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MARIES COUNTY Advocate

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How to cook a turkey according to Vienna Early Learning Center

BY VIENNA EARLY LEARNING CENTER STUDENTS

VIENNA — *The Maries County Advocate* asked students at the Vienna Early Learning Center an important question ahead of Thanksgiving: "How do you cook a turkey?" Students in both the morning and afternoon classes, with help from pre-K staff, provided their answers below.

MORNING CLASS

First you get a turkey out of the woods. Then you put it in a pan with some hot sauce and mix it up. Cook it on the stove on HOT for six minutes. Eat it with a fork. - *Oaklyn Willoughby*

See **VIENNA EARLY LEARNING CENTER** on Page 6





STUDENTS FROM the Vienna Early Learning Center's morning class (above, left) and afternoon class (above, right) gave advice on how to cook a turkey ahead of Thanksgiving. Students from the Belle Elementary preschool morning class (below) and afternoon class (page 6) gave tips for how to catch a turkey.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Belle elementary preschoolers share how to catch a turkey

BY ROXIE MURPHY
ASSISTANT EDITOR
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BELLE — Caryl Koch's Belle Elementary preschool classes answered the question *How to catch a turkey?* in preparation for Thanksgiving this week. The following answers are all original.

Morning Class

You could catch a turkey with a rope! - *Cashton*

I would shoot a turkey. Then cook it, and put it in the microwave! - *Jackson*

I would shoot it, then put it inside of a

See **BES** on Page 6



R-1 nurse shares concerns, challenges

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — Maries R-1 nurse Lindsay Otto came to the Oct. 24 school board meeting to update board members about some of the challenges her office has faced this year.

One of Otto's points was discussing the district's increase in high-acuity students, which are the students who need closer monitoring or quick intervention for their conditions. More than 110 students in the district have some type of medical plan in place.

"That is a lot higher than we have ever had before," Otto said. "I have had to, in one split-second, decide whether I'm going to give a student an inhaler or run upstairs for a seizure. What do I do?"

The nurse's office does have part-time help, but Otto said the office still gets overwhelmed, especially in times outside the 17 hours each week when she has extra help. In the last couple of years, a grant helped fund visits from a licensed practical nurse from Four Rivers Community Health Center, but that grant is no longer available. The nurse's office went from two staff members almost every day to two staff members about two days each week.

"Coming here tonight and asking for help is something that I have not wanted to do, but I'm here on behalf of all my students," Otto said. "Everything I do here is with their health and wellness and safety in mind. I have been overwhelmed for a long, long time in the office and things have gone undone. It's time to think about our students and put their health and safety first."

Otto brought data about how many visits her office handles during the

See **MARIES R-1 NURSE** on Page 3

Engineer updates commissioners on Fly Creek bridge

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — MECO Engineering President Scott Vogler came to the Nov. 13 meeting to update the Maries County Commission on his firm's upcoming replacement of the county road 213 bridge over Fly Creek.

He said the project would be fairly easy because the bridge is going back in the same spot as the one that is there now. The road is not moving.

The new bridge will be 125 feet long, which is about 5 feet longer than the current span. It will be about 4 feet higher than before.

Western District Commissioner Ed Fagre asked if MECO Engineering had talked to any of the surrounding landowners about the right of way for the project.

Vogler said the company could not begin the right of way negotiations until the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) reviews some of the documents related to the project.

Presiding Commissioner Victor Stratman asked about the width of the new bridge.

Vogler said the new bridge will be about the same as the current bridge. It will be about 28 feet wide with about 22 feet of clearance.

Stratman asked how long construction would take once it begins.

Vogler said he did not think the project would take more than two or three months. He added that he is hoping for construction to begin in the spring with most of the work happening over summer break to avoid disrupting bus routes that may pass through the area.

PUBLIC HOUSING

Stratman said he had recently attended a Phelps County Public Housing Agency (PHA) meeting. The agency works with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Housing Choice Voucher program to help pay

See **COMMISSION** on Page 6

THE DRY Fork Creek bridge on Highway 28 south of Belle is scheduled to be replaced beginning Nov. 27.

R-2 school establishes alternate bus routes during Dry Fork bridge project

BY ROXIE MURPHY
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BELLE — The Maries County R-2 School District has informed families who will be affected by extended bus rides about alternative routes that will begin Nov. 27 in conjunction with the Dry Fork Creek bridge replacement project.

Superintendent Dr. Lenice Basham said on Tuesday morning that the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) announced its subcontractor Capital Paving is scheduled to start the 144-day project next week. The Dry Fork Creek Bridge is a primary crossing for the two of the district's furthest-running bus routes.

See **DRY FORK BRIDGE** on Page 4

Vienna senior trip approved by board

See Page 3

All-District honors to Belle goalie

See Sports Page 7



Belle makes deal on new police cars

See Page 12

"There is nothing more important than a good, safe, secure home." — ROSALYNN CARTER

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A NEW ADVENTURE

Friday, November 22, 1963



by DENNIS WARDEN

On Nov. 22, 1963 — 60 years ago today — the 35th President of the United States was riding in the presidential limousine, a Lincoln with the top off, through the city of Dallas, Texas, when an assassin's bullet killed him. President John F. Kennedy, the youngest person elected President of the U.S., was 46-years old.

Arrested for JFK's assassination was Lee Harvey Oswald.

Kennedy's untimely death had a profound effect on our nation, both cultural and political. Every adult at that time remembers where they were and what they were doing when they heard this tragic news.

I was six days away from my fourth birthday. Children my age were shielded from this dark news, learning of it in history class later in school.

Many believe that we are currently living in a society full of hate. We are, but our country has seen hatred before.

JFK's assassination was one of nine in a ten-year span that would become known as the "Decade of Assassinations."

Other prominent figures who lost their lives by a bullet in the 60s include Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., and JFK's younger brother, Robert F. Kennedy.

JFK defeated Richard M. Nixon in one of the closest presidential elections of the last century, 49.7 percent to 49.5 percent of the popular vote. The Electoral College — which is what counts — was not as close, 303 to 219, with 269 needed to win.

A piece of trivia for history buffs: Fifteen Democrat electors from Mississippi, Oklahoma and Alabama refused to place their vote for Kennedy because he supported the civil rights movement. They voted for Virginia Democrat Senator Harry F. Byrd.

Byrd (not to be confused with Democrat Senator Robert F. Byrd, who was a member of the Klu Klux Klan in his 20s and 30s) was known to be a racist and an avowed white separatist.

Perhaps President Kennedy is best known for his 1961 inaugural address when he said, "And so, my fellow Americans: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

This statement has been turned around by many Democrat leaders, starting with Kennedy's replacement, President Lyndon Johnson, when he declared a "War on Poverty," and his reforms for the "Great Society."

Since his reforms, many Americans have asked the Federal Government to take care of them from the cradle to the grave with endless handouts.

Many believe that Kennedy would be considered a conservative in today's climate.

Before Ronald Reagan's famous speech at the Brandenburg Gate, Kennedy gave a speech in Berlin where he also took a tough stance against communism, saying, "There are some who say that communism is the wave of the future, let them come to Berlin."

Kennedy was also conservative with his tax policy. In 1962, at the Economic Club of New York, Kennedy said he was committed to "an across-the-board, top-to-bottom cut in personal and corporate income taxes." Another of JFKs famous sayings is, "A rising tide lifts all boats."

In addition to conservative ideas of peace through strength and lower taxes, Kennedy believed in an individual's right to keep and bear arms. He was a lifetime member of the NRA.

On the issue of abortion — which was not an issue during his campaign for president — he said, "Now, on the question of limiting population: As you know, the Japanese have been doing it very vigorously, through abortion, which I think would be repugnant to all Americans."

"JFK appears more conservative to us today than he appeared to his contemporaries," according to author Ira Stoll, "because liberalism moved so far to the left in the years after he was killed."

———————————

On Sunday, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter died at her home in Georgia at the age of 96. "Rosalynn was my equal partner in everything I ever accomplished," President Jimmy Carter said. "She gave me wise guidance and encouragement when I needed it. As long as Rosalynn was in the world, I always knew somebody loved and supported me."

May she rest in peace.

SEASONAL COMMENTARY

How can we make the most of this holiday season?

BY JANICE ELLIS
FOR THE MISSOURI INDEPENDENT

Given the feelings of unease that often punctuate our daily lives in many areas, the holiday season provides an opportunity for us not only to celebrate, but to discover lasting meaning that could carry us to new heights of understanding and rejuvenation.

Lasting meaning can be found in many ways, but three ways in particular: Reflection, Renewal, and Resolve.

These three "Rs" begin within each of us and then spread abroad.

Some of us have been engaged for weeks and months planning meals, making lists of family members, friends, and colleagues to invite to gatherings. Shopping for gifts, no doubt, got an even earlier start. But shopping, feasting, partying, and all the merriment need not be all consuming.

Most assuredly, we welcome the break and escape from the rancorous political environment that invades our mental space and sense of peace on any given day. Whether local, state, or national politics, that is not all there is as hard as it might seem to be.

Admittedly, totally escaping some of the tough political circumstances we face as a country — a very divided public, increasing mass gun violence, entrenched political polarization — will be difficult.

Or ignoring that we are a member of the global community will be a near impossibility as we continue to witness the brutal and inhumane war between Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Hamas, and as we face the growing threat and spread of terrorism.

Whether it is in our home, our neighborhood, our schools, or some other corner of our immediate or global community, all the scientific, technological, and medical advances will not fix a down-trodden human spirit.

One can find much expert advice on how to take care of our physical selves and manage our schedules amid all the holiday demands.

Yet, there is no better time than during the holiday season to use some of our downtime to reflect, renew and resolve to address some of those things that can help us better navigate uncertain or turbulent times ahead. Recognizing and putting into practice the benefits the three Rs can provide will require that we recognize and embrace a few things that will help us address and strengthen our common humanity.

Many of those things are neither new nor require some great insight.

The first R: Reflection. We only need to pause, look around and pay closer attention to people and conditions right around us. For some, the holiday season is the beginning of the most joyous time of the year, with all the decorations and holiday signs — one happy event after the other.

But, for others, it is the beginning of a stressful time, even depressive time, for any number of reasons.

While many of us may be fortunate to be in a position to enjoy each holiday, with all its trappings with family and friends, there are those who see little to celebrate and have even less with which to celebrate. For them, the holiday season is only the beginning of a dreaded time — a season filled with reminders of families that were, wish lists that remain unfilled, and dreams that always seem beyond one's reach.

This is where there is an opportunity to apply the second R: Renewal.

We can begin on the smaller and personal level where, too often, much of this "state of want" or "painful emptiness" has nothing to do with money or other material things. But instead, it has all to do with how one views the purpose for his or her life.

Consequently, our sense of self-worth and the value we bring to those around us and the community in which we are a part get lost and we suffer immeasurably — in ways that are not always obvious.

We too often let our well-being be determined by unimportant and fleeting things. This is where self-reflection can be the beginning of real renewal.

If we take time to reflect on our world both near and afar, we all see the signs of the toll lifestyles and misplaced emphasis have taken on the human spirit.

We need to commit to the discussion and renewal of personal and social values that count, that have lasting meaning when physical and material circumstances inevitably

See MAKE THE MOST on Page 4

GUEST COMMENTARY

Traditions play key roles during Thanksgiving season

BY GARRETT HAWKINS
President, Missouri Farm Bureau

Tradition is an iconic word this time of year for good reason.

Thanksgiving dinner always starts at the same time, and the same family members gather, often at the same home. In the backyard, siblings, cousins and in-laws are pitted against each other in a friendly game of football before planting themselves in front of the TV for some real football.

The big meal is the main event, but the preparation in the days leading up to it are also part of the tradition. Each year, mom jots down her grocery list, scours the weekly ads and notes when and where to find the much-needed ingredients on sale.

Many of us will be tasked with a random grocery run and a specific dish or a tasty dessert. Others are assigned the paper plates or ice, due to their "burned it again" track record in the kitchen. We can't all be the chef, but even those who almost caught the kitchen on fire contribute, because it's tradition.

Another tradition that continues is the American Farm Bureau Thanksgiving Dinner Cost Survey.

This annual survey dating back to 1986 provides a snapshot of the cost of bringing a family to the dinner table this weekend. Volunteer Farm Bureau members scour the supermarkets in early November to price the same 12 staple items that have been tracked now for 38 years.

While it rightly claims not to be scientific, the survey provides a snapshot of how Americans are feeling. As expected, that depends on if food prices are trending up or down.

So, are consumers optimistic or pessimistic this season?

This year's survey found the price of a Thanksgiving dinner is down 4.5 percent from last year's all-time high.

In the Midwest, you can expect to spend about $59 to put enough turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, cranberries, peas, rolls and pumpkin pie (with whipped cream, of course) to feed a gathering of 10 people. We're fortunate to live where we do, as that number is about $3 less than the nationwide average, and the biggest drops year-to-year came from cranberries (down 18.3 percent) and the star of the show — the turkey (down 5.6 percent) itself.

Even though costs are down slightly in 2023's survey, this year still features the second most expensive Thanksgiving in survey history. We are all too aware that food price inflation remains a real issue that is constraining U.S. consumers' budgets.

Missouri farm and ranch families who feel those inflationary pressures in producing our food will continue to show up every single day with the goal of making sure that people around the world have the necessary food, fiber and fuel to support daily life.

I'm grateful for them and the safe and secure food supply we are blessed with in the United States.

I'm thankful for the traditions leading up to, and throughout, as we celebrate each holiday that brings families together. While Thanksgiving may look different for each of us, the stories and memories remain the same.

For that, we can all be thankful.

Garrett Hawkins is a farmer from Appleton City and serves as Missouri Farm Bureau president).

MAIL BAG

Just slow down

Over the past few weeks I have witnessed a large number of pick up trucks and cars speeding on the county road on which I live. I would guess that my gravel road is not unique to speeders but the speeds at which I have witnessed are dangerous for residents and other drivers using the roads. My road, Maries Rd 505, has a number of hills which prevent drivers from seeing on-coming vehicles until you come to the top the hill. Many of my neighbors drive ATV's in the performance of their farm work on and which are traveling at slower speeds. Reaction time is minimized in all cases.

Some of the people I have seen appear to be deer hunters, others are just young men and women driving like idiots without a care for their safety, other drivers, or residents. Coupled with this, many places along the roads are only one lane wide making it even more likely for collisions or losing control and driving into the ditches and trees that line the roads. Because of the lack of rain, the roads are extremely dusty as well which causes visibility problems for approaching vehicles. I have never seen speed limit signs on any of the county roads I travel nor I do not know if there are statutes that set speed limits on unimproved roads in Missouri. Common sense tells me 50 plus miles per hour is too fast on our gravel roads.

Someday, someone is going to be hurt or, worse yet, killed by drivers who have no concern for the speeds they are driving. Just slow down and be considerate of others.

Cliff Oesch

LIBERTY THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Thankful and blessed

BY PAUL HAMBY

This week, let's pause and be thankful for the freedom, liberty and blessings we have here in Missouri. While it may seem at times that times are tough - and some days are - it is also true that there has never in the history of humans on this planet been a better time to be alive.

Missouri citizens are healthier and have a higher average household income than ever before.

In Missouri, you have the right to defend your family, your property and yourself. Our state legislators have worked for years to protect that right that is guaranteed by the 2nd amendment. We should not take this for granted as in many parts of the world, this right no longer exists.

In Missouri we have some of the most secure elections in the nation. Your vote counts. A brief look back to just 2020, makes us truly appreciate our county clerks and local election authorities in Missouri.

Jobs are plentiful and a college degree is not required to earn a very good living in Missouri. We still have a mostly free market economic system that means that in most parts of the state entrepreneurs can start a business to fill a need or service and that is the basis of what makes our economy thrive. Opportunities are all around us.

You can turn on your tap and get clean healthy water. Look back 100 years ago and you will find that our grandparents spent many hours each week and a large part of their income in the quest for clean water for their family and livestock.

Our streams and air are the cleanest in 100+ years.

You have the right to speak your opinion. You have the right to publicly disagree with those in government. That small act still gets folks killed in some parts of the world today. The 1st amendment is protected and defended in Missouri.

You have the freedom to worship your god, however you perceive him to be.

I am thankful Jesus came to the earth for each of us and the many blessings our family has received.

"Not one of us is exempt from some kind of trouble, … and yet in the midst of those trials we can thank God, because we know that He has promised to be with us and that He will help us." - Billy Graham

This year we were blessed with our first grandson, Luca. Our daughter Lylac (Grace) and her son are both doing well. Grandpa sounds good.

Blessed in so many ways.

Maries County Advocate

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R-1 board approves senior trip, budget message

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — After hearing a pitch by Vienna High School Class of 2024 President Weston Patton and Vice President Kara Bastion, the Maries R-1 School Board approved the 2024 senior trip at its Oct. 24 meeting.

The group will arrive in Destin, Florida, on April 28 and return to Missouri on May 2, 2024. Four girls and 11 boys plan to make the trip. A few chaperones will accompany them.

On the first day, the group will travel to St. Louis to fly to Florida. In the three days in Destin, they plan to visit the harbor, the beach, an arcade and an alligator park. They also plan to go fishing.

The presentation included two options for beach-house rentals. Board members asked if the students had a preference. When the board voted, the motion allowed the students to decide which option would work better for them.

Also at the meeting, Superintendent Teresa Messersmith read the first two pages of the 2023-24 Maries R-1 Budget Message before the board voted to approve it. The document includes revenues from local, state and federal receipts; expenditures and balances.

The assessed valuation for the district is $69,565,210. New construction was $1,231,900, which made for a $1,626,300 net gain over the previous year's assessed valuation. New construction increased by $269,410 from the previous year's new construction valuation.

The general revenue tax rate is 3.3112. Debt service has a 0.44 rate. The district bases its budget on a 93-percent collection rate.

The district estimates funds from Proposition C to bring in about $600,000. The estimated State Adequacy Target is $6,375, which remained the same as the previous year. State Transportation funding is estimated at 75 percent, which at approximately $242,000 would be about the same as last year. Estimates will change throughout the year as more information becomes available from the state.

The base salary for the certified salary schedule increased by $2,500, which made the base salary $32,500. Teacher retirement remained the same at 14.5 percent. Certified staff received a $500 step. Twelve-month non-certified employees received a 10-percent raise.

Bus route mileage rates increased by about 5 percent. Pay rates increased from $3.09 to $3.25 per mile. Gravel rates increased from $2.61 to $2.85 this year.

Tuition for the Rolla Technical Institute is $1,457 per semester or $2,914 per year per student.

The budget also includes $6,500 for general instructional supplies for all grade levels. The board voted to approve the budget message.

Two representatives from L.J. Hart & Company, a St. Louis-based municipal bond underwriting and advisory firm, came to the meeting to discuss the possibility of future bonds in the district.

President Tom Pisarkiewicz said the firm has been the district's municipal bond underwriter in the past. Since 1993, the firm has issued $12,295,000 of debt for the district. Savings during that time were $492,223. The firm also prepaid bonds during that time and saved $531,000.

Senior Financial Analyst Erin McManus said the firm estimated the district's assessed valuation growth. Over the last five years, assessed valuation grew by about 4.28 percent each year. The firm chose to forecast a growth rate of only about 1.5 percent to stay conservative in its cash flow projections.

McManus reviewed the district's different tax levies and the funds they serve. The debt service fund can only pay principal and interest on bonds. Its levy has been at 44 cents for eight years. In the firm's projections, a new bond issue would keep that levy the same.

While looking at the cash flow analysis, McManus said the district's balances are starting to track above its payments, so the district may be in position for a new no-tax-increase bond. The district's bonding capacity has increased to about $7.9 million. The firm estimates the largest bond the district could pursue without increasing tax rates would be about $2 million, but that could increase with a higher rate of growth.

Board member Dave Garro asked when the board would need to vote to put a bond issue on the ballot if it decided to pursue a bond.

Pisarkiewicz said a resolution would need to pass in December to have it ready for the April 2024 ballot.

Later in the meeting, Messersmith said the district is considering dropping the Summer Journey program that it uses for summer school classes. The administrators planned to ask teachers what they would like to do for summer school and then make a recommendation to the board.

Board member Mike Kleffner asked why the teachers might want to drop the program because he thought it was popular.

Messersmith said the program costs a lot of money. Some of the money saved could go toward offering teachers more money to work during summer school.

Last summer, the district's revenue from summer school was $174,545.18. The program cost $75,747. Other summer school expenses totaled $68,064.96 and another $11,499.18 for transportation. Summer school totaled $19,234.04 in net revenue.

"I'm not worried about making a dollar on summer school as long as we don't lose (money)," Kleffner said.

Messersmith said she agreed that the cost of summer school is not a concern as long as the district can break even. If the teachers want to continue with the program, then she has no problem recommending that the board continue with the program.

Garro said the board first switched to the program to help boost attendance.

Messersmith said attendance has been good and the district could still offer rewards for students with perfect attendance during summer school.

Kleffner said he thought the program was bringing in a lot of activities that got kids excited to go to summer school. He had concerns that attendance might drop again if summer school no longer offered the same kinds of activities.

Messersmith said if the district makes a switch, then it will have to work to make sure future summer school sessions meet those standards.

The district received three quotes for lead testing on the district's water. The board selected Triangle Environmental Science and Engineering from Rolla. The company quoted a $3,000 cost for 61 samples. The quote included both draw samples and flush samples. The other quotes, one for $3,409 and one for $2,222, only included 31 flush samples.

MOAD board discusses grants, upcoming election

BY COLIN WILLARD
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VIENNA — The Missouri Department of Public Safety has American Rescue Plan Act grants available next year for first responders.

The Maries-Osage Ambulance District (MOAD) received a grant for supplies as part of the program last year, and the district plans to apply again.

MOAD has orders in place for both a new ambulance and a remount for one of the ambulances the district currently possesses. At the Nov. 13 meeting of the district's board, Administrator Carla Butler asked if the board would be interested in putting in an order for another new truck and going for a 50 percent match grant on the new ambulances. The grant only covers new ambulances and not remounts.

The first order is scheduled to arrive in June 2026. The second is scheduled for October 2026.

"You have to figure ahead," said Victor Stratman, an ambulance board member. "You don't know what things are going to happen."

The board was in favor of pursuing the grant.

Two MOAD board seats are up in the April 2024 election. The seat in Sub-District No. 3 held by board member Eileen Smith and the seat in Sub-District No. 6 held by board member Victor Stratman will be on the ballot. Filing for the seats opens Dec. 5 and closes Dec. 26.

Butler asked the board if they could wait until after the April election to approve new additions to the employee handbook. One of the planned changes is the addition of a policy covering family members of patients riding in ambulances.

Board member Laura Stratman asked if there was a way the board could remember to put the item back on its agenda. Butler said she could add a reminder to her calendar.

Butler shared some possible legislative concerns board members should know before the next session of the General Assembly begins in the new year. The possibilities included potential efforts to eliminate personal property taxes, resolve questions about how first responder districts relate to internet sales taxes and prevent ambulance districts from balancing bills.

Victor Stratman asked if ambulance districts have a lobbying group that could look out for their best interests in Jefferson City.

Butler said there is a group. She also recommended bringing the concerns to state representatives in the area and even inviting them to future board meetings.

The district had $72,907.36 in income in October. Expenses were $56,782.71 for the month. The net income was $16,124.63 in October. Butler said the income was more significant than the average month this year because she had caught up on billing.

Laura Stratman asked if the district could have a positive net income because it was still in the negative for the year. The district has brought in about $555,000 and spent about $597,000 this year.

Butler said the district should receive tax money in December that will help balance things.

Although the board cannot decide on next year's budget until the December meeting, Butler made an early recommendation of keeping the budget the same as this year. This year's budget is already going to be close and the district does not plan any raises for next year.

Butler said she recently attended Crisis Intervention Training and found it very beneficial. She wished the other employees of the district could also attend the training, but the time commitment would make that too difficult.

See **MOAD BOARD** on Page 4

Maries R-1 nurse • from page 1

school year. During the last school year, the nurse's office had 5,649 visits, which was 800 more than the previous year and 1,600 more than seven years ago when Otto started with the district. She told the board to remember that no two tally marks are equal.

A trend that Otto noted is an increase in students visiting the nurse's office for mental wellness. She said because some students have known her for seven years, they trust her to share their struggles.

Board member Matt Novak asked why students do not visit the counseling office for those issues.

Otto said she refers students struggling with mental health issues to the counselors, but sometimes those students visit her office first because their emotional health is affecting their physical health. Younger students especially do not realize the connection between mental health and physical symptoms.

In cases where a student needs to talk with a counselor, Otto often walks the student to that office or calls for the counselor to come to her office. The nurse and the counselors have monthly meetings where they discuss their concerns about students.

Board member Dave Garro said he had concerns that if the nurse's office is taking care of students' mental health concerns, then the district is not realizing the full extent to which students need mental health care. The district could try to bring in more school-based therapists to meet some of those needs, but it first has to know there is a need.

Novak said he understands there is overlap between students' mental and physical health, but the nurse's office should work with the counselors as much as possible to make sure students get the attention they need and avoid staff burnout.

"It's all about the kids," board member Mike Kleffner said. "If we can do anything for any kid, I don't care who does it. If we can help a kid out, that's what this school is about. A lot of these kids have nowhere else to turn to."

Another responsibility Otto has as the school nurse is completing paperwork. One of the reasons it has gotten more difficult to keep up is because of a state law added a few years ago that requires school nurses to notify a student's parents every time the student visits the nurse's office. She estimated that she sees about 20 to 40 students per day. The district's use of the Class Dojo digital program has made it easier to send messages to parents.

Otto shared a recap of everything she did during one day earlier this semester. Before 11 a.m., she had 17 visitors in her office. She met with parents to update a student's health plan. She caught up on charting visits from the previous day. She worked on programming a preventative service program. She followed up with the school-based therapist about a referral. She coordinated compliance reports. She provided students with their prescribed medications. She updated a coach about health plans. She made a list of parents to call about missing eighth-grade and 12th-grade vaccines. A call to a classroom interrupted her lunch. She answered calls from the doctor's office about vaccine records. She sanitized the office. She stayed late to work on charting and continued the task over the weekend.

Other occurrences during the day included a student having an allergic reaction on the bus, a student with a burn wound, a parent dropping off medication, two students hitting their heads and a staff member who came to the office experiencing symptoms of an illness.

Otto said she learned a lot about trauma response at a state training about medical response. She plans to do Stop the Bleed training next year and get certification. Bleed kits were part of the district's proposal for a school safety grant it received earlier this year.

Board Vice President Dave Long asked what the nurse's office needs for help.

Otto said the office needs another person.

Kleffner asked what kind of person the office needs.

Otto said it would be nice to have someone with medical training.

"When I tell parents that we're going to take good care of their kids, we need to back that up," she said.

"We appreciate everything you do," Long said. "We have to figure out something to try to help you a little better."

Superintendent Teresa Messersmith said the board will discuss help in the nurse's office more at a later date.

Also during the discussion, Otto said she had finished state reporting, which includes immunization compliance reports and data on how many students have certain types of medical conditions. Teachers and bus drivers had received student medical plans. The nurse's office would like to do a back-to-school registration before the open house next year to get medical plans out earlier so district staff can be aware of students' situations earlier. The process would include verification of vaccine compliance and updating medical plans and contact information.

During an oral health program in October, 91 students in the districts received screenings and fluoride applications.

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving

Community Calendar
Presented by:
The Maries County Bank
Pride in our past…Investing in your future.
Member FDIC

Your Friends and Neighbors at The Maries County Bank would like to wish everyone a

Happy Thanksgiving!

All MCB locations will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23rd.

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
Donation wish for November – Canned Fruit
For more information contact Sharon Wulff at 573-422-3679

Vienna Senior Center Events
The center will be closes Nov. 23rd and 24th
Nov. 28th Quarterly Birthday Party Dinner and Cake

First Baptist Church of Belle Gospel Jam
Second Sunday of every month. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. | Music at 6:00 p.m.

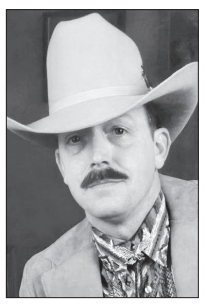
Join us for Christmas on the Square
Saturday, November 25th | Festivities begin at 4:00 p.m.
Activities include Photos with Santa, Live Reindeer, Balloon Igloo, Bounce House, Soup Stroll, Cookie Crawl, Music, Elf Scavenger Hunt, Games, and much more! Lighted Parade begins at 6:00 p.m.
Presented by the Vienna Chamber of Commerce

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!
Saturday, November 25th | 4:00-6:00 p.m.
During Christmas on the Square, Santa will be at the MCB-Datacenter!
218 4th St. Vienna, MO 65582
Bring your camera to take FREE photos with Santa.
Warm up with our Hot Cocoa Bar
MCB is a stop on the VCOC Cookie Crawl!

Visit us online at **www.mariescountybank.com**
Argyle | Belle | Dixon | Iberia | Owensville | Richland
St. James | St. Robert | Vichy | Vienna | Cuba

AREA OBITUARIES

Retired SFC Hersel Chadbourne
1952 – 2023



Hersel George "Rocky" Chadbourne, 71, of Crocker, passed away Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023, at his residence.

He was born Aug. 16, 1952, to Hersel Willard and Emeline Aretta (Knowlan) Chadbourne in Farmington, Maine.

Rocky entered active federal service in the U.S. Army in 1975, at Manchester, N.H., and honorably served for 20 years. He retired at Fort Leonard Wood, at the rank of Sergeant First Class. While serving in the U.S. Army, he was a Combat Engineer, Senior Drill Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Squad Leader, Atomic Demolition Munitions Specialist, and an instructor.

He was united in marriage to Mary Marion Ruth Welch, Jan. 29, 1972, at Pembroke, N.H.

Rocky was baptized later in life and was a member of Christ's Mission Church, St. Robert. He was also a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

After his retirement from the military, Rocky continued working as a manager at Arts and Crafts, Fort Leonard Wood.

He was preceded in death by parents, Hersel and Emeline; brother, Thomas Chadbourne; and sisters, Janet Hopps, Brenda Hill and Terry Cantara.

He is survived by wife Mary of the home in Crocker; children, Tracie Chadbourne (Gary) of Leesburg, Va., Kami Adair (Joseph) of Bray, Okla., Travis Chadbourne of Crocker, and Justin Chadbourne (Jessica) of St. Robert; 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and brother, Larry Chadbourne (Kim) of Pembroke, N.H.

Funeral services were Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, in the Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home Chapel, Dixon, with Pastor Jeff Brown officiating. Interment with full military honors was held in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Waynesville.

Grover Johnson
1936 – 2023



Grover L. Johnson, 87, of Dixon, passed away Nov. 15, 2023, at his home surrounded by wife and children.

He was born Oct. 5, 1936, to Tony "Marvin" and Maxine (Grisham) Johnson in Gainesville.

He was a graduate of Gainesville High School, Southwest Missouri State University, and served in the U.S. Air Force. Grover's banking profession spanned over 40 years, from an examiner to the president of the Bank of Bourbon, and the former State Bank of Dixon.

Grover was preceded in death by parents, Marvin and Maxine; daughter, Vicky Lee Johnson; son, John Alan Johnson; granddaughters, Jessica Nichole Johnson and Gracie Simmons; brother, Eugene "Gene" Johnson; sister, Wilma Watson; son-in-law, Scott G. Lyons; and stepson, Brian K. Simmons.

He is survived by wife, Michelle Miller Johnson of the home; daughter, Janet A. Lyons; sons, Joseph Johnson and Jamie (Dena) Johnson; stepson Jason Simmons; mother of his children, Bonnie Herd Johnson; 16 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 21, in the First Baptist Church, Dixon. Interment with full military honors was in the Seaton Cemetery, Dixon.

Memorials suggested to Encounter Ministry, 1650 Koehler Dr, Roach, Mo. 55787, Seaton Faith Fellowship Church, 41758 County Road 638, Dixon, Mo. 65459, or the Dixon Senior Center, 301 Old Y Road, Dixon, Mo. 65459.

Arrangements entrusted to Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home, Dixon.

Larry Uhles
1943 – 2023



Larry Paul Uhles, 80, of Florissant, passed away Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, at his residence.

He was born April 7, 1943, to William Paul and Virginia Jane (Shaw) Uhles in Benton, Ill.

He was united in marriage to Judith Carol Menke, July 18, 1997, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Larry grew up Protestant, however he attended St. Norbert's Catholic Church, in Florissant, with his wife for their married life. He enjoyed popping kettle corn at various festivals and family functions for his small business, The Kettle Korn Co. for 32 years. Larry started his working career in 1962, at the age of 18, with Skinner and Kennedy Printing, in Berkley, as a machinist, and in January of 2022 retired after 60 years.

He was preceded in death by parents, William and Virgina; brother, Keith Uhles; step-son-in-law, Greg Cash; and step-great-grandson, Anthony Cash.

He is survived by wife, Judith of their home in Florissant; children, James Uhles and wife Julie of Caseyville, Ill., Kimberly Uhles of Worden, Ill., and Deann Douglas and husband Mike of Lake Timberline; step-children, Kimberly Ann Vandermaden and husband Les, Kathleen Cash, and Elizabeth McFadden and husband Jeremy all of Florissant; brother, Dennis Uhles and wife Barb of Ava; sisters, Janet Hoge and husband Danny of St. Jacobs, Ill., Jo Ellen Bayer and husband Dave of the state of Indiana, and Jane Lantrip and husband Mike of Bonne Terre; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; and 14 step-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Wednesday (today), Nov. 22, 2023, from 3–6 p.m., at the Allan & Ciuferi Funeral Home, 314 West Main Street, Collinsville, Ill., under the direction of Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home, Vienna.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association Greater Missouri Chapter, 11433 Old Cabin Road, St. Louis, Mo. 63141.

Obituaries 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 a charge will then occur. There is no charge to process a photo.

Vienna PD shares October summary

Vienna Police Chief Shannon Thompson in a press release reported his department's activity during October.

The department made one felony arrest and one misdemeanor arrest.

Vienna PD answered two alarm calls. It responded to one domestic dispute call and one instance of a suicidal and barricaded person. Investigations included six instances of suspicious persons or vehicles, one animal complaint and one report of a stolen motorcycle that officers concluded was unfounded.

Officers conducted 177 business checks, 78 traffic stops, 48 school safety patrols or events and two civil standbys.

The department also had one abandoned vehicle towed. Thompson said the police department planned to crack down on nuisance violations for unlicensed and inoperable vehicles in the city.

Other activities, investigations and calls for assistance included traffic complaints, medical assists, well-being checks, investigating open doors and clearing buildings at two businesses, assisting the Missouri Children's Division, engaging in an active shooter drill at Phelps Health Clinic, transporting a person with a municipal warrant from the Johnson County Jail and freeing a child stuck in a recliner.

Vienna PD's responses outside of the city limits included assisting the Maries County Sheriff's Office and Missouri State Highway Patrol with a motor vehicle accident, medical assistance for a juvenile and backing-up a sheriff's deputy on a domestic disturbance call. The department also assisted the sheriff's office with a vehicle search inside the city limits.

Other activities included annual firearms training, investigative follow ups, equipment maintenance and administrative reports.

MOAD Board · from page 3

For maintenance, the Medic 84 ambulance that MOAD bought earlier this year from the defunct COMM-Unity Ambulance service blew both of its transmission lines. At the time of the meeting, it was at a mechanic for repair.

The Freeburg base had work done on its small garage door.

MOAD responded to 32 calls in October. Of those calls, 24 were in the Vienna zone and eight were in the Freeburg zone.

Of the calls in the Vienna zone, 14 were urgent emergencies and 10 were dry-run emergencies.

Of the calls in the Freeburg zone, one was a life-threatening emergency, five were urgent emergencies and two were dry-run emergencies.

The average en route time for a unit in October was 4.40 minutes. The average time en route to arrival on scene was 8.45 minutes. The average time from arrival to departure of a scene was 22.60 minutes. The average time from leaving a scene to arriving at a destination was 39.48 minutes. The average time from a unit reaching its destination to going back into service was 60.51 minutes.

Recent standby and public events included Trunk or Treat events in Vienna, Freeburg and Vichy and the Maries R-1 first responders Thanksgiving meal. Upcoming events include Vienna Christmas Around the Square, the Westphalia Christmas Parade and Shop with a Superhero in Linn.

Make the most · from page 2

have taken on the human spirit.

We need to commit to the discussion and renewal of personal and social values that count, that have lasting meaning when physical and material circumstances inevitably change.

If we bothered to reflect on the state of the human condition in our supposedly advanced society during the past decade or two, we would have even more to be concerned about and focus on renewal efforts — areas where we seem to be losing the progress we have made.

To stop the regression will mean renewing our efforts to continue working in many important areas that count, among them are race relations, parenting, building healthy family units, eradicating hunger here in the United States and abroad, eliminating homelessness, reducing drug and substance abuse. No doubt, you can create a list of your own.

This is where the third R comes in: Resolve.

While we — as a nation, as a city, as a community, as a member of a family unit, as a concerned citizen — undoubtedly have a lot to be thankful for and lot to celebrate this holiday season, we need to keep in mind how far we have yet to go in a number of areas to advance the overall well-being of humankind.

If we put more reflection, renewal and resolve into doing those things that support our common humanity, it could be the strong foundation for us to join together and tackle other challenges that threaten our quality of life, even our very existence.

Whether it is in our home, our neighborhood, our schools, or some other corner of our immediate or global community, all the scientific, technological, and medical advances will not fix a down-trodden human spirit.

Major change often begins with one person, in one community, in one city.

Implementing those three Rs can prepare and equip us to deal with an uncertain future and find a better path forward.

(Janice Ellis has lived and worked in Missouri for more than three decades, analyzing educational, political, social and economic issues across race, ethnicity, age and socio-economic status. Her commentary has appeared in The Kansas City Star, community newspapers, on radio and now online).

Dry Fork Bridge · from page 1

"The bridge out will affect two of our bus routes — Buses 1 and 8," she said. "Bus 1 will be 10 minutes earlier in the morning and 10 minutes later in the afternoon. It is our furthest route. Bus 8 will depend on where they are on the route. High Gate riders will get home earlier and others will get home later."

Basham said because of the change in route, students who live on the county roads will be most affected.

"Students on County Roads 426, 424, 409, and Peterson Road will arrive home later than normal," she said. "If you have any questions, please contact Tony Gieck at 573-859-3800 extension 1600. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding."

The Rolla Technical Institute (RTI) students will be affected, though accommodations are minimal.

"The other route is the RTI bus that goes to Rolla every day," Basham said. "They think they can leave at the same time because they get there early. It will not impact their instruction time."

The Dry Fork Creek bridge is approximately 2.6 miles south of Belle. The project, which was originally scheduled to begin in May 2023 and conclude in August 2023, includes the complete removal and replacement of the deck of the State Highway 28 bridge. The school district had declined to offer 2023 summer school transportation because of its expectation that the project would start.

"I think some parents will pull their kids off the routes, but we are not sure how many it will affect yet," Basham said. "We understand this is going to be an inconvenience for parents and appreciate their understanding and cooperation. For the whole community, this will be inconvenient. For those who have to cross the Dry Fork, it will take some time to understand what the impact will be."

The project is scheduled to be completed by April 17, 2024.

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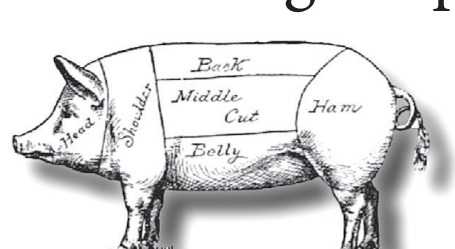
Annual Sausage Supper



Saturday, December 2
Serving starts at 4:00PM

Whole Hog Sausage, Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Sauerkraut, Stewed Tomatoes, Slaw or Salad, Deserts, Lemonade, Ice Tea, Water

Zion Evangelical Church
400 Sycamore St. • Bland, MO



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News Briefs

MARIES COUNTY R-2 BOARD OF EDUCATION will meet at 7 p.m. on Nov. 28 at the Admin Building.

NOV. 20 MARIES R-2 SCHOOLS WILL BE will be in session for a STEAM day. School will be closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 22-24.

MARIES R-1 Schools will close Nov. 22 to Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving Break. Classes will resume Nov. 27.

THE VIENNA CHAMBER of Commerce will host Christmas Around the Square at 4 p.m. on Nov. 25.

THE BRIDGE on Highway 28 over Dry Fork Creek will be closed for construction beginning on Nov. 27.

BELLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be held at 6 p.m. on Dec. 14 in the high school gym.

THE CITY OF BELLE will host an Old Fashioned Christmas from noon to 5 p.m. on Dec. 16 on Alvarado Avenue in Belle. Contact Belle City Hall with questions.

MARIES COUNTY R-2 SCHOOLS will be closed Dec. 22-Jan. 3 for Christmas Break.

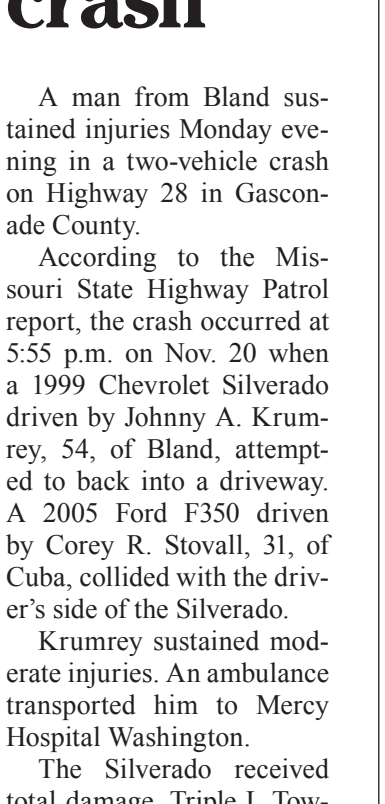
Bland resident injured in two-vehicle crash

A man from Bland sustained injuries Monday evening in a two-vehicle crash on Highway 28 in Gasconade County.

According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol report, the crash occurred at 5:55 p.m. on Nov. 20 when a 1999 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Johnny A. Krumrey, 54, of Bland, attempted to back into a driveway. A 2005 Ford F350 driven by Corey R. Stovall, 31, of Cuba, collided with the driver's side of the Silverado.

Krumrey sustained moderate injuries. An ambulance transported him to Mercy Hospital Washington.

The Silverado received total damage. Triple L Towing removed it from the scene. The F350 received extensive damage. Chris and Sons Towing removed it from the scene.



Bob's Frozen Custard and Coffee sponsors Christmas Pageant

BY ROXIE MURPHY
ASSISTANT EDITOR
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE — Bob's Frozen Custard and Coffee owners Seth and Liv Klein are sponsoring prizes for the Little Miss Christmas Pageant at Belle's Dec. 16 Old Fashioned Christmas on Alvarado Avenue. The pageant will be at the Lonnie Feeler Memorial Building.

"Little Miss Christmas starts at 2 p.m. and sign ups are through Dec. 8," Seth Klein said. "Bob's is sponsoring the prizes for the winners."

Little Miss Christmas Pageant contestants must be 4-6 years old, color a picture, sing a Christmas song, or tell a Christmas story. In addition to a prize, the winner will also lead the Belle Community Betterment Association's (BCBA) Parade of Lights at 6 p.m. after the afternoon activities close. Klein speculated Little Miss Christmas might win a Barbie prize.

The pageant will take place at the four-way stop. Questions about the pageant are being directed to Belle City Hall.

Bob's Frozen Custard and Coffee Food Truck will be conducting sales in the food court in Legend's Bank parking lot throughout the afternoon. Klein said they recently purchased a food truck and are taking it to the end-of-fall and winter events. Currently, Bob's Frozen Custard and Coffee Shop is wrapping up fall flavors.

"We are still on fall beverages through the end of the month," Klein added. "Our most popular (fall flavor) is salted toffee, then Autumn Leaves and Maple Leaves."

Bob's Coffee hours are from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, but will be closed Thursday for Thanksgiving.

"We will be running a four 16oz drink special on the day after Thanksgiving," Klein said.

Bob's Coffee Shop has already exchanged its deep oranges and fall reds for holiday lights and snowflakes, with a Christmas ambiance complete with a frosted tree. They will begin serving Christmas-flavored beverages after Thanksgiving.

"Our fall menu will come down at the end of this month," Klein said. "Then we will serve Christmas White Chocolate, Peppermint, Gingerbread, Belgium Cookie, and French Toast flavored coffees. I am a bad coffee syrup impulse buyer."

Bob's will also have homemade hard candies for sale soon. "We can bag it up for stockings," Klein said.

Belle board considers park rental, reservation rules

BY ROXIE MURPHY
REPUBLICAN EDITOR
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE —Belle aldermen on Nov. 8 discussed considering a set of rules and regulations to establish a policy to rent and reserve Belle City Park for events. Recent double park bookings have caused issues and brought the situation to his attention, according to Mayor Daryl White, Jr.

"My main concern is the park has been double booked," White said. "There's no set of rules to rent the park."

The city currently has a form to be filled out by anyone interested in renting the space. White said he reached out to Owensville about its park reservations policy and the Lions Club.

"We don't have any set rules, open or close, and now we have the campground?" White said. "I thought we had a good relationship with the Fair Board, but was informed after the Sheriff's Department used the park they were told they could use the fair land."

White was referencing a bounce house that the Sheriff's Posse had advertised they would have at one of its Posse events. Even though the Posse had event insurance and covered the bounce house, White said the Belle City Park's insurance didn't cover the bounce house. However, the Fair Board said their insurance covered bounce houses and offered the carnival green space to the Sheriff's Posse for that event.

"I would like for us to sit down and have a look," White said. "There should be some way to be able to have reservations, and they shouldn't get to use it unless they register.

After some discussion, it was decided that the Council get together and work on it.

Belle aldermen cancel pollution policy insurance after cost miscommunication

BY ROXIE MURPHY
REPUBLICAN EDITOR
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE — Belle aldermen on Nov. 8 retracted approval for a supplemental insurance that would have given the city additional coverage in case of pollution or contamination spills within the city limits. The primary reason for retracting the vote was a miscommunication in service costs.

"I assumed it was for the year and it was only for the quarter," Mayor Daryl White, Jr., said.

When White presented the supplemental insurance from Mike Clark to the board everyone thought the $1,418 policy was for the fiscal year. However, during the Nov. 8 meeting, they learned it was for the remainder of 2023, and the total cost of the policy in 2024 was another $6,800 for the premium.

City Treasurer Charro Reasor presented the mistake to the board and asked what they would like her to do.

"Our entire insurance policy is $38,000," she said. "Another $7,000 is a huge chunk."

Alderman Adam Padgett had made the motion to approve the insurance policy in October. The motion was seconded by Alderman Barb Howarth and passed with a 3-0 vote. Padgett was the first to speak on the topic.

"I think that's probably something we ought to get a bid on if it's something we are interested in doing," Padgett said. "I make a motion to send it out to bid and drop last months."

Padgett said he wanted to withdraw his motion from last month in light of the new information. Alderman James (Pudd) Mitchell seconded and it passed with a 4-0 vote.

In other business, Mitchell volunteered to represent the board of aldermen on the Belle Fair Board, which was approved with a 4-0 vote.

White also brought up purchasing a dump truck for the city again and asked the board if they wanted him to move forward with collecting prices.

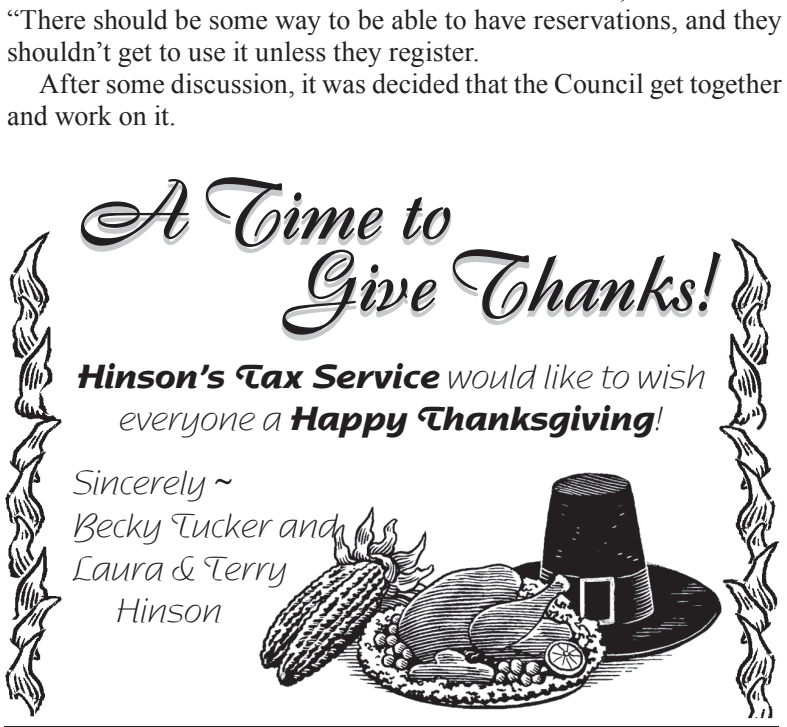
"I've been looking, but I'm not ready to present to the council," White said.

White told the board that the city could purchase a truck in the $50,000 to $60,000 range. He said he sees them between $39,000 and $59,000 too, but wouldn't recommend them unless he looked at them.

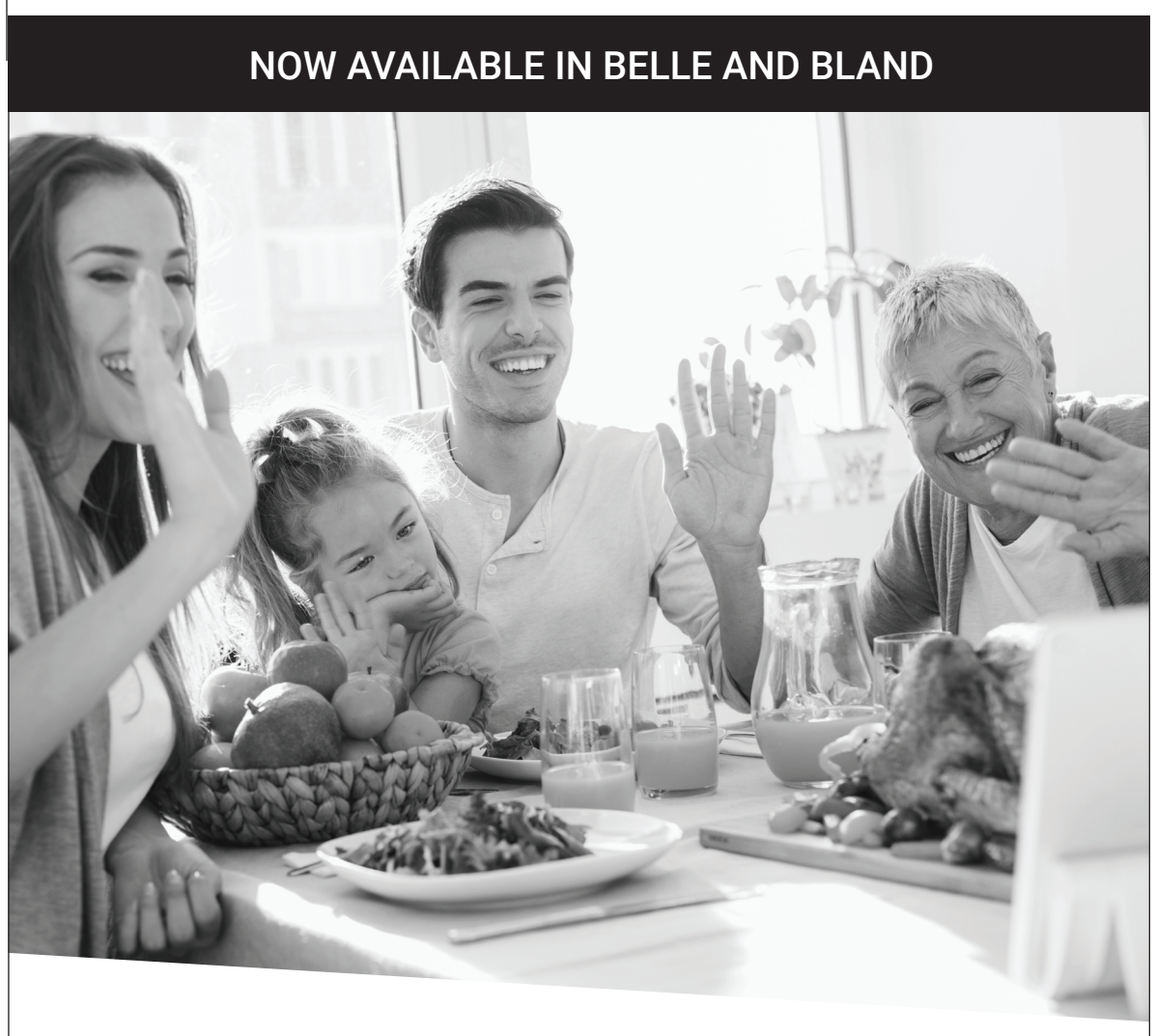
"If you want to pursue it, we can," White said.

Reasor estimated the city has around $105,000 in the Special Road District fund.

The consensus of the board was for White to get prices and bring them back to the board in December.









CARYL KOCH'S afternoon preschool class shares how to catch a turkey in anticipation of Thanksgiving.

BES • from page 1

bag. I would cook it, and eat it. I would get a big one! - *Lilly*

I would run super fast, and then I would use my hands to catch it! - *Ellen*

I'd shoot it with a gun! - *Ridge*

I would catch a turkey with a bag! - *Josie*

I could catch a turkey because I can run really fast! - Ryker

Skylar and me can go fast and catch a turkey! - *Stormie*

I would catch a turkey with my Mom and Dad! - *Lainey*

I would catch a turkey with a net! - *Norah*

AFTERNOON CLASS

You have to run, and if you're really fast then you could catch it! - *Kace*

Maybe if you could run fast then you would get one! - *Rosalie*

You go get them in the woods! - *Eliana*

I just don't know! - *Paysen*

I would catch a turkey with my Dad's big fishing thing. He uses it to catch fish inside of water. - *Barrett*

I would catch a turkey with a net! - *Ryan*

First we get something to catch it with. Then we hide. Then when the turkey comes out we put it in a trap! Then we take the turkey home and eat it! - *Jamila*

You shoot it with a bow, and then you eat it! - *Morgan*

You get some turkey seeds. Then you set the trap and catch it! - *Hunter*

Vienna Early Learning Center • from page 1

You get a turkey from my Grandpa's house. He shoots it. Then you cook it on our grill on HOT for 3 minutes. Put some ketchup on it. Eat it with some chicken and french fries. - *Kynnedi Doyel-Noll*

You get the turkey from the trees. Put some ketchup on it and cook it on the stove for 3 minutes. Put some more ketchup on it and eat it. - Charity Rinehart

You get the turkey from the store. Put seasonings on it and fry it for 2 seconds. Eat it with mashed potatoes. - *Lexanne Thomas*

You go to the woods and shoot the turkey. Then you drag it to the house and clean it. Then put salt and pepper on it and fry it for 20 minutes. Eat it with some macaroni and cheese. - *Luke Rowden*

If you can find a turkey in the woods or in the field you can get one. Put salt on it and fry it for 15 minutes. Eat it with mashed potatoes. - *Ian Shanks*

You get the turkey from the farm. You just shoot it with a gun. Clean it up and take the meat out and cook the meat. Put some turkey seasoning on it. Cook it on the stove a little hot or it will burn up. Cook it for 5 hours. Cut it up with a knife when it's done then eat it with forks and knives. - *Zoey Helton*

You get a turkey from the woods. You kill it. Cook it in the oven at 5 degrees for 15 minutes. Put some barbecue sauce on it. Eat it with hamburger. - *Jax Evans*

You kill a turkey in the woods with our guns. Then you cook it on a grill. Put some spices on it. Cook it for 3 minutes or 5 minutes. Eat it with forks. - *Jaxson Ragan*

Get the turkey from your mother's house. Fry the turkey with some cheese and macaroni. Fry it for 15 minutes. Then you eat it. - *Brylee Backues*

You find a turkey in the woods and shoot it. Put it in the oven with some turkey season on it. Cook it for 2 minutes at 5 degrees. Take it out and then eat it with some turkeys and dumplings. - *Kastyn Honse*

You can get your turkey from a store. Cook it on the grill. Put some pink seasoning on it. Cook it for 3 minutes. After it's done you eat it with some rice and macaroni and cheese. - *Heidi Simoneaux*

> *"Get a turkey from the turkey house. You can put bacon on it. You can also put bananas on it. Cook him in the oven on HOT for 5 minutes. Then we eat it." - Sadie Powell*

Find the turkey in the woods. You shoot it. Put it in a pan and put some salt on it. Cook it in our house in the oven for 1 minute on HOT. Eat it with some pepper. - *Cole Robertson, Jr.*

You get a turkey from the woods. You shoot it. You cook it with a fish fryer. Put some salt on it. Fry it for 15 minutes. Eat it with some mashed potatoes. - *Leslie Schwartze*

My papa gets the turkey when he hunts for deer. We usually get a deer, too and we get bucks sometimes, too. Cook the turkey in the fryer. Put salt on it. Fry it for 15 minutes. Eat the turkey with mashed potatoes. - *Sawyer Lake*

Dad and Mom get the turkey. Cook it with pizza. Drink chocolate milk with it. - *Dominic Hammond*

AFTERNOON CLASS

Get some milk, chicken and cheese and pop it inside the turkey. Hammer the turkey. Put the turkey in a pan and then put it in the oven. Cook it at 1 degree for 1 hour and then eat it. - *Lynkon Thomas*

Buy a turkey at the store. Actually, just buy the one that's already cooked. That's easy! - *Dallas Kron*

Get a turkey from the shop. Put water and salt on it. Put it in the oven. Cook it on HOT for 6 minutes and then eat it. - *Heidi Woodbury*

Get a turkey from the turkey house. You can put bacon on it. You can also put bananas on it. Cook him in the oven on HOT for 5 minutes. Then we eat it. - *Sadie Powell*

Get the turkey from the farm. Cook it this long. Eat it. - *Daisy Raines*

My daddy gets a turkey from the forest. Then he puts scrambled eggs on it. It's so yummy! Put some ketchup on it and some candy, too. It can look like a candy turkey. Tape him up so he don't move. Cook it in the oven for 10 hours on HOT. Eat it with your mouth! - *Emersyn Shanks*

I cook a turkey from a pan at my house at Thanksgiving. I would put pepper, flour and cheese on it. Put it in the oven on maybe 3 or 4 or 5 degrees. You can cook the turkey 10 times and then we eat it! - *Grady Beltz*

First you have to kill the turkey. Put the turkey in grease. Put pepper and sauce on it. Cook it for 4 hours. Put it on the plate and eat it! - Holt Beltz

Get a turkey from the lake. Cut it up. Put it in a pan and put cheese and macaroni and Cheez Its on it. Put it in the oven for 2 minutes at 4 degrees. Then you can eat it! - *Weston Smith*

You get the turkey from the turkey bank. Put it down and then put a hat on it. Cook it for dinner in the oven at 15 degrees for 17 hours. - *Cooper Simoneaux*

Get the turkey from the store. Put it in a pan and put pepper on it. Cook it for 2 hours. - Becca Neubert

You have to get the turkey from the field. Cut it up. Put it in a pan and put ice cream on it. Put it in the oven at 2 degrees for 4 hours. Eat it! - Carson Windle

Get your turkey from the field. Put it in the oven. Put some hot sauce on it. Cook it for 8 hours. Eat the turkey in your mouth with mashed potatoes. - *Dominic Summerford*

You get the turkey from the store. You cook the turkey with some salt on it. Put some sauce in it, too. Put some celery on it. Cook it for 4 or 5 hours or 6 or 7 hours. You can eat some salad with your turkey. - *Kinzee Summerford*

You get your turkey from the market. Put it in a pot and add lettuce. Put the lid on. Cook it for 40 hours. Then get it out and eat it with water. - *Maddie Jones*

Commission • from page 1

rent for renters with low income so that they can live in "decent, safe and sanitary housing." The Phelps County PHA serves Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Phelps and Washington counties and their cities excluding Rolla. Stratman is Maries County's member of the PHA's advisory board.

Stratman said tenants occupy about 93 percent of the 760 public housing rentals available in the area. Maries County has 38 leased units. Gasconade County has 31 leased units. Crawford County has 263 leased units. Dent County has 118 leased units. Phelps County has 90 leased units and Washington County has 167 leased units.

More information about the Phelps County PHA, including eligibility requirements and applications for tenants, is available at meramecregion.org/phelps-county-pha.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

The federal Inflation Reduction Act signed last year includes the implementation of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program, which "provides $5 billion in grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution," according to the Environmental Protection Agency's website.

Stratman said the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, like many similar organizations around the country, is working on a list of ideas that it can present to bring some of the program's grants to the region. Some of the ideas the commission discussed included getting better insulation for government buildings, planting trees in public spaces such as parks or installing electric vehicle charging stations.

LED LIGHTS

County Clerk Rhonda Rodgers said the county had received an email from Ameren Missouri that said Maries County may be eligible for a program that covers the cost of LED upgrades in municipal buildings. The county has to get in touch with a pre-approved service provider to complete the application. Rodgers planned to call the closest option, which was a company in Jefferson City.

ESINET

Stratman signed a memorandum of understanding that Maries County will join the four-county group seeking a grant to help them join the Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet).

At a county commission meeting in October, Stacey Smith, the communications chief at the 911 dispatch center in Rolla, proposed the idea to the commissioners. The counties applying together for the five-year grant are Crawford, Maries, Phelps and Pulaski.

ESInet provides a reliable network to support and transport 911 calls to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) in the area. The network would replace the traditional copper trunk lines that the dispatching centers use to receive calls.

SHERIFF'S POSSE

Members of the Maries County Sheriff's Posse recently supervised inmates of the jail while they voluntarily worked on the upkeep of the courthouse yard as part of the jail trusty program. Stratman said the workers did a good job cleaning up leaves, clearing window wells and trimming hedges.

Chief Deputy Scott John recently wrote an explanation of the posse on Sheriff Chris Heitman's Facebook page. The post explains the purpose of each of the posse's five divisions and addresses misconceptions the public may have about the group.

According to the post, the leader of the jail trusty group is posse volunteer Sgt. Donald Hale, who retired from the Missouri Department of Corrections. The division assists the sheriff's office with escorting inmates to complete community projects. In addition to the courthouse project, the group has escorted and supervised inmates during projects at the Ya Ya Arena at Belle City Park and the Maries County Fairgrounds.

Additional training scheduled for the jail trusty division includes taser and pepper spray training, handcuffing techniques, self-defense tactics and inmate escorting techniques.

SALES TAXES

Treasurer Angie Stricklan reported the county's sales tax figures so far this year.

In 2023 to date, the first sales tax fund has brought $331,471.27 to General Revenue compared to $300,844.89 at this time last year. November 2023 revenue increased by about 23 percent from last November's total.

The second sales tax, which gives one-third to each of General Revenue, Citizens Safety, and Roads, has brought the county $329,463.91 in revenue so far this year. November 2023 revenue increased by about 23 percent from the previous November.

The third sales tax has raised $329,463.80 in revenue this year. Two-thirds of the tax supports Citizen Safety. Roads and General Revenue split the other one-third. November 2023 revenue increased by about 23 percent from the previous November.

The law enforcement sales tax has brought in $109,380.45 this year, which is $10,199.38 more than this time last year. November 2023 revenue increased by about 23 percent from last November's total.

The use tax on online orders has brought in $267,607.82 so far this year, which is more than last year's $177,029.33 total. Revenue from the use tax in November 2023 decreased by about 39 percent from last November.

RENEWAL RATES

Rodgers said the county's worker compensation insurance cost is decreasing by 7.6 percent next year. The cost will go from $36,681 to $33,875 due to a decrease in surcharge.

The renewal base rate for the county's liability coverage is increasing by 7.2 percent. The base rate for property coverage is increasing by 20 percent. The total cost went from $120,856 to $136,987.

Eastern District Commissioner Doug Drewel said he did not know how insurance companies can continue to increase rates when wages and Social Security payments do not increase at similar rates.





BAYLAR SMITH (above, center) guards Linn's Zach Hatfield during Belle's 51-45 come-from-behind victory in their season opener on the road at Linn High School's dome.

PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON

Tigers erase 15-point second-half deficit in season opener at Linn

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
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LINN — Better late than never.

That old adage held true Friday night for Johnny Viehland's Belle Tiger basketball team in their Highway 89 hardwood road showdown with Linn's Wildcats in Osage County.

Trailing 36-21 at the 2:31 mark of the third quarter, Belle strung together an 11-0 run that helped them cut the deficit to 36-32 with 6:40 remaining before scoring a come-from-behind 51-45 victory over their Highway 89 neighbors to the north.

"Our guys showed a lot of fight and determination tonight," Viehland said. "We could've easily packed it in trailing by 15 in the third quarter but we kept battling and kept plugging away until we completed our comeback."

Belle did strike first on a Glayden Woodruff 3-pointer at the 5:32 mark of the first quarter.

A 7-2 run capped by a Garrett Gehlert 3-pointer at the 2:07 mark of the opening period gave Belle a 10-4 lead.

Linn cut Belle's lead to 10-9 before a Hank Stratman bucket at the first-quarter buzzer gave the visiting Tigers a 12-9 lead after eight minutes of basketball.

Belle was assessed a technical foul for having an incorrect number in the score book which earned Linn two free throws and the basketball to start the second quarter.

Linn opened the second quarter on an 8-2 run to leave Belle trailing 19-14 with 3:55 until halftime.

Both teams then went on to trade points the rest of the first half with the Tigers trailing the host Wildcats 28-21 at halftime.

Baylar Smith led Belle with eight first-half points while Linn's Noah Hall paced the Wildcat offense with 13 first-half points.

Linn started the second half on an 8-0 run until a Smith bucket stopped Belle's seven-minute scoring drought at the 1:05 mark of the third quarter.

A Luke Rohrer 3-pointer and a Gehlert free throw in the final :45 seconds trimmed Belle's deficit back down to sin-

See **TIGERS** on Page 8





ALEX ZIMMER (above right) attacks the basket for Vienna's Eagles in Friday's home and season opener against Richland's Bears. Vienna went on to defeat the visiting Bears 82-28.

PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN

Harker's Eagles work overtime for 2-0 start

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
wjohnson@wardpub.com

A fitting end to a long day of basketball.

That is one way to describe the eighth and final game of the Second Annual Vienna Shootout Saturday night at Allen Gymnasium between the host Vienna Eagles and Stoutland's Tigers.

Down 74-70 with 20.6 ticks left, Eagle senior Cash Stricklan scored five points in a span of 9.1 seconds forcing the game into overtime tied at 75-75.

Outscoring their purple and yellow opponents 11-5 in the extra session, Chandler Harker's Eagles earned their second win in as many nights with an 86-80 overtime victory over Stoutland.

"I'm so proud of my guys right now," Harker said. "We were able to overcome a lot of adversity with all of us making an impact on the final outcome of the game in some way, shape or form."

See **EAGLES** on Page 9

Belle's Doss earns All-District honors on the soccer field

BY WILL JOHNSON
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Turning back numerous shots throughout Belle's first season of boys soccer in recent memory, Tiger freshman Weston Doss was named to the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) Class 1, District 4 Boys Soccer Tournament All-District team in voting by coaches from Father Tolton Regional Catholic High School, Missouri Military Academy (MMA), Calvary Lutheran, Fatima and Belle.

Among six All-District Honorable Mention selections, Doss was joined by Chris Stephens (Fatima), Willow Spurling (Calvary Lutheran), Baker Thornburg (Father Tolton), Eric Shellabarger

See **ALL-DISTRICT HONORS** on Page 8



WESTON DOSS (right) positions himself to stop a shot taken towards him during the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) Class 1, District 4 Boys Soccer Tournament action for Belle's Tigers.

PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON

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Third-quarter run dooms Lady Eagles against Richland

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
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A 2-0 start to the young season.

That is what KC Curler's Vienna Lady Eagle basketball team was after during their showdown with Richland's Lady Bears as part of the Second Annual Vienna Shootout Saturday night inside Vienna High School's Allen Gymnasium.

Trailing 32-18 at halftime, Vienna only managed five third-quarter points compared to 17 for Richland leaving them with a 49-23 deficit entering the fourth quarter.

In spite of closing the game on a 10-0 run, the Lady Eagles fell to 1-1 on the young season following a 59-40 loss to the Lady Bears.

Down 8-3 at the 2:35 mark of the first quarter, a Marissa Hollis free throw sparked a 6-0 run capped by an Audrey Schwartze 3-pointer giving Vienna a 9-8 lead with 2:00 for the opening quarter.

Richland answered with a 7-1 run of their own to take a 15-10 lead after eight minutes of basketball.

Schwartze paced the Lady Eagle offense in the first quarter with seven of their 10 points.

Brookelynn Mercer scored Vienna's final six points of the first half helping the Lady Eagles pull back to within 14 points at halftime by a score of 32-18.

Schwartze led Vienna in the first two quarters with nine points.

Seeing Richland score nine of the first 10 points of the third quarter, Mercer stopped that run with a bucket at the 3:28 mark of the third quarter.

A pair of Jaedyn Schell free throws left the Lady Eagles trailing Richland 49-23 after three quarters.

Unable to overcome the deficit, Vienna will look to get back on the winning track next week at the Eugene Girls Basketball Tournament.

Schwartze led the Lady Eagles narrowly missing a double double finishing with 11 points and nine rebounds.

Freshman Ella Hollis also reached double figures with 10 points to go along with five steals and four rebounds.

Mercer added eight points followed by four points and five rebounds from Madison Weeks.

Schell added three points all from the free-throw line while Aubrey Reeves had a fourth-quarter bucket for two points.

Reese Snodgrass and Marissa Hollis rounded out the Vienna scoring against Richland with one point.

Mallory Moss led three Lady Bears in double figures with 19 points followed by a double double of 18 points and 12 rebounds from Lexi Burns.

Kamryn Kardosz also posted an impressive stat line of 13 points, 12 rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots.

Opening their season Friday night on the road at South Callaway against the Lady Bulldogs, Vienna used a 24-5 second quarter to help them go on to a 75-41 victory in Mokane.

Leading 24-15 after one quarter, Mercer led the Lady Eagles with eight points followed by seven markers from Schell.

Schwartze scored nine of Vienna's 24 second-quarter points helping them to a 48-20 halftime lead.

Able to utilize the running clock in the fourth quarter, Curler picked up her first win as Vienna's head girls basketball coach.

Schwartze led the way with a double double of 22 points and 15 rebounds while Ella Hollis chipped in 14 points, four steals, four assists and three rebounds.

Schell also reached double figures with 13 points, five assists, three rebounds and two steals.

Mercer made it a quartet of double-digit scorers for Vienna with 10 points, three rebounds, three steals and an assist.

McKenzie Laughlin led South Callaway with 11 points.





KC CURLER (above, center) addresses her Vienna Lady Eagle basketball team during Vienna Shootout action Saturday against Richland's Lady Bears. Audrey Schwartze (below, far left) splits a Richland Lady Bear double team.

PHOTOS BY WILL JOHNSON



BAYLAR SMITH (above, far right) goes up to challenge the shot of Linn's Ashton Keilholz during Highway 89 basketball action Friday night in Osage County.

PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON

Tigers • from page 7

gle digits entering the fourth quarter by a score of 36-27.

At the start of the fourth quarter, a Smith bucket and another Woodruff 3-pointer pulled the Tigers to back within four points of Linn at 36-32 with 6:40 remaining.

Later trailing 43-39 with 3:15 left in the game, Myles Butler sparked a game-clinching 12-2 run with a bucket at the 3:00 mark before being capped by a Gehlert free throw with :30 ticks left.

Woodruff led Belle with a team-high 15 points followed by Smith's stat line of 14 points, nine rebounds, five steals and three blocked shots.

Gehlert just missed double digits in scoring with nine points followed by Rohrer's five points.

Butler pulled down five rebounds and added four points while Hank Stratman pulled down seven rebounds to go along with his two points.

Logan Stratman and Brayden Cadwallader each added one point rounding out Belle's scoring.

Zach Hatfield paced Linn with a game-high 17 points followed in double figures by Hall with 15 points.

In a two-quarter junior varsity game, Belle broke open a 10-6 lead after one quarter with a 12-0 run to open the second quarter of their 27-9 victory over Linn's JV Wildcats.

Cooper Guinn led Belle with 10 points and two steals.

Hank Willis pulled down a team-high seven rebounds to go with six points, two assists and a blocked shot.

Avery Craigmiles added four points to go along with three points apiece from Tucker Harris and Kaegan Kinsey.

Connor Weigel added a second-quarter free throw for one point to round out Belle's scoring.

Tyler Wagner led Linn's JV Wildcats with five points and two steals.

All-District honors • from page 7

(MMA) and Alexander McBride (MMA).

All-District First Team selections from the district tournament held in Westphalia included Steven Becvar (Tolton), Lucas Boyer (Tolton), Brady Farnan (Tolton), Austin Becvar (Tolton), Jose Orozco (MMA), Carlos Ontiveros (MMA), Israel Cobian (Calvary Lutheran), Cody Koeningsfeld (Fatima), Avin Hernandez (MMA), Jacob Tipton (Tolton), Peter Schwartz (Fatima) and Beckett Hoffman (Tolton).

Second-Team selections to the All-District team were Joseph Roach (MMA), Elijah Cobian (Calvary Lutheran), Aaron Gonzalez Rodriguez (MMA), Michael Sesti (Fatima), Gabriel Rodriguez Sanchez (MMA), Jaden Sutcliffe (Calvary Lutheran), Trevor Schulte (Fatima), Quillen Spurling (Calvary Lutheran), Patrick Yllescas (Tolton), Jacob Bax (Fatima) and Luke Knollmeyer (Tolton).

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving

37th Eugene Varsity Girls Basketball Tour1nament

November 27 to December 2, 2023



MARIES COUNTY SPORTS BRIEFS

EVIN FARRIS' Belle Lady Tigers opened their regular season last night (Tuesday) hosting Fulton's Lady Hornets. A recap from this contest will be in next week's *Advocate*.

JOHN VIEHLAND'S Belle Tigers hit the road to New Haven last night (Tuesday) to take on the Shamrocks in a two-quarter junior varsity game and a full varsity contest. A recap of Highway 100 action will be in next week's *Advocate*.

KC CURLER'S Vienna Lady Eagles ended their short week of basketball last night (Tuesday) hosting Jamestown's Lady Eagles at Allen Gymnasium. A recap will be in next week's *Advocate*.

CHANDLER HARKER'S Vienna Eagles went for a 3-0 start to the season last night (Tuesday) hosting Jamestown's Eagles as part of a pink out tripleheader at Allen Gymnasium. A recap of hoops action against their future Show-Me Central Conference opponent will be in next week's *Advocate*.

BOTH MARIES County girls basketball teams from Belle and Vienna will resume their respective seasons after the Thanksgiving holiday break by competing in the Eugene Girls Basketball Tournament.



VIENNA EAGLE basketball players (above) gather around assistant coach Tim Simmons (above, center) and head coach Chandler Harker (black shirt) during a timeout in the final game of the Second Annual Vienna Shootout between the host Eagles and Stoutland Tigers. Vienna will return to action after Thanksgiving next Tuesday on the road at Chamois.

PHOTO BY WILL JOHNSON

Eagles • from page 7

Opening the game on a 9-0 run, Vienna appeared that they were going to have a similar outcome Saturday night to that of their 82-28 Friday night win at home over Richland's Bears in their season opener.

Leading 17-7 after one quarter, the elder Stricklan paced the Eagle offense with eight first-quarter points.

Second-quarter action felt like a busy trading session at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) with both Stoutland and Vienna trading points virtually the entire quarter.

Keeping their lead around double digits most of the second quarter, Vienna went into halftime with a 36-26 lead over Stoutland.

Cash Stricklan led the way for the Eagles with 13 points followed closely by Sam Rowden with seven first-half points.

After their game-opening 9-0 run, Vienna saw Stoutland return the favor to start the second half.

Two Justin Crabtree 3-pointers helped the Tigers open the second half on a 12-2 run tying the game at 38-38 with 4:33 for the third quarter.

Gavin Schwartze and Duncan Wilkinson answered with consecutive buckets putting Vienna back in front 42-38 at the 3:50 mark of the third.

Trailing 48-47 later in the quarter, Vienna got an Elias Miller 3-pointer and four Cash Stricklan free throws as part of a 7-0 run giving the Eagles the lead back at 54-48 with 1:22 for the third quarter.

A Gabe Kleffner bucket with :37 ticks for the third helped Vienna take a 56-54 lead into the fourth quarter.

Leading 64-58 with 4:40 remaining on a Miller bucket, the Eagles saw Stoutland go on a 10-3 run and take a 68-67 lead with 1:53 left in regulation.

Rowden scored with 1:22 left putting Vienna back in front 69-68 before the Tigers scored the next four points leaving the Eagles trailing 72-69 with 34.9 to go in the fourth quarter.

Down 74-70 with 20.6 remaining, Cash Stricklan scored inside with 20.4 left before splashing home a game-tying 3-pointer with 4.0 left sending the game to overtime tied at 75-75.

Scoring four of his 18 points in the extra session, Miller gave the Eagles the lead for good at 81-80 with a bucket at the 1:13 mark of overtime.

Hitting five of their eight free-throw attempts in the final 53.5 of overtime, Vienna improved to 2-0 on the young season.

Cash Stricklan lead three Eagles in double figures finishing with a double double of 36 points and 10 rebounds.

In addition to his 18 points, Miller added four assists and three rebounds.

Rowden flirted with a triple double finishing with 13 points, eight rebounds and six blocked shots.

Duncan Wilkinson scored four of his six points in the third quarter while Gavin Schwartze and Jayce Bertoni each added four points.

Jude Stricklan and Kleffner each added two points while Alex Zimmer hit a free throw in overtime to account for his lone point of the game.

Justin Crabtree led four Stoutland Tigers in double figures with 21 points followed by a double double of 19 points and 10 rebounds from Will Morrow.

Michael Kinkaid added 15 points, six rebounds, four assists and three steals for the Tigers.

Aaron Franklin rounded out Stoutland's double-digit quartet scoring eight of his 10 points in the second half.

Racing out to a 50-17 halftime lead Friday night in their home and season opener against Richland's Bears, Vienna cruised to an 82-28 victory behind a game-high 27 points. Miller also reached double figures scoring 11 of his 18 points in the first half.

Freshman Teagan James nearly reached double figures scoring seven of his nine points in the second half.

Prior to varsity action Friday night, Tim Simmons' Vienna JV Eagles turned a 39-5 halftime lead into a 71-11 win over Richland's JV Bears.

Jayce Bertoni led four Eagles in double figures with 19 points followed closely with 16 points from Jude Stricklan.

Hunter Schwartze scored eight of his 11 points in the first half while Teagan James also added 10 points with eight of those coming in the first half.

BHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

Lady Tiger Basketball
11/27-12/1 BHS at Eugene Girls Basketball Tournament
(See bracket on this page)

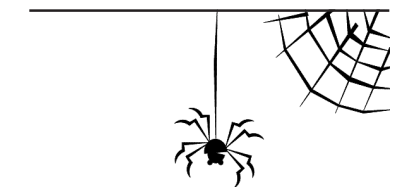
Tiger Basketball
11/27 BHS Freshmen vs. St. James 5:30 p.m.
11/28 BHS Freshmen vs. Salem 5:30 p.m.

VHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

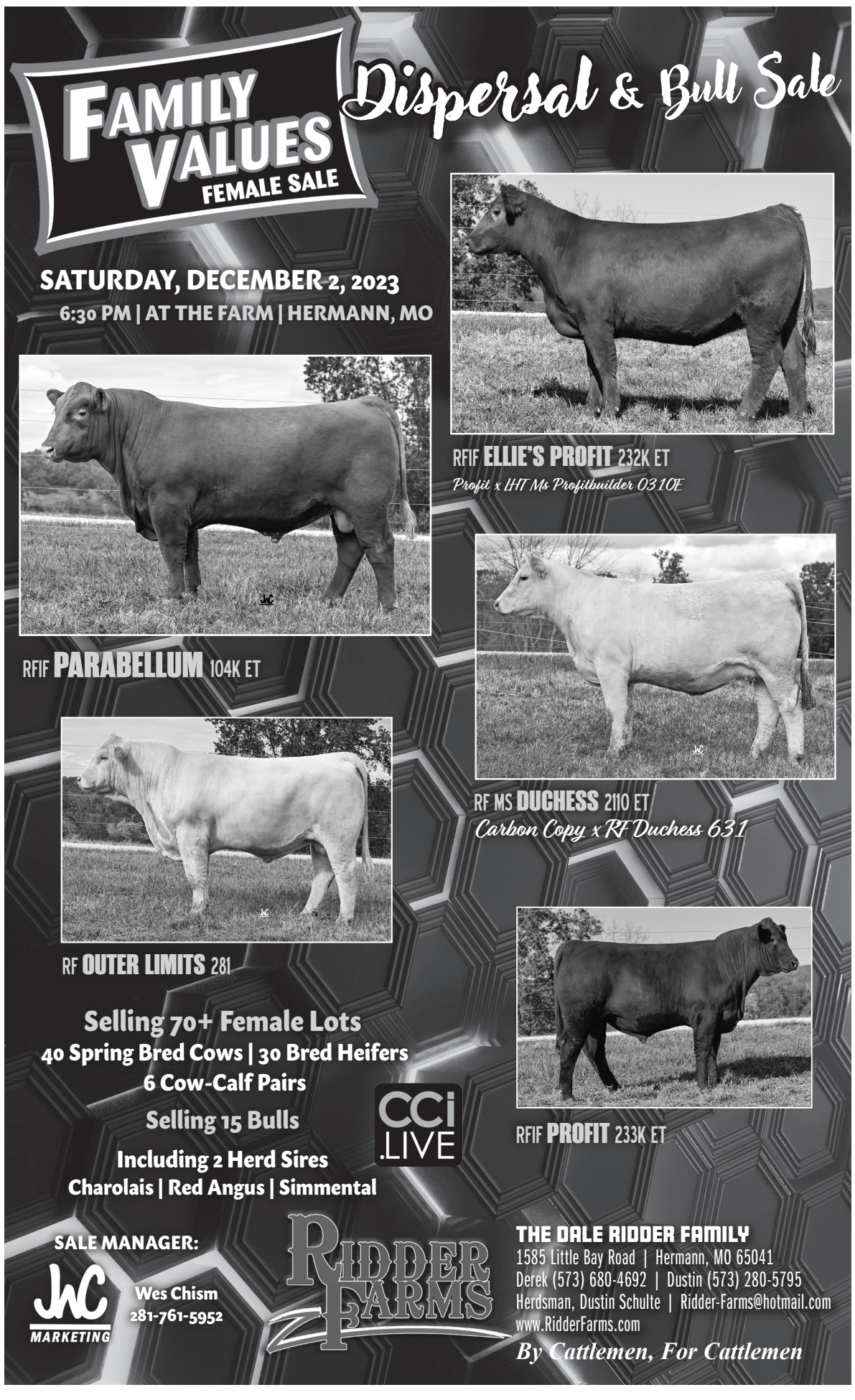
Lady Eagle Basketball
11/27-12/1 VHS at Eugene Girls Basketball Tournament
(See bracket on this page)

Eagle Basketball
11/28 VHS at Chamois 6 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, all basketball games will be junior varsity and varsity doubleheaders.



"The spider looks for a **merchant** who **doesn't advertise** so he can spin a **web across** his **door** and lead a life of undisturbed peace."
— MARK TWAIN





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1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MARIES COUNTY STATE OF MISSOURI

Division: VII
Case No: 23MS-CC00082
In re the name of:
MEREDITH GRACE TAYLOR,

ELIZABETH BROOKE WHITMER VILCHIS VS. TIM RAY TAYLOR

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSOURI to: Tim Ray Taylor

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Name Change has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Maries, Missouri, the object, and general nature of which is the Name Change of the minor child, Meredith Grace Taylor.

The name of the minor child who is the subject of this action is Meredith Grace Taylor and the name and address of the attorney for petitioners is

Jaired B. Hall, 1205 Hauck Drive
Suite A, Rolla, MO 65401
573.466.4167

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the 15th day of November, 2023, judgment by default will be rendered against you.

Witness my hand and seal of the court this 15th day of November, 2023.

MARIES COUNTY CLERK
BY: s/s Mark Buschmann

4t-11-15-23 mca

1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MARIES COUNTY STATE OF MISSOURI

Division: VII
Case No: 23MS-CC00083
In re the name of:
ANDREW MICHAEL TAYLOR,

ELIZABETH BROOKE WHITMER VILCHIS VS. TIM RAY TAYLOR

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSOURI to: Tim Ray Taylor

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Name Change has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Maries, Missouri, the object, and general nature of which is the Name Change of the minor child, Andrew Michael Taylor.

The name of the minor child who is the subject of this action is Andrew Michael Taylor and the name and address of the attorney for petitioners is

Jaired B. Hall, 1205 Hauck Drive
Suite A, Rolla, MO 65401
573.466.4167

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the 15th day of November, 2023, judgment by default will be rendered against you.

Witness my hand and seal of the court this 15th day of November, 2023.

MARIES COUNTY CLERK
BY: s/s Mark Buschmann

4t-11-15-23 mca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

NO TRESPASSING/HUNTING OR FISHING, with out owner permission on the properties of of 10687 and 10935 Maries County Road #611. TFN

NO TRESPASSING/HUNTING, 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. TFN

NO TRESPASSING/HUNTING OR FISHING, on properties 13646 and 13650 Maries County Road 516 without written landowner permission. 10/11/24

NO TRESPASSING/HUNTING, without owner permission on the property of Robert and Sally Rainey Farm at 16682 Hwy. A, Vichy, MO.

NOTICE, If you would like to have your property listed in the No Hunting/Trespassing section for as little as $60 per year call 573-619-9073 for details. TFN

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MARIES COUNTY Advocate

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MARIES COUNTY Advocate

HELP WANTED:

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or email: **barrettmaterialsinc@gmail.com**

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Maries County R-1 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

(Public Notice of Filing)

The Maries R-1 School District encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the school board to file to be a candidate in the April 2, 2024 election. There are 2 positions available with three year terms. Interested persons may file at the superintendent's office located at 300 4th Street, Vienna, MO. For more information, contact the Superintendent, Teresa Messersmith at (573) 422-3304 option 1.

Filing will begin on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. If the school district is closed due to inclement weather during the filing days, no applicants will be able to file. Filings will also **NOT** occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's central offices are closed: December 21st through December 25th. **The last day to file will be Tuesday December 26, 2023 from the hours of 1:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m.** No late filings will be accepted.

Paula Schwartze, School Board Secretary
Maries R-1 School District

City of Belle ~ Public Notice

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY for APRIL 2, 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Pursuant to section 115 of the Missouri State Statutes, notice is herby given that the following offices are to be filled at the Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday April 2, 2024:

- **Alderman – Ward 1** (2-year term)
- **Alderman – Ward 2** (2-year term)
- **City Mayor** (2-year term)

OPENING FOR FILING IS TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 2023 at 7:00AM
CLOSING DATE FOR FILING IS TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 26, 2023 at 5:00PM

Declaration of candidacy shall be filed with the City Clerk, City of Belle Administration Building, 200 E. Third St. Belle, MO 65013, between the hours of 7:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday thru Friday.

Frankie Horstman, City Clerk
City of Belle, Missouri

MARIES OSAGE AMBULANCE DISTRICT

NOTICE OF FILING

Maries Osage Ambulance District has two board of director positions that are up for election. Each term is for three years. Openings are for:

District #3 (South of 42 Hwy)
District #6 (Argyle/Koeltztown)
Election date is Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024

Candidate filing opens on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 8:00 a.m. And Closes on Tuesday, December 26th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Candidates must file in person at the Maries Osage Ambulance District headquarters at 164 Ballpark Road Vienna, MO 65582

8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carla Butler at 573-422-6123.

Candidates must be 21 years old, and living in Sub-District #3 or #6 for one year.

Qualifications will be checked.

Maries County R-2 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

(Public Notice of Filing)

The Maries County R-II School district encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the School Board to file to be a candidate in the April 2, 2024, election. Interested persons may file at the Superintendent's office located at 503 W. Third Street, Belle. For more information contact Sara Rehmert at 573-859-3800.

Filing will begin on December 05, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m except for the first and last day of filing. On the first day of filing, filing may begin at 8:00 a.m and end at 5:00 p.m. Filing will not occur on the days that the school district's central offices are closed due to inclement weather or days when the office is scheduled closed to regular business. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's administration office is closed:

December 22 - Office is Closed for Christmas Break.
On the last day of filing, December 26, the office will be open from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Filings will end on December 26, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

There are 2 positions available with three-year terms.

Maries County R 2 School District
503 West Third Street
Belle MO 65013

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES

Maries County Public Water Supply District No. 1 requests qualifications for preliminary engineering services, subsequent engineering design services, and construction phase engineering services, to assist in a proposed public facilities project that may be partially financed with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), USDA Rural Development, and/or Missouri Department of Natural Resources SRF funds. The remainder of the project costs will be financed by the District if necessary. The project consists of **upgrading the District's water system.** Drinking water preliminary engineering reports should adhere to the Minimum Design Standards for Community Water Systems effective December 10, 2013.

Information provided to the District must include at a minimum:

1. The specialized experience and technical competence of the firm with respect to water/wastewater system improvements or related work (10 points).
2. The capacity and capability of the firm to perform the work in question, including specialized services, within a period of six (6) months beginning January 1, 2024 (10 points).
3. The past record of performance of the firm with respect to such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules (10 points).
4. The firm's proximity to and familiarity with the area in which the project is located (10 points).
5. References from previous clients of related work with the firm within the past five years (10 points).
6. IF APPLICABLE TO THE PROJECT "References and experience on jointly funded CDBG/RD/DNR grant projects" (10 points).
7. Documentation of compliance with E-Verify requirements (10 points).

The firm will be selected based on the above qualifications. Once the most qualified firm is selected, a cost for preliminary engineering will be negotiated separately from the cost for engineering design. The District would like to apply for a Drinking Water Engineering Report Grant to assist with the preliminary engineering. Contracting for these two activities shall occur separately and costs/payments associated with each will be clearly defined. Contracts executed for engineering design and construction inspection services shall be contingent upon the award of subsequent grants, loans, and commitment of all project funds.

The above information should be submitted no later than **December 4, 2023, 5:00 P.M. to:**

PWSD 1 of Maries County, MO
Attn: Donna Thompson - District Clerk
PO Box 485
Vienna, MO 65582-000

For more information, contact Donna Thompson at {573) 422-3646.

Maries County PWSD No. 1 is an Equal Opportunity Employer and invites the submission of proposals from minority, women, and Section 3-owned firms.

OUTDOORS IN THE OZARKS

Organizing memories



by LARRY DABLEMONT

The other day I crossed the Roubidoux River and thought about Lane Davis. Lane was the longtime owner and editor of the Houston Herald newspaper and he hired me to paddle him down the Roubidoux, where he loved to fish. When I was about fourteen years old, I was a 50-cent-an-hour guide, and for local folks, one of my Dad's wooden johnboats was included free. The Roubidoux River had about twice as much water in the '60's and had lots of bass and goggle-eye.

I loved to read the outdoor magazines back then and write outdoor stories myself, for the guys in the pool hall to read. Lane got a kick out of that and he told me that he would use some of my stories in his newspaper. You cannot imagine how excited that made me. He printed the first newspaper column I ever wrote when I was about 17 years old, and made it a regular weekly column, "Summer on the Piney" and then "Fall on the Piney" and so forth as the seasons change.

I saved most everything I ever had published back then and I read one of those early columns the other day. It embarrassed me. I made some glaring mistakes, like the time I wrote that I had seen a golden eagle on the Piney. It had to be, I figured, since it was so big and dark, with no white head. Back then, bald eagles were seldom seen in the Ozarks, and I thought they all had white heads. I didn't realize that an eagle larger than it's parents, with dark plumage was just an immature bald eagle.

That help Lane Davis got me started on a life as an outdoor writer. At Missouri University I got a job as a weekly columnist for the Columbia Missourian newspaper, and saved many of those columns as well. Then upon graduation in 1970 I went to work as the Outdoor Editor for the states largest daily newspaper in Little Rock, Arkansas. Five years after my first column in Houston, I began to write regularly for Outdoor Life and Field and Stream magazines.

Last week I began to try to organize the newspaper columns I saved from the past, more than 6000 of them, published over the years in 200-plus newspapers in five states. With those are more than 700 magazine articles published in about two-dozen magazines. What I have is a gigantic mess when it comes to organizing, and it is beyond my ability. There are many articles and features and columns I don't even remember writing.

I put many of those magazine articles, mostly the ones that won awards, into two different books I published nearly 20 years ago. I am going to do some more such books in the future. If you want to read more about that first book I did in the 1970's and what it is now worth on the internet, go to my website, larrydablemontoutdoors.

This week I will put one of those columns I did for Lane Davis on that website. It comes from sixty years ago in my hometown paper, the Houston Herald. Thanks Mr. Davis, I will never forget you.

In December we will publish the last of my Lightnin' Ridge magazines for subscribers. It will be a Christmas issue and if you contact my office before December 1, you can get one mailed to you. I published the first of my magazines in 2003 and there have been more than 100 published since then.

But it isn't the last one I figure on doing, and many people have misunderstood that. It is the last I will publish on a regular seasonal basis for SUBSCRIBERS. I will publish a couple more in 2024 but those will be different in that we will no longer have a subscriber list. I have notified readers, in my fall magazine we put out in October that if they get on a list of folks interested in reading the magazines of the future that we will contact them when a new one is ready, or when I have a new book out.

I will do some new books next year. One is a sort of biography of a writer-naturalist, entitled "The Life and Times of the Pool Hall Kid". Another is entitled "The Justice of St. Clair County" which will cause your jaw to drop open if you read it… it is about corruption in the counties legal system you will not believe, a Sheriff who was keeping stolen merchandise in his barn, and absolute proof that a judge there tried to arrange my murder. It will be the first I have written about it. Hard to believe, but true.

Another book next year will be a collection of what readers have chosen as the best hundred of those 6000 newspaper columns. If you want to be notified when new magazines or books come out, contact me at Box 22, Bolivar, Mo. 65613 or lightninridge47@gmail.com. You can also call my office, 417-777-5227.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY DABLEMONT

FROM THE '60s on the Roubidoux River.



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REAL ESTATE AUCTION
Hurst Auction Service

We will sell the below listed real estate owned by the Estate of William Buscher at the Osage County Abstract Office, 206 East Main Street in Linn, Missouri on:

Saturday ~ December 9, 2023
10:30 a.m. ~ Linn

This real estate, approximately 45.76 acres (more or less), is located near Highway DD in central Osage County. Section 22, Township 43 N, Range 9 W. This property has been used for agriculture and hay production. It will be sold as one tract.

Terms for Real Estate: Ten percent (10%) of the selling price must be paid the day of the auction. The real estate contract will be signed at this time. The balance of the purchase price is due upon closing within 30 days. All bidders must be pre-approved by their lender because the sale of the property is not contingent upon financing. Title insurance will be split equally between the buyer and seller. Property sells AS IS. Property taxes for 2023 will be paid by the seller. If closing is in 2024, the taxes will be prorated for that time period.

To view property, contact Personal Representative Paul Stratman Osage County Public Administrator at (573) 619-6192

Estate of William Buscher

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Auctioneers: Franklin and Tom Hurst
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SUNDAY, NOV. 26
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467 CO RD 604, LINN, MO

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****PREVIEW SATURDAY, NOV. 25TH 12 P.M.- 2 P.M.**

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, 15 GUNS, MODERN & ANTIQUE FURNITURE & APPLIANCES, REFRIGERATOR; 3 FREEZERS; WASHER & DRYER; ADVERTISING SIGNS, 2003 CADILLAC DEVILLE 96,000 MILES; CASE VAC TRACTOR

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City makes deal on new PD cars, future of PD cars uncertain

BY ROXIE MURPHY
ASSISTANT EDITOR
rmurphy@wardpub.com

BELLE — In a decision made during a closed session on Nov. 8, Belle aldermen voted 4-0 to proceed with a closed bidding process with Phelps Health in Rolla for the acquisition of new police cars. The vehicles were delivered to the city on Nov. 14, following a trip to Rolla by Mayor Daryl White, Jr., and city employees who personally retrieved them from the hospital.

The city purchased all three vehicles for $8,800, White said he is unsure if they will keep them all.

The discussion to purchase the cars began in September when Marshal Jerry Coborn asked the board for approval to bid on the cars and requested a budget. White tabled the discussion and continued it to the October meeting agenda where he said he would look at the cars first.

The topic was included on an Oct. 25 special meeting agenda but tabled again. It was also on the Nov. 8 agenda and moved to the closed session during the meeting.

Coborn said his understanding was the cars would be sold with the MOSWIN radios still intact, which were worth at least $6,000. He asked the board permission to bid on one, possibly two cars.

White said during the meeting that they would discuss the bid amount in closed session.

According to the closed session minutes, Alderman James (Pudd) Mitchell made a motion to bid on the 2010 Dodge Charger, a 2005 Impala, and a 2013 Ford Taurus using funds from Money Market. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth with a 4-0 vote.

Coborn said the future purchase of the cars was still being determined after the previous meetings.

"They said they wasn't sure if they could get the cars and then they were putting bids in," Coborn said. "Daryl was the one that did the bidding. They called Daryl and said they won the bid, but I was not a part of that loop."

Coborn said the cars arrived last week.

"We got the cars, and once we get the radios programmed, hopefully later today, they will be on the road tonight for second shift," Coborn said. "Two cars will be police cars, possibly all three, but right now we only have two full-time employees. One will be a training car for when we go places off-site."

White said the opposite.

"Two of the three will be general-purpose cars and the third will be a police car," White said. "We bought the cars for the radios. If we don't hire another deputy, we don't need the cars."

White initially declined to share the purchase price of the new police cars with *The Advocate*.

"Stuart at MML said we didn't have to give out the purchase amount if we didn't want to," White said on Tuesday afternoon.

Hayes clarified his advice.

"They don't have to publish the amount that they spent but they do have to have financial documents that are open to the public," Hayes said.

When asked why he didn't want to share an open record purchase, White said, "Initially it was because we have been screwed by the newspaper before. If we sell the cars, everyone will know what we paid for them."

He later shared that the city paid $8,800 for the cars.

"They are all completely set up to be police cars," White said. "They are not marked yet, but they have the lights and the radios."

The biggest drawback to purchasing the cars was the city's budget.

Coborn acknowledged the police department's budgeted income was not as expected, partially because the city's school resource officer contract with the school remains unfulfilled. That would have infused an estimated $34,000 for another officer. Coborn said aldermen discussed transferring money into the police department's budget to make up for the loss in revenue.

"They put $32,000 into our budget based on the fact that we were supposed to get money from school for SRO," Coborn said.

The city's closed session draft minutes did not reflect a transfer from any accounts to the police department. The budget is not an item covered under Sunshine Law that may be discussed in closed session. When asked if a transfer was made, White said no. When asked about the discussion of transferring the amount because of the lost revenue from the contract, White said nothing had been done. When asked if the city would remove the budgeted revenue item, he asked what would happen if they hired an officer.

A note from City Treasurer Charro Reasor in the police department's budget said, "$34,000 needs to be deducted from the proposed income," with the Maries R-2 School Contract in bold letters. When asked if aldermen have or plan to transfer funds to the police department's budget to supplement the revenue, White said no.

"No money was transferred from one account to the other for the police department," White said.

The Advocate requested information from the city clerk on Nov. 14 regarding missing information in the drafted minutes, including the purchase prices of the police cars and no recorded approval to transfer city funds between accounts, but was told she didn't know how much was spent or what may have been transferred.

According to the closed session minutes, Frankie Horstman, the city clerk and recorder of record, was told by White, "that she could go ahead and leave the meeting (because) the only discussion was going to be cars."

Closed session minutes were drafted by White and submitted to the clerk at a later date.

Reasor provided aldermen with an update on city accounts during open session.

According to the October 2023 financial report, the Money Market account had an ending balance of $497,765.81 — an increase of $2,327.20 since last month.

General Funds reported an ending balance of $371,247.40 — a decrease of $19,170.81 since the beginning of the month; Special Road District had an ending balance of $115,105.94 — an increase of $573.74; Bonds and Restitution had $149,859.37 — an increase of $700.64; and Show Me Courts had $5,030.62 — a decrease of $861.81.

MRPC to host fourth climate pollution reduction meeting

DNR seeking input on statewide plan

ST. JAMES — Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) is hosting an additional climate pollution reduction meeting Nov. 30, at 3 p.m., at its office in St. James, 4 Industrial Drive.

This meeting is the final chance to provide input about climate reduction projects to be included in the state plan. Projects must be included in the plan to receive EPA Climate Pollution Reduction future grant funding.

Interested persons may attend in-person or via Zoom. Those interested in participating via Zoom need to contact the MRPC office at 573-265-2993 prior to the meeting.

The purpose of these meetings is to provide feedback to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) on the statewide climate pollution reduction plan currently being developed. Funding is being provided through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program through the Environmental Protection Agency, which is a part of the Inflation Reduction Act signed into law in August of 2022.

"Missouri's main planning goal is to ensure that all Missouri communities can access funding for greenhouse gas reduction projects during the implementation phase of the program," said Tammy Snodgrass, MRPC's assistant director and environmental manager. "Therefore, it is critical that communities provide input on what kinds of projects they want to see included in the statewide plan so that they can apply for funds to implement those projects in the future. To be eligible to apply for implementation funds, communities must be 'covered by' a CPRG climate action plan — in other words — the project they have in mind must be in the state plan."

Examples of potential projects include increase in electric vehicle and low-carbon vehicle use (electric charging stations), making buildings more energy efficient, reducing food loss and re-routing food waste away from landfills, reducing or capturing industrial emissions or restoring and preserving forested land.

There is an on-line form to submit project ideas at https://dnr.mo.gov/air/what-were-doing/climate-pollution-reduction-grants-cprg-program.

For those who can not attend the meetings, there is also an online survey, https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPRG-Community-Engagement-Survey, which is available to provide feedback.





