

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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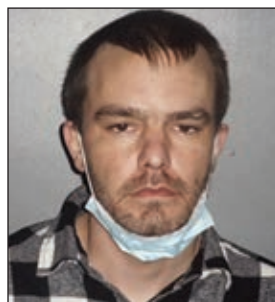
SATURDAY

DECEMBER 17, 2022 | \$2

Kirksville man sentenced to 10 years in death of 17-year-old girl

By Adair County
Prosecutor's Office

On Friday, Dec. 9, Shawn Combs, of Kirksville, appeared before The Honorable Thomas P. Redington in the Circuit Court of Adair County, where the defendant entered a guilty plea to the class C felony offense of Involuntary Manslaughter in the First Degree.



Shawn Combs

Combs recklessly caused the death of 17-year-old minor fe-

male. Combs admitted to giving the girl drugs, which were later determined to have contained fentanyl, which ultimately caused her overdose and her subsequent, untimely death.

Redington sentenced Combs to the maximum sentence of 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections and Combs was denied probation.

"The Adair County

Prosecuting Attorney's Office would like to thank the Kirksville Police Department, Adair County Coroner Brian Noe, the Boone/Callaway County Medical Examiner's Office, and the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory for all of their efforts and assistance with this investigation," officials in the department stated in a press release.



Jessica Barton is originally from Clarence, Mo. and has worked in the custodian/maintenance department of Ray Miller Elementary School. "I love working at the school," she wrote in her bio. "At this age the kids love to help where they can. Even just dumping their classroom trash."



Amy Lamp is originally from Lennox, S.D. and has worked for Kirksville R-III for 19 years as a paraprofessional and then secretary at the Kirksville Area Technical Center. "I love working with the students I work with and have worked with a lot of amazing people," she wrote in her bio.

Kirksville R-III School District honors support staff

Kirksville R-III School District and Superintendent Robert Webb, honored the district's support staff for the month of December.



Jordan Dent has worked for three years at Kirksville Primary School in the maintenance/custodian department. She originally began at the Kirksville Motor Company.



Velda Salt, originally from Utah, has worked as a special education paraprofessional for 17 years at William Matthew Middle School. "I have always enjoyed working with and around kids," she wrote in her bio. "Working in the schools I have learned a lot about myself and about the world around me. I have met many awesome teachers and co-workers and especially young people who will grow into our leaders some day."



Hillary Lyons is in her seventh year (started April 2015) as a high school paraprofessional and job coach at Kirksville High School, the only school she has worked at. "I absolutely love working with high school students," she wrote in her bio. "It's so rewarding watching them develop from crazy freshmen to young men and women by their senior year. I am blessed to be a part of this transformation. There is no place I'd rather be!"



Elaine Moots is originally from Columbus, Ind. but has lived in Kirksville since 1995. She has been a nurse for 30 years and has worked for Kirksville R-III for a year and a half as the school nurse. "I love working with preschool-age children," she wrote in her bio. "It is a privilege to work with such wonderful people in the ECLC building as well!"



A Community Giving Box outside the Clothes Closet on South High Street.

Kirkville Leadership Institute members hold ribbon-cutting for Community Giving Boxes placed at the library and downtown

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

The Kirkville Area Chamber of Commerce held two ribbon-cutting ceremonies for Kirkville Leadership Institute on Dec. 14,

which placed two Community Giving Boxes that offer hygiene products to those in need. The first box was placed next to the Clothes Closet, 119 S. High Street, in the downtown area. The second box was placed across the parking lot

from the Adair County Library, 1 Library Lane. The boxes were the Kirkville Leadership Institute Class of 2022's class project. Future donations from the public are welcome. "Give what you can" so others can "take what they need."



A Community Giving Box across the parking lot from the library.

Missouri State Highway Patrol: Bring In the new year safely!

By Missouri State Highway Patrol

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, encourages everyone to make good decisions regarding their New Year's celebration. No one wants to start 2023 with a traffic crash or DWI arrest. During the 2022 New Year's period, one person was killed and 331 injured in 1,045 traffic crashes in Missouri.

The 2023 New Year's holiday counting period begins at 6 p.m. Friday, December 30,

2022, and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Monday, January 2, 2023.

If your plans to welcome the new year include alcohol, please designate a sober driver or utilize a ride share service or taxi to ensure you arrive home safely. The roadway is no place for a driver under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If you kill or injure someone, you'll pay the price for the rest of your life.

If you plan to drive this New Year's, remember to buckle up and make sure all your passengers do the same.

Pay attention, obey all traffic laws, and when in doubt, yield the right-of-way. Be sure to use your turn signal to communicate your intentions. Remember: The posted speed limit reflects the roadway's classification and is not a suggestion! Download the MoDOT Traveler Information app to your smart phone, and check road conditions before you travel. Allow extra time during inclement weather or consider staying home. Missouri law states if you're using your windshield



wipers, your headlights must be turned on.

The public is encouraged to call the Patrol's Emergency Assistance Number (800) 525-5555 or 55 on a cellular

phone if they witness criminal activity or experience an emergency. These emergency numbers are operational for both highway and water emergencies. We're here to help.

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OBITUARIES INSIDE

George Bernard Garner, 94

ROTARY CLUB OF KIRKSVILLE PRESENTS
CHECK TO FOSTERADOPTCONNECT



At the Dec. 14 Rotary Club of Kirksville meeting, Rotarian Randy Smith (left) presented a \$5,000 check to FosterAdopt Connect Branch Manager Justin Wiles. This represents a \$2,500 District grant plus the club's matching funds to provide loaded backpacks to children in foster care. ROTARY CLUB OF KIRKSVILLE

KIRKSVILLE POLICE BLOTTER: DEC. 6-14, 2022

ARREST REPORTS

DEC. 8-9
Driving While Revoked/Suspended 1st Offense (M D), Johnathon D. Gerber, Kirksville
No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), Cody James Helm
Warrant, Kenneth Robert Cornelison, Gibbs
DEC. 9-12
Burglary 1st (No Force) Residential (F B), Jerry Vinnie Giugliano, Kirksville
No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), Vance Austin DeShawn Myers, Kirksville
Protective Custody, Terry Eugene Mason, Kirksville
Warrant-Macon County/Schuyler County, Andrew L. Payton, Kirksville
DEC. 13-14
No Valid License-1st Offense (M) Zachary Thomas Truitt, Kirksville
No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), Erica L. Lugo, Kirksville

INCIDENT REPORTS

DEC. 6
Traffic Stop, 10:22 p.m., 413 N. Baltimore Street
MVA/Hit and Run, Minor, 8:49 p.m., 2400 S. Baltimore Street
Traffic Stop, 8:18 p.m., North Marion Street, Zachariah VanSickle, 20
Traffic Stop, 8:11 p.m., 202 E. Illinois Street, Kate Colson, 21
Traffic Stop, 8:02 p.m., North Marion Street, Cody Roberts, 26
Traffic Stop, 7:40 p.m., East Harrison Street
Traffic Stop, 7:22 p.m., South Franklin Street
Traffic Stop, 7:10 p.m., LaHarpe Street
Check the Well Being, 4:19 p.m., 805 King Road
Theft/Not in Progress, 4:14 p.m., 1708 S. Jamison Street
Scam, Suspicious Person, Activity, Vehicle, 2:03 p.m., 613 Shirley Street
Harassment, Trespass, 2:02 p.m., 2202 E. Normal Avenue
Assist Other Agency, ICAC Cell Forensics Lewis County, 1:54 p.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Trespass, 1:13 p.m., 1023 E. Jefferson Street
Sex Offense, 11:35 a.m., 1009 N. Lincoln Street
Traffic Stop, 10:57 a.m., South Franklin Street
Animal/Trap, 10:40 a.m., 2200 E. Normal Avenue
Assist Other Agency, 10:07 a.m., 1515 S. Cottage Grove Avenue
Traffic Stop, 9:54 a.m., Halliburton Street, Angela McKim, 26
Runaway, 9:04 a.m., 510 W. Missouri Street
Property Damage (M), 2nd Degree, 8:53 a.m., 701 W. LaHarpe Street
Runaway, 8:12 a.m., 104 Woodwind Court
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From Auto (M), 7:55 a.m., 1302 Queens Court
Animal/Trap, 7:40 a.m., 2002 Cottage Grove Place
DEC. 7
Civil Dispute, 9:20 p.m., 216 S. Mulanix Street
Assisting Other Agency-DFS, 4:58 p.m., 1705 N. New Street
Domestic Disturbance/Verbal, Assault/Domestic 4th Degree 1st/2nd Offense (1)(5)(M A), 4:36 p.m., 1401 N. Walnut Street
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing-Catalytic Converter (F E), 4:06 p.m., 2210 S. Marion Street
Check the Well Being, 2:50 p.m., 815 N. Mulanix
Property/Recovered, License Plate, 10:01 a.m., 905 E. Dear Street
Parking Complaint, 7:59 a.m., 215 W. Jefferson Street
Suspicious Person, Activity, Vehicle, 1:07 a.m., North Mulanix
Suspicious Activity, 12:32 a.m., 413 N. Baltimore Street
DEC. 8
Warrant, 9:20 p.m., 202 E. Illinois Street, Arrestee: Amber Johnson, 41
Traffic Stop, Display Plates of Another Person, Failure to Register Motor Vehicle/Trailer, 9:17 p.m., State Hwy. 6
Scam, Stealing \$750 or More All Other (F), 5:45 p.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Alarm/Commercial, 5:21 P.M., 800 W. Jefferson Street
Follow Up, Warrant, 3:54 p.m., 816 N. Florence Street, Arrestee: Kenneth Cornelison, 38

Filed Contact, Parking Complaint, 3:24 p.m., Patterson Street
Juvenile Problem, Runaway Located, 3:19 p.m., 811 E. Randolph Street
Traffic Stop, Driving While Revoked/Suspended 1st Offense (M D), 3:03 p.m., 600 Block of North Franklin Street, Arrestee: Johnathon Gerber, 23
Domestic Disturbance/Verbal, 2:31 p.m., 1301 Baird Street
Trespass/Refuse to Leave, 1:04 p.m., 1705 N. New Street
Ex Parte Full Order of Protection/Violation (M), 11:11 a.m., 1210 E. Washington Street
Animal/Loose-Running at Large, 10:35 a.m., 1102 N. Franklin Street
Traffic Stop, 10:34 a.m., 3309 N. Baltimore Street
Investigation, 10:04 a.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Traffic Stop, No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), 9:55 a.m., Osteopathy Street, Arrestee: Cody Helm, 33
Sex Offense, ICAC Snap Chat-Green City, 8:43 a.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Sex Offense, ICAC Cell Forensics-Putnam County, 8:42 a.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Traffic Stop, 8:24 a.m., Jefferson Street, Faith VanDusen, 18
Suspicious Subject, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 6:21 a.m., 503 S. Franklin Street
Medical Assistance, 12:14 a.m., 1304 S. Baltimore Street
DEC. 9
Trespass/Refuse to Leave, Domestic Disturbance, 11:49 p.m., 57 Leisure Drive
Animal/Bite-Attack, 10:36 p.m., 2210 S. Marion Street
Traffic Stop, 10:27 p.m., 2404 N. Baltimore Street, William McCurren, 18
Burglary/Not in Progress, Stealing \$750 or More Building (F), 8:10 p.m., 1606 S. Osteopathy Street
Theft/In Progress, Stealing From Shoplifting (M), 6:49 p.m., Arrestee: Morgan Steele, 33
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing Value Less Than \$150 and No Prior Stealing Offense (M), 6:12 p.m., 1707 S. Baltimore Street
Protective Custody, 4:02 p.m., Village 76
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing \$750 or More All Other (F), 3:23 p.m., 915 N. Centennial Avenue
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing Parts of Accessories of Vehicles (M), 1:12 p.m., 2026 N. Florence Place
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From All Other (M), 12:46 p.m., 303 Woodwind Court
Assist Other Agency, Check the Well Being, 12:40 p.m., 918 S. Osteopathy Street
Suspicious/Activity, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 11:16 a.m., 1820 S. Baltimore Street
Suspicious/Activity, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 9:08 a.m., 900 E. LaHarpe Street
Fire/Structure, Open Burning Within 50 Feet a Structure, 8:43 a.m., 1700 N. Centennial Avenue
Trespass, 8:26 a.m., 606 N. Elson Street
Animal/Loose Running at Large, 8:10 a.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Animal/Trap, 8:07 a.m., 2200 E. Normal Avenue
Abandoned Vehicle, Parking Complaint, 7:26 a.m., 1510 Crown Drive
MV Theft, Leaving Scene of Accident, Assault/Domestic 3rd Degree (F E), Property Damage (M) 2nd Degree, 1:35 a.m., 606 N. Elson Street
Alarm/Burglar, Burglary 1st (No Force) Residential (F B), Stealing From All Other (M), Trespass (M), 1st Degree, 1:03 a.m., 1116 Country Club Drive, Arrestee: Jerry Giugliano, 46
Theft/Bike, Stealing, 1:03 a.m., 18 Devlin Place
DEC. 10
Traffic Stop, 11:49 p.m., 516 N. Baltimore Street
Traffic Stop, 11:39 p.m., North Cottage Avenue
Traffic Stop, 9:54 p.m., U.S. Hwy. 63, Hunter Ohaver, 19
Traffic Stop, 9:22 p.m., 1009 N. Osteopathy Street, Mitchell Mahurin, 28
Traffic Stop, 7:40 p.m., South Baltimore Street
Harassment, Trespass, 7:06 p.m., 704 W. Martha Street
Traffic Stop, 5:09 p.m., Osteopathy Street, Briann N. Stewart, 20

Property/Damage Vehicle, Property Damage (M) 2nd Degree, 4:48 p.m., 1503 N. Green Street
Runaway-Located, 12:58 p.m., 1003 W. Hildreth Street
Harassment, 11:05 a.m., 210 E. Jefferson Street
Property/Damage Vehicle, Property Damage (M) 2nd Degree, 9:32 a.m., 6 N. New Place
Check the Well Being, 7:16 a.m., 1308 S. Cottage Grove Avenue
Assist Other Agency, Warrant-Macon County/Schuyler County, 1:33 a.m., 2200 E. Normal Avenue, Arrestee: Andrew Payton, 24
DEC. 11
Traffic Stop, 9:48 p.m., Washington Street, Brooke Williams, 22
Traffic Stop, 9:25 p.m., North Marion Street, Shamar Griffith, 23
Traffic Stop, 9:22 p.m., West Elizabeth Street
Traffic Stop, North Marion Street, 8:59 p.m., Claire Russotto, 22
Traffic Stop, 8:51 p.m., 71 Hillcrest Drive
Traffic Stop, 8:21 p.m., 800 Block of East Illinois Street
Traffic Stop, 8:01 p.m., South Davis Street
Trespass, 7:38 p.m., 108 Valley Forge Drive
Assault/Simple, Domestic Disturbance, 4:04 p.m., 315 W. Pierce Street
Traffic Stop, 3:54 p.m., 500 S. Baltimore Street, Travis Taylor, 44
MVA/Minor, 3:35 p.m., 2206 N. Baltimore Street
Alarm/Burglar, 2:20 p.m., 509 E. Illinois Street
Theft/In Progress, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 1:56 p.m., 2206 N. Baltimore Street
MVA/Minor, 1:16 p.m., 1707 S. Baltimore Street
Trespass, 11:33 a.m., 909 E. McPherson Street
Traffic Stop, No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), 9:58 a.m., 1009 N. Osteopathy Street, Arrestee: Vance Myers, 27
Theft/Not in Progress, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 9:30 a.m., 3309 N. Baltimore Street
Traffic Stop, 8:54 a.m., 1721 N. Osteopathy Street, Ian Pruitt, 29
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From Shoplifting (M), 3:12 a.m., 202 E. Illinois Street
Traffic Stop, 1:03 a.m., East Normal Avenue
DEC. 12
Domestic Disturbance/Verbal, 5:30 a.m., 801 Woodwind Court
Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From Auto (M), 5:20 a.m., 806 Greenway Drive
911 Call/Cell Phone Hang Up, 5:14 a.m., 1102 N. Franklin Street
DEC. 13
Traffic Stop, No Valid License-1st Offense (M), 11:43 p.m., North Luther Street, Arrestee: Zachary Pruitt, 30
Loud Noise/Party, Noise Other Than Human, 10:38 p.m., 1306 N. Baird Street
Domestic Disturbance/Physical, Assault/Domestic 4th Degree 1st/2nd Offense(1)(5)(M A), 10:12 p.m., 1505 E. Dear Street
Forgery (F B), 9:50 p.m., 202 E. Illinois Street
Traffic Stop, 8:57 p.m., Baird Street, Casey Hurley, 39
Domestic Disturbance/Verbal, 6 p.m., 315 W. Pierce Street
Property/Damage Vandalism, MVA Minor, 5:30 p.m., 201 S. Baltimore Street
Arson, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 5 p.m., 606 E. Washington Street
Check the Well Being, 4:57 p.m., 1311 E. Jefferson Street
MVA/Injury, 3:16 p.m., Baltimore Street
MVA/Minor, 2:26 p.m., 1701 N. Green Street
Animal/Loose Running at Large, 1:15 p.m., 100 Valley Forge Drive
Fire/Structure 12:52 p.m., 701 W. Filmore Street
Runaway-Located, Stealing More Vehicle/Watercraft/Aircraft (F), 12:19 p.m., 1101 S. Jamison
Assist Other Agency, Juvenile Pickup Order, 11:40 a.m., 1003 W. Hildreth Street, Juvenile Detained
Assist Other Agency, ICAC Cell Forensics MSHF, 11:31 a.m., 119 E. McPherson Street
Animal/Loose Running at Large, 11:17 a.m., 1208 Baird Street
MVA Road Blocked, 11:02 a.m., Potter Avenue
MVA/Hit and Run, Leaving the Scene of Accident, 10:55 a.m., 800 W. Jefferson
MVA/Injury, 8:56 a.m., 2206 N. Baltimore Street
DEC. 14
Suspicious/Activity, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 5:13 a.m., 511 E. Pierce Street
Water Rescue, Suicide Attempt/Medical Assistance, 2:36 a.m., 605 N. Osteopathy Street
Traffic Stop, Failure to Exhibit Proof of Insurance, 1:57 a.m., Garden Street, Shane Mullen, 35

Community

Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company celebrates 70th Anniversary

By Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company

Green City, MO — NEMR (Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company) employees served the Novinger community free coffee and donuts on Friday, Dec. 9.

“This was just a little way to thank our Novinger cooperative members for their support and trust through the years. We would not exist without our members,” said Jennifer Chrisman, marketing manager.

Coffee was served in a 70th anniversary mug and other gifts were given to the guests.



NEMR Technicians Jared Kray and Danny Babcock.

The Grinch made an appearance bringing a little Christmas fun. The event was held at the Novinger Firehouse.

NEMR is a telecommunications company

delivering Fiber-To-The-Home internet to thousands of homes and businesses in Northeast Missouri. Most recently, NEMR has expanded into parts of Kirksville.



Cooperative member Kristy Lowe and her son, Dean. The Grinch, Kyle Rogers, NEMR assistant plant manager.



KIRKSVILLE AREA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Truman State Commencement scheduled for Dec. 17

The fall commencement ceremony to honor graduates will begin at 11 a.m. Dec. 17 in Pershing Arena. Allison Duncan, a bachelor of fine arts in creative writing and bachelor of arts in psychology candidate, will be the student speaker. Alumna Dusty Folwarczny will give the commencement address. A native of Winfield, Mo., Folwarczny earned her BFA in sculpture from Truman in 2003 and made her way to Chicago in 2006 to establish her sculpting practice and work in management consulting.

Doors will open at 10 a.m. for seating on a first-come, first-seated basis. Guests are asked to use the main entrance on the west side of the building. Graduates, faculty members and those who need to utilize handicapped parking spaces can use the east entrance. Restroom facilities are accessible on the arena level by the east stairs. For those who cannot attend in person, livestreams will be available on YouTube and Facebook.

10th Annual Kirksville Drive-Thru Community Christmas Dinner

The 10th Annual Kirksville Drive-Thru Community Christmas Dinner will be held on Dec. 18, from 4-6 p.m. at the Kirksville Moose Lodge, 2405 E. Illinois Street. Drive-thru only. Enter the line via



the circle drive on the east side of the building. Do not get out of your car, they will come to you. They will quit serving when they run out of food.

Light in the Darkness

This service of music, prayers, scripture, and candlelight brings the hope of Christ into our grief and lament. Dec. 20 from 6-7 p.m., First UMC Kirksville, 300 E. Washington Street, Kirksville. Anyone in the community is welcome to join them for a time to acknowledge grief in the midst of the holiday season.

Thousand Hills State Park First Day Guided Hike

The Thousand Hills State Park First Day Guided Hike will be held on Jan. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Redbud Trailhead by the lake. Ring in 2023 with a guided hike by park staff on the Red Bud Trail. The will be approximately two miles long on rugged terrain. Wear weather appropriate clothing and comfortable hiking shoes. A water bottle is recommended. Call the park office at 660-665-6995 with questions.

Salvation Army lieutenant visits Rotary Club of Kirksville



By Rotary Club of Kirksville

The speaker at the Dec. 14 Rotary Club of Kirksville meeting was Salvation Army Lt. Brian Hoscheit. He spoke about the good works the Salvation Army does for the community and its fundraising activities, in particular a major fund raising effort

— the Red Kettle bell ringing. The Red Kettle campaign began in 1891 at the ocean port of San Francisco. Lt. Hoscheit, pictured with Rotary Club President Marie Murphree, said the Red Kettle goal here this year is \$32,000. The two Kirksville Rotary clubs will ring bells on Saturday, Dec. 17.

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Ashley Orscheln approved as second-generation owner/operator for local McDonald’s

By McDonald’s

Ashley Orscheln, daughter of long-time local McDonald’s Owner/Operator Bob Gilstrap, has officially been granted approval to become a second-generation Owner/Operator by the McDonald’s Corporation. Orscheln recently completed the rigorous “Next Generation” program, which she began in 2020. She has worked in the family business for many years, most recently serving as the Director of Operators for the Gilstrap Organization that includes eight local McDonald’s restaurants.

Orscheln recalls helping out at McDonald’s at just a mere 10 years old when she would assist in taking orders and bagging French fries. Ashley started as a crew person at the age of 16, working on and off throughout high school and on her breaks during college. She attended the University of Missouri Business School to earn her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing and, in 2011, she started working full time for the family business.

Gilstrap’s background with McDonald’s goes back to his first job when he was 16 years old and needed money to buy a car and pay for gas. After graduating high school, he went to Mizzou to earn his degree and pursue a 12-year career at AT&T. With the



Ashley Orscheln and Bob Gilstrap

evolving changes in the telephone industry, Gilstrap saw the opportunity to go back to where he started at McDonald’s. In 1996, he purchased the restaurant in Hannibal, Mo. where he raised all four of his children including Ashley.

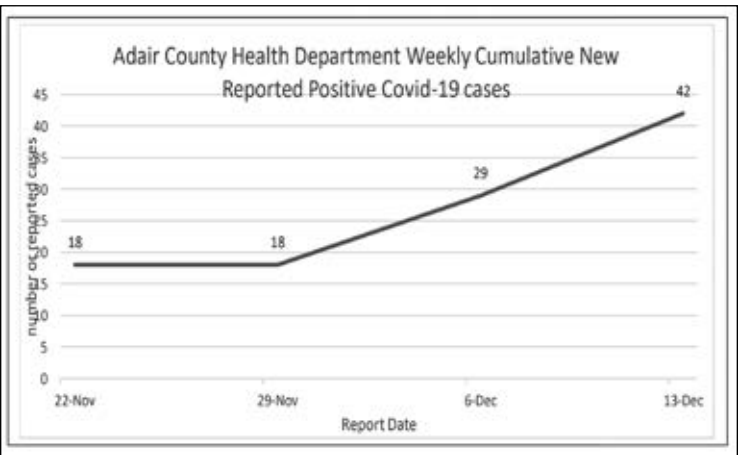
“The hard work that goes into becoming an Owner/Operator is something I understand far too well, so you can imagine that Ashley’s accomplishment is a very proud moment for me as her father,” said Gilstrap.

Orscheln has big plans for her future with McDonald’s, and she has had a front row seat to a determined example of perseverance through watching her dad make such an impact beyond just serving food.

“I look forward to continuing the legacy my parents have made. My father has been an Owner/Operator for 28 years, and I’ve been working alongside with him for 11 of those years,” said Orscheln. “I’m excited to lead our company into the next 30 years.”

About McDonald’s USA

McDonald’s USA, LLC, serves a variety of menu options made with quality ingredients to nearly 25 million customers every day. Ninety-five percent of McDonald’s 14,000 U.S. restaurants are independently owned and operated by businessmen and women. For more information, visit www.mcdonalds.com, or follow us on Twitter @McDonalds and Facebook. www.facebook.com/mcdonalds



Adair County Covid cases swing upward

By Adair County Health Department

As is happening across the country, Covid-19 cases are rising in Adair County. There have been 42 cases reported to the Adair County Health Department for the seven-day period from Dec. 6 through 12. That’s up from 29 during the last period.

Covid-19 is just one of the respiratory illnesses spreading in Adair County and nationwide. Two strains of influenza, the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and the Covid-19 virus are filling hospital beds to capacity in some areas, although hospitalizations continue to be low in Adair County.

Respiratory illness is spread by droplets. To slow the spread of all four of these viruses, the CDC recommends that people consider wearing masks while case numbers are high. Wearing

them in crowded indoor spaces and during family holiday gatherings — especially around family members most susceptible to severe disease — may lower the risk of contracting or spreading these illnesses.

Getting vaccinated against the flu and Covid-19 will provide added protection. The Adair County Health Department continues to administer Covid-19 vaccines and bivalent boosters for residents ages 12 and older as long as vaccine supplies last, and the seasonal flu vaccine to those ages three and older. Parents of residents under age 12 should contact their child’s doctor or pharmacy about getting Covid-19 vaccines.

To obtain information about slowing the spread of respiratory illnesses or to schedule a Covid-19 or flu vaccine, call the Adair County Health Department at 660-665-8491.

KIRKSVILLE AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Regional Visions Exhibit at the Sue Ross Arts Center

Regional Visions Exhibit will be at the Sue Ross Arts Center, Jan. 9—Feb. 24, 2023. The art center is open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no charge to visit the exhibit and children are welcome. Sue Ross Arts Center is located at 215 S. Franklin Street in Kirksville.

2023 Indoor Triathlon Challenge begins Jan. 9

Join Kirksville Parks and Recreation and the Adair County Family YMCA for the 2023 Indoor Triathlon Challenge. The event will run from Jan. 9 through March 15, 2023. During this eight-week challenge, participants will complete either a full triathlon, half triathlon, or ultra triathlon. Participants will have full access to the YMCA and the Aquatic Center, as well as all classes offered at those facilities. Those who complete the mileage goals will receive the 2023 Indoor Triathlon sweatshirt. Biking mileage can be earned through the use of a rowing machine, recumbent or spin bike, outdoor cycling, or participation in group aerobic classes. Swim distance can be accumulated by lap swimming, water walking, or water aerobics classes. Running mileage can be tallied while on the treadmill, elliptical machine, running outside, or participating in group aerobic classes. Registration is \$40 for members of either facility, or \$80 for non-members. If you have an active membership at the YMCA or the Aquatic Center, register at that facility. Non-members may register at either facility or online at parks.kirksvillecity.com. For more information about this program contact the Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department at 660-627-1485.

Driver examination stations to close statewide for upcoming holidays

The Missouri State Highway Patrol would like to remind the public that driver examination stations throughout the state will be closed on the following dates: Monday, Dec. 26, in observance of Christmas. Normal operations will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 27. Monday, Jan. 2, 2023, in observance of New Year’s Day. Normal operations will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023.

Hospice of Northeast Missouri to facilitate ongoing support group around the grief of aging

Based upon the feedback of those participants who attended the seminar titled “Getting Older Is Not for The Faint of Heart”, there was an agreement that an ongoing support group around the grief of aging is a needed resource in the community. Carrol Davenport, Hospice of Northeast Missouri’s Spiritual Care & Bereavement Coordinator, and Diane Johnson, hospice volunteer and retired communication faculty at Truman State, will serve as facilitators of the monthly meetings where participants will explore dealing with getting older and experiencing the reality of “life is NOT what I thought it would be when I got to this point.” Many of us had lots of plans for those later years, but instead are dealing with physical issues that keep us from doing all the things we want to do. All are welcome to attend this monthly support group that will meet from 1 – 2 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the First United Methodist Church on 300 E. Washington St. in Kirksville. Attendees are asked to enter through the south door. The next meeting will take place on Dec. 20. The ongoing support group is sponsored by Hospice of Northeast Missouri, the only nonprofit hospice health care service in northeast Missouri that focuses on quality of life for people and their caregivers who are experiencing an advanced, life-limiting illness. Hospice of Northeast Missouri, a partner agency of the United Way of Northeast Missouri, serves Adair, Clark, Knox, Lewis, Macon, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Sullivan, and Shelby counties. For more information, call 660-627-9711.

12th Annual Coat Drive

RE/MAX Home Team will be holding their 12th Annual Coat Drive from Dec. 9 through Dec. 25. Help them share the warmth this holiday season by donating your new or gently used coats to those in need. Donations can be dropped off at their offices at 111 S. Baltimore Street, Suite A in Kirksville, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Adair County Health Dept. releases December Covid-19 vaccine schedule

The Adair County Health Department continues to administer Covid-19 vaccines and

bivalent boosters for residents ages 12 and older as long as vaccine supplies last. December vaccine clinic are scheduled from 2-4 p.m., Dec. 20 and 27 at the health department, 1001 S. Jamison Street in Kirksville. To schedule a Covid-19 vaccine, call the health department at 660-665-8491. Parents of residents under age 12 should contact their child’s doctor or pharmacy about getting Covid-19 vaccines.

Final free visit with Santa Claus

Main Street Kirksville and Downtown Cinema 8 are partnering to provide free visits with Santa Claus. Visits with Santa Claus will take place the following Saturdays in December from 10 a.m. — Noon in the lobby of downtown Cinema 8, 115 N. Elson, Kirksville: Saturday, Dec. 17. The event is open to the public. Bring your camera and be sure to capture the moment! For additional information, contact kvdowntown@gmail.com or call Main Street Kirksville’s Kirk Ranson at 660-342-0208.

Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce to close between Christmas and New Year

For the first time, the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 304 S. Franklin in Kirksville, will be closed the week between Christmas and the New Year. The office will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 23 and reopen on Monday, Jan. 2, 2023 at 8 a.m. You may leave a message on their machine and someone will return your call after the new year. Community members are encouraged to Shop Local and Shop Small as they kick off the annual Shop Small contest at participating merchants. Visit their website for a list of those businesses and the discounts they are offering, <https://www.kirksvillechamber.com/shop-small.html> and to see how to enter.

CAPNEMO Winter Clothing Drive

Community Action Partnership of Northeast Missouri presents a Winter Clothing Drive through Dec. 21. The drop off location is at the Community Action Partnership of NEMO, 215 N. Elson Street in Kirksville. Drop off times are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All gently used items are welcomed. Help keep our community warm by donating winter coats, blankets, gloves and winter hats. For more information or arranging pickup, email athurman@capnemo.org or lpaltz@capnemo.org.

Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce Shop Small Season

Through Dec. 31, when you spend \$10 or more at participating locations, you can fill out a shopped small ticket, drop it in the Spend \$10 Box, and enter to win. Grand Prize is a large gift basket made up of items donated by participating locations. Each item is worth at least \$10 or more in value. Last year’s basket was worth over \$200. Second and third prize winners will also win smaller gift baskets of donated items and gift cards. Last year’s baskets were worth \$150. As a thank you to participating business, the business name on the winning shopped small tickets will win \$25 in Kirksville Ca\$h. In early January, they will collect the boxes containing entries and combine all of the tickets into one big drawing. On Jan. 6, the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce will draw three Shop Small tickets and declare the Shopped Small winners.

Truman State University Art Gallery Exhibit

The following will be on display at the Truman State University Art Gallery Exhibit from Jan. 24—March 3, 2023.

Exercises in Letting Go – Nirmal Raja

Exercises in Letting Go – Nirmal Raja

explores loss through Nirmal Raja’s expansive practice, including painting, fibers, ceramics, photography, installation, and video. In part, Raja instrumentalizes objects and clothing left behind by loved ones to make work about burden, grieving, caregiving, memory, and the mystery of death and other types of loss. Raja is an interdisciplinary artist and curator based in Milwaukee.

Home/Body – Madeleine LeMieux – in the Charlyn Gallery Home/Body is a series of works that combine fibers, sculpture, and painting to explore the relationship between embodied experiences and the domestic environment that often contain them. Madeleine LeMieux is Art on the Move coordinator and instructor at the University of Missouri.

Gallery hours are: Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday Noon to 4:30 p.m. Art Gallery exhibits are free and open to the public. The art gallery is closed between exhibitions and during all Truman State University breaks. Additional information at gallery.arttruman.com The Art Gallery is located on the first floor of the Ophelia Parrish Fine Arts Center, entrance on the west side of the building.

Adair County Public Library Book Club is Back

Join the Adair County Public Library for their 2022-23 Friends of the Library Book Discussion group. Meetings will be held in the Special Collections Room at 5:30 p.m. Talk to the front desk staff if you would like to purchase these books through the library. Cost for an entire set of the books is \$72. Jan. 10, 2023: Our First Civil War by H.W. Brands; Feb. 14: Has It Come to This? By Kimberly Tilley; March 14: Booth by Karen Joy Fowler; April 11: Tied Up in Knots: My Dad and Me by Karen Knotts.

OATS Transit offers regular transportation services

OATS Transit offers regular transportation services for the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Please call the local OATS Transit office at 660-415-0901 or 800-654-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about services in your area. You can also visit their website at oatstransit.org and view the local schedule under “Bus Schedules”. Their offices will be closed, and regular routes will not be running on Monday, Dec. 26, and Monday, Jan., for the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

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673249n

COLUMN

The Christmas Question

My husband has been pelting me with the same question for weeks.

“What do you want for Christmas?”

I love him for asking. He asks every year and I know he really wants to know. It’s important for him to shop and wrap and hand me a gift on Christmas morning. And for the last 30+ years, he’s done just that.

When we were first married, I wanted so many things: gift cards for clothes, new things for the house, tickets to concerts. Our new lives together needed to be filled with items and experiences.

From the beginning, John didn’t guess at a gift. He wanted it to be something I selected. His male-patterned brain demanded that gifts be chosen with deliberation and common sense. Even frivolous gifts should be ones that are desired.

And so, each year, I gave him an answer. In the lean years, the gift I asked for was sensible and needed. Broken toasters and chipped plates were replaced with gaily wrapped gifts that made me as

happy as a diamond necklace would have.

Children were born, and Christmas took on a new perspective. Intimate holidays became raucous celebrations with mounds of presents for tiny hands to tear open. But John still asked me for my gift list.

I asked for fuzzy robes, bigger coffee mugs, and favorite books to read in the bathtub when I had a moment alone. John wrapped them meticulously and gave them to me with a holiday twinkle in his eye and a fervent desire to please.

Christmases jangled past; memories stacked atop each other like Jenga Blocks. The babies became teens and their holiday wish lists were monosyllabic utterances that included money, gift cards, and—once in a while—something we could actually wrap.

College, marriage, travel, work. Our kids scattered like snowflakes and drifted home in staccato bursts of chaos. Christmas mornings were less delightful without those clumping/running/giggling voices that charged toward the tree each year.

My own life was beginning to expand

now: with more time to myself, I began asking for things that helped fill my desire for self-expression. Craft supplies, Michaels gift cards, fancy ink pens, new notebooks.

Leaving nothing to chance, John always requested a detailed description and exact store location. I sighed at his deliberate system, but I grew to realize that he just wanted to get it right.

Christmas mornings, John and I met each other with a mutual smile and a cup of coffee at the kitchen table. And there, where he’d placed it the night before (as I pretended not to see), was my gift. He was as bursting with excitement as the kids we grew.

The grown children visited later in the day on those Christmases. Their schedules were full of obligations of adult life. We understood and waited calmly...the gifts we had wrapped for them were often silly mementos of family stories or sensible gadgets we knew they’d never buy for themselves.

During these years, I struggled to fill my own Christmas list. It seemed indulgent to want anything; John had



ROBIN GARRISON LEACH
ROBIN WRITES

worked all his life to make our home warm, safe, and secure. I didn’t NEED anything. And I really didn’t want anything tangible.

But he wanted a list. I grudgingly complied.

Grandchildren! Gifts flow now like an Amazon conveyor belt’s journey from computer click to doorstep. The wrapping is joyous—John and I relive those hectic days in our past when Christmas held joys as bright as sunlight on snow.

But once those presents are ready. Once we stack them under our smaller tree that has ornaments showcasing a lifetime of Christmases together. Once the realization that another year has blessed us with health and happiness...

John still asks. And I still tell him.

He doesn’t realize: his gift has always been the Christmas Question itself.

Contact Robin at
robinwrites@yahoo.com

COLUMN

Pearls before swine

Dud was awfully quiet all through the daily dissemination of anything on page one of the Valley Weekly Miracle, which wasn’t like him at all. Just sucked down caffeine and silently shook his head now and then.

“Anita okay, Dud?”
“Oh ... sure, Doc.”
“You okay?”

He nodded, then looked up with a wistful, philosophical look that our guys don’t usually get until after the buttered toast.

“Sometimes,” he said, “I think it’s pearls before swine, that’s all.”

We waited.

“Music, I mean. You know how you practice and practice and then you get good enough to actually do something? Well, I took the accordion and went to the accordion festival to compete ... well, you know I’m not really that bad any more...”

“You’re getting pretty darn good on that thing, Dud.”

“Thanks, Steve. Well, we drove down to the capital and I got in the competition and did okay. Placed third in polka. I played that new piece. It’s kinda hard because it has those minor bass buttons in it and it



SLIM RANGLES
HOME COUNTRY

took me forever to learn not to miss them.

“It was after that. You see, I put the accordion back in the car and we went in for a lunch they gave everyone.”

“What’s wrong with that?”

“I forgot to lock the car. We were halfway through lunch when Anita asked me if I’d locked the car and then it hit me that I might not have locked it. She insisted I run right out and check and that’s what I did. And that’s when I lost my faith in human beings.”

“Oh, Dud,” Doc said, “someone stole your accordion?”

“No, it was still there in the back seat. But someone had put two more in there with it.”

He shook his head. “Pearls before swine.”

Fans of the late Max Evans should check out Ol’ Max Evans’ letters to Jim Bob Swafford and family at Amazon.com. Jim Bob is Max’s cousin.

Agent Afield: Deer seasons are coming to a close, trout fishing at Spur Pond

The deer seasons are coming to a close and hunters experienced a great deal of success. The alternative methods portion will run from Dec. 24 through Jan. 3, 2023. During this portion of the firearms season, muzzleloaders will be predominate method of use. Deer of either sex may be taken during these dates. Running in conjunction will be the archery season closing Jan. 15, 2023. As a reminder to deer hunters, only two bucks may be harvested across these seasons. Please review the Deer and Turkey Booklet for additional details.

Trout fishing in Spur Pond is a great way to enjoy the winter season. The open water may only last for a little longer. Until Feb. 1, 2023, trout are catch and release only. No live or scent-



KEVIN POWELL
ADAIR COUNTY
CONSERVATION AGENT

ed baits may be used for any species of fish until Feb. 1. When temperatures do drop and the lakes freeze over, make sure the ice is at least four inches thick. Never go out on the ice alone and have a plan in place should an accident happen. As with all winter adventures, keep a warm dry set of clothes available and stay hydrated.

For more information, visit the Northeast Regional Office at 3500 N. Baltimore St. Kirksville, MO. To report a wildlife violation, call Operation Game Thief at 1-800-392-1111.

The angry grandmother’s ‘Twelve Banned Books of Christmas’

By Saralee Terry Woods
Missouri Independent

All y’all know I love to read, I always have and one of the joys of owning a bookstore was recommending books to customers of all ages. Once someone discovers the pleasure of escaping mentally with a great book, that wanting to read never goes away.

This grandmother is stunned to learn that some of the books that I have cherished and recommended are now banned or may soon become unavailable in our school libraries. I read many of these books before I graduated from high school, which was more than a few years ago. My experience has been that any time a book is banned or people are told they cannot read it, that book will rise in popularity. When I was younger I was told I should not read “The Book of Solomon” found in the Bible. Guess what I read next? I could not wait to read “Catcher in the Rye,” by J.D. Salinger or “Forever Amber,” by Kathleen Winsor because they were considered risqué.

In the spirit of the holiday season, instead of the Twelve Days of Christmas, I am sharing twelve of my favorite books that some want to take out of our public schools. I am also sharing why these books might make elected officials uncomfortable.

I am a big fan of books written in rhymed verse because I think they are clever and funny. Theodor “Dr. Seuss” Geisel, did this brilliantly in “How the Grinch Stole Christmas.” I wish I could write sarcastically in rhymed verse about people who do not want you to read the 12 books listed below.

“To Kill a Mockingbird,” by Harper Lee. The language is offensive just like the rape portrayed. People are

offended that a white woman was raped by a family member and offensive language is used by a character about the black man wrongly convicted. Y’all, this happens everyday.

“Little Women,” by Louisa Mae Alcott. Alcott was a feminist and a radical thinker, especially for her time. I read “Little Women” over and over again because I have three sisters, just like the main character Jo March. Some feminists today criticize Alcott because Jo married an older man, her professor. Alcott never married, and she did not want Jo, a character loosely based on Alcott, to marry. Her publisher insisted that Alcott change the ending and give the reader a happily ever after with Jo marrying the Professor. Alcott was an uppity woman who had to compromise.

“The Diary of Anne Frank,” by Anne Frank. Critics say this book is a real “downer.” The Holocaust is a horror and is a massive “downer.” For that reason we need to read this true story to be reminded that it happened not long ago. Anne Frank was a young person and her book is an example of bravery and is a powerful inspiration for those of all ages who want to be writers.

“Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You,” by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds. I read this book in one weekend and it is being banned because some do not like the historical narrative about race. Critics are ignoring the powerful hope given by “Stamped” for an anti-racist future.

“Harry Potter,” books by J.K. Rowling because they are about witchcraft. Y’all, they are fiction and millions of people have discovered the joy of reading through these books. Anyone who watches sports commentators gets my response which is “C’MON MAN!”

“New Kid,” and “Class Act,” by

Jerry Craft. These must-read award winning books are about some black students who attend a mostly white prestigious school. Craft based these books on his own life as a black student in a white private school but some do not like his style of humor. For me, they are a must read.

“The Things They Carried,” by Tim O’Brien, for being too graphic about the Vietnam War. Have you ever talked to a Vietnam veteran about what they experienced? War is horrible and we should learn about what they have sacrificed for us.

“Where’s Waldo,” by Martin Handford. I have not been able to find the partially clad person on the beach that some find offensive. Maybe since the removal of my cataracts I will have better luck.

“Where the Wild Things Are,” by Maurice Sendak. A child gets put to bed without supper and has scary dreams. This was a favorite for the pre-school classes I read to before the pandemic.

“The Kite Runner,” by Khaled Hosseini. One of the best books I have ever read about friendship but some believe it “promotes Islam.” Sigh.

“I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,” by Maya Angelou. This memoir is criticized because Angelou shares her painful story of rape. The fact is rape is ugly and painful.

“A Handmaid’s Tale,” by Margaret Atwood. Some object to this story set in the future because it is graphic about the punishment given to women who do not follow the rules. It’s always going to be hard to keep uppity women down.

Have a safe holiday season and keep on reading and remember that books make great gifts.

This commentary was originally published by the Tennessee Lookout, a States Newsroom affiliate.

Letters to the Editor Policy: The Kirksville Daily Express welcomes your letters about issues or events of general interest. Letters of 400 words or less are given preference. They may be edited for both length and clarity. Letters must be signed and include the writer’s address and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters will normally be limited to one per person per month. Letters that are unreasonable, libelous, or that deal in personalities or personal disputes will not be accepted. Letters may be sent to the Kirksville Daily Express at PO Box 809, Kirksville, MO, 63501 or by email to news@kirksvilledailyexpress.com.

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OBITUARIES

George Bernard Garner
Dec 7, 1927 — Nov 30, 2022

George Bernard Garner, 94, of Columbia, Missouri moved to heaven on November 30, 2022.

Born December 7th, 1927, in Kirksville, MO, the son of George Delbert and Jessie Iris Wilgus Garner. A graduate of LaPlata Public High School class of 1945, he went on to attend Northeast Missouri State Teachers College receiving his Bachelor of Science in Education (Chemistry Major) on August 11, 1949. He received a Master of Science in Agriculture Chemistry June 8, 1951, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Agriculture Chemistry August 2, 1957, from the University of Missouri.

He married his high school sweetheart Margaret L. Soward on May 29, 1948. They enjoyed 49 years together raising four children, Linda K. Poehlmann (John) of Columbia, MO, B. Allen Garner (Beth) of Independence, MO, Gary O. Garner (Ruth) of Poplar Bluff, MO, and Brian L. Garner of St. Charles, MO, all of whom survive him. He is survived by eight grandchildren, Anthony Poehlmann (Peg), Kimberly Poehlmann Siemons (Rich), Rachel Garner Johnson (Kevin), Kyle Garner (Maggie), Tamsyn Garner Vertrees (Clayton), and Jocelyn Garner Hoyt (Justin), George Garner, Jordan Garner, nine great grandchildren, three nieces Andrea Garner Mallett (Malcolm), Marilyn Garner Brown (Eric), and Karen Harvey, and his brother, Clark Garner (Bea) of Silver Spring, MD. He was preceded in death by his parents his wife Margaret, and Mildred Prather Garner whom he married on April 29, 2000.

Following high school graduation George spent a year in the army serving as a medical lab technician. His army service resulted in his name change from “Bernard” to “George.” He then served as a high school chemistry teacher and principal prior to enrolling at the University of Missouri. George was employed at the University of Missouri as a professor of biochemistry. He was an avid researcher focusing on fescue toxicity. During his tenure at the University, he was dually employed with Missouri Extension. His work with grasses and his academic record led to him being awarded a Fulbright Research Scholarship in 1962 to study at Massey College in New Zealand for ten months with family in tow. George was extremely proud of the many graduate students he mentored as well as the several veterinary students he assisted. For his work at the University, he was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus of Animal Sciences and Biochemistry on April 26, 1990. His connections to the University made George a Tiger for life who enjoyed his perch at the top of the football stadium for years.

While George left the family farm in Cherry Box the farm never left him as he “farmed” his ten acres on the west side of Columbia producing surplus vegetables to be given away and periodically raising steers, pigs, a horse, goats, ducks, and chickens. He was a great supporter of all things Extension, but 4-H was near to his heart. George’s faith was central to who he was. He and Margaret were charter members of Broadway Christian Church in Columbia where he remained a member until his death. He served the church faithfully as a deacon, elder, member and chair of the board, and committed contributor of his time and treasure.

Visitation on Friday, December 16 at 10:00 a.m. held at Broadway Christian Church, Columbia, Missouri with service to follow at 11:00 a.m. Graveside service at 2:00p.m. at Memorial Cemetery, Columbia, Missouri.



Experts worry expungements under Missouri marijuana law could be procedural ‘nightmare’

People on parole and probation will be the first to have records expunged of marijuana-related charges starting on Thursday. After that, the process gets much more complicated

By Rebecca Rivas
Missouri Independent

Thursday, Dec. 8 was a big day for Missouri.

It’s the day the constitutional amendment legalizing recreational marijuana use went into effect, allowing Missourians 21 or older to legally buy or possess up to three ounces of marijuana and grow up to six marijuana plants.

It’s also the day Missouri’s Department of Corrections says 565 people who are on probation or parole for felony marijuana offenses will start to have their records expunged.

Starting Dec. 8, Missouri’s constitution will require courts to vacate the sentences of people currently on probation or parole for possessing or selling three pounds or less of marijuana, barring the exceptions of DUIs and distributing to a minor.

But that’s just the beginning.

A huge selling point for those who voted for marijuana legalization, which appeared on the ballot last month as Amendment 3, was the automatic expungement provision — meaning people who have already served their sentences for past charges don’t have to petition the court and go through a hearing to expunge those charges from their records.

The courts will locate their records and make it as if their past marijuana charges never existed. All marijuana-related misdemeanors must be expunged by June 8 and felonies by Dec. 8, 2023.

“If they have that scarlet letter or that mark on their record, it puts them out of opportunities that they can get for safer housing, for better employment, for education opportunities,” said Justice Gaston, leader of the Kansas City advocacy group Reale Justice Network and who served as spokesperson for the pro-Amendment 3 campaign, called Legal Missouri.

Yet experts in expungement law say people shouldn’t set high hopes the courts will be able to meet the deadlines outlined in Amendment 3.

Here’s the main problem: What’s written in Amendment 3 doesn’t match up with how people are charged with marijuana violations under the state’s criminal code.

Misdemeanors are likely the easiest to expunge because they involve 35 grams or less (three pounds is 1,200 grams). The state doesn’t yet have an estimate on how many people will be impacted in the end. But for some context, there have been 9,000 misdemeanor charges filed statewide since Jan. 1, 2020 that resulted in convictions, according to numbers provided by a spokesperson for the Missouri Supreme Court.

Felonies will be much more tricky to expunge, legal experts say. More than 35 grams falls into felony territory, and felony possession charges lump together all types of drugs.

So a court clerk will have to manually pull up court records to see if the felony was for possession of marijuana and not, say, heroin — and if the person had under three pounds.

The courts have asked state lawmakers for a supplemental budget of \$2.5 million to pay for overtime for 500 court clerks statewide to go through these files, as well as two IT contractors and their equipment costs. But it’s unlikely that money will be appropriated for months.

Scott Pierson, a criminal defense attorney in Springfield, considers himself an “extremely optimistic person.” As a leader of a free expungement clinic in Springfield and facilitator of statewide workshops on expungement law, Pierson says he wants to see the process succeed.

“Being realistic about this is that we’re tasked with setting up a framework for recognizing something in the course of a month that has been prosecuted on different levels in different ways in the last 50 years,” Pierson said. “It sets a really high burden for the courts.”

Courts lead the way

Critics say the way the expungement provision was worded will inevitably cause confusion and delay, which could have been avoided. Even some of Amendment 3’s supporters say they would have written the provision differently, particularly relating to the short deadlines for courts to get it done.

Under Amendment 3, each circuit court is responsible for organizing this process for their own jurisdictions.

Presiding Judge Michael Stelzer of the 22nd Circuit Court in the City of St. Louis says he’s been in meetings with state court officials and his team to try to come up with a way to identify eligible cases since Amendment 3 was passed.

They also must devise a system to notify the record keepers as well as the individuals that the convictions are now expunged.

“Easier said than done,” Stelzer joked in an interview with The Independent last week.

He’s hoping to get some help from the Missouri Supreme Court and the Office of State Court Administration — including money for overtime hours and assistance navigating digitized records to get a list of eligible cases together.

“If we get a little help, I think it can be done,” he said. “Certainly, those are sort of short deadlines. We’ll do our best to comply with it.”



Amendment 3 asked voters whether to amend the Missouri Constitution to remove bans on marijuana sales, consumption and manufacturing for adults over 21 years old, with some caveats. (REBECCA RIVAS/THE MISSOURI INDEPENDENT)

The task will be much more challenging if the state legislature doesn’t appropriate the funds in an expedited manner. The supplemental budget is typically not approved by lawmakers and signed by the governor until mid-April or early May.

“We will do the best we can at that point,” he said in response to a possible delay in funding. “But there’s no denying that this is going to take quite a bit of manpower, just to identify, put in place the orders and then enter those orders.”

For fiscal year 2024, the courts have asked for \$4.54 million to pay for the temporary staff and overtime hours needed “to meet the timelines for expungement of records,” as well as for two IT contractors for one year.

Approving funds is not the only thing legislators need to do to make the process go smoothly, said state Rep. David Evans, a Republican from West Plains who serves on the State Court Automation Committee.

The specifics on the expungement process in Amendment 3, he said, are “unclear.”

“Court litigation will be necessary to iron out the ambiguities,” Evans said. “We can try and fix the issues with new legislation, but the House and Senate are limited in what we can do because Amendment 3 is a constitutional amendment and not just new legislation.”

Stephen Sokoloff, general counsel for the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services, is among the chorus of people saying that the deadline to get expungements done is “ridiculously short.”

The expungement responsibility lies on the courts’ shoulders, but he said prosecutors are hearing the rumblings that it’s going to be a “nightmare.”

“I’ve heard little bits here and there that the IT people are scrambling trying to figure out how to write some code and stuff to be able to sort some of these things,” Sokoloff said.

However, he said it’s going to require a good amount of hand reviewing the files.

Stelzer is also hoping the Department of Corrections will provide a list of people on parole or probation.

A spokesperson for the department said if courts ask for the information, it will be provided. By law, the department must have a court order to release anyone from supervision.

People who are currently incarcerated on marijuana

charges must submit a petition to have their charges expunged.

The department estimates about 27 people who are currently incarcerated in state prisons would be eligible for relief under the new law.

“That’s out of about 23,500 people currently in Missouri prisons,” a DOC spokeswoman told The Independent last week.

Under the law, their petitions must be heard and expunged by March 8, if a judge deems them eligible.

St. Louis is among the cities, along with Jackson County, that hasn’t been prosecuting low-level marijuana charges that aren’t connected to other offenses for several years. Out of the 538 people currently held in St. Louis city jails, none were eligible for release under Amendment 3, according to a city spokesperson.

‘Bright side’

While there may be delays, expungement advocates say the “bright side” is that Amendment 3 is bringing to light challenges that have long existed in the state’s current expungement process — among the biggest being the antiquated court management system.

In many of the smaller counties, the records, especially for ordinance violations, aren’t digitized.

Sydney Ragsdale, an attorney for the University of Missouri-Kansas City Expungement Clinic, has been working on a case involving a woman who had a 30-year-old marijuana charge in a smaller county.

The expungement petition process requires that they have the court record. However, the circuit court said they didn’t have any record of the case.

“She has this conviction that [Department of Corrections] is going to keep reporting, but the court can’t find her record to order it expunged,” she said. “That’s a big concern.”

The clinic was able to find a news article about the charge in an archived newspaper database, and the court finally recognized that they have the case.

“If we wouldn’t have done that, I can’t really imagine how they would have found her case and expunged it,” she said. “It’s a testament to how digitizing the records would help.”

Amendment 3 sets up “a pretty tall order” for the courts, she said, and not a lot of time to do it.

Missouri gas prices drop statewide for fifth consecutive week

By AAA

The statewide gas price average in Missouri is \$2.76 for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel, according to the AAA Missouri Weekend Gas Watch. That price is 12 cents less compared to this day last week and is 19 cents less per gallon compared to this day last year. Of the major metropolitan areas surveyed in Missouri, drivers in Cape Girardeau are paying the most on average at \$2.95

while drivers in Columbia are paying the least at \$2.54 per gallon. The national average price for a gallon of regular unleaded is \$3.19, which is 14 cents less compared to this day last week and 13 cents less than the price per gallon at this same time last year, according to AAA Gas Prices.

Gas prices in Missouri fell for the fifth consecutive week and reached a low not seen since June 2021. Prices at the pump continued to dip despite

crude oil prices rebounding on the week – a sign that falling gas prices may soon reverse direction. In the meantime, relatively cheaper gas prices are good news for the estimated 102 million Americans who will drive to their year-end holiday destination, according to AAA.

“Falling gas prices may encourage even more people to travel to celebrate the year-end holidays,” said AAA spokesperson Nick Chabarria. “To ensure maximum savings

and fuel economy, keep your vehicle’s maintenance up-to-date, shop around for the best gas prices by using the AAA mobile app and choose the grade of fuel required by your vehicle owner’s manual.”

Drivers in Missouri are paying the 4th lowest gas price average in the country, according to gasprices.aaa.com. Meanwhile, drivers in California are the paying the most at \$4.45 on average for a gallon of regular unleaded.

Prices up to date at press time using market prices posted at 3:41 a.m. Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free and revamped AAA App for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route and learn traffic conditions along that route, find discounts, locate parking, book a hotel and request and track AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at AAA.com/mobile.

EMBRACING LOCAL HISTORY PART 29 -

BARTHEBA (CAIN) COLLETT - ONE-OF-A-KIND PIONEER WOMAN AND HER KING - CHAPTER II

By Blytha Ellis, President
Adair County Historical
Society and Museum

Only days after the marriage between Asa King Collett and Bartheba “Bash” Cain came the historic discovery of gold at Sutter’s Mill in Coloma, California, on January 24, 1848. But, of course, people living in The Cabins neighborhood didn’t know about it then. By the time word reached them and other parts of the world and gold-seekers began to flood the area, it was 1849, so those prospectors were dubbed 49ers. Several men from Adair County participated in this frenzy. King Collett packed up and left his new wife of scarcely a year, telling her he planned to return with a fortune in gold, and headed for California with neighbor, William Henry Parcels, Jr.

It is not known whether King knew how to read and write, but if he did, he apparently did not use that skill as his wife, Bash, didn’t receive any letters from him. However, King was indeed busy working in the mining business in California.

Besides prospecting for gold himself, King found there was more money to be made in running a business dealing in horses, mules and wagons. He was paid in gold by the miners who needed his kind of equipment. He carefully saved his money, remembering the promise he had made to his wife to return to Missouri with a fortune in gold.

Because of King’s prudence, wisdom and level-headedness in his California location, he earned a reputation of being able to settle disputes. And, amid the greed and lawlessness of the goldfields, it was certain that many disputes arose. People came to King as an arbitrator, a mediator or “like a judge.” The longer King stayed in California, the more money he made, so it became difficult for him to call it

quits and make the long journey home. Apparently, he never questioned that Bash would be waiting for him no matter how long he stayed.

As Bash patiently or impatiently waited for his return, she did not simply pine away for him. By all accounts, she became a strong and independent woman. She raised her own livestock and garden and honed her skills in the textile arts. She was reportedly far from a helpless weakling who depended upon family and neighbors for help. She pulled her own weight and took on any challenge.

Bash was described by others as a tough, brash, hard-edged, tobacco-chewing woman who used hard language. She never let a man nor anyone else take advantage of her. In summer, it seems that Bash never had use for shoes. She preferred to do all her work barefoot. She had no qualms about conducting her summer baths outside in her yard with a tub and water carried from the river. Perhaps she figured that her few and far between neighbors would never see, but they sure did and didn’t hesitate to tell others about it. They saw her from a distance and whispered about her lack of propriety in her bathing habits. It’s probably safe to say, Bash really didn’t care if they saw or talked about her!

Bash raised and sheared her own sheep and spun the wool into yarn which she transformed into all kinds of clothing, sheets and coverlets. She became an expert weaver of rugs and carpets. She was considered a gifted artist with a loom. Her father constructed for her a separate building in which to keep her weaving and spinning equipment, and it was called her weaving house.

Despite her lack of decorum and femininity, Bash was described as a woman of great charity.



Collett home which King built for Bartheba after he returned from the goldfields

She did not live to herself but was always willing to help others. She served the community as a midwife, delivering the babies of her neighbors and relatives, while yet waiting for her husband to return so she could have babies of her own.

As the years rolled on and Bash’s husband did not return, she began to believe he was dead. More people moved into the community, and life changed at The Cabins. Bartheba’s father, John Cain, died in 1856, and her mother, Emily Cain, in 1860. They were buried in the Cain-Collett Cemetery a short distance from Bartheba’s home. Her younger brother, George Washington Cain (1833-1910), married in 1860, and took over as master of their father’s farm and the large Cain house which had the spring water running directly into the basement. Still, there was no King!

Bash had now been living as a single woman in Northern Missouri for over 10 years, with a husband some 1,800 miles away — if he were even still living! There was no way of knowing. Bash began to refer to her absent husband with the nickname “Bunker” which in slang meant a truant, a person playing hooky or someone who was goofing off.

Life was passing Bash by. All her best years had just slipped away while waiting for Bunker! She finally gave up on him and decided to move on. She began seeing another man in the community, and

they made plans to wed.

It was about May of 1861 when Bash was out doing her usual chores at her home where she had now lived for 13 years, and 12 of those without a husband, when a dirty, scruffy-looking, bewhiskered traveler came riding up in her yard. Anticipating what he might ask, Bash firmly stated that she didn’t keep strangers at her house!

Then, the intruder called her name! Bash knew him by his voice! It was her long-lost husband, King Collett! Bash couldn’t decide whether to be happy to see him or furious because he had stayed away for 12 years without a word!

Of course, King had a decade of stories to tell, not the least of which was that he had 40 pounds of gold arriving any day by Pony Express! Needless to say, Bash decided to keep her “Bunker” and let the other “intended” man go.

King immediately began work on a brand-new, two-story house for his wife, designed much in the same style as her father’s home. This house was built on a hill overlooking a spectacular view of the Chariton River Valley. To the southeast of the home was their original cottage where Bash had spent so many years by herself. Also to the south of the new house were the remnants of old Fort Clark built during the Black Hawk War days, as previously discussed.

King also built his wife a detached summer kitchen, a great luxury in those days. A summer kitchen



was used for summer cooking and particularly canning of vegetables and fruits for the winter as this required a very hot fire. When this was done in the main house, the heat was often unbearable. Before the invention of electric fans and air conditioning, a summer kitchen was made to be opened up so that air could flow freely through it.

Summer kitchens also allowed for the various aromas of cooking, soap making, laundry, burning wood and smoke to be kept from the main house. A detached kitchen also kept the threat of fire away from the main structure.

As a source of income other than farming, Bunker and Bash established Camp Collett on a portion of their property near the Chariton River. There, city folks and their children could “rough it” in large, homemade tents for a weekend and participate in hunting, fishing, picnicking and games. At the Adair County Historical Society Museum, there are vintage photos of Camp Collett and some of these campers. These photos also show the older Bunker and the barefooted Bash sitting in rocking chairs also enjoying Camp Collett.

Bash finally got a child of her own the next year after Bunker came home. Ira Robertson Collett was born February 12, 1862. He would be their only child. When grown, Ira Collett married Miss Emma Grim, daughter of residents who moved to Adair County in 1864. Emma had two brothers who became very well known in the Kirksville area. They were Edward and Ezra Grim, physicians who founded Grim

Smith Hospital and the Grim Building. The latter was their original medical clinic, and it still stands as an historic structure of exquisite architecture in the 100 block of East Washington Street in Kirksville. The original Grim-Smith Hospital was added onto and the old section torn down. It is now owned by Truman State University.

In 1899, a schoolhouse was built in The Cabins area. Ira Collett was chairman of the local school board, and it was left to him to name the school. A friend suggested he name it Bunker Hill after his father’s nickname, and this is what he did.

Because of King’s nickname, the community around the Collett farm was no longer referred to as The Cabins but became known as Bunker Hill Colony.

Bash died in 1897 and her King in 1898. Both are buried at the Cain-Collett Cemetery, as are Ira and his wife Emma. Gordon Collett, a great-grandson of Bash and King, later lived in the new home that King built for his wife after he returned from the goldfields. In 1966, Gordon donated several of King and Bash Collett’s personal items and Bash’s textile creations to the Friends of Arrow Rock in Saline County, Missouri. These are displayed in the Caleb Bingham house in Arrow Rock State Park. Some of these items are 10 handmade wool coverlets and sheets, Bash’s spinning wheel and King’s gold-headed cane. Unfortunately, the large Collett home has been torn down.

(Next time: Creation of Adair County)

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TURNING THE PAGE: This Week in Local History

By Larry Evans

110 Years Ago, Dec. 13, 1912

Under provisions of a law passed by Congress, the Sherwood Act, all Civil War veterans were to receive a pension, and those who previously received pensions were to get an increased amount. The old pension law took into consideration only the veteran’s disability, while the new law considered both his disability and his age. The new law provided that when a veteran reached the age of 75 years he got a dollar a day from the government for the remainder of his life.

105 Years Ago, Dec. 12, 1917

Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, founder of osteopathic medicine, died at his home in Kirksville following a stroke. “The Old Doctor,” as he was affectionately known, was in his usual good health the day before his death. Still was Kirksville’s most noted citizen and had done more than any other person to make the town widely known. Most Kirksville businesses and all schools in town were to close for Dr. Still’s funeral which was held at his residence on South Osteopathy Street in Kirksville. Burial was in the Forest-Llewellyn Cemetery.

90 Years Ago, Dec. 14, 1932

After a special meeting, the Adair County Court an-

nounced a move to trim costs in county government. Presiding Judge, Ray Bennett, stated that five telephones were ordered taken out of the courthouse. The price the county paid for scalps of young and old wolves would also be reduced. Bennett estimated these reductions would result in a savings of approximately \$200 annually for the county. Telephones were to be removed from the offices of the county collector, recorder, assessor, treasurer, and an extension phone in the office of the county clerk. Wolf bounties would be reduced from \$10 to \$2.50 on old wolves and from \$3 to fifty cents on young wolves. Landowners in the county were complaining about the high real estate taxes that they were paying. The county court was sympathetic to the grievance of the landowners and voted to seek a 30 percent reduction in land assessments in the county which contributed to the need to cut costs. The assessment request was subject to the approval of the state tax commission.

80 Years Ago, Dec. 15, 1942

One year and a week after December 7, 1941, the day Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese, the Civilian Defense Corps (CDC) conducted its first blackout drill in Adair County. The total blackout took

place from 10 to 10:30 p.m. and was termed a success by Dr. Walter H. Ryle, commander of the local CDC. The purpose of the blackout drill was to make the civilian population aware of what it would be like in case a bomb was dropped in the area. The entire state of Missouri and eight other central plains states in the Seventh Defense Region participated in the drill. While the test was termed a success, it was not 100 percent effective. According to the two CDC pilots who flew over Kirksville and Adair County and evaluated the drill during the blackout: “It was a good practice and showed a willingness on the part of the people to cooperate in defense work but was far from effective in case of a real air raid.” The evaluators said there were not more than twelve lights visible at any one time during the half-hour blackout, but they could clearly determine the city limits of Kirksville and would serve well to show a bomber where to drop a bomb. The two most noticeable violations were a car that drove halfway across Kirksville with its lights on and the illuminated letter “D” in the window of the Owl Drug Store.

65 Years Ago, Dec. 11, 1957

The Warren J. Kellogg Estate was sold by court order to settle the partition suits

of the remaining heirs of Mr. Kellogg. The “Kellogg Place” as it was known sold for \$425 an acre for a total of \$27,800. The high bidder for the 65 plus acre tract and the residence located at the northeast edge of Kirksville was McHenry and Gash. Sanford Gash, one of the new owners of the property said that he and McHenry had no plans for the property, but it “might possibly become a residential development.” The city of Kirksville was the high bidder for the three plus acres between the swimming pool and the highway. They paid \$1,960 for the piece of property. The property that McHenry and Gash purchased became Kellwood Hills residential area and was developed in the early 1960s.

65 Years Ago, Dec. 16, 1957

The Missouri State Highway Patrol began a crackdown on drag racing in Adair County. The patrol made their first two arrests for drag racing as two young Kirksville men were caught in the act of dragging on Route D north of Hartsell’s Supper Club. The men were charged with careless and reckless driving involving speed. One of the men did not have a drivers’ license. The two appeared in magistrate court and were fined \$50 each. One of the men could not pay the fine and was returned to



jail to serve a 30-day sentence. Sgt. F. L. Staggs, highway patrolman, said that many complaints were received by his office from farmers who lived in the area of Route D northwest of Kirksville saying they were afraid to drive on the highway. Some reported they had been run off the road by draggers. According to Staggs Route D was not the only place attractive for dragging. He said that the two-lane pavement vacated south of town when the four-lane Highway 63 opened created a favorite strip for dragging. Staggs continued, saying that the patrol was aware of a lot of drag racing going on in the county by young high school age drivers and warned that these favorite spots as well as others would be closely watched by patrol officers.

© 2022 by Larry Evans

The Kellogg mansion was built about 1877 by Kirksville businessman John Smith. The spacious rooms included a living room, parlor, dining room, several bedrooms, kitchen, and buttry. A spiral, solid walnut staircase extended to the third floor. The house was torn down after it was purchased by Kirksville developers, McHenry and Gash in 1957. The house was located at what is now 1 Center Drive in Kellwood Hills.

Ho-ho-hold the holiday decorations

By University of Missouri Extension

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Procrastinators win the prize in the “Safest Holiday Decorations” category.

“In days of old, people rarely brought holiday greenery into the home before Christmas Eve,” says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein. Doing so was considered bad luck for the coming year.

Today, the holiday season begins with Thanksgiving and lasts through New Year’s Day or after. Greenery and other cut plant material is brought in a month or more before Christmas

Day. This extended season results in potential fire hazards and exposes children and animals to risk of poisoning from plants that might be toxic.

Buy local

If you decide to ring the holiday chimes early, go local. Really local, said Trinklein, such as your own backyard.

“When it comes to greenery, freshness is important,” said Trinklein. “Aged, dry material becomes a fire hazard in the home.” Relatively fresh greenery might be available from local retail outlets, but the freshest greenery comes from one’s own landscape, he said.

Rehydrate

After buying or gathering, place greenery in water-filled containers. Re-cut the ends of purchased greenery before placing in water. Keep in a cool place until you are ready to decorate. Keep cold, unfrozen water available to the plants. Add preservatives such as those used in cut flowers to keep greenery fresh. Change water with preservatives weekly, as the water will smell foul if left too long.

Avoid heat

Trinklein warned against placing fresh greenery near radiators, appliances and other heat sources. Sparks

from flames in a fireplace also can ignite greenery.

Not ‘berry’ good

Keep in mind that some holiday decorations are toxic, especially to children and animals. Red berries on holly can cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhea if ingested. The bright colors appeal to curious children. Trinklein said it is wise to keep holly away from children; place it in an area where fallen berries are out of reach.

Oh, ‘yew’ shouldn’t have!

The branches of common evergreen yew shrubs are often used in holiday decorations. The leaves, bark and seeds of yew are considered toxic.



Its small, red fruit might be attractive to children. While the pulp of the fruit is harmless, the seeds, if chewed, can be toxic.

Use mistletoe with extreme care. Both American and European types

are highly toxic. Trinklein says that it is probably best to use artificial mistletoe to decorate. If using fresh mistletoe, wrap it in plastic so its leaves and berries cannot fall to the floor.



Online Master Gardener training begins Jan. 15

By David Trinklein
University of Missouri Extension

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Gardening is an activity with many rewards, says David Trinklein, state horticulture specialist for University of Missouri Extension.

“One of them is the satisfaction of sharing your plant knowledge with others. The Master Gardener program was initiated to do just that,” Trinklein said. Its motto, “helping others learn to grow,” emphasizes service to others as the program’s main objective, he said.

A new session of online Missouri Master Gardener core training begins Jan. 15, 2023. Trinklein and MU Extension horticulture spe-

cialist Sarah Denkler teach the 14 online classes. “These classes represent a viable option for people who can’t take the weekly classes in person,” Trinklein said.

Classes are delivered through the Canvas learning management system as a series of scripted and narrated presentations. Students work at their own pace. A composite score of 70% on chapter quizzes is needed to pass the course.

Topics include basic botany, soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening, fruit production, insects and diseases, and pesticide safety.

Subjects covered include basic botany, soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening, fruit production, insects and diseases, land-

scaping, turf management and pesticide safety.

Core training is the first step toward certification as an MU Extension Master Gardener. Trainees must also complete at least 30 hours of volunteer service, Trinklein said. Local Master Gardener coordinators can help online trainees find volunteer opportunities to meet the service hour requirements.

“There are Master Gardener programs in every state of the union and in most provinces of Canada,” Trinklein said.

Registration for the spring 2023 online session closes Jan. 14., 2023.

For details and registration, go to mg.missouri.edu.



Make these lifestyle changes to boost savings in the new year

By Take Charge America

PHOENIX — Americans have been wrestling with inflationary pressures all year. As the New Year approaches, millions of individuals and families have set resolutions to save more money.

“Looking to boost your savings is a worthy goal. But to make it work, you have to take small steps that add up to big change over time,” said Amy Maliga, financial educator with Take Charge America, a nonprofit credit counseling and debt management agency. “By exploring a few small changes in your day-to-day life, you can curb spending and put more money in your savings throughout 2023.”

Maliga explains several changes with a financial impact:

Start living on a budget. When you have a clear picture of your income and expenses, you can make any needed changes to prioritize or improve your savings. Use paper and pencil, a spreadsheet or one of numerous apps like PocketGuard or Mvelopes to track your spending. Try for 30 days to get a sense of where you can save.

Deposit cash-back rewards. If you have a cash-back credit card, deposit your rewards directly into your savings account. This way, every time you use your card, you’ll automatically add to your savings. Just be sure to pay off your card balance on time every month.

Upgrade your bank account. If your existing savings account isn’t yielding much interest, shop around for an account with a better rate. A high-

er rate can help you reach your savings goals more quickly. Paying too many fees for your checking account? Research free checking account options that can help you save even more.

Declutter your email. Tempted by too many emails from your favorite retailers? Go through and unsubscribe to eliminate the temptation. Do it manually or use email decluttering services like Unroll.Me and Clean Email to unsubscribe from unwanted emails quickly and easily.

Compare prices. Spending a few minutes to compare prices can save you money in the long term. Use apps like ShopSavvy or BuyVia when out shopping to scan barcodes and find the best price. When shopping online, install browser extensions like Honey and InvisibleHand that alert you of a lower price for an item you’re about to buy. They also find sales and promo codes to ensure you’re getting the best deal.

For additional money-saving resources, explore Take Charge America’s Budget Tools.

About Take Charge America, Inc.

Founded in 1987, Take Charge America, Inc. is a nonprofit agency offering financial education and counseling services including credit counseling, debt management, housing counseling and bankruptcy counseling. It has helped more than two million consumers nationwide manage their personal finances and debts. To learn more, visit takechargeamerica.org or call (888) 822-9193.

Mistletoe: Menacing plant with an intriguing past

By University of Missouri Extension

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Of all the plants used in holiday decor, few match mistletoe’s interesting history. And few equal its potential for harm

An evergreen plant with white berries, mistletoe is quite toxic, said David Trinklein, horticulture state specialist for University of Missouri Extension.

American mistletoe (*Phoradendron leucarpum*) contains a toxic protein in its leaves and branches. However, mistletoe harvested in the U.S. isn’t as toxic as European mistletoe (*Viscum album*), Trinklein said. The latter contains a mixture of toxic proteins in all parts of the plant, including its berries.

Unfortunately, mistletoe isn’t usually labeled “American” or “European,” and only a trained botanist would be able to identify the difference, he said. In either case, if the plant accidentally is ingested it would be wise to seek immediate medical attention.

Trinklein said the safest choice would be to use artificial mistletoe made from fabric or plastic.

Mistletoe is a hemiparasite, which means it derives some of its food from its host—most often a tree—while carrying on photosynthesis to make the remainder of its food, he said.

Mistletoe’s mysterious powers go back to ancient times

So, how did a toxic, hemiparasitic plant like mistletoe become a part of Christmas? “From the standpoint of human usage, mistletoe has a long and interesting history dating back to ancient times,” Trinklein said.

“The use of mistletoe around the holidays dates back to pre-Christian times, when it was used by Druids in rituals associated with the winter solstice,” he said. “After being harvested by Druid priests with a golden sickle, people placed it over their door as a means of warding off evil in the coming year.”

A cure for war on the battlefield and at home

Where did kissing under the mistletoe begin?

“Various theories exist,” Trinklein said. “In Scandinavia, it was considered a plant of peace under which enemies could declare a truce. Accordingly, mistletoe of-



fered a way for warring spouses to kiss and make up. Each time a kiss was exchanged under the mistletoe, a berry had to be plucked. Once all the berries were gone, the plant lost its magic.”

“Dung on a twig” in a former life

What about the name? The word mistletoe, comes from two Anglo-Saxon words that, literally interpreted, mean “dung on a twig,” Trinklein said. This less than romantic name originated after people observed that mistletoe tended to take root on tree limbs where birds left their droppings.

Many might consider stealing a kiss under mistletoe to be socially and hygienically questionable. “Omitting it from holiday décor probably would be prudent,” he said.

But for those who insist on following tradition, give real mistletoe the heave-ho-ho-ho and use artificial mistletoe instead.

AccuWeather

Better forecasts, better decisions.

70°

62°

73°

Today's Details

7-DAY FORECAST FOR KIRKSVILLE

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy and breezy

HIGH: 28

POP: 5%

SAT. NIGHT

Clear

LOW: 12

POP: 0%

SUNDAY

Plenty of sun

32 19

POP: 0%

MONDAY

Mostly cloudy with a bit of snow

35 16

POP: 50%

TUESDAY

Cloudy and colder

25 5

POP: 0%

WEDNESDAY

Cloudy and cold with a bit of snow and ice

21 7

POP: 85%

THURSDAY

Cloudy and colder with a bit of snow

10 -9

POP: 55%

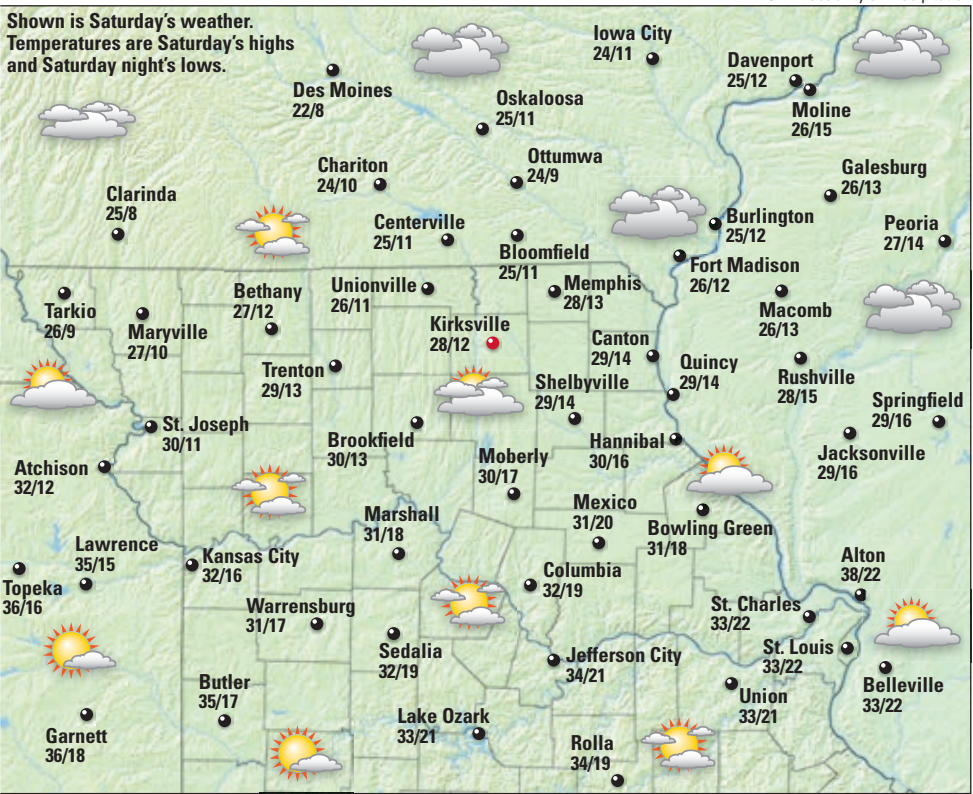
FRIDAY

Sunshine, but cold

4 -1

POP: 0%

POP: Probability of Precipitation



Conditions Saturday

UV Index & RealFeel Temperature®

0

1

1

1

0

0

2 5 6 10 12 11

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

The higher the **AccuWeather.com UV Index™** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2: Low; 3-5: Moderate; 6-7: High; 8-10: Very High; 11+: Extreme. The patented **AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature** is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors.

Comfort Index™

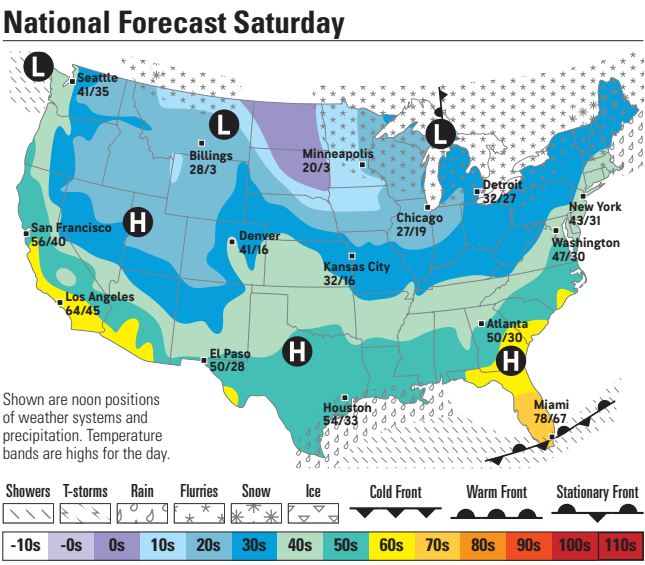
0

A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

Outdoor Activity Forecast

1

Ratings: 0-2: Poor; 3-4: Fair; 5-6: Good; 7-8: Very Good; 9-10: Excellent.



Almanac

Kirksville through Thursday

Temperature

High/low.....33/29

Normal high/low39/21

Record high59 in 2008

Record low-15 in 1989

Precipitation

Thursday.....0.00"

Past week's total1.24"

Month to date1.24"

Normal month to date.....0.96"

Year to date.....30.71"

Normal year to date.....41.65"

Winds

Average direction.....WSW

Average speed14.3 mph

Highest speed22 mph

Thursday's Temperatures

Midnight - Midnight

High 33

Low 29

Last Week's Temperatures

Actual and normal highs/lows

	F	S	Su	M	T	W	Th
High	44	39	39	36	47	49	33
Low	34	34	27	27	36	33	29

The Region

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Branson	38/23/s	48/31/pc
Burlington, IA	25/12/c	27/17/s
Cape Girardeau	40/21/pc	39/24/s
Carbondale	36/21/pc	39/22/s
Cedar Rapids	22/8/c	21/10/s
Champaign	27/17/c	30/18/s
Chicago	27/19/sf	27/16/pc
Columbia	32/19/pc	38/26/s
Danville	28/18/c	30/19/s
Davenport	25/12/c	24/13/s
Decatur	28/17/c	30/19/s
Des Moines	22/8/c	25/15/s
Evansville	35/22/pc	36/23/s
Galesburg	26/13/c	26/13/s
Green Bay	28/17/sf	22/6/c
Indianapolis	29/19/c	30/21/s
Iowa City	24/11/c	24/11/s
Jefferson City	34/21/pc	39/25/s
Joliet	27/17/c	27/15/pc
Kansas City	32/16/pc	39/28/s
Lafayette, IN	29/20/c	31/20/s
Lincoln	28/17/c	29/19/s
Madison	30/17/pc	34/21/s
Milwaukee	31/20/sf	23/14/pc
Omaha	23/7/c	29/19/s
Ottumwa	24/9/c	26/16/s
Peoria	27/14/c	27/17/s
Rockford	26/15/c	24/12/pc
St. Louis	33/22/pc	39/26/s
Springfield, IL	29/16/c	31/19/s
Springfield, MO	35/21/s	45/30/s
Topeka	36/16/s	46/31/pc
Wichita	42/19/s	46/34/pc

Weather (W): s=sunny, pc=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, r=rain, sf=snow flurries, sn=snow, i=ice

River Stages

(in feet)	Flood Stage	Thu. 7 a.m.	24-hr +/-
Chariton River			
Chariton	19.5	8.50	+2.70
Rathbun Tail	--	2.18	-0.02
Moulton	36	22.10	+3.50
Novinger	20	2.38	+1.95
Prairie Hill	15	1.74	+0.19
South Fork Chariton River			
Promise City	25	4.90	-0.30
Mississippi River			
Keokuk	16	4.14	-0.31
Quincy	19	11.58	-0.19
Quincy Lock & Dam	18	3.81	-0.34

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2022

The Nation

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Albany, NY	38/19/sf	33/26/pc
Albuquerque	37/22/s	39/23/c
Anchorage	0/-6/s	5/-9/s
Atlanta	50/30/c	49/29/s
Baltimore	45/28/s	39/28/pc
Billings	28/3/pc	8/-2/c
Birmingham	51/28/c	48/28/s
Boise	24/9/pc	22/9/pc
Boston	44/31/sf	41/31/pc
Buffalo	33/27/sf	32/27/sf
Charleston, SC	61/39/s	56/31/s
Charleston, WV	38/25/c	34/21/pc
Charlotte	52/29/pc	48/27/s
Cleveland	31/25/sf	30/24/sf
Columbia	54/32/c	52/26/s
Columbus	33/22/c	33/21/c
Dallas	53/32/pc	54/42/pc
Denver	41/16/pc	39/12/pc
Detroit	32/27/sf	32/24/c
Fargo	11/-4/sf	4/-10/c
Grand Rapids	31/26/sf	31/22/sf
Hartford	42/24/sf	38/27/pc
Honolulu	82/67/sh	81/70/sh
Houston	54/33/c	57/43/pc
Jackson, MS	53/29/pc	50/31/s
Jacksonville	67/44/pc	59/34/s
Las Vegas	49/33/pc	52/32/s
Little Rock	47/25/s	48/17/sh
Los Angeles	64/45/pc	65/43/s
Louisville	37/24/pc	36/25/s
Memphis	44/26/s	45/33/s
Miami	78/67/sh	76/63/pc
Minneapolis	20/3/sf	11/1/c
Nashville	44/26/pc	43/27/s
New Orleans	51/41/r	53/43/s
New York City	43/32/s	40/33/pc
Norfolk	52/34/s	43/30/pc
Oklahoma City	46/26/s	50/36/c
Orlando	72/52/sh	65/43/pc
Philadelphia	43/30/s	39/29/pc
Phoenix	61/46/pc	60/39/pc
Pittsburgh	32/24/c	29/21/sf
Portland, ME	36/26/c	38/25/c
Portland, OR	41/36/c	42/33/c
Rapid City	25/-6/c	6/-9/c
Sacramento	52/32/s	51/35/s
Salt Lake City	29/16/pc	30/19/s
San Diego	64/46/c	62/44/s
San Francisco	56/40/s	54/42/s
Seattle	41/35/c	41/26/c
Shreveport	55/31/pc	57/39/pc
Tampa	73/54/sh	67/47/pc
Tucson	63/45/pc	59/36/pc
Tulsa	44/24/s	51/35/pc
Washington, DC	47/30/s	42/29/s

Time has opened wounds instead of healing them

DEAR ABBY: We moved from Indiana to Florida 30 years ago. Ten years later, I moved back for a job, but returned to Florida after 9/11. I recently received a letter from a friend telling me that I hadn't visited Indiana in 14 years.

This friend, who has been in a long-standing relationship for 40 years, visited us once in Florida 28 years ago. He surprised us by coordinating a liaison during that visit with an old boyfriend -- who slept over. It was very awkward. This friend hasn't visited us here again, but did travel to Miami. We drove eight hours round-trip to see him and his partner. He considered this "visiting us."

I know from others that he and his partner have come down to Florida often over the past 30 years without calling or seeing us. I was also close to



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

his sisters when we lived in Indiana, but only one visited us -- 26 years ago -- and never again. Another sister has a condo an hour south of us and has never contacted us despite visiting her condo at least once a year.

Have I missed something? The sisters don't communicate with me. Why must I be the traveler? Why can't they call when they visit the area? Should I include this in my letters to my friend, which are frequent? He guilted me in his last letter. How should I word my

response? I feel a need to say something, but I want the words to be right. -- **ONE-SIDED IN FLORIDA**

DEAR ONE-SIDED: You and this person are pen pals, nothing more. If you enjoy the correspondence, ignore the attempt at a guilt trip if that's what the comment was intended to be. You and his sisters are acquaintances, not friends. Their lack of communication with you should have sent that message. I cannot understand why you should chase after them. Stop nursing grievances. Concentrate on the people in your life who actually reciprocate your friendship and you will be much happier.

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 www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD...

Questionable Judgments

-- A 72-year-old woman was arrested on Nov. 29 in Berlin after she allegedly turned off her hospital roommate's ventilator -- twice! -- because the sound of it was annoying her, The Washington Post reported. After the first incident, police said, the woman was told the machine was necessary to keep the roommate alive, but she switched it off again later in the evening. The other patient had to be revived, although she is expected to recover. The suspect was charged with suspicion of attempted manslaughter.

-- On Dec. 5, as Hassan Chokr, 35, appeared virtually from jail for a hearing in Wayne County, Michigan, he became frustrated with Judge Regina Thomas and started yelling and pointing at the camera, Fox News reported. Thomas asked for his microphone to be muted, and things escalated: "I want the record to reflect that ... now he has removed his pants to show the court his backside," Thomas said. "I don't know why anyone would think it is appropriate to pull down his pants and show the court their behind during

a court proceeding." Chokr's attorney agreed with Thomas that a mental health evaluation "probably would be a good thing" and said Chokr was just exercising his right to free speech. Thomas wasn't buying it, though: "We don't get to do and say anything we want to without the consequences of those actions," she said. "That's where your client finds himself today."

Bad Behavior

Five-year Chicago police veteran Henry Capouch, 30, was arrested for battery and disorderly conduct on Dec. 5 in St. Petersburg, Florida, where he was vacationing, The Smoking Gun reported. According to officers, Capouch was discovered around 12:30 a.m. by an employee of Jimmy B's Beach Bar as he was "urinating) on the ice in the machine." The worker told Capouch to stop, but instead he shoved both him and a security guard. Police said Capouch actively resisted and did not obey commands while being arrested. They said he showed an "indication of alcohol influence."

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Local boys, girls basketball teams finding mixed results so far

By Adam Tumino
Daily Express

The holiday break is nearing for the local boys and girls varsity basketball teams, and several teams on each side have gotten off to strong starts, while others may not have as many wins to this point.

BOYS BASKETBALL

On the boys side, Kirksville got off to a 4-1 start and won three games in a row to reach that record. The Tigers averaged 63.2 points per game and allowed 50.2 points per game in those first five games, with a season-high 83 points scored in a road win over Mexico on Dec. 13. Six local teams got off to 6-1 starts this season, and five still held those records as of Dec. 15. Atlanta is one of those teams. The Hornets started 3-0 before suffering their first loss, and then won their next

three games. They are averaging 65.6 points per game this season, the fourth most among local teams. They rank second defensively among local teams, allowing just 41.9 points per game. Atlanta's only loss in the first seven games came to Green City, which is also 6-1. The Gophers had won their first six games before Atlanta returned the favor on Dec. 13, beating Green City 77-70. Green City ranks first among local teams in both offense and defense, averaging 74.7 points per game and allowing 40.4 points per game. The third team to start 6-1 is Macon. The Tigers won their first five games of the season and a loss to Salisbury on Dec. 10 is the only blemish on their record so far. Macon is averaging 64.3 points per game and allowing 48.9. Milan won four games in a row to get to its 6-1 record. The



ERIC VICCARO | MOBERLY MONITOR-INDEX

Wildcat offense has not been particularly high scoring, ranking eighth locally with 54.4 points per game. They are allowing just 45.1 points per game, ranking third, which has helped them get off to such a solid start. Schuyler County is the only team to beat Milan this season. The Rams are the fifth local team that had a 6-1 record to start the season. Schuyler County has the single highest-scor-

ing game of the season among local teams with a 106-25 victory over a winless Marceline team on Dec. 15. The Rams defense has also been strong, allowing 46 points per game. Putnam County had a 6-1 start as well, but a loss against Gallatin on Dec. 13 dropped the Midgets to 6-2. They were the only team to beat Schuyler County in the Rams' first seven games. Putnam County is getting by with offensive production, scoring 66.8 points per game, which helps considering their defense has allowed 62.5 points per game in their first eight games, the second-highest average among local teams. La Plata started the season slowly, losing the first three games of the season. The Bulldogs' opponents in those three games have a combined record of 21-3. La Plata flipped the script over the next three games, winning all three. They are averaging 40.2 points per game and allowing 51.2 points per game. During their three-game winning streak, however, they are averaging 53.3 points per game and allowing 34.7 points per game. Brashear also has three wins to open the season. The Tigers went 3-4 in their first seven games. They have had two of their games decided by a sin-

gle possession, and lost both. Their averages have also been very close this season, scoring 55.9 points per game and allowing 56 points per game. Knox County started the season 2-5, with four of those five losses coming against teams with winning records so far this season. They are scoring 50 points per game while allowing 58.9 points per game. Scotland County lost its first five games of the season, four of which came against teams with winning records. The Tigers broke through in game six, beating Highland 63-60 on Dec. 12. They are scoring 46.5 points per game this season and allowing 62.3. Their scoring has been better of late as they are averaging 58 points per game over their last three. Novinger also has just one win so far this season. The Wildcats are 1-7 as a result of a tough start to the season. Six of their losses have come against teams with winning records. Their lone loss to a losing team was by just three points. Their win was also a close game, a 64-62 victory over Brashear on Nov. 29. Novinger is scoring 49.8 points per game so far while allowing 65.3 points per game.

See **RESULTS**, Page B3

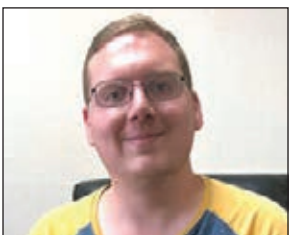


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COLUMN

Being a Chicago baseball fan is a frustrating existence

Baseball free agency should be a fun time of the year for baseball fans. This season has been fun for fans of several teams, but for the fans of the Chicago Cubs and Chicago White Sox, there is only pain. The Cubs have been going through an unnecessary rebuilding period over the last several seasons, with nearly all of the team's most marketable and successful stars from the last six or so years being traded or otherwise removed from the team during that rebuild. Kris Bryant, Kyle Schwarber, Anthony Rizzo, Javier Baez and Willson Contreras are no longer Cubs, and



ADAM TUMINO
DAILY EXPRESS SPORTS

the team has not really been bringing in players to fill those spots. The Cubs were bad overall last season, but played rather well in the second half of the season. They seemed poised to make some big moves and add to this team, perhaps making a run at the St. Louis Cardinals for the NL Central division, which outside of the Cardinals is pretty weak. With expanded play-offs in place as well, the

Cubs should be able to make the postseason with just a few additions. They did make a couple of intriguing signings, bringing on pitcher Jameson Taillon and outfielder Cody Bellinger. Bellinger's signing is particularly interesting. The 27-year-old has struggled mightily over the last two seasons, but won the NL MVP award just four seasons ago. He posted an OPS+ of 167 in 2019 and had a WAR of 8.6. His WAR has been just a 1.2 in the three seasons since. But if he is able to regain some of his MVP form, Bellinger could be a very good player for the Cubs, especially if he chooses to re-sign after his one-year, \$12.5 million deal is up.

The Cubs still needed to add one of the marquee shortstops on the market if they wanted to truly prove their willingness to compete next season. But Trea Turner, Carlos Correa and Xander Bogaerts all signed elsewhere, and if the Cubs are unable to bring on Dansby Swanson, the offseason should be seen as a failure. Perhaps even more frustrating than the Cubs lack of spending has been the White Sox complete disappearance from the free agency market. Their only signing that is even slightly noteworthy was their one-year deal given to pitcher Mike Clevinger. They have been outspent by lowly teams like the Washington Nationals and Pittsburgh Pirates.

The White Sox should be eager to make additions, coming off one of most disappointing seasons in recent memory in 2022 and mercifully moving on from manager Tony La Russa after the season. Now the Sox have a new manager in Pedro Grifol, and considering they play in the worst division in baseball, it would seem like an opportune time to add to a talented but deeply flawed roster. Unfortunately, this lack of spending is nothing new. The White Sox biggest free agent deal over the last 10 off-seasons was a four-year, \$73 million deal to catcher Yasmani Grandal in 2020. Grandal was an absolute disaster in 2022, posting an OPS of just .570 and a WAR of -1.4.

Their biggest deals in the two off-seasons since were to relief pitchers for a combined value of \$78 million. Why do the Cubs and White Sox seem to be refusing to spend money? They are both located in one of the largest media markets in the country. Even smaller market teams are capable of spending big money, and many have already this off-season. It all comes down to the ownership; the Ricketts family for the Cubs and Jerry Reinsdorf for the White Sox. If these owners are unwilling to spend money in free agency, they need to sell the teams to someone who is. Why own a professional sports team if you do not want to compete?



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Chiefs can clinch AFC West title with win over Texans

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — The only thing standing between the Kansas City Chiefs and their seventh straight AFC West title are the lowly Houston Texans.

But the Chiefs know better than to overlook the one-win Texans, especially after they nearly pulled off a huge upset over Dallas last week.

“They played a great team with the Cowboys, and they were down there where they probably should’ve won,” Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes said. “In this league, you can take no one for granted. Those are NFL players. They have a lot of talented, young guys that play hard.

“We understand it’s going to be a great challenge for us, so we’re going to go out there and play our best football to win.”

The Chiefs (10-3) have won six of their last seven games. Meanwhile, the Texans (1-11-1) need a win to avoid losing nine straight for the first time since dropping the final 14 games of the 2013 season.

After dealing with Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott last week, Houston coach Lovie Smith knows his team faces another huge challenge this week in Mahomes, who leads the NFL in yards passing (4,160) and touchdowns (33).

“He can just do it all, and he’s got a history in the league now of that,” Smith said. “When you have a player like that, it makes everyone look better.”

The Texans returned to Davis Mills at quarterback last week after benching him for two games. But instead of only relying on him to run the offense, Houston used a two-quarterback system with Jeff Driskel taking some of the snaps.

Smith wouldn’t say if they plan to use the same plan at quarterback this week, but Mills said he liked how it worked against Dallas.

“We felt good about it,” he said. “Obviously, both of us have the mindset of whatever we can do to help the team win games. That’s what we’re doing. If (we) use the both-quarterback system, we’re trying to move the ball and score touchdowns. That’s our main focus.”



Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes talks during a news conference after an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos, Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022, in Denver. AP PHOTO/DAVID ZALUBOWSKI

REINFORCEMENTS COMING

The Chiefs could have wide receiver Kadarius Toney back this week after missing most of the past four games with a hamstring injury. They also hope to add Mecole Hardman, who recently came off injured reserve for an abdominal issue, though it’s possible he is another week or two away.

“If you add speed to any offense that those two guys have,” Mahomes said, “it really opens up everybody else, because you have to account for those two guys one very play.”

PIERCE’S INJURY

The Texans could be without star rookie running back Dameon Pierce after he injured an ankle last Sunday. Pierce, who leads rookies with 939 yards rushing, has been one of the only bright spots in Houston’s terrible season.

“If Dameon can’t go, we know what he’s been to our offense this year,” Smith said. “He’s one of the best running backs in football. There would be a void. When a player can’t go, the void is sealed by others. We look to all options.”

The two other running backs on Houston’s roster are Dare Ogunbowale and Rex Burkhead, but neither has done much this season. Ogunbowale has eight carries for 27 yards and Burkhead has 80 yards on 26 carries.

TEXAS FOREVER

Mahomes grew up in Tyler, Texas, and starred at Texas

Tech, before becoming a first-round pick of the Chiefs, and has such an affinity for his home state that he has a home there for the offseason.

But the closest he’s come to playing in Texas over his first five-plus seasons in the league was in 2017, when he rode the bench behind Alex Smith for a game in Dallas.

“Houston is about a three-hour trip from Tyler,” he said, “so I’m sure there’s a lot more people coming than I even know. It’ll be cool for them to see me playing in my home state for sure.”

HEY, OLD FRIEND

The Texans will see a familiar face Sunday with safety Justin Reid playing for the Chiefs. Reid was drafted by Houston in the third round of the 2018 draft and spent his first four seasons in Houston before signing with Kansas City this offseason.

“I’m excited,” Reid said. “I have a lot of personal relationships with a lot of those guys, a lot of love for those players, the coaching staff. So, it’s a fun game for me personally to go back in be in the atmosphere that I began my career in.”

Smith raved about Reid, who started 53 games in his four seasons in Houston.

“Justin Reid and I will have a lifetime relationship,” Smith said. “I consider him a friend, too. ... He’s playing excellent football for them. He can tackle. He checks off all the boxes when you’re looking for a good safety.”

Chiefs could soon have WRs Toney, Hardman back on offense

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Chiefs could set a franchise record Sunday in Houston with their 19th consecutive game of at least 300 yards of offense, and in the past eight of them, Patrick Mahomes and Co. have topped the 400-yard mark.

All without two of their top wide receivers.

That could change soon: The Chiefs hope Kadarius Toney, who practiced last week after a hamstring injury but was unavailable against the Broncos, will get back on the field for the first time in nearly a month. And they could have fellow wide receiver Mecole Hardman back in short order after an abdominal injury landed him on injured reserve.

“Getting Mecole and KT back will just add another dimension. They can do jet sweeps and stuff like that, but adding their speed, teams have to honor that,” Mahomes said Wednesday. “If you add speed to any offense

that those two guys have, it really opens up everybody else, because you have to account for those two guys on every play.”

Toney, who is most likely to play against the Texans, only appeared in two games after his trade from the Giants to Kansas City when he got hurt against the Chargers. But signs were pointing to the 2021 first-round pick being an impact player, especially after hauling in four catches for 57 yards and a score the prior week against the Jaguars.

His ability to run jet sweeps, which Tyreek Hill ran so successfully for years, added another element to the offense.

“He had a little bit of a ramp-up last week, which was good,” Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. “Came out of that feeling pretty good. We’ll see how he does this week and make a decision down the road here. Take it day by day, see how he does.”

It’s unclear how soon Hardman will be able to help what is already the



Kansas City Chiefs head coach Andy Reid watches for the sideline as his team played against the Cincinnati Bengals in the first half of an NFL football game in Cincinnati, Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022. AP PHOTO/JOSHUA BICKEL

league’s second-highest scoring offense.

He was likewise in the midst of a productive stretch, scoring touchdowns in three straight games and five overall, when an abdominal injury landed the speedster on injured reserve.

That put Hardman out four weeks, and the Chiefs now have a 21-day window in which they must active him or put him on IR for the remainder of the season.

Hardman has been posting to social media about his readiness to return, though Reid said it wasn’t necessarily the injury or shaking off any lingering rust that could be the biggest hurdle to getting back on the field.

“He lost a bunch of weight,” Reid said. “It was a matter of getting that back, but not with

cheeseburgers — get back some good, hardy weight and strength, so he’s been working on that. He’s been working like crazy. And he’s going to continue to do that here — do that this week. He’s out at practice and that will add to it.”

The Chiefs are 10-3 and tied with the Bills for the AFC’s best record, though Buffalo holds the head-to-head tiebreaker, and that means each of the remaining four games are crucial. And the Chiefs would struggle to find a better get-right opponent for the two wide receivers than the one-win Texans, whose pass defense is middle of the road.

To say the Chiefs have gotten by without Toney or Hardman is an understatement.

See **OFFENSE**, Page B3



Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) celebrates with teammates after catching a 39-yard touchdown pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Rams Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022, in Kansas City, Mo. AP PHOTO/CHARLIE RIEDEL

Chiefs’ Reid: Kelce was destined to be ‘something special’

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Andy Reid knew the tall, gangly tight end with the soft hands, deceptive speed and unique ability to get wide open could become a star the moment he first laid eyes on him during a college football game about a decade ago.

Travis Kelce was playing for Cincinnati at the time, and Reid showed up at one of his games to watch his own son, Spencer, who was then a tailback for Temple. Reid already knew a bit about the Kelce family having just drafted Travis’s big brother, Jason, to play center for his Philadelphia Eagles, but what he saw on the field that day was something else.

The Bearcats only completed 13 passes in the 34-10 whipping, but Kelce hauled in four of them with such incredible ease.

“I thought watching him,” Reid recalled this week, “this kid has a chance to be really something special.”

Not even Reid, though, could have known just how good Kelce would become.

Already with three All-Pro nods and seven trips to the Pro Bowl on his resume, the 33-year-old Kelce moved into the most rarified of places in the pantheon of NFL tight ends last week. With four catches for 71 yards on Sunday in Denver, Kelce not only surpassed the 1,000-yard receiving mark for a franchise-record seventh consecutive season but eclipsed 10,000 yards for his career, becoming only the fifth player at his position to do it.

Tony Gonzalez, whose club records Kelce keeps breaking, and Shannon Sharpe already are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, while Jason Witten and Antonio Gates are poised to join them in the coming years.

The numbers are even more impressive given that Kelce came into the league with off-the-field red flags that landed him a season-long suspension at Cincinnati, and ultimately saw his draft stock plummet into the third round. And that nearly his entire rookie season was missed because of microfracture surgery on his knee.

“Obviously all those guys are unbelievable company,” Kelce said after the Broncos game Sunday, “and I’m very fortunate that I’ve had the coaches and players around me to be able to have this much success in the NFL as I have.”

Such a self-forgetful statement speaks to the

growth that Kelce has experienced during his time in Kansas City.

He admittedly came into the league with a chip on his shoulder — pieces of it are still there. He had an ego that almost matched his outsized personality. And he had a penchant for ripping officials, once saying that one wasn’t fit to work in Foot Locker and another time throwing his towel at a referee who did not throw his own flag.

Kelce can still be a hothead. But he’s mostly learned to rein it in, particularly when doing otherwise would hurt his team.

“Just watching his growth process, and just thinking about all the years that he’s been here and how he’s just evolved, not only as a player but more as a young man — and how he’s developed as a captain and a leader — those are the things that I enjoy watching,” Chiefs offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy said. “I love the energy that he brings and I love the positive impact that he has with our team on the sidelines. It’s been fun to watch.”

Not so fun for opposing defenses, who have tried everything within the rules — and a few things outside of them — in their failed efforts to slow Kelce down. Man coverage? He has the athleticism to beat you. Zone coverage? An intuitive ability to get open. Want to rough him up? He’s more than willing to fight back.

“He has great instincts of coverage, leverage, in man and in zone,” Titans coach Mike Vrabel said. “He is extremely athletic and very competitive. He has a huge catch radius. He is always a challenge.”

The result has been a period of nearly unmatched consistency: Kelce has at least 80 catches in seven straight seasons, one behind Jerry Rice, Marvin Harrison and Torry Holt for the most by any player in NFL history, and that trio along with Mike Evans, Cris Carter and Tim Brown are the only ones with more consecutive 1,000-yard seasons.

“That tight end position is hard. You take a beating,” Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes said. “You’re blocking, you’re catching over the middle, taking hits. And he just prepares himself the right way that he can be out there and available for us every week. Truly great player and a great teammate, for sure.”

See **KELCE**, Page B3

Messi carries the weight of Argentina into World Cup final

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOHA, Qatar — As Lionel Messi approaches his second and likely last World Cup final, the stakes could hardly be higher.

The same goes for Argentina after more than 30 years of disappointment since it last won soccer’s ultimate prize.

For Messi, victory against France at Lusail Stadium on Sunday is a chance to finally get his hands on the one major trophy that has eluded him in his storied career.

In doing so, he would push ahead of Cristiano Ronaldo, who has also never won a World Cup, in the long-running rivalry between the two greatest players of their generation.

While 37-year-old Ronaldo exited the tournament at the quarterfinals stage, benched by Portugal and in tears in the likely recognition that his last chance had passed, Messi is summoning some of his finest moments in an Argentina shirt to inspire his country’s run to the final.

“Each time we see him play, he makes us and the players feel something special,” Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni said. “There’s something about him that people like, not only Argentines.

“We feel lucky and privileged to have him wear our shirt.”

Messi’s place alongside Diego Maradona as one of Argentina’s two most iconic soccer stars has been secure for some time now. But he is yet to emulate Maradona’s greatest achievement by leading his national team to a World Cup title.

Maradona did that in Mexico in 1986 and Messi has lived with the expectation of repeating the feat since he emerged as a prodigy at Barcelona nearly 20 years ago.

There have been numerous false hopes during that time.



Argentina’s Lionel Messi celebrates at the end of the World Cup semifinal soccer match between Argentina and Croatia at the Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022. AP PHOTO/PAVEL GOLOVKIN

There was the potential “dream team” of Maradona as coach and Messi as star player in South Africa in 2010. But Argentina went out in the quarterfinals after being beaten 4-0 by Germany.

In 2014, with Messi approaching his peak years, Argentina reached the final in Brazil.

Again it faced Germany. Again Messi was on the losing side, beaten 1-0 through extra time.

At the age of 35, he knew this was probably his last shot at the World Cup and he has risen to the occasion as the tournament’s co-leading scorer with France forward Kylian Mbappé with five goals.

Perhaps more notable have been his assists, such as the disguised pass for Nahuel Molina’s goal against the Netherlands in the quarterfinals.

Then there was his mesmerizing run, turning Croatia defender Joško Gvardiol inside out, before setting up Julián Álvarez for Argentina’s third in the semis.

“It’s at least something I can talk (about) with my kids one day that I guarded this great, great player,” Gvardiol said Thursday.

Those assists have been indicative of the fact that Messi can no longer do it on his own. The emergence of Álvarez, with four goals, has been vital to Argentina’s progress.

Messi doesn’t dominate for an entire 90 minutes anymore. Instead, he decides matches with key moments.

He isn’t as dynamic as he

was in his younger years, but he has been more influential than at any of his previous four World Cups.

While Messi is aiming to complete his personal collection of trophies, having won four Champions League titles and seven Ballon d’Or awards for the best player in the world, Argentina is looking to end its long wait for a third World Cup.

It won the tournament for the first time when hosting in 1978 and then again eight years later thanks to Maradona.

Messi was supposed to emulate that feat long before now.

If he retires without ever winning the World Cup, then how much longer will Argentina have to wait?

No wonder each moment of Messi magic and every win is greeted with such an outpouring of emotion.

The sense of anticipation is growing among Argentina fans, who have lit up the tournament in a sea of blue and white, marching through the streets of Qatar.

Messi is feeding the belief that this could be their time again.

If this is his farewell tour, he has given his supporters a wild ride along the way.

And with or without a World Cup, Scaloni has no doubt about Messi’s status as the greatest of all time.

“It seems like we say that just because we’re Argentinians and we fall into the trap of being selfish because it is very Argentinian to say that,” he said. “But I think there are no doubts.”

World Cup history beckons for France, Mbappé, Deschamps

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOHA, Qatar — World Cup history is beckoning for France, star player Kylian Mbappé and coach Didier Deschamps.

When France walks on the field Sunday for the tournament final against Argentina and Lionel Messi, soccer lore is waiting to be written for the team.

Les Bleus could be the first winner of back-to-back titles for 60 years since Brazil did it 1958 and 1962.

The 23-year-old Mbappé would become the youngest player with two World Cup wins since Pelé accomplished that feat at age 21.

Deschamps would be the first man to coach two world champion teams since Vittorio Pozzo did it with Italy in 1934 and 1938.

“As for me, I’m not the most important person. It’s the French team,” said Deschamps, who is worthy of his own chapter in World Cup history.

He lifted the trophy in Paris as the team’s captain when France first won the World Cup in 1998. He won it as coach in 2018, and now he is on the brink of getting a third.

“Obviously, I’m proud. I know, everyone knows, we have the chance to win another title,” Deschamps said Thursday after beating Morocco in the semifinals.

France is playing in a fourth final in a span of seven tournaments — including the 2006 final lost to Italy in a penalty shootout after Zinedine Zidane was sent off. It’s a dynastic era not seen since Brazil’s two decades at the top through 1970.

That team typified by Pelé’s brilliance won all three finals it reached starting in 1958, and also played in the decisive last match of the 1950 tournament, which was lost against Uruguay in Rio de Janeiro.

Morocco’s coach was quick to anoint France and Mbappé after they ended his team’s historic run as the first African team in a semifinal.

“Over the past 20 years you can say France is the top footballing country in the world,” said Walid Regragui, who is French-born and played most of his career there.

“If he won the World Cup again,” Regragui said admiringly of Mbappé, “he would be

emulating Pelé.”

Both players made stunning World Cup debuts as teenagers, truly coming to life in the knockout rounds.

All six goals for a 17-year-old Pelé in 1958 in Sweden were scored after the group stage, including a semifinals hat-trick to help eliminate France as he wore the No. 10 jersey that he has made iconic.

Mbappé announced his World Cup arrival at age 19 scoring twice against Argentina and Messi in a 4-3 epic in the round of 16. Anything like a repeat of that game in Russia would be a dream final Sunday.

Mbappé has five goals so far in Qatar, tied as the leading scorer at the tournament with Messi. The Frenchman scored four times in 2018.

It took Pelé until his fourth World Cup in 1970 to score his ninth career goal, though in fewer games than Mbappé. The French No. 10 has a stage set Sunday to be a key player for a second straight final, which takes place two days before he turns 24.

What makes France and Deschamps even more impressive this time is adapting to a litany of injuries with new talent that never even played in a World Cup qualifying game last year.

Midfielders Paul Pogba and N’Golo Kante, starters in the 2018 final against Croatia, were lost to injuries before the tournament, and left-back Lucas Hernandez lasted just nine minutes in Qatar before suffering a season-ending knee injury.

After the 26-man squad was picked in November, starting center-back Presnel Kimpembe and forwards Karim Benzema and Christopher Nkunku were lost to injury.

To replace them, Deschamps promoted a wave of players in their early 20s who have excelled and smoothed the transition to a next generation.

Center-back Ibrahima Konaté was immense against Morocco and forward Randal Kolo Muani scored with his first touch as a substitute to seal the 2-0 win.

“Sure, they don’t have much international experience,” Deschamps said of his unlikely midfield pairing, Aurélien Tchouaméni and Youssouf Fofana. “But potentially they have everything.”

RESULTS

Continued from Page B1

GIRLS BASKETBALL

On the girls side, most local teams are sitting at .500 or below so far this season. Kirksville was just below that .500 mark through the first five games of the season at 2-3. The Tigers scoring margin was even in those first five games. They scored 48.4 points per game and allowed 48.4 points per game.

Three local teams have records over .500 at this point in the season, led by Schuyler County at 5-1. The Rams are leading all local teams with a scoring average of 64.7 points per game and rank third defensively, allowing 39.3 points per game. Their only loss came against an unbeaten

North Shelby team by a score of 52-49.

La Plata got off to a 6-2 start, winning six games in a row to get there. The Bulldogs have the top scoring defense among local teams, allowing 35.6 points per game. They rank second in offense, scoring 60.8 points per game. Both numbers were higher during the six-game winning streak, where they scored 66.7 points per game and allowed 30.8 points per game.

Novinger is the last local girls team with a record above .500. The Wildcats are 5-3. They are averaging 55.8 points per game and allowing 39 points per game, which ranks third and second respectively among local teams.

Macon and Scotland County both started the season 3-3, and their scoring averages

echo their records. Macon is scoring 43.3 points per game and allowing 44.2 points per game. Scotland County is scoring 43.2 points and allowing 42.2 points per game.

Atlanta started the season 3-1 before dropping three games in a row. Now at 3-4, the Hornets have had three of their four losses come against teams with winning records, with their biggest loss of the season coming against an unbeaten Meadville team. They are scoring 39.9 points per game and allowing 43.7 points per game.

Green City started the season 3-5, with three of those losses coming by 10 or fewer points. Two of their wins came by wide margins, with their third win being a 40-37 win over Marion County. Their number of close games have

their scoring averages of 42.8 points per game on offense and 43.3 points allowed per game may look closer than their early record indicates.

Putnam County is also 3-5 to start, but their scoring margin is not as close as Green City’s. The Midgets are scoring 44.3 points per game and allowing 53.8 points per game. Their three wins have come by a combined 12 points for an average margin of four points per game. Their losses have been a bit more lopsided, with an average margin of 17.6 points per game.

Milan won its first two games of the season, including one against Putnam County, but then lost the next four contests. All four of their losses have come against teams with winning records, and five of the Wildcats’ six opponents

are above .500. They are averaging 38.5 points per game on offense while allowing 44.5 points per game.

Brashear also has two wins this season, but with one more loss than Milan. At 2-5, Brashear is allowing 52.1 points per game while scoring an average of 35.7 points per game. Their two wins came in back-to-back games, a 56-25 win over Macon and 37-36 win over Green City.

Knox County is still searching for its first win this season after starting the season 0-5. The Eagles are scoring 30 points per game so far and allowing 54.8 points per game. They have gotten close twice, with a loss against Scotland County coming by a score of 47-39 and a loss against Clark County coming by a score of 42-37.

OFFENSE

Continued from Page B2

Mahomes has thrown for at least 300 yards in seven of his past eight games, and tight end Travis Kelce has once again eclipsed 1,000 yards receiving this season — and 10,000 for his career — while wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster has not only returned from his concussion but also has become an impact player.

Smith-Schuster had nine catches for 74 yards and what proved to be the decisive TD in last week’s 34-28 win in Denver.

NOTES: Reid and Mahomes both have connections to Mississippi State coach Mike Leach, who died this week at the age of 61. Reid had him speak to his teams in Philadelphia on a couple of occasions while Mahomes played at Texas Tech under then-coach Kliff Kingsbury, one of Leach’s quarterbacks there.

KELCE

Continued from Page B2

Mahomes and Kelce have become close friends the past six years together in Kansas City, and they often sit together on plane rides home after games. And this past week, Mahomes knew that Kelce had broken through the 10,000-yard barrier, so he turned to him on the flight back from Denver and brought up the career milestone.

“He was like, ‘Oh yeah, man. It’s cool,’” Mahomes said. “All

he’s worried about is winning. That’s what all the great players are worried about, and his stats kind of come, but at the same time, he’s just trying to win a lot of football games.”

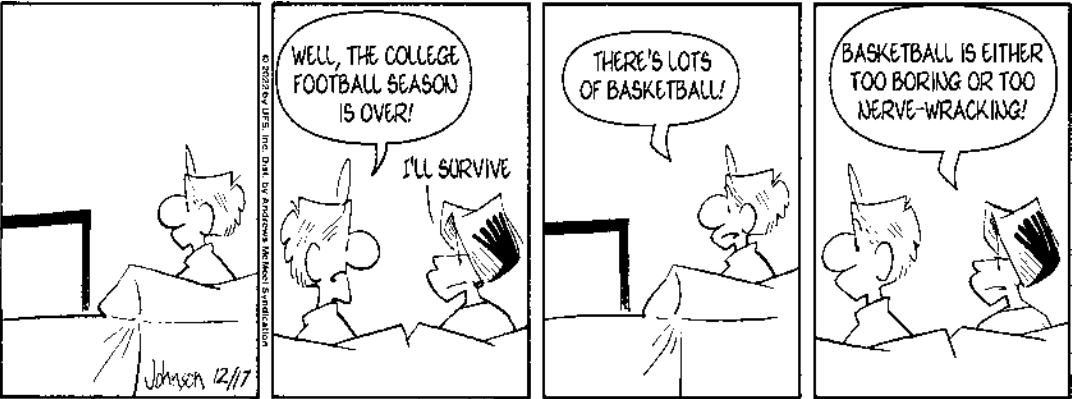
Kelce has done that: He’s helped the Chiefs reach the past four AFC championship games, winning two of them to reach the Super Bowl, and beating the San Francisco 49ers a few years ago to end their 50-year championship drought.

They’re in the thick of it again, too. The Chiefs (10-3) are tied with the Bills for the AFC’s best record heading into Week

15, where a win would clinch their record seventh consecutive AFC West title.

“It’s the type of guy he is,” Mahomes said. “Obviously he’s talented, to be that big and run routes like that and have that speed. He could have had a ton of success really anywhere, but I think the type of guy he is, how he works and how he’s just a teammate — a great teammate — I think that’s why he’s kind of taken it to the next level. It’s because everybody on that field, they enjoy watching him succeed, because of the type of guy that he is every day.”

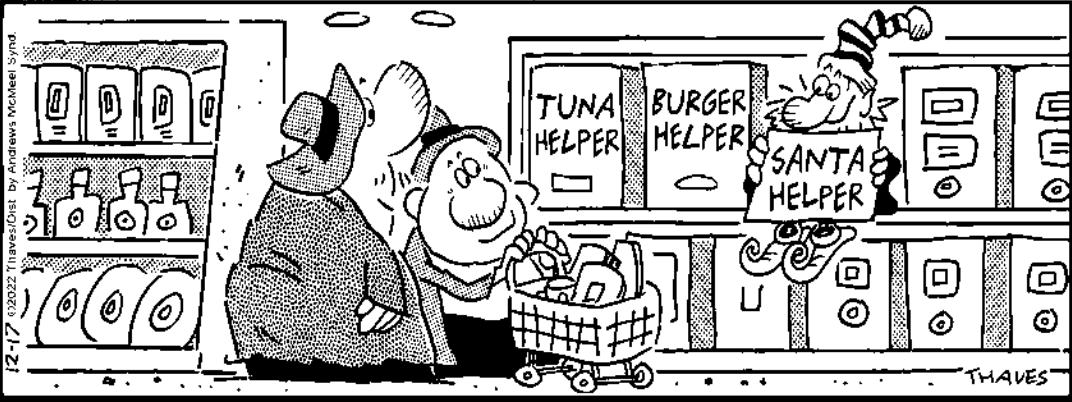
ARLO AND JANIS



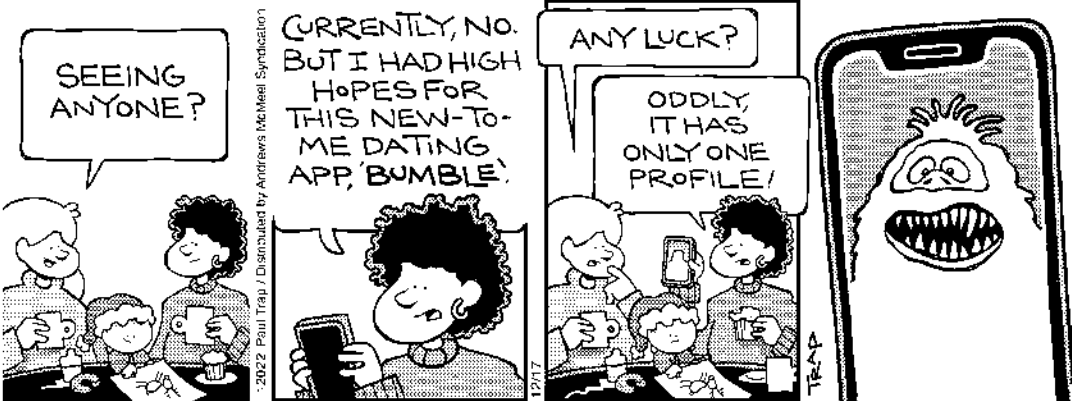
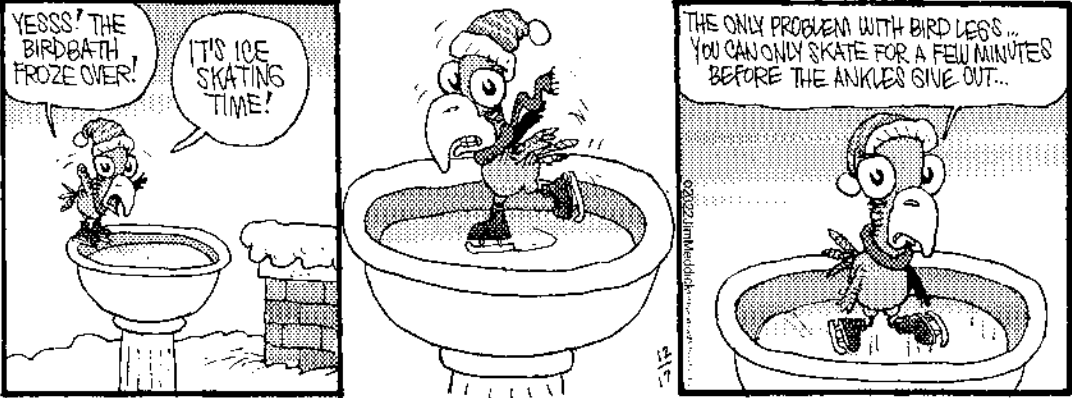
BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



MONTY



Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

PREVIOUS ANSWER

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

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

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Long-faced

4 Graceful steed

8 Spanish painter

12 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"

13 Byway

14 Sharp end

15 Shriner's hat

16 Siberian river

17 Whimper

18 Digestive juice

20 Unwilling

22 Synthetic fabric

23 Baseball stat

24 Fate

28 Shoe part

31 Intuition

34 Rapper — Nas X

35 Hard benches

36 Lagoon

37 Elected ones

38 Between ports

39 Long lunch?

40 Make current

42 Used a shovel

44 Hat trees

48 Reaper's tool

51 Naturally bright

52 Something remarkable

53 Major Hooplas word

55 Flight board info

56 Slightly open

57 Large movie ape

58 Off-road vehicle

59 Cold War capital

60 Prudent

61 Blended whiskey

DOWN

1 More secure

2 Coliseum

3 Giddy

4 Grads

5 Not easy to find

6 Nurses org.

7 Bartok or Lugosi

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

8 Someone who streams on Twitch

9 Runs

10 Hedge shrubs

11 Auto rod

19 Hayseed

21 Old pro

25 Trivial mistake

26 Look after

27 "Frozen" queen

29 Feel grateful

30 That, in Tijuana

31 Corp. execs

32 Debt memo

33 Protest music name (2 wds.)

35 Hymn of praise

40 "Oh, gross!"

41 Plod

43 Reversal (hyph.)

45 Unmistakable

46 Furry friend

47 Fend off

48 Concrete foundation

49 Stephen King mad dog

50 Cartoon shrieks

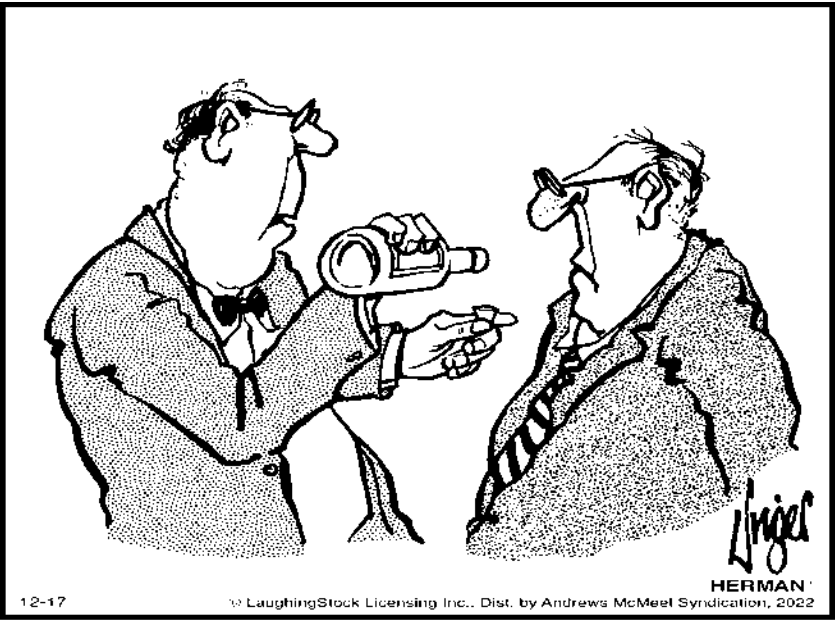
51 Trolled

54 — — step further

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



ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Head in a positive direction with an optimistic attitude. Be willing to take the time to reap the rewards and enjoy the benefits. Say no to negativity, poor influences or those trying to take advantage of you. Keep your eye on the ball, focus on what you want and ward off unwanted setbacks. Live life your way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Steer clear of poor influences and people eager to make you look bad. Focus on healthy eating, exercise and the activities that lead to a fit, happy lifestyle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Bide your time and see what transpires. Don't let your emotions compromise a situation that has the potential to spin out of control. Patience is a virtue and will buy you the time you need.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Don't let someone's uncertainty confuse you. Go about your business, and you'll feel good about what you accomplish. Fix up your surroundings for the festive season.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Helping others will brighten your day. Don't let trivial matters set you off or lead to a feud with a friend, relative or loved one. Do what you can to keep the peace.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Don't give up on something you want. Take a step back, revamp your plan, and consider what and who you need to reach your goal. Time spent volunteering or helping others will pay off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Stop procrastinating and start getting things done before you run out of time. A change will be educational and will encourage you to take more significant steps as you proceed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Put your heart into whatever you choose to do, and you'll accomplish your objective. Shopping, socializing and festive preparations will lift your spirits. Be wary of scammers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- An imaginative approach to life, love and happiness will help you develop a plan to encourage better cash flow, relationships and opportunities. Embrace change. Romance is apparent.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Volunteer to help the needy, a friend or a relative, and the gratification will bring you joy. Don't let change dampen your mood or come between you and someone you love. Be honest and compassionate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Look for alternative ways to bring in extra cash. Don't overspend on things you don't need. Get out and socialize with people who offer mental stimulation and encourage positive change.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Emotions will surface if you discuss sensitive issues or share your opinions. Put your energy and enthusiasm into traveling, learning, or spending time with friends or relatives.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Indecisiveness will get in the way of what you want. Look at what's available, do your due diligence and initiate change. Update your image and sport a trendy new look.

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DEADLINES: Classifieds: 2 Days prior at noon Display: Friday noon for Wednesday and Wednesday noon for Saturday.

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EMPLOYMENT

Maintenance

Help Wanted: need responsible person for maintenance and manager for Woodwinds of Kirksville, MO. Call Wendell at 660-956-4112.

Have Clutter? Need room? Call the Kirksville Daily Express classifieds. We can help! 660-665-2808.

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MERCHANDISE

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Wanted

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI

JERRY JAMES AND PAMELA HATCHER Husband and Wife 401 South Owensby Street LaPlanta, MO 63549

and

BRENDA RUTH HERRON, 405 West State Street Hurdland, MO 63547

Plaintiffs,

v.

MATTHEW ROBINSON, 716 St. Louis Avenue Excelsior Springs, MO 68024

and

SAMANTHA KAY SHELTER, 716 St. Louis Avenue Excelsior Springs, MO 68024

and

DEBORAH PIPES, 11414 Sage Stanley Drive Houston, TX 77089-4206

and

VICTOR VALVERDE, Address Unknown

and

SANDRA VALVERDE, Deceased

and

TRACEY LEE POTTER, Deceased

and

MARYBETH AND ANDREW PATTERSON Address Unknown

and the unknown grantees, assignees, trustees, legal representatives and all other persons, corporations, heirs or successors claiming by, through or under the Defendants

Case No. 22AR-CV00746

NOTICE

Notice is given that by and order of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri, Associate Division, Case No. 22AR-CV00842, made on the record on December 12, 2022, the name of Caleb Joseph Williams was changed to Lucian Reed Williams.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ADAIR STATE OF MISSOURI

EARL BRUCE BUNCH Petitioner

vs.

KATHIE MICHAELS, Respondent

Case No. 22AR-CV00657

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Adair County, by Petition, the object and general nature of which is to obtain a Quiet Title in and to the following described real estate, situate in the County of Adair and State of Missouri, to wit:

Lots 4 and 5, Block 3, Original Town of Brashear, Missouri

The names of all parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the Attorney for the Petitioner is Joshua E. DeLeeuw, 601 S. Cottage Grove Ave., Kirksville, Missouri 63501.

You are further notified that unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the first day of publication, a Quiet Title may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

First Date of Publication: December 3, 2022 (Publication to run four (4) consecutive weeks)

Publication Dates: December 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2022 Linda Decker, Adair County Circuit Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Kirksville, Missouri will conduct one (1) public hearing at Kirksville City Hall, 201 S. Franklin St., 6:00 pm on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, concerning: the repeal of the final plat of Eagle Crest Estates Subdivision, an undeveloped subdivision located on E. LaHarpe St.

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.

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

Case Number: 22AR-PR00007 (Date File Stamp)

Judge or Division: PROBATE

In the Estate of JOHN THEODORE KAZMIERCZAK, Deceased.

Notice to Creditors (Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JOHN THEODORE KAZMIERCZAK, Decedent.

On August 22, 2022 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri.

All creditors of the decedent, who died on January 23, 2022, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.

Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri.

Date of first publication is December 17, 2022.

Linda Decker Adair County Circuit Clerk PUBLICATION DATES: December 17 and December 24, 2022

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that an action has been commenced against the Defendants named above in the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is to determine and declare the Plaintiffs and Defendants Matthew Robinson and Samantha Kay Shelter, are the owners of the following described property in Adair County, Missouri, to-wit:

An undivided 1/2 interest on land (commonly known as 1290 Oxford Drive Kirksville, MO 63501) commencing 374.75 feet North and 1058.66 feet West of the Southeast corner of the Southeast Fourth of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 63, Range 15, thence West 70 feet, thence North 141 feet, thence East 70 Feet, thence South 141 feet to the place of beginning.

This deed is made and accepted subject to the following restrictions: No building shall be erected closer than 8 feet of both the West and East line of above described tract, or closer than 25 feet of South line. No advertisement signs shall be erected on premises except small sign directly advertising the land owners' business. Property cannot be used or sold at any time for entertainment business, the sale of liquor or of the sale or raising of livestock. There shall be no pets kept on said premises. These restrictions shall be permanent and run with the land. Grantors are also conveying the right to connect to the existing sewer and water line.

Free of all liens.


The names of all parties to said action are stated in the caption hereof and the name and address for the attorney for the Plaintiffs is Wallace W. Trosen, #1 Crown Drive, PO Box 267, Kirksville, MO 63501.

You are further notified that unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 45 days after the 3rd day of December 2022, (the date of first publication), Judgement by default will be rendered against you.

Witness my hand and seal of the Circuit Court this 22nd day of November 2022.

Linda Decker Circuit Clerk

To be published for four (4) consecutive weeks: December 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2022



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Education
Kirksville R-III School District
Kirksville, Missouri

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Kirksville R-III School District, Kirksville, Missouri (the "District"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the District, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position and the respective budgetary comparisons for the General and Special Revenue Funds for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The debt service budgetary schedule, capital projects budgetary schedule, schedule of revenues collected by source, schedule of expenditures paid by object, schedule of selected statistics, schedule of transportation costs eligible for state aid and schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the debt service budgetary schedule, capital projects budgetary schedule, schedule of revenues collected by source, schedule of expenditures paid by object, and schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation the basic financial statements as a whole.

Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the schedule of selected statistics and schedule of transportation costs eligible for state aid and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the schedule of selected statistics and schedule of transportation costs eligible for state aid and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 7, 2022, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

December 7, 2022

Gerding, Korte & Chitwood, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants
Boonville, Missouri

KIRKSVILLE R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED, EXPENDITURES PAID AND CHANGES IN

FUND BALANCES ARISING FROM MODIFIED CASH TRANSACTIONS - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Governmental Fund Types				
	General (Incidental) Fund	Special Revenue (Teachers') Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES COLLECTED:					
Local	\$ 7,318,679	\$ 6,346,476	\$ 2,373,754	\$ 1,105,191	\$ 17,144,100
County	373,068	469,906	117,597	674,475	1,635,046
State	3,035,559	7,870,015	-	907,395	11,812,969
Federal	6,688,550	1,363,666	-	-	8,052,216
Received from other districts	206,974	-	-	-	206,974
Other	27,651	-	-	-	27,651
Total Revenues Collected	17,650,481	16,050,063	2,491,351	2,687,061	38,878,956
EXPENDITURES PAID:					
Regular instruction	1,038,044	8,226,837	-	11,391	9,276,272
Special instruction	1,776,361	3,970,589	-	-	5,746,950
Vocational instruction	91,207	698,404	-	63,540	853,151
Student activities	423,460	316,123	-	-	739,583
Student support services	715,518	874,346	-	-	1,589,864
Instructional support services	404,810	298,749	-	-	703,559
Board of Education services	65,385	-	-	-	65,385
Executive administration	605,442	607,994	-	201,275	1,414,711
Building level administration	535,751	687,081	-	-	1,222,832
Business/central services	494,379	-	-	-	494,379
Operation of plant	2,455,930	668	-	1,804,321	4,260,919
Pupil transportation	1,715,621	-	-	-	1,715,621
Food services	1,322,608	60,337	-	4,611	1,387,556
Adult education and community services	396,002	349,834	-	199,930	945,766
Principal retirement	-	-	1,860,000	-	1,860,000
Interest and fees	-	-	236,350	-	236,350
Total Expenditures Paid	12,040,518	16,090,962	2,096,350	2,285,068	32,512,898
EXCESS/(DEFICIT) OF REVENUES COLLECTED OVER EXPENDITURES PAID	5,609,963	(40,899)	395,001	401,993	6,366,058
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES):					
Transfers	(750,000)	-	-	750,000	-
Total Other Financing Sources/(Uses)	(750,000)	-	-	750,000	-
EXCESS/(DEFICIT) OF REVENUES COLLECTED AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES PAID AND OTHER FINANCING USES	4,859,963	(40,899)	395,001	1,151,993	<u>\$ 6,366,058</u>
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	12,876,742	40,899	1,289,600	3,743,350	
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 17,736,705</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,684,601</u>	<u>\$ 4,895,343</u>	

Complete copies of the audit report are available for inspection at the Superintendent's office.

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Ashcroft, Bean, Gregory wish to restrict Missouri farmland from foreign ownership

By Missouri Secretary of State

Jefferson City, Mo. — Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, State Senator Jason Bean, and State Representative Kurtis Gregory are joining forces to shield Missourians from foreign land ownership deals that could impact agricultural farmland and military bases. Bean and Gregory have both filed legislation that would lower the foreign land ownership percentage from 1 percent to 0.5 percent. Also, their bills would prohibit a foreign entity from owning land

within a 30 mile radius of a military base or military contractor. “Regarding the thousands of military personnel and the many base facilities in Missouri, it is paramount to ensure they both are protected by our state and furthermore our country,” said Ashcroft. “I wholehearted support Missouri farmers and agriculture; both critical to our state. I applaud Senator Bean and Representative Gregory for their efforts to protect Missourians.” This legislation is about “setting the record straight and

making food production and national security a priority interest,” Bean said. “Missouri is particularly suited for this policy limiting foreign ownership as we are home to multiple military installations, and agriculture is a critical industry to the foundation of our economy. This bill doesn’t disrupt existing agricultural markets, but takes real action toward protecting future generations.” A proposed senate substitute to the legislation backed by Ashcroft would require all foreign persons or entities to



obtain a Certificate of Good Standing from the secretary of state’s office to be included in the mandatory report that is filed with the Missouri De-

partment of Agriculture. Ashcroft will continue to work closely with the legislature and others in efforts to successfully pass this legislation.

EPA’s Brownfields Grants to train Missouri environmental workers

By EPA

LENEXA, KAN. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a total of \$1.5 million in grants funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for environmental job training programs in Missouri. These grants through EPA’s Brownfields Job Training Program will recruit, train, and place workers for community revitalization and clean-up projects at brownfield sites. Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, total funding for the program has more than tripled for fiscal year 2023, ensuring stronger environmental benefits and more economic opportunities in overburdened and underserved areas.

“President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is supercharging EPA’s Brownfields Program, which is transforming blighted sites, protecting public health, and creating economic opportunities in more overburdened communities than ever before,” said EPA Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe. “The investments announced today will not only support the cleanup of some of our nation’s most polluted areas, but they will also equip a new generation of workers to take on the significant environmental challenges that plague overburdened neighborhoods, and jump-start sustainable, long-term careers in the communities that need these jobs the most.” “With these Brownfields Job Training grants, three Missouri organiza-

tions plan to train a total of 260 students and place over 170 deserving individuals in environmental jobs,” said EPA Region 7 Administrator Meg McCollister. “Missourians across the state will feel the economic and community benefits of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law through the opportunities this funding will create.” The selected Missouri organizations are: Full Employment Council Inc. of Kansas City, Missouri; City of Springfield, Missouri; and St. Louis Community College, which serves the area that includes St. Louis city, St. Louis County, and portions of East St. Louis, Illinois. Each organization was selected to receive a \$500,000 job training grant. These grants will be used to provide environmental health and safety training and certification to hundreds of students, including underemployed and unemployed community members, veterans, and people with justice system involvement. In total, the organizations plan to place at least 171 individuals in environmental jobs after training completion. “We are incredibly grateful to receive this \$500,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to continue and expand our Green for Greene environmental job training program,” said Maurice Jones, deputy city manager of the city of Springfield. “Nationally as well as regionally, demand for a skilled workforce has risen. This program provides participants the oppor-

tunity to become a part of the growing supply of skilled workers, a supply that has not grown fast enough in recent years to keep pace with labor market demand. We are excited about our continued partnership with the EPA and look forward to working together to build a skilled workforce for our region.” “The Full Employment Council is extremely pleased to receive this \$500,000 grant award from the Environmental Protection Agency,” said Clyde McQueen, president and CEO of the Full Employment Council Inc. in Kansas City, Mo. (KCMO). “This success results from a long-term, system-based partnership with the Kansas City Brownfields Initiative, city of KCMO Public Works Department, and numerous environmental contractors within the KCMO region. Further, this effort will improve urban core neighborhoods negatively impacted by contamination, blight, and pollution from decades of environmental abuse.” “We are thrilled to expand our long-standing partnership with the EPA through the Brownfields Job Training Grant,” said Phyllis Ellison, associate vice chancellor, St. Louis Community College Workforce Solutions Group. “We are proud to provide such critical environmental education, training, and job placement opportunities for area residents, while also supporting the EPA’s mission of protecting the overall health of the community and the environment.”

Biden’s leadership and bipartisan Congressional action have delivered the single-largest investment in U.S. brownfields infrastructure ever through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which invests more than \$1.5 billion over five years through EPA’s highly successful Brownfields Program. This historic investment enables EPA to fund more communities, states, and Tribes, and provides the opportunity for grantees to build and enhance the environmental curriculum in job training programs that support job creation and community revitalization. The Brownfields Jobs Training Program also advances President Biden’s Justice40 Initiative, which aims to deliver at least 40 percent of the benefits of certain government programs to disadvantaged communities. Based on data from the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, approximately 97 percent of the communities selected to receive funding as part of today’s announcement have proposed projects in historically underserved areas. Individuals completing a job training program funded by the EPA often overcome a variety of barriers to employment. Many trainees are from historically underserved neighborhoods or reside in areas that are overburdened by pollution.



Graduates of Brownfields Job Training programs learn valuable, sought-after skills and have the opportunity to earn a variety of certifications, ensuring employment opportunities result not just in temporary contractual work, but in long-term environmental careers. This includes certifications in: Lead and asbestos abatement, Hazardous waste operations and emergency response, Mold remediation, Environmental sampling and analysis, and Other environmental health and safety training

Background:

Brownfields Job Training (JT) grants allow nonprofits, local governments, and other organizations to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of areas affected by the presence of brownfield sites. Through the JT Program, graduates develop the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable

employment in various aspects of hazardous and solid waste management and within the larger environmental field, including sustainable cleanup and reuse, and chemical safety. These green jobs reduce environmental contamination and build more sustainable futures for communities. Since 1998, the EPA has awarded 371 Brownfields Job Training grants. With these grants, more than 20,341 individuals have completed trainings and over 15,168 individuals have been placed in careers related to land remediation and environmental health and safety. For more information on the selected Brownfields Job Training grant recipients, including past grant recipients, please visit the Brownfields Grant Fact Sheet Search. For more information on this, and other types of Brownfields Program grants, please visit the Brownfields Job Training Grants webpage.

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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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Faith Lutheran Church
1820 S. Baltimore, Baltimore & LaHarpe
David Lukelahr, 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.faithkirkville.org

Hamilton Street Baptist Church
802 W. Hamilton
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
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

Kirkville 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
firstbaptistkirkville.com

Faith United Methodist Church
1602 E. Illinois
Pastor: Joshua Ritzheimer
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship
Southside Baptist Church
1010 W. Burton
Pastor: Aaron Rodgersson
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.kirkvillechurchofgod.com

Kirkville Nazarene Church
2302 N. Lincoln Road
Mark Czandema, Lead Pastor
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
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
KirkvilleGCBC@gmail.com • 660.665.1615

First United Methodist Church
300 E. Washington
Pastors - Rev. Scott Beard & Rev. Jennifer Finley
9:30 a.m. Worship In Person & Online
kvumc.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

Fellowship Baptist Church
1701 S. Jamison St., Kirksville
Larry Gibson, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
fbcc@sbgglobal.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 Dillion Thurman, minister
Services on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
10:30 a.m. Song Service
11:00 a.m. Preaching

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

Cornerstone Church
1702 N Elson St Kirksville, MO
Jeremy Broach, Senior Pastor
Chad Sleaman, Associate Pastor
Sunday 10 am - Morning Worship
Wednesday 6:30 pm-8 pm Family Ministry Night
www.cornerstonechurch.faith

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: Andrew Turner, Andy Thompson, David Kelly
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.KirkvilleFirst.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
Kirkville First Ward Bishop John Grider
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday Services
Kirkville 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.

Downing Christian Church
430 E. Prime Street
Minister Walker Franke
Associate Minister Larry Smith
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Service
660-379-2329

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: Joshua Ritzheimer
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

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.ctcfvmo.com • ctcfvmo@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
9:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Worship
6:00 pm Monday – AWANA
http://laplatafbco.org/
Email: laplatafbco@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 Iammatto-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. I, 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

Come worship with us!



NEMO CPA's L.L.C.

Laurie Love, CPA

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Fax: 660-332-4811
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"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:13

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

John 14:16

