



Citizen-Observer

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Cameron, MO

UPCOMING EVENTS

Harlem Wizards Game,
May 7 @6:30 pm at the
Cameron High School

Mother's Day
Sunday, May 10

8th Annual UTV Patriot
Ride April 25th @10am

Farmers market opens
May 23rd through
October 10th

CAMERON
CITIZEN OBSERVER

**CANDIDATE
WATCH**

MO-6
DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY CANDIDATES
FOR MISSOURI'S 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

This Week: **Smead & Levine**
Interviews Inside

Citizen Observer Election Coverage

Cameron Officials Seek Answers, Reimbursement After May 1 Superload Disruption

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor
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A massive superload that disrupted traffic in and around Cameron on Friday, May 1, is now drawing scrutiny from local officials, who say they intend to seek reimbursement for the public safety response tied to the incident.

The issue surfaced during Monday night's Cameron City Council meeting, where Police Chief Dan Miller and Fire Chief Mike O'Donnell both confirmed their departments are reviewing costs associated with the disruption. Clinton County Sheriff Kasey Carrel is also expected to be involved in the reimbursement effort.

According to local officials, the May 1 incident caused significant traffic problems and contributed to two accidents. Emergency responders were forced to deal with the effects of the oversized transport as traffic patterns were disrupted near Cameron.

The identity of the company responsible for transporting the load had not been confirmed by deadline.

The *Citizen Observer* is working to obtain records from the Missouri

Department of Transportation related to the oversized/overweight permit, approved route, permit holder and any special conditions tied to the move. Those records are expected to clarify who authorized the route and who may ultimately be responsible for the costs incurred by local agencies.

Aerial photos taken by Ross Worth show the scale of the transport and the traffic complications surrounding the incident. The images show a load large enough to create obvious traffic-control challenges as it moved through the area.

The superload discussion came near the end of an otherwise routine council meeting. The amended agenda included liquor license renewals, a contract with the Cameron Municipal Band, zoning language related to flag lots, updates to the city's fee schedule and work tied to Wastewater Pump Station No. 12.

Council also discussed ongoing infrastructure work, including a sewer project along BB Highway, known locally as East Evergreen Street.

City officials did not indicate that Cameron taxpayers would simply absorb the May 1 response costs.



Aerial photos by Ross Worth show the scale of the May 1 superload that disrupted traffic in and around Cameron. Local officials say police, fire and law enforcement agencies are reviewing costs from the incident and expect to seek reimbursement from the responsible company.

Instead, the discussion pointed toward a multi-agency effort to determine expenses and pursue reimbursement from the responsible party.

For now, the central unanswered questions remain: who transported the superload, who approved its route through the area, and whether

local agencies were given enough notice and support to safely manage the move.

The *Citizen Observer* will continue following the issue as additional records become available.

Farmers State Bank leaders emphasize continuity, local control in pending \$28.3M sale

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Farmers State Bank leaders emphasize continuity, local control in pending \$28.3M sale

As Farmers State Bank prepares to join a larger regional banking company, leaders on both sides of the deal are emphasizing a consistent message: for customers in Cameron, the day-to-day experience is not expected to change.

The bank's parent company, FSC Bancshares, entered into an agreement April 29 to be acquired by Jefferson City-based Hawthorn Bancshares in a transaction valued at approximately \$28.3 million. The deal remains subject to shareholder and regulatory approval, but both FSC President Michael Poland and Hawthorn CEO Brent Giles said they expect the transaction to close



by mid-August.

In interviews with the *Citizen Observer*, both men described the deal not as a departure from community banking, but as an extension of it.

"We serve the community —

that investment philosophy doesn't change," Giles said.

Continuity at the local level

That emphasis on continuity was a central theme throughout both interviews.

Poland said customers should

expect to continue working with the same employees they know today, including their lenders, even after the transaction is completed. Both he and Giles stressed that local lending authority is expected to remain in place, allowing decisions affecting Cameron customers to continue being made locally.

"We were already running lean," Poland said, addressing one of the most immediate concerns surrounding the deal — potential job losses. He added that eliminating unnecessary layers of redundancy is unlikely to be necessary.

Both leaders said executive-level leadership is expected to remain in place, describing those individuals as essential to maintaining operational stability through the transition. Rank-and-file employees are also expected to remain.

Expanded services

While much of the focus has been on what will stay the same, Poland pointed to what he sees as one of the most meaningful benefits of the transaction: expanded services.

He said Hawthorn's capabilities in wealth management and trust services will provide new options for Farmers State Bank customers — services that have not traditionally been available through the local bank.

A familiar presence in northwest Missouri

Giles said the move into northwest Missouri is not unfamiliar territory for him personally.

A 1989 graduate of the University of Missouri, Giles began his career as a bank examiner with the Federal Deposit

See **FARMERS** on page 2

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FARMERS

from front page

Insurance Corporation, with northwest Missouri serving as his first assigned territory. He later served as CEO of Lawson Bank from 2000 to 2003 and CEO of Bank Liberty from 2003 to 2022.

That experience, he said, gives him a strong understanding of the region and its community banking traditions.

Leadership questions remain

One key question that has not yet been resolved is who will serve as Hawthorn's northwest Missouri market president.

Giles said that decision has not yet been finalized, leaving at least one piece of the future leadership structure still to be determined.

Deep Missouri roots

The transaction brings together two institutions with deep roots in Missouri banking.

Farmers State Bank traces its origins to 1878, when it was founded as Farmers Bank of Cameron, establishing nearly a century and a half of local banking history. Hawthorn's lineage dates back to Jefferson City Savings Association, which was chartered Sept. 22, 1865, according to

Hawthorn company materials.

Deal structure and ownership questions

Under the agreement, FSC shareholders will receive a combination of stock and cash, including 413,101 shares of Hawthorn common stock and \$14 million in cash. The deal was valued at approximately \$28.3 million based on Hawthorn's April 28 closing stock price of \$34.57.

Public filings indicate that directors and executive officers of FSC Bancshares collectively control a significant portion of the company's shares, positioning that group to receive a substantial share of the proceeds from the transaction. However, individual ownership stakes — including how much any one family or executive stands to receive — have not yet been publicly disclosed.

That information is expected to be detailed in a forthcoming SEC filing tied to the transaction.

What comes next

Even with leadership stressing stability, several practical questions remain for customers — including when branding changes

BREAKING NEWS

FARMERS STATE BANK PARENT COMPANY TO BE ACQUIRED IN \$28.3 MILLION DEAL

Hawthorn Bancshares to acquire FSC Bancshares, adding 9 branches in northwest Missouri.



DEAL VALUE
\$28.3 MILLION
Cash and stock transaction



COMBINED ASSETS
APPROX. \$2.2 BILLION
\$1.7B loans | \$1.9B deposits



EXPANDS FOOTPRINT
ADDS \$384 MILLION
in assets and 9 branch locations



EXPECTED TO CLOSE
IN Q3 2026
Subject to shareholder and regulatory approvals

CAMERON CITIZEN OBSERVER
LOCAL NEWS. LOCAL VOICE.

We'll continue following this story and what it means for Farmers State Bank customers and employees.

may occur, whether systems will be consolidated and how account services could evolve over time.

For now, both sides are framing the transaction as a way to maintain local relationships while

expanding capabilities.

In a community where banking relationships are often measured in decades, not years, the success of that message will ultimately depend not on what is promised

now, but on what remains in place after the deal is done.

Candidate Watch - Missouri's 6th Congressional District

Josh Smead Emphasizes Rural Outreach, Healthcare Access in 6th District Interview

By Sean Shaughnessey

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Democratic congressional candidate Josh Smead presented a detailed policy platform and a campaign centered on rural outreach during a recent interview with the *Citizen Observer*, positioning himself as a working-class candidate focused on healthcare access, agriculture, infrastructure and economic reform.

Smead, 36, is a Liberty-based architect and small business owner seeking the Democratic nomination in Missouri's 6th Congressional District. Originally from Harrisonburg, Virginia, he moved to the Kansas City area in 2017 and now runs an architecture firm with his wife while raising four children.

He said his campaign is rooted in engagement across the district, particularly in rural communities he believes have been overlooked.

"I've put over 10,000 miles on my car at this point... talking with dozens and dozens of groups," Smead said.

Focus on rural presence

Smead made rural engagement a central theme of his campaign, contrasting his approach with what



he described as a lack of visibility from current leadership.

"I think part of it has been a lack of people showing up," he said of Democratic struggles in rural Missouri.

He described traveling to smaller communities throughout the district, including sparsely attended meetings, as part of an effort to build relationships and better understand local concerns.

"Whether you do have rural or urban, there are a lot of shared issues," he said, pointing to healthcare access, education funding and economic pressures.

Healthcare and rural access

Healthcare access emerged as one of Smead's central campaign issues, with the candidate tying rural hospital closures directly to Medicaid funding, emergency

care and quality of life in small communities.

"I would support increasing funding for Medicaid, which funds a lot of our rural hospitals and clinics," Smead said.

Smead argued that cuts to Medicaid and SNAP reflect misplaced federal priorities, saying rural residents are often hurt first when hospitals, clinics and senior care facilities lose funding.

He pointed to the closed Audrain County hospital in Mexico, Missouri, as an example of what happens when rural communities lose local healthcare access. Smead said he visited the facility and later heard from a woman whose father suffered a heart attack after the hospital had closed.

"Nearest EMTs were coming from Columbia," Smead said. "They were working on him for hours in front of his house, blocks away from this closed hospital. He did not make it."

Smead said the woman told him she was preparing to move to Columbia because she was aging and no longer felt safe living in a community without a hospital.

"Access to healthcare in rural Missouri is top of mind for many people," Smead said.

He also connected rural healthcare to maternity care,

saying parts of north Missouri have become maternity deserts where women must drive long distances to deliver a baby or receive care.

"It is more dangerous today to have a baby in North Missouri than it was 40 years ago," Smead said.

For Smead, expanding healthcare access also means keeping local clinics open, increasing federal support for Medicaid and improving routine access to women's healthcare, prenatal care and basic medical services closer to home.

Agriculture and farm policy

On agriculture, Smead pointed to consolidation in the industry and rising input costs as major challenges for family farms. He tied those concerns to federal policy, particularly trade and tariff decisions.

"We need stability... when we have export markets that can be influenced to the degree they can, and we have no check on that, then we have an issue," he said.

Smead said smaller producers are less able to absorb sudden increases in fertilizer, fuel and other input costs than large-scale operations.

He also voiced support for federal right-to-repair protections for farmers, arguing that producers should have greater control over

their equipment and maintenance.

"When you buy a piece of equipment, you need to own it — full stop," he said.

On the Farm Bill, Smead highlighted support for programs that provide stability to producers, including federal purchasing programs tied to domestic food systems. He also raised concerns about pesticide liability protections and environmental impacts tied to large-scale agriculture.

Economic concerns and housing

Smead also addressed housing affordability, particularly the role of institutional investors in driving up home prices and limiting access for younger buyers.

"I do think that large-scale hedge funds scooping up single-family houses has caused a tremendous asset shortage," he said.

He proposed increasing the supply of affordable housing, particularly in rural communities, and suggested federal support for development projects aimed at lowering entry-level home prices.

Energy, infrastructure and Grain Belt Express

On energy policy, Smead advocated for diversification of the nation's energy mix, including

See WATCH on page 9

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Cameron Fire Department ~ Calls for Service

The following report is calls for service answered by the Cameron Fire Department from April 26 - May 3, 2026.

04/26/26	12:33 ROAD CLOSURE NE WITT RD / NE 336TH ST
12:13 SEVERE WEATHER 101 N CHESTNUT ST	05/01/26
04/27/26	08:14 ASSIST OUTSIDE 2108 E HIGHWAY 36
03:17 FIRE ALARM 408 EAGLES LANDING PKWY	09:25 MVA UNKNOWN MM 56 IS 35 S
04:07 54 N FRANKLIN ST, KINGSTON, MO 64650	11:12 FIRE - CITIZEN 101 N CHESTNUT ST
04:14 MVA UNKNOWN MM 45 IS35, LATHROP	12:34 CONTROLLED BURN 7737 SE RAVEN RD
04/28/26	18:46 CONTROLLED BURN 1305 2ND STREET TER
10:45 FOLLOW UP 1920 BOB F GRIFFIN RD	19:28 FIRE - GAS LEAK 514 N WALNUT ST
04/29/26	05/02/26
10:18 TEST EQUIPMENT 1600 E EVERGREEN ST	14:55 MVA UNKNOWN NW HIGHWAY 36 / NW SALE BARN RD, CAMERON, MO
10:49 FIRE ADMINSTRATIVE CAMERON FIRE DEPARTMENT	TOTAL RECORDS: 15

Cameron Police Department - Arrest Report

April 26 - May 3, 2026

ROE, WILLIAM CARLYLE CAMERON, MO 64429 49 04/29/26 12:08 ADMIN - FAIL TO APPEAR / CITY OF CAMERON WARRANT. Pending
TOTAL RECORDS: 1

Cameron Police Department ~ Calls for Service

The following report is calls for service, listed by type of call and the number of calls per category, answered by the Cameron Police Department from April 26 - May 3, 2026.			
911 HANG UP	4	HARASSMENT	4
911 MISDIAL	1	HIT & RUN	1
911 OPEN LINE	6	INFO	2
AIRCRAFT	1	INTOXICATED DRIVER	1
ALARM - PD	2	LOST PROPERTY	3
AMBULANCE SCENE RESPONSE	5	MEETING	2
ANIMAL CITY	5	MOTORIST ASSIST	2
AREA CHECK	18	MVA COLD	2
ASSIST CAMERON SCHOOLS POLICE DEPARTMENT	1	MVA NON INJURY	1
ASSIST OUTSIDE AGENCY	7	OTHER AGENCY CALL	1
BROADCAST	1	PARKING COMPLAINT	2
BUILDING CHECK	5	PEDESTRIAN CHECK	1
CARELESS AND IMPRUDENT DRIVER	6	PROPERTY DAMAGE	1
CCDC TRANSPORT	1	PUBLIC WORKS / UTILITIES	2
CHECK THE WELFARE	7	REPOSSESSION	1
CITIZEN ASSIST	20	ROAD CLOSURE	1
CIVIL	3	SEVERE WEATHER INCIDENT	3
DEATH NOTIFICATION	1	SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	2
DEBRIS	1	STEALING	4
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1	SUICIDAL SUBJECT	1
DISTURBANCE	3	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY - PERSON/VEHICLE	9
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2	TEST EQUIPMENT	1
ESCORT - FUNERAL / BUSINESS	2	TRAFFIC HAZARD	2
EXTRA PATROL	1	TRAFFIC STOP	45
FIRE - GAS LEAK	1	TRESPASSING 1	
FIRE - MUTUAL AID	1	VEHICLE CHECK	4
FOLLOW UP	15	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	6
FRAUD / FORGERY	2	TOTAL	3
FUEL REPORT	17	TOTAL RECORDS.....	248

DeKalb County Sheriff's Report

April 26 – May 2nd

Sunday 26th	another agency on Walnut
9:33 am: DKCSO received a careless driving complaint on Highway 36	3:38pm: DKCSO was advised of animals running at large on Highway 33
1:34 pm: DKCSO responded to Main St for a citizen inquiry	4:44pm: DKCSO responded to a wellbeing check on Highway 36
3:04 pm: DKCSO received a careless driving complaint on State Route Z	6:39pm: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on State Route M
4:09 pm: DeKalb/Clinton EMS, DKCSO, and Central DeKalb Fire responded to Ausman Dr for medical call.	Thursday 30th
4:36 pm: DKCSO responded to Highway 33 for a citizen inquiry	6:13am: DKCSO received a 911 misdial from Bob F Griffen Rd
Monday 27th	7:43am: DKCSO was advised of a road obstruction on County Road 214
1:48 am: DKCSO received a careless driving complaint on Highway 36	11:28am: DKCSO responded to a civil matter on Hebron Rd
7:24 am: DKCSO received a medical call in Andrew County, transferred to Andrew Co.	12:07pm: DKCSO responded to fraud on Maple Rd
7:27 am: DKCSO received a medical call in Andrew County, transferred to Andrew Co.	1:10pm: DKCSO was advised of a careless driver on State Route EE
7:50 am: DKCSO received a report of bridge washed out from rain, transferred to road and bridge	1:52pm: DKCSO responded to a juvenile matter on Cedar St
12:32 pm: DKCSO received a careless driving complaint on Highway 36	2:18pm: DKCSO responded to burglary on Taylor Rd
3:09 pm: DKCSO received a 911 mis-dial on Highway 69	3:27pm: DKCSO was advised of a vehicle accident on Highway 169, Andrew County was advised
4:10 pm: DKCSO responded to Hull and Taylor for citizen inquiry	3:57pm: DKCSO received a 911 misdial from McCartney Rd
5:57 pm: DKCSO assisted another agency on NW 352nd St	3:58pm: DeKalb-Clinton Ambulance responded to a medical alarm call on Frost Rd
6:11 pm: DKCSO responded to animal at large call on Hwy E	5:38pm: DKCSO and Union Star Fire responded to a brush fire on State Route Z
7:20 pm: DKCSO, Osborn Fire Dept responded to Highway 36 for a reported vehicle accident	6:40pm: DKCSO responded to a disturbance on Highway 36
9:23 pm: DKCSO, DeKalb/Clinton EMS and Central DeKalb Fire responded to medical call on Highway 33	10:48pm: DKCSO was advised of suspicious activity on 24th St, Buchanan County was advised
11:12 pm: DKCSO responded to Hwy 169 to assist another agency	Friday 1st
Tuesday 28th	5:30am; DKCSO received a 911 misdial from Fairmount Rd
2:01 am: DKCSO assisted a motorist on Highway 69	8:57am: DKCSO was advised of an injured animal on State Route D, Conservation was advised
2:10 pm: DKCSO responded to Watson Rd for a theft	9:42am: Osborn Fire responded to assist another agency on Chestnut St
2:32 pm: DeKalb/Clinton EMS responded to Polk St for medical call	12:15pm: Central DeKalb Fire responded to traffic Assist on Polk St
4:14 pm: DKCSO responded to Wallace St for report of fraud	12:28pm: DKCSO received a 911 hangup from Sharp Rd
4:38 pm: DKCSO received a 911 hangup from unknown location	12:39pm: DKCSO responded to a 911 hang up from Rockwood Creek Rd
5:29 pm: DKCSO, Stewartsville Fire, DeKalb/Clinton EMS responded to Highway 36 for overturned semi accident	4:30pm: 4:30pm Union Star Fire responded to a vehicle accident on State Route A
7:10 pm: DKCSO responded to Summitt Rd for a citizen inquiry	6:54pm: DKCSO responded to suspicious activity on Hebron Rd
7:58 pm: DKCSO received animal at large report on Hwy E	7:55pm: DKCSO received a public service request from 36 Highway
10:31 pm: DKCSO received a careless driving complaint on Hwy 69	8:55pm: DKCSO responded to a juvenile matter on Stewart RD
Wednesday 29th	9:01pm; DKCSO responded to a 911 open line call from Highway 33
5:13 am: DeKalb/Clinton EMS responded to Senior Dr for medical call	11:38pm: DKCSO responded to a burglary on St Joseph St
7:54 am: DKCSO received a suspicious vehicle on Hwy 6	Saturday 2nd
8:05am: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on State Route EE	12:17am: DKCSO responded to assist a motorist on Highway 36
10:00am; DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on Ketchum Rd	8:39am: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on Highway 6
10:02am: DKCSO was advised of a medical call on Cambridge Dr, West Palins was notified	11:09am; DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on 352nd st
10:33am: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on State Route RA	12:41pm: Osborn Fire responded to a brush fire on Highway 33
11:26am: DKCSO responded to a wellbeing check on Hillcrest	1:38 pm: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on Orchard Rd
12:47pm: DKCSO was advised of a careless driver on Highway 169	4:56pm: DKCSO responded to a road obstruction on State Route N
1:28pm: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on State Route F	7:16pm: DKCSO was advised of a vehicle fire on Highway 59, Andrew County was advised
2:02pm: DKCSO responded to a public service request on Rockwood Creek Rd	8:47pm: DKCSO was advised of a controlled burn on Water St
2:37pm: DKCSO received a 911 misdial from Bob F Griffen Rd	9:00pm: DKCSO responded to property damage on Highway 6
2:48pm: DKCSO responded to assist	9:08pm: DKCSO responded to careless driver on Polk St

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Liberty Thought of the Week

By Paul Hamby
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Contributed

Jefferson City. Twenty bills have been passed by both the Missouri House and Senate. Governor Kehoe has signed seven of those bills so far this year. One was a \$3 billion additional spending bill. Six bills deal with updating or creating new laws.

Governor Kehoe signed HB 2641, sponsored by Representative Dave Hinman and Senator David Gregory, which establishes the Intoxicating Cannabinoid Control Act.

HB 2641 aligns the state’s definition of hemp with the new federal definition, bringing the regulation of hemp-derived cannabinoid products under existing marijuana regulations. It requires non-licensed entities to discontinue the manufacturing or sale of hemp-derived cannabinoid products.

HB 2641 prohibits marijuana dispensaries or other authorized parties from retaining records or disseminating identifying information for consumers of regulated marijuana products unless the consumer agrees to the creation or retention in writing. It is rather ironic that Missouri legislators passed a prescription drug monitoring bill in 2021 after a decade-long battle, yet this year passed a bill banning the creation of a database of citizens using marijuana.

“For too long, bad actors have exploited loopholes to market intoxicating products—including candy-like gummies or look-alike products—without meaningful oversight or accountability,” Governor Kehoe said. “This legislation ensures that Missourians know the products sold in their communities are safe, regulated,

and kept out of the hands of children.” As of April 24, 2026, the U.S. Department of Justice has officially moved to reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule III controlled substance. This historic change recognizes medical uses and marks a shift from the strictest category, though it does not federally legalize recreational use.

More than 40 states have legalized medical marijuana, and 24 have legalized adult-use recreational marijuana. Missouri voters legalized both uses under state law.

The Missouri House passed HB 1758, which establishes the “Daylight Saving as New Standard Time Pact.” The bill, sponsored by Rep. Jamie Gragg, passed 107-31.

The bill would eliminate the semiannual time change. Daylight saving time transitions disrupt circadian rhythms, causing significant mental health issues and increased fatalities. Studies link the change to a 6% spike in fatal traffic accidents, higher suicide rates, increased heart attacks and a heightened risk of depression due to sleep deprivation and stress. Those who care for livestock can attest that the time change affects animals as well as humans.

The bill is now in the Missouri Senate, where it must pass before being sent to Governor Kehoe for approval. Then, the U.S. Congress would need to enact nationwide DST for the Missouri law to take effect.

Nineteen states have passed legislation adopting permanent DST.

The last day of the Missouri legislative session is May 15, 2026.

Across the County Line

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
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What We Owe Them in the End

My father-in-law is 84 years old.

He served in the United States Navy. He worked his entire life. He never had much, but he always had enough. He raised a family, paid his way, and did what was asked of him.

Now, near the end of his life, he is teaching our family one final lesson — not about strength, but about vulnerability.

Last November, he underwent surgery for oral cancer. Since then, his health has steadily declined. What we now understand — only recently disclosed to the family — is that he likely suffered a series of small strokes along the way. In the months that followed, his ability to think clearly faded. He lost independence in the most basic ways. Repeated urinary tract infections brought on bouts of delirium, leaving him confused, disoriented, and at times agitated.

Little by little, the man we knew began slipping away.

Like many families, we reached a point where love alone was no longer enough. He needed care we could not safely provide at home.

We tried to place him close to us, at a facility in the area. There was no immediate availability.

So, reluctantly, we admitted him for a short-term rehabilitation stay at a facility in Kansas City’s Northland.

What we encountered was not what any family expects — or should accept.

There was no clear nursing presence on his wing. Staff members were nearby, but not engaged. The basic elements of care — the kind that preserve dignity — were missing.

He was found lying on a mattress set low to the floor, disoriented, partially unclothed, left in a soiled brief in the middle of the day. This, for a man who had just recovered from a urinary tract infection. This, for a man who could no longer advocate for himself.

This is not written in anger. It is written in clarity.

Because this is not just one man’s story.

Across Missouri — and across

the country — families are being forced into impossible decisions. The people who spent their lives building families, serving their communities, and contributing to society are too often spending their final months in conditions that fall short of even the most basic expectations of care.

We do not talk about this enough.

We celebrate independence, but we do not prepare for dependence. We assume systems will work, until we are forced to rely on them. And when that moment comes, many families discover that “care” can vary dramatically depending on availability, cost, and circumstance.

My father-in-law is also a veteran.

That matters — not because veterans deserve dignity more than anyone else — but because their service reminds us how easily our public gratitude can become symbolic rather than practical.

We say “thank you for your service.” We hold ceremonies. We attend events.

But the real measure comes much later, in quiet rooms, behind closed doors, when a man who once stood on his own can no longer do so.

That is why facilities like the Cameron Veterans Home matter so deeply.

After recently covering the Patriot Ride and seeing firsthand the community support surrounding that home, I now understand its importance in a much more personal way. For the families fortunate enough to gain admission, it is more than a facility. It is peace of mind. It is safety. It is dignity restored.

My father-in-law is on the waiting list.

We do not know if he will get in.

And that uncertainty is something more families understand than we might like to admit.

Someday, if we live long enough, most of us will reach a point where we depend on others for our care. When that day comes, we will not be asking for luxury.

We will be asking for something much simpler.

To be clean.

To be safe.

To be treated like human beings.

To not be forgotten in a room.

That is not too much to ask.

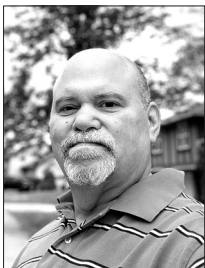
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A View From the Right

Chicken Little and the \$38 Billion

By **Bill Arthur**

Contributing Writer

editor@mycameronnews.com

The noise awakened Chicken Little, and just as she woke, a rose leaf fell on her tail.

“Squawk! Squawk!” cried Chicken Little. “The sky’s falling down!” And she ran as fast as her legs would carry her. She ran until she came to the barnyard, where Hen Pen was rustling in the dust.

“Oh, Hen Pen, don’t rustle — run, run!” cried Chicken Little. “The sky’s falling down.”

The hen stopped rustling.

“How do you know that, Chicken Little?” asked Hen Pen.

“I saw it with my eyes, I heard it with my ears, and part of it fell on my tail. Oh, let us run, run until we get someplace.”

Just when we thought we might be able to relax and watch the monotonous horizon, filled with our tax-dollar-constructed windmills from Osborn to Stanberry, out pops Al Gore.

I guess the nearly \$50 million his “An Inconvenient Truth” movie grossed worldwide has ceased to provide for the electricity-sucking lifestyle in which he lives without a booster shot. He now warns of climate catastrophe from another angle. I suppose those glaciers coming down Mount Kilimanjaro have advanced despite him swearing they were melting. You just can’t trust those rascally weathermen.

Amazingly, Greta Thunberg — the autistic wonder of the North — has moved from climate change to the cause of Gaza activists, backing those who claim to be carrying humanitarian aid while Israel argues such efforts help Hamas. Hamas, of course, is the crowd that butchered Israelis, hides ammunition near civilians, uses hospitals and neighborhoods as cover, and then cries genocide when innocent Palestinians are killed in Israeli reprisal raids. I’m wondering if her support was tied to her desire to garner

one of those snappy headdresses to cover her hair, which appears to have been styled with a 12-speed Mixmaster.

But fear not. I read an amazing piece in the *Observer* explaining that the drier-than-normal winter we just experienced was obviously evidence that climate change was once again on the march. This also explained the shortage of snow and rain that had farmers reeling.

How droll.

Has anyone noticed how timely rainfall made Northwest Missouri look like the Emerald Isle?

“If you don’t like the weather in Missouri, wait until tomorrow. It will change.”

Such is weather.

Chicken Little also found it hard to believe Trump had spent \$35 billion to weaken the nuclear program of the world’s leading sponsor of terrorism — a regime that has called America the “Great Satan” for decades. The audacity of this man to do it in 38 days was shocking. To accomplish this with only 13 to 15 deaths, especially when Joe Biden lost 13 Americans while commandeering the catastrophic retreat from Afghanistan and leaving billions of dollars in equipment behind, was ludicrous.

After all, Obama made the terrorists happy with only \$1.7 billion in cash.

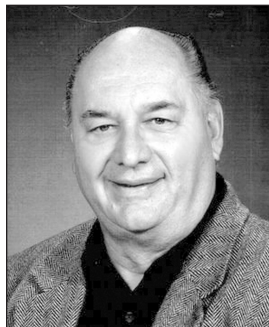
The \$35 billion is a huge expense, but since this is all for political posturing, I would be lax if I didn’t mention the California high-speed rail project, now projected by some estimates to cost as much as \$231 billion between Los Angeles and San Francisco, with no completed high-speed service to show for it.

There is also the estimated \$150.7 billion annual cost of illegal immigration cited by immigration-restriction advocates.

A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon one is talking about the kind of money that would really scare Chicken Little.

Presidential Firsts

It Seems to B.



Jack Briggs
Guest Columnist

The only Missourian to be elected president, Harry Truman left office with no expansion of his wealth. In fact, he had very little money. He returned home to Independence with his wife, Bess, and no entourage. His birthday anniversary is May 8th, 142 years ago.

Later, Congress established a pension for former presidents, providing Truman with \$25,000 annually to live on. My grandfather, Frank Park Briggs, replaced Truman in the U.S. Senate when Truman was elevated to vice president. He had lots of stories to tell. Truman’s first words to my grandfather, when he arrived in D.C. to be sworn in, were, “Don’t worry, Frank, you can do it.”

My grandfather had been senator pro tem of the Missouri Senate for what was then a record length of time.

By 1949, the White House had endured a century and a half of wars, fires, political scandals and modernization. With few renovations made during the Great Depression and World War II, President Truman and his family moved into a mansion that was literally falling apart. It was declared unsafe after a piano leg crashed through the floor of the family quarters.

The Trumans moved across the street during the three years the reconstruction took place. Due to the need for extensive renovations, a total demolition of the building was considered but not enacted. In the end, the decision was made to preserve the exterior walls and completely rebuild and expand the interior.

Dear Friend,

Farming isn’t just a way to make a living. It’s a way of life—one that I’ve been blessed to share with my family.

Growing up, I never dreamed I’d be a Congressman. All I wanted to do was farm, but when I came back from college at the height of the 1980s farm crisis, I learned pretty quickly just how precariously our lives were held in the hands of a few politicians and bureaucrats in Jefferson City and Washington, DC. I knew I couldn’t sit down and shut up. I’ve never been good at that. I knew I needed to do something, fix things, and help keep this dream alive, not just for my family, but for the millions of family farms all over this country, just like us.

I answered the call to serve in the Missouri House, the Missouri Senate, and eventually the United States Congress because I knew we needed leaders who would stand up for Missouri farmers, and I knew if I couldn’t, who would?

A lot has changed since then. I’ve been proud to be a part of getting four Farm Bills signed into law, which strengthened crop insurance into the bedrock program it is today, built pathways for young Americans to get into farming, and shifted conservation efforts away from locking up productive acres and into programs that actually help farm families better the environment while farming.

We’ve made a lot of progress, and just today, we passed another Farm Bill through the House that will help speed up disaster

Here are some presidential firsts you might find interesting:

James Polk’s administration saw “Hail to the Chief” adopted as a musical signal for a stately presidential entrance, a practice encouraged by First Lady Sarah Polk. That desire for ceremony made it distinctly unlike George Washington, who was so mortified to be announced at one reception that he began

arriving early at others to avoid it.

John Adams was the first to occupy the White House, during a time when bathrooms were outdoors and water was five blocks away. It was Andrew Jackson who arranged for running water in the White House.

Martin Van Buren was the first president born into citizenship in the United States. Previously, the officeholders began life as British subjects.

James Polk held the first Thanksgiving dinner. Franklin Pierce was responsible for installing central heating in the White House and displaying the first Christmas tree there. The first telephone user in the presidential residence was Rutherford B. Hayes. His number was 1.

Andrew Johnson’s wife taught him to read and write, as he had never attended school. James Garfield became the first president to campaign in both English and Spanish. Electric lights were installed in the White House by Benjamin Harrison, whose family so feared shocks they were afraid to turn them off.

relief for farmers, while protecting crop insurance and further strengthening the beginning farmer and voluntary conservation programs we’ve worked so hard to build. More than that, though, it takes major steps to challenge the Chinese shell companies and solar developers seeking to scoop up our farmland, and it codifies

the Rural Hospital Technical Assistance Program Act, which will help keep rural hospitals open and serving everyone in our rural communities, including farmers.

Farming has never been easy, but it’s always been worth the blood, sweat, and tears. Since I first got elected to Congress, I haven’t taken a dime from any farm programs, but I know just how important these programs and the Farm Bill are for farm families in North Missouri and across our great country. I’ve been proud to fight to protect this way of life.

As we look to the future, I know that the challenges facing family farms in North Missouri are great, but I also know that the values that I’ve spent my life working to protect are alive and well. My original goal of standing for Missouri farmers has never wavered and I’ll always be proud of what we’ve been able to get done, just like we did with the Farm Bill this week.

Sincerely,
Sam Graves

Why Are My Spousal Benefits Less Than Half?

One of the most common misconceptions about Social Security spousal benefits is that a spouse always receives 50% of their partner’s monthly payment. That is not always the case.

The AMAC Foundation regularly addresses questions about spousal benefits through individual responses, “Ask Rusty” articles, podcasts, webinars, seminars and online resources. Still, confusion remains.

Simply put: spouses do not always receive half of their partner’s Social Security benefit.

Understanding the Basics

Social Security spousal benefits are based on each spouse’s Primary Insurance Amount (PIA). This is the retirement amount each person is eligible to receive at full retirement age, based on their own work history.

Social Security compares both spouses’ PIAs. If one spouse’s PIA is less than half of the other’s, the difference may be added as a supplemental “spousal boost.”

However, if that spousal benefit is claimed before full retirement age, the boost is reduced. When added to the spouse’s own reduced retirement benefit, the total payment may be less than half of the partner’s monthly amount.

Even if one spouse claimed early, or the other claimed before or after full retirement

Social Security Matters



Russell Gloor
National Social Security
Advisor at the AMAC

age, Social Security still uses each person’s PIA to calculate the spousal boost.

If a spouse is not eligible for a retirement benefit based on their own work record, the spousal benefit is based only on the partner’s full retirement age amount. For example, a spouse with a full retirement age of 67 who claims at 62 would receive about 32.5% of the partner’s PIA, not 50%.

If the higher-earning spouse delayed claiming benefits beyond full retirement age, their monthly payment may be higher because of delayed retirement credits. The spousal benefit, however, is still based on the partner’s PIA—not the larger delayed amount.

Only when a spouse claims at full retirement age can the spousal benefit equal 50% of the partner’s full retirement age amount.

When Should I Claim?

Deciding when to claim a spousal benefit depends on several factors:

If you are still working and have not reached full retirement age, consider whether your earnings will exceed Social Security’s annual earnings test limit.

For 2026, that limit is \$24,480, though it

See **SOCIAL** on page 7



ANTHONY CHAPEL
Located in the Garvan Woodland Gardens is a remarkable chapel made of native wood and glass with a 52-foot vaulted ceiling. It is a much sought-after venue for weddings and is located in Hot Springs, Arkansas, on the shores of beautiful Lake Hamilton.

The chapel sits within the 210-acre Garvan Woodland Gardens, managed by the University of Arkansas. It is surrounded by the scenic Ouachita Mountains amid the seemingly endless forests of Arkansas. The gardens are considered one of the most special in the United States.

The Woodland Gardens and Lake Hamilton are located on the south edge of Hot Springs, a city noted for its historic bathhouses. It is a popular tourist destination and boasts a number of quality hotels. Contact information is 501-262-9608.

GREER SPRING

The remote location and difficult access to this National Natural Landmark make it largely undisturbed and pristine. It is located on the southeastern portion of the Ozark Plateau, 18 miles south of Winona (MO) and 8 miles north of Alton (MO).

It is the second-largest spring in the Ozarks, discharging 360 cubic feet of very cold water per second. It emerges at the bottom of a narrow chasm in a mixture of deep aqua-blue water, moss-covered rocks, and rippling white water. It cools the stream for several miles downstream, making it prime habitat for trout.

The water then races down a small, steep, hardwood-covered gorge, dropping 65 feet in elevation in just over a mile before emptying into the Eleven Point River, enlarging it considerably. It provides sufficient flow for year-round recreational boating.

The spring is named for Confederate Captain Samuel Greer, who led troops into the area during the Civil War.

It is now owned by the U.S. National Forest Service, which is responsible for its upkeep. The area has been largely reclaimed by nature, making it a very scenic destination.

There is a marked trail leading to a parking area, followed by a one-mile hike to the spring—an ideal spot for those seeking solitude and natural beauty.

HEDY LAMARR
This beautiful and talented actress of the 1930s and '40s was also an inventor whose work is praised by the scientific community, including contributions that eventually led to today's Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and GPS technology.

Teaming with composer and inventor George Antheil, she helped develop a radio guidance system for Allied torpedoes using spread spectrum and frequency hopping to counter radio jamming. The concept laid the groundwork for secure communications across multiple frequencies.

Hedy Lamarr was her stage name. She was born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler into an upper-class Jewish family. Her mother converted to Catholicism, and Hedy was raised as a Christian. Her father, a scientist, taught her how things worked, sparking her lifelong interest in invention.

She began acting lessons in Vienna and, after forging her mother's signature on a note to gain entry to Sascha Films, found early work as a script girl. Soon after, she began landing roles, including in the 1930 film Money

on the Street and the 1931 comedy Storm in a Water Glass. Producer Max Reinhardt recognized her talent and brought her to Berlin.

In 1937, she signed a \$500-per-week contract with MGM—significant pay at the time—and moved to Hollywood. Her career took off with Algiers alongside Charles Boyer. She went on to star in films with Spencer Tracy, Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert, Jimmy Stewart, Judy Garland, and Lana Turner, among others. Her final major film was Samson and Delilah.

After retiring from acting, she continued inventing, including developing an improved traffic light system. She later became a naturalized U.S. citizen and lived quietly in Florida. She passed away in January 2000.

MISSOURI'S LOST CANYON CAVE
About 10 miles south of Branson lies Ridgedale, Missouri, home to the Lost Canyon Cave—one of the area's more unique attractions. The cave features a variety of natural sights, including a large bat colony and the well-known "Bat Bar."

Visitors begin at the Top of the Rock Welcome Center and can take a two- or four-person golf cart along a 2.5-mile scenic trail. The route winds through streams, bridges, a butterfly garden, and overlooks like Eagle Pass.

The trail descends into the cave, where visitors can order drinks without leaving their carts and pause to enjoy a natural waterfall. A railed path allows for

closer viewing of the falls.

Inside the cave, visitors can also see the skeletons of a saber-tooth tiger and a short-faced bear. The path continues into a lantern-lit chamber before exiting back onto a nature trail leading toward Big Cedar Lodge, which offers overnight accommodations.

Nearby, the Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum showcases prehistoric animals and human artifacts dating back more than 12,000 years—making the area an easy and worthwhile side trip from Branson.

MISSOURI'S RECOGNIZED FLORA AND FAUNA
The Missouri Legislature has designated a number of official state symbols:

Animal: Missouri Mule
Amphibian: American Bullfrog
Bird: Eastern Bluebird
Flower: Hawthorn
Horse: Missouri Fox Trotter
Invertebrate: Crayfish
Fruit Tree: Pawpaw
Nut: Black Walnut
Reptile: Three-toed Box Turtle
Tree: Flowering Dogwood
Grass: Big Bluestem
Game Bird: Bobwhite Quail
Dance: Square Dance
Fish: Channel Catfish
Dessert: Ice Cream Cone
Musical Instrument: Fiddle

State Motto: "Let the welfare of the people be the supreme law."

Planned Roadwork for Northwest Missouri, May 4-10

St. Joseph, Mo. – The following is a list of general highway maintenance and construction work the Missouri Department of Transportation has planned in the Northwest Missouri region for the week of May 4-10.

There may be moving operations, such as mowing, brush cutting and litter removal, throughout the re-

gion in addition to the work mentioned below. Inclement weather may cause schedule changes in some of the planned work. Check the MoDOT Traveler Information Map at <http://traveler.modot.org>, or download the app for updated information. MoDOT asks drivers to work with us by buckling up, putting your phone

down, slowing down and moving over in work zones.

Caldwell County
Route 13 – Resurfacing and ADA improvements project from Samuel Street to School Street in Hamilton through mid-May. Route 13 will be narrowed to one lane with flaggers. (Contractor: Herzog Contracting Corp.).
Route U – CLOSED at the Tom Creek Bridge, May 4 through mid-September 2026 for a replacement project. (Contractor: Decatur Bridge & Iron, LLC). <https://www.modot.org/projects/route-u-bridge-replacement-caldwell-county-0>

Clinton County
I-35 – Pavement rehabilitation in the southbound lanes from Exit 40 (Lathrop) to Exit 48 (south Cameron) through September 2026. Both north and southbound traffic will be one lane, each direction, in the northbound lanes (Contractor: Michels Road & Stone). <https://www.modot.org/projects/interstate-35-and-us-route-69-concrete-overlay-clinton-county>

Short-term rolling closures north and southbound from U.S. Route 36 to U.S. Route 69 to pull utility lines across the interstate, May 2.
Route BB ramps to southbound I-35 will have short-term intermittent closures, during the rolling closures, May 2.

Daviess County
Route 13 – Resurfacing and ADA improvements project from Berry Street to Van Buren Street in Gallatin through mid-May. Route 13 will be narrowed to one lane with flaggers. (Contractor: Herzog Contracting Corp.).
Route K – CLOSED for a culvert replacement from Route P to Hope Avenue, May 4, 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Financial Focus:

Which retirement plan is right for your business?

If you’re a local business owner, a workplace retirement plan can be a powerful tool – helping you manage taxes, strengthen employee retention and build personal financial security.

Many in your situation, however, assume retirement plans are complicated or only suitable for large companies. The reality is quite different. Today’s retirement plan options encompass businesses of every size, from solo entrepreneurs to companies with dozens of employees.

The key is understanding which plans work best for different kinds of businesses:

Self-employed individuals or businesses without employees. Three commonly used retirement plans:

Simplified employee pension (SEP) plans are relatively straightforward, low-maintenance, lower-cost and flexible on how much you contribute each year.

Owner-only 401(k) plans are ideal if you’re willing to accept additional cost and complexity in exchange for benefits like higher contribution limits and borrowing options.

Owneronly defined benefit plans work best for owners with high, steady income who want to maximize their retirement contributions and guaranteed retirement income. These plans come with required annual funding and greater administrative complexity.

Businesses with employees can also consider an SEP plan, although it only allows for employer contributions. Other plan options include:

The SIMPLE IRA (savings incentive match plan for employees) can work well for companies with 100 or fewer employees seeking a low-maintenance option. Employer contributions are required, and it has lower contribution limits compared to other plan types.

Traditional 401(k) plans offer maximum flexibility by allowing both employee salary deferrals and employer contributions that can be adjusted based on business performance. These plans have added costs and administrative responsibilities.



Brought to you by: Dillon Bird and Joshua Strong, CFP®, AAMS™, CRPC™ Financial Advisors with Edward Jones

Safe harbor 401(k) plans are ideal if you want to maximize your own retirement contributions without complex testing requirements and you’re willing to make required employer contributions.

A cash balance plan is often paired with another plan type, such as a 401(k), to allow greater retirement savings. It works well when you have a smaller company with high-earning employees and consistent cash flow, and you’re comfortable making required contributions.

Eachplantypeinvolvesdifferenteligibility requirements, establishment deadlines, contribution limits, complexity and costs. In determining a workplace retirement plan that’s right for your business, you’ll want to consider your number of employees, desired contribution levels, comfort with required employer contributions and willingness to handle administrative responsibilities. And, of course, the goals for your business and your own retirement are important criteria.

Fortunately, you don’t have to navigate this decision alone. A financial advisor can help you evaluate the trade-offs among different plan types and select the option that best fits your situation. They can explain how various plans work and guide you through the setup process.

Starting a workplace retirement plan is an investment in your future, your business and your employees. With professional guidance, you can find a plan that helps everyone build financial security while positioning your business for continued success.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Obituary

James Clifford Jarrett
August 24, 1946 – April 24, 2026

Jim Jarrett, 79, passed away on April 24, 2026. Born in Kansas City to Clifford and Amy Jarrett, Jim was an Eagle Scout and a 1968 Kansas State University graduate. He married his college sweetheart, Kathy Kennedy, on July 26, 1969.

After graduating from UMKC Law in 1971, Jim joined Heavner, Jarrett, and Kimball, practicing law for over 50 years. He was a well-respected advocate in Kansas City, Liberty, and Cameron, but he especially cherished his Saturdays in Braymer. Jim had an affinity for helping rural families and was a fixture at the local café for Saturday morning coffee. He also served for over 20 years on the board of the Lloyd R. Wallace Charitable Foundation.

Jim was a devoted father and grandfather who loved coaching his children’s sports



and spending summers at the lake in Minnesota. Known for his dry sense of humor and his advice to “Enjoy the moments; you can’t get them back,” he spent his later years as a “prolific texter” to stay close to his grandkids.

Jim is survived by his wife of 56 years, Kathy; daughters Jennifer Dilts (Jason) and Kelly Harris (Wes); son Andy Jarrett (Nina); grandchildren Caroline, Lydia, Elizabeth, Amy, Mickey, Alayna (Clayton), Caleb, and Joshua; great-granddaughter June; and brothers Richard and Steve. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service was held on April 30 at Second Baptist Church in Liberty. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to the Lloyd R. Wallace Charitable Foundation (PO Box 37, Braymer, MO 64624)

SOCIAL from page 5

changes annually. Exceeding the limit could cause some or all benefits to be withheld.

If you are not working and urgently need the income, claiming early may make sense, even though the benefit will be reduced.

If you expect a shorter life expectancy, claiming before full retirement age may provide the most lifetime benefits.

Average life expectancy for those first eligible to claim Social Security is about 84 for men and 87 for women.

If you are likely to receive a survivor benefit later, claiming a spousal benefit early may also make sense.

A surviving spouse receives the higher of two benefits: their own retirement benefit or the amount their deceased spouse was receiving.

The Bottom Line

No one can predict the future, but understanding how spousal benefits are

calculated can help you make a more informed decision.

A spousal benefit may be less than 50% of your partner’s amount, especially if claimed early. Knowing why can help avoid surprises.

The AMAC Foundation’s Social Security Advisory Service provides free Social Security guidance by email at SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org or by phone at 1-888-750-2622.

This article is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal or financial advice. It reflects the opinions and interpretations of AMAC Foundation staff, who are trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other government agency.

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Answers in Classified Section

CLUES ACROSS

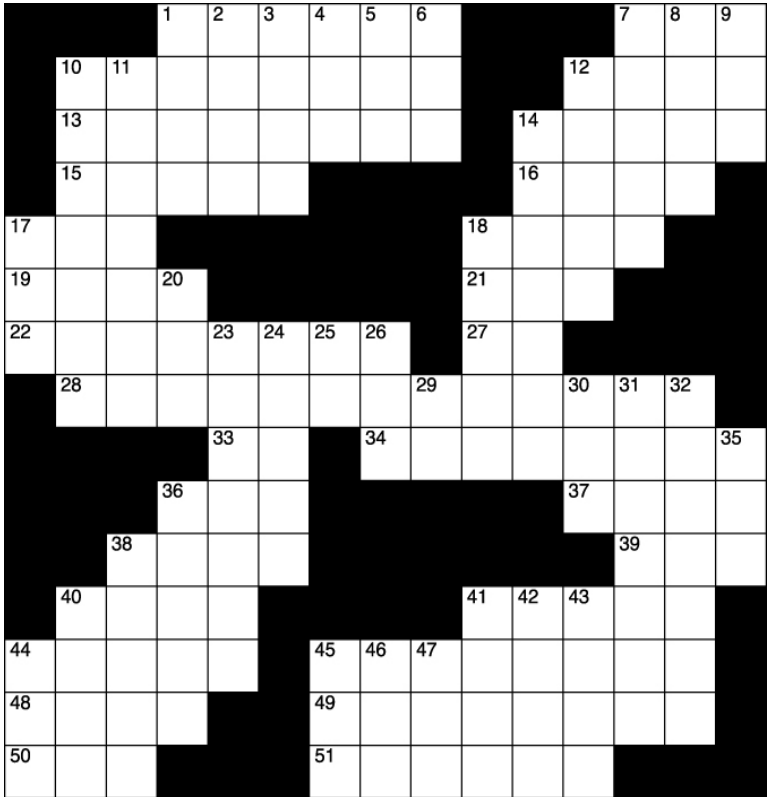
- 1. Large dung beetle
- 7. Gambling game ___-lo
- 10. Further along
- 12. Type of tobacco
- 13. Looked for
- 14. Silk fabric
- 15. Computer method to solve equations
- 16. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- 17. Tear
- 18. Brews
- 19. “Famous” cookie baker
- 21. Women’s Army Corps
- 22. Front parts of an animal
- 27. It’s causing quite a stir
- 28. Beloved March holiday
- 33. 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 34. More impudent
- 36. Indicates center
- 37. Young woman (French)
- 38. A cause of distress
- 39. Santa’s helper

- 40. Hillside
- 41. Many wombs
- 44. Is afraid of
- 45. Popular baked goods ingredient
- 48. Popular computers
- 49. Conceiving of
- 50. Google certification (abbr.)
- 51. Sturdy

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Peruse quickly
- 2. Automobiles
- 3. Razorbill genus
- 4. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 5. Consumed
- 6. A place to sleep
- 7. Small seeds
- 8. Legendary law man Wyatt
- 9. Female sheep
- 10. Indigenous peoples of eastern Siberia
- 11. A place ships dock
- 12. Reciprocal of sine
- 14. Discomfort

- 17. British Air Aces
- 18. Exit sleep
- 20. Solar energetic particle
- 23. Plagues characterized by starvation
- 24. Short musical composition
- 25. Trauma center
- 26. Habitual twitching
- 29. A place where checks are exchanged (abbr.)
- 30. Decameter
- 31. Hinged surface in a wing
- 32. Shouting
- 35. Sports official
- 36. Volcanic craters
- 38. Supportive device
- 40. It’s part of a rosary
- 41. Two-toed sloth
- 42. Body art
- 43. Let out
- 44. Foreign medical graduate
- 45. Nonprofit journalism organization (abbr.)
- 46. Couples say it
- 47. Bird’s beak



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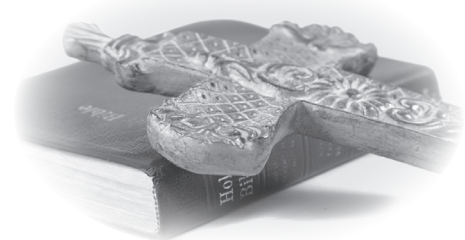
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BY THE CAMERON MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

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Congratulations 2026 Graduates. You did it! You’re building a life. You may not fully grasp it now, but receiving your High School diploma will prove to be a valuable asset for life. Without it you will struggle to find employment, enter college, etc. More than just a piece of paper, you should have acquired valuable skills for life. Hopefully you can read, have an understanding of science, and can answer basic mathematical problems. You should be able to share, work in a team, and follow simple directions. All foundational tools to help you build your life and become a productive member of society.

Yes, your education is valuable, however it’s not enough. All the learning you can possibly receive is meaningless without Jesus. “For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.” -1 Corinthians 3:11 (NLT)

Jesus told His followers a powerful story....

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on

the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.” -Matthew 7:24–27

As Jesus informed His followers, learning and doing His Word are foundational to a God honoring life. When the storms of life attack and beat violently against your house, it is the foundation that will matter most. No one makes it through this life without storms and hardship. Will the foundation stand or will there be total devastation? I pray it stands. As you press on-

ward in adulthood, I encourage you to build your life on God’s Word. Build your life on Christ. If you do, your foundation will stand and you will find comfort in even the most brutal storms of life.

May you find peace with God through faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. May you build your life on His word being fully established in faith and love for God and others. May God bless you as you seek to honor Him with your pursuit of education, employment, marriage, family, and more.

Pastor Dave Nixdorf
River of Life Baptist Church

WATCH

from page A2

renewables, while maintaining a focus on affordability and competition.

“I think we would be very well served by having wind, solar... and diversifying our grid,” he said.

He also expressed support for infrastructure investments in broadband, housing and utilities, with an emphasis on expanding access in rural areas.

Smead said he supports the Grain Belt Express transmission project in concept, arguing that it could help diversify energy sources for Missouri and the broader region.

“Yes, because it diversifies the electricity sources that we use,” Smead said when asked whether the project is good for North Missouri.

He acknowledged concerns from landowners over eminent domain and whether affected counties would receive enough direct benefit from hosting transmission infrastructure.

“I hear that, but... we need to make a better deal then,” Smead said. “There needs to be a good deal for the people whose land this is on.”

Smead said any project running through North Missouri should provide financial benefit to local landowners and communities, but argued that broader energy infrastructure also has regional value.

“It needs to benefit the people in North Missouri,” he said. “Whatever I can do in Congress to make that happen, I will do.”

Wind energy

Smead said he believes opposition to wind energy is often overstated, especially given the number of wind turbines already operating across northwest Missouri.

“Go into northwest Missouri and look how many wind turbines we already have,” Smead said. “Hundreds. They’re all, as far as you can see across the horizon.”

He said wind energy should be viewed as part of a broader effort to increase competition in the energy market, rather than as a replacement for every other energy source.

“I think that having alternative energies, more competition in the market, is a good thing,” Smead said.

Smead also argued that some rural school districts have benefited financially from wind energy projects.

“There are whole school systems in northwest Missouri that are funded with the money that is generated by electricity production from wind turbines,” he said.

Democratic leadership

Smead also said the Democratic Party needs new leadership and younger voices in positions of power.

“The party absolutely needs different leadership at this point,” Smead said.

He specifically said Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer “respectfully needs to go,” while also pointing to long-serving figures in both parties as examples of what he sees as an aging political class.

Smead said younger lawmakers would bring needed perspective on issues such as technology, artificial intelligence, public education, housing and raising families.

“It would be beneficial overall to a country where we just have younger people in power and younger people involved in the conversations for how to steer the future of America,” he said.

Campaign positioning

Smead framed his candidacy as part of a broader generational shift in leadership, arguing that younger candidates bring needed perspective to national policymaking.

“I think we need younger representation in Congress,” he said.

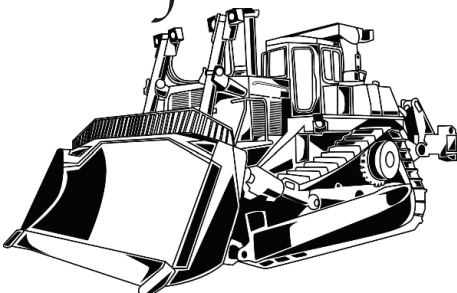
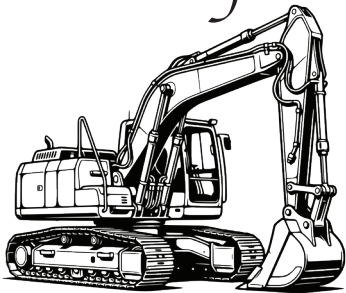
He also emphasized independence from party leadership, saying he would prioritize district interests over party alignment when necessary.

“I am here to vote for the interests of North Missouri,” he said.

The Democratic primary in the 6th District is expected to draw significant attention as candidates compete for a spot in the general election in a historically Republican-leaning district.

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Levine Emphasizes Message, Offers Few Specifics in 6th District Interview

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Democratic congressional candidate Matt Levine outlined a campaign centered on education, healthcare and working families during a recent interview with the *Citizen Observer*, but struggled to provide detailed answers on several key policy issues affecting northwest Missouri.

Levine, who is seeking the Democratic nomination in Missouri's 6th Congressional District, described himself as a public servant with a background in education and transportation security. He said his campaign is rooted in giving "voices back" to Missourians and improving economic and healthcare outcomes.

"I've stood on the front line... I've stood in classrooms helping shape the next generation," Levine



said. "Public service isn't just a slogan — it's my life."

However, when pressed on specific policies, Levine frequently offered broad goals without clear implementation plans.

Policy goals, limited detail

On rural healthcare, Levine said he supports expanding funding for both hospitals and government

assistance programs, but did not identify a specific bill, funding mechanism or policy framework he would pursue in Congress.

"I want rural hospitals to have the funding so that they can not close," Levine said, adding that assistance programs should also be expanded.

When asked to define how he would strengthen Medicaid — whether through eligibility, reimbursement rates or provider support — Levine again spoke generally about expanding coverage and working with insurers, without outlining a specific legislative approach.

Similarly, on education, Levine advocated for free school meals and expanded tutoring, arguing that students perform better when fed. But when asked how those programs would be funded — particularly as some rural districts face budget shortfalls — he pointed broadly to economic growth rather

than identifying a funding source or budget structure.

On economic policy, Levine said he supports raising the minimum wage, suggesting a target of \$15 per hour by 2028, but acknowledged the need to "work closely" with other lawmakers to determine specifics.

Agriculture and rural issues

Agriculture — a central issue in the 6th District — proved to be another area where Levine's answers remained general.

When asked for his top Farm Bill priorities, Levine initially acknowledged he had not fully reviewed the legislation before pivoting to broader concerns about supporting small and family farms.

"Too many farms right now are being squeezed," Levine said, citing rising costs for inputs such as seed and fertilizer.

He emphasized a desire to expand trade opportunities and reduce reliance on bailouts, but did not outline specific policy proposals tied to the federal farm program.

Levine also acknowledged that his campaign has yet to fully connect with

rural voters in the district.

"The more rural... part of the district is still a struggle," he said, noting stronger familiarity with his campaign in areas closer to Kansas City.

Campaign infrastructure and reach

Levine described his campaign as grassroots and still developing. Federal Election Commission filings show limited fundraising to date, with Levine confirming that much of the campaign's early funds have already been spent on materials and outreach.

He identified a former retail supervisor as his campaign manager and said policy guidance has come from individuals with academic backgrounds in political science.

Levine also acknowledged challenges in gaining access to some Democratic events and networks in the district, including not being invited to at least one recent candidate gathering in Cameron.

Despite those hurdles, he said he intends to continue traveling throughout the district and engaging with voters directly.

"I'm still traveling, whether I'm

See LEVINE on page 20

Edward Jones Takes #1 Spot in Advised Investor Satisfaction in the JD Power 2026 U.S. Investor Satisfaction Study

Top Ranking Reflects Firmwide Commitment to Client Experience

St. Louis, Wed., March 18, 2026 - Edward Jones (<https://www.edwardjones.com/us-en>), a leading financial services firm, has reclaimed the No. 1 spot among 23 advice-based firms in the JD Power 2026 U.S. Investor Satisfaction Study (<https://www.jdpower.com/business/press-releases/2026-us-investor-satisfaction-study>) (SM), marking the first time the firm has earned the top rank since 2021. This achievement reflects meaningful progress in Edward Jones' journey to deliver comprehensive advice and planning and expanded products and services to serve more clients, more completely.

Edward Jones achieved Best-in-Class performance in four of the seven most influential dimensions of investor satisfaction, including trust, people, products meeting client needs and ease of doing business, all while continuing to enhance its digital capabilities and value for fees paid. The firm earned an Overall Satisfaction score of 754 on a 1,000-point scale, one of only three firms scoring significantly above the advised-industry average of 725. The results underscore the strength of Edward Jones' relationship-based model and the trust clients place in the firm in an increasingly competitive landscape.

The firm's financial advisors take a personalized, relationship-driven approach by partnering with clients to learn about their goals, priorities and life circumstances before developing tailored financial strategies. Supported by the firm's financial planning capabilities, investment solutions and digital tools, this model is designed to deliver advice that evolves with clients over time and helps them stay focused on achieving their long-term financial goals.

In recent years, the firm has invested in advanced technology, financial advisor education and a range of new product offerings to help improve the financial advisor experience and better meet clients' needs. This includes integrated banking capabilities, expanded private-client wealth services and alternative investments, and new portfolio-management technology to support personalized managed accounts. The firm also launched Edward Jones Ventures (<https://www.edwardjones.com/us-en/edward-jones-ventures?msocid=3c823c6535ef63ad0cc129883442621>) a) to invest in and incubate innovations that can enhance financial planning, advisor capabilities and client experiences.



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The study evaluates the experiences of investors working with a wealth management firm, in either an advised or DIY capacity in seven dimensions (in alphabetical order): digital channels; ease of doing business; people; product and service offerings; resolving problems or complaints; trust; and value for fees paid.

The JD Power 2026 U.S. Investor Satisfaction Study(SM) was fielded from January 2025 through January 2026 and is based on responses from 7,982 advised and 4,335 DIY investors. For more information, visit jdpower.com/awards or udpower.com/awards.

About Edward Jones

Edward Jones is a leading financial services firm which operates throughout North America in the U.S. and Canada. The firm's more than 20,000 financial advisors ("FA") serve more than 9 million clients with a total of \$2.5 trillion in client assets under care as of December 31, 2025. Edward Jones' purpose is to partner for positive impact to improve the lives of its clients and colleagues, and together, better our communities and society. Through the dedication of the firm's approximately 55,000 associates and our branch presence in 68% of U.S. counties and all Canadian provinces, Edward Jones is committed to helping improve the financial fulfillment for tens of millions of long-term investors across North America by providing comprehensive, personalized planning and professional advice.

2026 J.D. Power U.S. Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study among Wealth Management Firms for Advised Investor Satisfaction, published March 2026, data as of January 2026. Compensation provided for using, not obtaining, the ranking.

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Comfort Care Hospice recognizes volunteers



Front Row (L-R): Kathy Bartlett - 5 years; Ruby Scott - 8 years; Volunteer Emeritus Dorothy Kalenowsky - 23 years; Linda Klippenstein - 30 years; Debbie Quicke - 5 years; and Emmi Bartlett - 4 years. Back Row (L-R): Theresa Hamilton, Volunteer Coordinator - 6 years; Annie Wheeler - 1 year; Marcy Claypool - 4 years; Jessica Flannery - 6 years; Cindy Conrad - 1 year; Angelina Bassett - 3 years; Janet Leitterman - 7 years; and Debbie Skantz – a new volunteer in training!

Photo by Theresa Hamilton

By **Theresa Hamilton**
Contributed

April was National Volunteer Month, a time when businesses and organizations across America recognize the time and talent donated by dedicated individuals. Seventy-five percent of nonprofit organizations report volunteers are important to their operations, and Missouri consistently ranks among the states with the highest volunteer engagement.

Comfort Care Hospice, a local nonprofit affiliated with CRMC, has served 11 northwest Missouri counties since 1993. CCH relies on its dedicated team of volunteers to provide companionship visits to patients and respite for caregivers.

“We are so grateful to our volunteers for giving of their time to serve our patients,” Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Hamilton said. “Their commitment and outpouring of compassion makes a real difference in our community.”

Hamilton said volunteers do not provide personal care for patients, but they offer something just as valuable: compassion, companionship, conversation and an empathetic ear.

Most hospice volunteers have a personal connection to CCH, often because a loved one previously received hospice services. Volunteers receive extensive training about hospice, grief and end-of-life care. When a patient requests a volunteer, Hamilton matches the patient with someone who visits in the home or in a nursing facility.

Hamilton honors the hospice volunteer team each April with an appreciation event. This year, the 11-member volunteer team enjoyed a tea party brunch and was recognized for its service to CCH.

Longtime volunteer Linda Klippenstein of Maysville was honored for 30 years of dedicated service. Klippenstein, who began volunteering in 1996, said there have been many changes over the years. She provides

valuable assistance in the CCH office and visits patients in her area.

Dorothy Kalenowsky was honored as a Volunteer Emeritus after serving 23 years, from 1996 to 2019.

CCH Administrator Adrienne Bickford, RN-BSN, began her own hospice journey as a volunteer while in nursing school.

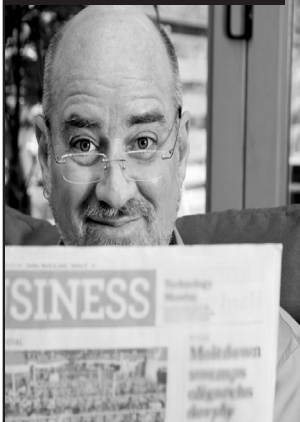
“Our hospice staff and volunteers live and work in Cameron and surrounding communities — that’s what makes us different,” Bickford said.

Comfort Care Hospice has evolved over

the years. It was first located in an old house on Fourth Street, later moved to Third Street and now operates from the CRMC Branch Offices on McElwain Drive. The location, near Walmart, provides space for community education programs, including grief support.

CCH offers monthly community grief support events for adults in Cameron and surrounding areas. For more information about grief support events, or to learn about joining the hospice volunteer team, call Comfort Care Hospice at 816-632-4411.

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Cameron, King City Students Receive Inaugural Unbound Potential Scholarship

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

*New Scholarship Supports
Neurodivergent Students Pursuing Their
Own Path*

The UP Foundation has awarded its first Unbound Potential Scholarships to two area students: Paul Stover of Cameron and Gabriel Atkins of King City.

The nonprofit was founded to support neurodivergent students as they pursue post-secondary education through nontraditional pathways. Founder and President Kimberly Meeker said the organization grew from her daughter's own post-secondary journey as a neurodivergent learner.

"The UP Foundation, where UP stands for Unbound Potential, represents movement, growth and hope," Meeker said. "The organization was inspired by my daughter's post-secondary journey as a neurodivergent learner and the realization that many students with incredible ability are overlooked simply because their path looks different."

The foundation's mission is to provide scholarships, resources and advocacy for

students whose learning styles or educational journeys may not fit traditional models. The Unbound Potential Scholarship was created to offer both financial support and encouragement to students working toward career and life success.

"At The UP Foundation, we believe different is not a disadvantage — it's a strength," Meeker said. "We celebrate diverse ways of learning, living and achieving, and we honor the incredible students and families who prove that different roads can still lead to the same dreams."

The foundation's guiding vision is "Removing Barriers. Reimagining Paths. Unlocking Lifelong Potential."

"Every student deserves the chance to dream big — and rise UP," Meeker said.

The UP Foundation plans to expand scholarship opportunities and student resources in the coming years while continuing to advocate for inclusive pathways to education and workforce success.

For more information about The UP Foundation or to support its mission, email connect.upfoundation@gmail.com.



Pictured from left are Gabriel Atkins, Paul Stover and Kimberly Meeker. Atkins and Stover were named the first recipients of The UP Foundation's Unbound Potential Scholarship.

Cameron Elks Donate New Flag, Rope to Cameron Nursing Center

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Cameron Elks Lodge #2615 recently donated a new flag and rope to the Cameron Nursing Center as part of the organization's ongoing community service efforts.

The flag and rope were assembled and

hung by Exalted Ruler Charlie Carrell, Trustee Monty Adams and Gail Scobee, owner of Scobee Powerline.

The donation reflects the Elks' longtime motto: "Elks Care — Elks Share."

Drew Harper, secretary of Cameron Elks Lodge #2615, shared the announcement on behalf of the lodge.



Members of Cameron Elks Lodge #2615 donated and installed a new flag and rope at Cameron Nursing Center. Pictured/credited are Exalted Ruler Charlie Carrell, Trustee Monty Adams and Gail Scobee of Scobee Powerline.

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CYWC Freestyle/Greco State
Photos submitted by Christina Mallen

Cameron Community Players Offers Summer Theater Opportunities for All Ages

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Cameron Community Players will offer stage opportunities for both adults and children this summer at the Cameron Performing Arts Center.

Auditions for “Prince of Egypt” are scheduled for May 8-9, with performances

set for July 10-11 and July 17-18. Younger performers can take part in the Junior Players Musical Theater Workshop, running May 23 through June 12. The workshop will conclude with a show-case performance on June 12. More information is available through the Cameron Community Players Facebook page.

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Many mothers will attest that few things are better than a little rest and pampering on Mother's Day. And when it comes to gifts, homemade items are among the most heartfelt.

Although schools and day care centers may take the lead and guide children through Mother's Day crafts, parents and caregivers looking to encourage kids to make crafts at home can explore these ideas that can turn into wonderful gifts or decorative items for Mom.

FLORAL VOTIVE HOLDERS

Kids can create special candle holders that they customize with pressed or paper flowers. New jars can be purchased from

a craft store or empty jars at home can be repurposed. Using Modge Podge or another durable adhesive, children can attach dried, pressed flowers to the outside of the jar by painting the adhesive over the flowers; otherwise, paper flowers cut out from tissue paper or construction paper can be used. Once dry, attach a piece of decorative twine, yarn or ribbon around the mouth of the jar. Place a tealight candle inside for Mom to enjoy.

WRITING PEN BOUQUET

Why not give Mom something that is both beautiful and functional this Mother's Day? Children will have fun making flower pen bouquets. All it takes are a few



inexpensive disposable pens, floral tape and artificial flowers. Place an artificial flower stem alongside the pen. It should be short enough that it will not impede writing, so cut if necessary. The petals of the flower should be up at the non-writing end. Starting at the non-writing end of the pen, begin to wrap

floral tape snugly around the stem and pen to just before the tip of the writing end. It is better to use too much floral tape than not enough. Repeat the process for as many pens and flowers as you'd like to make, then offer as a gift in a vase.

JEWELRY DISH

Mom can keep her favorite pieces of jewelry safe with a heartfelt clay jewelry dish. It's easy to make with only a few materials. Using air-dry clay and a heart-shaped cookie cutter, children can roll out the clay and cut out the shape. Turn up the edges slightly to make a rim so that rings or earrings won't fall out of the dish later on. Then kids can press decorative items, such as beads, small

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seashells, sequins, or faux gems, into the clay. The jewelry dish is beautiful as-is, or it can be painted after dry.

FAUX STAINED GLASS

This project mixes paint with glue to create a stained glass effect. The colors can be painted on any acrylic surface, whether it's a flat, plastic photo protector in a picture frame or clear, plastic cosmetic bottles. When the light hits the items, it will produce a prismatic effect just like the real stained glass. Take painter's tape and mark off a desired design, such as writing "I Love Mom." Using separate small containers (an empty foam egg carton would work well), add a little bit of clear school glue and a few drops of desired colors or acrylic paint. Paint the different colors as they pertain to the design or pattern. The glue and paint should dry quickly and extra coats can be applied depending on how intense you want the color to be. Once the stained glass is dry, peel off the painter's tape and gift.

Kids can get busy crafting gifts that show Mom just how much she's loved and appreciated.



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A full-page photograph of a family of four—mother, father, and two children—running joyfully through tall grass on a sandy dune. The mother is in the foreground, wearing a pink dress, with her arms outstretched. The father is behind her, wearing a blue shirt and shorts, also running. Two children are running alongside them. The scene is set against a clear blue sky with wispy clouds. The overall mood is happy and carefree.

Letting mom experience different day trips can be a special way to set this Mother's Day apart.



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Missouri Gas Prices Climb 32.8 Cents in One Week

Average gasoline prices in Missouri rose 32.8 cents per gallon over the past week, reaching \$4.01 per gallon Monday, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 3,940 stations across the state.

Missouri prices are now 40.6 cents higher than a month ago and \$1.15 higher than one year ago. Nationally, the average price of gasoline rose 38.2 cents over the past week to \$4.42 per gallon.

GasBuddy reported Missouri prices ranging from \$3.37 to \$4.93 per gallon Sunday, a difference of \$1.56 per gallon between the lowest and highest reported stations.

Nearby markets also saw increases. Kansas City averaged \$3.97 per gallon, up

44.5 cents from last week. Topeka averaged \$3.95, up 30.1 cents. St. Louis averaged \$4.20, up 26.8 cents.

The national average price of diesel also increased, rising 21.3 cents from last week to \$5.62 per gallon.

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, said prices rose in every state last week, with some of the sharpest increases in the Great Lakes region. He pointed to refinery outages, diesel price spikes and broader market uncertainty, including OPEC+ production changes, as factors contributing to continued volatility.

GasBuddy is a fuel-savings platform that collects price data from more than 150,000 stations across the country.

Missouri spotlights statewide push to grow high-demand career pathways during Apprenticeship Week

JEFFERSON CITY - Governor Mike Kehoe signed a proclamation designating April 26-May 2 as Apprenticeship Week in Missouri, highlighting the importance of registered apprenticeships for job seekers, employers, and the state’s overall economic growth. The designation aims to raise awareness of the critical role apprenticeships play in developing a skilled workforce and supporting Missouri’s long-term prosperity.

“Registered apprenticeships are a proven, industry-driven training model that opens the door to high quality careers by providing a clear pathway for Missourians to build in-demand skills, advance professionally, and secure long-term success in growing fields,” said Governor Kehoe. “Across Missouri, thousands of apprentices are building the skills needed to support the state’s economy in priority fields such as public safety, agriculture, education, advanced manufacturing, and healthcare.”

Missouri aims to strengthen its talent pipeline by increasing access to training and education aligned with rapidly evolving workforce needs. The state has seen an 88 percent increase in active apprentices from fiscal year 2015 to fiscal year 2026, reflecting a strong, sustained commitment to skills-based workforce development.

“Apprenticeships are helping Missouri

close critical workforce gaps by expanding access to high-quality training and preparing more individuals for the careers employers need most,” said Dr. Bennett Boggs, Commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD). “Through structured on-the-job learning, apprentices gain the skills required for in-demand occupations and contribute to building a diverse, highly skilled workforce prepared to meet the needs of employers statewide.”

More than 10,900 youth aged 16-24, nearly 1,300 veterans, and over 500 Missourians aged 55 and older are currently participating in registered apprenticeship programs, demonstrating that these pathways offer meaningful opportunities for individuals at every stage of life.

“Employers across various industries are looking for workers who are prepared, confident, and ready to contribute on day one,” said Julie Carter, Director of the Office of Workforce Development. “Registered apprenticeships offer exactly that by providing real-world experience, mentorship, and a direct connection to in-demand jobs. Missouri’s continued growth in apprenticeship participation shows that this model delivers results for both job seekers and businesses.”

Missouri Offers Free AI Training Through Coursera

Missourians can now apply for free online training designed to help workers understand and use artificial intelligence.

The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development has launched a new AI Literacy course collection in partnership with Coursera. The program includes about 60 hours of self-paced online training and is aligned with a U.S. Department of Labor AI literacy framework.

The course pathway includes three sections: AI Literacy for All, Strategic AI Usage and AI-Augmented Human Skills. Training focuses on practical uses of AI, including workplace productivity, decision-making and adapting to technology-driven

jobs.

Courses include content from DeepLearning.AI, Google, IBM and Amazon Web Services.

State officials said the program is meant to help Missourians at every skill level prepare for a changing workforce.

Participants must apply through the state at jobs.mo.gov/coursera. Once approved, a Missouri Job Center team member will help with enrollment.

Learners receive certificates for completed courses, and those who complete the full pathway earn a MDHEWD AI Literacy Certificate.

MoDOT opens Sponsor-A-Highway program statewide

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor

editor@mycameronnews.com

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A program that allows businesses and organizations to pay for roadside litter cleanup is now available across all of Missouri, including Northwest Missouri communities.

The Missouri Department of Transportation announced Monday that its Sponsor-A-Highway program has expanded beyond the St. Louis and Kansas City regions and is now open statewide.

Under the program, businesses, civic groups and individuals can sponsor one-mile stretches of highway. Cleanup is handled by a state-approved contractor, Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America Inc., rather than volunteers.

MoDOT officials say the expansion could help offset the roughly \$13 million the state spends each year on litter removal.

“The expansion of this service, with the help of these sponsors, could allow us to

offset some of the approximately \$13 million that we spend on litter-removal efforts each year,” said Becky Allmeroth, MoDOT’s chief safety and operations officer.

Each sponsored section is cleaned at least once a month, with more frequent service as needed. Sponsors receive signage along their designated stretch of highway displaying their name or organization.

Most state highways are now eligible for sponsorship, with the majority of roadway miles open.

MoDOT continues to offer additional anti-litter efforts, including:

Keeping Missouri Beautiful, a volunteer-based roadside cleanup program

No MOre Trash!, a statewide litter-prevention campaign

Trash Can Contest, an annual student awareness initiative

Those interested in participating can call (800) 499-2367 or visit adoptahighway.net/missouri for more information.

Chinese National Pleads Guilty to Unlawfully Photographing Whiteman Air Force Base

By Sean Shaughnessey

Editor

editor@mycameronnews.com

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—A Chinese national pleaded guilty in federal court yesterday for unlawfully photographing a vital military installation and military equipment without authorization.

Qilin Wu, 35, pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge Jill A. Morris to one count of taking photographs of a vital military installation and military equipment without authorization.

According to court documents, on Dec. 2, 2025, the Whiteman Air Force Base Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) investigated a report of a suspicious minivan near the perimeter of the military installation. Air Force patrolmen were dispatched to the area to investigate, and encountered Wu, who stated that he was there to observe the B-2 Spirit aircraft. The patrolmen informed Wu that he was not permitted to take photographs or make video recordings of the military installation.

AFOSI was notified the following day that the same minivan was identified at a perimeter fence of Whiteman Air Force Base. Whiteman Air Force agents went to the area to investigate and again contacted Wu. Wu admitted to taking videos of the B-2 Spirit aircraft and numerous photographs of Whiteman’s perimeter fencing, a gate, and military equipment. Wu showed investigators his phone, including images of Whiteman Air Force Base and military equipment that Wu had recorded. In total, investigators observed 18 images and videos that Wu admitted he had taken of the installation and of military equipment. Wu

also admitted to photographing another U.S. Air Force base and its military aircraft.

According to court documents, Wu is a Chinese national who illegally entered the United States on June 22, 2023, near Nogales, Az. At that time, Wu was arrested by immigration authorities for illegally being present in the United States. Due to a lack of detention space, Wu was released on his own recognizance to await immigration removal proceedings originally scheduled for Feb. 9, 2027. On Dec. 3, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) re-arrested Wu.

Under federal statutes, Wu is subject to a sentence of up to one year in federal prison. The maximum statutory sentence is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes; any sentence would be determined by the court based on the advisory sentencing guidelines and other statutory factors. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Trey Alford and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Brandon Chlarson with valuable assistance provided by Trial Attorney Brendan P. Geary of the National Security Division’s Counterintelligence and Export Control Section. It was investigated by the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Air Force’s Security Forces, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Operations.



The Outdoor Journal

Holland vs. Missouri – Part 2

By **Kyle Carroll**
Outdoor Journal, Contributed
kyle.l.carroll@gmail.com

Last week, we left this story with the passage of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the refusal of some to acknowledge the federal government’s authority to prohibit the shooting of non-game birds and restrict the hunting of ducks, geese, and other waterfowl. With the passage of this law, the federal government could now protect migratory birds of all kinds. The test of whether or not the law would stick would come in the spring of 1919, when the migrations headed north.

By 1919, the Missouri Legislature had passed a bill instructing Missouri Attorney General Frank McAllister to defend any Missouri resident arrested by federal wardens. The Civil War was not that far in the past, and states’ rights passions still ran high in Missouri and elsewhere.

In early 1919, federal wardens arrested two men near Kansas City for shooting mallards. That’s when a young federal agent named Ray Holland received a tip that Missouri Attorney General McAllister was hunting with some wealthy companions at a private duck club near Nevada, Missouri. Holland, a native of Atchison, Kansas, a duck hunter, and a former market hunter himself, was one of only a handful of federal agents in the country and was working a seven-state district.

Holland’s information indicated that McAllister and his companions had boarded a train in Kansas City with “guns and sporting clothes” and were headed south to hunt on Stultz Lake near Nevada.

Holland knew that Vernon County had

several duck clubs, along with lakes and natural marshes, and had a reputation as a prime area for migrating spring waterfowl. He boarded a southbound train with a deputy named Concannon.

According to James McCommons in *The Feather Wars*, the two lawmen arrived in Nevada after midnight with their suitcases and approached a taxi. Thinking on his feet, Holland said:

“We want to go out to the duck club.”

A driver asked, “Which one?”

“How should we know? The Attorney General told me that any of you boys would bring us out.”

“Oh, them fellas. They went north, but you can’t get in there,” the driver said. “They got a padlock on that gate on account of keeping out the game wardens.”

“Don’t worry about that—they’re expecting us.”

The taxi driver then proceeded to drive Holland and his deputy to the Stultz Lake Hunting and Fishing Club (still in existence today and often cited as one of the oldest hunt clubs west of the Mississippi River). It was a long trip on muddy roads, but the gate was unlocked when they arrived, and they were driven right up to the clubhouse.

Arrests were made. Ducks were confiscated. Missouri sued.

In 1920, the case of *Missouri v. Holland* was heard by the U.S. Supreme Court and decided in favor of Holland. On April 19, 1920, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., writing for the Court, upheld the Migratory Bird Treaty Act under the Supremacy Clause, affirming the federal government’s authority in the matter.

As Paul Harvey used to say, “Now you know the rest of the story.”

I-35 Speedway Race Recap - May 2, 2026

By **J. D. Greene**
Contributed

Team Spray Foam Night at the Races brought more than 75 cars to historic I-35 Speedway for an early May night of racing action.

First to take the track were the electric E-Mods, where defending track champion Tony Layne secured his second feature win of the season. Chris Dishong, heat race No. 2 winner and a three-time feature winner at I-35 this season, ran Layne down but came up one spot short. Josh Adkins, winner of heat No. 1 for the E-Mods, came home third, followed by Kenny Reed and Mark Andrews to wrap up the top five.

Lightning got it done again in the USRA Tuners, as Samuel Moore became the first repeat winner of the season. Moore, who earned his first feature win of the year March 28, had to hold off a fast field of drivers, as heat race No. 1 and No. 2 winners Chris Lewis and JR Curtis finished second and third, respectively. Hunter Throckmorton and Scott Beagle followed in fourth and fifth.

Mother Nature had other plans for the last Late Model feature, but it was all clear skies last night as the Late Model drivers got their second night of racing at I-35 this season. More than a month ago, Houston Johnson claimed the opening night Late Model feature, and he swept the series last night, winning both the heat and the feature. Adam Dunwoodie, in an identical No. 24, followed in second, with Paul Glendenning finishing third, Vic Lovejoy fourth and Tommy Cordray fifth.

Much like the USRA Tuners, the USRA Hobby Stocks also had their first repeat winner of the year, showing how competitive all the classes can be at I-35. Gavin Bartel doubled up his wins on the season, dominating both heat No. 1 and the feature event. Last week’s feature winner, Anthony Whitham, followed in second, with points leader Tyler Brown in third. Dakota Phelps and John Snyder rounded out the top five. Heat No. 2 winner AJ Sayers, a three-time feature winner last year, suffered mechanical problems in the feature, ending his night early.

A smaller field of B-Mods still put on a fantastic show, as Adam

Dunwoodie and Michael Taylor III battled it out. Dunwoodie, the points leader and defending track champion, held off heat race winner Taylor III to pick up his first feature win of the year. John Ross had a great run in his No. 64 machine, including leading early in the feature, and finished third, with Dalton Strohl and Tyler Turner rounding out the top five.

USRA Stock Cars fired off next, bringing a 12-car field to the track and perhaps the most competitive class of the night. Five events in, there have now been five different drivers in Molle Auto Group Victory Lane, with Tyler Cadwallader adding his name last night. Cadwallader had to hold off heat race No. 1 winner Chris Dishong and outside pole sitter Jason Estes, who finished second and third. Slade Sedgwick came home fourth, followed by Corey Myers in fifth. Heat race No. 2 winner Jake Hoover finished seventh.

The USRA Modifieds followed, where Cole Campbell pulled away early and survived several restarts for his first feature win of the year. Nic Bidingier followed in second, with defending USRA Modified National Champion and heat No. 1 winner Houston Johnson in third. Steven Glenn finished fourth, with heat race No. 2 winner Brad Johnson in fifth.

The final action of the evening was the beginner tuner class. Rylie Robb got it done, with last week’s winner, Makayla Myers, following in second. Glenn Sterkis and Layla Hampton rounded out the field.

Thank you all once again for another amazing night of dirt track racing at its best. Thank you to the drivers, officials, crews, sponsors and, of course, the fans for all you do to make this happen. A special thank you goes to Mike Johnson as he works hard to maintain the facilities, especially as he continues repainting the bleachers.

Next up is a special evening with the Cletus “Mudcat” Murray and Darrel Whit Memorials. We hope to see you all next Saturday night.

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Atom X

Amity farmer appointed to Missouri USDA Farm Service Agency State Committee

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

AMITY — A northwest Missouri farmer with deep roots in DeKalb County agriculture has been appointed to help oversee federal farm program delivery across the state.

Barry Kagay of Amity has been named to the Missouri USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee, one of five members selected to help guide the agency’s work with producers across Missouri.

State FSA committees play a key role in agricultural policy implementation at the state level. Members work with the USDA’s state office to oversee federal farm programs, support county committee operations, hear appeals and help ensure programs are delivered effectively to farmers and ranchers.

Kagay brings decades of agricultural experience to the position. His background includes farm management, crop planning, financial oversight and long-term land stewardship. He has also been actively

involved in agricultural leadership, including service on the MFA Incorporated State Board of Directors.

A longtime participant in agricultural leadership development, Kagay is an alumnus of Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT), a Missouri-based program focused on preparing farmers and rural leaders for public service and industry leadership roles.

His appointment places a local voice from the Amity and Maysville area into a statewide leadership role at a time when producers continue to navigate federal programs tied to conservation, commodity support, disaster assistance and farm financing.

ALOT officials said the appointment reflects the organization’s mission of developing leaders who serve Missouri agriculture and rural communities.

For northwest Missouri, the selection of an Amity-based producer reinforces the region’s continued influence in statewide agricultural policy and decision-making.

Missouri opens specialty crop grant applications

Missouri farmers, researchers and organizations working with fruits, vegetables, honey, nursery crops and other specialty crops have until **3 p.m. Thursday, May 28**, to apply for the state’s 2026 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

The Missouri Department of Agriculture announced it is accepting applications from individuals, community organizations and research institutions seeking to strengthen the competitiveness of specialty crops grown in Missouri.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines specialty crops as fruits, vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, honey, horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture.

Grant funding may be used for projects

that expand local, regional and international markets, develop distribution channels, support education and research, promote food safety strategies and address crop-specific pest and disease concerns.

The department will consider awards of up to **\$50,000** for specific projects. Grants are awarded for a two-year period and paid on a quarterly reimbursement basis. Advance payments are not available.

Selected projects will be included in Missouri’s state plan for USDA review and approval.

Applications and additional information are available through the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

Governor Mike Kehoe Proclaims May as Beef Month



JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Today, on behalf of cattlemen and cattlemen throughout the state, Governor Mike Kehoe proclaimed May as Beef Month in Missouri. Governor Kehoe presented the proclamation to members of the Missouri Beef Industry Council (MBIC), Missouri Cattlemen’s Association (MCA) and local beef producers during a ceremony at America’s Heartland Packing in Wright City.

“From helping make Missouri a national leader in beef production, to supporting jobs and communities across our state, cattle producers play an essential role in Missouri’s success,” said Governor Mike Kehoe. “As a first-generation cattle farmer myself, I am proud to recognize May as Beef Month and to honor the farm and ranch families who continue to feed the world.”

Beef production is a driving force in the state’s agriculture economy, producing nearly \$2 billion in sales and supporting more than 40,000 jobs.

“Beef production is a leading segment of Missouri agriculture, contributing significantly to the \$93.7 billion industry,” said Director of Agriculture Chris Chinn. “Missouri cattle producers are unmatched in the quality of product they provide. It is an industry worthy of celebration in May and all year.”

“During Beef Month, we celebrate the

hardworking farm and ranch families across Missouri who are dedicated to raising high-quality beef,” said MBIC Board Chair Tracey Mershon. “Consumers today want to know where their food comes from, and our producers are committed to transparency, animal care and sustainability. Beef remains a delicious, wholesome source of essential nutrients, and we’re proud to share that story.”

Missouri ranks third nationally in the number of beef cows with nearly two million head and is consistently among the leading states for total cattle production. The meat processing industry contributes nearly \$6 million to the state’s economy, according to a study showing the economic contribution of Missouri agriculture.

“Beef Month is a meaningful time for those of us in the cattle business to reflect on the trust consumers place in us every day,” said MCA President Anita Vanderwert. “Raising beef is not just our livelihood; it’s how we support our families, strengthen rural economies and contribute to Missouri’s agricultural legacy. We’re proud to produce a nutritious, high-quality product and grateful to consumers who continue to choose beef.”

A copy of the proclamation can be found on the Governor’s website.

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LEVINE

from page 10

invited or not,” Levine said.

Background issue continues to follow campaign

During the interview, Levine addressed a past legal matter stemming from a 2011 arrest involving alleged inappropriate online communication. Levine said the case was ultimately dismissed with prejudice in 2013 and that his record was expunged.

He said the incident involved a social media account created by another individual using his identity and that an anonymous letter later took responsibility for the activity.

Levine added that the matter continues to affect his campaign, particularly in terms of invitations and public perception, but said he provides documentation when asked.

Positioning in the race

Levine said he views the 6th District as

winnable for a Democrat, arguing that voters are increasingly open to candidates who focus on economic and quality-of-life issues rather than party affiliation.

“This isn’t about parties anymore,” he said. “This is about what’s good for you, your family, your neighbors.”

He also described himself as a Democrat willing to work across party lines, saying he is “not your... really, really blue Democrat,” but someone focused on collaboration.

The Democratic primary field in the 6th District includes multiple candidates, with the winner advancing to face the Republican nominee in a district that has historically leaned heavily Republican.

Small Business Summit set for May 7 at Missouri Western

The Small Business Development Center at Missouri Western State University will host a Small Business Summit on Thursday, May 7, in celebration of National Small Business Week.

The free event is designed for entrepreneurs, small business owners and anyone interested in starting or growing a business. Attendees will receive hands-on QuickBooks training, hear from local bankers and lenders during a live question-and-answer session, and learn about no-cost advising, training and support available through the Small Business Development

Center.

The summit will focus on practical tools for business finances, funding opportunities and local resources available to help small businesses succeed.

The event will run from 7:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Houlne Center for Convergent Technology, 4141 Mitchell Avenue, on the Missouri Western campus.

Advance registration is available at griff.vn/SBForum26. For more information, call **816-271-5801** or email swinnington@missouriwestern.edu.

DeKalb, Caldwell Earn ACT Work Ready Community Status

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Regional workforce milestone highlights school-business partnerships

CAMERON, Mo. — DeKalb and Caldwell counties have officially been designated as ACT Work Ready Communities, marking a significant step forward in regional workforce and economic development efforts.

The certification recognizes communities that have built strong partnerships between education, business and local leadership to develop a skilled, job-ready workforce.

Local leaders say the designation is more than symbolic. It reflects a coordinated effort to connect classroom learning, job training and employer needs across the region.

That alignment is intended to help businesses identify skilled workers while giving students and job seekers a clearer path toward meaningful employment.

A cornerstone of the program is the ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate, a nationally recognized credential that measures key workplace skills such as applied math, reading workplace

documents and interpreting graphics.

For employers, the certification offers a clearer picture of workforce readiness across the region, helping reduce hiring uncertainty and improve job matching.

For students and job seekers, it provides a tangible credential that can translate directly into employment opportunities.

Work Ready Community status has increasingly become a tool used by economic developers to market regions to prospective employers. By demonstrating measurable workforce skills, DeKalb and Caldwell counties position themselves as competitive locations for business expansion and recruitment.

The designation also reflects a broader shift in workforce strategy, one that emphasizes skills-based hiring and career pathways outside traditional four-year degrees.

Local officials say the work does not stop with certification. Maintaining the designation requires ongoing participation from schools, employers and community partners.

Still, leaders say the milestone sends a clear message about the region’s direction: DeKalb and Caldwell counties are prepared to work, grow and compete.

Cameron earns first Silver Shovel Award from Spire

By Sean Shaughnessey
Editor
editor@mycameronnews.com

Cameron has been recognized by Spire for completing 2025 with no at-fault damage to the utility company’s natural gas infrastructure.

The city received Spire’s Silver Shovel Award, an annual honor created in 2019 to recognize Missouri municipalities that demonstrate strong excavation safety practices.

To qualify, a municipality must be located within Spire’s service territory, remain in good standing with Missouri One Call and have no at-fault damages to Spire facilities during the year.

Cameron was among this year’s first-

time winners, joining Union, Crystal City and Fredericktown.

“By making the free phone call to 811 before starting a digging project, these municipalities protect their employees and residents,” said Alan Meyer, Spire damage prevention manager. “Presenting the Silver Shovel Award is our way of saying thank you to these municipalities for making the decision to put safety first before every dig.”

The award highlights the importance of calling 811 before digging, whether for public works projects, construction, landscaping or other excavation work. The service helps crews and property owners identify underground utilities before work begins.

Purdue Settlement Sends \$91M to Missouri as Rural Communities Continue Opioid Fight

Northwest Missouri leaders may see new treatment, prevention and recovery dollars from national settlement

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Missouri will receive more than \$91 million from a \$7.4 billion national settlement with Purdue Pharma and the Sackler family, bringing new funding into a state still working to confront the long-term damage of the opioid crisis.

The need remains significant. Missouri recorded 1,493 drug-related deaths in 2024, with about 63% involving opioids, according to the Department of Mental Health’s 2025 annual substance-use report. That marked a decline from the height of the crisis, but still represents a heavy toll on families and communities.

In Buchanan County, local officials have already established a joint city-county process for opioid settlement funds. St. Joseph and Buchanan County adopted a memorandum of understanding in 2023 to coordinate how settlement dollars are distributed for prevention, recovery and response efforts.

Similar decisions are expected to matter across the region, where opioid settlement dollars could support treatment access, recovery housing, prevention programs, naloxone distribution, mental health services or first responder efforts.

Attorney General Catherine Hanaway announced the settlement has become legally effective, ending years of litigation over Purdue’s marketing of opioids and its role in the national addiction crisis. Missouri sued Purdue in 2017, one year after attorneys general launched a multistate investigation.

For northwest Missouri communities, the settlement represents more than a legal milestone. Rural counties have faced many of the same opioid-related challenges as larger cities, but often with fewer treatment providers, longer drives to services and heavier reliance on local law enforcement, ambulance crews, hospitals and family support networks.

“For too long, parents, children and communities across our state have borne the heartbreaking costs of the opioid epidemic,” Hanaway said. “This settlement brings accountability and a measure of justice for the victims of this devastating crisis.”

Missouri is expected to receive \$91,333,005.76 from the Purdue settlement over 15 years, with most of the money distributed during the first three years. The funds are intended to support addiction treatment, prevention and recovery services.

Missouri’s Department of Mental Health maintains a public opioid settlement reporting website, with annual reports due each year by March 1. The state’s 2026 reporting process includes details on how settlement funds are received and spent, and whether expenditures fit approved uses.

The Purdue settlement permanently bars the Sackler family from selling opioids in the United States. It also requires more than 30 million documents tied to Purdue’s opioid business to be made public.

Purdue’s manufacturing operations will transfer to Knoa Pharma LLC, which will be overseen by a board with no connection to Purdue. The company will be barred from marketing opioids and monitored to reduce the risk of diversion.

Valerie Huhn, director of the Missouri Department of Mental Health, said the money will be important for public health responses across the state.

“The opioid epidemic has taken an enormous toll on the citizens and communities of Missouri,” Huhn said. “These settlement dollars directed to state and local governments are extremely important to support the public health responses like expanded treatment and prevention programs.”

Beer Walk for the Arts returns May 16

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — The Allied Arts Council will host its annual Beer Walk for the Arts from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 16, in the Fairleigh Place historic neighborhood.

The event invites participants to visit a route of neighborhood homes while sampling craft beers and viewing work from local artists. Proceeds benefit the Arts Fund, which supports local arts organizations, education, public art, performances and exhibitions.

“This event is about bringing people together and supporting the arts while experiencing them in a fun, approachable way,” said Brooke McBride, director of strategic communications for the Allied Arts Council. “It’s a favorite for a reason, and it sells out quickly every year.”

Tickets are limited. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit stjoearts.org.



SPORTS
FACT:



This term in tennis refers to a score of zero. It may have come from the French word for egg.

Answer: Love

“How they say that in...”

- English: Tennis
- Spanish: Tenis
- Italian: Tennis
- French: Tennis
- German: Tennis

Math Blocks
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

4	12	
	10	
		1

36

24

12

19

24

29

1	2	6
8	10	9
20	12	4

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

AMEG, TSE, TMCAH

Answer: Game, set, match

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1527: German and Spanish troops sack Rome, marking what many scholars feel is the end of the Renaissance.

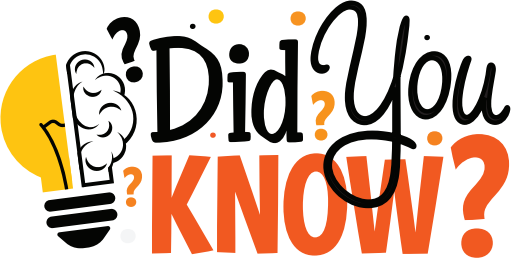
1835: James Gordon Bennett, Sr., publishes the first issue of the New York Herald.

1941: The first flight of the Republic P-47 Thunderbolt takes place.

NEW WORD

VOLLEY

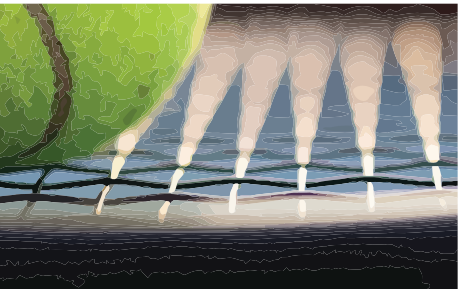
strike of a ball before it hits the ground



A tennis player wins a game by scoring four points, unless the game is tied (deuce), then two more points in a row are needed. A match is won by winning two out of three sets.



Get the
PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Tennis racquet and ball



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PUBLIC NOTICES

101 - Public Notices

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED CUSTOMERS
WE NOW REQUIRE PAYMENT ON ADS BEFORE THEY CAN RUN. WE ACCEPT VISA, MC OR DISCOVER
CALL 816-632-6543

Lien Sale: Contents of storage unit to be sold, SATURDAY, May 16, 2026 at 5:00 a.m. at Carr’s Storage at 1020 South Walnut, Cameron, MO. Watch for “Sale Canceled” sign at the location or call (816-632-3398) to confirm sale. Terms: Cash. (5/14)

LIEN SALE: Contents of storage unit(s) to be sold on FRIDAY, MAY 22ND at 3:00 pm at A-1 Self Storage at 2309 N. Walnut, then next at 3:45 pm at 920 N. Ensign Trace, Cameron, MO. Watch for “Sale Canceled” signs at each location or call (816) 632-3150 to confirm sale. Terms: Cash. (5/21)

213 - Special Notices

AA MEETINGS: Lathrop First Christian Church. Mondays 7 p.m. Non-smoking. Call 816-528-3130 or 816-586-3361

AA OF GALLATIN Open Meeting Wed. Nights, 7-8 p.m.,1207 S Clay, 7th Day Advent Church.

BE WISE! IMMUNIZE! Measles & Whooping cough are on the rise! Protect your child NOW! Immunizations and well child checkups begin at birth. Regular clinics monthly in Cameron, Plattsburg & Lathrop. Call Clinton County Health Dept.now. 816-539-2144

CAMERON CROSSROADS AA GROUP: The Old School Rm 6, 116 W. 4th St., Cameron. Mon. Wed. Fri. & Sat. 12 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 12 & 7 p.m.; Sun. 5 p.m. Open meetings Wed. & last Sun. of every month with potluck at 4 p.m. Contact Bill 816-649-9519 or Erin A. 816-284-5393

Crossroads Assembly of God Church, 919 N Harris St., Cameron. Food Pantry & Blessing Room Open Tues. & Thurs. 1:00-4:30. **DO YOU NEED HELP?** We Can Provide The Help You Need. You are invited to The Life Recovery Class @ Crossroads Assembly, 919 N Harris St., Cameron. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. Please Call Kevin @ 816-284-3917 or Joe @ 816-209-2458 for more information.

HUNTINGTON’S DISEASE Do you know someone with Huntington’s Disease? Northwest Missouri has a support group that meets the 2nd Monday of each month at Liberty Hospital (entrance next to dialysis clinic) at 7 p.m. You are not alone. Call Becky at 816-592-0950 questions.

LIFE GOT YOU DOWN? Attend recovering your life group. Second & Fourth Wednesdays of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. For More Info: Call 816-284-3917

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Sundays @ 6:30 p.m. 116 W 4 St., Cameron. Meeting room, main floor, Old School 800-561-2250 UKC ANA help line.

If you’re ready to make an impact, consider joining our team!

Young at Heart Resources is seeking an interpersonal Administrative Assistant to join our dedicated team. As the Administrative Assistant, you will perform receptionist and general office duties, as well as provide administrative and operational support to the CEO and COO.

The Administrative Assistant position will begin on July 1, 2026. We will keep the position open until we find the best candidate to join our organization. This position functions under the general supervision of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer.

For a full job description and instructions to apply, visit www.yahresources.org/news. Young at Heart Resources is an Area Agency on Aging serving Northwest MO and offers an excellent benefits package.



If you’re ready to advocate, support, and make a difference in the lives of others, consider joining our team!

Young at Heart Resources is seeking a compassionate, professional, and motivated Regional Ombudsman Coordinator to join our dedicated team. This position is responsible for advocating for residents of long-term care facilities, investigating and resolving concerns, educating residents and families on their rights, and coordinating ombudsman services throughout the region. The position also works collaboratively with community partners, facilities, and agency staff to promote quality care and resident well-being.

The Regional Ombudsman Coordinator position will begin on July 1, 2026. This position works under the general supervision of agency leadership.

For a full job description and instructions to apply, visit www.yahresources.org/news. Young at Heart Resources is an Area Agency On Aging serving Northwest Missouri and offers an excellent benefits package.





Bank Northwest

Bank Northwest will be taking sealed bids beginning April 30, 2026 until May 14, 2026 at: 4:00PM for the following vehicle: 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. As is. You may submit bids to Bank Northwest, P.O. Box 410, 814 N Walnut St, Cameron, MO 64429 Attn: Loan Department. For more information, contact Kayla Russell or Kelley Uthe at 816-632-7000.

www.banknw.com

REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Caldwell County Health Department is seeking bids for the replacement of exterior windows at our facility.

PROJECT DETAILS:
Quantity: 15 windows
Specifications: White vinyl, double-hung windows with screens
Interested bidders are encouraged to visit the site to view the current windows at: 255 W Main St, Kingston, MO 64650

For questions, please call 816-586-2311. Bids may be submitted via email to: tracycarman@caldwellcountyhealthdept.com

Deadline for submission: 4:30 PM on May 19, 2026

The Caldwell County Health Department reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Need Help with your Medicare costs? Call Young at Heart Resources to see if you qualify and for application assistance. Toll free: 888-844-5626 or 660-240-9400. Young at Heart is your local non-profit Area Agency on Aging.

OVERCOMERS: 12 Step Program for any life controlling issue. Every Monday, 6:30 p.m., Kingdom Builders Church 311 N Main, Cameron 816-596-2454

PREGNANT? BREAST FEEDING? Have a child under 5? You need WIC! Receive vouchers for formula, milk, cheese, and more. Regular clinics monthly. Call **Caldwell County Health Dept. 816-586-2311** or **Clinton County Health Dept. 816-539-2144**. EOE.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Non Profit weight loss support. 10:30 a.m. every Thursday, Community of Christ Church, 4th & Godfrey, Cameron

PETS & SUPPLIES

234 - Missing

Missing Blue heeler / Australian Shepard mix named Eddie last seen April 1st off of NW old HWY 36 between HWY D and NW Brushy Rd. If found please call 816-804-0426

FARMERS MARKET

294 - Farmer Wants

299 - Farm Miscellaneous

Raw A2A2 Jersey cows milk and cream. Call 816-632-9669 (5/7)



Adorable purebred Great Pyrenees puppies looking for their new farms or homes! These sweet pups were born between Christmas and New Years, and are currently being raised around livestock. And although still puppies, the litter as a whole are already showing the calm, protective temperament the breed is known for.

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These dogs are known for being loyal, gentle with kids, and excellent guardians for property or livestock.

Please call or text Demi at (801) 897-8846 to schedule a time to come meet and play with them. Currently listed at \$50, OBO.

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Call... 816-288-9060

EMPLOYMENT

FULL Time Maintenance Man wanted. Must have own vehicle & own tools, experience required. Call Joe 816-632-6325, TFN

Super 8 at 1710 N. Walnut St. Cameron, MO is currently seeking housekeepers. Apply in person or call 816-632-8888. Competitive wages! (5/21)

The Nature Conservancy is seeking a Ranch Hand & Bison Coordinator at Dunn Ranch Prairie in Hatfield, Missouri. Starting pay range is \$19-23/hr. To apply, visit <https://nature.org/careers>. (5/21)



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The Citizen-Observer, a weekly newspaper in Cameron, is looking for a **PRESS ROOM APPRENTICE**. Running large Printing Press. Must be Mechanically Inclined & Not Afraid to get Dirty. Will Train Right Person. Possible New Career. Part Time | Hours Vary. (Could lead to Full Time) Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. No Weekends. Pick up an application at 403 E Evergreen, Cameron or submit resume to production@mycameronnews.com.



End rolls for sale, prices vary by size. We also have plastic pallets for \$15 and ink barrels for \$20. 403 E Evergreen St., Cameron. For more information call 816-632-6543

389 - Garage Sales

Gallatin City Wide Garage Sale - Saturday May 16, 8:00 AM start. 40+ sales, restaurant specials.

414 - Miscellaneous

426 - Sporting Goods

MERCHANDISE

331 - Miscellaneous

11 Manufactured kitchen cabinets, stove top, baking oven w/cabinet, complete stainless steel sink w/faucet and new disposal. \$1500 for everything. Call 816-390-6220. (4/30)

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

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