann, Clerk

Published in the Maries County Advocate on: December 21 and December 28, 2022, and January 4 and January 11, 2023.

4t-122122 mca

FOR SALE - ARTICLES

0670 Household Items

CANAAN PAWN LLC: $20. Gun Transfers. $10. for each additional. (573)437-7833.

CANAAN PAWN & FURNITURE: Cash loans, buy, sell & trade, "Anything of Value!" Monday-Saturday. 1490 Hwy. 28 West. (573)437-7833.

FOR SALE: Power Bariatric adult wheelchair. Call 573-834-5417.

FOR SALE: 45" Rocking Horse and wall mounted ironing board or, will trade one for cement bench for patio. Call 573-422-3875

ANNOUNCEMENTS

0070 No Hunting or Fishing

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

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

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 TRESPASSING OR HUNTING without owner permission on the property of Robert & Sally Rainey Farm at 16682 Hwy. A, Vichy, MO.

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.

0080 Lost and Found

FOUND: Large black lab with bright orange collar. Maries County Road 718 area. Call 573-859-3214.

WANTED TO BUY

0101 Miscellaneous

WANTED TO BUY: Goats. Call 573-259-7483

SERVICES

0200 Miscellaneous

HOME IMPROVEMENT & Contractors Guide available for 75¢ at Gasconade County Republican. Over 90 contractors and businesses listed. (573)437-2323.

UPHOLSTERY SHOP fabrics, vinyl and foam. Call (573)646-3347. Loughridge Upholstery. Bland, MO.

WINDSHIELD CHIP repair & replacements. JOHN SCEGO AUTO BODY, 437-2240.

EMPLOYMENT

0210 Help Wanted

WANTED: Cleaning lady; honest, dependable, and friendly. Call (573)764-2091.

HELP WANTED: Get paid to care for your loved ones at home; Medicaid required. (314)375-6602.

WANTED TO RENT

0450 Miscellaneous

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

0454 Publisher's Notice

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or nation origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination.

"We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

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0570 Unfurnished Homes

FOR RENT: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath mobile home in Gerald. Call (636)584-3516.

0600 Homes for Lease

FOR LEASE: Quiet, secluded community at Parkview Apartments in Belle, MO has an opening. Contact (573)859-6957 and leave message.

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garage sale ads

Phone: 573-437-2323

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0700 Miscellaneous

DECORATIVE STONE SUPPLY, LLC . Red Mulch $18 1/2 yard, $34 yard. Hardwood Mulch $10 1/2 yard. Black Trap Rock $45 1/2 yard. Various other Decorative Rock. (573)764-4593.

AUTOS AND TRUCKS

0850 Miscellaneous

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0850 Miscellaneous

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The Maries County Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE...

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The Maries County Commission will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 Budget on **Monday, January 9, 2023** at the Maries County Courthouse, County Commission Room, 211 4th Street, Vienna Missouri with the County Clerk in the presence of the County Commission on budget proposals for all budgeted funds of 2023.

Hearing to be held at **10:30AM,** as per Section 50.600, RSMo.

Rhonda Rodgers, Maries County Clerk/
Budget Officer, Maries County

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Maries County R-II School District

STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED, EXPENDITURES PAID AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ARISING FROM MODIFIED CASH TRANSACTIONS ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES ~ FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Governmental Fund Types			Total
	General (Incidental) Fund	Special Revenue (Teachers) Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Government Funds
REVENUES COLLECTED:				
Local	$ 3,458,292	$ 348,600	$ 84,972	$ 3,891,864
County	407,811	30,620	4,816	443,247
State	1,067,226	1,863,430	–0–	2,930,656
Federal	1,298,526	479,741	–0–	1,778,267
Received from other districts	8,441	–0–	–0–	8,441
Other	–0–	–0–	12,447	12,447
Total Revenues Collected	**6,240,296**	**2,722,391**	**102,235**	**9,064,922**
EXPENDITURES PAID:				
Regular instruction	240,906	2,263,721	–0–	2,504,627
Special instruction	254,773	567,154	–0–	821,927
Vocational instruction	21,855	345,517	–0–	367,372
Student activities	327,133	11,381	–0–	338,514
Tuition paid to other districts	100,630	2,415	–0–	103,045
Student support services	193,866	212,771	–0–	406,637
Instructional support services	69,924	161,127	–0–	231,051
Board of Education services	78,004	–0–	–0–	78,004
Executive administration	152,260	144,643	–0–	296,903
Building level administration	83,577	223,435	–0–	307,012
Business/central services	69,228	–0–	~	69,228
Operation of plant	764,365	–0–	–0–	764,365
Pupil transportation	295,004	~	9,827	304,831
Food services	345,744	–0–	3,750	349,494
Adult education/community services	255,052	53,277	–0–	308,329
Facilities acquisition and construction	–0–	–0–	9,075	9,075
Principal retirement	–0–	–0–	205,972	205,972
Interest and fees	–0–	–0–	31,810	31,810
Total Expenditures Paid	**$ 3,252,321**	**$ 3,985,441**	**$ 260,434**	**$ 7,498,196**
Excess/(Deficit) of Revenues Collected Over Expenditures Paid	**$ 2,987,975**	**$ (1,263,050)**	**$ (158,199)**	**$ 1,566,726**
Other Financing Sources/(Uses):				
Transfers	$ (2,244,480)	$ 1,959,631	$ 284,849	$ –0–
Total Other Financing Sources/(Uses)	**$ (2,244,480)**	**$ 1,959,631**	**$ 284,849**	**$ –0–**
Excess/(Deficit) of Revenues Collected & Other Financing Sources Over Expenditures Paid & Other Financing Uses	$ 743,495	$ 696,581	$ 126,650	$ 1,566,726
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	2,472,235	–0–	35,096	
Prior Period Adjustment (Note 15)	350,993	–0–	–0–	
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year, Restated	$ 2,823,228	$ –0–	$ 35,096	
Fund Balances, End of Year	**$ 3,566,723**	**$ 696,581**	**$ 161,746**	

The above Statement of Revenues Collected, Expenditures Paid and Changes in Fund Balances arising from modified cash transactions was prepared by our independent auditor and is part of the June 30, 2022 Audit Report. The Maries County R-II School District's financial statements were audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United State of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America. The Auditor's opinion of the financial statements was unmodified: The complete audit report is available for inspection at the Superintendent's office. The independent auditor's opinion is as follows:

"in our opinion the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activitles and each major fund of the District, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective budgetary comparisons for the General and Special Revenue Funds for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described In Note 1."

GERDING, KORTE & CHITWOOD CPAS, Booneville, Missouri

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MORE THAN 100 vintage blow mold Santas join a cavalcade of other Christmas characters in the yard of Jim and Georgia Fick, who are members of Visitation Parish in Vienna. Each of the figures lights up at night.

Couple celebrates season with decorations, highlights Nativity

BY JAY NIES
CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

VIENNA — Darkness doesn't have a prayer when it comes to Jim and Georgena Fick's yard at Christmastime.

The couple has amassed dozens of large, illuminated Santas, elves, snowmen, candy canes, reindeer, and other nostalgic emblems of this most wonderful time of the year.

The heavy plastic luminaries, known as blow molds, give the luster of mid-day along the Ficks' stretch of U.S. 63 in Vienna.

A matching Nativity scene shines alone inside the couple's arc-shaped driveway — including the Holy Family, angels, shepherds, wise men, and farm animals — clearly set apart from all the rest.

"I'm an old-time religious man. That's why I don't put Santa Claus up in front of the Holy Family," said Mr. Fick, a Brinktown native who has been a member of Visitation Parish in Vienna for 65 years and whose wife has been a Visitation parishioner her whole life.

"That's the way I was brought up and the way I'm going to be until I die," Mr. Fick stated.

INNER LIGHT

Blow molds, illuminated from the inside by old-school incandescent lightbulbs, were once a mainstay of American Christmas décor, reaching their peak of popularity in the 1950s through 1970s.

The Ficks began collecting the mid-century artifacts at flea markets and rummage sales around 30 years ago.

"Some from Springfield ... we went to Joplin a couple of times when we were younger ... Belleville, Illinois, and a few others," said Mr. Fick, adding that his wife "probably bought most of them."

"We have contacts at some of these flea markets," he noted. "We have friends who are on the lookout for them. They buy them and resell them to us if they find them at yard sales."

At last count, the couple had 105 Santa Clauses and 30 snowmen to display in their yard.

Their vintage illuminated Nativity set includes about 25 pieces, including carolers, angels, sheep, cattle, and a donkey.

Mr. Fick replaced all the retro incandescent bulbs with energy-efficient LEDs, saving money and tamping down the display's environmental impact.

"Most don't go more than 10 or 12 watts," he noted. "Everything has a light in it, but my electric bill is nowhere as big as an air-conditioner."

All the figures have outdoor wiring, hooked up to switches on timers.

"I have nothing that you would have on an indoor lamp cord outside," said Mr. Fick. "Otherwise, you run the risk of burning the house down."

LIGHTING THE WAY

Mr. and Mrs. Fick met in high school and were both 20 when they got married in Visitation Church.

They bought their home in Vienna a few years later and have lived there for all but seven years of their married life.

"Back in '63, you could play ball out on the highway," Mr. Fick recalled. "Nobody came by but the mail carrier and the milkman. Now it's a major north-south route for trucks."

Like the traffic, the Ficks' collection started out low, and it started to grow.

"I always put Christmas lights up on the outside of the house, even way back when the kids were growing up," Mr. Fick recalled.

That tradition followed the family for the five years they lived in Meta after Mr. Fick got promoted with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT).

They acquired their blow mold Nativity set after moving back to Vienna in 1982, with the other characters following.

"We started with one big old Santa Claus from the Rolla K-Mart," Mr. Fick recalled.

The winter hobby flourished after he retired from MoDOT in 1998.

"My wife and I would go out on Saturdays," said Mr. Fick. "We started seeing these things sitting around for little or nothing, and we started buying them."

Over time, they filled up their front yard and started decorating the neighboring lot, down to the home where one of their sons now lives.

People are often amazed when they drive by.

"Sometimes, someone will send me a Christmas card, saying they enjoy the lights," said Mr. Fick. "Or if they see you outside, some people will stop and talk to you.

"You also see a lot of cell phones sticking out of people's car windows," he observed.

LIGHT BURDEN

The hard work of putting up the display lies not in carrying the figures from storage into the yard and wiring them up.

"The wind here blows all the time," Mr. Fick noted. "You have to stake them and post them and tie them down. Otherwise, if you get a good west wind, they'll wind up on the other side of the highway."

Maintenance is pretty simple.

"The bulbs will sometimes get loose just from the vibration of having them turned on," said Mr. Fick. "The wind can shake them up some, too, outside of getting blown over in a storm.

"Sometimes, if they crack, I hot-glue them," he said. "If a piece breaks out, I cut up a milk carton and patch it up."

CENTRAL FIGURE

Several of their grown sons and daughters and grandchildren, some in Jefferson City, have taken up the blow-mold tradition and are decorating their yards with similar abandon.

"If you see a lot of them in one yard, you can figure we gave them to them," said Mr. Fick.

As for the display on Highway 63, "we cut back some this year," he said.

"I'm going to be 86 years old next year. If it weren't for my son and grandson from Jefferson City coming down and the boy next door helping, I wouldn't be able to get it done anymore."

He hopes that people who drive by and notice the display will pray for him and his family to stay well and for the Church to be strong in its witness throughout the year.

He prays that people will take the layout of the display to heart.

"The Nativity is in the center of everything," he noted.



Commission • from page 1

"This is all just recommendations," he said. "The highway department is going to do whatever they want and whatever fits their circumstances. Some of these like Highway 42 and 133 would be expensive because you'd have to buy some land there."

Stratman said TAC always discusses regional priorities, which encompass major projects on Highway 63 running north and south and Highway 50 running east to west.

"It's been agreed in the four years that I've been over there (working with TAC) that they're major priority routes," he said. "They're always going to be there (at the top)."

PREMIUM PAYMENTS

Drewel asked the other commissioners if they had thought any more about a raise for county employees.

"I sure would like to give everybody a raise," Stratman said. He said he liked the idea of premium payments rather than a raise because it gave the county flexibility if the budget were tighter in the future.

Drewel agreed that flexibility was important, and funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) had helped the county remain financially flexible.

"After the ARPA money runs out in another year or two, who knows what it's going to bring?" he said. "If you get committed to paying an extra dollar or two on a raise, now you're committed. This way, we can do it this year, next year, if we have the money. We're not tied to anything whether you give them $10 or $5,000. And we know how much we have."

County Clerk Rhonda Rodgers said they should receive their premium payments before the end of the year because it is for this year. She suggested paying it along with the last paycheck of the year.

"That would give them a pretty good bonus right around Christmas time and right around tax time," Drewel said. "If you spread that out over a whole year, it would only be $10 a week or something. This way, it'd be kind of a bonus shot."

"If we do it, we need to decide on a dollar amount," Western District Commissioner Ed Fagre said.

Drewel said an additional dollar per hour would amount to $2,080 per employee. Rodgers asked if the payments would include both full-time and part-time employees. Fagre said previous premium payments had not included part-time employees.

Deputy County Clerk Renee Kottwitz recommended including part-time employees in the plan.

"This place can't run without part-time people, too," she said.

The commissioners agreed that it would be best to include part-time employees at a lower amount.

"Would it be bad if we keep the full-times at $2,000 and put the part-times at $500?" Stratman asked. After reviewing a list of employees, the commissioners determined that there was room in the budget to include everyone at those values.

The commissioners approved $2,000 payments to full-time employees, excluding elected officials, and $500 payments to part-time employees. The money will come from the General Revenue fund.

ELECTION GRANTS

Rodgers said she received two grants. One is a $13,941.14 grant for election security, and the other is a $2,446.86 grant for election efficiency. She said the computer and tower used for elections will receive upgrades as part of the grants. The laptop she uses for elections is no longer compatible with the necessary software, so the county must complete the upgrade before the April 2023 election.

Another piece of equipment Rodgers needs is another voting machine to tally votes cast by people needing an address change on Election Day. Rodgers said rules prohibit counties from tallying address change votes in the same machines as absentee votes. Two Maries County voters cast ballots after getting Election Day address changes in November.

The commissioners showed concern that recent lawsuits against voting machine companies could quickly make a voting machine purchase obsolete. Rodgers said she only planned to purchase one machine.

OTHER BUSINESS

Fagre said Jim Hale and Dale Wieberg would do a few maintenance activities around the courthouse, such as putting up blinds or replacing ceiling tiles. Stratman said he had a list of tasks they could complete.

Stratman said Cody Brown will come to look at a backflow valve that could need replacing.

The commissioners received no bids on a new air handler. The commissioners decided they would call around to get some prices from different businesses.

Stratman recognized Angie Thompson for her donations of decorated Christmas tree displays at the courthouse.

"I think she did an excellent job," he said. "She's really artistic."

Fagre told Stratman that someone had an interest in the old tax records that the Historical Society of Maries County planned to destroy. Fagre said he would contact the man and let him know he can pick up the documents.

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Christmas snow

Brutal cold and snowfall caused Maries County to spend most of Thursday and Friday indoors. Someone (top left) braves the cold to collect mail from the Belle post office Thursday as snowfall covers the county. Mid-State Pipeline employees (top right) braved the cold to host a planned safety meeting and a company Christmas party Thursday. Houses and business around Vienna decorated for Christmas. See page 12 for more photos.

PHOTOS BY JACOB WARDEN



Magical Christmas

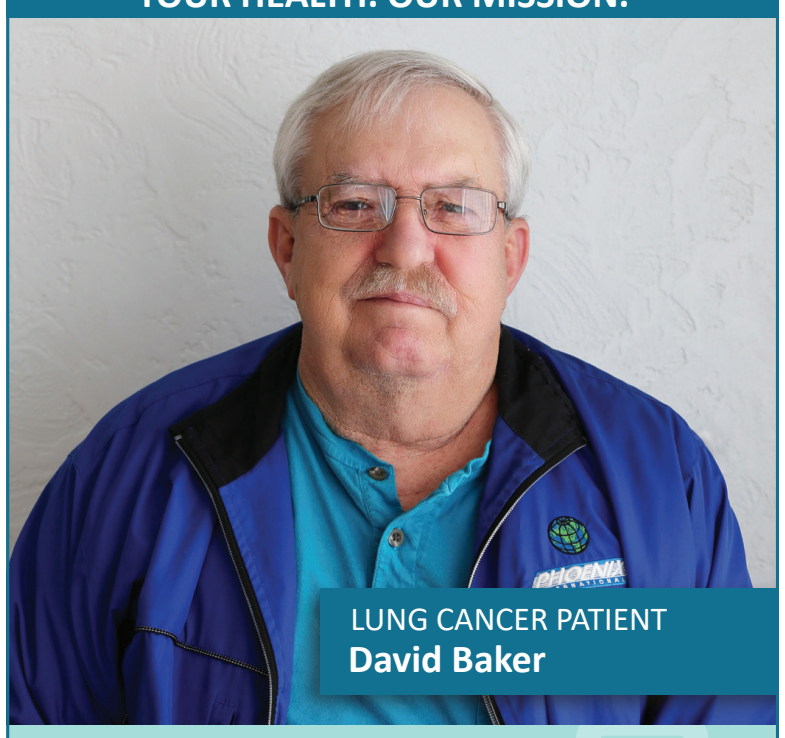
The city of Bland hosted a Christmas Decorating Contest. Winners of the contest were 1st Place $100 - Kurt and Rachel Schlottog on Thompson Avenue; 2nd Place $50 - Gary and Jackie Dittman on North Sycamore Street; and 3rd Place $25 - Roger Lopez on West Kansas City Street. Winners put up elaborate lights, Nativity Scenes and bright Santa Claus decor.







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Did you know Phelps Health has a lung cancer screening program to detect lung cancer in the early stages? Talk to your doctor to see if you are eligible.

PHELPSHEALTH.ORG

Eagles lose late homecoming lead against Newburg

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
wjohnson@wardpub.com

Celebrate homecoming with a win and end the 2022 portion of the home schedule on a positive note.

That's what Chandler Harker's Vienna Eagles basketball team was after back on Friday, Dec. 16 at Allen Gymnasium celebrating homecoming by hosting Newburg's Wolves.

Leading briefly late in the game, the host Eagles ended up on the wrong side of a 48-44 final score.

Trailing 11-10 after one quarter, four different players scored for the Eagles helping keep it a close game.

Alex Zimmer led the Eagles in the first eight minutes with four points followed by three points from Tanner Bock, two from Sam Rowden and a free throw for one point from Elias Miller.

Scoring picked up in the second quarter with Newburg edging Vienna 15-14 to leave the Eagles trailing 26-24 at halftime.

Cash Stricklan led the Eagles in the second quarter with four points.

Bock added another 3-pointer in the second quarter giving him a team-high six first-half points to lead the Eagles.

Zimmer hit a second-quarter free throw bumping him up to five first-half points.

Dontae Harris led the visiting Wolves and all scorers with 10 first-half points.

Edged 11-7 to open the second half, Vienna entered the fourth quarter facing a 37-31 deficit against their Phelps County foes.

Zimmer led the Eagles with three third-quarter points followed by two apiece from Gavin Schwartze and Stricklan.

Outscoring Newburg 13-11 over the final eight minutes, Vienna came up four points short in their final action of 2022.

Hitting for eight second-half points, Zimmer led the Eagles with a team-high 13 points. He was followed closely by Stricklan who just missed double digits finishing with nine points.

Bock also came close to double figures in the scoring column scoring six of his eight points in the first half.

Rowden scored all four of his points in the first half followed by three points each out of Duncan Wilkinson and Miller.

Jude Stricklan and Schwartze each chipped in two points for Vienna rounding out the Eagle scoring against Newburg.

Colton Pound led the Wolves scoring nine of his game-high 14 points in the fourth quarter.

Harris followed closely in double digits with 12 points for Newburg.

Vienna ended the 2022 portion of their season in the Ozarks Community Health Center (OCHC) Shootout against Humansville coming out on the wrong end of a 59-49 final score.

Harker's Eagles will open 2023 on Tuesday, Jan. 3 on the road against Stoutland's Tigers with a 5:30 p.m., start time for the junior-varsity contest.

48	44



GAVIN SCHWARTZE (above, center) attacks the basket for Vienna's Eagles during their 48-44 homecoming loss to Newburg's Wolves back on Friday, Dec. 16 closing the 2022 portion of their season. **PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN**

JV Tigers fend off late Bourbon run closing 2022 on winning note

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
wjohnson@wardpub.com

Adding a game to their schedule back on Friday, Dec. 16, Brett Butler's Belle JV Tigers looked to pick up a road victory against Bourbon's JV Warhawks.

Trailing 1-0 in the opening seconds of the game, Belle answered with an 10-4 run before eventually ending the first quarter with a 17-9 lead.

Able to stay at or near double digits throughout the majority of the game, Belle's JV Tigers survived a 10-2 fourth-quarter run by the host Warhawks before holding on for a 50-45 victory.

Leading 8-3 on a Lukas Smith 3-pointer at the 4:28 mark of the first quarter, Tiger freshman Luke Rohrer scored Belle's last nine points in the opening seven minutes.

Alec Elrod hit a pair of 3-pointers pushing the JV Tiger lead back into double digits at 23-13 with 3:57 until halftime.

Jon Valley then scored Belle's final four points of the first half helping the visiting JV Tigers to a 27-18 halftime lead in Bourbon.

Scoring backed off to open the second half with Belle edging the host JV Warhawks 8-5 helping them to a 35-23 lead going into the final seven minutes of basketball from Crawford County along Interstate 44.

Leading 44-34 on a Valley bucket with 4:07 remaining, Belle saw Bourbon score eight unanswered points trimming their lead to two at 44-42 with 2:25 to go.

Two free throws each from Garrett Gehlert and Rohrer pushed the Tiger lead back to six at 48-42 with 24.8 ticks left.

A Smith bucket with :13 left gave Belle their final margin of victory.

Doing most of his damage in the second half, Smith led the JV Tigers with a team-high 14 points while also grabbing five rebounds.

Rohrer also reached double figures with 11 points while adding seven rebounds, six steals and four assists to his stat line.

Stratman nearly made it three Belle scorers in double figures scoring six of his eight points in the third quarter. He just missed a double double by also pulling down a game-high eight rebounds.

Elrod and Valley each added six points for Belle while Gehlert rounded out the scoring for the JV Tigers finishing with five points.

Zach Reeves led the JV Warhawks and all scorers putting in 12 of his game-high 16 points in the second half all from beyond the 3-point arc.

Titus Nolie flirted with a double double for the JV Warhawks finishing with seven points and a team-high six rebounds.

Collin Robb also added six points and a game-high four blocked shots for Bourbon.

John Viehland's varsity Tigers were scheduled to end the 2022 portion of their season on Monday, Dec. 19 on the road against Plato's Tigers.

That game was postponed due to injuries and illness among Belle's Tigers and rescheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 10 with a 5:30 p.m., start time for the junior-varsity game.

Brett Butler's Belle freshmen Tigers will open the 2023 portion of their season on Monday, Jan. 2 with a road game in Phelps County against St. James' Tigers slated for a 5:30 p.m. start time.

This game was rescheduled from Monday, Nov. 28 due to a scheduling conflict.

50	45



BELLE JV Tiger defenders Hank Stratman and Alec Elrod (above, from left) double team Bourbon's Titus Nolie during an added game on Friday, Dec. 16 at Bourbon High School. **PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON**

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SPORTS BRIEFS

HAPPY NEW YEAR on behalf of the *Maries County Advocate* Sports Department.

BELLE FRESHMAN tiger basketball's scheduled road game on Monday, Nov. 28 against St. James has been rescheduled for Monday, Jan. 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

CHANDLER HARKER'S Vienna Eagle basketball team will open the 2023 portion of their season on Tuesday, Jan. 3 in road action at Stoutland against the Tigers with a 5:30 p.m., start time for the junior varsity contest.

JOHN VIEHLAND'S Belle Tiger basketball team will open the 2023 portion of their season on Tuesday, Jan. 3 in road action at Iberia against the Rangers with a 6 p.m., start time for junior-varsity action.

KEVIN SCHWARTZE'S Vienna Lady Eagle basketball team saw their scheduled game against Dixon's Lady Bulldogs on Thursday, Dec. 15 postponed and rescheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 11 at Dixon High School with a 6 p.m., start time.

BELLE TIGER basketball scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19 at Plato was postponed due to injuries and illness within the Tiger squad and rescheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 10 with junior-varsity action starting at 5:30 p.m.



JAEDYN SCHELL and Marissa Hollis (above, from left) keep an eye on the basketball held by Versailles' Ary Jones during Vienna's 49-43 loss to the Lady Tigers back on Monday, Dec. 19 in what turned out to be the final game for Vienna in 2022. **PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON**

Lady Eagles second-half rally falls short

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
wjohnson@wardpub.com

A long hill to climb.

That is what Kevin Schwartze's Vienna Lady Eagles had back on Monday, Dec. 19 hosting Versailles' Lady Tigers at Vienna High School's Allen Gymnasium.

Closing within two points on a Marissa Hollis bucket with 32.5 ticks left making it 45-43 in favor of Versailles.

Unfortunately for Lady Eagle basketball fans, Versailles made four free throws in an 18-second span to leave Vienna on the wrong end of a 49-43 final score.

Giving up the first 15 points of the game, Vienna freshman Aubrey Schwartze hit two 3-pointers in the final 1:22 of the first quarter helping the Lady Eagles trail by single digits 15-6 going into the second quarter.

Trailing 18-6 with 7:10 until halftime, buckets from Aubrey Reeves and Schwartze cut the deficit back down to five at 18-13 with 4:27 for the second quarter.

Versailles then went on an 11-0 run before a pair of Julianna Davis free throws stopped the run at the 1:07 mark of the second.

Entering halftime, Vienna trailed the visiting Lady Tigers 29-15.

Whatever coach Schwartze told his team at halftime must have worked.

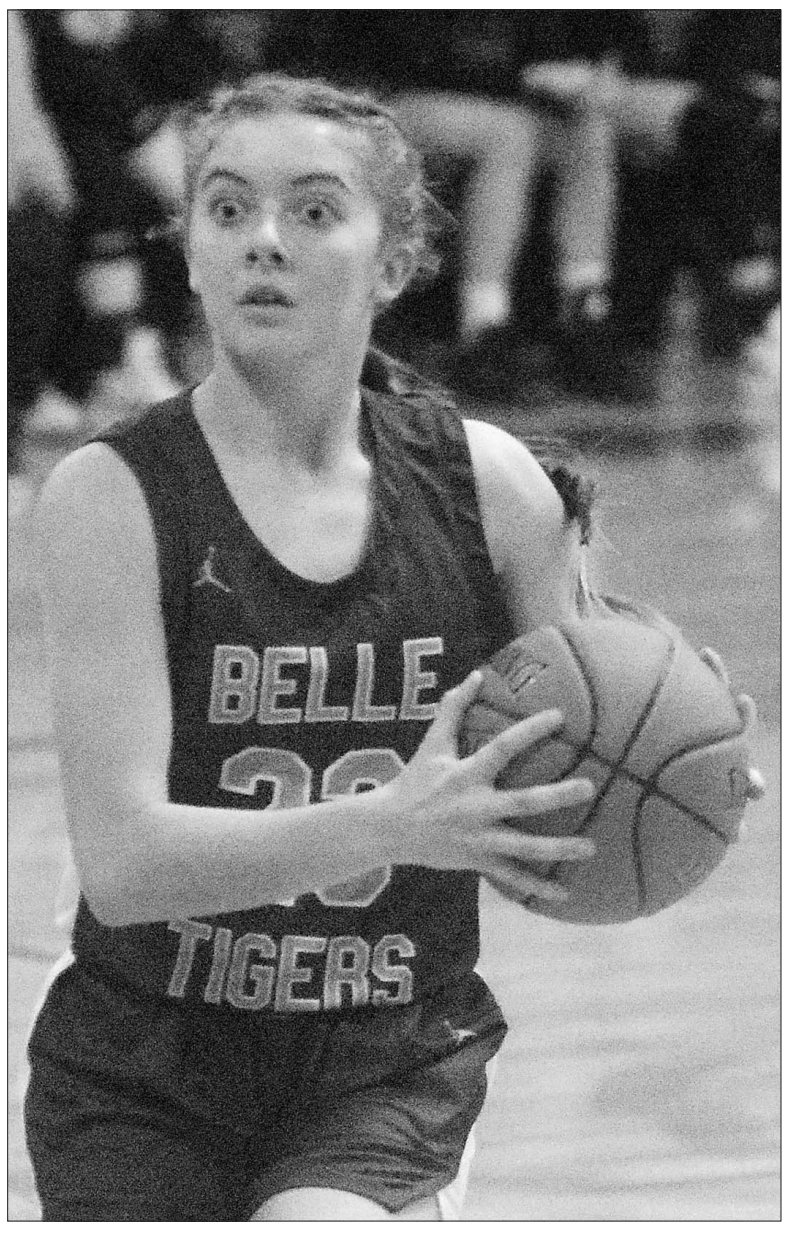
That is because Vienna outscored Versailles 17-7 in the third quarter to enter the fourth trailing 36-32.

Riding the hot hand of Aubrey Schwartze, the Lady Eagle freshman scored 11 of Vienna's 17 third-quarter points putting the home squad right back into the game.

In addition to Schwartze's 11 third-quarter tally marks, Madison Weeks added five points to open the second half.

Down 41-34 with 3:54 remaining, Jaedyn Schell connected on an old-fashioned 3-point play sparking a 7-2 run pulling the Lady Eagles

See **Lady Eagles** on Page 11



Belle's Lady Tigers claim Highway 28 bragging rights to end 2022

Trekking west to Dixon last Wednesday night, Belle's Lady Tigers looked to end the 2022 portion of their season by claiming Highway 28 bragging rights over the host Lady Bulldogs. Posting a 63-35 victory at Dixon, Evin Farris' Lady Tigers will enter the Battle in Bourbon Girls Basketball Tournament beginning next Tuesday as the fourth seed with a 4-6 record. Nevaeh Kinsey (above) is shown handling the basketball against Bourbon's Lady Warhawks. **PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON**



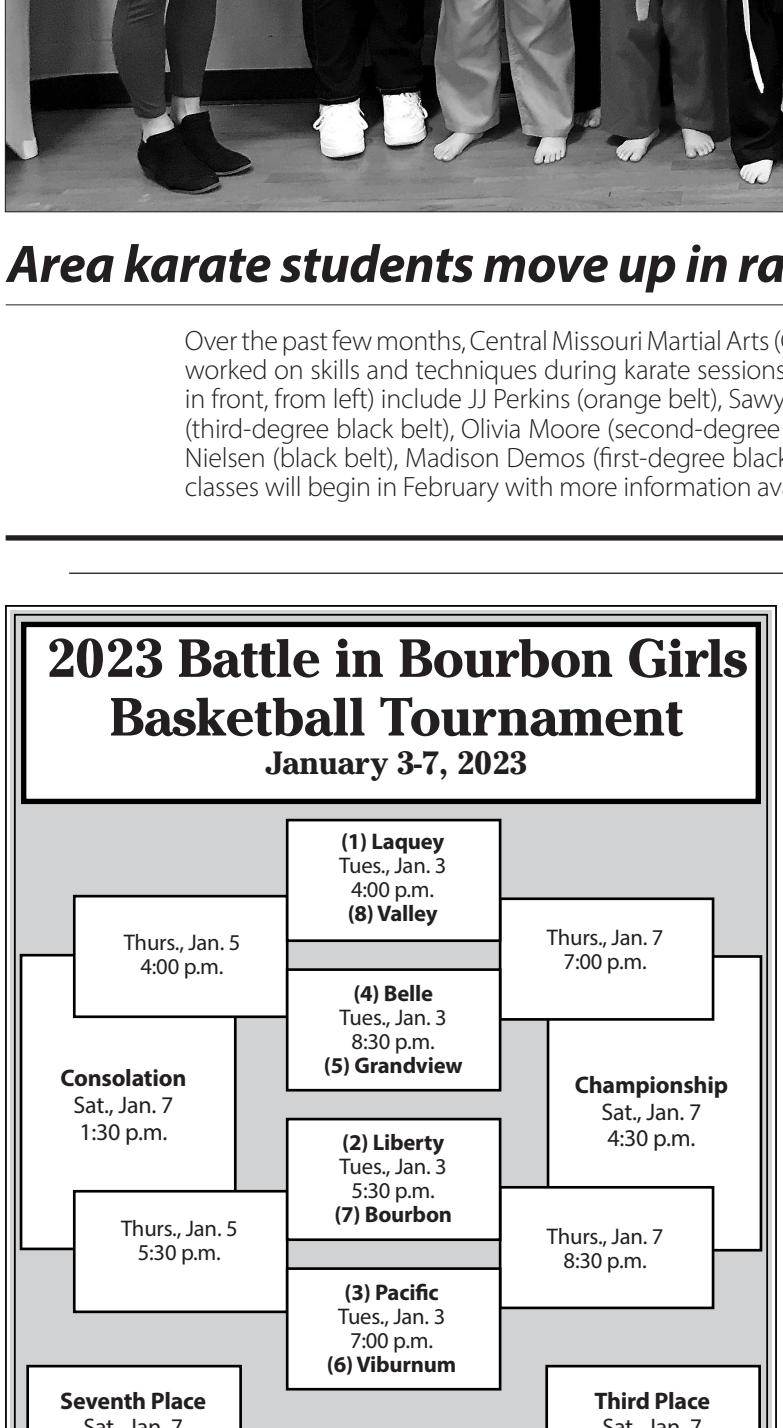
Area karate students move up in ranks earning different color belts

Over the past few months, Central Missouri Martial Arts (CMMA) students under the direction of third-degree black belt Cheryl Pierce worked on skills and techniques during karate sessions held at the Bland Christian Church gym. Students and instructors (above, in front, from left) include JJ Perkins (orange belt), Sawyer Christopher (green belt), Lane Johnson (yellow belt); and in back; Pierce (third-degree black belt), Olivia Moore (second-degree black belt), Brianna Bodine (yellow belt), Gage Keeler (orange belt), Chase Nielsen (black belt), Madison Demos (first-degree black belt) and Quinton Martin (second-degree black belt). A new semester of classes will begin in February with more information available on the CMMA Facebook page. **PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON**

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2023 Battle in Bourbon Girls Basketball Tournament
January 3-7, 2023



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ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
1950's John Deere clock; 1050's Tin toys incl: cars, racecar & trucks; Other old toys; 1978 Star Wars action figures; Table top phonograph w/ horn; Aladdin lamps; Wood cigar store Indian; Kitchen clocks; Vienna Regulator clock; 35+ old hand stitched quilts; Aluminum XMAS tree; Pyrex bowls; Several crocks & jugs; Approx 500 Precious Moments figurines; Coleman lanterns; Singer Feather Lite sewing machine – good cond.; Approx 100 Budweiser Beer steins; 20+ beer lights - Some neon & some pool table lights; Metal butter churns; Old bottles & jars; Oliver typewriter; Stereoptic viewer; Ball cards; Stoneware pitchers; Tins; Carnival glass; Glassware; Fenton pcs.; Large amt. of antiques & collectibles not listed.

ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE
Walnut cylinder desk; 4 pc. Iron patio set; Walnut secretary w/ serpentine front; Oval oak library table; 5 Stack bookcase; Oak treadle sewing machine; Victrola; Oak curved glass China cabinet; Bookcase secretary; Stand tables; Oak dining table; Wash stand; 2 Dish safes; 4 pc. Queen size bedroom set; Dining table & 6 chairs; Matching set of LG Front loading washer & dryer; Large amount of household items.

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Note: We have three estates in this auction. We will be updating listing & photos on our website as items are unloaded in the building. This will be a large auction with two auction rings all day. Everything is neat & clean. Please make plans to attend. Rick

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Lady Eagles • from page 10

to within two points at 43-41 with 1:14 left in regulation.

A Marissa Hollis bucket with 32.5 left pulled Vienna back within two of the Lady Tigers at 45-43 before Versailles scored the final four points of the game.

Scoring points in each quarter, Schwartze led the Lady Eagles and all scorers with a game-high 25 points in addition to five rebounds and three steals.

Weeks scored all five of her points in the third quarter to go along with a team-high five steals and three assists.

Marissa Hollis and Aubrey Reeves each chipped in four points.

Hollis also pulled down six rebounds for the Lady Eagles.

In addition to Schell's 3-point play in the fourth quarter, she dished out a game-high five assists.

Davis rounded out the scoring with her two second-quarter free throws for two points right before halftime.

In spite of not being able to get into the scoring column, Brooke Mercer claimed the title of queen of the boards pulling down a team-high seven rebounds for Vienna.

Kiera O'Rourke led Versailles with a team-high 15 points in addition to five rebounds and four steals.

Kylee Richey added a double double of 16 points and 14 rebounds. She also added five blocked shots and three steals for the Lady Tigers.

Prior to the Versailles game, Vienna had a contest with Dixon from Thursday, Dec. 15 postponed to Wednesday, Jan. 11.

They were also scheduled to host New Bloomfield last Wednesday with no make-up date determined as of press time.

BHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

Lady Tiger Basketball
1/3-7 BHS V at Battle in Bourbon Tournament
(See bracket on page 10)

Tiger Basketball
1/2 BHS 9 at St. James 5:30 p.m. **(Rescheduled from 11/28)**
1/3 BHS JV/V at Iberia 6 p.m.

VHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

Lady Eagle Basketball
1/4 VHS vs. Tuscumbia 6 p.m.

Eagle Basketball
1/3 VHS JV/V at Stoutland 5:30 p.m.



Vienna's 5th grade Eagles place second in Osage Youth League

Throughout November and December in Iberia, Vienna's fifth-grade Eagles placed second out of nine teams in their division of the Osage Youth Sports League. Pictured with their second-place medals (above, in front, from left) include Eli Messersmith, Tanner Hallahan and Alex Wieberg; and in back, Chris Wansing (coach), Drew Crum, Weston Schwartze, Zachary Wansing and Jesse Messersmith (coach). Not pictured is Jaxon Gorman.
SUBMITTED PHOTO

State encourages participation in FCC challenge, opportunity to map broadband gap in Maries

"Our goal is access to quality, high-speed internet for every Missouri citizen, business, and community. To get there, we need the public's help." — BJ Tanksley, director of the Office of Broadband Development.

JEFFERSON CITY — Maries County residents are encouraged by the Department of Economic Development (DED) to participate in the FCC's broadband map challenge opportunity as its Office of Broadband Development works to expand access to high-speed internet statewide.

Filing challenges to correct inaccuracies on the FCC map is important to determining the amount of funding the state will receive for broadband expansion.

The FCC's map, which displays the best available data of the state's served, underserved, and unserved areas, will determine how much of more than $42 billion the state will receive for broadband expansion. Missouri's share of this funding will be received through the BEAD Program, part of the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA).

The challenge opportunity will identify errors in the new FCC maps that would prevent Missouri from receiving its full share of funding through the upcoming Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. Errors could relate to physical locations or types of internet service availability.

The state will use BEAD funding for its Connecting All Missourians initiative, which aims to provide high-quality internet statewide.

"We hope every Missourian will take part in this historic moment for broadband expansion," said BJ Tanksley, director of the Office of Broadband Development. "Our goal is access to quality, high-speed internet for every Missouri citizen, business, and community. To get there, we need the public's help."

To assist individuals with challenge submissions, guidance is available from the Office of Broadband Development or at any local University of Missouri Extension office. Resources, including an instructional video, how-to document, and FAQs, are available at ded.mo.gov/getconnected.

To ensure coverage for homes, businesses, and communities is accurately represented, any citizen can participate. All challenges submitted prior to Jan. 13, 2023, will be considered.

"As we make historic investments to expand internet access, I encourage Missourians to participate in the FCC's broadband map challenge process," said Gov. Mike Parson in a statement released Friday. "Ensuring we have an accurate understanding of broadband coverage in Missouri is vital. Maps that reflect our needs will ensure our state receives and administers the necessary resources to advance our progress in this critical priority."

Follow these steps, links to complete FCC 'Availability Challenge'

The Federal Communications Commission recently released new maps that will determine what locations will be eligible for future broadband funding.

You have an opportunity to tell the FCC where these maps are wrong in Missouri. By doing so, you help make sure you, your neighbors, and people across Missouri do not miss out on a unique opportunity to get high-quality internet. The process is simple:

- Go to ded.mo.gov/getconnected
- If you cannot subscribe to any of the services listed at your location, click "Availability Challenge" above the list of providers. Fill out the information requested and submit the form.
- Tell your friends and neighbors. More challenges in an area strengthen the case that it is not well served, and more challenges across the state means Missouri receives more funding to build broadband.
- Keep in touch. The provider you challenged will have an opportunity to communicate with you and the FCC to make the case that they do serve your location.
- Be responsive. If they can't provide the service described, it will be taken off the map. You can find a video walking you through the process at ded.mo.gov/fcc-video, a more in-depth how-to at ded.mo.gov/fcc-how-to, and frequently asked questions at ded.mo.gov/fcc-faqs.

Go to your local University of Missouri Extension office if you need help filing the challenge or just need a computer and an internet connection to do so. To find your Extension office, visit extension.missouri.edu/locations. Email questions to broadband@ded.mo.gov.

Use county guidance maps to help DED identify broadband gaps

Missourians have until Jan. 13, 2023, to file challenges to FCC maps of broadband coverage in time to affect Missouri's share of more than $42 billion in funding through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. Missouri's Department of Economic Development's (DED) Office of Broadband Development wants to help identify where citizens could best focus their efforts.

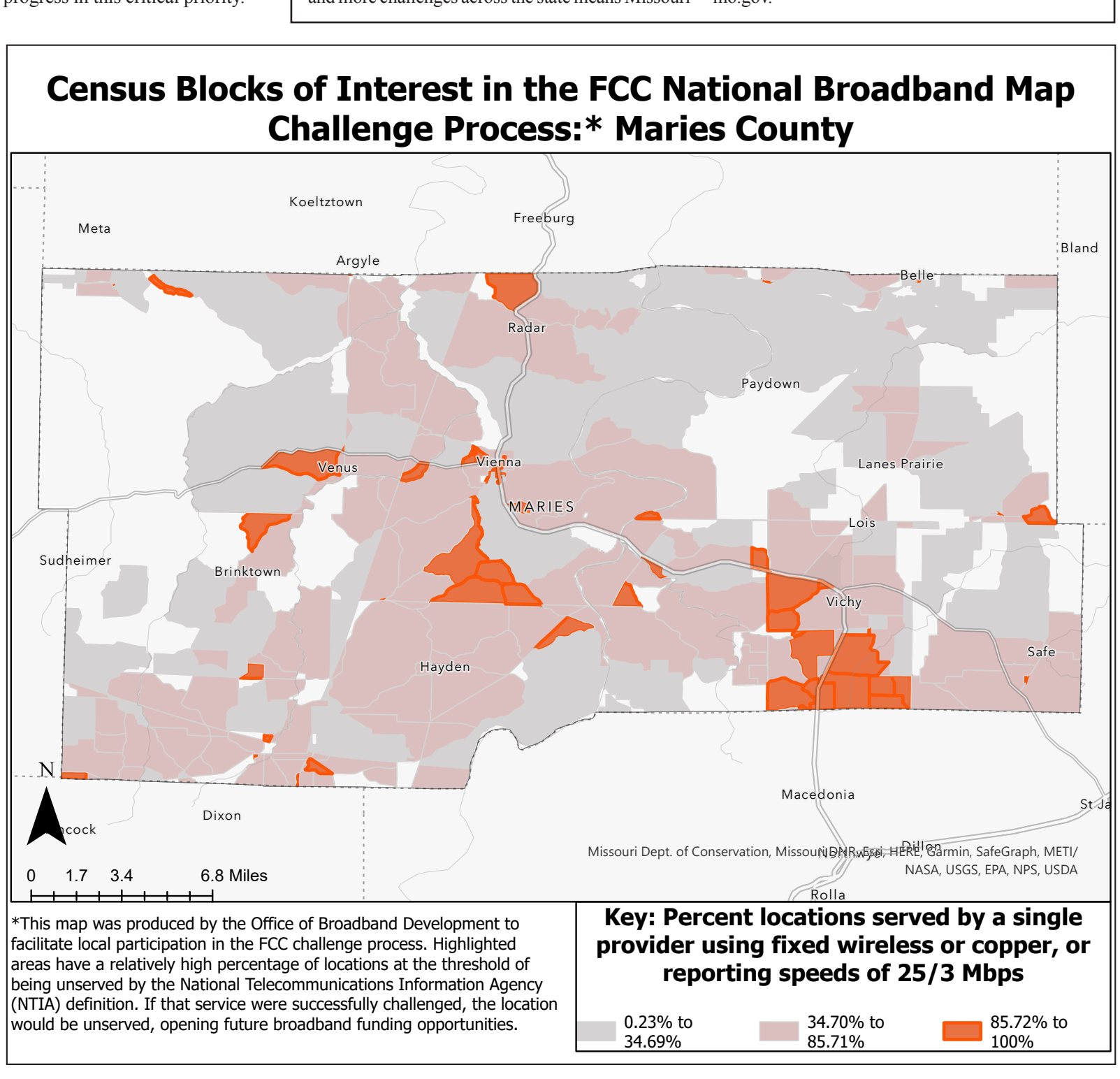
Blocks of interest maps

The DED has released county maps highlighting areas where a large portion of locations are close to an "unserved" classification. These locations were identified using knowledge of broadband availability, public feedback, and challenges submitted so far. Not every location is challengeable, and challenges should only be filed based on knowledge of available service. The DED encourages Missourians to review locations to ensure reported services are accurate.

FCC vs. Census maps

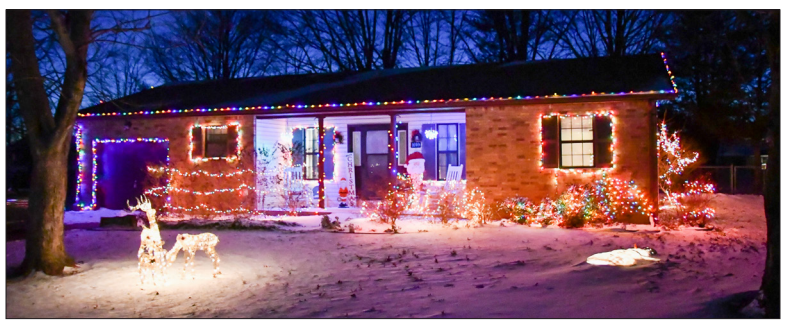
The DED has also released county maps like the one above identifying areas of the state where the FCC map may be missing addresses, based on a comparison with Census data. The DED encourages Missourians in the highlighted areas to check that they were not inadvertently left off the FCC map.

To view or download both types of maps for each county, visit stateofmissouri.app.box.com/v/CountyBroadbandMaps.











Christmas lights

Residents of Maries County show their Christmas cheer by lighting up homes with Christmas lights and elaborate displays.





PHOTOS BY JACOB WARDEN









Christmas parties

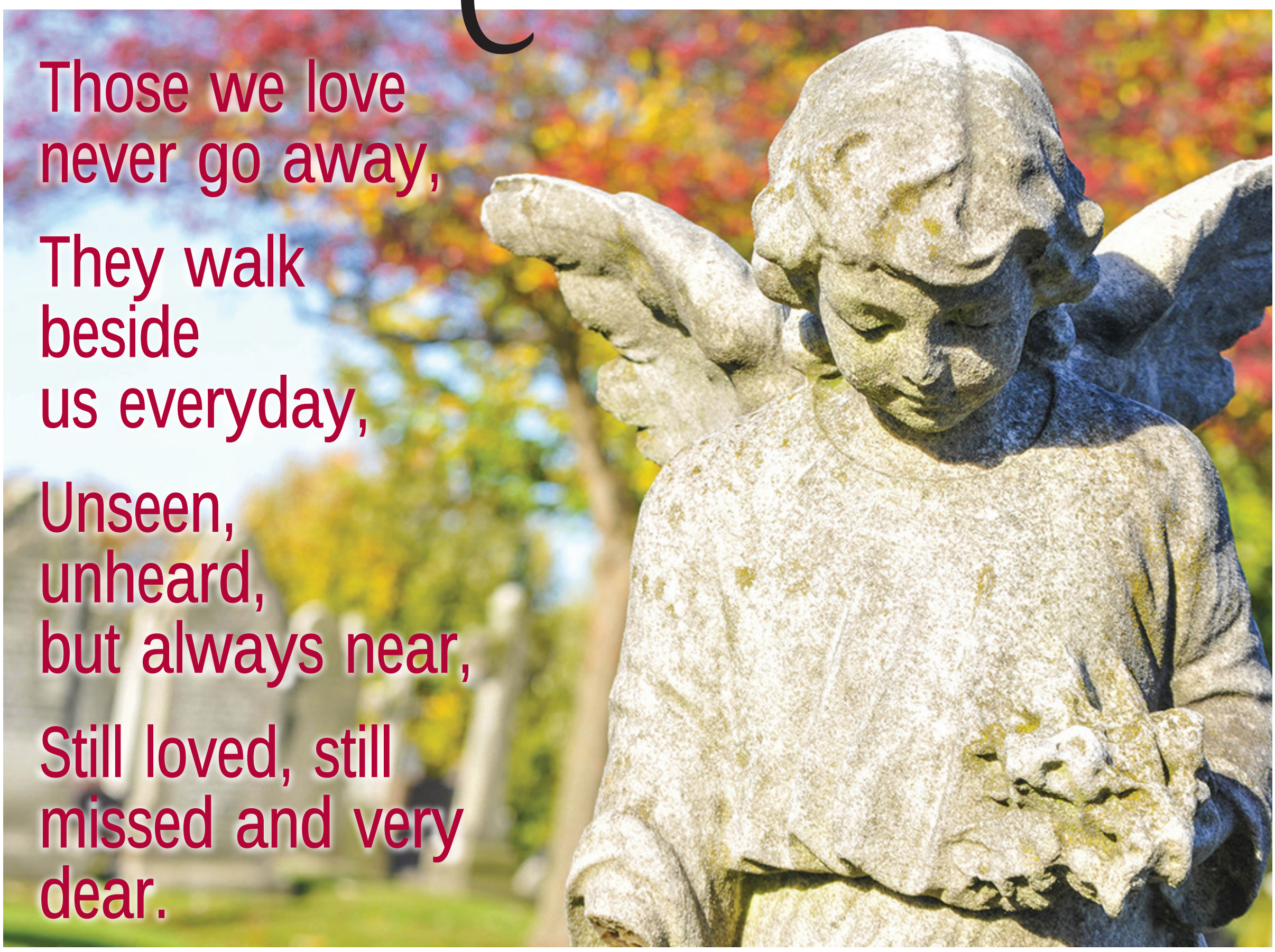
Belle Elementary School classes celebrated Christmas on Dec. 21 with classroom parties. Students were encouraged to wear Christmas pajamas, eat snacks and watch movies like "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Students also played games and participated in gift exchanges. A new twist this year was to bring in classroom gifts for everyone to enjoy. Many students brought board games, card games, colored pencils, and crayons.

PHOTOS BY ROXIE MURPHY





In Remembrance



Remembering friends and family lost in 2022

Louise Albertson
Vienna
Sept. 6, 1929
June 17, 2022

Minnie Alexander
Dixon
Dec. 31, 1929
May 22, 2022

Joyce Allen
Mahomet, Ill.
Feb. 21, 1935
Nov. 28, 2022

Stephen Alpaugh, Sr.
Dixon
April 24, 1957
Jan. 11, 2022

Edward "Eddie" Arnold
Owensville
July 7, 1966
May 15, 2022

Nadine Asmus
Dixon
Nov. 5, 1935
Dec. 6, 2022

Rev. James Bailey
Dixon
Aug. 24, 1934
April 17, 2022

Danny Baker
Dixon
Oct. 5, 1956
March 9, 2022

Jonathan Baker
Rolla
July 17, 1986
April 4, 2022

Emmajean Bartlett
Rolla
Oct. 12. 1929
Aug. 1, 2022

Robert Bassett
Columbia
Feb. 6, 1940
May 16, 2022

Leila Bassett
May 8, 1935
June 24, 2022

Norris Bassett
Carmel, Ind.
Nov. 5, 1936
Aug. 13, 2022

Kevin Becklenberg
Belle
July 19, 1954
Oct. 20, 2022

Mildred Beckley
New Bloomfield
Oct. 21, 1939
Oct. 29, 2022

Erin Bedford
Lee Summit
May 22, 1990
May 20, 2022

Jack Bedrosian
Republic
Sept. 18, 1935
Dec. 25, 2021

Virginia Bell
Dixon
March 13, 1937
Oct. 26, 2022

George Bentlage
Belle
April 2, 1931
June 16, 2022

Lori Bentlage
Belle
June 23, 1964
Nov. 3, 2022

Venona Bergmeier
Broken Arrow, Okla.
June 11, 1922
April 8, 2022

Lorene Bilyeu
Vienna
July 17, 1927
March 5, 2022

Lawrence Bird Jr.
Aug. 11, 1944
May 12, 2022

Mary Bock
Owensville
April 25, 1936
Dec. 5, 2022

Wayne Boeckman
Vienna
July 25, 1964
Sept. 20, 2022

Connie Boucher
Dixon
July 7, 1949
Sept. 28, 2022

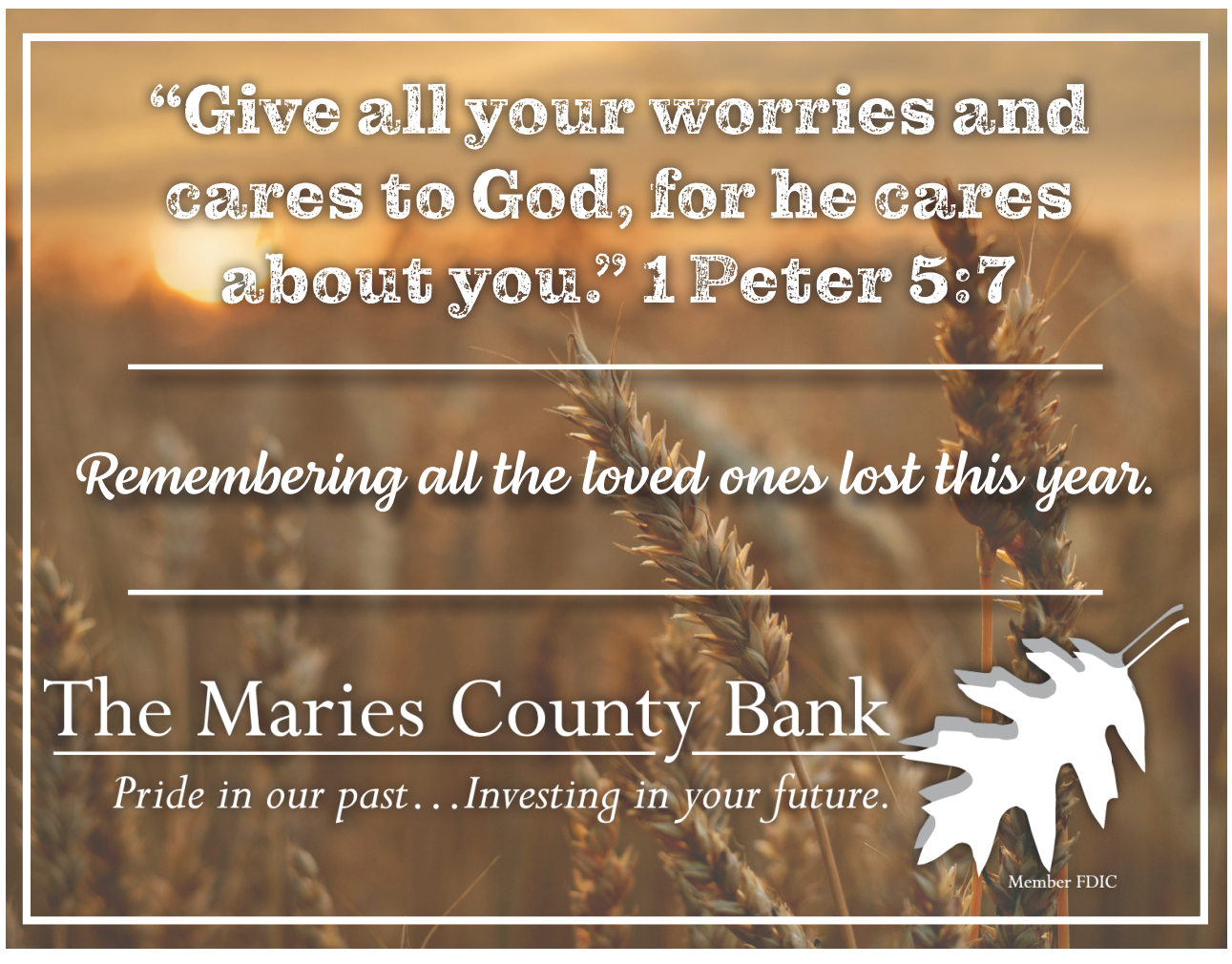
Patsy "Pat" Bowman
Iberia
July 6, 1942
April 25, 2022

Idabel Brandt
Rosebud
Dec. 12, 1931
July 13, 2022

Ruby Branson
Belle
Oct. 9, 1932
July 9, 2022

Thomas Brunnert
Argyle
Aug. 29, 1943
Aug. 25, 2022

Thomas Brunnert
Argyle
Aug. 29, 1943
Aug. 25, 2022



Listed are names of those family and friends who passed away in 2022 that were printed in the pages of the Maries County Advocate.

Remembering friends and family lost in 2022.

Melvin "Frank" Buchmiller
Sept. 1, 1958
March 17, 2022

Ruth Buddemeyer
Bland
Aug. 29, 1928
Feb. 6, 2022

Charles "Toot" Buddemeyer
Belle
July 4, 1982
Nov. 17, 2022

Von Buehrlen
Belle
Oct. 14, 1968
Nov. 24, 2022

Genevieve Bullock
Owensville
March 17, 1921
July 26, 2022

Brenda Burke
St. James
April 21, 1940
Nov. 2, 2022

Ralph Buschman
Washington
July 24, 1933
May 13, 2022

Honorable Judge Jerri Bush
July 7, 1944
Jan. 8, 2022

Juanita Butler
Vichy
Feb. 15, 1937
March 11, 2022

James Campbell
Sullivan
Dec. 7, 1964
Jan. 16, 2022

Patricia Cantriel
Belle
Oct. 24, 1942
Dec. 13, 2021

Arlie Carter
Dixon
April 9, 1931
Dec. 1, 2022

Donald "Donnie" Chambers
Vienna
June 10, 1970
Dec. 22, 2022

Donald Chambers
Sept. 3, 1931
Jan. 13, 2022

Viola Chambers
Vienna
March 21, 1929
May 15, 2022

Richard Christensen
Vienna
Dec. 15, 1946
June 2, 2022

Richard Christensen
Vienna
Dec. 15, 1946
June 2, 2022

Dawn Clayton
Vienna
Oct. 12, 1946
Feb. 27, 2021

Naoma Coffman
Vichy
Jan. 27, 1937
Sept. 11, 2022

Donald Colby
Dixon
June 28, 1936
Aug. 19, 2022

Gary Cook
Belle
Feb. 19, 1945
Nov. 21, 2022

Leslie Cook, Jr.
Godfrey
July 28, 1937
Jan. 10, 2022

John Corbin
Dixon
Nov. 3, 1939
Nov. 8, 2022

Austin Couger
Albuquerque, N.M.
Nov. 29, 1999
April 5, 2022

Erwin Cox
Jan. 29, 1966
Jan. 8, 2022

Genevieve Cox
Belle
July 24, 1935
Jan. 15, 2022

Kristen Crider-Neidert
Bland
June 14, 1974
May 12, 2022

Darlene Curtis
Vienna
Aug. 20, 1935
Oct. 1, 2022

Gayle Curtis
Vienna
Aug. 5, 1933
Nov. 28, 2022



Irma Dahl
Bland
Nov. 7, 1935
Feb. 28, 2022

James Dake
Kansas City
Dec. 14, 1940
July 22, 2022

Noreen Daniels
Rolla
Jan. 8, 1939
Oct. 4, 2022

Janet Davis
Dixon
Jan. 14, 1981
March 8, 2022

Quentin Davis
Dixon
Nov. 14, 1940
Sept. 15, 2022

Shirley Davis
Rolla
May 1, 1957
Oct. 31, 2022

Stanley Dill
Rich Fountain
Aug. 27, 1954
Sept. 23, 2022

Raymond Doerhoff
St. Elizabeth
Nov. 27, 1921
May 8, 2022

Willard "Buddy" Doyle, Sr.
Linn
April 9, 1959
March 5, 2022

Glenn Dressendofer
Vichy
Jan. 16, 1941
June 14, 2022

Charles Drewel
Belle
May 4, 1932
Aug. 23, 2022

Darlein Duncan
Vienna
Feb. 22, 1926
April 20, 2022

Joyce Duncan
Owensville
Oct. 19, 1941
Oct. 12, 2022

Oliver "Tex" Edwards
Crocker
March 11, 1936
Feb. 5, 2022

Billie Elrod
Vienna
Aug. 13, 1931
May 24, 2022

Lloyd Elseman
Dixon
Sept. 3, 1935
Feb. 27, 2022

Lillian Falter
Koeltztown
Oct. 18, 1927
May 22, 2022

Linda Feeler
Bowling Green, Ky.
Feb. 21, 1943
Feb. 4, 2022

Norma Feeler
Sept. 18, 1928
Feb. 23, 2022

Margaret Feeler-Ridenhour
Rolla
Dec. 4, 1939
Feb. 1, 2022

Patricia Finn
House Springs
July 2, 1940
April 29, 2022

Robert Fitzsimmons
Rolla
Sept. 21, 1943
May 13, 2022

Jerry Fortner
Loose Creek
Aug. 6, 1943
April 10, 2022

Cora Foster
Dixon
Aug. 27, 1937
Nov. 23, 2022

Janet Fuller
Belle
Jan. 17, 1940
March 24, 2022

Virginia "Ginny" Gehlert
Belle
July 29, 1936
Aug. 3, 2022

Retha Giesler
St. James
Nov. 2, 1933
Feb. 7, 2022

Ronald Giesler, Sr.
St. James
Dec. 5, 1928
Dec. 20, 2022

Lonnie Goforth
Belle
Feb. 12, 1945
Feb. 16, 2022

Deloris Goode
Dixon
Nov. 29, 1931
July 17, 2022

June Goodman
Springfield
Jan. 22, 1934
Jan. 22, 2022

Oryon Guinn
Belle
Aug. 12, 1984
Sept. 10, 2022

Nettie Hafley
Owensville
May 19, 1935
Feb. 13, 2022

David Hafley
Jefferson City
July 13, 1948
Oct. 3, 2022

Robert "Bob" Hagen
July 29, 1957
Dec. 17, 2022

Nellie Hand
Dixon
Oct. 13, 1930
Aug. 22, 2022

Janice Hand
Dixon
Aug. 18, 1948
Nov. 21, 2022

Ralph Hankey, Jr.
Rosati
Oct. 29, 1935
Feb. 7, 2022

Bonnie Hansmann
Dixon
Feb. 2, 1946
Sept. 4, 2022

Lonnie Hardwick
Dixon
May 2, 1953
May 22, 2022

Movita "Mo" Harris
Belle
April 6, 1940
Feb. 25, 2022

Gene Hart
Fulton
April 6, 1948
Sept. 7, 2022

Reverend Paul Hartley
Aug. 13, 1955
Jan. 12, 2022

Harold Hayes
Rolla
June 13, 1926
July 22, 2022

Elizabeth "Beth" Heinrich
Jefferson City
Dec. 8, 1977
April 9, 2022

Raymond Helble
Lebanon
Feb. 3, 1949
Oct. 17, 2022

Robert Helton, Sr.
Vienna
Sept. 12, 1948
May 6, 2022

Donna Hendricks
Meta
Dec. 20, 1942
Nov. 4, 2022

Donald "Don" Henry
Vichy
Sept. 19, 1949
May 3, 2022

Thelma Henson
Dixon
Nov. 5, 1943
Jan. 7, 2022

Verneta Hilderbrand
St. James
March 29, 1932
June 4, 2022

Melody Hill
Holts Summit
Jan. 21, 1955
June 16, 2022

Wesley Hinson
Grover
June 12, 1956
April 27, 2022

Lonnie Hlavaty
Washington
Sept. 30, 1955
Jan. 21, 1955

Edna Hock
Bland
May 9, 1939
Sept. 15, 2022

Listed are names of those family and friends who passed away in 2022 that were printed in the pages of the Maries County Advocate.

Remembering friends and family lost in 2022.

Phyllis Hollingsworth
St. James
Aug. 2, 1942
Aug. 16, 2022

Norman "Sonny" Hollis
Vienna
April 19, 1937
Jan. 18, 2022

Terri Holtsclaw
Dixon
Aug. 31, 1965
Jan. 1, 2022

Richard Holtsclaw
Dixon
Jan. 20, 1942
May 4, 2022

Charles Honse
Vienna
Jan. 10, 1939
July 28, 2022

Michael "Mike" Honse
O'Fallon
July 6, 2022

Kenneth "Kenny" Honse
Jefferson City
Sept. 12, 1964
Dec. 3, 2022

Arlene Houston
Dixon
July 20, 1934
Oct. 20, 2022

Maymie Huckstep
Linn
Aug. 25, 1939
July 1, 2022

Carlynn Hudspeth
Brentwood
Dec. 9, 1966
Jan. 22, 2022

Richard James Jr.
Vienna
Oct. 15, 1923
Sept. 25, 2022

James "Jim" Jett
Linn
April 7, 1949
May 11, 2022

Ruby Jett
Owensville
April 25, 1929
Sept. 27, 2022

Michelle Johns
Rolla
Dec. 8, 1980
June 16, 2022

Caleb Johnson
Prairie Home
Dec. 11, 1998
Jan. 11, 2022

Sylvia Johnson
Dixon
Dec. 28, 1937
July 29, 2022

George Johnson Jr.
Belle
Feb. 25, 1964
Aug. 6, 2022

Donald Jones
Owensville
Aug. 20, 1935
May 14, 2022

Donley "Don" Jones
Dixon
Dec. 17, 1937
June 16, 2022

John Jones
Vienna
Jan. 25, 1936
July 31, 2022

Emil "Nene" Jones
Belle
Sept. 27, 1984
Aug. 12, 2022

Bettie Jones
Hot Springs, Ark.
May 29, 1933
Aug. 30, 2022

Betty Juergens
Dixon
Nov. 16, 1961
Sept. 6, 2022

Betty Juergens
Dixon
Nov. 16, 1961
Sept. 6, 2022

Thomas Justus
Bland
Dec. 5, 1948
Feb. 5, 2022

Rita Kampeter
Argyle
Jan. 9, 1921
May 17, 2022

Kathleen Klossner
Jan. 13, 1937
March 20, 2022

Florence Kuelker-Fonville
Vienna
June 10, 1941
April 30, 2022

Caroline LaBarge
St. James
Sept. 30, 1932
July 5, 2022

Melba Lee
Dixon
Feb. 21, 1935
June 1, 2022

Danette Lehnhoff
Vichy
Jan. 22, 1956
May 25, 2022

Jo Ann Light
Vienna
Sept. 24, 1955
Oct. 22, 2022

Bernard Litton
Owensville
Aug. 25, 1930
Dec. 16, 2022

Dale Logan
Feb. 14, 1950
Dec. 2, 2022

John Louderback
Belle
July 4, 1958
Feb. 8, 2022

Colter Loughridge
April 9, 2022
April 9, 2022

Casper "Cap" Luebbert Sr.
Rich Fountain
Nov. 4, 1940
June 17, 2022

Juanita Mace
Rolla
July 31, 1929
Sept. 25, 2022

Irene Malone
Rolla
Aug. 7, 1935
May 14, 2022

Orvis "Lee" Maples
Belle
April 25, 1925
Feb. 13, 2022

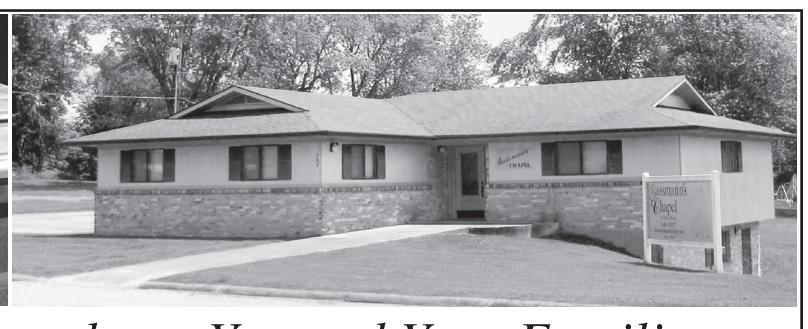
Cheryl "Cherri" Marquart
Belle
Aug. 28, 1961
Oct. 14, 2022

Steven Martin
Oct. 2, 1963
June 10, 2022

David Maxwell
St. James
Feb. 22, 1948
July 8, 2022

Daniel "Dan" McCormack
June 2, 1955
Aug. 11, 2022

Oscar "Conrad" McKinney
Belle
July 23, 1938
Jan. 30, 2022

Our Deepest Sympathy to You and Your Families

May God hold you in love and peace during this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

BLAND CHAPEL
107 RAY STREET
(573) 646-3377

BELLE CHAPEL
207 LINN AVENUE
(573) 859-3712

Sassmann's Chapel

"Serving the Families of the Belle & Bland Communities since 1920"

www.SassmannsChapel.com

Darin McKinney
Jefferson City
July 5, 1971
Dec. 12, 2022

Shawn McKinnon
Independence
Feb. 11, 1969
Dec. 13, 2021

Jack McQueen
Owensville
Jan. 4, 1953
Sept. 4, 2022

Randy "Hondo" Medlock
Bland
Jan. 14, 1959
April 15, 2022

Maude "Louise" Medows
St. James
Aug. 28, 1946
Sept. 29, 2022

Marvis "Marv" Meyer
Branson
June 21, 1947
Feb. 21, 2022

Marsha Meyer
Meta
Jan. 13, 1950
March 17, 2022

Delbert Miller
June 8, 1938
Feb. 5, 2022

Theresa Muenks
Loose Creek
June 12, 1928
Sept. 15, 2022

Eunice Neidert
St. James
Sept. 16, 1920
July 13, 2022

Robert "Bobby" Neidert
St. James
Dec. 19, 1949
Oct. 11, 2022

Barry Nelson
Jefferson City
Dec. 14, 1957
May 26, 2022

Eugene Newton
Godley, Ill.
July 14, 1937
Jan. 31, 2022

Phyllis Nicks
Owensville
July 2, 1944
Oct. 15, 2022

Margaret Obertz
St. Charles
Feb. 3, 1935
May 17, 2022

Larry Oliver
Westphalia
April 15, 1936
July 10, 2022

Larry Oliver
Westphalia
April 15, 1936
July 10, 2022

Tessie Parker
Rolla
March 1, 1932
July 21, 2022

James Pax
Jan. 24, 2011
Aug. 5, 2022

Shirley Pennington
Belle
July 18, 1932
Feb. 28, 2022

Terrie Perkins
Oct. 11, 1946
Jan. 6, 2022

Connor Peterman
St. James
Feb. 11, 2022
Feb. 11, 2022

Cathy Picker
Belle
Aug. 2, 1950
Sept. 14, 2022

Stephanie Plotner
Vienna
Aug. 31, 1981
Oct. 4, 2022

Mary Porter
Dixon
Sept. 24, 1927
July 20, 2022

Del Pratt, Sr.
Dixon
Sept. 14, 1941
Dec. 25, 2021

Allen Price
July 14, 2022

Roderic Ray, Jr.
Springfield
Sept. 21, 1972
Jan. 26, 2022

Lola Reed
St. James
April 20, 1941
July 12, 2022

Jerome Reinkemeyer
Argyle
Oct. 9, 1929
April 21, 2022

Victor "Vic" Renkemeyer
Vienna
Dec. 4, 1928
March 2, 2022

James Reynard
Vienna
July 9, 1933
Jan. 22, 2022

Kathy Rhodes
Belle
Nov. 28, 1949
June 17, 1949

Thomas Ridenhour
Vichy
Jan. 24, 1951
Jan. 29, 2022

Gregory Ridenhour
Owensville
May 31, 1953
June 21, 2022

Leona Rivera
Dixon
Dec. 9, 1954
May 4, 2022

Jackie "Jack" Roach
Owensville
Aug. 31, 1949
July 6, 2022

Marie Roberson
Dixon
March 16, 1935
July 4, 2022

Carolyn Robertson
Belle
April 12, 1946
July 1, 2022

Paul Robertson
Feb. 24, 1931
Oct. 24, 2022

William Rodden
Dixon
July 25, 1969
Nov. 9, 2022

Jaynet "Amos" Roesner
Belle
Sept. 11, 1935
June 9, 2022

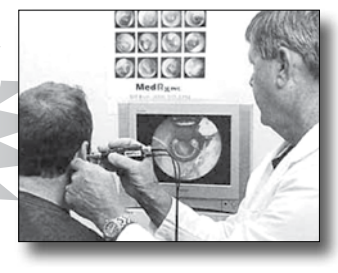
Gary Rollins
Dixon
April 10, 1941
Jan. 1, 2022

William Rollins
Dixon
April 16, 1951
March 12, 2022

Listed are names of those family and friends who passed away in 2022 that were printed in the pages of the Maries County Advocate.

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40%-60% Discounts on Hearing Aids



Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist With Over 44 Years Experience.

- We sell most name brand hearing aids.
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In Memory

Let us help you convey your condolences with a custom remembrance piece dedicated to honoring the memory of someone so special.

The Flower Basket

201 Hwy. 63 South
Vienna, Missouri
573-422-3131

memory

Those we Love can never e
more than a thought apart,
For as long as there's a memory,
the live-on in our hearts.

G&W FOODS

407 Independence Lane
Vienna, Missouri 65582
573-422-3615

Remembering friends and family lost in 2022.



Lucy Roop
Dixon
Jan. 1, 1947
May 19, 2022

Vicki Stallman
Owensville
Dec. 17, 1956
Oct. 7, 2022

Elva "Joy" Talley
Crocker
Sept. 18, 1956
Jan. 17, 2022

Rhonda Vaughn
Belle
Nov. 24, 1959
Oct. 11, 2022

Dennis Weider
Vienna
Oct. 12, 1950
Sept. 6, 2022

Frank Salter
St. James
Sept. 30, 1942
July 12, 2022

Danny Steen
Rolla
Sept. 20, 1954
Nov. 20, 2022

Jeanette Thompson
St. James
Feb. 15, 1958
June 9, 2022

Margaret "Sissy" Viessman
Jefferson City
March 12, 1928
March 11, 2022

Leonard "Peanuts" Weidinger
Vienna
April 15, 1926
Aug. 27, 2022

Trisha Sampson
Belle
March 6, 1963
Nov. 19, 2022

Janet Steinbeck
St. Elizabeth
Jan. 15, 1951
April 27, 2022

Walter Tiede
Lanes Prairie
Nov. 18, 1927
Nov. 7, 2022

James "Jim" Volmert
Iberia
Jan. 24, 1944
Feb. 1, 2022

Dalton Welschmeyer
Argyle
Aug. 10, 2000
Aug. 8, 2022

Gregory Sankey
Freeburg
Aug. 3, 1939
June 8, 2022

Wilma Stephen
Dixon
July 26, 1941
Oct. 2, 2022

Ida Tipton
Aug. 19, 1929
April 19, 2022

Anthony "Tony" Vrana
Hubert, N.C.
June 12, 1942
Oct. 25, 2021

Robert "Bob" Wiegers
Rich Fountain
June 29, 1951
March 22, 2022

Bernice Schmitz
Argyle
March 21, 1923
Aug, 27, 22

Daisy Seaton
Dixon
July 12, 1935
Feb. 6, 2022

John Shaw
Tulsa, Okla.
Nov. 14, 1947
Sept. 15, 2022

Curt Sherman
Vichy
Sept. 23, 1953
Jan. 1, 2022

Perry Sherman
Vichy
Dec. 6, 1954
June 9, 2022

Robert "Bob" Simpson Jr.
Crocker
Nov. 9, 1952
Dec. 2, 2022

Ruby Smith
Bland
March 1, 1938
April 2, 2022



Bonnie Wiles
Dixon
March 1, 1934
Nov. 10, 2022

Deborah Willoughby
Belle
March 21, 1947
Nov. 1, 2022

Samuel Wilson
Belle
Dec. 25, 1940
Aug. 30, 2022

Dorothy Withers
July 23, 1932
Dec. 23, 2022

Jamie Withouse
Belle
Aug. 12, 1966
Jan. 12, 2022

Clyde Withouse
Bland
Oct. 18, 1927
March 21, 2022

Carla Woodcock
Dec. 8, 1956
Dec. 14, 2022

Billy Smith
Belle
Jan. 2, 1966
Sept. 25, 2022

Neil Storer
Belle
Oct. 27, 1958
Feb. 6, 2022

Florence Toebben
Vienna
Sept. 15, 1931
Sept. 1, 2022

Ida Wagner
Vienna
Sept. 22, 1929
Sept. 28, 2022

Raymond Woemmel
Bland
Jan. 30, 1942
Aug. 6, 2022

Marvin "Jack" Smoot
July 27, 1932
May 27, 2022

Betty Stratman
Freeburg
Aug. 11, 1933
March 13, 2022

Jason Trenner
Vienna
March 1, 1975
April 10, 2022

Joseph Walls
Rolla
July 3, 1979
Dec. 23, 2021

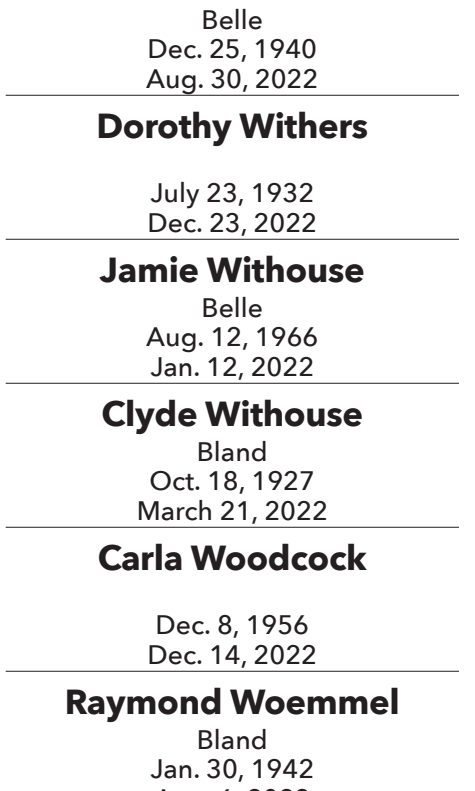
Harold "Wimp" Woolley
Belle
Sept. 30, 1935
Sept. 27, 2022

Randy Spurgeon
Owensville
Sept. 19, 1965
Feb. 27, 2022

Coad "Cody" Stricklan
Vienna
Nov. 1, 1976
March 10, 2022

Tammy Tripp
Owensville
March 20, 1958
Feb. 7, 2022

Mary Walls
May 30, 1962
May 19, 2022



Samuel "Sonny" Spurgeon
Belle
July 11, 1927
May 30, 2022

Joyce Sullins
Crocker
May 9, 1940
Dec. 30, 2021

Bobbi Tyler
Belle
Aug. 13, 1967
Nov. 18, 2022

Nettie Walters
Rolla
Sept. 22, 1935
May 19, 2022

Maryanna Spurr
Jan. 14, 1945
Nov. 22, 2022

Thomas Swinfard
Rolla
Nov. 17, 1936
April 22, 2022

Larry "Mack" Vandergriff
Belle
Aug. 5, 1939
March 24, 2022

John Walters
Belle
June 2, 1998
Aug. 31, 2022

Mary Stack
Vienna
Sept. 28, 1944
Oct. 11, 2022

Leslie Tackett
Vienna
Sept. 28, 1936
Aug. 30, 2022

Earl VanScoy
Dixon
June 28, 1934
March 5, 2022

Danielle Webster
Belle
Sept. 2, 1982
Sept. 27, 2022

Listed are names of those family and friends who passed away in 2022 that were printed in the pages of the Maries County Advocate.





