

OSAGE COUNTY

Daylight Savings begins March 10.

Turn your clock ahead one hour.

Unterrified Democrat

SINCE 1866

Chamois aldermen amend 2023-24 budget using questionable figures

BY THERESA BRANDT
UD STAFF WRITER

CHAMOIS — Chamois aldermen held a special meeting on Monday, Feb. 26, to amend the city's approved budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year. No explanation was given for why or how aldermen had been presented with an unofficial budget at the previous week's regular meeting. At that time, aldermen amended the official budget and added \$60,880.93 to the expense side of the ledger.

The 2023-24 budget estimated income of \$262,277. Year-to-date numbers show income for the city of \$266,778.38.

Based on year-to-date and anticipated expenses the city will need to pay before the end of the fiscal year, Treasurer Theresa Walter made the following recommendations.

Expense budget lines added were audit (\$15,000), other accounting (\$5,000), advertising (\$600), election (\$875), insurance (\$5,300), legal fees (\$10,000), locate fees (\$450), membership fees (\$200), municipal lights (\$1,500), postage (\$1,000), park operations (\$1,500), part-time maintenance (\$7,000), sewer testing (\$3,000), special projects (\$3,455.93), training (\$2,000), and water electric (\$4,000). The current budget estimated that expenses for the year would total \$260,389.50.

The newly amended expenses for the 2023-24 budget will now total \$321,270.43. Walter did not estimate what the additional income for the city might look like at the end of the fiscal year, so it is hard to tell exactly how far in the hole the city will be.

Mayor Marie Slusser and Walter explained in previous meetings that a big reason the amendment was needed to the audit line was that the city was behind on having the yearly audits finalized.

Chamois needed three audits completed in the same fiscal year to keep the water grant, each costing over \$5,600. The additional \$5,000 for the "other accounting" line could also be attributed to Walter, who is putting in extra hours to complete the audits on time. Some line items defied explanation, with no money budgeted for elections and diesel, and other items budgeted too low to make it through half of the year.

Whether some year-to-date expenses are correct is still in question.

See **BUDGET** on Page 5



REPUBLICAN CAUCUS members discuss changes to the party's platform at Saturday's meeting. The group selected Donald J. Trump for President, and elected four delegates and four alternates to attend the state and congressional conventions.

PHOTO BY NEAL A. JOHNSON

Republican caucus selects Trump, approves platform changes

BY NEAL A. JOHNSON
UD EDITOR
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OSAGE COUNTY — Republicans unanimously selected Donald J. Trump for President at their caucus on Saturday at the Osage County Library.

Osage County Republican Central Committee Chair Mark Lieneke said turnout was about twice the number who participated in the 2016 election. "I'm very pleased with the attendance and attendees," he said.

David and Gina Kroeger of Linn and Justin and Dana Haines of Freeburg were elected to serve as delegates, and Craig and Linda Rantz of Linn and George Luebbering and Shirley Luebbering of Koeltztown will serve as alternate delegates.

These delegates will participate in the convention for the US Congressional 3rd District and the state Republican convention on April 2.

At the former, three delegates will be elected to go to the state or national convention. During the state convention on

May 4 in Springfield, 27 delegates will be selected to attend the national convention.

Lieneke explained that delegates are bound to vote for the candidate chosen by the caucus. "After that, they become open and can vote for whoever they want," he said.

Caucus members also voted to accept proposed platform changes to the Republican Party this year.

The first amendment involves healthcare freedom, which allows every Missourian the right to refuse interven-

tions, and protecting the rights to be informed about exposure to mRNA and/or gene-altering therapies and medical technologies or treatments.

Another amendment encourages moving to a constitutionally protected sheriff instead of the election system.

Amendments also included faith, children's education, ethics, and others. Changes to the platform will be decided at the state convention.

A complete list of amendments can be viewed at <https://www.repaccmo.com/mo-republican-platform>.



Lady Comets see season end at the quarterfinal game

Fatima fans get loud in support of the Lady Comets at Friday's Class 3 quarterfinal game at Fair Grove. A full story and photos start on page 12.

PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN



Always a Bridesmaid

Osage Community Players cast members Jill Tschappler (Deedra Wingate), Patricia Dodson (Monette Gentry), Carrie Grellner (Charlie Collins), and Karla Bridges (Libby Ruth Ames) toast their lifelong friendship. See Page 16 for more photos of the play.

PHOTOS BY NEAL A. JOHNSON

Griffin, Kliethermes update Westphalia aldermen on upcoming projects

BY THERESA BRANDT
UD STAFF WRITER

WESTPHALIA — At last Tuesday's meeting, Osage County Presiding Commissioner Darryl Griffin and Western District Commissioner Larry Kliethermes updated Westphalia aldermen on several upcoming construction projects that will affect the city.

"We have Bartlett & West Engineering down there surveying for the Pentecostal Bridge," Griffin said. "We are hoping to start construction in early 2025."

Griffin attributed a lot of the success of making the bridge rebuild a reality to Kliethermes's experience and tenacity.

"We are lucky Larry was on the board," Griffin said. "There were only three bridges for that year in Missouri that were lucky enough to get a grant."

The Pentecostal Bridge will be rebuilt using a \$1.5 million settlement from the trucking company that caused the bridge's destruction and the balance from a Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) grant.

"Credit (getting the grant money) to Larry," Griffin explained. "It was his experience with MoDOT that tipped the balance in our favor. There was a lot of work that

See **PROJECTS** on Page 8

Linn aldermen approve All Clear Plumbing and Sewer to conduct lead service line inventory

BY THERESA BRANDT
UD STAFF WRITER

LINN — Linn aldermen, at their meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 20, approved a proposal from All Clear Plumbing and Sewer of Centertown — the only firm to submit a bid — for the lead service line inventory for \$89,642.50.

"We only got one bid back, so it will be easy to make this decision," City Clerk Carrie Grellner said.

Mayor Dwight Massey explained that this proposal does not include

replacing any lines that may contain lead; it only assesses all the lines to ascertain the presence of lead.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the lead service inventory, and the city has received a \$150,000 grant to cover the project.

"This is backlash for what happened in Flint, Michigan," Massey explained. "We shouldn't have any lead in our water lines because most of our lines have been copper or poly for many years. We have very few gal-

vanized lines."

Utilities Employee Aleks Rowinski noted that some of the copper lines could have been put together with solder that may contain lead. Grellner reached out to Bartlett & West, which declined to bid on the project.

All Clear Plumbing and Sewer's bid estimates \$22,400 for record review services and \$22,400 for administration services. Excavating a line will cost \$254, except when only a visual inspection is required, which will cost \$44.95 each. All Clear Plumbing and

Sewer estimated they will need to do 150 visual inspections (\$6,742.50) and 150 excavations (\$38,100).

In other business, equipment for the new All-Inclusive Playground has been delivered but the contractor who had agreed to do the groundwork and pour the concrete has backed out, according to Massey.

"It's going to fall on us to get the ground prep done and pour the concrete," Massey said. "I haven't seen the plans yet, so I don't know exactly how much concrete we need. We are

going to need more than one or two people to work on this."

"Maybe we should contract that out," Park Board Chairman Neil Loethen said.

"How would we do that?" Massey asked. "There was nothing included in the grant for that because it was going to be donated."

Loethen expressed concern that it was too big of a project for the city to handle with volunteers and the City

See **ALL CLEAR** on Page 7



2024 Ag Times

See Page 1B-32B



Kempker now to maintain a new road

See Page 5



Hunt provides OCHS a brief history of the U.D.

See Page 4

'Trail towns' hope to reap benefits of projects

See Page 4

Fatima finishes 22-7 after sectional loss

See Sports Page 12



"Science has never drummed up quite as effective a tranquilizing agent as a sunny spring day." — W. EARL HALL

OBITUARIES

The Unterrified Democrat publishes obituaries of Osage County residents and relatives of local residents free of charge. Obituaries should be submitted by the family or funeral home to: Editor, P.O. Box 109, Linn, MO 65051. All obituaries will be subject to editing for news style and length. Unedited obituaries are available at \$5.00 per column inch. For more information, call 573-897-3150.

David Gibson

1941-2024



David Gibson, 82, Vienna, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024 his home in Vienna.

He was born Aug. 20, 1941, to the late Robert Herschel and Ada Pearl (Welch) Gibson in Sturgeon.

He was united in marriage to Janet R. Warwick May 29, 1959, in Parowan, Utah.

Dave was employed with General Motors, Anaheim, Calif., Ridgway Park in Colorado; and Maries Manor and NAPA Auto Parts store, both in Vienna.

He is survived by wife, Jan Gibson of Vienna; daughters, Deborah Gibson of Moorpark, Calif., Rebecca Bixby and husband Robert of Camdenton and Leona Gibson of Stuart, Fla.; sister, Barbara Hladkey of Freeburg; brother, Richard Hoy of North Las Vegas, Nev.; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

David has generously donated his earthly body to the MU School of Medicine for medical education – Gift of Body.

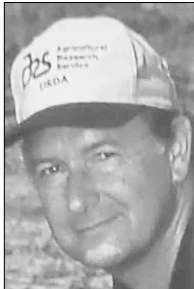
Memorial contributions suggested to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements entrusted to Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home in Vienna.

Robert Kremer



1950-2024



Robert John “Bob” Kremer, 73, Columbia, passed away March 1, 2024, at his home surrounded by family.

He was born Aug. 8, 1950, the oldest of seven children to Wilfred and MaryAnn (Broker) Kremer in Jefferson City.

He graduated from the University of Missouri in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy, after which he was drafted into the Army and served during the Vietnam War at the Fort Detrick, MD U.S. Army Biological Warfare Laboratories for two years where he met his wife Maureen (Mo) Brandon.

Bob was united in marriage to Mo March 15, 1975, in Rockville, Md.

He then returned to Missouri to complete his Master’s Degree in Soil Science in 1975, and went on to obtain a PhD in Soil Microbiology from Mississippi State University in 1980.

Immediately after marriage, Bob worked as a quality control technician at Research Seeds in St. Joseph. After completing his Master’s and PhD degrees, he went on to work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service for 35 years. In addition to his role at the USDA, he also contributed to the completion of over 100 post-graduate degrees at the University of Missouri. He was a published author of many academic and field publications, and assisted many farmers post-retirement through his KC Consulting company. He was well-known and respected around the world within the field of soil science.

Bob was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Columbia and enjoyed tending to his garden, spending time with his family and reading. He frequented his family farm in Frankenstein where he always found peace in “God’s country”.

Bob and brother, Russ organized Cedar Creek EcoFarm, LLC in 2023 with plans to operate and demonstrate regenerative production practices at the family’s century farm.

He was preceded in death by parents, Wilfred and MaryAnn Kremer.

Bob is survived by wife, Mo; children, Andrew Kremer and wife Amanda of Cincinnati, Ohio and Erin Moore and husband Anthony of Columbia; siblings Joyce Weidinger and husband Mark of Vienna, Deb Hammond of Eagle River, Wis., Russ Kremer of Frankenstein, Karen Muenks and husband Glenn of Loose Creek, Marie Searle and husband Wynn of Lewisville, Texas and Roberta Rader and husband Jason of Springfield; grandchildren, Ainsley and Addison Kremer, Ava and Emma Moore, and step-grandchild, Bentley Moore; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m., Saturday, March 9, at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Frankenstein followed by a Mass of Christian Burial with Fr. Colin Franklin officiating. Interment with Full Military Honors will follow in the Garden of Gethsemane in Frankenstein.

Memorial contributions suggested to the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Arrangements entrusted to Morton Chapel in Linn.

Derek Holtmeyer

1988-2024



Derek Conrad Holtmeyer, 35, Linn, passed away Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024.

He was born July 3, 1988, a son to his loving parents Beth Ann (Brauner) Holtmeyer and the late Robert Conrad Holtmeyer in Jefferson City.

He was a 2006 graduate of Linn High School and a graduate of State Technical College in Linn with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electrical Distribution Systems (Lineman).

Derek was employed at a variety of businesses including Quaker Windows, ABB, Modern Litho, and Thoenen Turkey Loading. He enjoyed trying new things and possessed many work skills.

Derek enjoyed camping along with water activities like fishing and swimming. He loved and cared for animals. Derek made every effort to stay in shape by lifting weights. He was a true Holtmeyer because of his love for Allis-Chalmers tractors and Ford trucks.

Derek’s life may have been short, but he impacted many lives. Most important to him was his daughter, Hailey who was his pride and joy. His love for his daughter, parents, family and friends could never be doubted. Derek was everyone’s protector who never knew a stranger and always had a smile on his face. He was a man of deep faith. Derek’s greatest enjoyment was spending time with his daughter and his family. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him.

Derek was preceded in death by father, Robert; maternal grandparents, Hubert and Dorothy Brauner; and paternal grandparents, Ignatius “Stub” and Dolores Holtmeyer.

He is survived by mother, Beth of Linn; daughter, Hailey Holtmeyer; best friend and Hailey’s mom, Angie Ablondi, both of Freeburg; sibling, Morgan “Travis” Holtmeyer and wife Alicia of Belle; nephews, Erick and Grant Holtmeyer; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 12 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at Barefoot Event Center in Linn with Pastor Kayla Kelly-Beard officiating. The Celebration of Derek’s life will continue after the service.

Memorial contributions suggested to the Hailey Holtmeyer Education Fund.

Arrangements entrusted to Morton Chapel in Linn.

Joan Allen

1940-2024



Joan Mary Allen, 83, Argyle, passed away Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, in the Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City.

She was born March 5, 1940, to the late Joseph and Marquerite M. (Mulroy) Kutrip Jr., in St. Louis.

She was united in marriage to Fredrick Donald Allen June 5, 1959, in Jennings.

Joan worked as the school secretary for the Maries R-1 School in Vienna.

She was preceded in death by parents, Joseph and Marquerite; daughter, Robin Marston; and brothers, Thomas Kutrip and John “Jack” Kutrip.

Joan is survived by husband, Donnie of Vienna; son, Kevin Allen and wife Rhonda of Freeburg; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and twin brother, Joseph “Joe” Kutrip, III of St. Louis.

Funeral service was held March 2, in the Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home Chapel in Vienna, with Rev. Basil Tigga officiating.

Interment was in Vienna Public Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home in Vienna.

A LOOK BACK AT
LAST WEEK’S WEATHER
IN OSAGE COUNTY

The following temperatures and precipitation were recorded by Tom Kixmueller, National Weather Service

Date	High	Low	Precipitation
Feb. 26	69	56	0.02
Feb. 27	82	27	
Feb. 28	37	18	
Feb. 29	55	33	0.02
Mar. 01	52	33	
Mar. 02	70	54	
Mar. 03	80	57	

National Weather Service
Weekend Forecast for
OSAGE COUNTY

Wednesday Night-A 20% chance of rain after 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, low around 46. East wind around 9 mph.

Thursday-A chance of rain and thunderstorms before 1 p.m., then rain likely between 1 and 4 p.m., then rain likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 4 p.m. Mostly cloudy, high near 61. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Thursday Night-Rain and possibly a thunderstorm. Low around 50. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Friday-Rain and possibly a thunderstorm. High near 61. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Friday Night-Rain likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 1 a.m., then a chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, low around 36. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Saturday-A 50% chance of rain, mainly before 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, high near 50.

Saturday Night-A 20% chance of rain. Mostly clear, low around 30.

Sunday-Sunny, high near 55.

Sunday Night-Clear, low around 32.

Monday-Sunny, high near 63.

Court
RecordsJUDGE SONYA
BRANDT

Colton J. Banks, Lincoln, pleaded guilty to failure to wear a seatbelt; fined \$10.

Dallan W. Baumgartner, Fulton, pleaded guilty to speeding (20-25 over); fined \$155.50.

Daria J. Blankenship, Bourbon, pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of insurance; suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation and restitution.

Daria J. Blankenship, Bourbon, pleaded guilty to following another vehicle too closely; fined \$80.50.

McKinna R. Brown, Waynesville, pleaded guilty to speeding (20-25 over); fined \$155.50.

Harley D. Crider, Jefferson City, pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of insurance; fined \$150.

Brittany L. Day, Jefferson City, pleaded guilty to speeding (11-15 over); fined \$70.50.

Wesley J. Eubanks, Belle, pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of insurance; suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation.

Wesley J. Eubanks, Belle, pleaded

guilty to failure to register a motor vehicle; fined \$50.50.

Montana I. Hacker, El Dorado Springs, pleaded guilty to speeding (16-19 over); fined \$100.50.

Logan J. Hunt, St. Jacob, Ill., pleaded guilty to failure to drive on right half of roadway when roadway was of sufficient width resulting in an accident; fined \$85.50. Court approves Driver Improvement program.

Megan L. Jacobson, Holts Summit, pleaded guilty to failure to properly affix/fasten to or maintain motor vehicle/trailer plates; fined \$50.50.

Zachary A. Klempke, Centertown, pleaded guilty to speeding (20-25 over); suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation; and community service (15 hours).

Dustin P. Lutes, Leslie, pleaded guilty to speeding (1-5 over); fined \$325.

Kevin E. Mackley, Linn, pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated with person less than 17 years old in vehicle; suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation and completion of MADD.

Kevin E. Mackley, Linn, pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of insurance; suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation.

Kevin E. Mackley, Linn, plead-

ed guilty to speeding (26 or more over); fined \$350. Court approves Driver Improvement program.

Corey T. Mason, Unionville, pleaded guilty to speeding (20-25 over); fined \$155.50.

Garrett L. Mueller, Jefferson City, pleaded guilty to speeding (16-19 over); fined \$100.50.

Clayton N. Sherman, New Bloomfield, pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated; suspended imposition of sentence, with two years unsupervised probation, completion of MADD in person and payment of \$150 to LERF program.

Jacob R. Statler, O’Fallon, pleaded guilty to failure to wear a seatbelt; fined \$10.

David W. Stephan, Freeburg, pleaded guilty to speeding (16-19 over); fined \$100.50. Court approves Driver Improvement program.

Johnathan W. Tully, Holts Summit, pleaded guilty to speeding (11-15 over); fined \$70.50.

MO DEPT OF
CONSERVATION V.

Eric D. Branson, Linn, pleaded guilty to importing, transporting, selling, purchasing, taking or possessing protected species of wildlife, or parts, inconsistent with rules of the code; fined \$200.

Cole G. Wilbers, Versailles, pleaded guilty to unlawfully operating all-terrain vehicle within a stream or river; fined \$149.50.

County Arrest
Report

The following were arrested, taken into custody or released in Osage County between **Monday, Feb. 26, and Sunday, March 3, 2024:**

John Alexander Hiatt, 50, Hermann, was taken into custody Monday, Feb. 26, by Osage County Sheriff to serve court ordered shock time; in custody.

Craig Gerald Newmann, 63, Bland, was taken into custody Monday, Feb. 26, by Osage County Sheriff to serve court ordered shock time; released Feb. 28.

Lakin Jonathan Stull, 29, Linn, was arrested Tuesday, Feb. 27, by Osage County Sheriff on allegations of domestic assault; in custody.

Anthony Bialczyk, 33, Owensville, was arrested Tuesday, Feb. 27, by Osage County Sheriff on allegations of possession of controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; in custody.

Jessie Ray Hauser, 39, Hermann, was arrested Thursday, Feb. 29, by Osage County Sheriff on a warrant issued by another agency; in custody.

Ralph Earl Ashner, 36, Rosebud, was taken into custody Friday, March 1, by Osage County Sheriff to serve court ordered shock time; in custody.

Derek Paul Fann, 35, Belle, was arrested Friday, March 1, by Osage County Sheriff on allegations of assault; in custody.

Lysner Blaise, 35, Belle, was arrested Friday, March 1, by another county on a warrant issued by another agency; released same day.

Bryan Michael Landwehr, 32, Owensville, was taken into custody Friday, March 1, to serve court

ordered shock time; released March 3.

Terry Mitchell, 52, Golden City, was arrested Saturday, March 2, by Osage County Sheriff on allegations of driving while revoked/suspended; released same day.

Rachael Kirby, 35, Linn, was arrested Saturday, March 2, by another county on allegations of resisting/interfering with arrest and multiple allegations of assault; released next day.

Nolan Tanner Henson, 18, St. James, was arrested Saturday, March 2, by another county on allegations of harassment; in custody.

Warren Marshall Taylor, 64, Chamois, was taken into custody Saturday, March 2, by another county on hold for another agency; in custody.

Kasey June Foulds, 38, Chamois, was arrested Sunday, March 3, by Osage County Sheriff on allegations of possession of controlled substance; released next day.

Crystal Richardson, 43, Wentzville, was arrested Sunday, March 3, by Osage County Sheriff on a warrant issued by another agency; released same day.

Steven Vega, 41, Linn, was taken into custody Sunday, March 3, by Osage County Sheriff on hold for another agency; in custody.



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Attorney and Counselor at Law



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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

911

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Police, fire, ambulance and poison controls.

For non-emergency information: _____

911 Administration
Office..... 897-0911

Hot Lines

Motorist Emerg 911

Child Abuse.....1-800-392-3738

Elderly Abuse.....1-800-392-0210

Rape Crisis/Abuse.....(733) 634-4911

Poison Info.....1-800-392-9111

Alcoholics Treatment
Center.....1-800-260-4014

Crisis/Suicide.....1-800-833-3915..

Linn PD 897-4234

Sheriff/Dispatch 8am-4:30p.m. 897-3927

Sheriff/Dispatch After Hours... 897-2285

Highway Patrol..... 751-1000

Law Enforcement

Capital Region
Medical Center..... 632-5436

St. Marys Medical Center... 761-7011

Osage Ambulance..... 897-0044

Community Ambulance 229-8902

Maries-Osage..... 422-6123

Ozark Central..... 859-3168

911 House Number Signs Can Be Purchased
At The Emergency Operations Center

Sign – \$15 • Sign & Post – \$20 • \$5 Fee for Installation

If your road sign is stolen or missing, please call 897-3561 ext. 221.

OSAGE COUNTY MAP BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE
911 OFFICE FOR \$25 - 3 FT. BY 4 FT. WALL MAPS ARE \$159
1
1OSAGE COUNTY
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Hunt provides OCHS a brief history of the *Unterrified Democrat*

BY ELISE BROCHU
UD STAFF

OSAGE COUNTY — Historian and teacher Larry Hunt of Linn presented a history of the *Unterrified Democrat* at last week’s Osage County Historical Society meeting.

When asked by his advisor, Missouri historian David March, what made his town interesting, Hunt’s first thought was the name of the newspaper.

“So, I started pursuing where I can find the newspapers, and we’re talking about 40-plus years ago, so everything wasn’t at your fingertips,” said Hunt, who earned his Bachelor of Science in history from Northeast Missouri State, now Truman State University, and a master’s degree in 1982. He taught social studies for 33 years, including 31 years at Linn High School, and he continues to teach part-time at Missouri State Technical College.

Hunt said he found out quickly that the oldest newspapers, going back to 1866, didn’t exist. “Come to find out, the story was that Bill Zevely had given these old newspapers to the Blue Goose to wrap sandwiches in so he would go out the door with the sandwiches,” Hunt said, earning a wave of laughter from the crowd. By that time, Bill Zevely was dead, alas. There was a nephew, and his mother lived out of state, and he was not in good health, so we had to look and come up with what we could find around here.”

The *Unterrified Democrat* was founded by Lebbeus Zevely. Hunt learned the Zevely family came from North Carolina. Lebbeus married Melinda Miller, the daughter of Adam Miller, a prominent local farmer.

Over time, Lebbeus gained acceptance in the community. He donated land for one of the rural schools and served as postmaster.

“So, this is coming up on the Civil War and the election of 1860,” said Hunt. “Of course, Abraham Lincoln was elected and, of course, we did have some slaves along the river. So, the county was divided four ways: (Republican nominee) Abraham Lincoln, (Southern Democratic Party nominee John) Breckinridge, (Constitutional Union Party nominee John) Bell, and (Democratic Party nominee Senator) Stephen Douglas.”

Breckenridge won the election in Osage County.”

As things became more serious with how the southern states were reacting to Lincoln’s election, Zevely decided he needed to call the community together. On Jan. 4, 1861, he had a mass meeting, and he told them that he was Southern by birth. He was a Democrat, but he believed the Union was more important than the issue of slavery.

“Consequently, people believed that it helped if Osage County remained in the Union hands or with the majority of people who supported the Union,” Hunt said.

Zevely and his father-in-law, Adam Miller, formed military units and patrolled; however, things stayed relatively quiet in Osage County during 1863 and 1864.

“At one point in 1864, Sterling Price, who was a former governor plus was leading the Confederate Army, marched through Osage County on the way to Jefferson City. We were lucky not to have a lot of problems there,” Hunt said, adding that the army did not always have very good control of the troops, who often raided areas on their way through.

Other areas of Missouri did not fare as well.



THESE PHOTOS show employees preparing the *Unterrified Democrat* for publication. In the bottom left photo is William Zevely, who owned the newspaper until 1969.



FILE PHOTOS

“I didn’t know about this until I went back and was refreshing my memory,” Hunt said. “There was an incident, or an execution, at Palmyra in 1862. There was a hostage situation, and the Confederates released all the hostages except one. One didn’t come back, and the stipulation was for every one of the hostages that they had taken, they would execute a Confederate or somebody that’s a sympathizer. So they did.”

Ten were killed there. “Bloody Bill” Anderson, in Centralia, killed 23 unarmed Union soldiers in cold blood, so it was awful,” said Hunt.

Finally, the war ended, but Hunt said politics was still an issue.

“The governor, Claiborne Fox Jackson, had fled the state,” Hunt said. “He was a Confederate and wanted the state to secede from the Union. So, he fled from the state all the way to Texas. He also took the Secretary of State with him.”

Hunt told a story he heard when working at the Secretary of State’s Office that the state seal was small enough in those days that it could be picked up and taken wherever they wanted to go. “So, the Secretary of State thought there could be no state business done without state seal, so he took (it), put it in his saddlebag, and took it to Texas,” Hunt said. “When they got back, they decided that’s not going to happen again.”

As a result, they built a “big gargoyle-shaped thing,” Hunt noted, which is in the Secretary of State’s office in the Capitol.

At that point, Missouri’s provisional governor, Hamilton Gamble, was trying to hold things together. In 1865, a constitutional convention was called in St. Louis to establish a new state constitution.

“The Radical Republicans were in control, and one in particular — his name was Drake — decided, or they decided at the convention, that they had to include what they call ‘an ironclad oath,’” said Hunt.

The oath meant lawmakers swore allegiance to the country, and anybody who did not could not vote.

“It also went so far as in keeping certain people from certain professions from being able to practice those professions,” Hunt said. “So, Lebbeus had been challenged, along with his wife, Melinda. They both had relatives that had been involved with the Confederacy.”

That oath was struck down by the US Supreme Court in 1968, but, in 1866, people who defied it could be put in jail or fined, so when Zevely decided to start his paper, he adopted a model of “zealous care of the right to election by the people.”

Zevely began publishing the *Unterrified Democrat* on July 3, 1866. “He had bought the *Osage County Advocate*, which was non-partisan, and he decided that the *Unterrified Democrat* had to have a different voice than what had so far been heard,” said Hunt. “Consequently, he looked over the situation, decided his feelings and the unavoidable consequences of those feelings made him name his paper the *Unterrified Democrat*.

“Now, somewhere, and I couldn’t go back and find it with what I had at home, but somewhere, I remember reading a quote that he said he was once and for all an ‘unterrified Democrat,’ that he would continue this whole idea of being the critic of the great constitution as long as it stood. And (that constitution) survived until 1875, when the next constitution was written.”

Lebbeus served a short term in the General Assembly, but on April 14, 1873, at 42, he died.

Lebbeus left the paper to his wife and seven children to run. His youngest son, E.M. Zevely, became the publisher. At some point, the paper was sold, but the family was able to buy it back in the early part of the 20th century. E.M. Zevely’s son, William Zevely, owned the paper until 1969, but his health declined, and he sold it to Norman and Jane Troesser.

In 1979, the Troessers sold the UD to the investor group of Brad Lockenvitz, Don Keough, and Jack Lafferty. On Sept. 1, 1980, the paper was sold to Ralph and Jerry Voss. On Aug. 1, 2018, the *Unterrified Democrat* was purchased by Warden Publishing.

“So, it’s still there since 1866, and it’s had quite a journey,” Hunt said. “It was because of what (Lebbeus Zevely) had seen in the Civil War, what he believed, that people should have the right to vote, and people shouldn’t be denied the ability to perform their basic occupations because of what was going on.”

Local photographs displayed at the Osage County Library

OSAGE COUNTY — Osage County photographers aged 10 to 86 have 49 photos on display in the Woodland Art Gallery photo exhibit featuring 19 adults and five youth (under 18 years of age) at the MRRL Osage County Library from March 4 through May 31.

From March 4-18, the public is invited to view the photos and vote on your favorite as the People’s Choice, with the winner selected by the general public receiving \$100.

The Osage County Historical Society (OCHS) and Osage County Agritourism Council (OCAC) are sponsoring the exhibit. They will provide \$100 cash awards to five adults and five youth in specific categories.

Unterrified Democrat Editor Neal Johnson, Mary Ann Gelven representing OCHS, and Jeff Kormann of OCAC will serve as judges for the photo contest.

In June, the 11 winning photos will be moved for permanent display at the OCHS.

A reception for artists will be held on Saturday, March 23, at the Osage County Library in Linn from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Winners will be announced at 12:30 p.m.

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‘Trail towns’ hope to reap the benefits of rails-to-trails projects

BY EMMA J. MURPHY
MISSOURI NEWS NETWORK

WINDSOR — Kim Henderson and her four modern, rentable cabins are setting an example for dreamers like Leisa and Steve Burkemper who want to see their hometown also become a “trail town.”

The Burkempers hope to see Barnett revitalized as a “trail town” through development of the proposed Rock Island Trail.

Barnett and 17 other towns are located directly on the path of the proposed Rock Island Trail and have the potential to host trailheads. Like the Katy Trail, the Rock Island is a former railroad corridor that is intended to be developed as a trail.

Other towns, like Rocheport and Windsor, have experienced the benefits of being a “trail town” and have become examples for towns like Barnett and their residents.

Gov. Mike Parson revealed his budget recommendations for the 2025 fiscal year on Jan. 24, and it lacked any funding to develop the trail for a second year in a row.

The trail has been a highly debated matter at the statehouse for years. Parson previously included funding to develop the trail in his budget recommendations in 2022, but it was ultimately cut in the Senate. The reality of funding

coming from the state in the next few years has remained low, so proponents of the trail have begun looking for local and private funding to develop the trail.

The former railroad corridor is owned by the state and stretches across Missouri. Over 47 miles of the trail are developed and in use, with the stretch between Pleasant Hill and Windsor designated as a state park last July. Another 144 miles of undeveloped trail reaches from Windsor to Beaufort, with plans to develop this stretch in the works but so far lacking full funding.

Pushback against the trail has come from lobbyists representing businesses, like Diamond Pet Food, and landowners who worry about privacy along the trail and easement issues.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources established the Rock Island Corridor as Missouri’s newest state park on June 30.

On Jan. 26, ground was broken in Gerald to develop the first mile of the eastern section of this state park. With the lack of funding from the state, the trail is being developed through donations and the support of the Friends of Rock Island Trail State Park, a group advocating for the trail’s development.

The Windsor Model

Proponents of the trail are not giving up. Henderson

moved to Windsor over 35 years ago and has been working to get the Rock Island Trail developed with Missouri State Parks and Friends of Rock Island Trail State Park since 2014.

“When the Rock Island was gonna come, I watched that dotted line for 15 years,” Henderson said. “For 15 years, it was just a possibility.”

When former Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon said he wanted the trail to be developed by 2016, Henderson bought three plots of land and opened her first cabin in 2015, hoping that cyclists would make use of the rental.

Today, she has expanded her business to four cabins and counting. She also serves as vice president of Friends of Missouri Rock Island Trail State Park.

While the cabins began as a side project for Henderson, she was eventually able to quit her job as a city administrator because her cabin business became sustainable enough to support her and her family.

Other local businesses feel the boost of the Rock Island Trail. Residents of the town are putting time and money into restoring their downtowns and opening new businesses.

Tourism from the Rock Island Trail has aided growth for places like The Pour Poet, a business in downtown Windsor offering coffee, tea, antiques and books, and Walter’s Black

See **TRAIL TOWNS** on Page 5

MARCH 3-9
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Budget • from page 1

Aldermen approved an amendment to an unofficial budget at their regular meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 20. **Unterrified Democrat** Reporter Theresa Brandt realized the board had not amended the official budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year and contacted Mayor Slusser about the mistake. Slusser, Walter, and City Clerk Meghan Birmingham could not explain where the budget numbers used for amendments came from during the regular meeting.

Brandt questioned some of the year-to-date expenses that were part of the unofficial budget. Slusser said that she understood what Brandt was talking about but didn't elaborate or explain at the meeting.

"How are these numbers so far off?" Alderman Cole Schaben asked. "This is outrageous."

Brandt asked Walter how far in the hole the city was at this point.

"To tell you the truth, I can't answer that," Walter said.

Brandt repeated that she did not believe some of the year-to-date expenses were correct.

"I know," Slusser said.

Brandt asked for an explanation of what certain line items were for, including a line item for "Special Projects" with a year-to-date expense of \$4,895.97. No one, including Slusser, Birmingham, and Walter, could explain the costs.

"I don't know if we'll ever know what happened," Schaben said.

"The previous mayors who had did a lot of spending, and the books were off, so we have to do all of these audits and come up with all of this money, so we don't lose our grants," Slusser said. "The last two mayors buried us, and we are just trying to see daylight."

Brandt questioned why the blame was placed on the past two mayors when aldermen approved the budget.

When Slusser continued to blame the mayors for the city's financial problems, Brandt pointed out that both she and Alderman Jim Wright had been members of the board when the budget was approved.

Slusser said she didn't remember going through any of the paperwork for the budget at that time.

"We're trying our hardest to fix stupid," Alderman Cheyanna Wolfe said.

After reviewing several line items that needed to be amended, Brandt restated that she was concerned because she thought some numbers may be inaccurate.

"I know these numbers are wrong," said Slusser. "It's hard to look at budget numbers if the numbers aren't accurate."

"We're never going to know the real numbers," Schaben said.

Brandt replied that the records were somewhere and could be tracked down.

Slusser responded that no one had filed for election, so no one knew what would happen or who would be on the board after the April election.

Walter was more optimistic.

"Things are changing," Walter said. "We have things that are being put in place. Hopefully, we'll be able to stop the excess spending."

"We have already done that," Slusser said. "No one buys toilet paper without me knowing about it. We aren't using the credit card. Going forward, we are going to have to go without."

"It's a slow process, but we are trying," Walter said. "We are doing the best we can with what we've got. We are trying to cut back on the spending."

Aldermen approved the amendment to the unofficial budget, amending 26 line items and adding over \$90,000 to the budget. These overages were to come out of city reserves.

Haviland among several to earn Lt. Governor's Women of Achievement Award

JEFFERSON CITY — Jan Haviland of Linn is among several ladies set to receive the third annual Lt. Governor's Women of Achievement Award. The award was established in 2022 by Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe in conjunction with Women's History Month to recognize the diverse accomplishments of Missouri women.

"My life was greatly impacted by being raised by a single mother of six, and we created this award to honor the incredible accomplishments of women across Missouri," said Lt. Gov. Kehoe. "These recipients are diverse in talent and background, from agriculture to entrepreneurship and community service to leaders in veterans advocacy. We are proud to share the achievements of these award recipients and celebrate successful Missouri women, past and present."

Award recipients will be honored at a ceremony in the First Floor Rotunda of the Missouri State Capitol on Thursday, March 14, at 9 a.m.

Others being honored are First Lady Teresa Parson of Bolivar, Rachel Anderson and Winter Kinne of Springfield, Deidre Anderson-Barbee of Raymore, Irish Erzfeld of Perryville, Lowry Finley-Jackson of St. Louis, Natalie Hawn of St. Joseph, Laura Collins of Bell City, CiCi Rojas of Kansas City, and Megan Sievers of Hallsville.

Recipients will be highlighted in features leading up to the awards ceremony on Lt. Gov. Kehoe's social media pages and are featured on Itgov.mo.gov.

Kempker now to maintain a new road

BY H.B. DODDS
UD STAFF WRITER
hbdodds@wardpub.com

OSAGE COUNTY — The highway of life has been one of hard, blue-collar work for now former Osage County Road and Bridge Foreman Ron Kempker. He's too used to getting up and going to work in the morning for anything to change too much. After almost five decades of routine, there will be something different.

Kempker has retired as of Friday, March 1. Still in good health, he's entitled to reminisce on a lot of jobs well done.

Born at St. Mary's Health Center in Jefferson City in 1962, Kempker grew up near St. Elizabeth. Kempker was already employed when he graduated from St. Elizabeth High School in 1980. He started in the family business, Joe Kempker and Son's Roofing Co. "I've been working since I was 15," he said matter-of-factly.

That doesn't mean, though, he's totally averse to change.

He restructured a lot of his life in 1985. "I left roofing and started working in the concrete business with Olsen Concrete Construction in Centertown," he notes.

Oh, and on Sept. 21 of that year, he married Lisa at St. Louis Catholic Church, Bonnots Mill. They raised two children, Jennifer (Winkleman) and Jason.

Four years with Olsen prepared him to move on to Concrete Foundation Construction Co. of Jefferson City, in 1989. He started there as a concrete pump operator. In 1994, he was promoted to crew leader, holding that title for 15 years. He found it good to keep the list of changes

shorter rather than longer.

However, in 2009, he craved the security of a government job. Perhaps the smooth course of Lisa's career with the state of Missouri had some influence.

That year, Kempker joined the Osage County Road and Bridge crew as an operator and, in 2015, was promoted to assistant foreman. He became foreman in 2018 and endured to the end.

Kempker absorbed a lot of experience and memories —not all of them good — in heavy machinery, road graders, and trucks.

One of the worst occurred when heavy snow and brutally cold air hit the same night in December 2021. Trucks needed to be on the roads but weren't going to get there. "It got so cold that all the equipment gelled up," he recalled. "We weren't able to get anything started."

All the county's heaviest equipment runs on diesel, and fuel is most susceptible to cold weather malfunction. Every detail about blending diesel fuel in sub-freezing conditions must be heeded, or there would be a lot of frustration. Unfortunately, the county's fuel supplier let one of those details slip.

Kempker was stuck with a supply that was unable to handle subzero temperatures. Not one diesel engine would start that day, making it clear the fuel supply was to blame. "After changing fuel filters on most of the equipment, we still had issues getting things started," he recalled. "I believe that was the worst day I had while working at Osage County Road and Bridge. I felt like I was letting people down by not being able to maintain the slick roads."

Trail towns • from page 4

Dog Retail, a boutique and antique store.

These small, local businesses attract tourists and can entice people to live in Windsor.

In 2002, Windsor collected over \$306,000 in sales tax revenue. Over 20 years later, Windsor has almost doubled its sales tax revenue. The Missouri Department of Revenue reported that Windsor took in over \$560,000 in sales tax revenue.

Henderson said that the Rock Island Railroad is what brought people to Windsor, and that the trail will bring people back again.

"What I've seen now is when we have more businesses like the cabins and the coffee shops," Henderson said, "we have more young people saying they want to stay here or move back."

Businesses are expanding in the area, like 1 Eleven Tap and Que which offers barbecue and is in the process of opening a taproom to offer local and regional beers and wines.

As someone who hosts tourists in Windsor, Henderson recommends nearby restaurants, shops and businesses to all of her guests.

Towns like Rocheport provide solid examples of benefits from the development of trails. The Katy Trail runs through Rocheport and helps the town sustain its various businesses. The town with a population of 204 boasts more than five bed-and-breakfasts, the Meriwether Cafe and Bike Shop and still more up-and-coming businesses like The Rest Stop.

Like Windsor, Rocheport has seen its sales tax revenue grow in the past 20 years. The town's revenue jumped from around \$29,000 in 2002, to over \$41,000 in 2022.

But the community built by the trail extends beyond the individual towns. The undeveloped portion of the trail alone ties together 18 towns across Missouri, with more towns connected through the already completed 47 miles of the Rock Island State Park.

These towns are connected by a common goal of developing the trail that could bring with it tourism and economic revitalization.

"Trail towns' following suit Leisa and Steve Burkemper own the Old Brick House Deli in Jefferson City and say they've found success there by creating connections with their customers. They're bringing the same attitude to revitalizing towns along the Rock Island Trail.

The Burkempers have seen the effects trails have had on towns like Windsor and Rocheport and are working to open their own small business in Barnett: the Rock Island Bicycle

Club and Cafe.

The couple moved from St. Louis to Barnett in 1996 and said they immediately felt at home in the small town.

They have been attending meetings to support the development of the trail for over a decade.

"It's hard for people to see the potential of their town," Steve Burkemper said. "But we've always seen the bigger potential of what Barnett could be from what it used to be." In their vision for Barnett, a town with a population of 138, they see a restoration of Barnett with a thriving downtown and new businesses. Currently, residents of Barnett have very limited local businesses to visit and is awaiting the expected return of the post office.

In contrast to the growing sales tax revenue of Windsor and Rocheport, Barnett has had its sales tax revenue stagnant at \$0 for the past two decades.

The Burkempers are hoping to see more traffic from travelers heading to Lake of the Ozarks as well.

"These small towns on these abandoned rails are dying, or have already died," Leisa Burkemper said. But she believes that the



EASTERN DISTRICT Commissioner John Trenshaw, left, and Western District Commissioner Larry Kliethermes, right, congratulate Road & Bridge Foreman Ron Kempker on his retirement at last week's commission meeting.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kempker was not the person responsible for treating the fuel in the storage tank. Nor was he ever going to be the one who tested it to see if it was properly blended. However, from then on, Kempker asked those who were responsible and ensured they were accountable. He made sure it was certifiably right.

Most things, though, have responded well to his efforts. Sometimes, folks even went so far as to compliment good work when they saw it. "My favorite memory was when Don and Jeanie Knollmeyer sent a card congratulating me on being promoted," Kempker said.

He then invokes his memories of the crew he has supervised through the years. "They are hardworking people," Kempker noted. "They made my job a little easier. It has been my privilege to work with many good and honorable people through my years of service with the county."

Kempker also wants citizens to know he has very high regard for them. "I love this community, and I'm going to stay here," he said when asked for a few words at his retirement celebration on

Tuesday, Feb. 27.

At that gathering, the feeling was mutual. "You are leaving this department better than you found it," Osage County Presiding Commissioner Darryl Griffin concluded.

On Friday, March 1, Kempker enjoyed a luncheon in his honor at the Road and Bridge office. That evening, there was a surprise gathering of family and friends. "I would like to thank everyone for their kind words and thoughtfulness," he said.

The Kempkers are not without retirement plans. Lisa was overheard describing her "list." Ron appears to face several column inches of "honey-do" chores. Nothing, though, is likely to seem longer than the more than 400 miles of county road he's been working the last 15 years. "In retirement, I plan on spending time with my family and [five, soon to be six] grandkids," he says. "We're going to do a little traveling, a lot of hunting and fishing, and tinkering around the house."

It's a different kind of road, but a skilled worker used to maintaining it will probably figure out how to navigate it.

Proponents of the trail are hopeful that funding will be added to the budget following the 2024 election, when they hope new legislators will be more sympathetic to funding the trail.

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(474) 500-600 lb. 300.00-354.00	Thin: 70.00 & Down
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A NEW ADVENTURE

Only 13 days until the vernal equinox

Ever since Mother Nature gave central Missouri a shot of winter temperatures in January — dipping the mercury below zero for a couple of days — conversation around water coolers and in local coffee shops has centered on spring.

Alas, the advent of spring is a short 13 days away. Tuesday, March 19, marks the vernal equinox (when day and night are equal in length), bringing the season of rebirth in the Northern Hemisphere.

Daffodils, not known for waiting until spring officially arrives, are already blooming in yards.

The surest sign that springtime is just around the corner is the sound of Spring Peepers. Folklore says that the Spring Peepers must be shut up three times before spring officially arrives.

Every year — starting at the end of February — my wife drags me onto our deck each night to listen for peepers.

I usually deny being able to hear them. When Connie was a teacher, I could

by DENNIS WARDEN



understand her enthusiasm. The sound of Spring Peepers in the evening equals the start of spring; spring means the end of the school year is near; the end of school, for a teacher, means summer vacation.

My wife has been retired from teaching for almost six years now. It's still hard for Connie to understand that those of us not employed by a local school district don't have summers off.

This is why we could never reside in a big city. Without the sound of the Spring Peepers I'm afraid Connie would become depressed

during late February and early March.

The Spring Peeper is a small chorus frog that populates the eastern United States and Canada. Its western range is much of Missouri. You won't hear them in Kansas, Nebraska, or most of Iowa and Oklahoma.

The little frogs prefer places with no fish. Behind our house — approximately 100 yards away — is a small unnamed stream with standing water, otherwise known as the town's drainage ditch. That satisfies their need for water.

During drought, they have been found living in caves, where they can find moisture.

This tiny frog can survive temperatures that drop to 18 degrees Fahrenheit and freeze up to 70 percent of their bodies, causing their heart to stop. This is all due to the capacity of their livers to exude and flush the bloodstream with a glucose cryoprotectant, which acts both as an anti-freeze in their blood and allows organs like the heart to enter into a state of protected dormancy.

The Latin name for the Spring Peeper is

Pseudacris crucifer. Crucifer is from a Latin root word meaning "cross-bearer," which references a dark cross-like pattern on the Spring Peeper's dorsal.

The chirping sounds we hear in the evenings sound like a baby chicken. That is why they are called peepers. Since they are one of the first frogs to emerge in the spring, they are called Spring Peepers.

The male frogs send out these signals to attract a mate. The females choose their mates from the frequency and volume of the males chirping. The peeps of these male frogs can be repeated up to 13,500 times in one evening.

This peeping sound can be up to 90 decibels and can be heard up to two miles away. For comparison, a power mower is about 107 decibels, and hearing loss may result from sustained exposure of 80-90 decibels.

Adult male Spring Peepers average one inch in length, with the females being slightly larger.

The female Spring Peeper can lay upwards of 1,000 eggs.

Interesting facts about the spring equinox: The first spring day does not fall on the same day every year. For most of the 20th century, the first day of spring arrived on March 21. That ended in 2007 for most of us. The next time the spring equinox will fall on March 21 is 2101. For the next three years, the spring equinox will arrive on March 20.

Another spring and fall equinox phenomenon is the sun rises due east and sets due west on this day.

Also, on the equinoxes, we have the fastest sunrises and sunsets on this day, meaning the amount of time it takes for the sun to sink below the horizon.

Another plant currently poking up through the ground is the green leaves of the Surprise Lilies, also known as Naked Ladies. Their blooms in early August had the opposite effect on Connie. She would become depressed as these blooms signify that summer vacation for teachers is almost over and the start of school is just around the corner.

MAIL BAG

Fact-Checking, accountability in Osage County

To the Editor:

The Osage County Clerk "can confidently say," as quoted in the Feb. 28th issue of the UD, that the estimated election cost savings I presented at the recent Lincoln Day Dinner (at least \$412,000 over a 15-year period) are "a spread of misinformation and irrelevant calculations." Osage County taxpayers can give their opinion on the relevancy of that much money, but I am most surprised that our Republican County Clerk uses the term, "misinformation," which is one of the mainstays of woke media.

In any case, I believe some fact-checking would have been helpful before the Clerk publicly expressed her confidence. The primary argument is that the information needed for my calculations would have only been obtainable by Sunshine Request (open records) to her office. There are concerned citizens all over the state who are obtaining open records and sharing them with others. Additionally, last year the Clerk was required to submit certain information to the Secretary of State in response to a

complaint. A Sunshine Request to the SOS resulted in Osage documents being provided, indirectly from the Clerk, but proving that all the information did come from her office at some point.

Suffice it to say that I am in possession of the documentation needed to make these calculations and happy to share it with anyone interested in reviewing them (<http://HandCounting.com/OsageSunshine>).

A better way to prove calculations are incorrect is to provide your own calculations with documentation. The Clerk published an opinion piece in the UD on May 20, 2023, in which she stated that the hand-counted election of April 2023 cost over \$21,000 and did not save very much money. A Sunshine Request asking for the financial report supporting that claim was returned with the reply that no such report exists. So where did the \$21,000 number come from?

My Lincoln Day presentation was about cost-savings, but the Clerk expresses frustration with "certain people who make a big media stink" about voting machines and "yet they

do not come to the public testing." I did go to a public testing in 2022. I asked these questions (Clerk's answers are in the parentheses): How many ballots are tested? (25); Who marked the ballots? (The vendor); Who programmed the USB drive that counts the test ballots? (The vendor); Who counted or gave the results the machine should tally? (The vendor). This "public testing" is called the "Logic & Accuracy" test. Cyber and computer experts refer to it as a "dog & pony" show and I have come to agree with them.

I strongly recommend everyone make use of the Sunshine Law. It is a tool for citizens to keep "tabs" on their elected officials. The requests are easy to make — helpful information is available on the Attorney General's website.

You can request just about anything — from financial records to emails. Emails, especially, are a great way to find out what your elected officials might be saying about you or your efforts and with whom!

Linda Rantz

GUEST COMMENTARY

From seed to supper: Celebrate agriculture and thank a farmer

BY GARRETT HAWKINS
President, Missouri Farm Bureau

One of my fondest memories with Missouri Farm Bureau (MOFB) goes back to my early years as a Youth Ambassador.

Our local county board of directors invited me to join them during "Thank a Farmer Week." We set up shop inside what was then the Yoss Brothers grocery store, where we cooked soy donuts for shoppers and shared both a smile and a bit of agricultural knowledge.

In later years, I joined local Farm Bureau leaders for Agriculture in the Courthouse lunch meetings with public and elected officials. We enjoyed coming together for fellowship and to discuss agriculture and its economic impact on our rural communities.

This year, "Celebrate Agriculture: Thank a Farmer Week" is March 3-9. The annual program began as a way to show appreciation for

those who provide the nation's safe and abundant supply of food, fuel and fiber. Today, the diversity we see in agriculture is shown by the many acts of service conducted by our members during "Celebrate Agriculture: Thank a Farmer Week." A few county activities include:

- Highlighting farmers who have come before us by reflecting on the history of agriculture and advancements in food production.
- Hosting farm-city breakfasts to bring community patrons together to break bread.
- Connecting with the youngest among us by donating books to local school districts.
- Collecting and donating food supplies to local pantries that serve families in need.

Agriculture is the lifeblood of Missouri. With more than 87,000 farms — the second-most in the nation — dotting our landscape, Missouri is a major exporter of agricultural products. From hay to rice, goats to turkeys, corn, cotton and so much more, these exports contribute billions of

dollars to the state's economy.

But agriculture's impact reaches far beyond economic figures. It's about stewardship of the land, sustainability, and the values that have built our communities. It's about families working together, from generation to generation, to bring food to our tables and care for the earth that sustains us.

Join us as we celebrate this important week. Connect with your local MOFB office to join farmers and ranchers as they work in the community through service projects and agricultural outreach.

By participating in "Celebrate Agriculture: Thank a Farmer Week," you can show your appreciation for the vital role agriculture plays in our lives while giving back to the communities we call home.

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

BLAINE'S BULLETIN

Demanding due diligence on new debit card rules

You've likely heard the term swipe fees or interchange fees regarding the use of debit cards and credit cards. In short, interchange fees are small fees merchants pay to card companies or banks for the ability to accept card payments and use their network. The fees cover everything from data security to points programs. For example, if you've ever had a fraudulent purchase show up on your account and contacted your bank, they likely refunded your money and issued you a new card for free. You have probably also had your bank contact you over suspicious activity on your card, possibly preventing a large fraudulent purchase on your account. Those services are free to you in large part due to interchange fees.

Specifically for debit cards, interchange fees also helped pay for free checking. Before the Dodd-Frank banking reform bill in 2010, they also paid for debit card rewards programs. Most of us barely remember that debit cards used to have rewards programs. That is because once Dodd-Frank was signed into law, it placed a government-enforced cap on debit card interchange fees which, among other things, effectively eliminated the reward programs completely.

If you're comfortable with the government setting prices for goods and services, a cap on a fee that is paid to a bank doesn't sound so bad. You would assume (or at least hope) that lower fees paid by merchants would lead to lower costs on the things we buy from those merchants. In fact, when lobbying for the bill back in 2010, that's what big retailers like Home Depot promised to do. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, that's not what happened.

The Dodd-Frank bill passed in July of 2010. In February 2011 Home Depot's CFO reported to shareholders that the new law increased the company's profits by \$35 million. As suspected, none of it was passed onto customers. In fact, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, 21% of merchants actually increased their prices after the rule went into effect.

You're probably thinking that Home Depot making money at the expense of Visa or a big bank like JP Morgan doesn't make much of a difference to you. Neither of those companies are hurting for money. But the true effect of that provision of Dodd-Frank — often referred to as the Durbin Amendment — was that it increased costs on banking products and jeopardized data security for your accounts.

Last year the Government Accountability Office further determined that the Durbin Amendment has caused significant damage to checking account access. According to a Federal Reserve study, follow-

ing the passage of Dodd-Frank, free checking for lower-income families drastically declined and monthly fees on checking accounts increased. Debit card points pro-



by Blaine Luetkemeyer
3rd District Congressman

grams disappeared, and because data security was instantly underfunded, fraud risk spiked. What seems on the surface like someone else's problem quickly impacted millions of Americans with absolutely no benefit.

Despite all of that, the Federal Reserve is working on a rule that would further cut interchange fees and the services they provide. There is also a bill, the so-called Credit Card Competition Act, that would place similar restrictions on credit cards.

I will soon be introducing a bill to stop the Fed's disastrous plan, and I've been actively fighting the bill to cut credit card services. Both efforts have supporters who claim they'll somehow help everyday people. You may have even seen ads on TV for it, but the facts prove they will achieve the opposite.

If you do hear about this, please consider two things. First, why would we, as a capitalist, free-market society, want the government to dictate the terms of private market contracts and negotiations?

Second, if there is no way to pay for data security or to refund your money after a fraudulent charge how are you going to get your money back? Will you have to simply accept the loss or take a big company like Home Depot to court?

Two very bad options based on two very bad ideas.

CONTACT US: I encourage you to visit my official website or call my offices in Jefferson City (573-635-7232) or Cottleville (636-327-7055) with your questions and concerns. If you want even greater access to what I am working on, please visit my YouTube site, and Facebook page, and keep up-to-date with Twitter and Instagram.

A PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

Health officials encourage vaccination as respiratory illnesses continue to spread

JEFFERSON CITY — With respiratory illnesses continuing to spread, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is encouraging individuals to get vaccinated to protect themselves and loved ones.

This week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced its recommendation for individuals aged 65 and up to receive an additional COVID-19 dose. The recommendation acknowledges the increased risk of severe disease

from COVID-19 in older adults, along with the currently available data on vaccine effectiveness. Those who are immunocompromised were already eligible for an additional dose. Adults 65 years and older are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19,

with more than half of the nation's COVID-19 hospitalizations during October to December 2023 occurring in this age group.

While the seasonal flu activity has not been as high as in previous

See **VACCINES** on Page 8

Requirements for a Letter to the Editor

Be heard. Write letters to the editor, P.O. Box 109, Linn, MO 65051 ; or e-mail to: udnewslinn@gmail.com Include daytime phone number.

Letters to the Editor—concise, polite and on matters of public interest—are invited in the "The Opinions of Our Readers," and "Public Forum" columns. All letters accepted for publication must be signed by the writer and contain an address and telephone number. A letter to the editor must actually be written—or dictated—by the person who signs it. The signature must match the typed name of the writer. Without a signature a letter will not be considered. All letters are subject to verification.

All Clear • from page 1

Utilities Department.

“I have guys who can help who are going to donate their time,” Massey said. “We have guys with experience.”

Aldermen Bill Turner joked that he had just enough experience to know he did not want to get involved.

“We’re still working out the details,” Massey said, hoping the All-Inclusive Playground will be functional for spring.

* Aldermen approved Grellner to set up e-billing and e-payments for the city’s water and sewer billing systems. A one-time fee of \$1,283.52 will include training and setup of the system, with an annual charge of \$88.50 for e-payment and \$120 for e-billing. There will also be a charge of \$.08 per bill sent out.

“That is still cheaper than the \$.58 per postcard I currently mail out,” Grellner explained. “Plus, the time it will save for me will save the city money.”

Residents will have the option to utilize e-billing and e-payments, or they can choose to continue to receive their billing with paper. Grellner noted that she will encourage people to go the e-billing and e-payment route when possible.

She is unsure how customers will sign up for the new features since she hasn’t been through the training yet, but she hopes the process will be easy since it integrates with the current billing system.

* In his annual visit with Linn aldermen, Sheriff Mike Bonham announced that Osage County will now be covered by SafetyNet, which financially helps families of first responders killed in the line of duty. He presented Mayor Massey with a SafetyNet coin.

“Osage County had never had any coverage, but as of now, we’re a part of SafetyNet,” Bonham said. “What they do is totally voluntary and donation-based. We hope to

God this is something that we never have to use, but it’s nice to have.”

According to Bonham, SafeNet provides financial assistance to the immediate families of police officers, EMS, and fire personnel who have died in the line of duty. Families will receive an immediate payout of \$5,000. Then, the organization will help the family by paying off their homes and vehicles and lifting some of the financial burden.

“I think it is a great program,” Bonham said. “It’s something that the city or the county couldn’t do on their own.”

Bonham noted that after the death of a Hermann police officer, he made a bigger push to have the organization cover Osage County.

Bonham said he is thankful for his good working relationship with the city of Linn and the Linn Police Department.

“We like working with the Linn Police Department,” Bonham said. “They’ve been there for us, and we try to be there for them. If there is anything we can do to help, we want to do that.”

“We want everyone in the county to be successful because we’re all part of the same community,” Bonham said. “We want to make you guys successful. If you’re successful, you make the county successful.”

“We have a good community, and it doesn’t stop at the city limits,” Massey agreed.

Bonham asked where the city was with the recent annexation.

Grellner noted that she has done everything the city is required to do and is waiting to hear back from the county.

“I have asked for a letter stating that it is official, and I haven’t received that yet,” Massey said.

Bonham said the Osage County Sheriff’s Office is ready for the Linn Police Department to take over but wanted to ensure it is

official.

Bonham noted that he recently met with Linn Police Chief Sam Ford.

“We’ve worked with him for a couple of days, exchanging ideas and thoughts, and hopefully, that was helpful to him,” Bonham said. “We will continue to be there for him. We just need to make sure and update dispatch once it is official.”

Massey and Grellner said they would check with the county and let Bonham as soon as they knew something.

“We’re really excited about you guys taking over right at the end of the school year,” Bonham said. “We’ll be there for you. We’ll back you up.”

* Presiding Commissioner Darryl Griffin also addressed aldermen during his annual visit. Griffin encouraged the members of them to get more involved with the Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC).

“We invite you to come down and get on one of the committees,” Griffin said. “There is always a good meal. In all the years I’ve been going down there, I’ve never had a bad meal.”

Griffin encouraged aldermen to investigate sewer and sidewalk project grants that opened on March 1.

He noted that Rolla has applied for a \$10 million grant for electric buses.

“It’s coming to a town near you,” Griffin said. “It might be something you want to look into.”

Massey noted the city had looked into grants for electric charging stations but was turned down in the first round of grants because they were focusing on I-70.

“We have two at the college, but we would like to get one or two in town,” Massey said.

Aldermen Steve Boeckmann noted that there were also several charging stations at Jim Butler Automotive.

“We’re going to need them,” Griffin said. “Quite a few people have electric cars.”

“We can’t even think about it without a grant,” Massey said.

Griffin also said he was fighting to reduce the speed limit on Hwy. 50 on the hill by Linn Thriftway and Jim Butler Chevrolet.

“We would like to slow down traffic there, but the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) said that it was the correct speed,” Griffin said. “I totally disagree. We need to slow vehicles down and more clearly mark the lanes. It is confusing. My concerns have kinda fallen on deaf ears, but I’ll keep trying.”

Griffin requested that several aldermen attend one of the meetings with MoDOT when the issue was being discussed.

* Resident Jerry Williams asked aldermen if any progress was being made on the problems with the ditch on his property.

Rowinski noted that while he didn’t have an exact date, the pipe has been purchased, and he hopes to have the project completed by mid-March.

Williams also expressed concern about the continued trash blowing out of a dumpster and littering his property.

“The trash problem is getting worse,” Williams said.

He noted that he watches trash blow out of the dumpster uphill from his property all the time.

“I know where it is coming from,” Williams said. “I think the bigger problem is that the dumpster is always full, and people don’t put their trash in bags, so it is just blowing around.”

Massey asked Williams if he thought that a bigger dumpster would solve the problem.

Williams replied that it wouldn’t hurt since the dumpster always seems full and the lid is never closed.

“It just keeps getting worse,” Williams said.

“We spoke with them before and they said they would make sure the lids were on and it was in good shape,” Massey said. “Maybe they just need a bigger dumpster.”

“Hopefully, they’ll do something because it’s becoming a bigger issue,” Williams said. “I understand that occasionally I’m going to get some trash, and that’s okay, but there has been a lot of trash lately.”

Massey said he understood because he picks up a lot of trash on his property that blows off the square.

* The only remaining item on the punch list for the Jaegers Subdivision Wastewater Regionalization Project is waiting for the asphalt plant to start up so that a driveway damaged during construction can be repaired.

“Then we will pay the retainage and get that project closed out,” Massey said.

Bartlett & West will start to camera and mark the service lines for the Lee Mar Hills Regionalization Project. Engineers will be visiting with property owners and working on-site over the next month.

* Aldermen approved Ordinance #2024-002 to amend the 20232-24 budget by adding lines for the Lee Mar Hills Regionalization grant to the expenditures and revenues for \$1,646,720. A line was added to expenditures for \$44,650 for the M&R SE Line Hwy U for the laagoon.

City Treasurer Janelle Jaegers explained the lines were needed to account for the additional grant funds that Linn will receive.

* Loethen reported that signups for the Osage League Baseball teams has started and should be completed by the end of February. T-ball signups will follow.

“It’s called homework,” Massey said.

Rowinski said the first

will be after that, and everyone is anxious to get their games and practices scheduled,” Loethen said.

He wants to find a way to level out the pickleball and basketball court surface at Linn City Park before any of the court’s boundaries are painted.

Grellner will coordinate with Pools Made Possible to prepare the city pool for the summer.

* Rowinski was not impressed with the recent wastewater classes he took with another city employee. There are two additional days of classes that are yet to be scheduled.

“Neither of us feel confident in taking the test after this class because of how the class went,” he said. “The information was not presented in an easy-to-follow format. I was not impressed by the class in any way.”

Rowinski said he has been researching additional wastewater classes and is not finding any nearby in-person courses.

He hoped to host a Wastewater class in Linn with the Missouri Rural Water Association.

“I think an in-person class would be more beneficial than virtual,” Rowinski said. “We had technical difficulties. The instructor had a lot of distractions in her home. None of it was good for the class.”

Rowinski noted that the instructor is sending out 25 to 30 additional hours of materials for him to review, and he was not sure how he would incorporate that into his current workload.

“It’s called homework,” Massey said.

Rowinski said the first

bigger snow of the year was a learning curve for him and his crew.

“The first pushing snow came while two of us were in a virtual class,” Rowinski said.

Massey expressed frustration that they didn’t stop the class for the winter weather event.

“Everyone else in class and the instructor were not seeing snow,” Rowinski said.

He added that one truck was pushing snow until after the class was over for the day.

“We got several complaints that streets were not being taken care of,” Rowinski said. “There were several streets I didn’t personally check. I need to check with our guys to ensure everything is covered.”

Boeckmann noted that part of Lynnwood Drive wasn’t touched.

“There are retirees that live down there,” Boeckmann said. “They couldn’t get out. If emergency vehicles had needed to get down there, I don’t think they could have made it through.”

“It was definitely a learning curve for us,” Rowinski said.

He bought additional posts for new no-parking and speed-limit signs for several back streets. He has also ordered One Call on the areas where he wants to put the signs.

Rowinski noted that new tires had been put on one of the trucks, and the new variable feed drive (VFDs) had been installed and were working correctly.

The wash bay door has not come in yet, and Rowinski said he would check with Hometown Hardware about that.

He also reported that cameras had been installed at Maguire Park.

Aldermen Turner expressed concerns with cracks on Jefferson Street.

Massey said he would see if Higgins Asphalt could put together a quote to make the repairs and seal the areas when they are in the city to do other work this spring.

* City clean-up will be held on May 10.

* Massey noted that State Tech will have Spring Break from March 4-8, and Skills USA will be at State Technical College from April 4-6.

* Aldermen approved outstanding bills for \$374,716.90.

* The city has the following ending account balances in their governmental fund accounts: general (\$845,804.68), pool (-\$31,844.52), park (\$116,225.99), police training (\$2,992.58), general-improvement and equipment (-\$21,400), park-improvement and equipment (\$4,319.09), and pool-improvement and equipment (\$1,948.24).

The City of Linn has the following ending account balances in their business-type funds: water (\$467,852.29), water replacement (\$101,688.36), sewer (\$503,655.77), sewer replacement (\$47,454.81), and grants (-\$134,547.58).

* Linn holds nine certificates of deposit totaling \$1,281,729.36.

* The next budget meeting will be held on March 12, and the next regular meeting will be held on March 19, both at 5 p.m.

OUTDOORS IN THE OZARKS

Hot dog, Jerry’s coming

Jerry McCoy, who is one of the best north Arkansas guides, especially for White River trout, will be at our swap meet on Saturday with all kinds of antique and modern fishing gear and antique lures. He is an expert on old fishing lures and old gear, and he buys a lot of those. He has written some great articles for my magazine, “The Lightnin’ Ridge outdoor



by LARRY DABLEMONT

journal. But he can tell you the value of old lures, reels, rods, creels, any kind of old time fishing equipment. He is a magnetic personality and you will enjoy talking to him, a man who has 60 years of fishing experience on the lakes and rives of Arkansas. I can’t wait to see him again, one of my favorite fishing partners. That Swap meet is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, the March 9, at the Noble Hills Church Gymnasium about five miles or so north of Springfield on highway 13. It costs 10 dollars to get a table or two to sell your wares but if you are hard pressed I will pay it for you. I do that because I am speaking at 11 a.m. about how I almost became the head of the Fish and Wildlife Service during the Bill and Hillary Clinton presidential admin-

istration. Last time I did that, only four people showed up. This time I am hoping to have twice that many. The money goes to church youth to help them pay for a summer camp they want to go to. I will also be selling my autographed books, 12 of them, and individual copies of nearly 100 outdoor magazines I have published over the last 20 years.

If you have something to sell too, bring your own folding tables, no more than two, 6 or 8 footers. If you don’t have a table, I could rent you one for whatever you would be interested in paying for it perhaps a quarter! If you have an interest, call Steve Johnson, or me whose phone number is 417-414-3128. We have been assured that President Trump will visit if he doesn’t have anything else to do. And many other celebrities will be there!

If you want to come and only have one or two items, like an old-time shotgun or deer rifle or squirrel gun, you can leave it at my table with a price on it and I will sell it for you. I am an amazing salesman! It has been said of me that I could sell mushroom seeds to a garden center. I once sold spaghetti plants to Pizza Hut.

On a more serious note, I will have two interpretive trips this spring. One will be a float trip on the Piney River near Licking. The time will likely be early April whenever water conditions are right. I once was a National Park Service naturalist on the Buffalo River doing such float trips involving up to 40 people at a time. We stopped often to identify the trees and furbearers and birds, we seined fish, taught people how to fish with casting and spinning gear, how to paddle a boat or canoe, and

had a big dinner on a shaded gravel bar with a fish fry as the big attraction. I hope to have several guides for those who need one... the main attraction will be 80 year old river guide Charlie Curran who guided fishermen on the Piney when I was born.

We will also have another trip for up to 15 people back into the wildest area of Truman Lake I know of. We will go there on my pontoon boats, have a mid-day fish fry, and hike into some timbered regions of the lake, then ride around just before sunset to see eagles and migrating spring birds, which should include Canadian loons. If you are interested, contact me to get on the list and we will notify you a week or so before the date we set. There is no charge for either trip.

My office phone is 417-777-5227. Write to me at P.O. Box 22 Bolivar, Mo. 65613. Read more on the computer at larrydablemontoutdoors, or email me...lightninridge47@gmail.com. There is no ‘g’ on the end of lightning.

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MU Health Care and Capital Region Medical Center, building a better, healthier future for all.



Projects • from page 1

went into it. We didn't back down."

Kliethermes expressed his appreciation for the project going through, noting there is quite a bit that still needs to be done, including environmental and archeological studies, before bridge construction can begin.

"But the project is moving forward," Kliethermes said. Commissioners noted they had reached out to MoDOT about the Hwy. 63 bypass. The project was continuing with surveys and studies but was still on the list for completion at some point. MoDOT did not have any further information on a schedule.

Griffin encouraged aldermen to attend the Meramec Regional Planning Commission's (MRPC) monthly meetings. He informed them that MRPC has grants that became available on March 1, and there are grants for sidewalk and sewer projects.

"Two years ago, over \$800,000 was available, and no one used it," Griffin said.

He encouraged aldermen to get involved and come down to share in a good meal catered by Argyle Catering.

Osage County Sheriff Mike Bonham also addressed aldermen.

"We are working on your traffic problems," Bonham said. Bonham said that the department understands there is concern about speeders on Hwy. 63, and on Main Street, when school gets out. Bonham noted he asked the Missouri State Highway Patrol for assistance with Hwy. 63.

"We do listen to you; it's just a matter of having the resources," Bonham said.

The sheriff warned that he plans to have a safety checkpoint when school lets out one day in the future.

"We did one at Linn R-2," Bonham said. "The kids didn't like it, but it does seem to have some effect."

Bonham noted that he is meeting with the Westphalia Volunteer Fire Department this week to share the good news that Osage County First Responders are now a part of SafetyNet, an organization that provides financial assistance to the families of fallen first responders.

"It doesn't cost the county anything," Bonham said. "We hope we never need it, but there are a lot of young families, and I don't know what they would do if they lost their loved one in the line of duty."

SafetyNet only covers fatalities, and Bonham said that someone had recently informed him that there was a need for the same type of program for first responders injured in the line of duty.

Overall, Bonham said he does not see a lot of problems for law enforcement in Westphalia right now. He encour-

aged aldermen to keep communication lines open if they have any concerns.

* Dr. Sam Barnhart addressed aldermen with concerns he had about applying for variances for a business that he plans to open soon.

"The remodel is mostly complete, and as I look through the variance forms and we've been going over the codes," Dr. Barnhart explained, "we've been trying to gauge what we can do to make the business more conforming. As I look at these codes, we are going to need a lot of variances."

Dr. Barnhart is initially planning to reopen the Westphalia Inn with four hotel rooms, a coffee shop, restaurant events with an "Old Westphalia Inn" meal, and possibly a microbrewery.

"Of course, these are all just ideas; nothing has been approved," Dr. Barnhart said. "If this is going to function like we are envisioning it, there is the potential for obstruction of street traffic due to parking."

Dr. Barnhart has plans to excavate the yard and retaining wall on one side of the building to allow additional parking and access to the parking area behind the building.

He is concerned that the parking spaces would be better utilized if he could make them available by using a city alley so there could be a through-way to a street and making traffic to the parking areas one-way.

"When you look at it, it just makes sense," Barnhart explained. "Obviously, this would include a lot of people. If the city is motivated to correct the issue of off-street parking, I don't see how it can be done without creating new streets."

Aldermen discussed other possible routes to make the parking lot more accessible and easier to maneuver.

"We would like to get things open in the next 30 to 60 days," Barnhart said. "I'd like more clarification before we come to a meeting and present this."

Mayor Tammy Massman explained that this was not a realistic timeline or expectation of how the process works. She explained that variances must be submitted for review, and notification has to be given before a special meeting is called and the auxiliary board makes recommendations.

"I understand the process," Dr. Barnhart said.

"The short answer is that it is not possible to get the variances process in less than 60 to 90 days," Massman said.

"We don't have a set schedule," Barnhart replied. "We are just looking for a realistic timeline."

Massman suggested that all the required variances

should be submitted in one request but noted Dr. Barnhart wasn't obligated to do it that way. He could submit the variances individually for consideration.

"But it would make the process a lot more efficient if I submitted them all at once," Dr. Barnhart acknowledged.

"We want to make it more purposeful for you, so we don't have to extend all those periods of time," Massman said. "If we do them all at once, it will save time."

Massman also noted that since the building had been vacated for a time, nothing could be grandfathered in.

Barnhart discussed his other ideas for the building, from replacing stairs to updating the handicapped-accessible ramp. He also considered restricting parking in front of the building to handicap-accessible-only patrons.

"Are handicapped spots something we would do on the street in front of the building?" Alderman Lori Asel asked.

"That street is not level enough to be ADA-approved," Aldermen Delbert Wieberg said.

Massman agreed, saying it was no different than when a different business asked the city to put a spot in front reserved for pick-up orders.

"We can't do anything like that on a public street," Massman said.

Barnhart noted that he could designate handicapped parking on his own parking lot if needed.

Dr. Barnhart will meet with Massman in the coming days to clarify Westphalia codes and variance requirements.

* Aldermen discussed the 2024-25 budget options and received a working template that is very similar to last year's document.

"This is just a working framework," Massman said. "The main thing is to make sure we're in the black and have money earmarked for projects."

The aldermen will vote on the new budget at the March meeting.

* Westphalia business license renewals are due by March 31. Massman said that she has already received several after sending out notices and will send out secondary notices, if needed, by the middle of the month.

* Base rock has been placed under and around the recycle bins. Massman asked Republic Services to move the recycle bins perpendicular to the road instead of parallel to the road to stop driving around the recycle bin and encroaching on the field.

Kliethermes asked if the recycle bin was only for city residents. Massman responded that the city residents ultimately foot the bill for the recycle bin. However, it is in-

cluded free of charge in the contract. She noted that there is no way to patrol who uses the recycle bin, but they don't publish that it is for public use.

* The city is still waiting for the survey on the street near the Senior Citizen Center.

* Wieberg asked about an email he had received from a resident regarding the impact of Fatima High School potentially paving their entire parking lot will have on the stormwater and how it will affect the wastewater plant.

"If they are going to pave those lots, the way the land lays, I think it's going to come down into the upper driveway and the treatment plant," Wieberg said. "If they are going to pave all of that, they are going to need to install drop boxes and control the stormwater."

Massman said that she had had several conversations with Fatima officials, and nothing had been decided regarding this situation yet.

"If the district thinks it is necessary, they will talk to the Board of Aldermen," Massman said. "They are working with an engineering firm that has all our maps, and that would be something they would need to formally present as a district and speak with us. It's an issue that's not even an issue yet and probably won't ever be an issue."

* Aaron Lachowicz with Mid Mo Operations presented the report for the Westphalia wastewater system, noting that there was nothing much to report.

Lachowicz said that quarterly samples had been collected, as well as annual sludge and soil samples. The air filter and probe had been replaced.

"Overall, there has just not been much going on," Lachowicz said.

* Aldermen approved the following expenses for the month: city (\$3,311.11), sewer (\$6,500.47), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) (\$2,066.51), and special road district (\$369.40).

* Westphalia had the following receipts for the month: city (\$12,465.93), sewer (\$8,660.41), and special road district (\$14,279).

* The city had the following ending account balances: checking (\$176,376.17), sewer checking (\$71,996.12), special road district checking (\$96,731.22), ARPA checking (\$54,513.37), and special road district savings (\$5,119.74).

* Westphalia holds the following certificates of deposit: city (\$449,935.15), sewer (\$534,350.85), and special road district (\$532,964.21).

* The next meeting will be held on March 26 at 6 p.m.

Vaccines • from page 6

ous seasons, Missouri is currently experiencing its highest level of activity thus far for the 2023–24 flu season, which runs from October to May. Vaccination can still provide benefit by helping to protect against severe illness.

Vaccination can still provide benefit this season by helping to protect against

severe illnesses. Everyone six months and older is eligible to get a flu vaccine. It takes two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against the viruses.

An RSV vaccine is recommended for adults 60 and older to protect from severe RSV illness. It is given as a single dose

and can be prescribed by a health care provider. Adults 60 or older should talk to their health care provider to determine if the RSV vaccine is right for them. Options are also available for young children and pregnant women. Families should discuss available options with their health care provider.

In addition to prevention, everyday preventive actions can also reduce the likelihood of spreading illness:

- Stay home when sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or shirt sleeve, not your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Avoid touching your face.
 - Avoid close contact with others such as kissing, shaking hands, or sharing cups and eating utensils.
 - Clean frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and mobile devices.
- To find COVID-19 or flu vaccines near you, visit Vaccines.gov.

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Fatima FCCLA News

BY: MEGAN GABELSBERGER
FATIMA FCCLA

FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) is a national student-led organization that focuses on improving leadership skills in high school students in order to prepare them for life beyond high school in their families, careers, and communities. Fatima FCCLA is very active and focuses on giving back to our school and community.

FCCLA had multiple service projects that they did this year. They made hats for local homeless shelters and dog toys for local animal shelters. During the holiday season, they made chicken pot pies for the Good Shepherd food pantry. Then they sang Christmas carols along the streets of Westphalia. They also made stockings filled with basic commodities for the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center.

Recently, once the weather turned nice, they picked up trash along the streets of Westphalia.

Fatima FCCLA hosts many events throughout the year. They hosted Barnwarming with FFA where Toby Bruce and Olivia Hale won Barnwarming King and Queen. Around Halloween they had a Minecraft themed trunk in the PTO's Trunk or Treat. They won first place for their trunk! FCCLA participates in many national programs. One of those is Student Body, which focuses on helping members learn how to make responsible choices for their mental and physical health. The Student Body Program at Fatima chose to host a yoga night for students with healthy snacks. Another national program they did was Stand Up which is a program where students advocate activities to improve the quality of life. Students taught second, third and fourth grade about bullying and how to prevent it. They helped the kids make a rainbow mural at school. Finally, the last national program they participated in was Families First. This is a program that encourages students to explore, understand, and appreciate the diverse aspects of family life. Members chose to teach kindergarten through second graders about first aid and helped them make first aid kits.

Fatima FCCLA has had several conferences and meetings they attended this year. The first conference they attended was the Fall State Leadership Conference where they learned out of this world leadership skills. They attended several sessions during the conference where



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Fatima's FCCLA are left to right, front row: Megan Kliethermes, Isabella Schaben, Maya Libbert and Megan Gabelsberger; second row: Ella Massman, Anna Rakestraw, Reese Heckemeyer and Nadine Schmitz; third row: Lily Gregory, Madeline Carwile, Lilian Troesser, Jeana Abbott, Ava Wingate and Holly Bliss; fourth row: Breanna Rademan, Addyson Wibers, Draven Cole, Mackenzie Jones and Azlyn Luebbert; fifth row: Ava Kramer, Maggie Dickneite, Amelia Carwile, Chloe Adamson, Ava Buhr and Lucy Crede; and back row: Advisors Erica Libbert and Tara Vignola.

they learned how to become a better leader. They also had several students attend the Regional 13 Meeting. There they went to several breakout sessions, learned more about FCCLA, and made cards for veterans. Senator Eslinger talked to them during the Region 13 Meeting about getting the most out of life and not letting anybody stand in their way. Fatima FCCLA also plans to send 10 students to the Spring State Leadership Conference in March.

FCCLA competes in many competitions throughout the year. The big one they compete in is STAR events. STAR events stands for Students Taking Action with Recognition. There were 13 students that competed at the regional level in multiple different categories. Of the 13 students that competed, 10 of them qualified for the state competition. They will now compete at state during the Spring State Leadership Conference in March.

Regional elections also took place during the STAR event competition. This year, Claire Baumhoer was elected as regional president, Lily Gregory was elected as regional vice president, and Megan Gabelsberger was elected as

the state officer candidate for Region 13.

The Lifesmarts team also qualified for the state competition in Jefferson City Feb. 14. They earned third place after a hard fought battle in the semi-final round. The team consisted of Maya Libbert, Nadine Schmitz, Megan Kliethermes, Reese Heckemeyer, and Anna Rakestraw.

To finish off the year Fatima FCCLA plans to host two more service projects. They will be preparing the meal for drama club's dinner theater March 9 and will host a "Knight for a Princess" father/daughter dance for the elementary school kids.

Elections are also coming up March 27 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Finally to end the year, they will have their annual banquet filled with lots of laughter and tears when the new officers replace the old ones and the seniors say goodbye April 22.

Fatima FCCLA has had an eventful year filled with great success and made a positive impact on our school and community.



Pictured left to right, front row: Elijah Kliethermes, Colton Rachattelelle, Emily Greer and Hayden Jaegers; second row: Lori Greer, Tammy Wagner, Leo Massman, Izabella Backes, Brayden Backes, Laura Rachattelelle and Debbie Backes; and third row: Landon Epps, Jason Greer, Naomi Snyder and Travis Greer. PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBBIE BACKES

Linn Scouts BSA hold Court of Honor

Linn Scouts BSA Troop 17 and 3017 held a Court of Honor Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024. Colton Rachattelelle planned the Court of Honor and served as master of ceremony. He was assisted by Izabella Backes.

Troop 17 had five rank advancements earned along with 10 merit badges, three Eagle Bronze Palm pins, two Eagle Gold Palm pins and two Eagle Silver Palm pins. Troop 3017 had one rank advancement earned along with four merit badges.

The following scouts and awards were recognized:

Troop 17
Brayden Backes: Tenderfoot Rank, Farm Mechanics and First Aid merit badges;
Jason Greer: Life Scout Rank;
Hayden Jaegers: Scout Rank and First Aid merit badge;

Elijah Kliethermes: Chess and First Aid merit badges;
Leo Massman: First Aid merit badge;
Stuart Massman: Communication, Cooking and Personal Management merit badges;
Tyler Wagner: Eagle Scout Rank; three Bronze Eagle Palm pins, two Gold Eagle Palm pins, and two Silver Eagle Palm pins;
Brandon Youtzy: Scout Rank and First Aid merit badge.

Troop 3017
Izabella Backes: Tenderfoot Rank and First Aid merit badge;
Emily Greer: Environmental Science, First Aid and Genealogy merit badges.

Yay for daylight savings time! My car clock is finally right again!

Don't see it as losing an hour. See it as losing all the excuses that were holding you back.

Don't forget to adjust all the clocks you never look at because you have a phone!

It's National "How Do I Change the Clock on my Microwave" Day!

-Shutterstock



2 a.m.
Sunday, March 10

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Delilah Jolea Titus

Taylor and Catlin Titus proudly welcomed into the world, their daughter, Delilah, born Nov. 7, 2023.

She was delightfully welcomed home by siblings, Theo, Naomi and Aiden.

Delta Dental of Missouri's "Land of Smiles Show" visits St. Joseph Catholic School

BY: MERISA ASHBAUGH
SR. ACCT. EXECUTIVE
merisa@hausergrouppr.com

WESTPHALIA - It's National Children's Dental Health Month and Delta Dental of Missouri's popular, award-winning Land of Smiles® dental education program is on the road, taking the crusade for healthy teeth to more than 18,400 youngsters at 77 schools across the state in the coming weeks. The cast of dynamic superhero characters made their most recent stop in Westphalia for a performance at Saint Joseph Catholic School, teaching good dental health habits to 91 students in kindergarten through third grade.

The Land of Smiles® experience follows superhero Captain Super Grin® as he defeats his nemesis, Caz CavitySM, with help from his sidekicks Terri Tooth FairySM and ToothpickSM. Students learn the importance of brushing teeth twice a day, flossing, using mouthwash, eating healthy foods and visiting the dentist regularly. The program includes an oral health curriculum that adheres to National Health Education Standards, as well as standards for Missouri. It contains engaging, age-appropriate materials to make learning about dental health entertaining for kids and includes activity sheets, which are also available in Spanish. Delta Dental of Missouri also offers free "smile bags" to schools for students who participate in the program. Each bag includes a toothbrush, toothpaste and dental floss to help students practice the good oral health habits they learn. A newly created short video, which recaps important oral health tips the program teaches children in schools, is now available for caregivers and can be found at <https://www.landofsmilesmo.org/parent-caregiver-information>. "Our lively Land of Smiles show makes

learning about dental health truly fun for kids, but most importantly, it's memorable," said Stacy Harris, supervisor of community outreach at Delta Dental of Missouri. "Pre- and post-show testing demonstrates that, on average, students show a nearly 30% increase in their good oral health behavior and knowledge after seeing a performance. That's the positive outcome we all want."

Since its inception in the fall of 2002, the Delta Dental of Missouri's Land of Smiles® program has taught more than 1.2 million kids how to take care of their growing smiles through more than 6,000

onsite and virtual performances at schools in 113 Missouri counties. At least 25% of schools receiving the program have more than 80% of students enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program. The Land of Smiles® experience is provided free of charge to schools, courtesy of Delta Dental of Missouri.

Local teachers, school nurses and principals are invited to visit www.LandofSmilesMO.org to request the in-person program or the online program on a date and time that works for their students.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
for Osage County R-III
Fatima Elementary School District

will be held

**Monday, March 18 &
Tuesday, March 19, 2024**

You need to make an appointment to register your child if he/she will be five years old before August 1, 2024. Please call 455-2375x2001. You must bring a Birth Certificate, Social Security Card and Immunization Record and the child with you when you register.

Market in the PARK

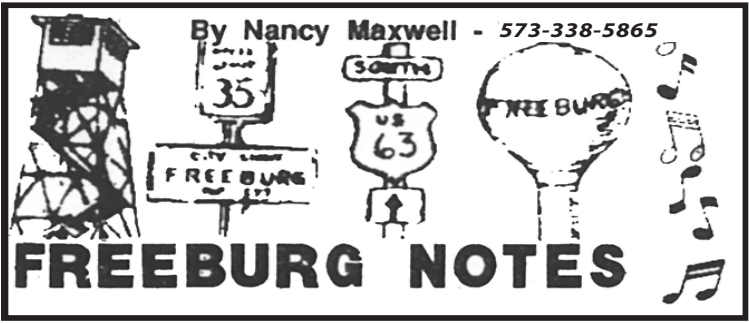
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Saturday, April 20

8AM-2PM

Memorial Park
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Have a lot of unwanted items around the house? Handmade crafts? Gather everything for this huge outdoor sale! Spaces are \$20; example: truck & trailer is two spaces. For more info or to learn how to register, call 573-437-8231 or visit <https://www.cityofowensville.com/events>.



morning. Hope you were able to get out and enjoy the warm sunny weekend – if we could have just got the wind to calm down a bit it would have been a perfect day! Last week I mentioned that several ladies in town had daffodils blooming – mine are now blooming as well which make my yard look so pretty. Noticed that my forsythia bush is full of pretty yellow flowers as well. Guess that “cold” spell we had last week didn't really hurt any of the flowers. Meteorologically speaking, the official first day of spring is March 1 (and lasts till May 31). Weather scientists divide the year into quarters to make it easier to compare seasonal and monthly statistics from one year to the next! The astronomically first day of spring is marked by the spring equinox which is March 19 this year.

Our sincere sympathy to Kevin and Rhonda Allen, Cameron and Jenn Allen and Taylor and Tori Allen and their families on the death of their mother and grandmother, Joan Allen, 83, Vienna who died Feb. 23 at Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 2 at Birmingham-Martin Funeral Home Chapel in Vienna. Interment followed in the Vienna Public Cemetery.

Gerhard and Virginia Bax and George and Dorothy Robertson enjoyed supper last Saturday at Claysville Store near Hartsburg – they were helping Dorothy celebrate her 74th birthday.

Happy birthday also to Garrett Borgmeyer who celebrated his 20th birthday Feb. 29; to Michael Oliver who celebrated his 17th birthday March 1; to Cole Bauer who celebrated his 33rd birthday March 1; to Derek Stuecken who celebrated his 51st birthday March 1; to Rose Ann Scheulen who celebrated her birthday March 1; to Krista Welschmeyer who celebrated her 51st birthday March 1; to Chris Fick who celebrated her 89th birthday March 2; to Brenda Wansing who celebrated her 43rd birthday March 2; to Trey Rudroff who celebrated his 36th birthday March 2; to Jamie Wiles who celebrated his 51st birthday March 2; to Abe and Eli Woodruff who celebrated their 14th birthdays March 2; to Kaylie Dickneite who celebrated her eighth birthday March 3; to Patrick Schnieders who celebrated his 29th birthday March 3; to Dusty Spurge who celebrated his birthday March 4; to Morgan Fick who celebrated her 29th birthday March 4; to Beth Linnenbrink who celebrated her 47th birthday March 4; to Austin Bax who celebrated his 12th birthday March 6; to Isaac Falter who celebrated his 20th birthday March 6; to Madison Mebruer who celebrated her 17th birthday March 6; to Linda Hoffman who celebrated her 70th birthday March 6; to Joe Haller who celebrated his 28th birthday March 6; to Katy Haller who celebrated her 28th birthday March 6; and to Fletcher Struempf who celebrated his third birthday March 6.

Fatima Elementary school recently sent out report cards and making the “A” honor roll were Sadie Phillips, Eriah Redel-Sharisin, Ben Struempf. Making the “B” honor roll were Kinlee Perkins and Allis Oliver. Congratulations.

Monday evening the Holy Family Lady Knights fifth/sixth grade girls basketball team lost 25-11 to the Immaculate Conception Lady Angels White (Jefferson City) in the Catholic Bowl. That brought their season to an end - they had fun and learned a lot and I'm sure they are looking forward to next year!

Congratulations to Kinzie Haller (12 year old) and Kamryn Lee (11 year old) who won in their age group at Regional Knights of Columbus free throw contest at Fr. Tolton High School in Columbia. The girls will now compete in the state competition Sunday, March 10 at Fr. Tolton High School in Columbia. Good luck, girls.

Holy Family School hosted the St. Bellerme Speech Meet Friday morning. In the Duet category Addie Rudroff and Lydia Welschmeyer won a red ribbon; Maura Falter and Lily Falter earned a red ribbon; Kamryn Lee and Kamryn Stuecken won a blue ribbon; Riley Stieffermann and Kendal Perrey won a blue ribbon; Oliver Fick and Raleigh Burkhardt won a red ribbon; and Chloe Brune and Molly Struempf won a blue ribbon. Congratulations!

Representing Sacred Heart School were Evan Koenigsfeld, Gavin Kempker, Lance Koenigsfeld, Sean Luebbert, Vincent Troesser and Alex Frank who all won blue ribbons in the Duet category. Congratulations!

Friday evening Paralee Kloeppel, Pam Richter, Ruth Falter, Brenda Duden-hoeffer and I enjoyed supper at Chop House in Linn before attending the production of the comedy “Always a Bridesmaid” at the Community Center presented by the Osage Community Players. What a great show – very funny and they all did a super job! Our daughter, Karla Bridges was in the play – she had

Good

the role of Libby Ruth – with that wig on I almost didn't recognize her when she came on stage! Hubby, Steven, and Mark Kloeppel were helping back stage and collecting tickets for the play.

If anyone would like to purchase an Easter lily in memory of a loved one to be used in Sacred Heart Church you are asked to place your money (\$13) and the name of the person(s) it is in memory of in and envelope marked “Easter flower” and put it in the collection basket or give to the rectory no later than March 17.

If you would like to donate an Easter flower to be used in Holy Family Church during the Easter season you can put your money (\$15) and the name of the person(s) it is in memory of in an envelope marked “Easter flower” and put it in the collection basket at church by Sunday, March 24.

Thursday evening the Holy Family Lady Knights seventh/eighth grade girls basketball team lost a heart breaker to St. George Lady Bulldogs in the Catholic Bowl. The Lady Knights were down by 10 – came back and tied it and with only four seconds left on the clock the Lady Bulldogs hit a three point basket to win the game!

Holy Family School and Sacred Heart School will not be in session Friday, March 8 due to the teachers Religious Retreat day. Fatima High School will be in session Friday, March 8.

Ron and Paralee Kloeppel helped their great-granddaughter, Brooklyn Bailey, celebrate her second birthday with a party Saturday at the home of her grandparents, Kirk and Sheila Bailey in Jefferson City.

Theresa Elam and Tracy Dill returned home Saturday following a fun one-week cruise on the Carnival Mardi Gras. The ladies boarded the ship at Cape Canaveral, Fla. and made stops in San Juan, Dominican Republic and Grand Turk. They had a great time on the high seas!

The Fatima Drama Club will be presenting two 1-Act Comedies, “Gossip” by Brian Hampton and “Alienated” by Ken Pruess Friday, March 8 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 9 in the school gym. Show the kids your support – they have been putting in some long hours practicing.

Visiting Saturday with Betty Kating were Doug and Sandy Kremer of Loose Creek, Jacob and Madison Kremer and children, Hank and Walker, of Jefferson City and Katie, Morgan and Avery Schoffler of Centertown.

Kindergarten registration for new students to Holy Family School will be held the week of March 11-15. If you are new to Holy Family, please call the school office at 573-744-5200 to schedule an appointment for your child.

Sacred Heart Preschool and Kindergarten registration is now open. If you are interested in sending your child to Sacred Heart for the 2024-25 school year you can contact the school office at 573-744-5898 for registration information.

Gerhard and Virginia Bax enjoyed Saturday to Monday at the Lake of the Ozarks. Sunday afternoon Cindy Luebbering of Taos came down to enjoy some fishing with her dad. In spite of the windy day they had a good time fishing.

The Holy Family fifth-eighth grade students will have the Living Stations Monday, March 25 at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Jared and Taylor Backues and children, Maverick and Grace of O'Fallon visited over the weekend with his mother, Joy James and other family members in the area.

Saturday afternoon the Holy Family Knights seventh/eighth grade boys basketball team lost 37-25 to the Immaculate Conception Angels in the Catholic Bowl. Toby Libbert scored 10 points, Charlie Berhorst scored six points, Kaden Haller scored three points and Billie Haines scored six points.

The Relay for Hope (Welschmeyer family) Relay for Life team will be hosting a steak night at the Eagles in Vienna Saturday, March 16 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. There will also be a pie auction at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Relay for Life.

The Holy Family Knights and Lady Knights archery team finished first in the Middle Team #1 Saturday at the Tipton High School State qualifier with a score of 3012.

Eli Woodruff scored a 274 finishing third in the eighth grade boys ranking; Will Borgmeyer scored a 273 to finish third in the seventh grade boys ranking – Will also shot a perfect 50 at 10 meters! Toby Libbert scored a 271 to finish sixth in the eighth grade boys ranking; Alexis Rudroff scored a 263 to finish fourth in the seventh grade girls ranking; Gavin Schlotke scored 253 to finish fourth in the fifth grade boys ranking; Kamryn Lee scored 248 to finish second in the sixth grade girls ranking; Abe Woodruff scored a 246 to finish ninth in the eighth grade boys ranking; Lily Falter scored a 242 to finish eighth in the seventh grade girls ranking; Silas Nevins scored a 241 to finish seventh in the boys fifth grade ranking; Kendal Perrey scored a 239 to finish fourth in the fifth grade girls ranking; Carter Bax scored a 232 to finish third in the fourth grade boys ranking; Sean Luebbert scored a 230 to finish ninth in the fifth grade boys ranking; Raleigh Burkhardt scored a 220 to finish 12th in the fifth grade boys ranking; Tyler Reichel scored a 213 to finish 18th in the eighth grade boys ranking; Abigail Campbell scored a 201 to finish second in the fourth grade girls ranking; Elsie Falter scored a 156 to finish fourth in the fourth grade girls ranking.

The team will now participate in the State Meet in Branson. Toby Libbert, Alexis Rudroff, Will Borgmeyer and Eli Woodruff qualified as individual at

Megan will share her journey in starting her farm, as well as some of the products and services she offers. The presentation is at noon at the Community Center in Pershing following a carry-in lunch. All are welcome!

Tour Temple Beth El

St. James and Zion-St. Peter United Church of Christ have organized a tour of Temple Beth El in Jefferson City. This temple is the oldest west of the Mississippi and one of the oldest in the nation.

The tour is 10 a.m., next Saturday, March 16, at 318 Monroe St., in Jefferson City. No sign-up or reservations are needed. Just show up to be on the tour and learn more about this important home of the Jewish faith. Everyone is invited.

Clean up and clean out

Just a reminder that the City of Chamois residential bulk clean up is coming up in three weeks, so now is the time to go through your things and get those items ready for pick up. Monday, March 25, Republic Services will be picking up bulky items inside the city limits.

All items must be at the curb by 5 a.m. that day. All items must be bagged or bundled so they can be easily handled by one person. All lumber and other items of length must be cut in four-foot or smaller lengths and tied in bundles.

The following items will NOT be allowed and will not be picked up: hazardous waste; liquid waste such as oil, paints, or pesticides; yard waste; car parts; appliances; and concrete.

Let me hear from you! Please share your news with me at carolcmnews@gmail.com or text/call me at 314-452-4140.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY NANCY MAXWELL

Winning the Sacred Heart Science Fair in Life Science category was Reese Nivens.



Winning the Sacred Heart Science Fair in the Physical Science category was Lance Koenigsfeld.

Tier 1 or Tier 2 for the state meet. Congratulations.

The archers will have a Fun Shoot Night Monday, March 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. at Holy Family School.

The Holy Family Students will lead the Stations of the Cross Thursday, March 7 at 7:45 a.m. and the Freeburg Knights of Columbus will lead the Stations of the Cross Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

My brother, Stephan Johannesmeyer of Westphalia, stopped by Sunday afternoon for a visit and took advantage of the sunny warm day when Steven and Stephan decided to take our side-by-side down to the old farm to ride around and look things over. It had been some time since Stephan had been down there.

Fatima High School will host it's annual “Senior Citizens' Day” Thursday, March 21. There will be a musical program at 11:30 a.m. in the gym followed by lunch at 12:40 p.m. in the cafeteria. There will be a bus available to take seniors to the school – it will leave Holy Family Church parking lot at 10:35 a.m. and at the Sacred Heart Church parking lot at 10:50 a.m.

Happy anniversary to Gary and Pam Storey who celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary March 4 and to Dale and Kaitlin Struempf who celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary March 6.

Confirmation will be held Wednesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. at Holy Family Church for students from Holy Family and Sacred Heart. Confirmation practice for candidates and sponsors will be held Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. at Holy Family Church.

Mark your calendars – Fatima High School will be hosting a blood drive Tuesday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school gym. The American Red Cross is in dire need of blood donations – please help them reach their goal.

Have a good week, pray for rain and remember “A beautiful face will age, a beautiful body will change but a beautiful soul will always be a beautiful soul!”



Senior Night sails Friday

This Friday, it's “old timers” vs. current students in the Senior Night basketball game at Chamois High School. Any Pirate alumni who would like to play in the basketball game can still get in on the action. Just call the school to get your names on the list.

After the game and other activities, we will be recognizing the CHS Class of 2024. Come celebrate these young people and their accomplishments during their time at Chamois High School. Concessions will be available, including fried oreos! Yum! We'll see you at 6 p.m. Friday in the gym.

Come hungry Saturday

That wonderful BBQ smell will be permeating Main Street this Saturday. The Junior Class will be hosting a pork burger and baked goods sale on the Chamois Farmers Market lot from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sales will help these students fund their Senior Class trip next year. The Class of 2025 includes: Skyler Bottoms, Dawson Brandt, Rylee Davis, Caleb Keilholz, William Kirsch, Melvin McCleary, Kendall Mitchem, Landen Northway, Matthew Rinne and Emma Weed.

Spring forward Sunday morning

Don't forget to move your clocks forward one hour this Sunday. That means more hours of daylight in the evenings. More time to work

outside in the garden, more time to ride my bike, more time to walk the dogs, more time to shop after school. It's not really more time, it just feels like that!

Celebrating the Oscars

This Sunday is also the Oscar awards ceremony. We don't go to the movies that much any more, but this year I actually saw three of the nominees for best picture–“Barbie,” “Killers of the Flower Moon,” and “Oppenheimer.”

While I got some laughs from “Barbie,” I didn't see it as the champion of feminism that some were claiming. Maybe I'm just too old. I was most happy to see Alan had a role in the movie. My sister had that doll, and I always felt he never got the appreciation he deserved with Ken around!

I read the book “Killers of the Flower Moon,” before seeing the movie. I thought there were some good performances in the movie, but as usual, the book was better, even with this one being non-fiction. The role of the FBI was only told in a minimal way in the movie, whereas the solving of the horrific crimes against the Osage people were the focus of the book.

“Oppenheimer” was jarring and unnerving to watch. I did not like the main character at all, but I guess that was the point. The fear of Communism during that time in our history was palpable in the movie. Again, the performances were well done.

We'll see Sunday who wins.

Flower Farm program rescheduled

The Fellowship Crusaders from St. James UCC in Morrison and Zion-St. Peter's in Pershing had a program with Megan Rudroff of Rudy Lane Flower Farm, Rich Fountain, last month that got snowed out. This month, the program is back on, set for Friday, March 15. Let's hope there's no snow next week!

IF YOU FIND MISTAKES

in this publication, please consider that they are there for a purpose.

We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes!



St. Aubert • from page 10

headed to Sarah's to pick up Lorelei so we could go to confirmation practice at St. Stanislaus Church.

Thursday I subbed at Moreau Heights School as a lunch lady. I ran some errands after work. I ate a quick supper and headed to Osage Community Center to see the Osage Community Players perform "Always a Bridesmaid" a Jones Hope Wooten comedy. It was really good. This is the first time I have ever went to the plays and look forward to going again. I made my pies for the Seafood Buffet. I tried some new creations of Oreo cookie pie and Peanut Butter Oreo pies with variations of toppings. They really looked good and I was glad I can't have chocolate and be tempted to eat them.

Friday I went to take care of the wood stove and was surprised that it was kinda raining/snowing. I went into Jefferson City and met up with my friend Sue. We went to a rummage sale and did a little shopping. I dropped her off and went to pick up some boxes for the Old School. I headed to Linn, to drop of the boxes and check on my booth. I went home and had a early lunch. I went to the bank in Chamois and dropped my pies off at the church hall. I went back home to do a little paperwork before heading down to the seafood buffet and raffle. I worked from 3 to 9 p.m. and I was tired when I finally got home. I took care of the wood stove and tried to relax a little.

Saturday I got up early and took care of the stove. I went to get my hair fixed and took some more boxes to the Old School. I went by Sarah's and talked with Caroline.

I headed to Trinity Lutheran school for Caroline's archery game. She did really good. She told me she would have done better but she had a headache. I took her to Jimmy Johns for lunch. We went to the Capitol Mall, I picked up my new dress. I told her I had a free coupon for an item at Bath and Body Works if she wanted to pick something out. She talked me into buying a few items for her. We went to Menards and I bought something there for her too. We went to Sam's and I finally took her home.

She told me she had a good time. That's all that matters to me. I enjoyed having some quality time with her. I came home and almost fell asleep and just rested. Sarah called and said they were going to come down and pick up the tables for the rummage sale. We started going through stuff and got a lot of things together for the rummage sale. We worked in the garage and basement. We had a combination supper and I don't have much left in the fridge. I haven't really done any cooking since Bernie passed away. They left and I cleaned up the kitchen, marked more items and had some time for reading before going to bed.

Sunday I got up and went to Mass at Our Lady, Help of Christians Church in Frankenstein. I sat with my good friends Bob and Bonnie. I talked to a couple of friends after church and headed home. I went through some items on the deck and worked in my flower beds. I headed to Jefferson City to attend the prayer service for Alfred Koetting, he was married to Bernie's cousin Janet. The service was held at Trimble Funeral Home. I ran into Bernie's brother Larry and some of his cousins. I thought I was ready to go to a funeral, but I got sorta upset and had to leave after talking with Janet. Today marks the one month of Bernie's departure. I can't believe he has been gone for a month, time goes way too fast. I stopped at Taco Bell for a late lunch, got gas in Taos and headed home. Sarah and Aaron were there loading some items up to take to her house for the upcoming huge estate sale Saturday, March 9. I loaded up my car and went to their house and we had lots to unload. Their truck inside and bed, a small trailer, Aaron's car and mine. I have another load to take there this week. This is one sale you do not want to miss. I never dreamed that Bernie had so much stuff and some of it was from the house too.

Our cat "Kitty" has been missing for 10 days and I was so afraid that something happened to her. She was sorta upset that Bernie never came out and picked her up and he would pet her everyday. I was in charge of feeding her twice a day. Well, while working in the garage Saturday Aaron called Sarah over to the one side and there she was

laying in the old car like she went to sleep and never woke up. Aaron took her to the pet cemetery and buried her. We have had her for 16 years. I hope she didn't die of a broken heart. She was a good cat. I have never been a cat lover, but she was a good cat for outside.

I don't know if its the warmer weather or going through items, but I had a big black spider in the house. It ran under the refrigerator before I could kill it, but then it came back around and I saw it and stomped on it. I hate those things and I am very allergic to them.

Schollmeyer news

From Dave

He reports that him and Jim have been working around the shop and house. He has been doing some paperwork too.

From Fred

Friday evening Fred and Diane worked at the seafood Buffet at the church hall in Chamois.

Saturday the Schollmeyer's were in Tipton to watch their grandchildren Jack and Carly compete in an archery tournament at the High school.

From Crystal

Monday Hank attended Pirates Academy at school. Carly started track practice. Then all three went to a 4-H meeting. Wednesday was spring pictures at school with sports and club photos. Rocco, our shorkie, got a hair cut. Thursday and Friday Nick and I were gone for a work conference in Branson. Friday Jack and Hank helped with the church fish fry while Carly had track practice followed by volleyball practice. They ended the evening with Hank's baseball practice at State Tech. Saturday Jack and Carly shot NASP at Tipton High School. Jack placed second High School Division and overall with 292 and Carly placed first Middle School Division with 282. After church Sunday Hank went to a classmates house to play. The rest of us did work around the house. I took advantage of the nice weather to work on the landscaping.

Recipe of the Week Oreo Pie

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 1/2 cup powdered sugar
12 oz. cool whip, thawed

Mix together, blend well. Pour into a graham cracker crust.

Break Oreos on top and drizzle with chocolate syrup
Peanut butter Pie
(same recipe as above)

Add 1 cup peanut butter

*You can add any kind of topping you want. I used pecan halves, chocolate chips, crushed Oreos and drizzle with chocolate syrup.

Words of wisdom

The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments. Whoever says, "I know him," but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him. This is the way we may know that we are in union with him: whoever claims to abide in him ought to live [just] as he lived

Please pray for Claire Logan, the little girl that is so sick. I don't know her but have been following updates on her progress. She needs prayers everyday. Thank you.

Please continue to pray for me. I miss Bernie so much and I have been doing better with everything, but some days are harder than others.

Pray for our country and our freedom that we all take for granted. Pray for all those sick and especially the elderly. Pray for all those that we hold in the silence of our hearts.

Take time to enjoy the beautiful weather. Do a good deed for someone. Be kind, be happy, be safe!

Have a good week. If you have any comments or suggestions to my news, please contact me. I am just a phone call away.

Who except God can give you peace?

Let GO Let GOD

Remember When... from the pages of our past

100 YEARS AGO UNTERRIFIED DEMOCRAT FEBRUARY 27, 1924

The groundhog saw his shadow out here and crawled back into his hole for six more weeks they say. Just so he stays out then.

Everyone who knew Ben Otto was shocked at his tragic and untimely death, the result of burns inflicted by the explosion of a bucket of gasoline on one of the highways in Cole County one night of last week. He was buried in Vienna, his former home Friday morning. Mr. Otto was a most genial gentleman who made friends of all with whom he came in contact. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Otto, old time residents of Vienna, and a cousin of Anton and Joseph Otto of Koeltztown.

75 YEARS AGO UNTERRIFIED DEMOCRAT MARCH 3, 1949

Plans completed for bull exhibit

Plans for the first Osage County Bull Exhibit to be held in cooperation with the Mid-Missouri Hereford Breeders Association, are completed, says Walter Heidlage, County Agent.

The exhibit will be held at the fairgrounds in Linn Saturday afternoon March 5, beginning at 1 p.m. The Hereford Association, and others, are bringing in their herd bulls for all to see, then comparisons with the one they are using, may be made.

The bulls will not be placed one over the other, says Heidlage, but each animal will be taken separately and the good and bad points discussed. The purpose of this is so that the type of animal needed to improve herds and to produce the kind of beef the consumer wants, can be learned by those who attend.

The bulls shown will be taken right out of the lot, and brought to Linn. No extra feed or care has been given them by the breeders.

Voters to ballot on purchase of fire equipment

The Linn city council's present plans are for a vote on the purchase of a new fire engine and erection of a firehouse, at the municipal election the first Tuesday in April.

The council believes the people of Linn strongly favor purchase of the equipment necessary to insure adequate fire protection for the city, which at the same time will lower fire insurance rates.

New car supply catching up with demand dealers say

Waiting lists for new cars are growing shorter in this area, but there are still waiting lists, a survey of the Ford, Kaiser-Frazier and Chevrolet agencies in Linn and the De-Soto-Plymouth agency at Westphalia, reveals.

For the higher priced models there is no great delay. Of course if one wants a lower priced automobile, color and body styles must be more or less forgotten because the lower priced car may come in any one of half a dozen colors, and it may have two or four doors, with or without, many of the extras that some motorists insist upon, and others shun.

EDITORIAL:

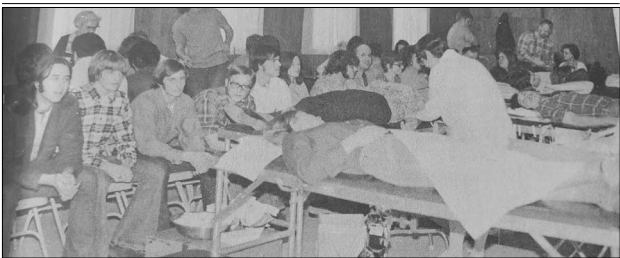
- The churches of our land may not be perfect. Sometimes we think our pastors say foolish things, and we fail to agree with them, but where would we be without them? Can you imagine a community without the beneficent and kindly influence of the church? Life in America would be far different without our churches.

- We heard a man the other day tell another, "don't throw your mouth in high gear until you are sure your brain is turning over."

50 YEARS AGO UNTERRIFIED DEMOCRAT FEBRUARY 27, 1974

Argyle doctor's office scene of crime

The sheriff's office reported a break in at Dr. Robert Schoenen's office in Argyle a week ago. Taken were between \$2,000 and \$2,500 worth of drugs. No arrests have been made.



Donors came early to the bloodmobile Monday afternoon and waited their turn at the Linn visit.

Linn Masonic Blood Drive

One hundred and seventy-seven persons showed up to donate blood at the Linn Masonic Temple Monday. Thirteen were deferred for various reasons, giving a total of 164 units donated in Osage County.

M. F. Thomeczek wishes to thank the 41 students from Linn Tech who came to donate, as well as all of the rest of Osage County residents.



Competing against 19 other girls, Rita Williams, Loose Creek, was crowned the 1974 CYO District Valentine Queen Sunday, Feb. 17 at the Freeburg Holy Family School hall. Debbie Kliethermes (left) Linn, was named First Runner-Up. Jane Fick (right) Rich Fountain, was chosen as Second Runner-Up.



The eight candidates for king and queen at Fatima are pictured left to right, front row: Mark Reinkemeyer, Janette Deeken, Allen Bock; center: Arlene Wieberg and Patty Krieg; and back row: Robert Wansing, Barbara Schmitz and Jerry Nilges.

25 YEARS AGO UNTERRIFIED DEMOCRAT MARCH 3, 1999

Ambulance board turns over reins to contractor

Midnight Sunday marked the end of one era and the beginning of another for the Osage Ambulance District.

The district unceremoniously observed its 25th anniversary by turning over its operations to Forest City Emergency Medical Services Inc. of St. James.

All but a few of the district's employees have left, including administrator Russ A. Lumpkin, who said he was seeking other employment.

Judge, teenager injured in crash

Circuit Judge Jeffrey W. Schaeperkoetter and a Belle teenager received serious injuries Monday night in a head-on collision between Belle and Bland.

Schaeperkoetter, 49, of Owensville was airlifted to the

University of Missouri Hospital in Columbia by medical helicopter following the 10:45 p.m. wreck on Highway 28, a mile west of the Highway NN intersection.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol said that an eastbound 1998 Dodge driven by Schaeperkoetter was struck by a westbound 1989 Chevrolet driven by 19-year-old Zachary Ellis that crossed the center line.

The judge's brother, Mark A. Schaeperkoetter, 50, of Owensville was a passenger in his vehicle but refused treatment at the scene for minor injuries.

Alderman, road commissioner resign

The resignations of two officials were received last week by the Westphalia Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Christopher A. Dickneite read a letter of resignation from Clarence (Butch) Castrop, a long-time member of the board of commissioners of the Westphalia Special Road District.

Castrop resigned effective Aug. 1, to give the aldermen time to find a successor. Dickneite commended Castrop for the job he has done, saying, "I want to thank him on behalf of the city."

Following Castrop's resignation, an alderman from the West Ward, Dr. Joseph Rakestraw, announced that he was resigning. The preceding weekend Rakestraw had moved to a home outside the city on U. S. Highway 63.

By moving outside the city limits, Rakestraw became ineligible to serve on the board.

Trucks stolen, one recovered near Freeburg

Two one-ton flatbed trucks were stolen last Wednesday night from Freeburg Hardware Products.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Paul D. Backues said one of the trucks, a 1987 Ford, was recovered off County Road 635. The other, a 1978 Ford with a large air compressor, was still missing.

Rewards are being offered by the owners - \$1,000 for information leading to the identification of those responsible for the truck thefts and \$500 for information leading to recovery of the 1978 truck.

Backues also reported that two rifles were stolen from a pickup truck parked in front of the Russell Ruder residence in Freeburg Feb. 16. One was a 22-caliber Mossberg and the other was a 6-mm. Remington.

And, Backues said two holes were shot into Willibrand's at the U.S Highway 50-63 junction last Wednesday night. He said the 22-caliber bullets went through the front door glass and damaged a display case and a 12-pack of soda.



Friends of Linn veterinarian Dr. Gene Plegge gather Friday at the Linn farm of Vic and Francis Dudenhoeffer, Jr, for a surprise reception upon Plegge's retirement after 38 years of veterinary practice. Plegge is standing in the center.

LINN PUBLIC CEMETERY SPRING CLEANUP

The Linn Public Cemetery will conduct its spring cleanup.

The cemetery board asks that any flowers or grave decorations that you may want to keep be picked up by Saturday, March 29th.

As in the past we will not disturb anything that is in a vase or attached to a monument.

Thank you.

Linn Public Cemetery Board

Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe now accepting 2024 Senior Service Award Nominations

BY: GABBY PICARD
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Gabrielle.Picard@ltgov.mo.gov

Jefferson City – The Office of Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Lieutenant Governor's Senior Service Award. The Lieutenant Governor's Senior Service Award promotes and highlights the positive accomplishments Missouri's senior citizens provide their local communities.

Nominations are open to the public for submission through April 1, 2024. The nomination form can be found at ltgov.mo.gov/senior-service-award-nominations. Nominees should be Missourians who are at least 60 years of age and volunteer a minimum of 25 hours per year.

"As Missouri's official senior advocate, it is one of my highest honors to recognize seniors who positively impact their communities through service," said Lieutenant Governor Kehoe. "Hundreds of outstanding Missouri seniors have been honored since this award was instituted in 2005, and we are excited to give much-deserved recognition to this year's winners."

The Office of Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe will review the nominations, notify nominators if their nominees have been chosen, and coordinate award presentations for the selected award winners. Senior Service Award winners will receive an official declaration and challenge coin from Lieutenant Governor Kehoe.

BRUCE
SASSMANN

Missouri State Representative

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Catholic Schools

Lady Comets end season in quarterfinal loss to defending state champion Fair Grove

Friday's 2.5-hour trip to Fair Grove to challenge the defending Class 3 state champion ended in a 61-42 quarterfinal loss.

"I was extremely proud of how our kids competed in this game," said Coach Matt Baker. "We walked into a sea of purple and black and played a team that will likely win back-to-back state championships extremely tough. I know it ended up being a 19-point game, but that was after we started fouling late in the fourth quarter. Fair Grove is just darn good. They are long, strong, athletic, and make everything you try to do hard. Their size and athleticism made scoring challenging because they denied ball entries to the wing and pressured the ball-handlers. If you managed to get to the rim, they had shot blockers waiting."

The first quarter went well as the Lady Comets slowed down the game. "We capitalized on the

few shots we did take," said Baker as Fatima trailed 11-9 going into the second quarter. "It got a little messy, but we still went into halftime down 10 or so."

After a four-point second, Fatima trailed 23-13 at the break.

In the third, the Lady Comets struggled to score. "Fair Grove blocked 2-3 shots, and they didn't miss on the other end," said Baker. "After that, we had to start pressing, which allowed us to pull back to within 12 points by the middle of the fourth quarter. Unfortunately, Fair Grove just didn't miss any free throws. That was it."

On the night, Fatima shot 36.1% from the field, while Fair Grove hit 47.8%. Each team hit five treys, and the free throws were balanced (11-19, 12-14).

Lucy Crede led with 13 points (2-3 3PT, 3-4 FT) while grabbing four rebounds and dishing the

ball twice.

Alli Robertson added nine points (3-6 FT), three rebounds, three assists, and two steals. Vivian Bax was solid with eight points (2-6 3PT), two rebounds, two assists, and a steal.

Also scoring were Kaitlyn Plassmeyer with five (1-2 3PT, 2-2 FT, 3 rebounds), Madelyn Backes (1-2 FT, 4 rebounds), and Kristen Robertson (2-2 FT, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, steal), and Alex Berhorst, each with two points.

"Overall, this team had one hell of a season," said Baker. They played the toughest schedule I have ever coached and still won 22 games. Their willingness to compete every night and their toughness cannot be overstated. Our three seniors (KP, Alli, and Lucy) were great young role models, and they will be sorely missed."

Fatima ended the year with a record of 22-7.



FATIMA COACHES Matt Baker and Chris Ellis talk to the Lady Comets during Friday's quarterfinal game.

PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN



LOGAN KLIETHERMES jumps to take a shot against Belle in the C3D9 tournament. The Comets won to advance to the sectional game.

PHOTO BY DENNIS WARDEN

Fatima finishes 22-7 after sectional loss

Fatima lost to a talented Thayer team last Tuesday in the Class 3 sectional, 52-43, to end the year at 22-7.

"Obviously, they're one of the best teams in Class 3," said Coach Ryan Robertson. "They play a unique matchup zone, which you do not see very often. I thought our guys came out ready."

The Comets led with 4:30 remaining in the fourth quarter but couldn't close the deal.

After the first quarter, Fatima led 13-10, but that flipped in the second (13-8), and the Comets trailed 23-21 at the break. However, Fatima recovered with a 14-10 advantage in the third to set the stage for a contentious fourth.

Everyone made huge plays in this game," said Robertson. "We shot the ball well and defended well. We had not been pressed much this year, and their soft press definitely slowed us down some."

Fatima won the shooting battle from the floor, 44.1% to 43.5. The Comets went 6-16 from three-point range and 6-8 from the line.

"We were disappointed with the result, but we could not be more proud of this team," said Robertson.

Seniors Levi Robinson (14 points, 2-4 3PT, 4-4 FT) and Easton Haslag (11 points, 2-6 3PT, 1-1 FT) led the team in their final Fatima basketball game.

"They exemplified Fatima basketball with the grit, the fight, and how unselfishly they played," said Robertson. "We could not be more proud of them. They played for the guys that came before them in this program. Levi and Easton were the epitome of leadership. Those two will be missed. You cannot replace guys of that caliber on and off the floor. They spoiled us for four years."

Robinson broke the record for number of free throws in a season (145) set by Paul Reinsch in 1979 (121).

Max Stuecken hit a pair of treys on his way to eight points, with three rebounds, an assist, and a steal, followed by Matthew Robertson (6 points, 7 rebounds, 5 assists, block), and Logan Kliethermes (3 points, rebound, 2 assists, block).

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Archery results highlight top scores

Last weekend’s National Archery In The Schools Program (NASP) tournaments resulted in the following high scores.

High School: Jack Schollmeyer from Chamois (292, 22 tens, academic archer)

Middle School: Carly Schollmeyer from Chamois (282, 17 tens, academic archer)

Elementary: Oliver Heckman from Fatima (273, 11 tens)

Here are other results by school.

CHAMOIS
Tipton High School State Qualifier – Bullseye

Chamois HS: Jack Schollmeyer (academic archer) shot 292 with 22 tens, ranking first of seven tenth-grade boys, second of 31 high school boys, and second of 127 boys overall. Evert Mehmert (academic archer) shot 281 (13 tens) and ranked third of 7 tenth-grade boys, followed by Emma Mehmert (261, 6 tens, academic archer), Landen Northway (247, 3 tens, academic archer), and Kayla Wigglesworth (239, 3 tens).

Chamois MS: Carly Schollmeyer (academic archer) shot 282 (17 tens) and ranked first among 14 seventh-grade and 46 middle school girls and third of 100 girls overall. Olivia Hord (academic archer) shot 277 with 15 tens, ranking first of 20 sixth-grade girls and second of 46 middle school girls, followed by Boone Kuschel (273, 8 tens, academic archer).

Chamois EL: Sophie Thompson shot 264 (10 tens) and ranked first of 15 fifth-grade girls and 20 elementary girls, followed by Liam Halbert (237, 1 ten) and Carson Miller (149).

At the Tipton High School State Qualifier – 3D

Chamois HS: Kayla Wigglesworth shot 197 (2 tens).

Chamois EL: Liam Halbert shot 249 with 10 tens and ranked first of four fifth-grade boys and eight elementary boys.

FATIMA
TLS Qualifier #2

Fatima HS: the team shot 3,378 with 188 tens and ranked third of five teams. Team members were Eli Koenigsfeld (289, 20 tens, academic archer, second of 19 tenth-grade boys), Cody Berhorst (288, 19 tens, academic archer), Andrew Muenks (285, 17 tens, academic archer, third of 19 tenth-grade boys), Gabriel Nilges (283, 19 tens, academic archer), Ean Smith (283, 16 tens, academic archer), Karly Bock (282, 4 tens, academic archer, second of 22 ninth-grade girls), Kila Kremer (281, 15 tens, academic archer, third of 16 eleventh-grade girls), Peighton Kremer (281, 14 tens, academic archer, first of 28 tenth-grade girls), Ethan Stuecken (278, 13 tens, academic archer), Jacob Luebbing (277, 14 tens, academic archer), Cody Bertels (276, 14 tens, academic archer), Claire Baumhoer (275, 13

tens, academic archer), Ashton Kremer (272, 10 tens, academic archer), Madison Wankum (269, 12 tens, academic archer), Wyatt Gabelsberger (267, 11 tens), Madeleine Carwile (267, 8 tens, academic archer), Jenna Kirsch (265, 11 tens, academic archer), Henry Schroeder (264, 7 tens, academic archer), Brady Hager (262, 11 tens, academic archer), Wyatt Redel (250, 6 tens, academic archer), Cody Koenigsfeld (249, 9 tens, academic archer), Olivia Hale (248, 7 tens, academic archer), Lauren Rowden (247, 8 tens, academic archer), and Alyssa Hoeller (232, 2 tens, academic archer).

Individual participants were Emma Stuecken (273, 9 tens, academic archer), Reagan Bock (264, 9 tens, academic archer), Kendra Kirsch (263, 10 tens, academic archer), and Kate Kampeter (235, 7 tens, academic archer).

At the middle school level, Patrick Berhorst shot 275 with 13 tens, and Edie Bauer shot 235 (2 tens).

Fatima EL: Oliver Heckman shot 273 with 11 tens, ranking first of 49 fifth-grade boys and second of 97 elementary boys. Ty Berhorst shot 265 with 10 tens.

At the Tipton High School State Qualifier – Bullseye, the middle school team shot 2,823 with 64 tens. Team members were Bentley Hertzling (270, 13 tens), Patrick Berhorst (269, 7 tens), Collin Walters (252, 6 tens), Edie Bauer (243, 5 tens), Josie

Schulte (241, 5 tens), Evan Brendel (235, 4 tens), Blake Steen (231, 3 tens), Avery Schaffer (226, 4 tens), Emersyn Heckman (223, 8 tens), Bailee Winkelman (223, 2 tens), Garrett Royston (221, 5 tens), and Abigail Hackman (189, 2 tens).

Fatima EL: Oliver Heckman shot 269 with 10 tens, and ranked first of 23 fifth-grade boys and 33 elementary boys. Ty Berhorst shot 258 (9 tens), ranking third of 23 fifth-grade boys, followed by Daniel Weber (247, 5 tens), Raelyn Miller (222, 5 tens), Kaleb Schubert (204, 1 ten), and Daniel Wieberg (132, 2 tens).

HOLY FAMILY
At the Tipton High School State Qualifier – Bullseye, the middle school team shot 3,012 with 82 tens, ranking first of 7 teams. Team members were Eli Woodruff (274, 10 tens, third of 19 eighth-grade boys), Will Borgmeyer (273, 12 tens, third of 24 seventh-grade boys), Toby Libbert (271, 9 tens), Alexis Rudroff (263, 9 tens), Gavin Schlottke (253, 7 tens), Kamryn Lee (248, 5 tens), Abe Woodruff (246, 7 tens), Lily Falter (242, 7 tens), Silas Nevins (241, 5 tens), Kendal Perrey (239, 5 tens), Carter Bax (232, 4 ten, third of 10 fourth-grade boys), Sean Luebbert (230, 2 tens), Ralieggh Burkhardt (220, 2 tens), Tyler Reichel (213, 2 tens), Campbell Abigail (201, 1 ten, second of five fourth-grade girls), and Elsie Falter (156, 1 ten).

LINN R-2

At the TLS Qualifier #2, high school level, John Stephens shot 275 with 16 tens and ranked second of 11 ninth-grade boys, followed by Courtney Wood (272, 10 tens academic archer), Cole Franken (262, 7 tens), Preston Jaegers (256, 7 tens), Jacob Weidler (250, 5 tens), Tiauna Friend (249, 3 tens), Mia Jaegers (248, 3 tens, academic archer), Peyton Stockman (227, 4 tens), and Brady Brandt (205, 3 tens).

Holy Family EL: Madison Wood shot 270 (11 tens, academic archer), followed by Faith Haley (263, 9 tens, academic archer), Peyton Lynch (260, 7 tens, academic archer), Alex Morfeld (257, 5 tens, academic archer), Sophia Monroe (226, 2 tens), Emma Jaegers (225, 3 tens, academic archer), and Hannah Roberts (210, 2 tens).

Elementary: Grayson Gabelsberger shot 237 (4 tens), followed by Sterling Jaegers (227, 3 tens), Cali Starke (217, 4 tens), and Opal Voss (199, 2 tens).

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
At the Tipton High School State Qualifier – Bullseye, Luke Scheulen shot 261 (6 tens) and ranked second of 10 fourth-grade boys and third of 33 elementary boys.

At the TLS Qualifier #2, Hayden Jaegers shot 255 (6 tens, academic archer).



Fatima Boys’ Action

Fatima made a great run through the Class 3, District 9 tournament to get to last Tuesday’s sectional game at Thayer, where the Comets ended the season. Matthew “Munch” Robertson, above, puts up an easy lay-in. At right are seniors Easton Haslag (above) and Levi Robinson (below), taking respective shots. Below, Blake Kliethermes puts up a shot.

PHOTOS BY WILL JOHNSON



Comets Kids Wrestling

Comets Kids Wrestling Club member Bowen Willis squares off with his opponent in last weekend’s district tournament at Owensville. Teammate Tucker Schroeder, below, and Lenni Samson, bottom photo, look for advantages in their matches.

PHOTOS BY WILL JOHNSON





Lady Comets Battle to Quarters

The Fatima Lady Comets won their district and sectional contests to reach the Class 3 quarterfinal game on Friday. From screaming, excited fans to great efforts in heavy traffic, the Lady Comets (22-7) turned in a solid season.

PHOTOS BY NEAL A. JOHNSON AND JACOB WARDEN



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1 Administrator's Notices

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

PROBATE DIVISION
Estate No: 230S-PR00038
In the Estate of **CARL MALAN**,
Deceased,

NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION

To all persons interested in the Estate of: **CARL MALAN**,
Deceased.

You are hereby notified that the undersigned Personal Representative will file a Final Settlement and Petition for determination of the persons who are the successors in interest to the personal/real property of the decedent and of the extent and character of their interest therein and for distribution of such property, in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Osage County, Missouri, on April 3, 2024, or as may be continued by the Court, and that any objections or exceptions to such Final Settlement or Petition or any item thereof must be in writing and filed within twenty days after the filing of such Final Settlement.

WARREN RUSSELL,
Personal Representative
380 Cty Rd 621
Linn, MO 65051
AMANDA L. GRELLNER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1014 East Main Street
P.O. Box 828
Linn, MO 65051
Phone: (573) 897-3609
Fax: (844) 837-3517

Published in the Unterrified Democrat on: March 6, March 13, March 20, and March 27.

4t-030624 ud

1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, OSAGE COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 24OS-PR00007
In the Estate of **DEBRA ANN HANLON**, Deceased.

Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted (Supervised Administration) To All Persons Interested in the Estate of DEBRA ANN HANLON, Decedent:

On February 29, 2024, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of **DEBRA ANN HANLON**, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Osage County, Missouri. The name and address of the personal representative is:

MARK JOHN HANLON,
401 E. 8TH STREET,
SUITE 214-438,
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103
Designated Registered Agent JAMES PATRICK BUCKLEY, PO BOX 348,
121 E 4TH STREET,
SEDALIA, MO 65302-0348,
660-826-7373.
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:

JAMES PATRICK BUCKLEY,
PO BOX 348,
121 E 4TH STREET,
SEDALIA, MO 65302-0348,
660-826-7373.
All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after Decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's death: 11-SEP-2023.
Date of first publication: 06-MAR-2024

Beth Billington, Clerk
Published in the Unterrified Democrat on: March 6, March 13, March 20, and March 27, 2024.

4t-030624 ud



1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF KNOX COUNTY

STATE OF TENNESSEE

Case No: 206313-2
Notice of Entry Requested.
RUBIN LUBLIN TN, PLLC, PETITIONER,

**vs. CAROLINE CLEV-
ENGER, CATHY G. STE-
VENS, RANDY MESSER,
MARIE SANTOS, EDWARD
EICKHOFF JR., ALL UN-
KNOWN HEIRS OF THE
ESTATE OF CLARENCE
RIGGS, ALL UNKNOWN
HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF
JUANITA EICKHOFF, AND
ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF
THE ESTATE OF RONNIE
RIGGS, RESPONDENTS.**

AMENDED ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

This matter came before the Court on the Motion of Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC ("Rubin Lublin" or "Petitioner"), Petitioner in the above-styled civil action, for entry of an order pursuant to Tenn. R. Civ. P. 4.08 and T.C.A. § 21-1-204, that service upon Respondents All Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Clarence Riggs (the "Clarence Unknown Heirs"), All Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Juanita Eickhoff (the "Juanita Unknown Heirs"), and All Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Ronnie Riggs (the "Ronnie Unknown Heirs") be made by publication of summons as provided in said statute.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 21-1-204, appearing from allegations of the Petition for Interpleader in this cause, being duly sworn to, and from affidavit, that the Clarence Unknown Heirs, the Juanita Unknown Heirs, and the Ronnie Unknown Heirs cannot be served with the ordinary process of law for the following reason:

After diligent inquiry, the whereabouts of the Clarence Unknown Heirs, Juanita Unknown Heirs, and Ronnie Unknown Heirs cannot be ascertained.

It is therefore ordered, that the Clarence Unknown Heirs, the Juanita Unknown Heirs, and the Ronnie Unknown Heirs enter an appearance thirty (30) days after the last publication and file an answer to the Petition, or judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. A copy of this Order is to be published for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Unterrified Democrat of Linn, Missouri, the McKenzie County Farmer of Watford City, North Dakota, the Idaho Press of Nampa, Idaho, and the Nevada Legal News of Fernley, Nevada.

So ORDERED, this 28th day of February 2024.
Richard B. Armstrong Jr.
Chancellor
Order prepared and presented by:
/s/ Patty Whitehead
TENISE C. CHUNG
(BPR No. 030921)
PATTY WHITEHEAD
(BPR No. 034488)
RUBIN LUBLIN TN, PLLC
3145 Avalon Ridge Place,
Suite 100
Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30071
(770) 246-3349
(Telephone)
(470) 508-9203
(Facsimile)
tchung@rslaw.com
pwhitehead@rslaw.com
Attorneys for Petitioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have, on this 28th day of February 2024 served the below parties in this matter with the foregoing ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION by placing a true and correct copy of same in the United States Mail, with first-class prepaid postage affixed thereto properly addressed as follows:

Carolyn Clevenger
414 Missyllane Road
Seymour, Tennessee 37865

Cathy G. Stevens
2014 County Road 621
Linn, Missouri 65051

Randy Messer
629 Saddle Horn Way
Fernley, Nevada 89408

Marie Santos
6181 E Mayfield Dr.
Nampa, Idaho 83687

Edward Eickhoff Jr.
1201 12th St SE
Suite B
Watford City, North Dakota 58854

Last Known Address

/s/ Patty Whitehead
PATTY WHITEHEAD
(BPR # 034488)
4t-030624 ud

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unterrifieddemocrat.com

1 Administrator's Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by Scott E. Otto; Brittany R. Gaines, dated January 29, 2018, and recorded on January 29, 2018, Document No. 20180179, in Book No. 522, at Page 100 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Osage County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on

April 2, 2024,

at 2:00 PM, at the Front Door of the Osage County Courthouse, Linn, Missouri, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash:

STARTING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THENCE S 84 13' W, 121.6' ALONG THE EXISTING PROPERTY LINE TO A PIPE SET ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE ROAD AS DESCRIBED IN BOOK 136 AT PAGE 78, THENCE ALONG SAID WEST SIDE OF SAID ROAD N 0 22' E, 66.0' TO A PIPE, THENCE S 84 13' W, 4.0', THENCE N 0 22' E, 66.0' TO A PIPE, THENCE N 84 13' E, 20.0' TO A PIPE SET ON THE EXISTING PROPERTY LINE, THENCE ALONG SAID PROPERTY LINE S 84 13' W, 88.4' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., AND CONTAINS 0.9 ACRE, MORE OR LESS MORE CORRECTLY DESCRIBED AS STARTING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., AND CONTAINS 0.9 ACRE, MORE OR LESS MORE CORRECTLY DESCRIBED AS STARTING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., THENCE S 84 DEGREES 13' W, 121.6' ALONG THE EXISTING PROPERTY LINE TO A PIPE SET ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE ROAD AS DESCRIBED IN BOOK 136 AT PAGE 78, THENCE ALONG SAID WEST SIDE OF SAID ROAD N 0 DEGREES 22' E, 66.0' TO A PIPE, THENCE S 84 DEGREES 13' E, 20.0' TO A PIPE SET ON THE EXISTING PROPERTY LINE, THENCE ALONG SAID PROPERTY LINE N 0 DEGREES 22' E, 62.0' TO A PIPE, THENCE LEAVING SAID PROPERTY LINE N 84 DEGREES 13' E, 194.0' TO A PIPE, THENCE S 0 DEGREES 22' W, 194.0' TO A PIPE SET ON THE EXISTING PROPERTY LINE, THENCE ALONG SAID PROPERTY LINE S 84 DEGREES 13' W, 88.4' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., AND CONTAINS 0.9 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 168 MARIES RIVER ROAD, ARGYLE, MO, 65001 subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SOUTHLAW, P.C.

SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE

NOTICE:

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (Casefile No. 239521-1002255).

Published in the Unterrified Democrat on: March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, 2024.

4t-030624 ud

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NOVENAS ARE \$4.75/ COLUMN INCH, most are 3 inches which will run \$14.25. You may mail your novena to Unterrified Democrat, P.O. Box 109, Linn, MO 65051. Please call if you have any questions, 573-897-3150.

NOTICE

TO HUNTERS, TRAPPERS, FISHERMEN-TRESPASSERS DAY OR NIGHT, DOG OR GUN:

Sections 569.140, 569.145 and 569.150 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri deal with trespassing, penalties for trespassing and notice to trespassers. If you wish to post your property to notify trespassers, your name will run with those listed below for \$17.50 per year or part of a year. The year started July 1, 2023 and ends June 30, 2024.

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OSAGE COUNTY R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT
SOLICITING QUALIFICATIONS

The Osage County R-I School District is accepting bids for the installation of previously purchased playground equipment.

Bidder is required to provide all necessary equipment for installation.

Proposals are due **March 15, 2024 at 2:00 PM.**
Please call 573-763-5666 for a copy of additional information.

REQUESTING PROPOSALS

The City of Chamois, Missouri is requesting proposals for services to complete a lead service line inventory. The completed lead service line inventory spreadsheet should adhere to 40 CFR 141.84. The City has an estimated 275 service lines.

The City is requesting pricing for several services as part of this project: records review services, administrative services, and in-field verification services. The contractor must provide a price on the proposal f01Tn for each service requested. Proposals that fail to provide a price for all services will not be considered.

The contractor should be aware that they will be expected to complete forms required by the state funding agency. Additionally, there will be language requirements and forms from the state funding agency that will need to be incorporated into the final contract that is signed by the City and Contractor



Always a Bridesmaid

Osage Community Players cast members Jill Tschappler (Deedra Wingate), Patricia Dodson (Monette Gentry), Carrie Grellner (Charlie Collins), and Karla Bridges (Libby Ruth Ames) anchored, "Always a Bridesmaid," a two-act Jones Hope Wooten comedy. Also starring in last weekend's performance were Samantha Brandt (Kari Ames-Bissette), Sally David (Sedalia Ellicott). Faith McKim was an understudy to Samantha Brandt (Kari Ames-Bissette). Kristy Russell directed the play with assistant directors David Christ and Anne Steele.

PHOTOS BY NEAL A. JOHNSON

