

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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WEDNESDAY

JULY 12, 2023 | \$2

Fire forces Daily Express staff to evacuate offices

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

A fire swept through an office complex on East LaHarpe and South Halliburton in the early morning hours of Friday, July 7. Kirksville Police Fire Investigator Ray Jagger said it appears to be arson and state fire investigators have joined forces with city police, honing in on the cause of the blaze. The fire destroyed the offices of Grow Counseling on the south corner of 701 E. LaHarpe Street. The door of the business had marks on it from where it seemed to have been forcefully pried open. The interior was ravaged by the inferno.



Fire investigators examine the door, which had been pried open, at the office of Grow Counseling at 701 E. LaHarpe Street.



A counter stands gutted.



The back side of the building in the 2300 block of South Halliburton.

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Pie baking contest, pie eating contest and pie auction at the NEMO Fair

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

A pie baking contest, a pie eating contest and a pie auction will be held at the NEMO Fairgrounds on Monday, July 17, as part of the ceremonies leading up to the opening of the 76th Annual NEMO Fair. Pies can be dropped off at the Multi-Purpose Building on the fairgrounds between 10 and 11 a.m. on July 17 and must be entered in the name of the person who made/baked it. Pies must be homemade but pre-made crusts are acceptable.

Categories are: Berry Pies (strawberry, blueberry, etc.), fruit pies (apple, pear, cherry, etc.), cream pies and nut pies. Entries will be judged on taste, texture, appearance, etc. Pies will remain anonymous to judges and all judge decisions are final.

Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category, then an overall champion and reserve champion will be selected and their pies auctioned off to benefit the Adair County Food Pantry.

Winners will be announced and awards given after the opening ceremonies, which begin at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, contact Janina Snell at 660-626-8586.

The 76th NEMO Fair runs from July 18-22 with opening ceremonies being held on Monday, July 17 at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, July 15, three days prior to the opening of the NEMO Fair, the 4-H and FFA Horse Show will be held on the newly renovated arena, featuring 4-H and FFA members from throughout Missouri. The show begins at 11 a.m.

The annual Baby Show and the NEMO Fair Queen, Teen Miss and Young Miss pageants will be held on July 16 in the multi-purpose building at the fairgrounds. The Baby Show begins at 10 a.m., and the Fair Queen pageant at 4 p.m.

All events prior to July 18 are free.

A full rodeo will be held on July 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the arena. The 2023 NEMO Fair also has a great lineup of musical entertainment that includes Sara Evans with special guest Jarrod Turner on Saturday night. Friday night will feature Darryl Worley, with special guests Ashley Barron and Chad Brock. Bon-Jour, a band that combines the hits of Bon Jovi and Journey, will perform on Thursday. All shows are at 7 p.m. at the grandstand.

The fair will feature food vendors, a truck and tractor pull and daily livestock shows by 4-H and the FFA. Bands playing at the Moose Lodge Beer Garden include Hever DJ Service on Monday, July 15, No Apology on Tuesday and Wednesday, Shakey Ground on Thursday and Bootcut, Friday and Saturday. All shows are at 5 p.m. Carnival rides open at 5 p.m. daily, as does the beer garden.

Season pass tickets are \$50 through July 17 and \$55 at the gate and includes access to all the concerts, rides and exhibits. A daily pass costs \$20 for Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday and \$25 for Friday or Saturday. Children five and under are free. Passes are available online (\$3 charge), at the fair office, Hy-Vee supermarket and the Ayerco gas stations both north and south. Admission to the fairgrounds is free prior to July 18.

Kirksville Parks & Rec holds first summer block party

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

The Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department held the first of their four summer block parties on July 9 at PC Mills Park. Families attending the 9th annual event, enjoyed free hot dogs, lemonade, cotton candy, snow cones, water fights, a suds machine, a fire truck, a police car and more. Upcoming block parties will be held at Jaycee Park on July 16; at Memorial Park on July 30; and at Brashear Park on Aug. 6.



Missouri Governor signs 'Siddens Bening Hands Free Law'

By Special to The Express

Drivers in Missouri will no longer be able to hold their cell phone in their hand while behind wheel under a new law signed by Gov. Mike Parson, Thursday. The Siddens Bening Hands Free Law, which passed in Senate Bill 398, prohibits all drivers from manually typing, scrolling, or holding their cell phone while driving. The law does allow drivers to utilize hands-free cell phone features like talk-to-text, Bluetooth, or speaker functions to talk, send messages, and use navigation functions.

"AAA Missouri applauds the governor, state lawmakers, and advocates for their support of this measure that will improve safety for all road users," said AAA Missouri Vice President of Public Affairs and Government Relations Angela Nelson. "This law is a practical, commonsense measure that will reduce the number of Missourians who senselessly lose their lives each year to distracted driving on our roadways."

In Missouri, between 2012 and 2021, there have been 197,564 distracted driving-related crashes that killed 801 people, according to Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety data. The Siddens Bening Hands Free Law is named in memory of two



Missourians who lost their lives in traffic crashes. Michael Bening, 46 of Raymore, was struck and killed by a suspected distracted driver on I-49 in Cass County in May 2021 while attempting to retrieve debris in the roadway. Michael was husband to Stephany Bening and father of two.

Randall Siddens, 34, of Columbia, died from injuries he sustained from being struck by a driver who was video chatting on a cell phone and speeding. Randall, a husband to Adrienne Siddens and father of three, was hit while he was collecting traffic cones after a triathlon race in Columbia in May 2019. Both Adrienne and Stephany serve as victim advocates to educate drivers on the dangers of distracted driving in hopes of preventing more tragic crashes from happening.

Senate Bill 398 "Siddens Bening Hands Free Law" Summary

When the law takes effect on Aug. 28, Missouri will become the 28th state to require hands-free phone use for drivers of all ages behind the wheel and 49th state to prohibit manually texting and driving.

The Siddens Bening Hands Free Law was originally part of Senate Bills 56/61, which was formed from two bills introduced by Sen. Jason Bean and Sen. Greg Razer. Ultimately, the law was amended onto Senate Bill 398, which was passed by the Missouri General Assembly. This law strengthens the state's prior texting and driving law, one of the weakest in the country.

Under the new law, while the vehicle is in motion, drivers are prohibited from:

- Physically holding or supporting a cell phone with any part of their body
- Manually typing, writing, sending, or reading text-based messages
- Recording, posting, sending or broadcasting video, including video calls and social media posts
- Watching a video or movie

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OBITUARIES INSIDE

Marietta C. Slaughter, 91



OBITUARIES

Marietta C. Slaughter

Dec 2, 1931 – Jul 5, 2023

Marietta C. Slaughter, age 91, of Macon, Missouri, passed away Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at Boone Hospital in Columbia, Missouri.

Born December 2, 1931 in Gifford, Missouri, the daughter of Clarence and Lena (Bailey) Lockett. On March 22, 1951 in Kirksville, Missouri, she was united in marriage to Dean Slaughter who preceded her in death on June 8, 2016.



Also preceding her in death were her parents; three grandchildren, Hannah Perry, Branden Slaughter, and Sebrina Frock; one brother, Herschell Lockett; and one son-in-law, Dale McVay.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Norven and Denise Slaughter of Brookfield, Missouri; two daughters, Gayle McVay of Macon, Missouri and Terri and Bill Wobken of Queen City, Missouri; 14 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Marietta lived most of her life in the Gifford community. She was a 1949 graduate of La Plata High School and was a member of the Gifford Christian Church. She enjoyed gardening, canning, helping on the farm, and spending time with her family.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Sunday, July 9, 2023 at Travis Funeral Chapel in La Plata, Missouri. Burial will be in Indian Hill Cemetery, north of Gifford, Missouri.

Visitation will be Sunday, July 9, 2023 with the family receiving friends from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials in memory of Marietta may be made to the Gifford Christian Church or Indian Hill Cemetery. They may be sent to or left at Travis Funeral Chapel, 125 S. Church St., La Plata, MO 63549.



Area road report

Staff Reports

The following is a list of general highway maintenance work the Missouri Department of Transportation has planned in the Northern Missouri regions for the next few weeks. All road closures and planned roadwork may be viewed on the Traveler Information Map at <http://traveler.mdot.org/map/>. Inclement weather may cause schedule changes in some of the planned work. There may also be moving operations throughout the region, in addition to the work mentioned below.

Schuyler County

Route Z – July 12 – 13, Closed for asphalt pavement repairs from Raven Road to Missouri Route 202 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.
Route Z – July 17 – 19, Closed for asphalt pavement repairs from Raven Road to Missouri Route 202 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.
Route C – July 20 and July 24-27, Lane Restriction for patching operations from Route N to U.S. Route 136 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily. A 12-foot width restriction will be in place where crews are actively working.

Macon County

Route FF – July 10 – 13, Closed for patching operations from Hawk Avenue to Route C between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

Route P – July 17 – 20, Lane Restriction for patching operations from Chariton County Line to Missouri Route 129 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

Putnam County

Route Y – Closed for a culvert replacement from U.S. Route 136 to Route YY, July 12, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Sullivan County

Route C – Closed for a bridge replacement project at the Yellow Creek Bridge, 1.5 miles east of Route U, southeast of Milan, through September.

Route 129 – Closed for a culvert replacement from Route M to Kempwood Road, July 12, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Scotland County

U.S. Route 136 – July 12, Lane Restriction for patching operations from Route A in Clark County to Schuyler County line between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily.

Route MM – July 13 and July 17, Lane Restriction for patching operations from U.S. Route 136 to Route M between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

New Bridge on Route E in Schuyler County opens

The new bridge on Route E in Schuyler County over the North Fork of the South Fabius River opened to traffic on Saturday, July 8, making this the twenty-first bridge on the Fixing Access to Rural Missouri (FARM) Bridge Program.

Ribbon-cutting, cornerstone rededication to be held for Adair County Courthouse

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

A ribbon cutting and rededication of the cornerstone for the newly renovated Adair County Courthouse, will begin on Saturday, July 15 at 2:30 p.m. Courthouse tours will be given from noon to 2:30 p.m., leading up to the ribbon cutting. The rededication will take place at 4 p.m. and will be led by the Freemasons.

“Adair County Courthouse is an example of the fine architecture of the late 1800s and lives with strength and beauty due to the good citizenship of the voters of Adair County,” Presiding Commissioner Mark Shahan said in promotional material announcing the event.

Features of the courthouse renovation include new slate composite roof tiles that replaced five layers of asphalt shingles; historically accurate windows, doors and mortar



that replaced the old models; modern plumbing, fixtures and floors installed as well as woodwork and lighting restored throughout the building. Commissioners also had the 124-year-old flooring restored.

According to a flier promoting the day's events, the Adair County Courthouse is a historic structure that was experiencing interior and exterior damage/deterioration issues that included plaster cracking, floor damage, cracked stones, missing mortar, dis-

colored stones, inadequate patching and bat infestation, issues that needed immediate attention when county voters approved a 1/4-cent sales tax to fund the upgrades in 2021.

Building repairs included tuck pointing, cleaning, sealing and caulking around the windows; a new HVAC system that replaced window AC units that were inadequate and damaging the building with leaking condensation; a new roof, new premium ice and water shield, gutter apron, ridge caps and flashing. Damaged boards were also replaced and extensive plumbing upgrades were made to include sensor faucets and high efficiency toilets. Plaster and ceiling repairs were made throughout the courthouse and modern resilient flooring was included with the extensive repair of the the historic floors.

The courthouse is located at 100 W. Washington Street in Kirksville.

KIRKSVILLE POLICE BLOTTER: JUNE 30-JULY 5, 2023

INCIDENT REPORTS

JUNE 30

7:13 a.m., Animal Complaint, 1207 S. Baird Street
7:46 a.m., Traffic Stop, Westbury Lane, Brenda Johnson, 67
8:01 a.m., Identity Theft, 909 E. Scott Street
11:23 a.m., Property/Damage Vandalism, Suspicious Person, Activity, Vehicle, 2118 E. Normal Avenue
11:26 p.m., Domestic Disturbance, 1007 E. Pierce Street
11:54 a.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From All Other (M), 516 E. Illinois Street
1:07 p.m., Traffic Stop, West Elizabeth Street, December Leslie, 27
1:28 p.m., Domestic Disturbance, 710 N. Mulanix Street
1:58 p.m., Domestic Disturbance/Physical, Trespass, Driving While Revoked/Suspended 1st Offense (M D), 701 W. Smith Street
1:59 p.m., Stalking, Harassment, 1804 Meadow View Drive
3:51 p.m., Services Rendered, 119 E. McPherson Street
4:08 p.m., Harassment 3309 N. Baltimore Street
5:08 p.m., Property/Damage Vandalism, 2nd Degree, 818 E. Meadow Lane
6:52 p.m., Fire/Chemical Spill, Obedience to Police/Fire Officials, 2703 N. Baltimore Street
7:57 p.m., Civil Dispute, 315 S. Osteopathy Street
8:57 p.m., Traffic Stop, East Washington Street
9:52 p.m., Burglary/In Progress, Burglary 2nd (Force) Residential (F C), Property Damage (M) 2nd Degree, 1207 Queens Road
10:20 p.m., Animal/Bite-Attack, 315 S. Osteopathy Street
10:20 p.m., Traffic Stop, No Valid License-2nd Offense (M), North Baltimore Street, Arrested:
11:41 p.m., Traffic Stop, 1704 S. Baltimore Street, Lynzie Abbadusky, 31
11:46 p.m., Traffic Stop, 1000 S. Baltimore Street, Juvenile
JULY 1
12:01 a.m., Traffic Stop, 2216 S. Baltimore Street, Matthew Lester, 35
12:32 a.m., Traffic Stop, 1611 S. Baltimore Street, Xander Wright, 18
8 a.m., Parking Complaint, Vehicle Towed, 1115 N. Osteopathy Street
9:40 a.m., identity Theft, Forgery (F D), False Impersonation (M B), 201 S. Baltimore Street
11:41 a.m., Traffic Stop, North Green Street
1:55 p.m., Juvenile Problem, Runaway, 1101 S. Jamison Street
2:41 p.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Suspicious Activity, 1700 N. Centennial Avenue



3:01 p.m., Traffic Stop, Operated a Motor Vehicle, Which is Not Validly Licensed, Elson Street
3:28 p.m., Traffic Stop, 1901 N. Baltimore Street, William Ard, 21
3:37 p.m., Traffic Stop, Failure to Exhibit Proof of Insurance, Missouri Street, Mathew West, 19
3:49 p.m., Traffic Stop, North Centennial Avenue, Austin West, 24
5:10 p.m., MVA/Minor 1023 E. Jefferson Street
6:58 p.m., Warrant-Livingston County, 401 N. Franklin Street, Arrestee: Sean Dabney, 46
7:36 p.m., Animal/Bite-Attack, 1000 S. Baltimore Street
9:47 p.m., MVA/Minor, Road Blocked, Baltimore Street
10:19 p.m., Traffic Stop, Warrant-Adair County; Drugs/Possession (F) of Controlled Substance (F D), South Lewis Street, Arrestee: Lisa Wilson, 42
JULY 2
1:03 a.m., Check the Well Being, 800 W. Jefferson Street
7:14 a.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Trespass, 503 S. Franklin Street,
7:44 a.m., Traffic Stop, Main Street, Justin Miller, 47
7:58 a.m., Traffic Stop, 202 E. Illinois Street, Justin Mihalevich 29
9:03 a.m., Field Contact, 1615 S. Baltimore Street
11:20 a.m., Property/Damage Vehicle, 2nd Degree, 1502 S. Osteopathy Street
1:40 p.m., Traffic Stop, Michigan Street, Juvenile
4:19 p.m., Suspicious/Activity, 1202 E. Filmore Street
5:19 p.m., Domestic Disturbance, Assault/Domestic 3rd Degree (F E), 412 N. Mulanix Street
9:10 p.m., MVA/Minor North Baltimore Street
JULY 3
2:15 a.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From Shoplifting (M), 202 E. Illinois Street
3:01 a.m., Suspicious/Activity, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, South Marion Street
4:27 a.m., Traffic Stop, Harrison Street, Coaltrain Palmer, 25
8:48 a.m., Traffic Stop, West Patterson Street, Austin Lawson, 28
9:17 a.m., Traffic Stop, 315 S. Osteopathy Street, James Connelly, 31
9:58 a.m., Warrant Check, 175 Valley Forge Drive

10:17 a.m., Traffic Stop, Randolph Street
10:38 a.m., Animal/Loose-Running at Large, 1207 Baird Street
10:55 a.m., Traffic Stop, Osteopathy Street, Kari Womack, 41
11:15 a.m., Field Contact, Operating Motorized Bicycle on Highway or Street Without Driver's License (M), 502 N. Baltimore Street, Arrestee: Travis Meyers, 32
1:03 p.m., Traffic Stop, North Green Street, Jerry Woods, 51
1:13 p.m., Traffic Stop, 2121 N. Baltimore Street
1:25 p.m., Traffic Stop, 502 N. Baltimore Street, Gideon Stewart, 43
1:34 p.m., Runaway, Located, 704 W. Burton Street
2:04 p.m., Traffic Stop, 2015 N. Baltimore Street, Meghan Triplett, 23
2:16 p.m., Traffic Stop, 2015 N. Baltimore Street, Marilea Navis, 66
2:29 p.m., Traffic Stop, 500 N. Baltimore Street
2:32 p.m., Traffic Stop, 2015 N. Baltimore Street
3:08 p.m., Traffic Stop, East Harrison Street
3:36 p.m., Check the Well Being, 1023 E. Washington Street
3:42 p.m., Traffic Stop, No Valid License-1st Offense (M), East Illinois Street
5:30 p.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing, 101 E. Harrison Street
7:22 p.m., Property/Recovered, 119 E. McPherson Street
8:52 p.m., Property/Recovered, Civil Dispute, 119 E. McPherson Street
9:59 p.m., Intoxicated Person, Domestic Disturbance, Warrant, 1915 N. Osteopathy Street
10:29 p.m., Intoxicated Person, Domestic Disturbance, 603 W. Tracy Street
10:41 p.m., Warrant, 1915 N. Osteopathy Street, Arrestee: Anthony Nelson, 31
11:17 p.m., Property/Damage Vandalism (M) 2nd Degree, 801 N. Walnut Street
11:47 p.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing From Auto (M), 103 W. Scott Street
JULY 4
12 a.m., Traffic Stop, 2002 N. Baltimore Street, Ashley Wilson, 18
12:29 a.m., Suspicious/Activity, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 2400 S. Baltimore Street

2:50 a.m., Traffic Stop, 2401 N. Baltimore Street, James Connelly, 31
3:27 a.m., Theft/In Progress, Stealing From Auto (M), 917 N. Florence Street
7:21 a.m., Trespass/Refuse to Leave, Domestic Disturbance, 601 E. Pierce Street
9:53 a.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Burglary 2nd (No Force) Residential (F C)
10:26 a.m., Traffic Stop, North Mulanix Street, Virginia Findling, 23
11:06 a.m., Traffic Stop, East Washington Street, Timothy Matheny, 49
11:10 a.m., Traffic Stop, 3607 N. Baltimore Street
11:37 p.m., Property/Recovered, 414 S. Halliburton Street
11:38 a.m., Domestic Disturbance, Check the Well Being, 710 W. Elizabeth Street
11:41 a.m., Fraud, Forgery (F D), 2205 S. Marion Street
12:12 p.m., Traffic Stop, NO Valid License-1st Offense (M), State Highway 6, Arrestee: Catherine Koesy, 34
12:21 p.m., Traffic Stop, 315 S. Osteopathy Street, Rex Partin, 71
12:38 p.m., Theft/Not in Progress, Stealing, 711 Erin Place
12:58 p.m., Traffic Stop, East Illinois Street, Woody Dunn, 35
2:35 p.m., Traffic Stop, Driving While Suspended/Revoked-2nd or 3rd (M A), Arrestee: Matthew Hudson, 47
2:59 p.m., Traffic Stop, No Valid License-1st Offense (M), North Bradford Street, Arrestee: Cole Stevens, 20
3:12 p.m., Traffic Stop, North Marion Street, Levi Watts, 18
3:18 p.m., traffic Stop, 1004 W. Gardner Street, Freddy Mpana, 46
3:42 p.m., Assault/Simple, 909 E. McPherson Street
4:20 p.m., Traffic Stop, No Valid License-3rd and Subsequent Offense (F), 311 N. Baltimore Street, Arrestee: Bryon Lough, 48
7:10 p.m., Property/Lost, Fraud or (Attempt) Use of 'Credit Device (MA) Under \$750; Stealing From All Other (M), 2206 N. Baltimore Street
10:24 p.m., Traffic Stop, 1401 S. Baltimore Street
10:56 p.m., Traffic Stop,, North Osteopathy Street
11 p.m., Traffic Stop, North Osteopathy Street, Kelsey Bridges, 30
11:09 p.m., Traffic Stop, 202 E., Illinois Street
11:45 p.m., Traffic Stop, East Illinois Street
JULY 5
12:15 a.m., Peace Disturbance, Trespass, 1102 N. Franklin Street
1:27 a.m., Ex Parte Full Order of Protection/Violation, Suspicious-Person, Activity, Vehicle, 2202 E. Normal Avenue
2:57 a.m., Assault/Simple, 4th Degree (M), 1007 E. Pierce Street

LAW

Continued from Page A1

The new law does allow drivers to

- Place or receive voice calls utilizing voice-operated or hands-free functions that can be engaged/disengaged with a single touch or swipe
- Talk on the phone, hands-free, utilizing features like built-in phone speaker, in-car Bluetooth, or ear bud/headset

- Send or receive text-based communication through voice-to-text features
- Utilize cell phone GPS navigation and music or podcast functions

The bill contains specific exemptions for drivers communicating in emergency situations, emergency first responders and other emergency roadside workers, and for-hire drivers. The “Siddens Bening Hands Free Law” will also make it illegal for school bus drivers to use an elec-

tronic communication device while the bus is in motion or while loading or unloading passengers.

Under the penalty provisions, a first-time violation will result in a fine up to \$100. Fine amounts increase, up to \$500, for repeat convictions within a two-year period. Additional penalties can occur, misdemeanor or felony charges, if the distracted driver causes a crash that results in significant property damage, serious injury or death.

Penalty provisions will not be enacted until Jan. 1, 2025 to allow adequate time for public education.

The passage of the Siddens Bening Hands Free Law is the successful culmination of a multi-year, collaborative effort from local, state, and national traffic safety-focused organizations, agencies, businesses, law makers, and advocates, including AAA Missouri, in the interest of addressing the growing public safety threat of cell phone-distracted driving.

Thank You to all of our friends and family that have sent cards, flowers, made donations and have supported me during this difficult time.

Everyone's gestures are very much appreciated. Not having addresses for everyone. I am hoping this thank you reaches all of you. Most important are the shared stories about Jack. My Baring family will always be close to my heart.

OLIVE



Unionville native promoted to highway patrol lieutenant

By Missouri State Highway Patrol

Capt. Erik A. Gottman, commanding officer of Troop B, Macon, announced the following promotion effective Aug. 1.

Sgt. Bradley D. Ream will be promoted to lieutenant and designated a member of the Troop B command staff. Ream was appointed to the Patrol on Jan. 1, 1999. After graduating from the Patrol's Law

Enforcement Academy, he was assigned to Troop A, Zone 10, Saline County. On Dec. 1, 2001, he transferred from Troop A, Zone 10, to Troop B, Zone 4, Putnam and Sullivan counties.

On May 30, 2004, he was promoted to corporal and designated the assistant zone supervisor of Zone 4, Putnam and Sullivan counties. On Aug. 1, 2010, he was promoted to sergeant and designated the zone supervisor of Zone

4, Putnam and Sullivan counties. On Nov. 4, 2012, he transferred from Troop B, Zone 4, to the Division of Drug and Crime Control Troop B criminal investigation unit. In 2014, Ream was named the supervisor of the Division of Drug and Crime Control's Troop B criminal investigation unit.

Lt. Ream is a native of Unionville, and graduated from Putnam County R-1 High School, in Unionville.



Lt. Bradley D. Ream

Lt. Ream and his wife, Leslie (Clinkenbeard), have five children, Trey, Kelsie, Haiden, Owen and Kaden.



John Jones, chair of Truman's Education Department, presents Teresa Davidson with the Kay Clapp Children's Literacy Award.

KIRKSVILLE AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Mill and overlay work scheduled for portion of East Normal Avenue

The street maintenance division of the city of Kirksville's Public Works Department will begin mill and overlay work on a portion of East Normal Avenue from South Cottage Grove Avenue to approximately 600 feet east of South Cottage Grove Avenue, starting Wednesday, July 12. The street will have alternating traffic lanes during construction.

This project is expected to be completed by July 13, depending on the weather. For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 660-627-1291.

Indoor walking activity for seniors at the Crossing Church

The RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Persons) office sponsors a walking activity five days a week during winter months for seniors to walk inside the Crossing Church location on Shepard Street from 9:30 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday. This is only for senior citizens — 55 or older. They have volunteers "manning" the location and seniors are welcome any time during that time period. They ask that you sign in. There is no charge and you may come any or all days. If the schools are closed, they are not open because of weather. As of April 1, the Crossing will only be open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week. It will be rain free, wind free, and cool on hot days. Citizens above 55 years of age.

Children's Theatre Camps announced

Back by popular demand! Send your budding theatre enthusiast to one of the theatre camps this summer. Choose between a performance based, or technical theatre camp. Open to students entering third through eighth grades.

Technical Theatre Camp will be July 18 to 21, 1-4 p.m. Students will learn the technical elements of theatre and design for an end of week camp performance.

Performance Theatre Camp will be July 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 and 27 from 9 a.m. to noon. Students will make up the cast of the end of week performance of "The Rainbow Fish". The performance will be held July 27 at 7 p.m. at the Ray Klingensmith Amphitheater in Rotary Park. The cost is



just \$50 per child and each registrant will receive a t-shirt.

For more information, contact the Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department at 660-627-1485.

Rotary Youth Exchange Committee in need of host families

The Kirksville Rotary Youth Exchange Committee is in need of host families for a German exchange student for the 2023-24 school year. Three host families are needed to provide room and board for three months each. The committee provides orientation to the families and the students go through a strong vetting process. Email acsweet12@gmail.com if interested.

"Thank You for Your Service Exhibit"

For a second year the Kirksville Arts Association is honoring area men and women, who have served in the military with a photography exhibit at the Sue Ross Arts Center, located at 215 S. Franklin in Kirksville. The exhibit will run through Aug. 26. The exhibit includes 40 former military members from Adair, Macon, Schuyler, Sullivan and Putnam counties. The exhibit includes photographs of the veterans holding a photograph of when they were in the service. A closing reception will be held Thursday, Aug. 24 from 5:30-7 p.m. and will include a presentation of five quilts by the Hands of Friendship Quilt Guild. The quilts will be on display at the arts center until the evening of the reception. The Sue Ross Arts 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 view the exhibit. Any former military member who is interested in participating in a future exhibit by the Kirksville Arts Association should call 660-665-0500 or email kirksvilleart@gmail.com.

Plant treatment to close Hazel Creek Lake for two days in July and August

Hazel Creek Lake will be temporarily closed for all recreational activities on July 17-18 and Aug. 7-8 — weather permitting — to allow the city to treat the American Lotus plant. Boating, fishing, and all other activity on or in Hazel Creek Lake will be prohibited during this time period and the boat ramp will be closed. While this treatment process has been deemed safe for recreational activities, time is still needed to allow the treatment process to take place. If this process must be postponed due to weather, adequate notice will be provided to the public and all affected parties. Hazel Creek Lake is a drinking source lake that provides water for all Adair County residents. This program for treatment of lotus has been approved by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The city will draw water from Forest Lake — the city's other drinking source lake — during this treatment process. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 660-627-1291.

Ld's Bar and Grill calendar

Ld's Bar and Grill, 33006 State Hwy M in Economy (three miles east of Atlanta on Hwy M), will hold the following events:

Pool tournaments every first and third Saturday of the month. Sign in at noon, play begins at 1 p.m.

Saturday July 15 — Band "Keota" 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday Aug. 5 — Chariton River Rally Poker Run Saturday Aug. 19 — Band "Fully Loaded" 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Friday Sept. 15 — Band "Boot Cut" 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Saturday Sept. 30 — Band "Keota" 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday Oct. 21 — Band "Shakey Ground" 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Friday Oct. 27 — Band "Stone house" 9 p.m. to midnight

Call 660-239-4576 for more information.

Kirksville Kiwanis Farmers' Market on Saturdays

The Kirksville Kiwanis Farmers' Market will run each Saturday from May through Oct. 7 a.m. to noon on the square in downtown Kirksville. Come support your local farmers, growers, bakers, and craftspeople at the longest continual community service project in the city of Kirksville. For more information, contact the Kirksville Kiwanis Club at (660) 988-0419 or via email at kirksvillemarket@gmail.com. or see the Kiwanis Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/kirksvillekiwanisfarmersmarket/>

Food Bank Adopt a Buddy Pack program

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri invites you to Adopt a Buddy Pack. 1,928 children in Adair County qualify for free or reduced-price meals at school. Many of these children do not have access to nutritious meals during the weekend. The Food Bank's Buddy Pack program aims to fill that gap by providing Buddy Packs full of nutritious food for children

to take over the weekend. You can help feed a child with Buddy Packs. A gift of \$270 allows them to provide a Buddy Pack to a child in Adair County for an entire school year. Donate at sharefoodbringshope.org/give-help or in-person at Alliant Bank, 201 S. Baltimore Street in Kirksville. Check by Mail: Make payable to "The Food Bank" with "Adair County Buddy Pack" in the memo to: The Food Bank, 2101 Vandiver Drive, Columbia, Mo. 65202. All funds stay in the county. Participating schools include Kirksville Primary, Ray Miller, Brashear and Novinger. Sponsored by Alliant Bank and Kirksville Daily Express.

Join the Kirksville Young Professionals Committee

The Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce encourages businesses and their employees (ages 21-40) to become involved in the Kirksville Young Professionals Committee, which focuses on retaining and engaging young professionals in the area through lunch & learn opportunities, professional development, and other various events. KVYP is here to help them connect with the community. They meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m., in the Hampton Inn Truman Room or via zoom. Feel free to reach out to KirksvilleYP@gmail.com for more information about KVYP or to get the Zoom Link for meetings. You are also more than welcome to join them at future events.

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

An ongoing support group around the grief of aging 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." 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 ongoing support group is sponsored by Hospice of Northeast Missouri, a partner agency of the United Way of Northeast Missouri. For more information, call 660-627-9711.

Accepting applications for the Missouri Livestock Achievement Award

The Missouri Livestock Symposium is currently accepting applications for the Missouri Livestock Achievement Award. This award recognizes an individual or organization demonstrating outstanding achievements and distinguished contributions to the livestock industry. Eligible applicants can be producers of livestock, agribusiness personnel, agency personnel, or agriculture educators in the state of Missouri. Other parties who have been long-time supporters of the Missouri livestock industry will also be considered. The award recognizes livestock industry leaders from across the state. The selected applicant will become a member of the Missouri Livestock Symposium Hall of Fame and will be inducted during the Friday evening program of the Missouri Livestock Symposium on Dec. 1. The award nomination form can be received by emailing missourilivestock@gmail.com and requesting the form, or by contacting the Adair County Extension office at 660-665-9866. The Missouri Livestock Symposium is Dec. 1-2, at William Mathew Middle School. Go to missourilivestock.com or our Facebook page @MissouriLivestock for more details.

Clapp Award helps educators

By Truman State University

This year's recipients for the Dr. Kay Clapp Children's Literacy Award are Jacquelyn Wheeler and Teresa Davidson.

Wheeler recently earned her MAE with an emphasis in elementary education at Truman. She is a fourth grade teacher at Bartley Elementary in the Fulton School District in Fulton. Davidson is a reading specialist at the Kirksville Primary School.

Clapp taught in Truman's Department of Ed-

ucation and is a powerful proponent of literacy and children's literature. The Dr. Kay Clapp Children's Literacy Award was endowed in 2006 in her honor. Hundreds of students and practicing teachers have been influenced by her dedication and careful mentoring. The fund provides \$500 each to a Master of Arts in Education student and a current teacher to purchase children's literature for their professional practices.

The awards were presented June 21 during a ceremony in Violette Hall.

Trees in drought: Love and water deeply

By University of Missouri Extension

VERSAILLES — With more than 90 percent of Missouri under drought, browning lawns and wilting cornfields are common sights. But don't forget about your trees. A lawn can be replaced in months, but it takes decades to replace a large tree, says University of Missouri Extension natural resources specialist Joni Harper.

Trees are a valuable part of home landscapes, says Harper. They beautify surroundings and help save energy by providing shade.

Signs of stress include wilted foliage, off-color leaves, leaf scorch, leaf drop and early fall coloration.

Most of the tree's active roots are within the top 12 inches of soil and extend beyond the tree canopy. Prolonged heat and drought can bake the soil. This can damage or kill fragile roots critical to water and nutrient uptake, says MU Extension state forester Hank Stelzer.

Harper recommends the "screwdriver test" to check soil moisture. "Try to push the head of the screwdriver six-eight inches into the ground around the tree root zone," she says. "If it doesn't push in easily, it is time to water."

In "normal" weather, trees need about one inch of water per week during the growing season. In dry weather, Stelzer recommends watering deeply every six-seven days. As a drought becomes more severe or when air temperatures rise above 95 F, step up watering to every four-five days, he says.

When watering mature trees with well-established root systems, water the entire area beneath the tree canopy. Water slowly so that water can saturate the

soil. This is true for sandy and clay soils. "In sandy soils, water tends to head straight down," says Harper. "Watering slowly allows for more lateral spread." When clay soils are watered too quickly, water runs off the surface and will not reach tree roots.

Use a soaker hose to help the water reach the ideal soil depth. Another option is a sprinkler. When using the sprinkler, place an empty tuna can close by and run the sprinkler slowly until one inch of water collects in the can. Again, be sure to water the entire root zone beneath the tree canopy.

Young and newly planted trees are most vulnerable to drought since they are still establishing their roots. Stelzer says, "Remember, during the first year after planting, most of a tree's roots are still in the root ball, which can dry out very quickly, especially in hot, dry and windy conditions."



One simple method is to use a five-gallon bucket with a few nail holes in its sides near the bottom of the bucket. Set the bucket next to the trunk and let water flow into the soil. Water daily for the first week, then twice a week for the next month or so. Fill the bucket either late in the evening or first thing in the morning. This way, the tree is ready to face the heat of the day, says Stelzer.

Proper care of young trees during drought also includes mulching, Harper says. Apply organic mulch such as wood chips to a depth of two inches to retain soil moisture. Inorganic mulch such as crushed granite might help but may not be as effective. In addition, it can absorb solar radiation and add to the heat stress, especially when temperatures climb above 90 degrees.

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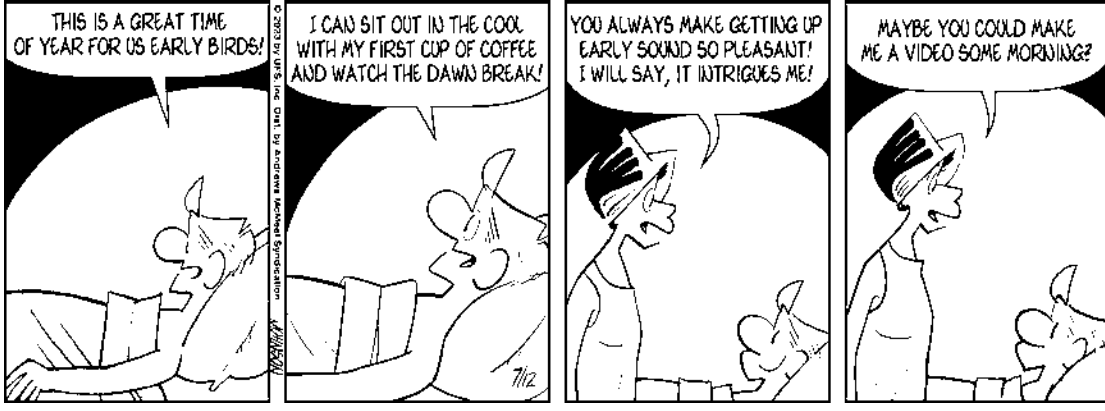
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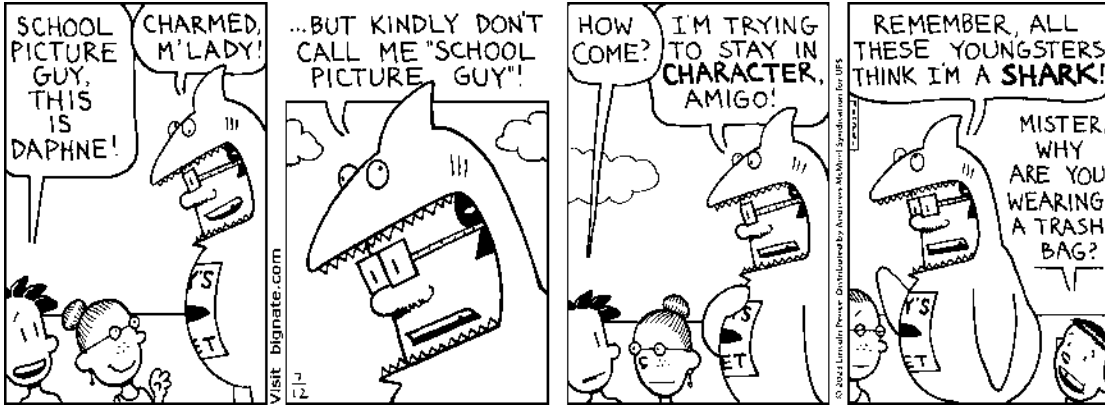



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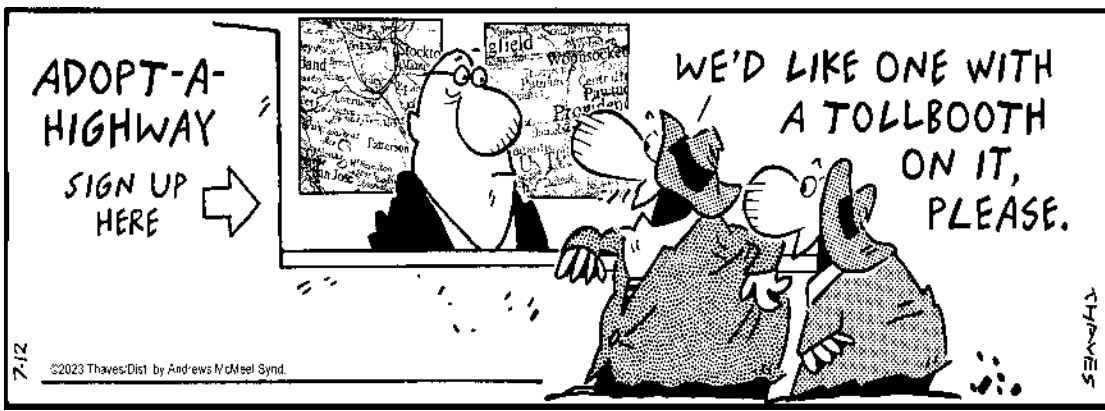
BIG NATE



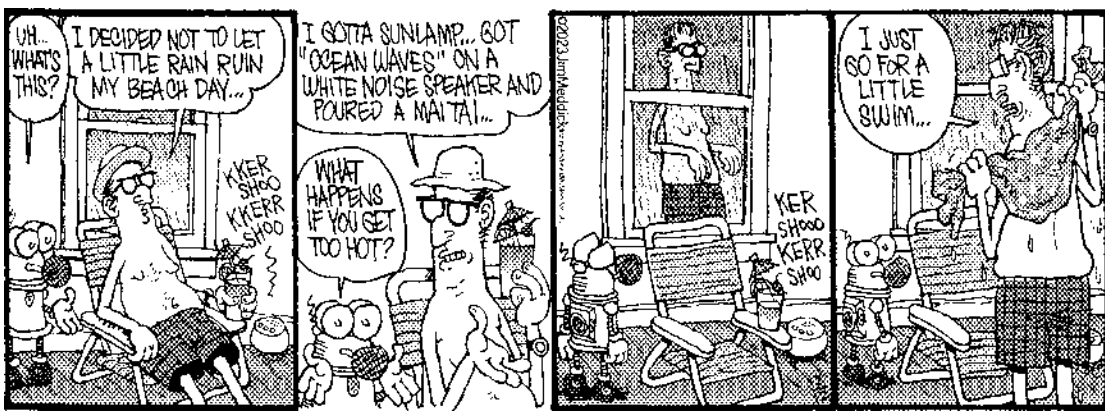
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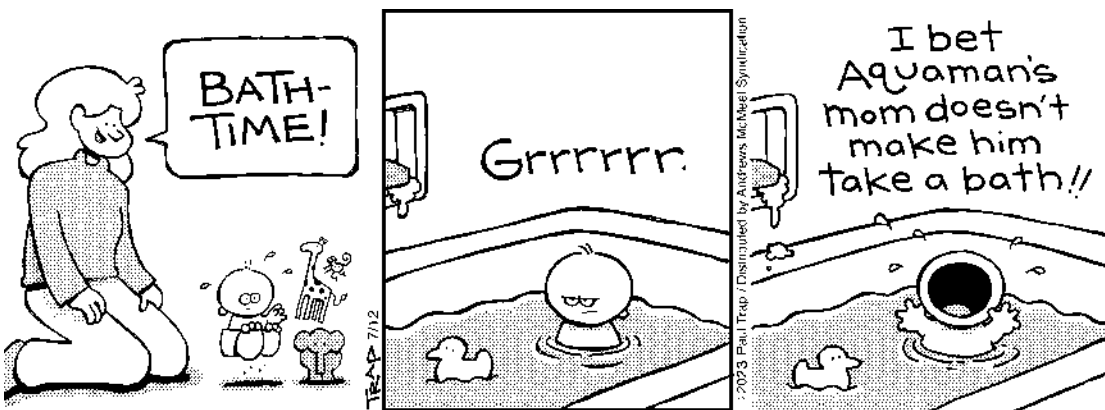
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MONTY



THAT A BABY



SUDOKU

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!

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

PREVIOUS ANSWER

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

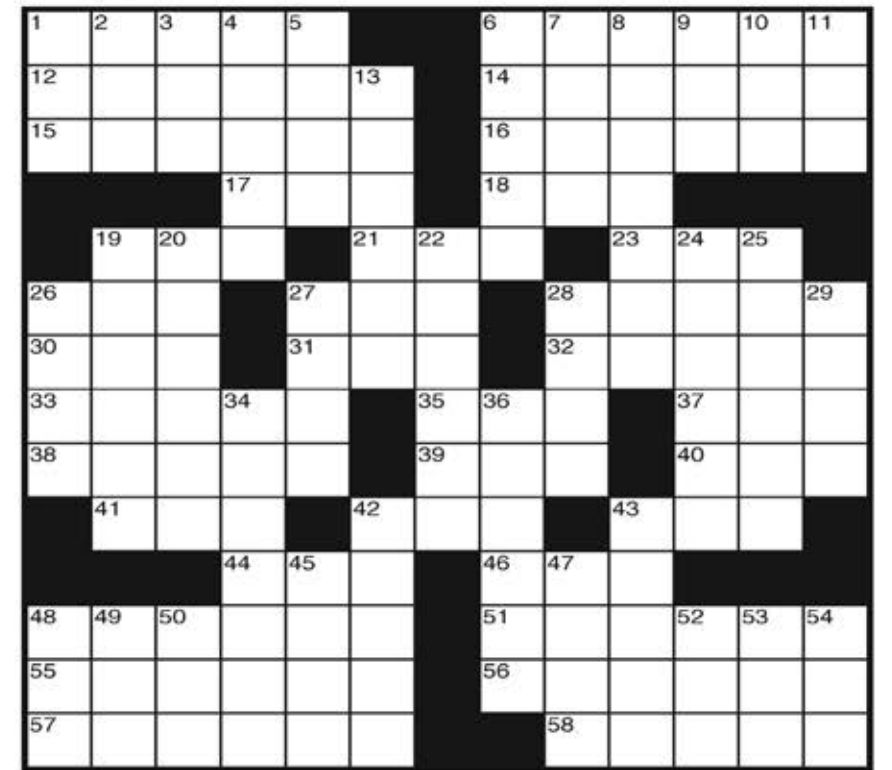
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small stream
 - 6 Fastened a parka
 - 12 Four-legged shepherd
 - 14 Beethoven's Third
 - 15 Kitchen gizmo
 - 16 Celtics' city
 - 17 Fish-to-be
 - 18 Hosp. personnel
 - 19 40-cup brewer
 - 21 Luxury resort
 - 23 Ref's kin
 - 26 Monk's title
 - 27 Give — — break
 - 28 Burn or sting
 - 30 Crunch targets
 - 31 Form 1040 sender
 - 32 Late summer flower
 - 33 Unvoiced
 - 35 Harsh call
 - 37 Pipe joint
- DOWN**
- 38 Pass, in Congress
 - 39 Miller or Blyth
 - 40 Printer's measures
 - 41 Cotton gin name
 - 42 Tricky
 - 43 Hirt and Gore
 - 44 Tiger, e.g.
 - 46 Actor
 - 48 Saffron dish
 - 51 Woodwind player
 - 55 Profession
 - 56 Made one's way
 - 57 Formal papers
 - 58 Analyzes

Answer to Previous Puzzle

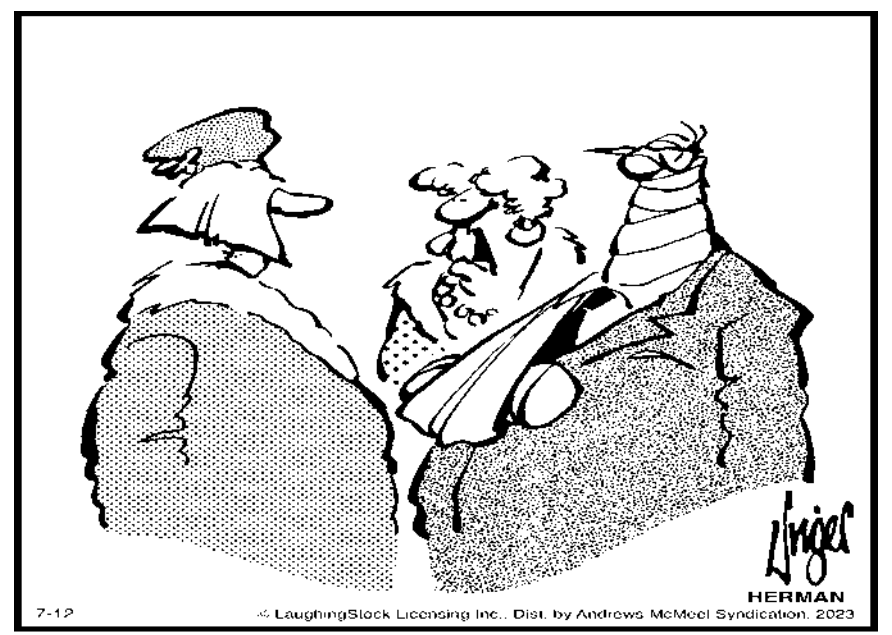


- 7 Magnets attract it
- 8 Pouched critters (var.)
- 9 Fruit stone
- 10 "Green" prefix
- 11 — Aykroyd of films
- 13 Whiteboard need
- 19 Debonair
- 20 Imp
- 22 Computer language
- 24 Barbie's maker
- 25 Grooms a lot
- 26 Destine
- 27 Fielder's glove
- 28 Like lumber
- 29 Uno, dos, —
- 34 Eave droppers
- 36 Regardless
- 42 Bright objects
- 43 Single-handed
- 45 Nautical position
- 47 Help go wrong
- 48 Interest amt.
- 49 Open-wide word
- 50 Previous
- 52 Visa and passport
- 53 Tennis unit
- 54 NFL scores



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HERMAN



"He was trying to fill a disposable lighter."

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Check who's on your side and willing to step in and take charge. Surround yourself with allies and share your ideas. Strength and courage will help you bring about positive change and greater security. Use your intelligence when dealing with money matters, contracts and joint ventures. Know when to say no and when to work alone. Think positively to avoid discord.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- A physical change won't unfold as anticipated. Don't give someone the right to be your fashion or health expert. Research is in your best interest. Distance yourself from harmful situations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Think twice before you start something you cannot finish. Protect your reputation and position. Don't expect someone to cover for you. Use your experience and knowledge to push forward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- A change will lift you and boost your confidence. Travel, educational pursuits and activities that encourage spending time with friends, relatives or colleagues will pay off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Control your emotions and let your intelligence shine through. Don't feel the need to pay for others or get involved in a joint venture. Keep your sights on what makes you happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Put your current situation in perspective and consider what you'd like more of in your life. A change at home that adds to your comfort or eases stress will make a world of difference.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Pay attention to money matters. Update documents, accounts and credit cards to reduce unnecessary annual fees and interest payments. Taking control will put your mind at ease.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Spend more time nurturing what's important to you. Don't take chances with your personal life, possessions or money. A change at home will result in closer ties with loved ones.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Think twice before you pick a fight with someone. Assess your relationships, intentions and the changes you want to make before sharing your thoughts and feelings.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Follow your plans, and you'll feel good about your accomplishments. Invest more time and money in yourself and the skills you need to pursue the life you want to live.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- You can talk your way into anything today, but your dreams will crumble if you don't follow through with your promises. Offer only what's feasible, and be willing to work hard.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Social events won't unfold as anticipated. Rethink how you spend your time and be honest about what you will and won't do. Risks will lead to regrets. A change of heart is apparent.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Don't be fooled by the information someone offers you. Signing up for something that you're unsure about will put you in a vulnerable position. Don't get angry. Follow your heart.

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Farmers Market

Home grown tomatoes \$7.25 for 3 pounds or \$2.50/pound. cabbage, turnip, onion, zucchini, beet, green bean, new potatoes. Schmucker Produce, 7 miles North of Kirkville on 63 to Ft. Madison Way, East 1/2 mile.

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

On the 22nd day of June, 2023, the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri, entered Judgment in Cause Number 23AR-CV00167, the name of **McKENNA MARIE STARK** was changed to **McKENNA MARIE WATTS**.

Notice is hereby given that the Adair County R-II School District will receive bid proposals for services at the Adair County R-II High School. The District is requesting bids to remodel a portion of the High School water supply lines. Please contact Josh Brummit, Superintendent, to view the proposed area and for bid specifications. Bid proposals are to be received at the Superintendent's Office, 205 West Dewey, Brashear, MO prior to 1:00 p.m. Thursday, July 27, 2023. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI STATE OF MISSOURI Case Number: 23AR-CV00360 (Date File Stamp)
WILLIAM R. HENKE
Petitioner
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LINNIE B. REESE,
Respondents.

**AMENDED
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:

"All of Lot 7, Block 3, Southern Heights First Addition to Kirkville, 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, 610 S. Cottage Grove Ave., Kirkville, 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 forth-five (45) days after the first day of publication, a Quiet title may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

First Date of Publication:

(Publication to run four (4) consecutive weeks)

Publication Dates: JUNE 28, JULY 5, JULY 12, JULY 19

Martha Cole

Adair County Circuit Clerk

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Looking back at 2022 high school softball season as offseason winds down

By Adam Tumino

The high school softball season gets underway at the end of August. As the local teams start ramping up for the start of the season, let's take a look back at where these teams finished last season and what they have coming up.

Atlanta

The Hornets hovered around .500 for most of the season in 2022. They had records of 1-1, 3-3, 5-5, 7-7, 8-8 and 11-11 before finishing the season 12-12. They were 10-11 at the end of the regular season before winning the Class 1 District 11 Tournament for the fourth-straight year. They then fell to Braymer with Breckenridge in sectionals.

Atlanta's .500 record was mirrored in their scoring averages. The Hornets averaged six runs per game and allowed an average of six runs per game. The scoring average was the lowest since the 2012 season and the opponents' average was the highest since 2016. Those were also the last two seasons that Atlanta finished below .500.

The Hornets are set to open the 2023 season on the road against Marion County on Aug. 31. Their home opener will be their next game, which is against Scotland County on Sept. 5.

Brashear

The Tigers got off to a strong start in 2022, winning four of their first five games. They improved their record to 9-3 before a brief skid saw them lose four of five games, but they then responded by winning the next three games to wrap up the regular season with a 13-7 record. That streak saw Brashear outscore opponents 43-4 in those three games, but it came to an end with an upset loss to Schuyler County in the Class 1 District 10 Tournament.

Their scoring average of 7.4 runs per game was the highest since 2019 and their 13 wins were the most since 2018. They allowed an average of 4.1 runs per game, which was higher than the last two seasons, but still gave the Tigers a solid scoring advantage.

Brashear starts off the 2023 season by hosting the Brashear Softball Tournament on Aug. 26.

Green City

The Gophers posted a winning record last season for the first time in three years, managing to hold on after a strong start to wrap the season at 11-10. They started the season 8-2 before going 2-7 in the final nine games of the regular season. They had a strong start to the Class 1 District 10 Tournament, winning the first game 18-8 over Novinger before losing to La Plata 11-0 in the next game.

Green City saw its scoring average jump by nearly a run per game from 2021 to 2022 and their opponents' scoring average fell by nearly two runs. The Gophers have not won a district title since 2014, but their 11 wins this season are tied for the second-most in a season since then.

A road contest with Meadville is set for Aug. 29 to begin the season. Green City's home opener will be Sept. 1 against Brunswick.

Kirksville

The Tigers did not fall below .500 a single time during the 2022 season, starting 2-0 before falling briefly to the .500 mark at 2-2. They then won three games in a row and remained north of .500. A pair of losses later in the season dropped them to 10-8 but Kirksville then finished off the regular season on a six-game winning streak to reach 16 wins for the third-straight season.

The Tigers lost to Warrensburg in the Class 4 District 5 Tournament, but posted a winning record for the fourth-straight season. They have not had a losing record since the 2016 season. Kirksville averaged 6.8 runs per game and have averaged six or more runs per game in each of the past six seasons. The Tigers also went 5-2 on the road and have been over .500 on the road in each of the last four seasons.

They open the season in the Lady Pirate Leadoff Classic on Aug. 26 and they play Chillicothe on the road on Aug. 28. Their home opener will be Aug. 29 against Clark County.



PHOTOS BY ADAM TUMINO

Knox County

The Eagles had a slow start to the season, coming out of the gates with a four-game losing streak. But they were able to avoid a longer losing streak, responding by winning six games in a row and eight of the next nine overall.

That stretch helped them finish the regular season with a 12-8 record. They were unable to advance in the Class 1 District 9 Tournament however, losing to Canton. Still, Knox County managed to avoid a third-straight losing season. Their scoring average of 5.1 runs per game was nearly identical to their 2021 average, but they managed to cut their runs allowed per game from 8 in 2021 to 4.9 last season, helping fuel a rebound from an 8-16 2021 season.

The Eagles are scheduled to start the 2023 season on Aug. 18 in the Jamboree with South Shelby, Paris and Westran. They then will host North Shelby and Canton on Aug. 29 and Aug. 31.

La Plata

Although they were unable to quite reach the heights of the 2020 and 2021 seasons, which saw them finish in third and second place in the state respectively, the Bulldogs were still able to win their third-straight district title. A younger roster than in the past two seasons found its footing after a 7-7 start, going 9-3 over the last 12 games of the regular season. They then beat Green City and Schuyler County in the Class 1 District 10 Tournament before falling to Canton in sectionals.

The Bulldogs averaged eight runs per game in 2022, making it nine-straight seasons in which they averaged seven or more runs per game. The last time they fell short of that mark was when they averaged 5.4 runs per game in 2013, which was also the last time they finished below .500.



They open the 2023 season with four-straight road games, the first of which is against new Franklin on Aug. 28. They play their home opener against Marceline on Sept. 7.

Macon

The Tigers had a slow start to the season but quickly turned it around. After starting 2-4, Macon won six in a row after the slow start, and after a brief 1-2 stretch, they then put together an 11-game winning streak. This helped them finish the regular season at 22-8. They won the first game of the Class 3 District 4 Tournament before falling to Father Tolton in the following game to end the season at 23-9.

This was the sixth-straight winning season for the Tigers, and they managed to post a high mark in wins despite a relatively narrow scoring margin. They averaged 5.4 runs per game, their lowest since 2014, and allowed 3.7 runs per game, which is more in line with their recent numbers.

After the Lead Off Classic on Aug. 25 and 26, they will host Centralia on Aug. 28 and Hallsville the following day.

Milan

The Wildcats played right around .500 for much of the early and late parts of the season. The exception to that was a six-game losing streak around the middle of the year that kept them further below .500. They finished the regular season 8-15 before losing in the opening round of the Class 2 District 6 Tournament against South Harrison.

Milan averaged 4.4 runs per game, which is similar to averages of past seasons. However, they allowed 8.1 runs per game after allowing just 4.8 last season, which is part of the reason they were 8-16 this season after going 14-11 in 2021.

They are set to open the 2023 season with the Milan Softball Jamboree on Aug. 18 and will then compete in the Brashear Softball Tournament on Aug. 26.

Novinger

The Wildcats had a marginal increase from a 1-20 record in 2021 by going 3-17 a season ago. Things started off strong with a 9-7 win over Madison to open the season, but an eight-game losing streak followed. They then won

two of their next three games, beating Grundy County 12-2, falling to Linn County and then beating Macon County 9-7. They lost the next eight games, including an 18-8 loss to Green City in the Class 1 District 10 Tournament.

Novinger's scoring average of 4.8 runs per game was the second-highest in the last five seasons. They allowed an average of 11.8 runs per game, which was the lowest since 2016.

The Wildcats open the season with a trio of home games, the first of which is against Madison on Aug. 25.

Putnam County

Putnam County came out strong with a 12-1, season-opening win against a Mercer team that went on to finish the season 20-6. After that, they lost five of the last six games. They played basically around .500 the rest of the season to finish 9-15.

The Midgets have had varying results from season to season, going 19-4 in 2019, 10-11 in 2020 and 22-11 in 2021 before going back below .500 in 2022. They averaged five runs per game last season, but they allowed 7.5 runs per game. This was a bit of a spike from recent seasons.

They begin 2023 with the Putnam County Jamboree on Aug. 19 and then host Mercer on Aug. 28 and Trenton on Aug. 29.

Schuyler County

The Rams started the season 2-1 with the wins coming against Princeton and Putnam County. They also finished strong, winning the final three games of the regular season and the first game of the Class 1 District 10 Tournament, but then lost to La Plata in the championship game. A couple of losing streaks throughout the season kept the Rams from posting their second-straight winning season. They finished 9-15.

They averaged 4.3 runs per game and allowed 6.4 runs per game, basically the opposite of last season when they scored six runs per game and allowed 4.1.

Schuyler County is scheduled to start the 2023 season with a road game against Princeton on Aug. 28. The Rams will then host La Plata on Aug. 29.

See **SOFTBALL**, Page A8



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Dajae Black Named New Assistant Women's Basketball Coach

By Truman State University Athletics

KIRKSVILLE, Mo. — Dajae Black is set to become the new assistant women's basketball coach and recruiting coordinator for Theo Dean at Truman State University. Black has spent the past three seasons at the NCAA Division I level.

"It's a joy to add Dajae Black to the coaching staff," said Coach Dean. "Having played at Lewis University for four years, Dajae knows exactly what it takes to succeed in the GLVC, both on and off the court. She will have a tremendous effect on our program defensively and will impact our program immediately."

Black will work primarily with the point guards and serve as the recruiting coordinator, while also assisting with practice, scouting, and overseeing fundraisers, camps, and community service.

Black comes to Truman State after serving as an Assistant Coach at the University of Akron (Ohio) during the 2022-23 season. In her first season, Black helped lead Akron to a 17-13 record and the 2023 Mid-American Conference Tournament.

Prior to Akron, Black spent two seasons on staff with the Grand Canyon (Ariz.) University women's basketball program. Black was a graduate assistant for the Lopes during the 2020-21 season, but was promoted to Director of Basketball Operations for the 21-22 campaign.

A native of Chicago, Ill., Black was a four year member of the women's basketball team at Lewis University, where she appeared in 97 games, including 37 starts. Black was also a four time recipient of the Br. David Delahanty Award, which recognizes Lewis student-athletes for academic excellence. The Flyers went 93-34 (.795) during Black's four-year career.



TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Kansas City Chiefs 'Superfan' charged with bank theft

By U.S. Department of Justice

After Fleeing Prosecution in Oklahoma, Overland Park Man Suspected in a String of Bank Robberies Across the Midwest, Laundering Proceeds Through Area Casinos

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — An Overland Park, Kansas, man popularly known as Kansas City Chiefs superfan "ChiefsAholiC," who has been a fugitive from justice for the past four months, has been charged in federal court with bank theft for one of a string of robberies he is suspected of committing.

Xaviar Michael Babudar, 28, was charged with one count of bank theft and one count of transporting stolen property across state lines in a criminal complaint filed under seal in the U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., on May 24, 2023. The federal criminal complaint was unsealed and made

public today following Babudar's arrest in Lincoln, California, on Friday, July 7. Babudar will have his initial court appearance this afternoon in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California in Sacramento, Calif.

This case will be presented to a federal grand jury to determine whether to return an indictment on these or any additional charges.

Babudar enjoyed a robust social media presence as Kansas City Chiefs superfan Twitter user @ChiefsAholiC. He was charged in Tulsa County, Okla., with the robbery of the Tulsa Teachers Federal Credit Union on Dec. 16, 2022. Babudar was released on bond in February 2023, and in late March 2023 removed his ankle monitor and fled prosecution. Investigators recently located Babudar near Sacramento and a federal warrant was issued for his arrest on this complaint.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the federal criminal complaint, Babudar traveled throughout the Midwest to perpetrate a string of robberies at various banks and credit unions. He allegedly laundered the robbery proceeds through area casinos and bank accounts.

Following Babudar's arrest in Oklahoma last December, FBI investigators began reviewing bank records, casino transaction records, and sensitive financial reporting to determine the breadth and scope of additional potential criminal activities. Babudar purchased and redeemed more than \$1 million in chips from various casinos in Missouri, Kansas, and Illinois between April and December 2022, the affidavit says.

Investigators also reviewed unsolved bank robberies throughout the Midwest during that time frame. Babudar's cell phone was

placed in the same cities and locations for these previously unsolved bank robberies and attempted robberies, the affidavit says. In addition to the bank theft with which Babudar is charged in this complaint and the bank robbery charged in Oklahoma, the affidavit specifically refers to four bank robberies in Nebraska, Iowa, Tennessee and Oklahoma, and to the attempted robberies of two credit unions in Minnesota.

The complaint charges Babudar with stealing \$70,000 from Great Western Bank in Clive, Iowa, on March 2, 2022, then transporting the stolen money across state lines from Iowa to Missouri.

According to the affidavit, he entered the bank wearing a ski mask and handed a teller a note demanding money and indicating he had a firearm. The teller handed Babudar \$70,000; law enforcement officers later found \$1,460

in \$20 bills in the nearby woods along with a glove worn by Babudar during the bank robbery.

Over the next six weeks, Babudar deposited the same approximate amount of money that was stolen from Great Western Bank into his money market savings account, the affidavit says, and engaged in multiple casino chip purchases and redemptions at the Argosy Casino in Riverside, Mo.

The charges contained in this complaint are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Patrick D. Daly and Stephanie C. Bradshaw. It was investigated by the FBI. The Placer County, Calif., Sheriff's Department and the Lincoln, Calif., Police Department assisted in the arrest.

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SOFTBALL

Continued from Page A7

Scotland County

The Tigers came up short of their first winning season since 2017, finishing the 2022 season with a record of 7-18. They posted two

wins in their first six games, beating Novinger 5-0 and Atlanta 7-2. They also had a stretch of three wins in a four game span, with wins coming against Bevier, Van-Far, and Paris. They outscored opponents 35-17 in that four-game span.

Scotland County averaged

4.6 runs per game, slightly lower than in 2021, and allowed 7.7 runs per game, slightly higher than in 2021.

The 2023 season for the Tigers gets underway in the Clark County Jamboree on Aug. 23. Their home opener will be on Aug. 28 against Novinger.

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