

Look up in downtown Buffalo

to find vacation rental lofts

By Joy Beamer
joyb@buffaloreflex.com

The Lofts on Maple are open for rent to experience a get-a-way close to home or accommodate the wedding venues' guests, tourists, friends or family.

Thomas and Kelli Mathews bought the old Maple Street Grill property in August 2021 and wrapped up renovations on the first two lofts in February 2022. The long climb to the second floor leads to beautiful spaces accommodating four people each. Vacationers can rent the lofts together or separately.

Reviewers are commenting, including the following:

This is the absolute best place to stay! The unit is beautiful! Bed and pillows are soft and comfortable. If you want somewhere quiet... this is it! I stayed during the winter storm, my car got plowed in, the owners were extremely helpful and shoveled my car out. You don't get that from just anyone. The snacks were perfect after a long day at work. I highly recommend here, and will be staying in the future!

Christy
February 2022

My husband and I loved our stay at the Lofts on Maple (unit 1)! It is beautifully decorated and has everything you could need for a night's stay. There was even a couple of different breakfast options for us in the morning along with some other snacks and water in the fridge! All of our communication with Kelli and Thomas was polite and effective. Would highly recommended for anyone staying in Buffalo!

Elizabeth
December 2021

The couple and volunteer family and friends helped in the renovation work. After several months of clean-up, restoration and interior design, the space is shaping up. The rental studios will leave a good impression on all who visit Buffalo. The Mathews did most of the work themselves and hired professionals for electrical and plumbing.

The couple wants to shop locally as much as possible. Joe's Hardware was vital in keeping them stocked with items they needed for the renovation. Kelli said they would send a photo of what they required to fit and that Joe's would have it ready. Even the paint supply shortage was not a problem because Joe's kept stocked with all their needed supplies.

Sweaney Refrigeration custom-built vents to appear like the original ductwork in the exposed ceilings.

The words slat and plaster



The Buffalo Missouri mural is a unique touch added to the second suite. Rooms can be rented by the hour for professional photographers and many graduating seniors are adding this wall to their collection.

The Lofts on Maple
417-733-4238
www.airbnb.com
(Search The Lofts on Maple)



It took four strong men to move this bank door into position. The door was found when renovating, which led to the original bank building next door, now OakStar Bank.



The decor is black and white against the industrial backdrop of original brick and exposed framed ceiling. The queen-size bed and pull-out couch accommodate four guests.

make most people cringe. The volunteer work crews dealt with cleaning up and repairing any damaged walls working around the ole' slat plaster nightmare.

They wanted a pull-out couch in the first suite to accommodate two more visitors. A short walk across the street to Chapman's Furniture enabled them to shop local and Chapman's deliver. Delivery of large items is no small task. If anyone has moved a sofa sleeper, knowing the extreme weight and awkwardness of moving is exasperating even for the strong and young. Yet, Chapman's came through and carried the couch up the steep, long staircase up to the lofts.

The couple rents the spaces on Airbnb with a clear warning that accessibility is limited because of the stairs and there is no elevator. However, the unique climb lends itself to the feeling you've entered an enchanted get-away from the hustle and bustle of life.

As they finished the second room, they needed another couch. So, yet again, Chapman's hoisted up the second couch to finish the second room. That's hard-core shopping local and service.

Both spaces have a queen-size bed and the sofa sleepers accommodate four people. Children are welcomed, too. Each room has a large television and WiFi with Netflix. In addition, each space has a kitchenette providing a Keurig, microwave, mini-refrigerator with coffee, tea and snacks. Each suite is self-contained and secure or a family can rent both spaces. Entry to the units is keyless.

The first studio is an open floor plan decorated in black and white. The stark contrast of the black and white against the original brick walls and exposed ceilings gives an industrial flair to

LOFTS

Continued from Page 1

the space. Many doors have the original crank window above the doors for fresh air and circulation. A mural is painted on the south wall brick that reads BUFFALO, MISSOURI. The words appear as if painted on the walls in the past, lending a historical feel to the space.

Original baseboards and fixtures are used when possible. The owners considered updates and renovations carefully at each planning stage.

The second studio is pastel pink and white creating a light and airy feel. They discovered the room was initially pink and wanted to keep the original theme. Many of the fixtures in this room are original.

The bathroom boasts a huge tub for soaking and restoring the soul. The glass block window allows the morning light to drift in and makes a relaxing space for a morning bubble bath.

The third space will be renovated next and will hold eight overnight guests. The larger area is more like an apartment. Although it is now covered in dust and work is in progress, it is easy to imagine the kitchen and living space and the bedrooms fitting in with the rest of The Lofts on Maple.

Many want to know what is going on in on the bottom floor. Easy answer: The Mathews don't know yet. They don't want to act hastily and want to plan something that would enhance the downtown and be profitable.

Kelli tells us that she has some bookings into November 2022 and receives inquiries frequently. They've been open a month and believe they've found their niche.

While Thomas works at Walmart and BOSS Detailing, Kelli is a stay-at-home-mom with five children aged three to 21. The lofts and the renovations are a family affair. They all work together and spend many nights above the downtown square. All the children love the project, help with the work and are excited about the business.

The couple loves to rent spaces like The Lofts on Maple as they vacation. So when she saw that the building was for sale, they fell in love with the building and started to plan on making a dream come true. They thought the space above the old restaurant would make for a unique vacation experience in rural Missouri. With a shortage of hotel space for the wedding industry in Buffalo, they felt clients would naturally seek an Airbnb property.

The spaces can be used for bridal showers, the weekend for wedding parties, overnight stays, or a romantic get-a-way for couples. Photographers rent the area by the hour because the decor and original walls lend themselves to unique photos. Regional photographers rent out the space for photoshoots.



Suite 1 offers a huge tub with a unique faucet having a shower spray attached. The relaxation from a soak in a luxury tub is a great way to celebrate a vacation. REFLEX PHOTOS BY JOY BEAMER

The tub has been used for boudoir shots for brides to their fiancée. Baby photos and senior photographs have been taken in the lofts too.

Studio rentals are available during the day when the rooms are not rented out. To book, call 417-733-4238 or message the owners on Facebook.

Kelli's favorite part is making the bookings and working with the clients. She has the gift of hospitality and is a natural encourager. She might have been an interior designer if she had not been a home school mother. Kelli has an excellent eye for details and impactful spaces.

When she saw the bold skylight in the upstairs of the building, she claimed that space for her office immediately. The skylight brightens the room even on a cloudy day. There is no light fixture added in her office.

The next project is to finish the outside. They painted the awning copper last fall and planned to finish painting and clean up the alley behind the property. After that, the outside of the building will look fresh and match the splendor of the studios above.

Later in the year, the couple plans to host an open house so that local people can view the real estate. They are happy to show the lofts to anyone who wants to see them. Anyone can inquire by sending a note on Facebook Messenger or by calling 417-733-4238.



The light from the tall windows only enhances the original fixtures and molding to Suite 1. They found the pink walls and wanted to keep them close to the original. The owners matched the paint and accessories to the actual color when the renovation started.



The queen bed and pull-out couch will accommodate up to four guests.

BUFFALO DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION
BRICKS FOR THE VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL

**Now taking
new orders.
Deadline is
August 5.**

**The wall is on the south side of the courthouse lawn. Bricks Cost = \$30 each
Any honorably discharged veteran may have a brick on the wall.**

In Memory or In Honor

Please complete application and return to Katrina's Flowers. Mailing address: PO Box 528, Buffalo, MO 65622
Make check payable to Buffalo Downtown Association.

Because of the Privacy Act, it is up to the family to provide a copy of the Veteran's DD214 at time of order. No bricks can be ordered without verification of the DD214. Pick up forms at: Katrina's and Nimmo Insurance.

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Bricks can have three lines of 17 characters each. Please complete as you would like the brick inscribed. One character per block, spaces, periods, dashes, etc., count as a character.

Line 1: Veteran's Name

Line 2: Title/branch of service

Line 3: Conflict/years of service

T	H	A	N	K	S		F	O	R		Y	O	U	R		S	E	R	V	I	C	E					B	D	A



Early Dallas County residents *were people of the Osage tribe*

By Neva O. Crane
(Excerpt from "A Concise History of South Benton Township by Thelma "Tess" Kurtz)

Long before the white explorers and trappers discovered the Ozarks, there were roving tribes of Indians fishing the clear sparkling streams, hunting the wooded hills for wild game and waterfowl, and camping in villages or caves along the Niangua and Osage Rivers. According to Otto E. Rayborn, historian, there were 15 different tribes living in the Ozarks during the period between 1541 and 1831. Two of the tribes were called legal landowners. The Osage, who claimed ownership of all the Ozarks between the Missouri River on the north and the Arkansas River on the south, and the Cherokees who claimed all the southern Ozarks from the Arkansas River on the north to the Gulf of Mexico and eastward to the Carolinas and Georgia. The Cherokees were forcibly removed from their eastern claims and the Trail of Tears crossed our area in 1838. According to the "Heritage of the Cherokee" by Mark Miller, the trail ended at a sheltered valley near the Illinois River at what is now Tahlequah, Okla., where they have reconstructed a 17th century village called Tsa La Gi (Trail of Tears). They were escorted by Federal troops armed with guns and



bayonets while their belongings were hauled by government-employed wagon masters. Their belongings were lost, stolen or discarded along the trail, but there were no accounts of conflict between Indians and settlers along the way. It is interesting to note the Yungier River (now known as Niangua) was referred to by the Cherokees as Ne-on-guah which translates to mean "I won't go." The Osage Indians were described by early settlers as the tallest of all the Indians, between six and seven feet. They were handsome, fearless, athletic and very proud. This description would fit the Osage chieftain who, dressed in tribal regalia, attended the dedication of the Ha Ha Tonka State Park on June 10, 1979. He made a speech at that time and said, "The land you dedicate today is Osage land. It was purchased

from a country having no right to sell it (France) which had taken it from a country having no right to give it (Spain), and no treaty nor sale had ever been made with the rightful owners, the Osage." According to Dr. Clark Chapman in his book "Indian and Archaeology of Missouri," there were three tribes of the Osage Nation living along the Niangua and Osage Rivers (1803). They were: The Great Osage (500 warriors), the Little Osage (250 warriors), and the Arkansas band (600 warriors) led by Chief Big Foot and ranging into Arkansas. These Indians lived in villages, farmed land and were less warlike than many others. Many artifacts have been plowed up where Indian villages once stood and crops were planted. Indian names still identify rivers, parks, maps, townsites and areas. Many Indian Customs continued after the Indians were gone, such

as marking a trail or a sign pointing toward water or salt or herbs. A sign would be a thing of nature with no words, such as the "water-tree" also called "thong tree" because of the way it was made. The basic steps were to force a forked limb into splint in a young sapling and force it to bend in the desired direction. A thong-tree took several years to make. Even though the Osage Indians vacated the land, they left many traces of their occupation. Thousands of fine arrowheads of every shape and size have been found along streams, in caves, in sinks, and in sheltered places where tribes wintered while they repaired or made new tools. Today after countless scout groups, school groups, conservationists, visitors hiking along trails and over a century and a half has passed, there are still arrowheads to be found.

MarkTHE SPOT

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to guess or email joyb@buffaloreflex.com

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Complete Automotive Machine Shop

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Do you know where this picture was taken? If so, call the Buffalo Reflex office at 417-345-2224 or email news@buffaloreflex.com to correctly "Mark the Spot." In next week's paper, the names of those who correctly guess will be featured. The weekly deadline to guess is 11 a.m. Monday. PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK ROSE

DEADLINE: 11 A.M. MONDAY

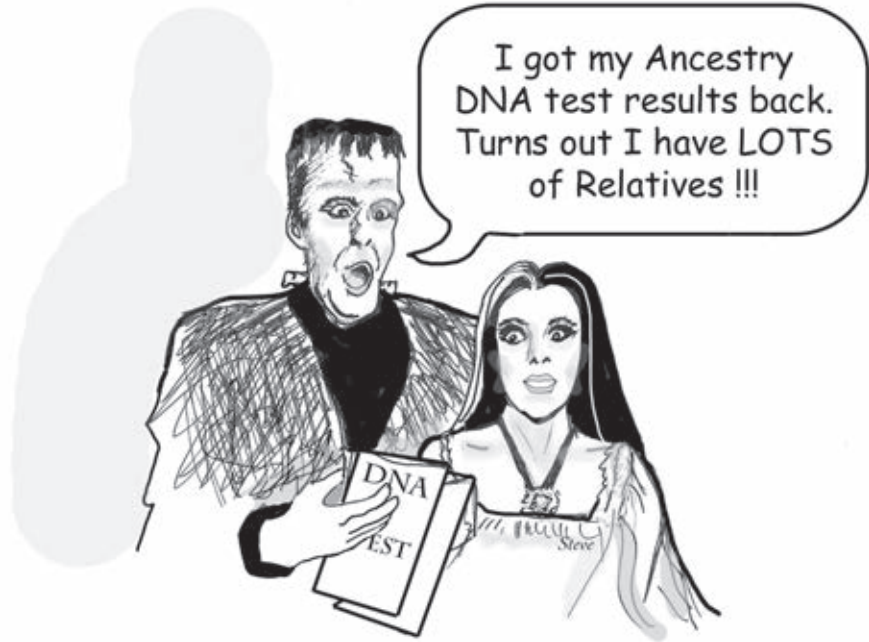
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Dallas County census stats

Dallas County has 540.8 square miles of land area and is the seventieth largest county in Missouri by total area.

Dallas County is bordered by Webster County, Missouri, Greene County, Missouri, Camden County, Missouri, Laclede County, Missouri, Polk County, Missouri and Hickory County, Missouri.

Total Population
17,071

Median Household Income
\$43,542

Bachelor's Degree or Higher
12.9%

Employment Rate
47.6%

Total Housing Units
7,588

Total Households
6,209

Without Health Care Coverage
15.7%

Total Employer Establishments
293

Median Age in Missouri
44.0

Veterans
11.3%

Median Household Income
\$43,542

Race and Ethnicity

American Indian and Alaska Native, 100
Asian, 25
Black or African American, 46
Hispanic or Latino, 320
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, 19
White alone, 15,696
Some Other Race alone, 104
Two or More Races, 934

School Enrollment K to 12
80.2 percent

Education

Bachelor's Degree or Higher, 12.9 percent
High School or equivalent degree, 44.5 percent
Some college, no degree, 21.3 percent.
Associate's degree, 4.7 percent.
Bachelor's degree, 7.0 percent.
Graduate or professional degree, 5.9 percent.

Employment

Employee of private company workers, 64.1 percent.
Self-employed in own incorporated business workers, 4.0 percent.
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers, 10.3 percent.
Local, state, and federal government workers, 9.4 percent.
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers and unpaid family workers, 12.1 percent.

Commuting

Average travel time to work, 30.2 minutes
Drove alone, 80.5 percent.
Carpool, 9.2 percent.
Public transportation, 0.2 percent.
Walked, 1.6 percent.
Other means, 3.1 percent.
Worked at home, 5.3 percent.

Employment Sectors

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining, 4.2 percent.
Construction, 8.4 percent.
Manufacturing, 13.5 percent.
Wholesale Trade, 1.8 percent.
Retail Trade, 13.8 percent.

Transportation and warehousing, and utilities, 11.0 percent.
Information, 0.2 percent.
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing, 4.9 percent.
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services, 8.1 percent.
Educational services, and health care and social assistance, 19.9 percent.
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services, 6.4 percent.
Other services, except public administration, 4.6 percent.
Public administration, 3.2 percent.

Workforce

Male, 43.1 percent.
Female, 37.4 percent.

Housing

Median Gross Rent \$724

Housing Units
7,588

Bedrooms in Occupied Housing Units
No Bedroom, 0.4 percent.
1 Bedroom, 8.1 percent.

2 or 3 Bedrooms, 72.6 percent.
4 or More Bedrooms, 19.0 percent.

Disabled Population

24.0 percent
Hearing difficulty, 7.5 percent.
Vision difficulty, 5.0 percent.
Cognitive difficulty, 10.2 percent.
Ambulatory difficulty, 14.3 percent.
Self-care difficulty, 4.7 percent.
Independent living difficulty, 10.5 percent.

Average Family Size

3.29
Married-couple family household, 54.5 percent.
Male householder, no spouse present, family household, 18.1 percent.
Female householder, no spouse present, family household, 22.7 percent.
Now Married (except separated), 53.7 percent.
Widowed, 7.6 percent.
Divorced, 17.3 percent.
Separated, 1.2 percent.
Never Married, 20.2 percent.

DATA FROM U.S. CENSUS

Key Takeaways From 2020 Census Information

- As of 2020 the region's population increased by 5.2% since 2015, growing by 857.
- From 2015 to 2020, jobs increased by 3.7% in Dallas County, MO from 3,208 to 3,326. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 0.0% by 3.7%.
- As the number of jobs increased, the labor force participation rate decreased from 70.2% to 69.3% between 2015 and 2020.
- Concerning educational attainment, 6.6% of Dallas County, MO residents possess a Bachelor's Degree (13.4% below the national average), and 4.6% hold an Associate's Degree (4.0% below the national average).
- The top three industries in 2020 are Education and Hospitals (Local Government), Restaurants and Other Eating Places, and Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals.

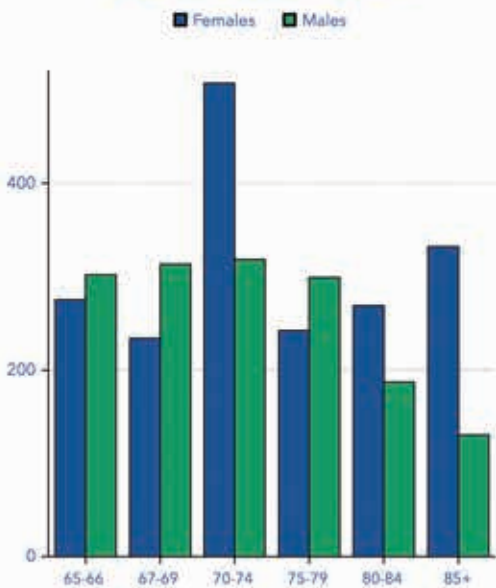


COUNTY COVID-19 IMPACT PLANNING REPORT

Dallas, Missouri (FIPS 29059)

United States
Census
Bureau

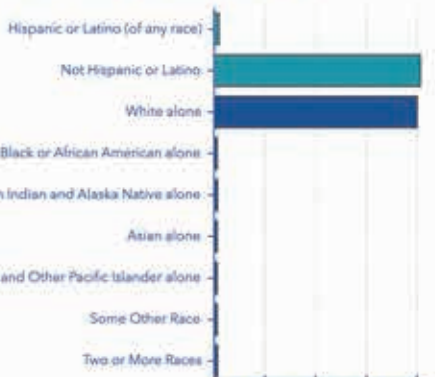
POPULATION 65 AND OLDER



Source: Census Programs

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY AGE	5-17	18-64	65+	Total
English Only	2,551	8,860	3,309	14,720
Spanish	60	23	58	133
Speak English "very well"	60	23	34	117
English less than "very well"	0	0	16	16
Other Indo-European	263	372	48	685
Speak English "very well"	119	173	31	323
English less than "very well"	146	199	17	362
Asian-Pacific Island	0	31	0	31
Speak English "very well"	0	31	0	31
English less than "very well"	0	0	0	0
Other Languages	0	0	0	0
Speak English "very well"	0	0	0	0
English less than "very well"	0	0	0	0

HISPANIC ORIGIN AND RACE



Source: Census Programs

KEY FACTS

16,617
Total Population

6,209
Total Households

2.64
Average Household Size

44.0
Median Age

67.9%
Internet At Home

BUSINESSES



293
Total Employer Establishments



1,804
Total Employees



\$47,163
Total Annual Payroll (\$1,000)



\$12,540
Total Accommodation and Food Services Sales (\$1,000)



1,441
Total Non-Employer Establishments



\$65,100
Total Non-Employer Revenue (\$1,000)

POVERTY



787
Households Below Poverty Level



643
Households Receiving Food Stamp/SNAP

AT-RISK POPULATION



2,667
Households with Disability



792
Households w/Pop 65+ Living Alone

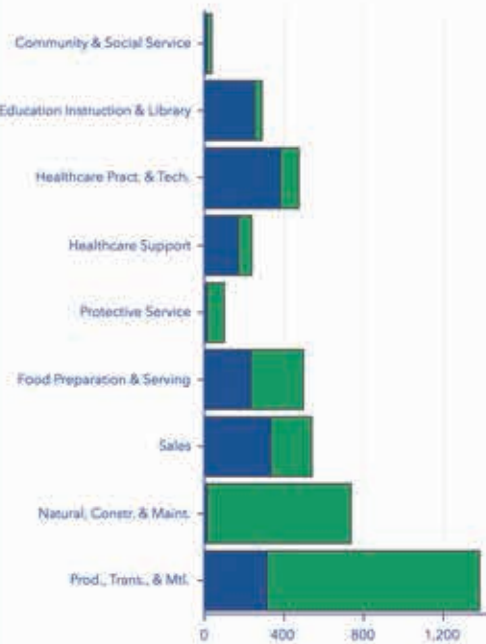


410
Households Without Vehicle

OCCUPATION BY SEX

(Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over)

■ Females ■ Males



COUNTY COVID-19 IMPACT PLANNING REPORT

Dallas, Missouri (FIPS 29059)

KEY FACTS

16,617
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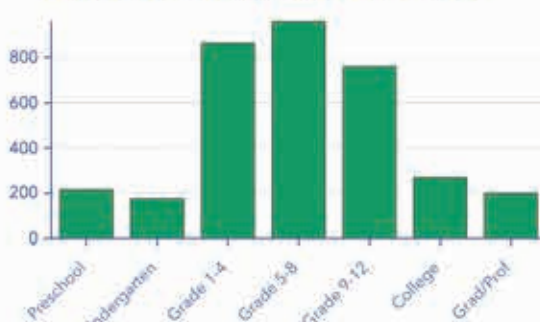
67.9%
Internet At Home

POPULATION AND POVERTY STATUS	Total
Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	16,374
Income to Poverty Ratio <0.50	573
Income to Poverty Ratio 0.50-0.99	1,613
Income to Poverty Ratio 1.00-1.24	1,106
Income to Poverty Ratio 1.25-1.49	1,342
Income to Poverty Ratio 1.50-1.84	1,734
Income to Poverty Ratio 1.85-1.99	453
Income to Poverty Ratio 2.00+	9,553

POVERTY LEVELS	Below	At or Above	Total
All Households	787	5,422	6,209
Married-Couple Family Households	124	3,259	3,383
Other Families HHlds w/Male Householder	54	217	1,123
Other Families HHlds w/Female Householder	216	318	1,409
Nonfamily HHlds w/Male Householder	128	859	985
Nonfamily HHlds w/Female Householder	267	769	1,036

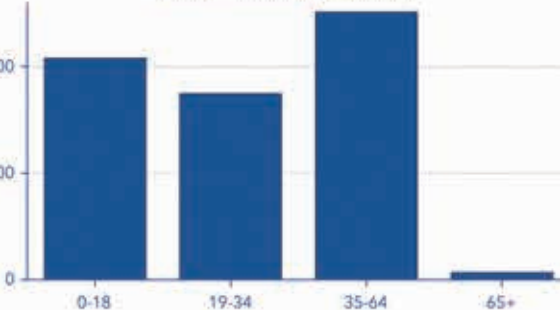
OTHER POPULATION FACTS	Total
Population Density (per square km)	11.9
Population in Dependent Age (under 18 and 65+)	7,331
Population 65+ Living in Group Quarters	173
Average Household Size of Owner-Occupied Unit	2.66
Average Household Size of Renter-Occupied Unit	2.56

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (AGE 3 AND OVER)



POPULATION WITH NO HEALTH INSURANCE BY AGE

(Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population)



Version 5.0
August 17, 2021



Ozarks Community
Health Center

OCHC Urbana Medical/Behavioral Health Office

OCHC offers a full-service medical clinic in Urbana, MO.

Find Us at 408 S. Dallas, Urbana, MO 65767.

Phone: 417-993-1002 • Fax: 417-993-1006

Services At The OCHC Urbana Medical Clinic Include:
Diagnosing And Treating Illness
Minor Procedures
Routine Physical Exams
Laboratory Services
Immunizations
X-Rays
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1 block south of square

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345-4671



607614jm

Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic coming in June



In June, Chris Twitchel, Buffalo police chief, is planning a free rabies vaccination clinic and microchip event for animals.

In Buffalo, animals must register with the city during June each year. The vaccination clinic will make registration easy during the four-hour program. In addition, free vaccines will be offered to animals and microchipping to help promote responsible pet ownership.

Twitchel wants to provide everything he can to give people the opportunity to take care of their animals. He has started

lining up donations and the program costs will not be the city's responsibility.

Currently, there is an animal nuisance in the city with stray animals in almost every neighborhood and owners who are not taking care of the animals; after the first warning to the pet owner, tickets for ordinance violations are written to control strays. Steps are underway to control the problem.

More details will follow in the newspaper from Twitchel as the event draws nearer.

Coffee with a Cop serves up hot coffee on April 13

The first 'Coffee with the Cop' is from 8 to 10 a.m., April 13, at Espresso No. 825 for a meet and greet. Police Chief Chris Twitchel will buy you a coffee and listen to your concerns.

The plan is to rotate the meet and greet coffee time at other restaurants and get to know all business owners. He wants a community-driven police department to find out where the department's failings exist and when they are succeeding. He is looking to build community trust and be mindful of improving the department and being a progressive department.

The public is invited for these discussions.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between south and southeast
4. Celebrations
9. Pulpits
14. Pin
15. Rare laughing
16. Parts of the circulatory system
17. Financial term
18. Pearl Jam frontman
20. Cores of vascular plants
22. Strong sharp smell or taste
23. City in S. Korea
24. One from Damascus
28. Short message at the end of an email
29. It cools your home
30. Towards the mouth or oral region
31. Intestinal pouches
33. Boys and men
37. The 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
38. Former CIA
39. A way to arrange
41. Body cavity
42. The Great Lake State
43. A type of seal
44. Stop for a moment
46. Ancient kingdom
49. Of I
50. White clerical vestment
51. Songs to a lover
55. Prices
58. Sun-dried brick
59. Where to park a boat
60. One who values

reason and knowledge
64. Partner to feather
65. Sailboats
66. Actress Zellweger
67. Type of screen
68. Country singer Haggard
69. Puts together in time
70. When you hope to arrive

CLUES DOWN

1. An involuntary muscular contraction
2. PA transit system
3. Leaves a place
4. Sweet greenish fruit
5. Lends support to
6. Chap
7. Singer Di Franco
8. Water at boiling temperature diffused in the atmosphere
9. Asserts to be the case
10. Doctor (Spanish)
11. Auction attendee
12. Characterized by unity
13. Soviet Socialist Republic
19. Way to analyze video (abbr.)
21. Nonclerical
24. Tree resin
25. The academic world
26. Khoikhoi peoples
27. Infer from data
31. Arrives
32. Apart
34. Takes on cargo

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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35. Beloved Hollywood alien
36. Takes apart
40. Dorm official
41. Secondary or explanatory descriptor
45. Relating to wings
47. Speaker
48. Situated in the middle
52. Loop with a running knot
53. Alaska nursing group (abbr.)
54. Beloveds
56. Establish by law or with authority
57. Border river between India and Nepal
59. Millisecond
60. Revolutions per minute
61. They ____
62. ESPN broadcaster Bob
63. A place to stay

MANAGE DIABETES WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

AMYLIN
BLOOD
BODY
BOLUS
CARBOHYDRATE
CAUTION
CHRONIC
COMPLICATIONS
DIABETES
DIAGNOSIS
DIET
ENDOCRINE
EXERCISE
GESTATIONAL
GLUCAGON
GLUCOSE
HEALTHY
HORMONE
INSULIN
MANAGE
MONITORING
PANCREAS
SUGAR
SYMPTOMS

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to diabetes.

VELLE

Answer Level

YOUR FARM COMES FIRST
WITH OUR AG LOANS

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Pillowcase Races

Try a pillowcase instead because households may not have potato sacks to play a favorite family game. Also, Easter egg hunt races can use up energy from all the candy the children will find hidden in the eggs.

Easter Egg Walk

Instead of the walking race with an egg on a spoon, try a plastic plate instead and watch the race get wild.

Rain, Rain, Go Away

Buy disposable shower caps and cheap shaving cream. Pair contestants up. Then, one will wear the shower cap and apply shaving cream all over their head. Next, separate the pairs giving the uncapped player a bowl of popcorn or Cheetos and toss on the cap of shaving cream. The one with the most on the cap wins.

Easter Egg Skyscrapers

After the egg hunt is over, opened and treats eaten, have a race to see which child can stack the half shells on top of each other to the highest point before it falls over. You may want to set a time on this one.

New books at the library

Fiction

“Gwendy’s Final Task” by Stephen King. When Gwendy Peterson was twelve, a mysterious stranger named Richard Farris gave her a mysterious box for safekeeping. It offered treats and vintage coins, but it was dangerous. Pushing any of its seven colored buttons promised death and destruction. Years later, she’s a successful novelist and a rising political star and evil forces seek to possess the button box.

“Along the Rio Grande” by Tracy Peterson. Recently widowed Susanna Jenkins has decided to follow her family to San Marcial, New Mexico, for a fresh start and to aid in her family’s sudden change in fortune. They are tasked with managing her uncle’s new Grand Hotel, and it takes all her patience to try to help her

parents see the good of their circumstances and relinquish their sense of entitlement.

“Woman on Fire” by Lisa Barr. After talking her way into a job with Dan Mansfield, the leading investigative reporter in Chicago, rising young journalist Jules Roth is given an unusual—and very secret—assignment. To locate Ernst Engel’s famous work, “Woman of Fire” that was stolen by Nazis years earlier. World-renowned shoe designer Ellis Baum wants this portrait of a beautiful, mysterious woman for deeply personal reasons, and has enlisted Dan’s help to find it. But Jules doesn’t have much time; the famous designer is dying.

“The Darkest Place” by Phillip Margolin. Robin Lockwood is an increasingly prominent defense attorney in the Portland community. A Yale graduate and former MMA fighter, she’s becoming known for her string of innovative and successful defense strategies. As a favor to a judge, Robin takes on the pro bono defense of a reprehensible defendant charged with even more reprehensible crimes. But what she doesn’t know—what she can’t know—is how this one decision, this one case, will wreak complete devastation on her life and plans.

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Nuthin' to do! — I beg your pardon.

Joy Beamer is senior staff at the Buffalo Reflex. Her column appears every week in the Buffalo Reflex on the commentary page.

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Local wedding venues trade ownership during the pandemic

By Joy Beamer
joyb@buffaloreflex.com

Tara Rigger and her family are becoming the new wedding moguls for Dallas County. In March 2020, Rigger and her family purchased Timber Line Barn from Chad and Nichole Bryan, the start of COVID-19 and the nationwide business shut-down. Unfortunately, the first wedding was not until May 2020, but they finished the first year out with 35 marriages. The Bryans offered the industrial venue to Rigger for a second wedding venue last year. Rigger felt it was not good timing in 2021, but the couple said yes with confidence in 2022. So the Rigger family decided to take the leap and purchase the Market 116 Industrial Wedding Venue and the Gathering Place.

The Bryans changed the first Market 116 storefront to an event meeting space after the store moved to the old Woods building. The Gathering Room serves smaller events, parties, showers and small gatherings, seating up to 125 people. The Gathering Place sits on the square where the original Market 116 opened before moving to the Woods building. The three wedding/event spaces are available for all sizes of weddings and gatherings.

The most significant change the public will see is the name change to the downtown wedding venue. The new name is The James Industrial Wedding Venue.

The big question around town is why “The James?” Hearts will melt after reading this heartwarming story.

James Junior Rigger is Tara’s grandfather, who is 95 years old. He is a respected icon in his hometown, West Plains.

His life has many twists and turns. First, he lost his mother to the childbirth of his last brother. Also, his father died suddenly, leaving the 14-year-old to care for his younger brothers. After about a year, social services found out about the situation and came and placed the boys in separate homes.

At 15, he left to find his way in the world, working odd jobs along the way. He grew up through the depression and the war had begun in Europe.

He knew if he joined the army, he would have food and shelter. Also, the army had to be easier than trying to live independently with odd jobs at a young age. He was not afraid of work,



James Rigger has lived a humble life and leads his family in values and heart. Picture in the frame is James and wife, Phyllis Rigger on their wedding day, July 28, 1947. They were married for 66 years when Phyllis passed away in 2013. CONTRIBUTED



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THE JAMES INDUSTRIAL WEDDING VENUE
203 E Commercial St, Buffalo

THE GATHERING PLACE
116 Market St., Buffalo



Tara Rigger honors her grandfather by naming their newest wedding venue The James. PHOTOGRAPH BY LACI HOLLAND

but stability was looking pretty good. So to become a World War II veteran, James changed his last name and lied

about his birthday to join in the war. He deployed and fought, landing on the beach in Germany. Later, he served

in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), where confidential information is still under wraps. He came home and

found his wife, to whom he was married for over 60 years before her death in 2013. Tara comes from a family with long-term, healthy marital relationships. She has seen marriages thrive. Now having wedding venues, she can encourage her brides and grooms at the start of their marriages to build lives like her ancestors.

The entire family thinks the world of James. He is a big family person putting them first. As the elder in the family, he has demonstrated sacrifice, hard work, compassion for his children and grandchildren. The incredible life was met with a humble attitude while building a committed relationship with his wife and he was deeply grateful for his family. His desire is for his family to be successful and happy together.

James is the person who always says grace at family meals. He always prays, “grateful for family, for his life.”

Tara’s been able to see many great marriage examples. For example, her grandparents were married for over 60 years on both sides of

Tara’s family. Plus, her parents have been married for 52 years.

“So, it’s fitting to own a wedding venue,” commented Rigger.

She has been committed to her husband, Allen, for 20 years. His job takes him on the road, so the wedding venues are often a one-woman show. He has contributed to maintenance and project completions, but Tara handles the day-to-day.

They have two teenage children: a son, Kesler Gibson and a daughter, Surelle Gibson. Since they moved here in March of 2020, the children never started school in the first school year. The entire support system changed when they bought the barn. New friends and community under the guise of a pandemic were daunting.

The children take part in the family business by mowing and weed eating. They help with the trash and ceremony flips, changing the seating from the ceremony to the reception.

Tara began to meet local women with the help

See **VENUES**, Page 9

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646426b

Continued from Page 8

Both spaces have parking just a few steps from the door. In addition,



The tables can be arranged in any formation the renter prefers. Weddings, meetings, trainings, proms and special dinners can be booked at The James. PHOTOGRAPH BY LACI HOLLAND

There are no hidden fees. The event is transparent with all charges known upfront, all-inclusive, clean-



Brides and their parties can choose between the outdoor courtyard or the inside of The James for their special day. PHOTOGRAPH BY LACI HOLLAND

ing rental set up and break down. At an additional cost, linens are available to rent. If alcohol is served, there is an additional alcohol fee to pay for the extra work alcohol brings

Tara encourages organizations to contact her to donate space for community-driven events. Reach out to them and discuss a donation.

646781hb



Buffalo Art Walk and Craft Fair applications are available online

Applications for the 2022 Buffalo Art Walk and Craft Fair are available online, on the Buffalo Art Walk and Craft Fair Facebook page.

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, on the Buffalo square. The theme of the 2022 art walk is "Show Me Buffalo!" The goal is to celebrate all things Buffalo and Dallas County, promoting pride in both the area's history and future trajectory.

The art walk committee is seeking artisans, such as those who create paintings, pottery, fabric arts and photographs, to apply.

The committee also is seeking storytellers who can relate tales about historical happenings in Buffalo and Dallas County. History and folklore all would be topics of interest. People are encouraged to tell their stories live during the event, or for those who would prefer another option, they could record their stories beforehand. Home videos that show Buffalo and Dallas County sights from yesteryear



also are sought, to be displayed at the event. For more information, contact Carrie Hulsey, art walk committee chairwoman, at thehavenmaternityhome@thehavenofrestministries.com or 417-414-3003.

Thus far, vendors who have filled out applications to attend include a variety of art forms and crafts, including resin, earrings, T-shirts, wood signs,

key chains, woodworking, paintings, sewn items, crocheted items, vinyl items, tumblers, quilts, jewelry and beaded roses, upcycle crafts, freshies, loom knitting crafts, children's activities, sugar scrubs, hats, bags, garden crafts, leather, wind chimes, gun racks, soaps, bath bombs, lotion bars, lip balms, candles and polymer clay jewelry.

Food vendors include those with sweets, carnival and fair foods, bake sale items, shaved ice, shakes, cotton candy, caramel apples, nachos and pickles.

Dance Sensations students also are scheduled to perform at the event.

For more information, contact Carrie Hulsey, art walk committee chairwoman, at thehavenmaternityhome@thehavenofrestministries.com or 417-414-3003.

2022 Buffalo Art Walk Exhibition and Gallery will be expanded

The 2022 Buffalo Art Walk on May 7 at the square will feature an Art Exhibition and Gallery area again this year. Instead of only paintings, drawings and photography, the exhibition area has been expanded for 2022. This will be an area where artists who do not want to have a vendor space can exhibit a few paintings, drawings, photographs, pottery pieces, wood carvings, fiber art pieces, woven pieces (due to display space, nothing really large) and creative jewelry pieces. Exhibitors may enter up to three pieces of art.

Artwork in the exhibition area may be any medium, including oil on canvas, watercolors, chalk, pencil, pen and ink, as well as photography. Exhibitors will have about 3 to 5 feet of display space.

Photography must be matted, framed or unframed, and at least 8-by-10-inches. Photos may be color, black and white, or digitally enhanced (describe what was done and the process).

Artwork will not be hung, but will be displayed on easels. Exhibition organizer Deanna Akers Stuckey has a source to borrow easels, but exhibitors are encouraged to use their own, if they have them. There will be table easels for displaying smaller artwork and photography.

Artwork cannot display prices, but business cards or other contact information is allowed. Artwork must be the work of the artist but does not have to be new.

To keep this a quality exhibit, the committee reserves the right to accept or reject artwork. Remember, this is a public exhibit and families with small children will be viewing the art, so the choice of the



subject matter should be G-rated.

For those who have more artwork, they are welcome to fill out an application for a vendor booth. The goal of this exhibition is to let the public know how talented the artists are in this community.

Artwork can be brought to Buffalo City Hall on Friday, May 6, during business hours. If these times are not convenient, let Stuckey know at 417-345-6358. Stuckey plans to set up the display Friday, May 6.

Anyone who plans to participate should let Stuckey know what they plan to bring. This will help her decide how to arrange the exhibit and to make information display cards. She can be reached at 417-345-6358.

Stuckey encourages readers to pass this exhibition information along to area artists or send her the names and addresses for area artists, so she can send them information. For more information, she can be reached at 417-345-6358 or dstuckey000@centurytel.net. She can also be reached by private message on Facebook at Deanna Akers Stuckey.

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Lindley Creek hits the trail with a new Spaghetti Western music video

Dallas County Bluegrass band releases new single and video

BY STEVE JOHNSON
stevej@buffaloreflex.com

Internationally recognized band Lindley Creek has just released their latest single “Too Bad You’re no Good” from their upcoming sophomore album. It’s just a taste of what fans of the fast-rising Missouri natives have in store on their upcoming Pinecastle Records effort. Needless to say, there are plenty more surprises in store and the future is certainly looking bright!

Since the release of their debut album Freedom, Love and The Open Road, Lindley Creek quickly burst onto the national Bluegrass scene. The entire record was produced by Jim VanCleve. Along the way, they’ve turned several heads and charted multiple songs including a No. 2 debut on the Bluegrass Today chart with their lead single “I Gotta Go,” while also being selected as an official showcase artist at the IBMA World of Bluegrass event in 2021. They were also a finalist for the IBMA Award for “Momentum Band of the Year,” while lead singer Katie Greer was a nominee up for “Momentum Vocalist of the Year.”

The busy Dallas County resident family bluegrass music group is a regular feature at Silver Dollar City’s The Gazebo on the town square. It is at the Silver Dollar Saloon where the “Too Bad You’re No Good” video was filmed with local talented SDC actors playing roles in the melodramatic Spaghetti Western action that accompanies the band’s



Lindley Creek as they appear in the “Too Bad You’re no Good” video filmed in the Silver Dollar Saloon at Silver Dollar City. From left are: Jase Greer, Kathie Greer, Katie Greer, John Rob Greer and guest star, Tate Greer.



Lindley Creek Band takes a moment from the busy performance schedule to pose in front of The Gazebo sign where they perform at Silver Dollar City. From left are: Caroline Greer, Jase Greer, Katie Greer, Nathaniel Hutson, Kathie Greer and John Greer.

stage performance. Buffalo’s Southwestern Missouri Celtic Festival attendees were the first to hear the song debut at live stage performances by Lindley Creek.

“The song is somewhat of a drawback to the Country Music of the 90s,” said Lindley Creek guitarist and vocalist Kathie Greer. “The tune is a departure from our regular mix of songs and is slightly reminiscent of the songs from “O Brother Where Art Thou. It is ‘rootsy’

country meet bluegrass. I think it will even appeal to the Outlaw Country market.”

the end. It was Calloway who first hired Lindley Creek to perform at SDC in 2004, three years after the music group began performing and recording.

The costumes and lighting were supplied by SDC and with the saloon being closed to performances over the past year because of COVID 19, it was the perfect time to shoot the video. The video also holds another surprise. Family member and former Lindley Creek banjo player, Tate Greer makes a cameo performance wearing a handle-bar mustache.

As with any Western romantic comedy, Love has its ups and downs and in this music video, there’s more downs than ups. The colorful costumes and sultry vocals of Katie Greer make this video a real pleasure to watch and listen.

The single “Too Bad You’re No Good” is bound to be a hit. It was written by songwriters Paul Craft and Cadillac Holmes. The album is yet to be released but plans are for sometime in 2022.

Lindley Creek is John Rob Greer (bass and vocals) and wife, Kathie (guitar and vocals), along with their children Jase (violin and vocals) and Katie (lead vocals and mandolin). You can learn more about the group by visiting their website at lindleycreek.com or watch more videos at YouTube - Lindley Creek Band.

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Q&A

Mary Coursey-Ritter

Aquistion Manager
(The person who promotes the Reflex and other Phillips Media newspapers at local businesses).

What is your favorite thing to do on your day off from work?
Anything outside in the sun, in the water, and with my family. Kayaking is my latest love.

What words of wisdom would you share with your childhood self?
Trust yourself and love yourself more or no one else will either.

What would you say are the major values or principles you live by?
Be still and let God be God. Leave others feeling better than when you greeted them.

What is the best thing about your job?
I get to give people a great discount for something they already love.

What's the most daring thing you've ever done?
Jump off cliff or zip line.

How are you like your mom? Like your dad?
Caring like my mom and always up for an adventure like my dad.

What are some little things that make your day better?
Jesus & sunshine & coffee & worship music.

If people came with warning labels, what would yours say?
I may start talking about Jesus at anytime.

If you had intro music every time you entered a room, what would the song be?
"My Jesus" by Anne Wilson.

What famous person would you like to meet for coffee and conversation? Why?

Jesus. To know for sure my sole purpose and to thank Him for dying for me.

What is something you have done that you are very proud of?
Leading people to Jesus.

Where is the most awe inspiring place you have been?
Up until this last spring break I would say the ocean, however, the Smoky Mountains are definitely breathtaking.

What do you do for stress relief?
Take a hot bath surrounded by candles.

Are you afraid of anything (one of your fears)?
Faith > fear.

Do you recall any particular mentor and what did they help you learn?
Life lessons is my greatest teacher. Everything is either a lesson or a blessing.

Do you have any pets? What are their names and breed?
None at this time, but once we buy a house, a dog or two is a must.

What's something most people don't know about you?
I love to dance and put peanut butter in my coffee.

If you could have one superpower, what would you choose and how would you use it?
Healing people would definitely be my super power, not just physically but mentally as well.

Name three of your favorite movies.
"Footloose," "Dirty Dancing" and "Sister Act."



Q&A

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