



Stuart's determination on full display as 2021 Softball Player of the Year

SPORTS, 9A

Kirksville Daily Express

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Dorrell named new city engineer

Austin Miller
Kirksville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

The City of Kirksville has selected its new City Engineer. The city announced Tuesday that Adam Dorrell will takeover that position. Len Kollars recently retired from that post. Following a regional search, the city honed in on Dorrell. Dorrell has been a principal at the engineering firm of Benton and Associates, Inc. and the office manager for its Kirksville and Macon offices. A city-issued press release said he has more than 20 years experience in civil engineering, particularly with design and construction experience with the Illinois Department of Transportation. He also has a background with water, wastewater, stormwater, highways and site development. "The position of City Engineer is important to our success and ability to complete infrastructure projects in a timely manner," said City Manager Mari Macomber in a release. "The City Engineer plays a key role in the



Dorrell

See **ENGINEER**, Page 2A

Kirksville native selected for award as Naval judge advocate

Daily Express staff

A Kirksville native will be honored next month for her career as a Navy judge advocate. Tracy Reynolds, a Naval officer and attorney, was selected by the Judge Advocates Association as its 2021 Navy Active Duty Outstanding Career Judge Advocate. She is the Fleet Judge Advocate to Commander, Second Fleet.

Reynolds graduated from Kirksville High School in 1995 and Truman State in 1999. She currently resides in Norfolk, Va. She has been with the Navy JAG since 2006.

"Each year, the JAA recognizes outstanding contributions to the armed services by career attorneys serving as judge advocates," says a release on the award. "These individuals have demonstrated a record of superb professional accomplishments, service to the community and the legal profession, and leadership and development of subordinates."

A ceremony for the JAA's annual award banquet will happen on Dec. 2 at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, Va.

Reynolds' sea and overseas assignments include work in Japan, Korea and Afghanistan.

After attaining her bachelor of arts degree in English from Truman, she went on to receive a Juris Doctorate from Saint Louis University in 2004, a masters degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in 2015, and an LL.M in international law from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in 2016. She is also working on a PhD focused on space law at the University of Adelaide.



Daily Express photo of voting signs in Kirksville. AUSTIN MILLER

Filing for 2022 Municipal Election opens on Dec. 7

Austin Miller
Kirksville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

Next year will be full of local elections, with the early processes for them beginning in a few weeks. Filing for the 2022 Municipal Election opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 7. That filing period remains open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 28. Historically, that filing period had gone into January in previous years, but recent state legislation altered that time frame. The Municipal Election will happen on April 5. There are three City Council positions on the line in the election. There are two, full three-year seats, which are currently held by Mayor Zac Burden and Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Parks. The third spot is for an unexpired

term that has one year remaining. That is for the term previously held by Chuck Long when he was re-elected in 2018. Jennifer Walston was appointed to fill that position this past year, with the election deciding who will finish the remainder of the term. There are two positions up for grabs on the Kirksville R-III School Board. Those are both three-year terms, with Gayla McHenry and John McConnell being the current holders of those positions. Citizens interested in running for City Council can submit the necessary filing information at City Hall. And those interested in running for the School Board can do the same at the Superintendent's Office. Next year will also be a busy one for several county elections later on in the calendar.

The seats for Associate Circuit Judge, Presiding County Commissioner, County Clerk, Collector of Revenue, County Treasurer, Recorder of Deeds, Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Clerk will all be on the ballot. A new Presiding Judge over the 2nd Circuit Court will also be decided next year. Judge Russell Steele will reach the mandatory retirement age of 70 in February. So Gov. Mike Parson will appoint an interim judge, then the general election will decide who will serve the remaining two years on that six-year term. For the Aug. 2 Primary Election, filing will open on Feb. 22 and run until March 29. Filing for the Nov. 8 General Election will then begin on July 12 and close on Aug. 30.

Missouri man wrongfully convicted free after 4 decades

Heather Hollingsworth and Margaret Stafford
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Kansas City man who was jailed for more than 40 years for three murders was released from prison Tuesday after a judge ruled that he was wrongfully convicted in 1979. Kevin Strickland, 62, has always maintained that he was home watching television and had nothing to do with the killings, which happened when he was 18 years old. He learned of the decision when the news scrolled across the television screen as he was watching the soap opera. He said inmates began screaming. "I'm not necessarily angry. It's a lot. I think I've created emotions that you all don't know about just yet," he told reporters as he left the Western Missouri Correctional Center in Cameron. "Joy, sorrow, fear. I am trying to figure out how to put them together." He said he would like to get involved in efforts to "keep this from happening to someone else," saying the criminal



Kevin Strickland answers questions during an evidentiary hearing regarding his innocence on, Nov. 8, 2021 in Jackson County Circuit Court in Kansas City, Mo. Strickland, who has been jailed for more than 40 years for three murders, was wrongfully convicted in 1979 and will be released, a Missouri judge ruled Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021. TAMMY LJUNGBLAD, AP

justice system "needs to be torn down and redone." Judge James Welsh, a retired Missouri Court of Appeals judge, ruled after a three-day evidentiary hearing requested by a Jackson County prosecu-

tor who said evidence used to convict Strickland had since been recanted or disproven. Welsh wrote in his judgement that "clear and convincing evidence" was presented that "undermines the Court's confidence in the judgement of conviction." He noted that no physical evidence linked Strickland to the crime scene and that a key witness recanted before her death. "Under these unique circumstances, the Court's confidence in Strickland's convictions is so undermined that it cannot stand, and the judgment of conviction must be set aside," Welsh wrote in ordering Strickland's immediate release. Jackson County Prosecutor Jean Peters Baker, who pushed for his freedom, moved quickly to dismiss the criminal charges against him so he could be released. "To say we're extremely pleased and grateful is an understatement," she said in a statement. "This brings justice

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NEWS

Missouri paid \$30K to defend Greitens in suit

Jason Hancock
Missouri Independent

The state has paid private attorneys more than \$30,000 since 2019 to defend former Gov. Eric Greitens from an age discrimination lawsuit filed by a former employee of the Missouri Department of Revenue. Mark Ausmus filed a lawsuit in 2018 alleging he was fired from a senior counsel position during the early months of Greitens’ administration and replaced with a younger attorney.

A former Democratic staffer in the Missouri House in the 1990s, Ausmus had been working at the department since 2011 and was made senior counsel in 2016. He had never been subject to any discipline and never had a poor annual evaluation, said his attorney, Roger Brown.

He was given no reason for his dismissal, Brown said, except that it was on orders from the governor’s office. “They wanted to find places to put their cronies,” Brown said of the governor’s office, “and they looked around and found an old guy and just shipped him off, told him he was out of a job and replaced him with younger people.”

Ausmus was 61 at the time of his dismissal, which Brown said made him one of, if not the oldest, attorney working in the department.

“They have never been able to articulate a legitimate reason,” he said. “They called him in and said ‘the governor’s office called, and you’re discharged.’ And so he was.”

He’s asking the court to award him nearly \$1 million in back pay and benefits, including his pension, along with punitive damages.

Greitens, who resigned in June 2018 to avoid impeachment and settle a felony charge, was originally



Then-Gov. Eric Greitens speaks to supporters during a rally May 23, 2017, outside the state Capitol in Jefferson City. JEFF ROBERSON/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

defended by the attorney general’s office. The attorney general’s office remains part of the case, but in April 2019 agreed to allow Catherine Hanaway of the Husch Blackwell law firm to serve as Greitens’ attorney. Hanaway, a former speaker of the Missouri House and U.S. attorney, previously served as attorney for Greitens’ campaign committee and dark-money non-profit. The state is paying \$140 an hour fee for her services in the discrimination lawsuit, which according to the attorney general’s office has totaled nearly \$31,000 so far. Since April 2019, Greitens’ gubernatorial campaign has paid Husch Blackwell roughly \$88,000, though it is unclear how much, if any, of that total is related to the discrimination lawsuit.

Greitens is currently running in the Republican U.S. Senate primary. Hanaway did not respond to a request for comment. Brown said it is appropriate for the state to pick up the tab for Greitens’ legal bills, since the alleged discrimination took place as part of his official duties as governor. Greitens’ attorneys have tried unsuccessfully several times to get the judge to dismiss him from the lawsuit, Brown said. “They argue that he didn’t specifically do anything,” Brown said. “But his office did it, and he is his office. He’s the one who gives directions. When you are told ‘the governor’s office says you’re fired,’ that means the governor says you’re fired.” Ironically, in 2017 Greitens signed legislation making it harder to prove a discrimination claim in court and prohibiting people from suing some individuals, such as a supervisor, for discrimination. Ausmus’ claims predate that law going into effect, Brown said, allowing him to sue under the previous standard and include Greitens as a named defendant. Since his dismissal, Ausmus has suffered “great embarrassment and humiliation” in front of his peers, friends and family, the lawsuit contends, and his career has been irreparably harmed. “Each time the plaintiff applies for a job,” the lawsuit says, “he must indicate that he was fired and then end up informing a prospective employer that he does not know the reason and can give no explanation for such discharge.” Brown said the case has been repeatedly delayed because of the COVID pandemic. It’s currently set for trial in December 2022. “We would have liked to have tried this case two years ago,” Brown said. “It’s been taken off the docket twice because of COVID.”

Engineer

Continued from Page 1A

development of the City; and the relationships with regulatory agencies; federal, state, and local funding sources; local utilities; and area developers. I believe Adam will bring experience, exceptional engineering skills, a definite understanding of the Kirksville community, and a commitment to teamwork and collaboration.” Dorrell is a licensed professional engineer in Mis-

souri and Illinois. He earned his Geological Engineering degree from Missouri S&T. He is a member of several professional organizations including the, American Society of Civil Engineers, Missouri Rural Water Association, Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference, Water Environmental Federation. And he has also been an active member in the Kirksville community for many years. He has been a part of the Kiwanis Club of Kirksville and a number of other groups. “We’ve lived in Kirksville for over 17 years and started and grew our family here,” Dorrell said. “My wife is a Special Education teacher at Ray Miller Elementary,

and my three sons are all active in many youth activities. It made sense for me to take this opportunity and choose to serve my community in a more direct way. As City Engineer, there will be a variety of opportunities in which I believe I can help make a positive impact on our community.” Dorrell is slated to begin in the role later this month. “Due to his past and ongoing involvement in the community as a citizen, parent, and neighbor; and his professional experience working on both City and community projects, Adam will be able to adapt to the responsibilities of the position much quicker than other candidates,” Macomber said.

Free

Continued from Page 1A

— finally — to a man who has tragically suffered so so greatly as a result of this wrongful conviction.” But Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt, a Republican running for the U.S. Senate, said Strickland was guilty and had fought to keep him incarcerated.

“In this case, we defended the rule of law and the decision that a jury of Mr. Strickland’s peers made after hearing all of the facts in the case,” Schmitt spokesman Chris Nuelle said in a brief statement. “The Court has spoken, no further action will be taken in this matter.” Gov. Mike Parson, who declined Strickland’s clemency requests, tweeted simply that: “The Court has made its decision, we respect the decision, and the Department of Corrections will proceed with Mr. Strickland’s release immediately.” Strickland was convicted in the deaths of Larry Ingram, 21; John Walker, 20; and Sherrie Black, 22, at a home in Kansas City. The evidentiary hearing focused largely on testimony from Cynthia Douglas, the only person to survive the April 25, 1978, shootings. She initially identified Strickland as one of four men who shot the victims and

testified to that during his two trials. Welsh wrote that she had doubts soon after the conviction but initially was “hesitant to act because she feared she could face perjury charges if she were to publicly recant statements previously made under oath.” She later said she was pressured by police to choose Strickland and tried for years to alert political and legal experts to help her prove she had identified the wrong man, according to testimony during the hearing from her family, friends and a co-worker. Douglas died in 2015. During the hearing, attorneys for the Missouri Attorney General’s office argued that Strickland’s advocates had not provided a paper trail that proved Douglas tried to recant her identification of Strickland, saying the theory was based on “hearsay, upon hearsay, upon hearsay,” The judge also noted that two other men convicted in the killings later insisted Strickland wasn’t involved. They named two other suspects who were never charged. During his testimony, Strickland denied suggestions that he offered Douglas \$300 to “keep her mouth shut,” and said he had never visited the house where the murders occurred before they happened. Strickland is Black, and his first trial ended in a hung jury when the only Black juror, a woman, held out for acquittal. After his second trial in 1979, he was convicted by an all-white jury of one count of capital murder and two counts of second-degree murder. In May, Peters Baker announced that a review of the case led her to believe that Strickland was innocent. In June, the Missouri Supreme Court declined to hear Strickland’s petition. In August, Peters Baker used a new state law to seek the evidentiary hearing in Jackson County, where Strickland was convicted. The law allows local prosecutors to challenge convictions if they believe the defendant did not commit the crime. It was the first time — and so far the only time — that a prosecutor has used the law to fight a previous conviction.

NOTICE OF KIRKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING

Notice is hereby given that the following City Council positions will be filled at the General Municipal Election on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Three (3) City Council Positions: two (2) full term of three years; and one (1) unexpired term with one year remaining.

Filing Period: December 7, 2021 through December 28, 2021

Councilmember Qualifications: Must be 21 years of age, a United States Citizen, a registered voter, and an inhabitant of the City of Kirksville for one year prior to taking office.

Declaration of candidacy must be filed with the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 201 S. Franklin St., for the filing period, any weekday, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, except on recognized city holidays.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, all candidates will be required to wear a mask while completing paperwork in City Hall.

Notice of Nondiscrimination:
All persons within the City of Kirksville are free and equal and shall be entitled to the following equal use and enjoyment within the city at any place of public accommodation without discrimination or segregation on account of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation or on any other basis that would be in violation of any applicable federal, state, or local law.

LEGAL NOTICE

*****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATES*****

Kirksville R-III School District

Notice of School Board Candidate Filing

The Kirksville R-III School District encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the School Board to file to be a candidate in the April 5, 2022, election. Interested persons may file at the Superintendent’s Office located at 1901 East Hamilton Street, Kirksville, Missouri. For more information contact Mr. Robert Webb, Superintendent at 660-665-8658.

Filing will begin on December 7, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district’s regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Except for the first and last day of filing, filing will not occur on days that the school district’s central offices are closed due to inclement weather. If in the event of closure due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, candidates should call 660-665-8658 or email kpanos@kirksville.k12.mo.us. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district’s central offices are closed: December 23, 24, 2021. Filing will end on December 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

There are two positions available with three-year terms.

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Kirksville Daily Express

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delivery of premium editions is variable. There will be no more than one premium edition published each month during the subscription term. If you sign up for our EZPay program, your subscription will automatically be charged to your credit card 0 to 14 days prior to your current expiration date, for the duration of your subscription or until you notify us otherwise. For more information or to cancel your subscription please call 660-665-2808.

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NEWS

Alden Global Capital moves to buy Lee Enterprises

Arren Kimbel-Sannit
Missouri Independent

Alden Global Capital, a New York-based hedge fund that this year became the second largest newspaper publisher in the United States, has made an offer to purchase Lee Enterprises, the media company that owns 75 daily newspapers, including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Dennis Swibold, a professor of journalism at the University of Montana and author of a book on the history of newspaper ownership in the state, said in Lee, Alden must think it can find some loose change somewhere.

“They see savings,” Swibold said. “They wouldn’t be making this offer if they didn’t see cuts.”

Alden, which has amassed around 200 publications through a series of acquisitions of large, financially struggling legacy newspaper chains, is making an all-cash offer to buy Lee at \$24 a share, a healthy premium, for a total of \$141 million. Lee stock was trading at around \$18.50 by the end of last week, but since climbed to \$23.40 a share by Monday afternoon.

“We believe that as a private company and part of our successful nationwide platforms, Lee would be in a stronger position to maximize its resources and realize strategic value that enhances its operations and supports its employees in their important work serving local communities,” Alden wrote to Lee’s board of direc-

tors in a letter Monday. “Our interest in Lee is a reaffirmation of our substantial commitment to the newspaper industry and our desire to support local newspapers over the long term.”

However, Alden’s track record seems to suggest otherwise. The firm has a history of purchasing newspapers to cut costs wherever possible and squeeze whatever profit is left out of a struggling medium in a struggling industry — often, this comes in the form of layoffs, selling off buildings, increased subscription prices and diminished coverage of local stories. It made one of its biggest moves this year, purchasing Tribune Publishing, which operated the Chicago Tribune, the New York Daily News and other large legacy papers.

As recently covered in The Atlantic, whatever profits Alden makes generally aren’t reinvested in news, but are put in other areas. Its purchase of the Chicago Tribune meant buyouts for around a quarter of the newsroom. At the Denver Post, under Alden subsidiary Digital First Media, the editorial staff was reduced by two-thirds and its downtown newsroom leased out. Last year, Alden managing director Heath Freeman told the Washington Post he wanted his firm to be remembered for saving the industry — though the Post reported he “told friends the pragmatic truth is that newspapers need to be cut to be saved.”

It’s likely that Alden, which first bought a six percent stake in Lee last year, is making a similar play here, said

Swibold. Alden said it could close a deal in approximately four weeks.

“I remember when they bought almost 6 percent of Lee, this is one of the things that instantly popped on my radar screen as something that could happen,” Swibold said. “Their history is one of ruthless efficiency. They have really taken a lot of the papers they’ve bought and purchased and put them through an incredibly intense stress test to find savings.”

In its letter to Lee’s board, Alden noted that “back office operations and legacy public company functions” in the news business “remain bloated.”

There’s no guarantee that Lee’s stakeholders take the offer, though Alden has proven to be persistent — in 2019, it attempted an (ultimately unsuccessful) hostile takeover of Gannett, itself a newspaper company known for making cuts.

Lee did not return a request for comment.

Swibold acknowledged that Lee has made its fair share of cuts and asset sales, but has generally tried to stay in the black. Still, the news industry has faced significant decline and consolidation, and hedge funds have often come in to fill the void left by collapsing legacy companies.

“It’s really hard for public companies,” he said, “when they’re faced with these kind of offers and their stockholders see a way out.”

Romance with prison inmate evolves into love triangle



Dear Abby
Jeanne Phillips

Dear Abby: I am a 42-year-old mother of three who has been in a relationship with a man for almost six years. He is incarcerated. We started out as friends. Things were great until this year, when he reconnected with an old girlfriend.

I had a conversation with her over Facebook, and she wanted to invite me out for coffee one day. I ended up messaging her later on that night, and she told my boyfriend I had “made her uncomfortable.” She ended up blocking me on Facebook.

Abby, he’s now saying he’s in love with both of us! I’m not allowed to talk about her, and anything they talk about is “none of my business.” I do not get as many phone calls from him as I used to, and I think it’s because of her. I’m not sure what her plans are, but I get the feeling she’s trying to get me out of the picture. Please tell me what to do.

– *Crowded in Alaska*

Dear Crowded: Forgive me for seeming negative, but from what you have written, I don’t think this man is in love with either one of you. What you should “do” is reassess your relationship with this two-timing felon. His ex-girlfriend may indeed be maneuvering to get you out of the picture, and my advice to you, which I sincerely hope you will follow, is to LET HER DO IT. You may have started out as “friends” with this man, but friends do NOT treat friends the way he has been treating you.

Dear Abby: I’ve read many letters over the years about relationships in which there is a significant age gap, and thought I would like to share a success story. My boyfriend and I have a 22-year age difference, and we couldn’t be happier. We are both divorced with children (his is grown and lives independently; mine are 14 and 11). We found each other about a year before the pandemic. He was above the age range I’d specified on online dating apps, but we met at a mutual friend’s art opening. There were immediate sparks, and we didn’t realize our age difference until about a week later. By then the seeds of a mature, non-codependent relationship were sprouting.

He’s 60 now, and I am 38. We live separately, but go back and forth between the houses most nights. He’s

actively engaged in my kids’ lives, and we’re talking about marriage. Because of our age difference, this includes discussing wills, estate planning and the hurdles that come with retirement and raising high schoolers, but we do it with great respect for where the other is in their own journey. This is the best relationship either of us has ever been in. I’m so glad we didn’t let our age difference prevent us from enjoying this life together.

– *Luckiest Girl in Texas*

Dear Luckiest Girl: When both parties are adults with experience in the world, age is only a number. While there can be challenges in May-December unions, you and your boyfriend appear to be looking at the future with eyes wide open. Thank you for your upper of a letter.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.

Preparation tips for family vacation, dinner



Hints From Heloise
Heloise

Dear Readers: If you are traveling to visit family or friends, be aware of and follow COVID-19 protocols for your family’s safety. This might be the first time many of you have traveled since the pandemic began, so you might have to get back in the groove of traveling and staying together.

When you leave the hotel or motel to begin your day, use your cellphone to snap a picture of all family members and send it to each family member’s cellphone. If someone becomes separated or lost, the picture can be shown to guards or police, if necessary.

You can have everyone wear the same color T-shirt or baseball cap, so it will be easy to spot a family member who has wandered off.

– *Heloise*

Dear Readers: If you are getting ready for a big fam-

ily event and realized you don’t have any silver polish to clean your silverware of silver-plated items, here are two homestyle solutions that will work in a pinch. Give them a try.

1. If the silver is not badly tarnished, just wash it by squirting a good dishwashing liquid onto a sponge and then rubbing. Do not use any abrasive product. Rinse thoroughly under warm water and shine with a soft microfiber cloth.
2. To quick-clean large pieces (but NEVER on thin silver plate or antique pieces), lay a piece of aluminum foil on the bottom of the kitchen sink or a glass baking dish. Place the silverware on top and cover with very hot water and a couple teaspoons of baking soda. Let sit for several minutes. Rinse under warm water with a sponge and polish with a soft cloth.

– *Heloise*

Dear Readers: As you know, many sidewalks and roads might be covered with salt or chemical deicers that could hurt or create cracks in your dog’s paws. Try to avoid slippery spots, and when you get home, do the following right away: Wipe off your dog’s paws to remove everything it might have walked through. And

wet a microfiber cloth with warm water and wipe its fur clean too.

– *Heloise*

Dear Readers: Often, we need to put a decal on our car windows for parking or school. But when the time comes to remove them, it can be tough. Here’s how to get them off.

Apply a couple coats of household vinegar or a petroleum prewash spray over the decal. Allow this to sit for several minutes. It should be loosened. Then use a scraper to get it all off.

– *Heloise*

Dear Heloise: This is Atom, our cat, and his brother Ripley, our treeing walker coonhound.

– *Alan Almanzar*

Readers: To see Atom and Ripley, go to www.Heloise.com and click on “Pet of the Week.”

– *Heloise*

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise@Heloise.com. I can’t answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.

Feds move ahead with plan to block Alaska forest logging

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUNEAU, Alaska – The federal government said that it’s beginning the process of repealing a Trump-era rule that permitted road-building and logging harvesting in an enormous southeast Alaska rainforest that provides habitat for wolves, bears and salmon.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that a proposed measure to repeal last year’s rule will be published for public comment next week, beginning a 60-day process.

The previous rule exempted more than 9 million acres in the Tongass National Forest from a 2001 rule that banned road construction, reconstruction and timber harvesting in roadless areas, with some exceptions.

At 16.7 million acres, Tongass is the largest national forest in the country.

Conservationist and native communities had op-

posed the exemption, arguing it threatened wildlife, old-growth rainforest and local economies that rely on tourism and fishing. They applauded the announcement.

“The Tongass is a priceless resource and a critical tool in the fight against climate change, and this action brings us one step closer to ensuring that our forest

wildlands remain protected for good,” Sierra Club Alaska Chapter Director Andrea Feniger said in a statement.

Andy Moderow of the Alaska Wilderness League agreed. “We commend President Biden and Secretary Vilsack in taking steps to restore the faith and trust of Alaskans who recognize that industrial-scale, old-growth logging is a relic of the past in Southeast Alaska,” he said in a statement.

Alaskan lawmakers have supported the exemption, however. When the Biden administration first announced plans to repeal or replace the exemption in June, U.S. Sen. Dan Sullivan called the decision “misguided,” and U.S. Rep Don Young said it was “yet another nail in the coffin for economic opportunity” in southeast Alaska.

Sullivan had said the roadless rule is a hindrance to activities such as mineral development, building energy projects and connecting communities.

GIFTS



ILLUSTRATION BY KAYLA FILION/USA TODAY NETWORK; GETTY IMAGES; PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): REVLON; FRED & FRIENDS; APPLE; HEDLEY & BENNETT; SONY

Recommendations are independently chosen by Reviewed's editors.

Nishka Dhawan Reviewed | USA TODAY

Figuring out the right gift is not an easy task, especially considering that your parents, siblings, best friends and even kids have vastly different tastes. At Reviewed, we’re constantly testing new products and writing about the best ones to buy. To help you get prepped for gifting season, we’ve sifted through our favorite products and picked out the best gifts of 2021. Each of these products has been thoroughly tested by our team of experts, so you know they’re worth every penny. Each gift idea below proudly bears an ‘Editor’s Choice’ badge, which means they’re among the best products our editors have ever tested.

**For the builder:
An animated Lego Mario set**

If your giftee loves both Lego and Mario, these Lego Mario sets are just what they need. Both our parenting editor and Editor in Chief (and their kids) are obsessed with this Lego set, which features both physical toys and an interactive app. The Super Mario Adventures with Mario Starter Course and Luigi Starter Course both come with a Bluetooth-enabled animated plumber who collects virtual coins on the obstacle course your builder creates.

You can also pick out expansion sets to expand their build; we personally recommend the Bowser’s Castle Boss Battle set, which includes special play features that allow Mario to interact with the course and defeat his enemies by “spinning, bashing, and knocking against components of the build out.” Trust us, these sets will keep your kid entertained for hours, and the straightforward instructions mean they’ll easily be able to build these lego sets entirely by themselves.

Get the Lego Mario Starter Set from Amazon for \$47.99

**For the kid who loves storytime:
Yoto Player**

Speaking of books, if your child is always asking for a bedtime story, consider gifting them a Yoto Player. This adorable, compact gadget can easily sit on your kid’s bedside table and can play everything from full-sized novels to short stories, kid-friendly meditations, and educational lessons. It’s also designed to be controlled by your child so they

can listen to their favorite fairy tales all night long (or at least until lights out).

Get the Yoto Player for \$109.98

For toddler parents: Lovevery

Looking for the perfect gift for the toddler in your life? Look no further than Lovevery Play Kits. The popular baby brand makes fantastic subscription kits for little ones, and they’re full of high-quality toys (and even books!) that are sure to engage any toddler’s senses and keep them busy for hours on end.

Get a Lovevery Play Kit starting at \$36.95

**For the kid who loves geography:
Little Global Citizens**

Bring the world to their doorstep with a subscription to Little Global Citizens — The best subscription kit for kids we’ve tested this year. Little Global Citizens sends bi-monthly boxes of crafts, activities, and books all tied to learning about a different country from Kenya to Egypt to India. Have your child explore the world, literally from their bedroom.

Get a Little Global Citizens subscription starting at \$34.95

**For the one curious about their roots:
AncestryDNA**

Are they always wondering if they’re related to a celebrity? Probably not — but they can find out who they’re related to, along with other fascinating genetic and family info, with a home DNA kit. AncestryDNA is our

favorite DNA kit as it’s easy-to-use and a great way to explore family history to discover where your ancestors came from. Who knows? Maybe they’ll find a long-lost cousin (it happens).

Get AncestryDNA from Ancestry starting at \$99

**For the one who loves to read:
Kindle Paperwhite (2018)**

Amazon’s Kindle Paperwhite (the last-gen 2018 model) has been our favorite e-reader for a while now. It can hold hundreds of e-books and it’s waterproof — perfect for reading by the pool or when your giftee is taking a long, relaxing bath. Not to mention, the battery life lasts for weeks and there are multiple color options, so you can gift one that matches your loved one’s style.

Get the Amazon Kindle Paperwhite from Amazon for \$89.99

**For the one who wants to tune
the world out: Sony WH-1000XM4**

Whether they’re on an airplane, jogging, or just commuting to work, a solid pair of headphones is a must. Our favorite noise-canceling headphones are the Sony WH-1000XM4, which are not only super comfortable for long wear, but also deliver crystal clear audio and stellar noise calculation.

Get the Sony WH-1000XM4 Wireless Noise-Canceling Headphones from Amazon for \$348

See BEST, Page 5A

GIFTS



PHOTOS (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT): AMAZON; DEWEISSN; ANCESTRYDNA; RENPHO

Best

Continued from Page 4A

For the one in need of a cool accessory: Apple Watch Series 6

It's hard to find a smartwatch that consistently delivers like the Apple Watch Series 6 — that's why we named it our favorite smartwatch. We loved the bright, always-on display of this pick as well as its stellar fitness tracking — it even features a blood oxygen sensor. Performance-wise, this model features a faster S6 that allows this watch to run faster and more seamlessly than ever before. You can also pre-order the Apple Watch Series 7 right now, which features an even larger display if that's more your aesthetic.

Get the Apple Watch Series 6 (40mm, GPS) from \$346.37

20. For the one who loves to jam: JBL Flip 5

This JBL Flip 5 is our best valued portable speaker, thanks to its excellent sound quality and robust battery life. It's also almost entirely waterproof and quite durable, meaning it can endure, say, being knocked around in a backpack or a beach day. It also comes in a wide range of colors — including camo — to suit anyone with any kind of style.

Get the JBL Flip 5 Waterproof Speaker from Amazon for \$119.95

For the one who likes to stay connected: Amazon Echo

This fabric-covered orb speaker is just what they need to add to their new smart home. It's one of our favorite smart speakers thanks to its built-in temperature sensor, decent audio quality, and easy connectivity to smart devices. You can even pair it with a second Echo device for stereo quality sound.

Get the Amazon Echo from Amazon for \$99.99

For the one who needs a massage: Renpho RF-FM059R

If they're always complaining about sore feet and muscles, they'll appreciate a new foot massager. The Renpho foot massager is our favorite as it allows users to pick between a 15- or 30-minute massage, toggle between "low" "medium" and "heavy" knead and pressure intensities and choose whether the massage should be heated or not.

Get the Renpho Foot Massager on Amazon for \$129.99

For the one who needs to de-stress: Airomé Serenity Medium Diffuser

If they're always running around, have a ton of different chores, or are just spent after a long day at work, chances are they're looking to de-stress. That's why an essential oil diffuser will make a great gift for them. The Airomé Serenity Medium Diffuser is our favorite essential oil diffuser and can run relaxing scents like lavender and eucalyptus for up to six hours. It's also fairly economical, so you can bundle it up with a few of their favorite scents.

Get the Airomé Serenity Medium Diffuser at Amazon for \$24.91

For the yoga lover: lululemon The Reversible Mat 5mm

If they love working out at home or even in the great outdoors, a good yoga mat is a must. This lululemon version, which was our favorite in yoga mat testing, features a completely flat, non-stick surface for a no-slip, stress-free yoga practice on the regular — even if you're a beginner!

Get The Reversible Mat at lululemon for \$88

For the tea drinker: Manatea Tea Infuser

In a world of coffee addicts, show your tea-drinking friend some love with this adorable Fred & Friends Manatea silicone tea infuser. It's more than just cute, it actually took the top spot in our testing of the best tea infusers. We found that when tipping the mug to get the last drops of tea, the little manatee holds on tight and doesn't spill. This tea infuser is also easy to clean and steeps evenly, making it the perfect present for a tea drinker.

Get the Fred & Friends Manatea Tea Infuser at Amazon for \$8.91

For the one who can't start their day without coffee: Angels Cup Coffee Subscription

If they can't start their day without a hot cup of joe, they'll dig a subscription to Angels' Cup, which delivers custom-picked coffee beans every month. Unlike other coffee services that have you fill out online quizzes, Angels' Cup just sends beans, meaning your giftee will get to try out a bunch of different types of coffees and easily identify their favorites. We also named Angels' Cup the best coffee subscription to gift, primarily because you don't have to do an initial flavor quiz for your giftee.

Get an Angels' Cup gift subscription starting at \$17.99 per box

For the one who's always busy: Eufy 11S

Vacuuming can be a boring and arduous chore—but with a robot vacuum to do the work, it doesn't have to be. We love the Eufy Robovac 11S, which we named our best value choice for robot vacuums. It has a slim design that allows it to get into tough-to-reach spots while still picking up a lot of dust, dirt, and grime, and it runs quietly enough that it won't disturb your giftee.

Get the Eufy Robovac 11S from Amazon for \$159.99

For the one who loves kitchen gadgets: Always Pan

The Instagram-famous Always Pan is wildly popular for a reason: This nearly 5-star-rated cast aluminum pan is essentially eight pieces of cookware in one. Made with ceramic nonstick coating, it functions as a fry pan, steamer, skillet, sauté pan, saucepan, spoon rest, spatula, wok, and Dutch oven, and more than 15,000 Our Place shoppers swear by it. We especially loved it for its stellar deep frying and found that it would make a good gift for anyone who does a lot of stovetop cooking but is short on cabinet space.

Get the Always Pan at Our Place for \$145

For the home chef: Philips Air Fryer

Air fryers have been the hottest kitchen gadgets (literally) for the past couple of years, and they're popping up all over wish lists this holiday season. The Philips Airfryer XXL is our favorite air fryer as it churned out massive batches of crisp french fries, crackling fried chicken, and perfectly cooked burgers with ease. If your giftee loves fried food, but also loves to stay healthy, they'll appreciate the Philips Airfryer XXL.

Get the Philips Airfryer XXL on Amazon for \$219.99

For the stylish cook: Hedley & Bennett apron

If they're constantly baking in their old, tattered apron, it's time to gift them an upgrade. Enter: Hedley & Bennett, the LA-based, woman-founded company that sells a variety of fun apron designs, adored by celebrity chefs and restaurant owners alike. The Hedley & Bennett Crossback apron is the best we've tested because it's durable, lightweight, has easily adjustable straps, and can be embroidered for a customized (and giftable!) option.

Get the Hedley & Bennett All Day Crossback Apron at Hedley & Bennett for \$95

For the one obsessed with their hair: Revlon One-Step

There's something special about products the whole Internet can agree on—like the Revlon One-Step Hair Dryer and Volumizer. This cult-favorite product has more than 310,000 reviews on Amazon and a 4.6-star rating. We tested the Revlon for ourselves and were obsessed with how it could detangle, dry, and volumize her hair in less than 30 minutes, making it the perfect gift for the person in your life who's always in a rush.

Get the Revlon One-Step Hair Dryer and Volumizer from Amazon from \$34.88

For the makeup fanatic: Deweissn Tri-Fold Lighted Mirror

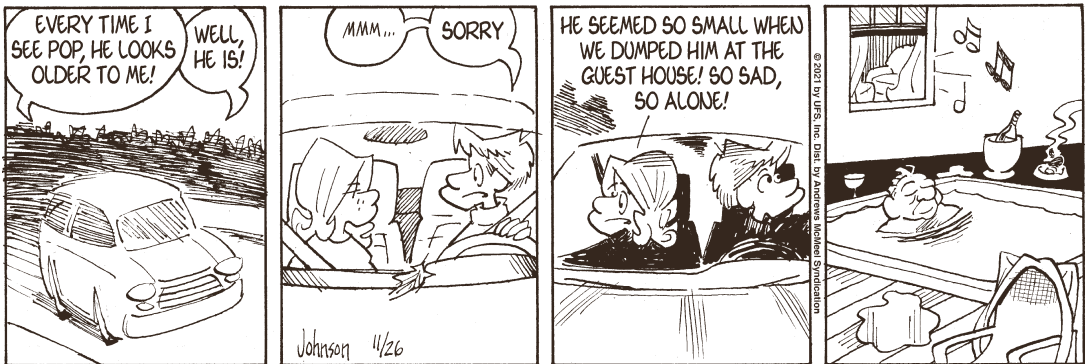
If you're shopping for someone who's into makeup, consider getting them a lighted makeup mirror. The Deweissn Lighted Makeup Mirror is our top best value pick, as it provides perfect angles and lighting for optimal makeup application. Whether they're getting ready for the perfect selfie or just love to admire themselves, this mirror will make the best gift.

Get the Deweissn Tri-Fold Lighted Vanity Makeup Mirror from Amazon from \$30.99

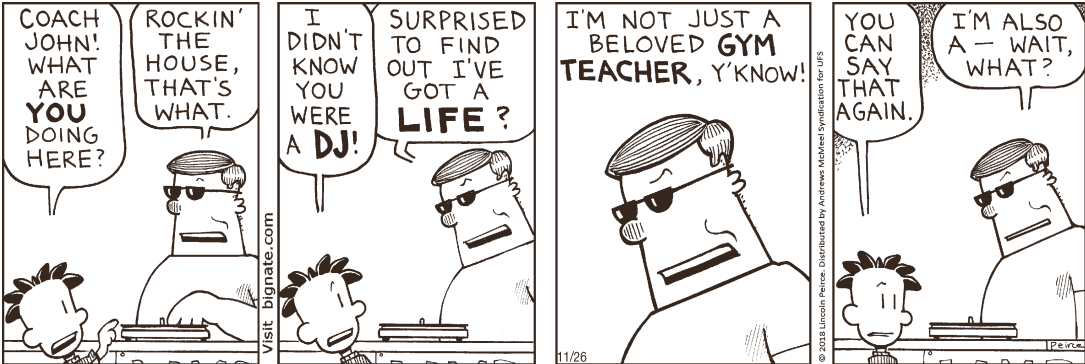
For more ideas go to reviewed.com

COMICS

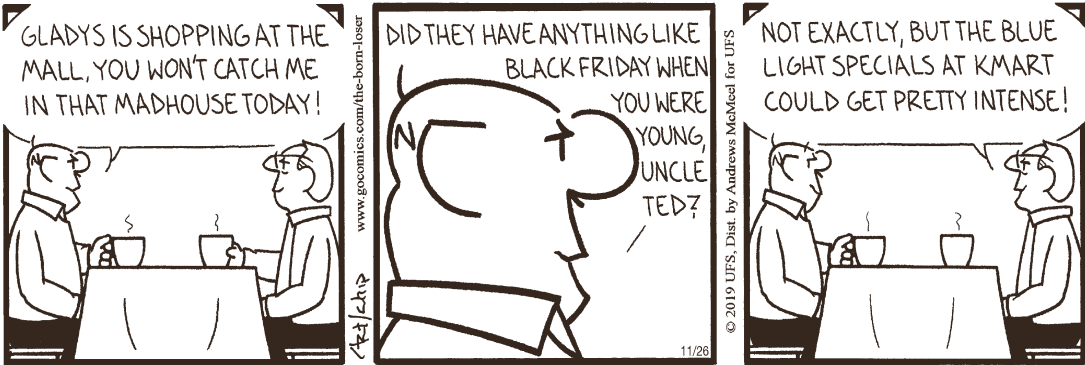
ARLO AND JANIS



BIG NATE



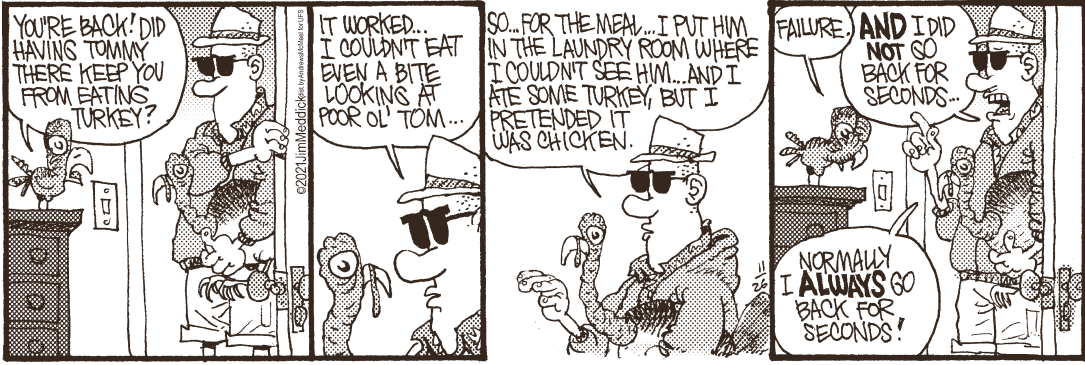
THE BORN LOSER



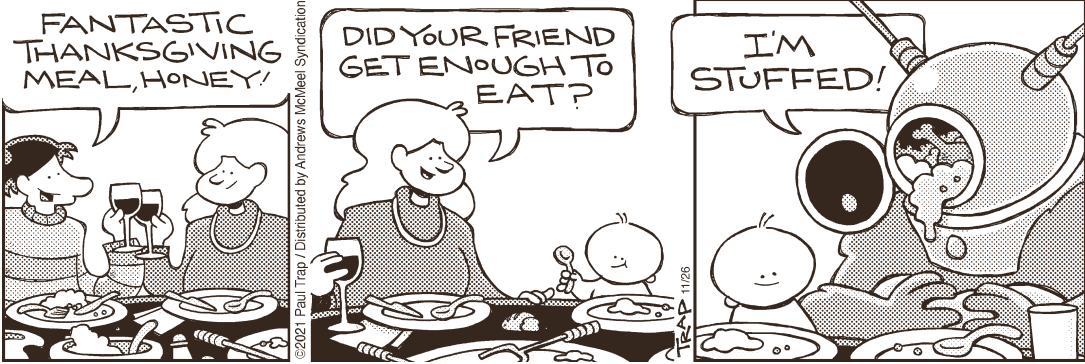
FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THATABABY



SUDOKU

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS ANSWER								
4	1	6	7	8	3	5	2	9
3	8	9	5	4	2	7	6	1
2	5	7	6	9	1	4	8	3
7	3	1	8	5	6	9	4	2
9	4	2	3	1	7	8	5	6
8	6	5	4	2	9	3	1	7
1	9	4	2	7	5	6	3	8
6	2	8	9	3	4	1	7	5
5	7	3	1	6	8	2	9	4

	7	2	6	9			4	8
		3		4		6		
	9			8	7			
		8				7		
	6			5			1	
		5				9		
				4	7			2
		6		1		4		
8	4			6	2	3	7	

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Freshly painted

4 Sinbad's transport

7 Flood residues

11 Grain crop

12 Allot

13 Green pod

14 Team cheer

15 Till

16 Bargain

17 Rink gear

19 Gala

20 Got a load of

21 Visa and passport

22 Won every game

25 Like a castle

28 "Exodus" character

29 State, in Paris

31 Bandleader — Kyser

33 — Spiegel

34 Russian range

36 Sooner than

37 Close at hand

40 Fraught

42 Estuary

43 Auric's creator

44 What willows do

46 Nebraska city

49 Woody's son

50 — fide

52 Hearty laugh

54 Room divider

55 Long-billed wader

56 Md. neighbor

57 "I say!"

58 Involuntary movement

59 "Night-mare" street

DOWN

1 Ironic

2 Looks closely

3 Furniture wood

4 Keep subscribing

5 Giants star of yore

6 Business VIP

7 Shy

8 Hawaiian strings

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CUT	TAD		POI
BTU	ALES		AHAB
SET	BLEU		DOSE
	SUB	LETS	UNIX
	OER		HOLES
TACK	GLINT		
AGA	WYO		USERS
ROMEO	IFS		VIP
	BRIDE		REBA
	ROBED		DAH
SEMI	OCELOTS		
OVEN	LARA		OAT
FENG	SLAM		ORE
ALS	FLO		LID

9 "Darn!"

10 — ammoniac

12 Evolve

18 Venomous serpent

19 Vitamin monitor, for short

21 Theta follower

22 Merry's opposite

23 Small bird

24 Blarney stone site

25 Queen of Scots

26 Used thriftily

27 Meet defiantly

30 Brass instrument

32 Craving

35 Pack animals

38 Golf's Palmer

39 Eliminate

41 "Wheel" buy (2 wds.)

43 Column order

44 Boast

45 Fitzgerald or Raines

47 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. —

48 Ayla's creator

49 Dazzle

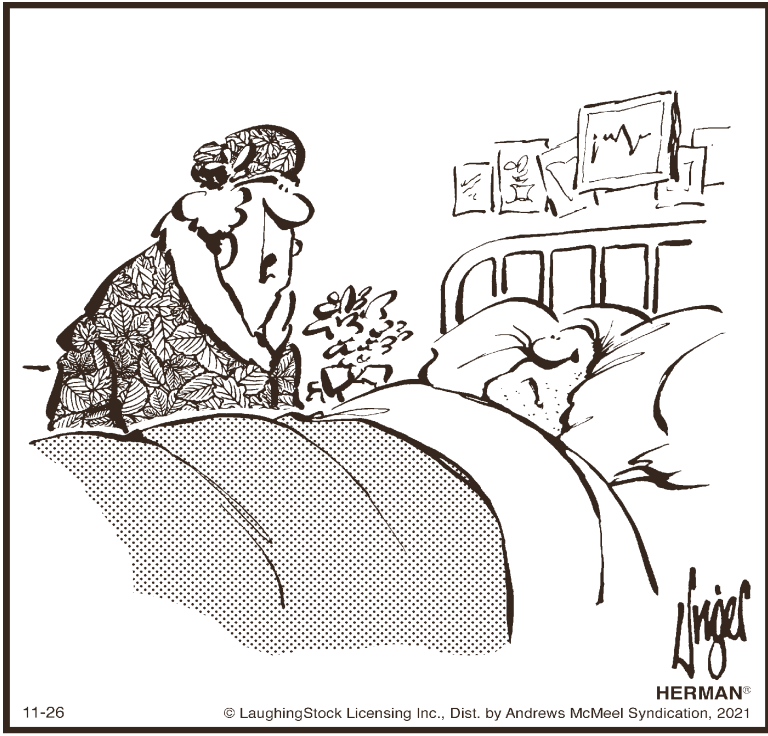
50 Nipped

51 Ginza purchase

53 European airline

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HERMAN



"The car's not quite as wide as it used to be."

HOROSCOPE BY EUGENIA LAST

Aries (March 21-April 19): Don't put your health or reputation at risk. Surround yourself with people you can trust, and search for outlets that will help ease stress. ☆☆☆☆

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You'll face opposition that will leave you in a compromising position. Take a step back, reevaluate your situation and redirect your energy toward personal growth. ☆☆

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Play to win. Put everything you've got into getting ahead. Focus on the best way to win a challenge or outdo the competition. ☆☆☆☆

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Avoid making an emotional purchase. Debate how much you need what you want to buy. Channel your energy into something more creative or unique. ☆☆☆

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Listen to your heart, and do what comes naturally. A disciplined attitude will help you sum up what you need to accomplish to reach your expectations. ☆☆☆

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to let someone dictate how you move forward. Look at your options, and make adjustments that allow you to veer off in a direction that excites you. ☆☆☆

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Call someone you can count on, and you'll figure out how to resolve a problem. You will have to put in the time and energy to gain stability in your personal life. ☆☆☆☆

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let your emotions take over and ruin your day. Set your sights on a creative project or something that challenges you to make personal improvements. ☆☆

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Tidy up loose ends, and move on to pastimes that bring you in touch with people you enjoy being around. Take pride in what you do. ☆☆☆☆☆

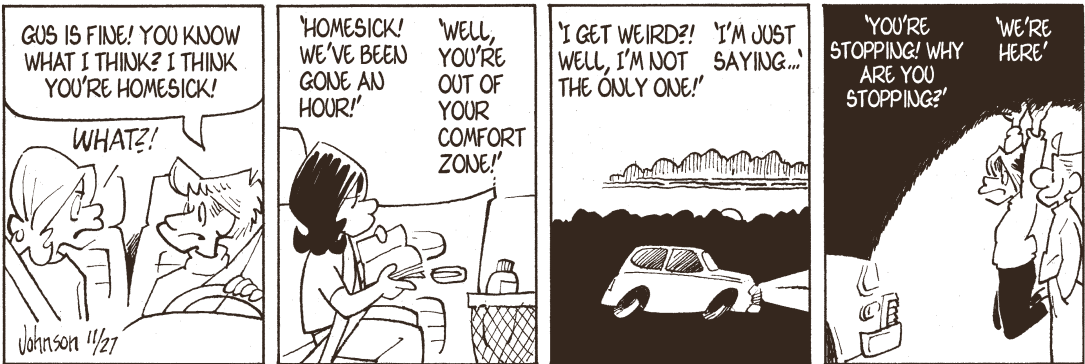
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Think big, but budget wisely. Put in the time and energy required to succeed. A change someone makes will challenge you to step up and do your part. ☆☆☆

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Refuse to let someone make decisions for you. Stand up for yourself and your rights. Say no to anyone trying to challenge you or take charge. ☆☆☆

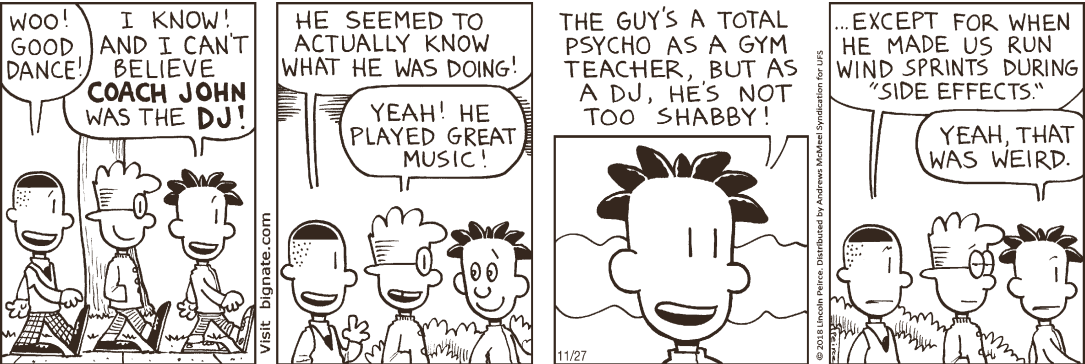
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You don't need to explain yourself. Do whatever it takes to get things done on time and within budget. Know your limitations and your strengths. ☆☆☆

COMICS

ARLO AND JANIS



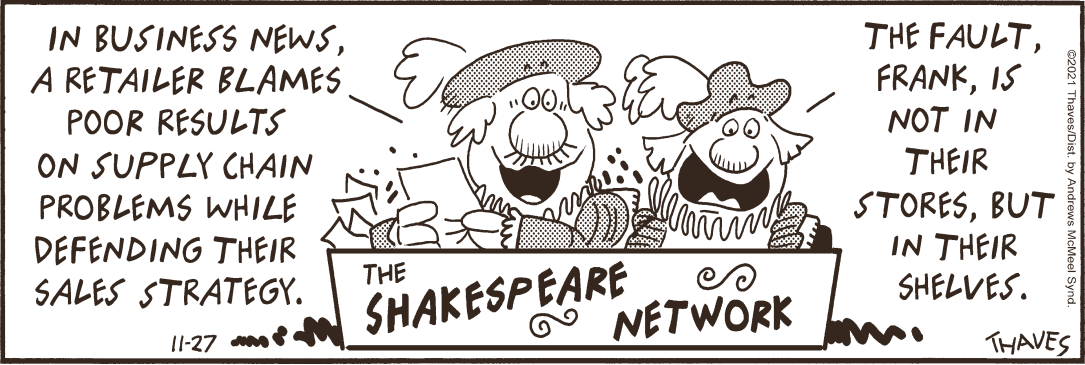
BIG NATE



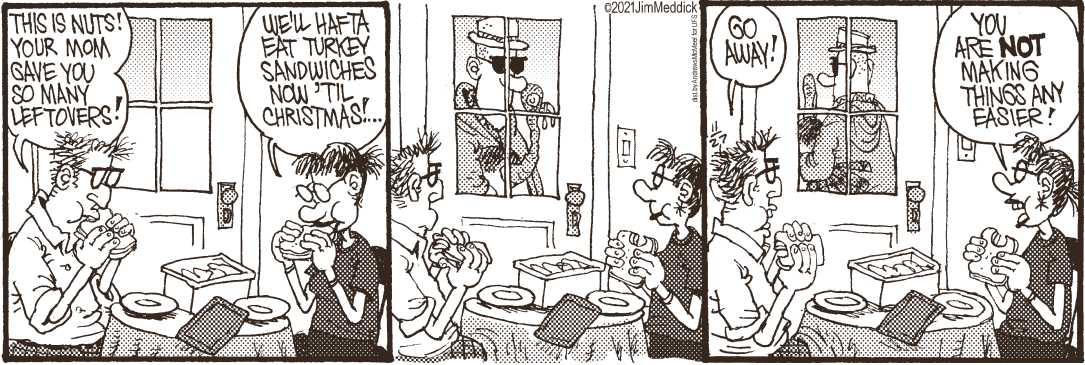
THE BORN LOSER



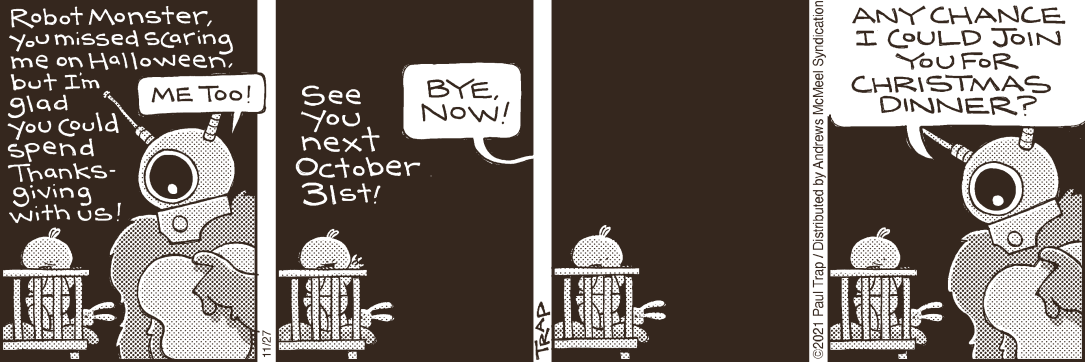
FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THATABABY



SUDOKU

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS ANSWER								
5	7	2	6	9	3	1	4	8
1	8	3	2	4	5	6	9	7
6	9	4	1	8	7	5	3	2
4	3	8	9	2	1	7	6	5
9	6	7	8	5	4	2	1	3
2	1	5	7	3	6	9	8	4
3	5	1	4	7	9	8	2	6
7	2	6	3	1	8	4	5	9
8	4	9	5	6	2	3	7	1

				2			5	4
		7	3	1				
6	4			5		2		
	8			4				5
		6		7		9		
4				8			3	
		8		3			6	7
				9	5	4		
3	7			6				

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Chromosome material

4 Coagulate

8 Actor Dan or Eugene

12 Goddess of dawn

13 Des Moines locale

14 Sheltered

15 Many oz.

16 Sort out

17 Heroic tale

18 Ogled

20 Cheech, to Chong (hyph.)

22 Wedding site

23 Sorrow

24 Walking corpse

28 Mother rabbit

31 Stoic founder

34 Spanish gold

35 Pipe fittings

36 Operatic prince

37 Upsilon precursor

38 Positive replies

DOWN

1 Perry's secretary

2 Peace Prize founder

3 Portfolio item

4 Roman orator

5 Thundering

39 Figured out

40 GI meals

42 Arith. mean

44 Ricoh competitor

48 Arctic sight

51 Bag

52 Perseverance

53 — -a-brac

55 Sports enthusiast

56 Woodworking tool

57 Fishing vessel

58 Boxing stat

59 Felt sorry about

60 Leather punches

61 — Quentin

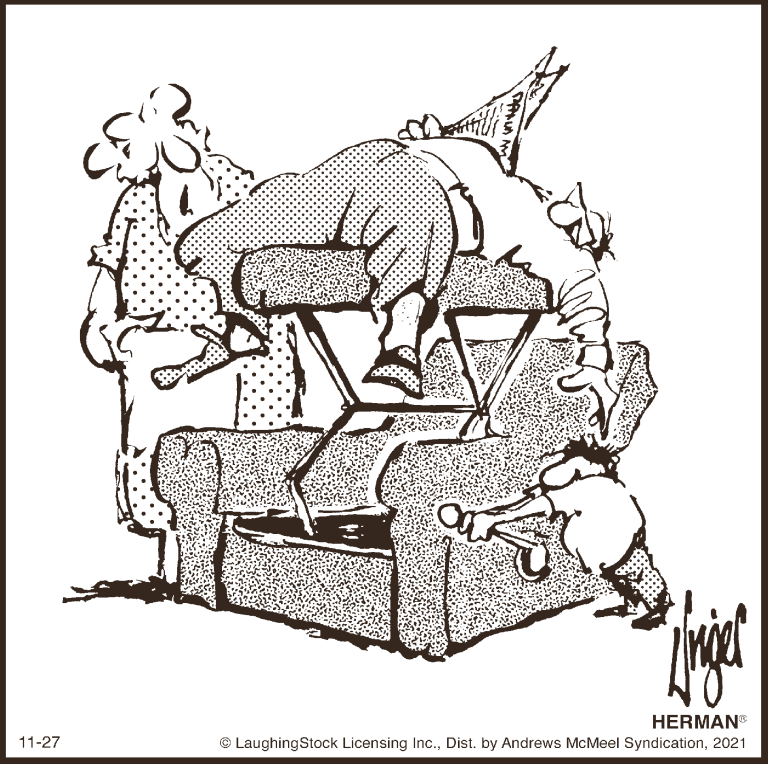
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18				19			20	21				
22							23					
			24		25	26	27			28	29	30
31	32	33			34				35			
36					37				38			
39				40				41				
		42	43					44		45	46	47
48	49				50		51					
52					53	54				55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

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HERMAN



"You mustn't play with Grandpa's chair."

HOROSCOPE BY EUGENIA LAST

Aries (March 21-April 19): Draw on reliable sources, and verify the information you gather. Having a realistic view of what's possible will help you overcome the pitfalls of uncertainty. ☆☆☆

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Seize the moment, and take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way. Being able to assess and make a move will show strength and courage. ☆☆☆☆

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Keep the peace. Don't jump to conclusions or take anything or anyone for granted. Emotional matters are best not dealt with until you can clear your head. ☆☆

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Make time for people who put a smile on your face. How you run your household or share will set the stage for what you get in return. Romance is favored. ☆☆☆

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Get out and about. Enhance your chance to advance by upgrading your qualifications. Sign up for courses, attend a networking function or mingle with people. ☆☆☆

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Troubles will mount if you can't agree with someone close to you. Consider how you can rectify a domestic problem by rearranging your environment. ☆☆☆

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be disappointed if you rely on someone who promises a lot and does nothing. Take control by putting your thoughts and plans into something. ☆☆☆

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A reserved attitude will divert an emotional scene. Don't get involved in a joint venture. Shared expenses will cause worry and anxiety, not to mention loss. ☆☆☆

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your thoughts to yourself, and focus on attaining what you want to achieve. Don't allow emotions to overrule what you know is right. ☆☆

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be direct, and you'll avoid someone taking you out of context. Follow through with action, and live up to your promises. Change is inevitable. ☆☆☆☆

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Hold on to your thoughts. Time is on your side, and making sure your strategy will bring the outcome you desire is in your best interest. ☆☆☆

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions will surface if you can't get along with someone you love. Fill your day with activities that require physical challenges. Choose peace and love over chaos. ☆☆☆

CLASSIFIEDS

WE HAVE



YOUR DREAM JOB

ON A SILVER PLATTER.

Keep up-to-date with local job postings both in print and online. Find your perfect position with quality employers in the newspaper classifieds!

Equal opportunity bidding for Forest Lake Trail – Phase II, Thousand Hills State Park, Project No. X1905-01, will be received by FMDC, State of MO, UNTIL **1:30 PM, 12/21/2021** via MissouriBUYS. Bidders must be registered to bid. Federal funds will be used to assist in the development of the project and all MBE/WBE/SDVE firms are encouraged to respond. For specific project information, go to: <http://oa.mo.gov/facilities>



WE ARE HIRING!

Maintenance/Custodial
Full time position with benefits

Banking Career - Applicants must have strong communication & computer skills. Ability to multi-task & learn quickly. Qualified applicants should have two years prior banking experience or a degree in related field. Willing to train.

Send resume to: Bank of Kirkville, PO Box 787, Kirksville, MO 63501. EOE



LEGAL NOTICE

*****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATES*****

Kirksville R-III School District

Notice of School Board Candidate Filing

The Kirksville R-III School District encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the School Board to file to be a candidate in the April 5, 2022, election. Interested persons may file at the Superintendent's Office located at 1901 East Hamilton Street, Kirksville, Missouri. For more information contact Mr. Robert Webb, Superintendent at 660-665-8658.

Filing will begin on December 7, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Except for the first and last day of filing, filing will not occur on days that the school district's central offices are closed due to inclement weather. If in the event of closure due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, candidates should call 660-665-8658 or email kpanos@kirksville.k12.mo.us. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's central offices are closed: December 23, 24, 2021. Filing will end on December 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

There are two positions available with three-year terms.

IN THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: KRISTIE JEAN SWAIM
Case Number: 21AR-PR00119

In the Estate of SHARON KAY BAKER, Deceased.
Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted
(Supervised Administration)

On November 15, 2021, the last will of the decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of SHARON KAY BAKER, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri. The name, business address, and phone number of the personal representative is:

Kerry P. Baker, 9519 North Kensington Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64156

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

Wallace W. Trosen, 1 Crown Drive, Suite 102, P.O. Box 267, Kirksville, MO 63501, 660-665-4070

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

Date of the decedent's death: March 4, 2021
Date of first publication: November 20, 2021

Linda Decker
Adair County Circuit Clerk

Receipt of this notice by mail should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient necessarily has a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, can be determined from the files and records of this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.

FOR RENT:

Two bedroom all eclectic duplex, stove and refrigerator, central air, off street parking, no pets. \$500/month plus same deposit. 660-665-2028.

CLASSIFIEDS
WHERE BUYERS AND SELLERS MEET

MOBILE HOMES:

STOCK MOBILE HOMES AVAILABLE: We gottem, single and double 3 and 4 bedroom! Call Tuffy 573-657-2176 amegamobilehomes.com

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WANTED:

WANTED TO BUY: Harley Davidson's, any year, any condition, cash money. Days 660-263-1356 or 660-537-0068

WANTED TO BUY: Farm Machinery and Estates. Call James L. Johnston. 573-473-4904

MISCELLENIOUS:

FOR SALE: New 3 pt. tillers, heavy duty, gear driven, 7' to 10' starting at \$3050. 660-874-4455

PASTURE AND HAY GROUND Needed around Adair & Knox County. Please Contact 660-216-5887 or 417-773-2507

HANDYMAN: Install interior and exterior doors and windows, siding, decks, showers and toilets, flooring and drywall, roofs and dirt work. 660-956-5135.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all qualified voters of the LaPlata Community fire Protection District that a general election will be held on Tuesday, April 05, 2022, for the purpose of electing the following:

ONE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER FOR A SIX-YEAR TERM

Filing for this position will be taken beginning at 8:00 am December 7, 2021, and will close at 4:00 pm on December 28, 2021. Filings will be taken by the LaPlata City Clerk, located at LaPlata city Hall at 113 S Gex, LaPlata, MO. Candidates must be at least twenty-five years of age and have lived in the district for at least one year.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ADAIR COUNTY,
MISSOURI
PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN VEST

ESTATE NO: 21AR-PR00104

NOTICE OF LETTERS GRANTED

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN VEST, A DISABLED PERSON.

On the 28th day of October, 2021, Rhonda Noe, Adair County Public Administrator was appointed conservator of the estate of Elizabeth Ann Vest, a person adjudicated disabled under the laws of Missouri by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri.

The business address of the conservator is 300 North Franklin, Kirksville, Missouri 63501.

All creditors of said disabled person are notified to file their claims in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court or be forever barred.

Date of first publication November 6, 2021.

Linda Decker
Circuit Clerk of Adair County,
Missouri

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI, AT KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI

In Re: the Marriage of SHANOA DAWN ZELAYA and SALVADOR ZELAYA)	
SHANOA DAWN ZELAYA)	
Petitioner.)	Case No.
vs.)	
SALVADOR ZELAYA)	
Respondent.)	

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
The State of Missouri to Respondent, Salvador Zelaya.

You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri, at Kirksville, the object and general nature of which is a dissolution of marriage to Petitioner.

This action also affects the following described property:

The names of all parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the Attorney for Petitioner is Barry V. Cundiff, P.O. Box 7546, Kirksville, Missouri 63501.

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleadings or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 45 days after the date of first publication, judgment by default will be rendered against you. This notice was first published on the 20th day of November, 2021

Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 29th day of October, 2021

Linda Decker, Adair County Circuit Clerk

WEVERS Outside Wood Furnaces a dealer for Heatmor Stainless Steel Outside Furnaces, have an assortment of parts, line, and etc. Taking orders for new outside wood furnaces. Dealer for Heatmor Call 660-423-5242, cell 660-216-9885. Open 6pm-9pm Monday-Friday, Saturday anytime, call first.

it pays to ADVERTISE in the CLASSIFIEDS

DIRT WORK All types of excavation, reclaiming overgrown fields, including CRP and WRP. Building site preparation, terrace and tiling maintaining and creating new trails and crossings, rock hauling, Food plot development and maintenance. Leveling and grading, wetland construction and maintenance. Pond and lake cleaning and construction. Call for quotes. 660-342-2701

FOR SALE: 5 X 51/2 big round bales of mixed grass hay, Bailed dry no rain fertilized lab tested surface wrapped. Call 660-341-4031 Watson hay sales

FOR SALE: 10% off Gloves from Nov. 15th to 30th Homemade Candies, fresh garlic, jams & jellies, spices, HONEY stainless steel kitchen wares, steam table pans and lids. Kerosene lamps and parts, some Aladdin parts. Poly and wooden clothes pins, Reg. and W.M. lids, glass jars, color books, boxed cards, children's books, Gift items, wooden handles - Puzzles. Train Track Candies & More 11538 Iceberg Ave, La Plata 3rd Lane to your Left.

FOR SALE: Registered AKC Labrador Retriever puppies; ready to go just in time for Christmas! Can leave Dec 22nd! Deposit is required. UTD puppy shots/wormers. MO health certificate from Vet. LAY'S LABS - LaBelle, MO 660-956-2482

OFFICE BUILDING FOR LEASE
111 East Street • Clarence, MO 63437

Newly remodeled over 2000 sq. ft. office space for lease. Formerly a Medical Clinic with 5 exam rooms, bathroom, waiting area, 2 offices and storage.

For more information:
Contact Mark Walker, Administrator

CLARENCE CARE CENTER
111 East Street, Clarence, MO 63437
660-699-2118

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE KIRKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE 2022 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI

Notice is hereby given that the Kirksville City Council will conduct a public hearing with the first public reading of the 2022 Budget on Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers. This budget is preliminary and not considered a finalized document until the Kirksville City Council has given final approval at the December 20, 2021 City Council meeting.

Any revisions that are made as a result of or after the December 6, 2021 first public reading will be incorporated into the budget presented on December 20, 2021.

The proposed budget is available for review in the office of the City Clerk or can be found on the website at www.kirksvillecity.com/finance

Notice of Disability Accommodations

Any person with a disability desiring reasonable accommodation to attend this meeting may contact the City Clerk at 660.627.1225 to make such arrangement.

NOTICE CANDIDATE FILING FOR ADAIR COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the County of Adair, State of Missouri, that an election will be held at the prescribed polling places within the county on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, to vote on the following Adair County Ambulance District Board of Director openings.

Director, District 2 – three year full term
Director, District 5 – three year full term

QUALIFICATIONS: A candidate for director of the ambulance district shall, at the time of filing, be a citizen of the United States, a qualified voter of the election district, a resident of the election district for two years next preceding the election, and shall be at least twenty-four (24) years of age.

Any qualified person may file a declaration for candidacy in the office of the County Clerk, Adair County, 311 North Elson Street, Kirksville, Missouri, between the hours of eight o'clock a.m. and five o'clock p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at eight o'clock a.m. and closing on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at five o'clock p.m., excluding legal holidays.

ADAIR COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT
William R. Crnic, Board Chair

November 27, 2021

SPORTS

Stuart’s determination on full display this season as 2021 Softball Player of the Year

Austin Miller
Kirkville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

It was a look Derek Allen saw before. Before Kirkville’s district semifinal against Macon, Allen spoke with senior pitcher Sophie Stuart. He told her he didn’t want that to be the last game he coached her. Stuart agreed, but her eyes did all the talking. He saw the focus and determination that Stuart wasn’t going to let that happen. And it reminded him of a moment two years prior. That was his first season leading the Kirkville softball team, and a motivated Stuart bashed her way through the postseason that year to help guide the Tigers to a district title. So Allen trusts whatever those eyes tell him. “I think he saw that I didn’t want to lose, that I didn’t want the season to be over,” Stuart said. Stuart got through that game, a 2-1 win where she struck out 15 and allowed just four hits. She was going to do whatever was needed of her to win. And while a talented Tigers (22-6-1) team fell short of its goal, Stuart compiled an impressive senior season. A 19-4 record in the circle, a 1.11 ERA, 241 strikeouts, 144 innings pitched. She was dynamite all season long for the Ti-



Kirkville's Sophie Stuart runs to first base after an RBI single against Hannibal this season. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Macon's Lexi Miller. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Macon's Brooke Weimer. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Kirkville's Madi McCarty. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Kirkville's Jada Jackson. AUSTIN MILLER



La Plata's Olivia Coy fields a ground ball. AUSTIN MILLER



La Plata's Claire Coy heads to first base. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Kirkville's Jenna Jackson. AUSTIN MILLER



Atlanta pitcher Abbie Farmer throws during a game. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Atlanta's Kaidyn Watson. AUSTIN MILLER

The 2021 All-Express Softball Team

Austin Miller
Kirkville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

It’s a bit of a copout to start this story this way, but what a season for local softball? La Plata returned to the Final Four, making it to the Class 1 title game. Atlanta won its third straight district title and fifth straight conference title. Kirkville and Macon were two of the top Class 3 teams in the state, also repeating with conference titles, but got caught in the toughest district possible. And as you’ll see in this year’s All-Express Team, an incredible senior class finished off the fourth and final years of their career. A whole lot of school records were annihilated by these girls over four years. So to get back to showcasing those players, here are the ones selected for the 2021 All-Express Softball Team, listed in alphabetical order by last

name. **Olivia Coy, La Plata, senior, pitcher** Coy finished her career with another monster season to help guide La Plata back to the Final Four. Coy hit .590 this season, setting a new school record. She also set school records with seven triples and 53 RBI for the state runner-up Bulldogs. And her five home runs gave her the career record in that statistic. In the circle, Coy went 15-7 with a 1.176 ERA and 220 strikeouts. Coy was an All-Express honoree in all four years of her career, including as the 2020 Player of the Year. **Claire Coy, La Plata, sophomore, catcher** Claire gets to carry on the Coy mantle for the next two years after her sister graduates. She continues to make herself stand out with good offensive play

and a strong mind behind the plate. She hit .418 out of the leadoff spot for the Bulldogs this season, adding seven homers, 27 RBI and 28 stolen bases. **Abbie Farmer, Atlanta, senior, pitcher** Farmer improved year after year for a spectacular senior season and cemented herself as likely the best player Atlanta has ever had. She was dominant in the circle for the Hornets, going 20-4 with a school-record 289 strikeouts and an ERA of 1.95. She finished her career with 931 strikeouts, an obvious Atlanta record. And as dominant as she was pitching, Farmer was the same way at the plate. She hit .573 this season with 35 RBI, 34 runs, nine doubles, five triples and five homers. Farmer was a four-year All-Express selection and was the Player of the Year in 2019. **See SOFTBALL, Page 10A**

Porter, Tigers erupt on offense in season debut

Austin Miller
Kirkville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

In her debut Tuesday night, Kirkville freshman Elli Porter felt she acclimated well to the varsity level. She orchestrated a great offensive night for the Tigers against Highland, winning 78-24. But with the way she played, it’s hard to imagine her getting lost in the shuffle. Porter scored a game-high 26 points in her Tiger debut, a strong sign for the career ahead of her. “I thought we worked as a team really well, and I really blended well with the team,” Porter said. “I just stepped right in and did what I had to do.” Kirkville (1-0) averaged 45.5 points per game last season. They topped that well into the second quarter on Tuesday. Last year’s squad also matched 78 points in a win against Moberly in the Macon Tournament. Tuesday was only the fourth time since the 2008-09 season that the Tigers scored in the 70s. Had it not been for a running clock in the fourth quarter, the Tigers would’ve had one of the program’s best scoring outputs in decades. Kirkville’s offense was dialed in from the very beginning, getting out to a 13-0 lead against the Cougars. The Tigers made it rain with a barrage of outside shots and layups at the rim. It was the exact showing coach Nick Totta wanted to get out of the changes he made on offense. The Tigers buried eight 3-pointers, with Porter having four of them. She hit a 3-pointer just off the logo before the end of the first quarter, giving the Tigers a 34-4 lead. “Our girls have put a lot of time into shooting and I think it’s paying dividends,” Totta said. “I think they’re seeing the rewards for their efforts.” “Just to see those go in, it built that trust with each other, and it boosted our confidence and made us more aggressive as we played through the game,” said senior forward Corinne Vorkink. Totta wasn’t too surprised with Porter’s showing since he thinks she can do that each night. But he also believes there are enough girls around her to also step up and hit big shots as needed. With nine girls scor-

See BASKETBALL, Page 11A

Kirksville boys start season with physical win over Highland

Austin Miller
Kirksville Daily Express
USA TODAY NETWORK

Not the cleanest start to the season, but a win is still a win for the Kirksville boys basketball team.

As the Tigers hosted Highland on Tuesday night to begin the 2021-22 season, both teams turned the ball over a bunch and were quite handy on defense. The Tigers eventually hit a stride after the first quarter to pull away for a 67-54 win.

The Tigers (1-0) rode free throw success to victory, going 17-for-23 from the stripe.

“I would love to say (we forced that), but I think it was a little more of sloppy play on both ends, just getting those first-game jitters out of our system,” said Kirksville coach Tyler Martin. “But once we settled in, I thought we did a good job. It was a physical varsity game, but I think there was a good mix of sloppy play and us attacking.”

In the first quarter, he used sophomores Keaton Anderson and Drew Chrisman as primary guards in the backcourt. Point guard Ike Danielson then hung around the elbow playing away from the ball. Martin said that was to help take some defensive pressure off of Danielson and build Chrisman’s confidence with ball-handling.

“I think we’ve got three pretty good guards. I really wanted to get the ball in Drew’s hands some, just having that extra guy that feels comfortable is huge,” Martin said. “I think all three of them do, but when you’re the focus of everything and carrying the load, it can be a little bit different.”

Danielson missed that memo early, missing several shots and layups to start the game. He later hit a 3-pointer in the opening quarter to find his rhythm. Danielson heated up to have a game-high 25 points for the Tigers.

Danielson regained his stroke from outside, hitting four 3-pointers on the night, and took advantage of Highland’s aggressiveness to get to the line. Danielson was 13-for-15 from the free-throw line, going a perfect 8-for-8 in the fourth quarter.

“I was just glad I could hit something.



Kirksville's Ike Danielson goes up for a dunk during the second quarter of Tuesday's game against Highland. AUSTIN MILLER

That first quarter was rough,” Danielson said.

“I thought he really controlled his tempo, for the most part,” said Martin of Danielson. “He likes to get going, especially when teams are forcing that pressure and that pace on him. But I thought tonight was one of those where he got to where he was wanting to go and sealed the deal.”

Martin had to adjust his guard strategy early in the second quarter. Danielson turned a steal into a huge dunk and Chrisman got a little too excited, cheering and taunting Highland’s players. That got him a technical foul and Martin sat him for the rest of the quarter to send

a message.

Anderson turned in a solid night to open the year, scoring 14 points.

One area Martin came away pleased with was the play of his young forwards. Camden Dempsay and Nick Fortney started their first games against Highland, the anchors of the paint. Dempsay finished with seven points and Fortney had five. Their major issue was racking up blocking fouls against Highland’s attacking offense.

But Martin liked what he saw after one game. They’ll need to get more aggressive and Martin was already harping on that after the game.

They’ll also have to adjust to not stag-

nating under the basket. There were several times where Martin called out for them to move outside a bit. He thinks they’ll get a better sense of that as the season goes on, and he brought Dempsay out more on the perimeter in the second half. Because with Kirksville’s talented guards, they need room to crash the basket.

“We want to keep the lane open as much as possible just to give our guys room to attack and do some different things,” Martin said. “Obviously, they’re big and move decently well, but we don’t want to clog that paint. We want the guards to get in and create, give them some easy buckets.”

Softball

Continued from Page 9A

Kait Hatfield, Schuyler County, junior, pitcher

Hatfield had a breakout season for the Rams, both in the circle and at the plate. She went 11-7 with a 2.62 ERA and 137 strikeouts in her second season as the Rams’ ace. And she was otherworldly on offense, hitting .651 with 22 RBI, 13 doubles and five homers. Her 44 hits this season set a new Schuyler record and she set the single-game home run record with a three-homer night.

Jen Hinkle, Knox County, junior, third base

Moving to third base this season, Hinkle was a constant contributor for the Eagles this fall. She hit .485 with 15 doubles, 16 RBI and 27 runs scored. Hinkle also used her athleticism to go a perfect 26-for-26 on stolen bases this year.

Karlie Ingersoll, Putnam County, senior, third base

Ingersoll was a reliable bat and glove for Putnam County this season. She hit .359 with 35 RBI, 22 runs scored and 11 doubles. Ingersoll also added 13 stolen bases for the Midget offense.

Jenna Jackson, Kirksville, senior, shortstop

Jackson continued to be a strong bat in the Kirksville lineup in her final season. She hit .409 and added 24 runs and 19 RBI for one of the top teams in Class 3. A key stick in the heart of Kirksville’s lineup for the last few years, replacing Jackson next year will be tough to do.

Jada Jackson, Kirksville, sophomore, center field

Jackson burst onto the scene this year in her first major opportunity at the varsity level. She led Kirksville with a .438 average this season, scoring a team-high 24 runs and batting 13 in herself. Her two homers were also a team-high. Add in her defensive prowess in the outfield and Jackson will continue to make noise.

Madi McCarty, Kirksville, senior, catcher



Daily Express file photo of Schuyler County's Kait Hatfield. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Milan's Cady Pauley. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Putnam County's Karlie Ingersoll. AUSTIN MILLER

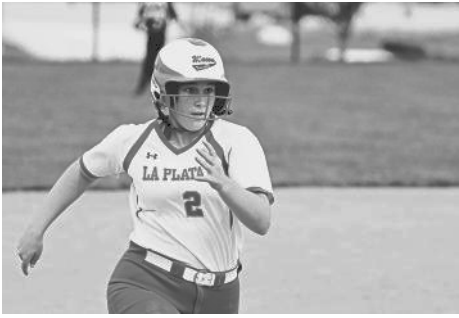
McCarty finished her career in orange and black with a strong season. McCarty hit .322 with 23 runs scored and 18 RBI. McCarty also stole 16 bases, getting caught just once. The future Truman Bulldog was as reliable of a catcher as there can be, and though it doesn’t create a stat, carries a ton of intelligence of the game.

Lexi Miller, Macon, senior, shortstop

A top-notch defender and hitter for the Tigerettes, a highly ranked Class 3 team this season, Miller hit .432 in her last campaign. She finished with 30 RBI, 26 runs, 11 doubles and hit three homers. She also had a nearly perfect defensive season at shortstop.



Knox County's Jen Hinkle during a game. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of La Plata's Pieper Wood. AUSTIN MILLER



Daily Express file photo of Putnam County's Claire Tipton. AUSTIN MILLER

Cady Pauley, Milan, senior, pitcher

Pauley did damage in the circle, posting a 13-10 record with a 1.58 ERA and 198 strikeouts. But she was just as lethal with her bat. Pauley hit .514 and was a slugging machine. Most of her 20 RBI came on longballs as she hit 11 homers this season. She also recorded 21 walks, 12 of which were intentional.

Claire Tipton, Putnam County, senior, pitcher

After three really good seasons at Putnam County, Tipton erupted for a huge campaign as a senior. Her offensive stats were incredible, hitting .529 with 46 runs scored, 41 RBI, seven homers, six triples and 16 doubles. And she

was equally as good in the circle, going 18-10 with a 1.75 ERA and 282 strikeouts. Tipton will continue her softball career at Indian Hills Community College.

Kaidyn Watson, Atlanta, junior, shortstop

A key cog in Atlanta’s powerhouse lineup, Watson delivered out of the No. 2 spot this season. Watson hit .410 for the Hornets with 33 runs, 22 RBI and 12 doubles. She’s an important bat for the Hornets to have next season.

Brooke Weimer, Macon, junior, pitcher

Weimer has continued to develop as one of the best pitchers in the area, making a statement with her junior season. Weimer, the Clarence Cannon Conference’s Player of the Year, went 14-5 with a 1.53 ERA and 182 strikeouts. But she wasn’t limited at the plate in any way, hitting .397 with 25 RBI and nine homers.

Pieper Wood, La Plata, senior, first base

Wood is another accomplished senior on this year’s All-Express team, making the team for the fourth time. She hit .415, with two home runs and added 30 RBI and 24 stolen bases. Wood, La Plata’s all-time leader in doubles, also added 11 more in that category.

Honorable mentions:

Atlanta: Mati Pinkston, Aymee Young, Kait Farmer; Brashear: Haley McNamar, Alexa Borgmeyer, Aubrey Borgmeyer, Lacey Fisher; Green City: Paige Pialet, Celeste Athon, Maddie Lunsford; Kirksville: Jordan Meng; Knox County: Daniela Dooley; La Plata: Brooklyn Carvajal, Paige Carvajal, Izzy Joyce; Macon: Brooklyn Anderson, Jacee Johnsen, Reese Adair, Emma Bruno; Milan: Amy Pickering; Novinger: Abbi Fountain; Putnam County: Sam Daniels; Schuyler County: MaKinley Aeschliman, Bailie Atkinson, Tinley Roberts, Tralyn Wilson; Scotland County: Hannah Feeney, Baileigh Phillips, Hanna Anders, Kina Billings.

Nominations are requested from coaches at Atlanta, Brashear, Green City, Kirksville, Knox County, La Plata, Macon, Milan, Novinger, Putnam County, Schuyler County and Scotland County high schools.

Stuart

Continued from Page 9A

gers. She hit .351 with a team-high nine doubles and 20 RBI.

She also picked up a whole host of all-conference, all-region and all-state honors. And here’s one more for her: the 2021 Daily Express Softball Player of the Year.

And it was a battle for her to get there. Stuart pitched the Tigers to a district title in her freshman season in 2018, but injuries kept her out of the circle for most of the next two years. She knew if her body held up, her senior year was her chance to go out with a bang.

With a strong offseason, Stuart entered the fall healthy for the first time. No nagging injuries in her way. So with only seeing a few instances of Stuart pitching before, Allen wasn’t sure what to expect out of her. He did know the potential was there, but it was a matter of that actually happening.

After a 1-0 loss to Chillicothe in Kirksville’s fourth game, where she fanned 10, Allen knew he had something special in the circle.

“If I’m being honest, I don’t know that I had any (expectations for her). I was excited because I knew the ceiling was super high for her, but I just hadn’t got to see her pitch much the two years prior,” Allen said. “... I don’t think I would’ve ever pegged what she did because she had such a great year. To compile the strikeouts she had, the low ERA, the amount of innings — especially coming off injuries — was just pretty impressive.

“She competed at a high level against good teams and quality programs,” Allen said. “Just put up some gaudy numbers, especially against the competition she was facing.”

Chillicothe was the state runner-up in Class 3 and the Tigers played them three times. Kirksville also battled Macon three times and Fulton twice, two more of the top teams in the class. The Tigers played a tough schedule and Stuart was dominant against most of them.

And in instances with runners on and in scoring position, Stuart was even better.

“You just never felt — no matter the situation on the bases — that you were gonna give up runs,” Allen said. “You just thought she’d find a way to get out of it, and she really did for most of the year.”

But toward the middle of the season, another injury popped up. Before the Putnam County Tournament, she had a sharp pain in her heel when walking around at school. That pain lingered into the tournament, with pain so sharp she almost fell when pitching. Every time she landed on her left foot, it was there.

While she thought it might be the end of her road, she didn’t want another injury to affect her story.

“It was excruciating. It would make my whole leg go numb and it was not easy,” Stuart said. “It was not a good injury to have, but I didn’t want to sit out my senior season, and I didn’t want to give up my spot on the mound just because I was feeling a little bit of pain.”

She sat a few games to try and help the injury. She said doctors told her it would take time to get better, but the injury wouldn’t get worse if she played



Daily Express file photos of Kirksville's Sophie Stuart. AUSTIN MILLER



through it. She didn’t need to be told twice for that to happen.

“We went about two weeks with that

injury, and even toward the end of the year, I don’t know that it was 100 percent. But you weren’t going to know. She

was going to take the ball if I asked her to take it. She was never going to tell me no,” Allen said. “Never going to let her teammates down, and that’s probably the most impressive part. She had the numbers, but her willingness to go out and compete for her teammates, our school and our program was impressive.”

“That was a sign to me of her true character, what she was willing to do for her teammates and our program,” Allen said.

Stuart didn’t want to sit on the bench. But she also didn’t want to hamper her team if she was no longer effective in the circle. That was never the case.

“I was worried I’d let my team down, my coaches down,” Stuart said. “I never want to jeopardize the team in any way, and I was afraid that was going to happen — that I was hurt and I was going to hurt the team. I kept pitching and I wasn’t losing anything; I was still very effective. I think that’s what kept me in the game. I was in so much pain, but (Allen) couldn’t take me out because I was still getting 10 to 12 strikeouts a night.”

It probably sounds crazy to anyone else that she’d put herself through that pain every single pitch — especially since she was already committed to play collegiate softball at Wayne State. But not to her.

“You just love the game so much,” Stuart said. “I truly love pitching and I truly love softball. To know this was my last season with these coaches and these girls, and this would be the last time I’d be on a field with some of them — I didn’t want to go out. It’s honestly a pride thing. I love the game so much and I didn’t want it to stop. I didn’t want to have to give up my senior season, so it came down to the love of the game, the knowledge and heart that I have for the game. I just didn’t want to give that up.”

Getting her through that and many other moments in her career was a strong mental fortress that she built up. Stuart puts a lot of pressure on herself to perform at a high level. She wants to succeed and she doesn’t want to let anyone down. That’s a lot for a high school kid to put on themselves.

And she frequently deals with bouts of anxiety and depression, something she said started during her sophomore year. She never wanted to tell anyone about those thoughts back then, but she found strength in opening up to other people. She said softball was rarely the cause for any of those, but it was always the cure.

Once a game started, all of those feelings melted away. She can’t recall a whole lot from a game other than her pitch sequences. She tunes out any crowd noise, though there are rare times where her dad, Paul, yells something that breaks through. Getting to that point took a long time and a lot of work. Imparting that on her younger teammates was something Stuart focused on this year.

“When I’m on the mound, all that goes away,” Stuart said. “That pressure and that stress and that weight you feel, for me, it disappears. There are no more questions. It’s just, ‘OK, I’m going to do this.’ Off the field, I felt it more and more. But on the field, it was just turned off and nothing else mattered.

“I think that’s what gave me the most success. I wasn’t thinking, I was pitching. I was doing what I needed to do,” Stuart said.

Basketball

Continued from Page 9A

ing for Kirksville on Tuesday, he’s probably right.

“We’re looking for our teammates. When you have five players out there that are competent offensively, and you’re moving the ball around, as a coach, it’s difficult to play defense against that,” Totta said. “So I hope we can continue to use that to our advantage.

Vorkink pounded the paint for 19 points on the night. Jenna Jackson and Jersey Herbst were next in points, adding eight and seven.

To have so many girls involved and have success, that showed a great deal of communication for everyone.

“I think we just had good player connections and found each other. We had some good communication plays, which is something that usually takes longer to develop,” Vorkink said. “To see that in the first game is pretty impressive.”

With as good as the offense looked, it steals a little shine from the defense. But a ton of steals and rebounds on that end made all the offense happen. The transition offense can be cleaned up as the season goes on, but defense was certainly a big part of Tuesday’s success.

“I think our defense was more advanced than it has been, and we’ve been practicing on it a ton,” Porter said. “I think we executed very well.”



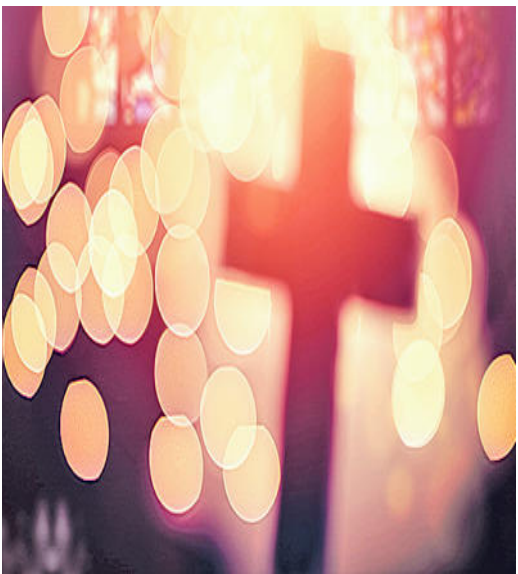
Kirksville's Elli Porter leads her team up the floor during Tuesday's game against Highland. AUSTIN MILLER

KIRKSVILLE AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

This Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services. The Church Listings below are provided at **NO CHARGE** to our area churches in Kirksville. If your Church is not listed, please call us at 660-665-2808.

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED CHURCH

Novinger Baptist Church



Rosie's Northtown Café
Anita M. Armstrong, Owner
Where Good Friends Meet



Coffee & Donut \$1
Breakfast & Lunch
Specials everyday
(tax included)

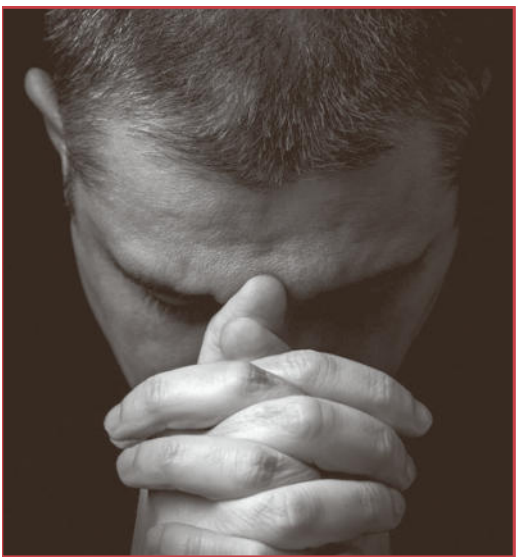
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Additional Church Information

If you would like to help sponsor this informative community worship directory, please contact Kim Robertson

Email: kim@burchettmedia.com
Phone: 931.237.7923



KM-80KDE08783

Faith Lutheran Church
1820 S. Baltimore, Baltimore & LaHarpe
David Lukefahr, Pastor
7:30 a.m. The Lutheran Hour KLTE
8:15 a.m. Worship Service Peace, Milan
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study Faith
9:00 a.m. Sunday School Faith
10:15 a.m. Worship Service Faith
10:00 p.m. Issues, Etc. 107.9 KLTE
www.faithkirksville.org

Hamilton Street Baptist Church
802 W. Hamilton
Pastor, Steven Nelson
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Adult Choir
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship/Youth
www.hamiltonstreet.org

Rehoboth Baptist Church
100 Pfeiffer Rd.
Curtis Ferguson, Pastor
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
rbchurch.net • 660-665-7577

First Presbyterian Church (USA)
201 S. High at McPherson
Communion 1st Sunday
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time.
11:00 a.m. Church School/all ages
5:30 p.m. College Fellowship

Kirksville Church of Christ
110 Pfeiffer Ave.
Elders/Pastors: Dan Green, Dean Hansen
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
11 a.m. Worship
Weds 6:30p.m. Bible Study
www.kvccoc.org

First Baptist Church
207 E. Washington
Jason Marlin, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Bible Study for all ages
10:45 a.m. Worship & Kidz Worship
firstbaptistkirksville.com

Faith United Methodist Church
1602 E. Illinois
Pastor: H.R. Rogers
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship

Southside Baptist Church
1010 W. Burton
Pastor: Aaron Rodgerson
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Preaching
6:30 p.m. Evening Service

First Church of God
2900 S. Halliburton
Chad Earhart
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
www.kirksvillechurchofgod.com

Kirksville Nazarene Church
2302 N. Lincoln Road
Michael Askev, Lead Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Route
65 (Children's Church)
www.kvnazarene.org

Central Church of Christ
2010 S. Halliburton
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Faith Baptist Church
502 N. Florence
Pastors: Brandon Rhea & Robert Price
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
12:00 p.m. Noon Lunch
1:30 p.m. Worship

The Crossing Church
810 E. Shepherd Ave.
9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Service
www.thecrossing.net

Grace Community Bible Church
1501 E. Northtown Rd.
Benjamin Jorden, Pastor
Affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America
9:30 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
12 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. Small groups
KirksvilleGBCB@gmail.com
www.KirksvilleGBCB.com • 660.665.1615

First United Methodist Church
300 E. Washington
Rev. Scott Beard, Pastor
8:15 a.m. Morning Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
www.firstumckirksville.org

Pure Air Baptist Church
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
TBA Bible Study

Church of God of Prophecy
807 Benton Way
Pastor: Rob Linhart
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
6:30 p.m. Evening Service

Novinger United Methodist Church
Pastor Raymond Magruder
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Fellowship Baptist Church
1701 S. Jamison St., Kirksville
Larry Gibson, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
fbck@sbcglobal.net
www.fellowshipbpc.org • 660-665-0633

Yarrow Methodist Church
Highway N., Yarrow
Guest Pastors
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Mary Immaculate Catholic Church
Weekday Masses: Tuesday: 5:30 p.m.
Wed. & Friday: 7 a.m. Thursday: 8 a.m.
Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Catholic Newman Center
11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Sunday
7:00 a.m. Monday
9:00 p.m. Wednesday

Union Temple Church
Southwest of Kirksville
Alan Coonfield, Pastor
Every Sunday Evening
5-5:30 p.m. Bible Study
5:30-6:30 p.m. Church Service

Sugar Creek Baptist Church
5 mi South on Hwy 3
Pastor, Virgil K. Jones
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Hazel Creek Primitive Baptist Church
2 mi. W. Greentop on Rt. K then 1/2 mi. S.
Elder Dillon Thurman, minister
Services on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
10:30 a.m. Song Service
11:00 a.m. Preaching

Lighthouse of Love
Brashear, Mo
Pastor, John Bowen
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Meadow Brook Christian Church
602 E. Washington
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church
Novinger, Mo.
7:30 a.m. Sunday

Life Church of Kirksville
112 W. Potter
Jeremy Pingle, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Service

Community Presbyterian Church
210 N. Owensby, LaPlata, Mo
Rev. John Becker, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Worship Service

Grace Fellowship Church
1501 S. Baird St., Kirksville
Pastor, Brian Carter
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Countryside Christian Church
S. Boundary St. Rt. H, Troy Mills
Preacher, Harold R. Engel
8:30 - 9:45 a.m. Blended Worship
10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. High School-College Youth meet
www.countrysidekv.com

Gifford Christian Church
Minister: Darren Potter
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

Lake Road Chapel
22963 Potter Trail
Pastors: Charles Leiter, Richard Ochs, Mason Vann, Garrett Holthaus
10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship Service
www.lakeroadchapel.org

Church of God (Holiness)
1601 N. Elson
Pastor Ralph E. Wheeler, Jr.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

New Hope Evangelical Church
620 Steer Creek Way
9:30 - 10:20 a.m. Bible Class
10:20 - 10:30 a.m. Fellowship time
10:30 a.m. Praise & Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship
Darrell Draper, Pastor
660-341-0000
Jim Maxey, Calling Pastor
660-665-6949 or 660-216-4183

First Assembly of God
2401 S. High
Jeff Arp, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Morning Worship
(Communion First Sunday of the Month)
6:30 p.m. Evening Praise
www.KirksvilleFirst.com

First Liberty Full Gospel
1302 E. Filmore
Rev. Fred Baker, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Novinger Baptist Church
Highway 6 & 149
Rev. Darrell Crooks, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
High & Harrison
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
2000 E. Normal
Kirksville First Ward Bishop John Grider
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday Services
Kirksville Second Ward Bishop Isaac Ison
9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Sunday Services

Trinity Episcopal Church
124 N. Mulanix
Rev. Amy L. Fallon, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Seventh Day Adventist Church
1301 N. Elson
Curtis Denney, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sabbath School (Saturday)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Saturday)
Fellowship Dinner on 4th Saturday.

United Methodist Church
Brashear Charge, Brashear
Lay Minister, Nancy Douglas
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
7:00 p.m. Singspiration - 1st Sunday

Willow Bend Association East
Center Community Church
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship

Illinois Bend Community Church
Highway 3
Pastor Terry Hunsaker
8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
660-349-0052

Baring Community Church
11:00 a.m. Worship.

Community Christian Church of Downing
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Willow Bend Church
Find Us on Facebook for Event Schedule

New Hope Methodist Reformed Church - Millard
9:15 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Worship

Greentop Community Church
Highway K, Greentop, Mo.
Pastor: Lynae McFarland
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Trinity United Fellowship Church
Pastor: Lorne Arber
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Lancaster United Methodist Church
Pastor: H. R. Rogers
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Shekinah Mennonite Church
15981 Blueberry Way, Kirksville
John Mark Miller, Pastor
Roger Berry
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. 2nd Sunday - hymn sing
6:00 p.m. 4th Sunday of month Topic

Bethel Community Church
12 miles NE of Kirksville on Rt. T
Marvin Cross, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Kid's Klub/Youth Fellowship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship.

Lancaster Baptist Church
Southeast Side of Square, Lancaster
Lonnie Johnson, Pastor
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Grace Bible Baptist Church
Greencastle, Mo.
Rev. Earl Baker, Pastor
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
5:00 p.m. Evening Service

Winigan Christian Church
Ryan Crist, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

First Baptist Church
Winigan, Winigan, Mo.
Sam Burkholder, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Fairview Baptist Church
53610 Knob Hill Road, Pollock
Sam Burkholder, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
6:00 p.m. Sunday Evening

Bible Missionary Church
508 S. Main St.
Bro. Glenn Kiger, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Full Gospel Church
404 North Elson
Ola York, Pastor
2:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study
2:00 p.m. Saturday Afternoon Service

LaPlata Christian Church
Scott McNay, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Worship Service

Christ's Family Church
531 N. Baltimore
Glenn Berry, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
www.cfcvmo.com • cfcvmo@gmail.com

Queen City Christian Church
Queen City, Mo.
Bud Cornwell, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Bible School
10:30 a.m. Communion/worship Hour

United Pentecostal Church
1502 E. Northtown Road
David E. Brown, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
6:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Worship

Brashear Community Bible Church
Donny Powell, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship
660-323-5305

First Baptist Church of LaPlata
B. J. McAlpin, Pastor
9:00 am "Donut Hole" Fellowship
9:45 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Worship
6:00 pm Monday - AWANA
http://laplatafbpc.org/
Email: laplatafbpc@gmail.com

Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church
8 mi. N.W. of Kirksville on Rt. B.
Tim Hodges, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Worthington Baptist Church
Worthington, Mo.
Roger Busnell, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

The Salvation Army
1004 W. Gardner
Brian and Michelle Bump, Pastors
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Queen City First Baptist Church
6th at Washington St.
Robert Smith, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA
North of Queen City go East on Rt. O
Pastor, Bill Iammatteo-Code
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Hurdland First Baptist Church
Robert Shobe, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
7:30 p.m. Sun. & Weds. Worship and/or Bible Study

Colony Baptist Church
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. 4th Sunday worship

Cornerstone Community Church
Meeting at the Fohn Family Center 404 N. Elson
9:30 a.m. Sunday Small Group Bible Study designed for adults

Locust Hill Community Church
Rt. 1, Novelty, Mo
William Gaines, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

New Harmony Free Will Baptist
3 miles West of Greentop on Rt. K
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship

Word Alive! Family Church
Hwy 63, Greentop
Pastors: Robert Gange
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship, Adult service, Childrens Church
Schuyler County Church of Faith
Highway 136 East, Lancaster
Sonny Smyser, Pastor
8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sunday Services
11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday Class
3rd Sunday Fellowship dinner 12 noon


Gospel Outreach Church
209 W. Washington
Norman Keller, Pastor
Gonda Manning, Co pastor
7:00 p.m. Thursday Services
7:00 p.m. Sunday Services

Victory Baptist Church Of Greentop
-Meets at the Willmathsville Community Church on Hwy A
Pastor Joshua Wesley
10:30 a.m. Worship



Wilbert MEMORIALS
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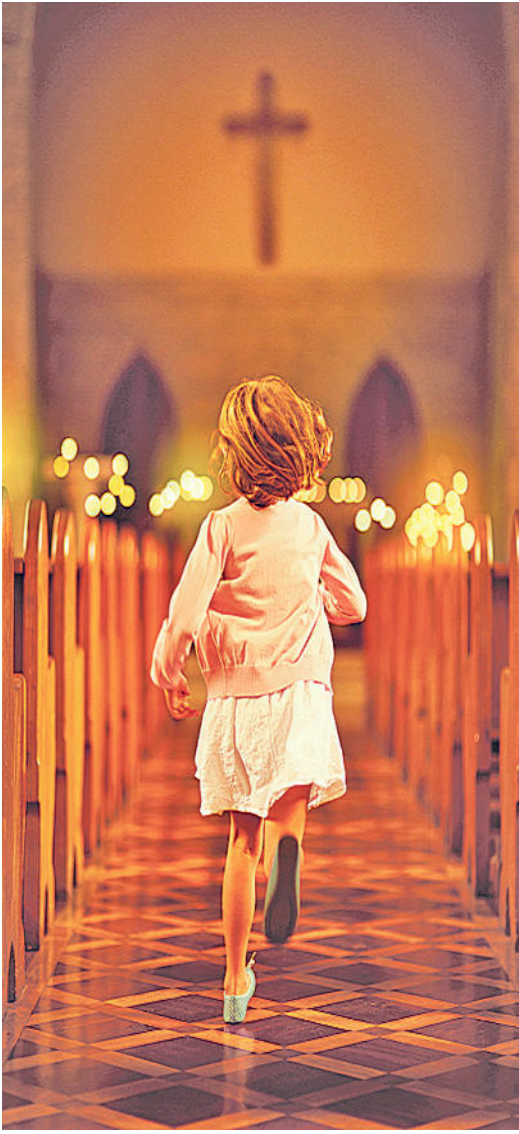
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