

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 25, 2024 | \$2

Kirksville man gets four years in molestation case

Staff Reports

Ross Evans, 19, of Kirksville, plead guilty to a Class E felony child molestation in the fourth degree charge in Adair County Circuit Court on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Judge Matthew J. Wilson sentenced Evans to the maximum of four years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. Evans was also ordered to complete the

120-day program within the Sex Offender Assessment Unit.

The offense was investigated by the Kirksville Police Department.

On June 14, prosecutors filed three charges against Evans including statutory rape or attempted statutory rape, 1st degree, by knowingly engaging in sexual intercourse with a child less than 14; child molestation, 4th degree, child less than 17

and defendant greater than four years older; and child molestation 3rd degree, child less than 14. Sheriff deputies arrested Evans later that evening and he was arraigned on July 18.

Evans is also facing felony charges in Adair County for tampering with a motor vehicle — 1st Degree and receiving stolen property as well as for misdemeanor operating a vehicle on a highway without a valid

driver's license-second offense. A court hearing is scheduled for February in that case.

In June 2023, Kirksville police arrested Evans on a felony property damage charge after three young trees were damaged in Memorial Park as well as another in the 100 block of West Washington Street. Police located video of the damage, which led them to Evans, who then confessed to the crime.



Ross Evans

Missouri State Highway Patrol: Have a safe Christmas season

By Missouri State Highway Patrol



The Missouri State Highway Patrol wishes everyone a merry and safe Christmas. One way for it to be merry is for everyone to arrive at their holiday celebrations safely. Wear your seat belt, obey all traffic laws, pay attention, and please, don't drive impaired. Remember: Missouri is now a hands-free state.

Over the 2023 Christmas holiday, there were 1,034 traffic crashes statewide. In those crashes, three people were killed and another 346 were injured. Last year, the 78-hour counting period began at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, and ended at 11:59 p.m. Monday, Dec. 25, 2023. The 2024 counting period begins at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and ends at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 25.

Travelers are reminded that holiday drivers will affect traffic patterns. If you're planning a trip during the holiday, please keep this in mind. Drivers are encouraged to make sure they are well rested, no matter how short their driving distance. Check the weather forecast and plan accordingly. Downloading the MoDOT Traveler Information app to your smart phone allows you to check road conditions before you travel. Be proactive: Make sure your vehicle is in good condition and allow enough time to reach your destination safely. Winterize your vehicle before bad weather arrives, but realize that sometimes, it's safest to stay home.

If faced with a traffic emergency, motorists can contact the Missouri State Highway Patrol at 1-800-525-5555 or *55 on a cellular phone. This emergency number will ring into the nearest Highway Patrol headquarters. Motorists should use this number if they are in a traffic crash, witness a crash or crime, or pass a stranded motorist in need of assistance, etc.

Troopers encourage motorists to protect themselves from all types of hazardous drivers by making sure everyone in the vehicle is properly restrained in a seat belt or child restraint. Please obey all traffic laws, and if alcohol is part of your holiday, designate a sober driver. Every driver can help make our roadways safer this holiday season.



Kirksville City Council approves city's 2025 budget

By Marty Bachman
Daily Express

The Kirksville City Council approved the city's 2025 budget at their regular meeting held on Dec. 16.

Finance Director Lacy A. King explained to the council certain requirements that must be met in order to have the budget for the state auditor. She said the budget is a policy document that covers operations and services and must follow the statutes. King said that the

aggregate expenditures for the 2025 budget is \$61,482,655

"The budget itself is an overall increase of 53.3 percent from our 2024 budget as amended," she said, noting that a lot of that increase came from capital projects moved into the 2025 budget from 2024. She said it also includes a large amount for grant projects that are still underway.

King said that 20 percent of the budget covered utilities; 15 percent for emergency services including police, fire and

911 services; 12 percent for public works, streets, codes and engineering; 5 percent for parks and recreation; 7 percent towards internal service funds for central garage and the city's insurance; 11 percent toward transportation services, an increase over the normal operating budget due to capital improvements to the airport terminal; 16 percent for community and economic development, also an increase from prior years due to several large grants the city is working on

and their community improvement type grants; and 6 percent for administrative services, information technology and tourism. King said that capital and infrastructure of the whole entire budget is \$24,532,000, which represents a total of 40 percent of the budget.

"I just appreciate all the work that's gone into it," said Vice-Mayor John Gardner, thanking King for her work. "I think we're going to accomplish quite a few important things this year."

King passes exam to become a certified hospice and palliative nurse

By Hospice of Northeast Missouri

Mallory King, who serves as the nursing supervisor for Hospice of Northeast Missouri, recently passed the exam to become a certified hospice and palliative nurse (CHPN). The credential is given only to experienced registered nurses who work in hospice and palliative care. The Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC) administers the exam for the CHPN certification and to be eligible to take the exam you must have a current, unrestricted registered nurse license and have at least 500 hours of hospice and palliative nursing practice in the last year, or 1,000 hours in the last two years.

"We are so fortunate to have Mallory on our hospice team," said Linnette Baker,

executive director of Hospice of Northeast Missouri. "She is so passionate about improving patient outcomes and providing quality care to not only our patients but their family and caregivers as well."

King attended college at Central Methodist University in Fayette, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2017. King worked for two years on the Surgical Specialties Unit at Boone Hospital Center before returning to her home area in 2019 to take a position as a RN Case Manager with Hospice of Northeast Missouri.

Hospice of Northeast Missouri, a service of Hannibal Regional, is a non-profit hospice that focuses on quality of life for people and their caregivers who are experiencing an advanced, life-limiting



Mallory King

illness. Hospice of Northeast Missouri, a partner agency of the United Way of Northeast Missouri, serves Adair, Clark, Knox, Lewis, Macon, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby and Sullivan counties. For more information about Hospice of Northeast Missouri, visit hospiceofnortheastmissouri.org or call 660-627-9711.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Kirksville Area Calendar and News Briefs

City of Kirksville offices observe holidays

Kirksville city offices will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025, for New Year's Day. The Aquatic Center will be closed that day and will close at 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

Bridge on North Lincoln Street reopened

Kirksville city officials announced that the bridge on North Lincoln Street has reopened.

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: Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025, in observance of New Year's Day. Normal operations will resume on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025.

First Day Hike at a Missouri state park or historic site

Ring in the new year with fun, fresh air and scenic views, or start a new tradition with your friends and family by participating in a First Day Hike at Thousand Hills State Park, 20431 State Highway 157 in Kirksville. Meet at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1 at the trailhead by the lake to hike the two-mile Red Bud Trail. The First Day Hikes program is promoted by America's State Parks and are organized annually from Hawaii to Maine to encourage individuals and families to start the year on the right foot – by getting outside and connecting with nature. Preregistration is required. To register, visit icampmo1.usdirect.com/MSPWeb/ and search for activities.

Kids Cardboard Boat Race

The Kids Cardboard Boat Race will be held at the Kirksville Aquatic Center on Sunday, Jan. 12, from 2-4 p.m., brought to you by Kirksville Parks and Recreation and Sparklight. Children ages 5 to 16 can sign up as an individual or as a team of up to four people and put their build-

ing skills to the test. Participants must construct a boat structure using cardboard, duct tape and water-based paint and attempt to make it across the pool in the fastest time. Teams will compete in age divisions based on the mean age of the team and can win in multiple categories including Fastest Time, and Best Design. This event is completely free for all participants and spectators. Register today at parks.kirksvillecity.com. For more information, contact Luke Callaghan with the Parks and Recreation Department at 660-627-1485.

Comedy Night Fundraiser for B4 Outdoors

Comedy Night Fundraiser for B4 Outdoors on Jan. 25. A night of food, fun, and fellowship as comedian Jody Fuller comes to Kirksville for the inaugural Comedy Night at the Kirksville Moose Lodge, 2405 E. Illinois Street. Tickets include dinner. Sponsor tables are also available and include six tickets, a sponsor only raffle, and free raffle tickets. Contact B4 President Kevin Rhodes at 864-710-9853 for more information.



Janice Teter of Macon, took first place in last year's Regional Artists Exhibit for her oil painting titled "Pelicans".

Kirksville Arts Association call for art entries

By Kirksville Arts Association

Kirksville Arts Association invites area artists to participate in the upcoming "Regional Artists Exhibit" at the Sue Ross Arts Center. The "Regional Artist Exhibit" is a group show of area artists that is held annually at the arts center and is judged with cash awards for First, Second and Third place. The exhibition opens Jan. 13, and will close Feb. 21. An opening reception will be held on Jan. 16.

The Sue Ross Arts Center is located at 215 South Franklin Street in Kirksville. The exhibit is open to two-dimensional and three-dimensional artists including painters, sculptors, photographers, fiber artists, wood workers, ceramic artists, weavers, metal artists, printmakers, carvers, glass and paper artists etc.

For more information on how to enter work in the upcoming exhibit, contact Ashton Clema at (660) 665-0500 or email kirksvillearts@gmail.com.

Tips from the Kirksville Fire Dept. for a fire-safe holiday season

By Kirksville Fire Department

The holidays are a time for families and friends to gather together — and without a visit from the Kirksville Fire Department. Following these helpful tips from the Kirksville Fire Department will help ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

For holiday decorating:

- Choose holiday decorations that are flame-resistant or flame-retardant.
- If you choose a natural tree, buy a fresh-cut tree and water it daily.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other flammable objects.
- Some holiday lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Be sure to check!
- Replace any string of



holiday lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.

- Use clips, not nails, to hang holiday lights so the cords don't get damaged.

For holiday entertaining:

- Test your smoke alarms and tell your guests about your home fire escape plan.

- Keep children and pets away from lit candles, and keep matches and lighters high up in a locked cabinet.
- When cooking on the stovetop, stay in the kitchen and have a fire extinguisher nearby.

To get ahead of the winter freeze:

- Ensure your furnace has been inspected and serviced by a qualified professional during the past twelve months. (A furnace should be

serviced at least once a year.)

- Ensure chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional, and burn only dry, seasoned firewood in a fireplace.
- Ensure your fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass, in good condition, and secure in front of the fireplace.
- Have a covered metal container ready to dispose of cooled ashes. The ash container should be kept at least ten feet from the home and any nearby buildings.
- Use only portable space heaters with an automatic shutoff. Plug electric heaters directly into a wall outlet, never an extension cord.

For more fire safety tips this holiday season, contact the Fire Department at 660-665-3734.

City of Kirksville seeks applicants for openings on citizen advisory commissions

By City of Kirksville

Kirksville city officials want to involve community-minded citizens in local government through one of their many citizen advisory commissions. The Kirksville City Council is currently accepting citizen applications for the following positions:

- One opening on the Affordable Housing Board.
- One opening on the Lakes, Parks and Recreation Commission.
- One opening on the Board of Adjustment.



Visit kirksville.gov/p/boards-commissions and submit your application before Friday, Jan. 3, 2025, at 5 p.m., to be considered for the opportunity to serve on these commissions. For more information, contact City Clerk Diane Albrecht at 660-627-1225.

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OBITUARIES

Frederick 'Mark' Stribling

Mar 11, 1949 – Dec 12, 2024

Frederick "Mark" Stribling, 75 of Kirksville, MO, passed away Thursday, December 12th, 2024, at his home in Kirksville.

The son of Frederick and Violet (Riley) Stribling, Frederick was born March 11th, 1949, in La Plata, MO. On December 31st, 1980, Frederick was united in marriage to Pat Goodhart.

Mark is survived by his children, Melissa Butterbrodt and son-in-law Wayne, Raquel Merryman, Jason Morrison, Joseph Morrison, Patsy Morrison, Terri Bunch and husband Richard; twelve grandchildren, Derek Tague, Keaton Lee, Lauren Merryman, Sydney Butterbrodt, Travis Butterbrodt, Trey Smith, Darien Smith, RaDonna Smith, Brooklyn Morrison, Branson Morrison, Chase Starbuck, and Cameron Morrison; eight great grandchildren, Kylee Tague, Cabe Smith, Xander Smith, Axel Smith, Liam Smith, Levi Smith, King Bartmess, AliZeigh Bartmess; and several nieces & nephews. He is also survived by good friends, Terry Reed, Tommy Hayes, Roy Risher, Mark Ratliff, Richard Cox, and Bill Johnson.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Martha Walters and Virginia Lancaster, brother, Sonny Stribling, great granddaughter, Eleanore Smith, one niece, Susan Rudolph and three nephews, Steve Stribling, Gene Walters, and Kenneth Walters.

Mark grew up in the Gibbs/La Plata area and graduated from Brashear. He enjoyed playing lead guitar in his band and singing. He loved playing pool, fishing, hunting, and camping. One of his favorite pastimes was spending time with his grandchildren. Mark was a very good teacher of all life skills and was a provider for all his family.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 21st, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Playle-Rimer-Millard Family Funeral Chapel in Kirksville with Pastor Chuck Watson officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Hospice of Northeast Missouri.

Funeral arrangements are in the care of Playle-Rimer-Millard Family Funeral Chapel.



Jane 'Janie' Tsuneko (Tsukimura) Picht

Jun 3, 1939 – Dec 16, 2024

Jane "Janie" Tsuneko (Tsukimura) Picht, 85, of Kirksville, Missouri, passed away Monday, December 16, 2024, at The Pines Adult Care Center in Kirksville, Missouri.

Born June 3, 1939, in Honolulu, Hawaii, Janie was the daughter of the late Kensaburo and Yoshiko Tsukimura. On June 25, 1966, in Des Moines, Iowa, Janie was united in marriage to Burton "Burt" Leroy Picht, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by two brothers, Edwin Tsukimura and Duane Tsukimura.

Janie is survived by her daughter Nancy Picht, one brother, Melvin Tsukimura, and one sister, Doris (Tsukimura) Tanahara.

Janie graduated from McKinley High School in 1957 and the University of Hawaii in 1963. She moved to Des Moines, Iowa, to attend the College of Automation, where she met her future husband Burt. Shortly after they were married, they moved to Kirksville, Missouri, where they resided until their deaths. Janie worked at Sears for 20 years until the store was closed, then she worked at Northeast Regional Medical Center until she retired.

Janie loved gardening and was a Master Gardener. She liked to help people and volunteered with organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Adair County Public Library, and the Clothes Closet. She enjoyed keeping her body and mind active, and did not know a stranger. Janie's caring and feisty spirit will be missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services will be held 12:00 p.m. Friday, December 20, 2024 at the First Presbyterian Church in Kirksville, with Pastor Dale Stone presiding. Public visitation will be held one hour prior to the funeral at the First Presbyterian Church in Kirksville.

Burial will follow in the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Jackson, Missouri.

Memorial donations in memory of Janie may be made to First Presbyterian Church or to Pantry For Adair County and may be left at or mailed to Travis-Noe Funeral Home, P.O. Box 306, Kirksville, MO 63549.



Larry Lee Sykes

May 16, 1943 – Dec 21, 2024

Larry Lee Sykes, 81 of Hurdland, MO passed away peacefully in Overland Park, Kansas on December 21, 2024.

Born to Chester Lee and Bessie "Eveline" Strait Sykes on May 16, 1943 in Fairfield, IA. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Dennis Sykes.

Survived by wife, Kay Fowler Sykes of the home. Daughter Sherry Mitchell of Elko, NV; Daughter Michele Schilling (Joe) of Kirksville, MO; Daughter Nikki Sykes (Matt) of Overland Park, KS, Son Jerry Harvey (Aniece) of Murfreesboro, TN, and Daughter Sheila Walker (Chris) of Quincy, IL. He was the proud grandpa of 15 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. Also surviving are his brother Marty Sykes (Brenda) of Sebetha, KS.

After graduating from Hurdland High School Larry attended the Moler Barber College in Kansas City, Missouri. He returned to the Hurdland area where he cut hair. In 1972 Larry joined Ironworkers Local #577 out of Burlington Iowa. He worked on many jobs and was most proud of his work on the Quincy bridge. He retired at age 55.

Larry enjoyed life to the fullest. He spent many hours hunting, fishing for crappie, and watching his grandchildren play sports.

Larry enjoyed coaching his kids and their friend's basketball at Hurdland Elementary School. He spent countless hours coaching, hosting tournaments, and traveling with a car full of kids to local tournaments. He loved the sport and loved the kids even more.

Larry was most famous for the Wednesday and Thursday nights barber shop in his home. Many, many stories and laughs filled the room week after week. Many came for the stories when they didn't even need a haircut. Larry knew no stranger and could find a friend everywhere he went. Larry was a member of the Sabbath Home Methodist Church in Brashear Missouri until it closed, a member of Colony Masonic Lodge # 168 A.F. & A.M. and a member of the El Kadir Shrine club in Kirksville, MO.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, January 4^(sup) 2025, in the Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home in Edina, MO. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Masonic services will begin at 11 a.m. followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:15 a.m. in the Funeral Home.

Memorials are suggested to the Knox County Nursing Home. Memorials may be left at or mailed to Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 1, Edina, MO 63537.

On line condolences may be left at www.hudsonrimerfh.com



Missouri has become a peanut powerhouse

Most of state's crop goes to candy, peanut butter

By University of Missouri Extension

PORTAGEVILLE—Missouri farmers may have grown the peanuts that you enjoy in holiday candies like peanut brittle or peanut clusters.

In 2020, the USDA named Missouri a primary peanut-producing state, a designation for states averaging more than 10,000 tons of peanut production annually over three years, says Justin Calhoun, University of Missouri Extension soil and cropping systems specialist.

Calhoun is one of the researchers studying how to improve Missouri peanut production at the MU Fisher Delta Research, Extension and Education Center in Portageville.

Most of the state's peanut production is in southeast-

ern Missouri. In the Bootheel's sandy soils, peanuts thrive where other crops may struggle, he says.

The peanut is a low-input, profitable cash crop that improves soil health by adding nitrogen to the soil. Calhoun says peanuts are a "high ROI" crop with many benefits.

Like soybeans, peanuts are legumes that have a symbiotic relationship with rhizobacteria, which fix nitrogen in the soil, says Calhoun. They also contribute to pest control and can increase yields of cotton — another top crop in the Bootheel — and corn when rotated properly.

Missouri becomes primary player

Missouri has become a major producer in the peanut world in the past five years. Previously, production centered around the southern states of Georgia, Florida,

Virginia and the Carolinas. In Calhoun's three years at MU, the state's peanut acres have more than doubled, with 20,000-22,000 acres reported in 2024.

Most of peanuts grown in the Bootheel are used for candy bars and peanut butter, says Calhoun.

"All of our peanuts in Missouri are contracted with a buying point as they are planted," he says. "The overwhelming majority of those acres go to a company, Delta Peanut. A few acres go to another large peanut company called Birdsong," says Calhoun.

From there, the buying points work with different groups to market those peanuts for various products. Many of Missouri's peanuts are either grown for future seed production or sold to food companies.

The most common variety, Ga-06G, which is a type of peanut called a runner, is

sold for consumption, primarily as peanut butter. They also can be roasted. Other runners like Ga-16HO and Ga-09B are higher in oleic acid and better suited for peanut oil production.

Spanish hybrid varieties like Span 17 produce higher-quality peanuts that go to companies such as Mars, the maker of Snickers and other popular candy bars. High-oleic peanuts and the Spanish hybrid make up a minority of the Bootheel's acreage, with the standard runner, O6G, being the heavy lifter.

There is a better market for Spanish-type peanuts, but the runners have higher yields and end up dominating the acreage, says Calhoun.

Harvest: Dig, flip, dry, shake

Harvesting peanuts is a two-step process. First, a digger machine pulls up the peanut plant, flips it over and sets it back down to dry. Then, a shaker or



In 2020, the USDA named Missouri a primary peanut-producing state, a designation for states averaging more than 10,000 tons of peanut production annually over three years. PHOTO COURTESY OF JUSTIN CALHOUN

picker machine separates the peanut pods from the rest of the plant.

MU's first experience with peanut production was in 2022 during Calhoun's first season on the job. "Over the last three years, we've been fairly successful in growing a pretty sizable peanut re-search and extension program," he says.

Checkoff dollars fund including three research projects that Calhoun oversees at the MU Delta Center.

2024 ornament honors peanut farmer Jimmy Carter

The official 2024 White House Christmas ornament honors the nation's most famous peanut farmer, President Jimmy Carter, with part of the proceeds from sales going to provide peanut butter, a shelf-stable protein source, to food banks for the hungry. The design includes peanuts and peanut flowers. Learn more from the American Peanut Council at <http://bit.ly/4eXwswp>.

Rotary Club hears from new members

By Rotary Club of Kirksville

At the Dec. 4 Rotary Club of Kirksville meeting, newer members Nate Fajkus (right) and Osariemen Okhuaihesuyi (center) spoke about themselves and their backgrounds. Fajkus, a Kirksville native, is a Digital Service Specialist/

Account Executive with Bott Radio Network. Okhuaihesuyi, a native of Nigeria, is a dentist (oral pathologist). She serves on the faculty of the Missouri School of Dentistry and Oral Health at A.T. Still University in Kirksville. They are pictured with Club President Ruth Bowers (left).



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ROBIN WRITES

My favorite Christmas tree

Our Christmas tree that year was a spindly scrap of a cedar sapling hacked from the woods behind our house. My brothers wrangled it through the front door, and its scratchy limbs brushed the carpet in tiny whispers.

Frigid wind carried the fragrance of snow from the front porch, and the furnace competed for air space with whooshes of oil-fueled heat.

The tree needed a special spot...near an outlet for the lights and in the corner for perfect viewing. We stuck its jagged bottom in a red and green metal stand, tightened the three stability screws against the trunk, and filled the stand with water.

Now came the fun part. We heard the box coming; Mom was pushing it down the hallway with funny grunts and yells for help. The ornaments and decorations seemed to live in that same box my entire childhood.

My brothers and I scrambled to grab the lid flaps as Mom shoved the dusty, worn box toward the tree. It wobbled to a stop, and we could hear tiny tinkles coming from inside.

We knew every ornament and decoration within by heart, but we reached inside and pulled out each trinket as if seeing it for the first time. And as an item came to light, the person who held it began the story.

In my memory, everything we hung on our tree had a history. The special ones were old and

came from Mom's childhood or from relatives long past. Those ornaments were always wrapped in crumpled, graying tissue paper.

We lifted them from the tissue with gentle fingertips and held them up in ceremony as if presenting a treasure. The shouts of "Be Careful!" flew around the room. The bearer announced the ornament's arrival and added its lineage.

"This was Grandma's favorite." The bauble was not valuable or one-of-a-kind to the world. But it was, to us.

One by one, each item from the Christmas box came to light. And with it came a story of its life. Sometimes, we argued about who made it or when it became ours, but we all watched with smiles as a metal hook was fished through the top.

Proud voices declared ownership of handmade globs of glitter and glue. Squashed, red and green paper chains slithered out of the box, and we bickered about whether they were worthy of reuse.

Handprint Christmas trees thrust into the light, and wrinkled angels made from paper plates fluttered out.

We unearthed brittle pinecones covered with faded paint and sequins. Popsicle-stick reindeer with uneven, googly eyes and pipe cleaner antlers.

The best ornaments were hung on front branches for all to see. We shoved the ones less splendid—chipped or faded or time-worn—deeper into the tree. And



ROBIN GARRISON LEACH
ROBIN WRITES

although we always vowed otherwise, the back of the tree was left bare by default.

We were designers of an artistic calamity that pleased our hearts as much as it clashed against any sense of pleasing esthetic.

The tree stood bravely, clogged and weighted down with memories and histories and years of life as ragtag as that rumpled paper chain.

Once the box was empty, Mom handed us a cellophane-wrapped, rectangular package of tinsel, the only new thing that went on our tree each year.

We unwound each strand of tinsel from the stiff cardboard inside and strode—arms outstretched—toward the tree. It was as if we were carrying shafts of lightning. One by one, the tinsel strands turned our humble tree into an opulent, shiny masterpiece.

By the time the tinsel box was empty, the living room was an explosion of childhood happiness.

More than 60 trees have stood in my home since the one on my eighth Christmas, and all were beautiful. But that tree? Oh, my heart.

HOME COUNTRY

A child's smile and a small taste of love that makes us treasure Christmas

Mabel Adams was sitting in the day room at the Rest of Your Life retirement home when the children came in. She smiled and so did all the others in the room except for two who didn't know what was going on.

The old-timers in the home knew the kids were coming and had put up Christmas decorations around in the day room and on the doors of their own small apartments and on themselves. Mabel had been reminded several times by the staff that morning that the kids were coming over, this being necessary as Mabel's memory isn't what it used to be. And she put a sprig of imitation holly in her hair and tied a red ribbon on the other side.

The little girl smiled and walked over to Mabel.

"Are you a grandma?" she asked.

"Why, yes dear, I am."

"I brought you a present, Grandma," she said, handing a box to Mabel. Mabel opened it and was delighted at the sandalwood-scented hankies inside.

"Why thank you so much,



SLIM RANDES
HOME COUNTRY

Honey!" she said. "And what is your name?"

"I'm Candice. I'm four."

"Well, Candice, merry Christmas to you. Have you been here before?"

"Well ... no, I guess.

Mom said this is where the grandmas are and we can have fun bringing presents to the grandmas."

"I see," Mabel said.

"Well, Candice, come over here, dear and let me give you a hug. There!"

Sometimes, it isn't the cost of the hankies, or the fun wrapping them up. Sometimes it's just a child's smile and a small taste of love that makes us treasure Christmas.

Just to show how many wonderful people live in your town, go out and do something to help someone else. Just cuz. Merry Christmas.

THE ROCKWOOD FILES

Reindeer games

Family game nights extend holiday fun



GWEN ROCKWOOD
THE ROCKWOOD FILES

Earlier this week my kids beat me at poker. No money changed hands, other than colored plastic chips.

But the bragging rights will last a while, at least until next December. Our college-aged kids taught us how to play Texas Hold 'em this year. We ordered cheap pizza and listened to Kenny Rogers sing "The Gambler" while we played.

One of the Christmas traditions at our house is to open a series of what I call "early gifts." The process begins a few days before the main event. Early gifts are always family games, so the only surprise is what new games we're going to play. I spend much of the year on the hunt for the best group games, reading reviews and asking friends which ones their families like best.

The only rule with these early presents is that they're for the whole family. Unlike reindeer games, no one gets excluded. In fact, each family member must be "all in" — as in no staring at your phone, no retreating to your room, and no work emails while you play. Family game nights are the on-ramp to Christmas, and they've become one of my favorite parts of December.

Last night the kids opened one of the early gifts, and we spent the next hour or so playing a new music trivia game. The college kids bragged about how much more extensive their knowledge of popular music is. (In my defense, I didn't grow up with Spotify like they did.) But thankfully, the game designers threw in a few questions about Prince, ZZ Top, and Madonna, so Tom and I had a decent score and emerged with our middle age dignity mostly intact.

When we moved on to UNO, my luck improved and I won three rounds. When our son Jack had to draw 12 cards in a row just to come up with a yellow card, I laughed until my stomach hurt. There's nothing quite like

watching a smug 20-year-old get taken down a notch by a crushing defeat in UNO.

Tonight, we'll open another early Christmas game and see what laughs that one brings. As we do each year, we'll also revisit our favorites including dominoes, Qwirkle, Trivial Pursuit, Code Names and Scrabble. And Tom will insist on a game of chess with each one of the kids, just to see if he still has what it takes to beat them.

The tradition of opening a few select gifts before December 25th began when our kids were little, mostly to keep anticipation from making their little bodies explode. I wanted Christmas to be several days of fun versus having it all happen on one overwhelming morning.

While it did accomplish that goal, it did something special for me, too. During game nights leading up to Christmas, I get to sit around the kitchen table with my favorite people. We win, lose, laugh, make jokes, eat snacks, drink eggnog and sip hot spiced punch. It helps me realize that, despite all the holiday preparations and the hustle-bustle this month brings, this part — just being together — this is what I want the most. This is the best thing I could ever have.

This year I hope we all realize that being with our favorite people is the gift. It's the one thing that doesn't have a barcode because it's so priceless. So essential to the well-being of our souls.

From my game-loving family to yours, may this Christmas be full of joy and laughter. May it be a time that fills your soul with the love it needs most. And may your UNO or poker hand be a strong one.

Merry Christmas.

Gwen Rockwood is a syndicated freelance columnist. Email her at gwenrockwood5@gmail.com. Her book is available on Amazon.

PUBLIC HEALTH CORNER

Holiday Safety Tips

By Kirstyn Dietle, MPH, CHES®
Health Educator
Adair County Health Department

Welcome to the Public Health Corner: Holiday Safety Tips

The holiday season is a time of joy and togetherness, but it also comes with potential safety hazards. By taking precautions, you can protect yourself and your loved ones while fully enjoying the festivities. Here are some key areas to focus on this holiday season:

Decorating Safely

Decorating your home is a cherished holiday tradition, but it's important to do so carefully. If you're using a live Christmas tree, make sure to keep it well-watered to reduce the risk of fire, and position it away from heat sources like fireplaces or radiators. With artificial trees, look for ones labeled as "fire-resistant." Inspect holiday lights for damage, such as frayed cords or broken bulbs, before use, and never overload electrical outlets. Turn off lights before leaving the house or going to bed to avoid fire hazards.

Hosting and Fire Safety

Hosting holiday gatherings can be fun, but it's essential to keep fire safety in mind. Keep candles away from dec-



Holiday Safety Tips

orations and out of reach of children and pets. Use sturdy, non-flammable candleholders and extinguish candles before leaving the room. It's also a great time to test smoke alarms and ensure your home fire extinguisher is easily accessible. Clear paths inside and outside your home to prevent trips and falls, especially on icy or snowy surfaces.

Gift and Toy Safety

When buying toys and gifts, choose age-appropriate items, and avoid toys with small parts for young children to reduce choking risks. Be mindful of recalled toys or items with sharp edges that could cause injuries. For electronics, ensure batteries are properly secured to prevent ingestion by children.

Childproofing Your Home

If you're hosting young visitors, childproof your home by storing sharp objects, matches, medications, and cleaning supplies out of reach. Ensure decorations, such as orna-

ments and tinsel, are placed higher up to prevent accidental swallowing or choking.

Food Safety

Holiday meals are a highlight of the season, but food safety is crucial to prevent illness. Wash your hands frequently when preparing food, and avoid cross-contamination by using separate cutting boards for raw meat and fresh produce. Cook meats to their proper internal temperatures, and refrigerate leftovers promptly—within two hours of serving. When reheating, ensure food reaches at least 165°F to kill any lingering bacteria.

Travel Safety

If traveling, prepare your vehicle for winter weather. Check tire pressure, ensure windshield wipers are in good condition, and keep an emergency kit in your car that includes blankets, a flashlight, water, and a first-aid kit. Buckle up and allow extra time for travel, especially in snowy or icy conditions.

With thoughtful precautions, you can ensure your holidays are memorable for all the right reasons. Whether you're decorating, hosting, or sharing a festive meal, safety is the best gift you can give your loved ones this season.

POETRY CORNER

This Void You'll Never See

I lost something today... and I didn't even miss it... I didn't miss it until it had gone away,

Our lives get so busy... you can quickly lose touch... little by little each day.

As time moves on... new roads are traveled... contact with old friends can be lost,

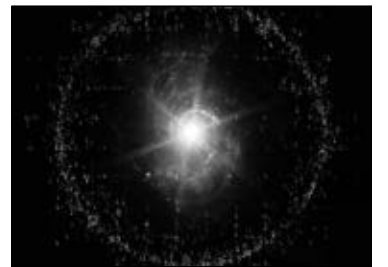
The older we get... and the further we travel... each road

seems to have its own cost.

I received a message... a friend had passed on... it happened several weeks ago,

We became separated by miles... which separated the smiles... the smiles we used to know.

Distance and time... can create a void... a void which doesn't have to be,



The ball's in your court... to stay in touch... so this void you'll never see.

— Daniel D. Donovan

EMBRACING LOCAL HISTORY

Part 134

Theaters of Kirksville - Chapter 7 - Former Kennedy Employees

By Blytha Ellis, President
Adair County Historical Society
and Museum

One can learn some interesting insights about the Kennedy Theatre from former employees. When an article was assembled in January 2019 for the Historical Society's quarterly magazine, biographer Pam Sylvara interviewed some of these former employees.

Larry Whitney, lifelong Kirksville resident and realtor, began his theater experience working at the Princess at the age of 15 in 1951. Employees were actually required to be 16, but Larry was hired because his parents were friends of the manager. Larry said he started at 20 cents an hour and occasionally might get paid for an extra hour.

Not long after opening the Princess and the Kennedy Theatres, the owners, Mrs. Carrie Kennedy and her son, Sam, sold the management of both theaters to the Fox Corporation. Larry Whitney worked at both venues until he became full time at the Kennedy when the Princess closed around 1957. He continued working at the Kennedy throughout his college years.

Larry served as an usher at the Kennedy. By this time, white shirts and ties were worn in place of the earlier usher uniforms. He explained that white buck shoes were all the rage then, and his would constantly get scuffed by people stepping on them. So, he carried a little container with white powder and a puff so he could freshen up his "cool white bucks" as needed.

Larry often frequented the balcony in his ushering duties. This area was known as a "love nest," and ushers would shine their flashlights on the young lovebirds to tone things down. Ushers also had

the job of trying to calm down anyone acting up or causing trouble in the theater. However, he said there was very little trouble in the theater. The ushers also had to deal with people trying to sneak in without paying. He said one popular method for this was for someone to claim they had an emergency and had to locate someone in the theater. Then, that person would attempt to stay for a free movie.

Larry recalled one Saturday morning when the theater was full of youngsters, someone turned on the large organ, and a key stuck. This resulted in continuous sound of this one key which frightened the children as they believed it was a fire alarm, and they rushed out of the building. After much ado, the kids were ushered back in, and the show went on.

Larry further described the beautiful pipe organ which was once up front in the orchestra pit. He explained that the two Juliet balconies on either side of the stage housed some of the organ pipes, and there were ladders leading up to these on the back side of the curtained balconies.

Changing bulbs in the theater lights was a whole experience in itself. Larry said that in order to lower the lights on the stage to the floor to change bulbs, fellow employee Jack Conley and others would have to crawl across the ceiling by way of a false ceiling and use a pulley to lower and again raise the lights with the newly installed bulbs. Larry said he replaced bulbs but did not take on Conley's task of crawling across the ceiling.

Larry revealed that behind the curtains on the stage, there was a ping-pong table used by employees. Larry once bet the assistant manager, Duane Norman, \$5 that he

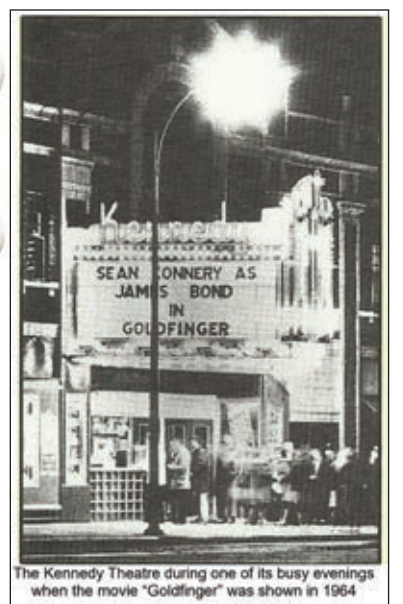
could beat him at this game playing with his left hand. Duane took the bet and lost. Larry said that Duane didn't know that he was actually left handed.

After Larry graduated from college and got married in 1959, he began his Whitney Insurance business in one of the Kennedy storefronts. He remained there for several years, finally ending his long-time relationship with the Kennedy.

Another 1959 Kirksville State Teachers College graduate was Kirksville businessman Ed Smiser. He was not involved in the daily operation of the theater but served as their bookkeeper for two years under the management of Gene Kincaid. Ed added that Mr. and Mrs. Kincaid hosted a wedding dinner for him when he married his wife, Pat.

Ed said that one of the great perks as a theater employee was the free admission to shows. He and his wife also made their first home in one of the Kennedy apartments above the theater. He described this as one large room with a bathroom. The large room consisted of a kitchen located behind louvered doors and a Murphy bed which unfolded out of the wall. He remembered that this apartment rented for about \$25 per month. Their apartment was located directly behind the back of the marquee which provided privacy.

Another person who lived in the Kennedy Apartments was Patty Curtis who married Dick Darr in 1957. This apartment was their first home, and it was over one of the storefronts which was rented by a ladies' hat store. Patty remembers their one-room apartment as having a bath, a Murphy bed, kitchen area and one closet. It was furnished with a little couch,



The Kennedy Theatre during one of its busy evenings when the movie "Goldfinger" was shown in 1964

kitchen table and two chairs. The apartment was heated with steam heat with no individual apartment thermostats. In summer, the room was sweltering hot at times.

Another former Kennedy employee who also spoke with us was Charles Baldwin, Kirksville native and businessman. He, too, enjoyed the free movie passes and remembered the ping-pong table behind the stage curtain. The best part for him was meeting his wife, Cathy, at the Kennedy. Charles worked as an usher and a ticket taker. He remembered the ticket booth being unbearably cold during the winter which necessitated using a portable heater.

Charles recalled going to the off-limits projection booth. He said movies came on two reels, and a light flashed to signal the projectionist to change reels. The films were made of celluloid and were known to break. When this happened, the screen went black, and the crowd booed to express their disapproval. The projectionist, working under pressure, spliced the film back together, restarted the movie at the repair site, and was often cheered for his accomplishment.

Charles said the projection light was actually a bright carbon stick, and this is what provided the projection illumination. When the movie was ready to start, a bright light was shown on the maroon

velvet curtains, and this signaled the ushers to pull the curtains back by hand to reveal the movie screen.

Charles worked under managers Jack Golladay and Gene Kincaid. His most difficult task was replacing the lettering on the marquee each time the feature changed. He first had to go to the basement to retrieve the heavy metal letters and spell out the upcoming show. This was done after the final showing of the current movie at 11 or 12 at night. This change required a 20-foot ladder to reach the lettering. Charles remembered maneuvering the letters during all types of weather, heat, rain, snow and cold.

(Credit for much of this information on the Kennedy goes to Pam Sylvara who published an article on this theater in the January 2019 issue of "The Adair Historian," quarterly magazine of the Adair County Historical Society - copies still available at our museum, 211 S. Elson St. in Kirksville.)

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TURNING THE PAGE

This Week in Local History

By Larry Evans

115 Years Ago, Dec. 24, 1909

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sheeks, aged 88 and 89 respectively, celebrated their sixty-ninth wedding anniversary at their home on North Centennial Street in Kirksville. The couple were married on Christmas Eve in 1840. They were both natives of Kentucky. Both of their families moved to Missouri when they were young and settled in Randolph County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sheeks moved to Macon County where they entered land from the U. S. government west of Atlanta, Missouri. They chose the hilly wood lands over the prairie land because they needed wood and water. Mr. Sheeks said "I built me a cabin and that shanty did not have a nail in it. It was a log cabin, covered with clapboards which were held down by a long pole. I made the furniture which went into the cabin also, even the washtub was dug out of a big log. You see we didn't have money in those days, in fact we did not need money. I had \$2.50 in my pocket on our wedding day, fifty cents of which went to Justice Barrow to pay the recording fee." Mr. Sheeks cleared ten acres of land and fenced his property with a rail fence. The Sheeks moved from Macon County to Kirksville when Kirksville was little more than a name. Mr. Sheeks said: "I got another farm a mile and a half north of town (Kirksville) and made a good place out of it." Sheeks served as Adair County Sheriff from 1855 to 1857. He said: "I knew everybody in Adair County, but it wasn't a big job to learn the names of everybody, for there were very few people in the county." According to Sheeks the job of sheriff didn't pay much, but not much happened because the people were law abiding. The most memorable event as sheriff that

Sheeks experienced was the day that W. T. Baird, the founder of Kirksville's first bank, and Professor W. P. Nason came riding into town up the mud lane that is now South Franklin Street. Mr. Sheeks said: "They were on their way west, but I think that the mud stopped them, and it was lucky for the town that it did." Mr. Sheeks died less than a year after their sixty-ninth anniversary. At the time of his death, they were six days short of spending 70 years together. Mrs. Sheeks lived another nine years dying in Kirksville on December 27, 1919. The Sheeks marriage produced eleven children.

110 Years Ago, Dec. 26, 1914

Contrary to the longtime custom of years past, a Christmas dinner was not served to prisoners in the Adair County jail on Christmas Day. It had been the custom to give the prisoners in the Adair County jail a special feast on Christmas Day, usually with turkey and all the accompaniments. Part of the money spent for the feast traditionally came out of the sheriff's own pocket, and frequently the dinner was prepared by the sheriff's wife. The sheriff is allowed a per diem for the prisoners' food and any excess had to come from other sources. Sheriff Willis was known as a kind hearted man and was disappointed because there were no prisoners in the jail to serve the dinner to. It was the first time in many years that the Christmas dinner tradition had been broken. Sheriff Willis and his family had dinner with friends.

100 Years Ago, Dec. 23, 1924

A big Christmas tree, one of the largest cedars in the area, was being erected as a community Christmas tree, on the southeast corner of the Kirksville public square. The tree was being erected by the Adair County Chapter of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK). The

tree was brilliantly lit with electric lights, and Santa Claus was to be present one evening to distribute gifts of nuts, candies, and fruit to all the kids in the area. The erection of the tree was a surprise to many people in the area who thought it was being done by the retail merchants association which had already placed small trees around the square and arranged strings of electric light from the top of the courthouse to the four corners of the public square.

100 Years Ago, Dec. 23, 1924

Kirksville's Chief of Police, S. C. Willis, announced that he would take care of one local family on Christmas by providing them with wood and coal for heat and food for the family. Residents were requested to suggest families to be the recipients of Chief Willis' kindness. Willis was known for his generosity as he had contributed to numerous local charities.

90 Years Ago, Dec. 24, 1934

At Christmastime in 1934 the country was in the throes of the Great Depression, and many Adair County residents were dependent on charity for their existence. Thanks to charitable relief organizations, service clubs, and generous people, approximately 500 children received toys for Christmas. The toys which were all used "hand me downs" were collected by the Kirksville Fire Department in the weeks before Christmas. The firemen repaired and repainted the toys in preparation for their distribution. Two days before Christmas, trucks owned by Kirksville businesses and about 40 private automobiles were used to distribute the toys throughout the county to children of families on the county relief rolls. At least one toy was destined for each child in all relief families. There were approximately 250 families

on the relief rolls. The children also received candy and oranges purchased by the city and county. The Boy Scouts assisted in the distribution of the toys, which in some cases necessitated considerable walking on muddy streets and roads.

80 Years Ago, Dec. 27, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Robertson of Brashear received a message from the War Department stating that one of their twin sons, Technician 5th grade James Robertson, died on December 4 as result of wounds received in action. A few days later the Robertsons received a letter from the other twin, Clarence Jr., stating that his brother, James, had been



wounded in action. James Robertson was born in 1924, attended the Brashear public schools, and graduated from high school in 1941. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on February 23, 1943. He and his twin, Clarence Jr., were permitted to remain together until their separation shortly before James was killed.

70 Years Ago, Dec. 29, 1954

Roy Waddill, a rural mail carrier out of Yarrow, died of a heart attack while he was on his morning mail

run. Sheriff G.E. "Shag" Grossnickle said Waddill was accompanied by Jimmy Ownbey, about 12 years of age and the son of the Yarrow postmaster, Grover Ownbey. Young Ownbey said that their car had become stuck and quite a bit of effort was required to get the vehicle out. A short time later, while driving, Waddill slumped over at the wheel, and the car ran off the road and up the side of an embankment.

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Total raised this year: \$5,293
Total raised since 2001: \$142,993

Tigers bounce back from loss at Mexico, cruise past Fulton

By Henry Janssen
Daily Express

Kirksville used an explosive first quarter at home on Friday night to vault past Fulton, 61-48, and improve to 1-1 in the NCMC and 5-1 overall.

After leading 23-13 at the end of the first quarter and 41-28 through the half, the Tigers never led by less than 10.

Cole Kelly continued an outstanding start to his senior season posting 26 points and was the only Tiger scoring in double figures. Senior Carson Kelly finished

with nine points and junior Logan Martin posted eight.

“I think our physicality has come a long way, and we were happy with that tonight,” Kirksville head coach Tyler Martin said. “We had some lapses, but we didn’t really have any breakdowns. I was pleased with how we played defensively along the perimeter tonight.”

Kirksville plays again on Dec. 30 at the 12 Courts of Christmas at Hy-Vee Arena in Kansas City against St. Joseph Central.



Kirksville junior guard Cutler Lincoln attacks the rim in Friday's victory. HENRY JANSSEN/DAILY EXPRESS

Fouts' clutch endgame free throw lifts Tigers over Hornets

By Henry Janssen
Daily Express

With 1.3 seconds remaining in the game, senior Paishynce Fouts cut to the rim and took a foul across the elbow. She missed the first of two attempts. Tiger Gym erupted when the second attempt finally fell after the basketball toyed with the rim. Shooter's touch – front iron, back iron, maybe a little tap of the backboard, and in. She then got a steal on the ensuing inbound pass to lift her team to a 48-47 victory to improve to 2-0 in the conference and 4-2 overall.

The Tigers have now won four straight. Fouts said it was “definitely” the biggest free throw she'd ever made.

“I was overthinking maybe on the first one and I just needed a deep breath,” she said. “Just thinking about taking a 2-0 conference lead and doing it at home.

“We're a young team that's really coming together this season, and everybody's getting opportunities and playing their role. I was thinking about all of them, too.”

After taking a 3-2 deficit then tying the game at 5-5, Kirksville never trailed again. The Tigers' biggest lead came in the late third quarter when they took a 32-25 advantage. With a chance to take the lead, Fulton tied the game at 47 apiece with 55 seconds remaining after Hornets' Audrey Arnold knocked down one of two free throws. Arnold finished with a game-high 19 points.

Tiger freshman Eva Danielson was just a point behind with 18, including eight in the first quarter to spark the early lead that her team never lost. Junior Chloe Carter posted 11 and Fouts had 10.

“Just hanging in there and remaining tough, that's probably the best effort we've played with all year,” Kirksville coach Nick Totta said. “Intensity-wise, I was pleased with our effort for a full game. We've seen that in spots, but I thought the girls played a complete game.

“Obviously it's great to play with a lead. We missed some shots, and that game goes from being in question to not being in question if we hit them.”

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.

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

Hamilton Street Baptist Church
802 W. Hamilton
Pastor Tim Ingle
9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups
10:15 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

Kirksville Church of Christ
110 Pfeiffer Ave.
Elders/Pastors: Dan Green, Dean Hansen
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
11 a.m. Worship
Weds 6:30p.m. Bible Study
www.kvccc.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 Rodgers
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Preaching
6:30 p.m. Evening Service

First Church of God
2900 S. Halliburton
Tiffany and Michael Vincent
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
www.firstchurchoflove.com

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
Pastor: Brandon Rhea
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
12:30 p.m. Noon Lunch

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 Jordan, 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
www.KirkvilleGCBC.com • 660.665.1615

First United Methodist Church
300 E. Washington
Pastor: Choongho Kwon
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
fbck@sbcglobal.net • 660-665-0633

Yarrow Methodist Church
Highway N., Yarrow
Pastor David Stuckey
10:00 a.m. Sunday Services

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
Pastor Rev Jeff Carter
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 Stearman, 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
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Bible Study
www.countrysideck.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
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
Sean Killin, Pastor
816-351-0623
Jim Maxey, Calling Pastor
660-665-6949 or 660-216-4183

First Assembly of God
2401 S. High St., Kirksville
Shawn Meintz, Pastor
Sundays:
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Worship Wednesdays:
6:30 p.m. Family Night
www.kirkvillefirst.org
info@kirkvillefirst.org

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
Timothy Polley, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Worship Service

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
2000 E. Normal

Kirkville First Ward Bishop 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
Kent Dunwoody, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sabbath School (Saturday)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Saturday)
Fellowship Dinner on 4th Saturday.
712-541-4675

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

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 Stud
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: Josh Botello
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
660-626-4446

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

Scott McNay, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Queen City Christian Church
Queen City, Mo.
Justin Briney, 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://laplatafbc.org/
Email: laplatafbc@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.
Sam Burkholder, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

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

Hurdland First Baptist Church
Robert Shobe, Pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 p.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
404N. 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

Union Temple
Pastor Alan Coonfield
Sunday evening worship
5:00 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Worship

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED CHURCH
LaPlata Christian Church



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All Hay Is Net Wrapped. 1275 Lb.-1375 Lb. Mixed Grass. \$45.00. Clover & Tree Foil 1st Cut, \$55.00 2nd Cut, \$60.00. Milan, MO. 660-216-1765

Net wrapped bales, 1st and 2nd cutting. Mixed grass hay, delivery available. Bob Campbell, Memphis, MO. 660-341-9054

Round bales 5' wide 67" inches tall mixed grass hay with alfalfa. Baled dry fertilized, lab tested, net wrapped with plastic surface wrap on top. Load evenings and weekends Watson Hay Sales. 660-341-4031

Mixed grass hay, big round bales, twine tied, 1450 pounds, \$65.00, load out Saturday/Sunday only. 660-341-1296.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

Class A CDL driver needed, 5 days a week, local driving, full time, benefits. Lloyd Distributing. 660-665-1907.

MERCHANDISE

Electronics

Duro XA Kyocera flip phone \$100.00 each. US Cellular, great for farmers. Call 660-341-1296.

Miscellaneous

Ford pickup, F150, 4x4, 2007, good rubber, small V8, sound truck \$7950.00, ext cab. 660-626-6575.

2005 Ford F350, single rear wheel, 6.0 diesel with updates, 4 door long bed, 4x4, with B&W hitch, good tires, new battery, rebuilt title. \$6500. 660-346-0438.

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-888-761-1316 today!

Split firewood for sale, Kauffman Repair, 12145 Iceberg Ave, LaPlata, Mo

Pets & Supplies

8 Border Collie German Shepherd cross puppies, very good dogs. \$50.00 or best offer. 660-299-0808.

Christmas puppies, Jack Russel and Beagle cross, \$100.00. Shelbina, Mo, 573-934-3031.

Sports Equipment

Lazy Man deer blinds, Generation 2 Penthouse, \$1649.95. Fat Girl, Bow or Combo, \$1999.95. heindselmanfamilyfarms.com. 660-341-5692

Wood & Accessories

Split firewood for sale, Kauffman Repair, 12145 Iceberg Ave, LaPlata, Mo

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Miscellaneous

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Notice is hereby given that by an order of the Circuit Court of the County of Adair, **Case No. 24AR-CV00836** made entered on the record on **December, 12, 2024**, the name of **Tatiana Motta Dixon** was changed to **Tatiana Motta Maldonado**.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals for the construction of **Subdivision Development for Dogwood Subdivision** for the **City of Kirksville** will be received by the OWNER **until 3:00 pm on January 30, 2025** at City Hall, 201 S. Franklin Street, Kirksville, MO 63501 where at that place and time said proposals shall be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received after such date and time shall be returned unopened.

There will not be a pre-bid meeting.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be viewed at the offices of the City of Kirksville, MECO Engineering Company, Inc., CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be purchased with a non-refundable deposit by contacting MECO Engineering Company. Purchase price is \$250.00 a set. Electronic .pdf formats can be available at no charge. Checks are to be made payable to "MECO Engineering Company, INC", and mailing costs are the responsibility of the purchaser.

City of Kirksville, City Hall, 201 S. Franklin St, Kirksville, MO 63501, (660) 627-1251
MECO Engineering Company, Inc., 3120 Palmyra Road, Hannibal, MO 63401 (573) 221-4048

The PROJECT has been financed with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

Bidders on this Work will be required to comply with the Copeland (Anti-Kickback) Act, and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as indicated in the Contract Documents. Bidders must be an Equal Opportunity Employer. All Minority Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises and Small Business Enterprises are encouraged to bid.

Bidders for this work will be required to comply with State Prevailing Wage Rates and the President's Executive Order Number 11246. Requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders.

Bidders are informed that pursuant to Section 285.530, RSMo, as a condition of the award, the successful Bidder shall, by affidavit and provision of documentation, affirm its enrollment and participation in a federal work authorization program with respect to the employees working in connection to the contracted services. Successful Bidder shall sign an affidavit affirming that it does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in connection to the contracted services. All rejected bidders will receive notifications of rejected bid.

Bidders are informed that pursuant to Section 285.530, RSMo, as a condition of the award, the successful Bidder shall, by affidavit and provision of documentation, affirm its enrollment and participation in a federal work authorization program with respect to the employees working in connection to the contracted services. Successful Bidder shall sign an affidavit affirming that it does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in connection to the contracted services.

All contractors or subcontractors doing work on the Project must require its on-site employees to complete the ten-hour construction safety training program required under Section 292.675, RSMo, unless they have previously completed the program and have documentation of having done so.

The award of Contracts on this project shall be predicated upon competitive bidding, and satisfactory performance of past work with the Missouri area. Said Bidder shall be determined for the Contract by summarizing the applicable low base bids and selection by the City based on past performance of work.

The City of Kirksville reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive all informalities in the bids. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days subsequent to the specified time for receipt of bids.

EQUIP AUCTIONS

**THOUSANDS OF ITEMS SELL NO RESERVE!
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31**



EG7048 '19 Astec GT205 M/F screening plant



DN3642 '21 Vogele Super 1700-3i paver



DW3979 '20 Dodge Ram 5500HD service truck



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Bobcat T-650
Call For More Information & Price

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Wiss & Wiss Equipment, Inc., 155 E. Chestnut St. Kahoka, Mo

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default under the terms of the Deed of Trust executed by JEWEL IVANA MCAFEE and, DAKOTA JAMES MCAFEE dated 04/11/2022, recorded on 04/11/2022, in Book 1133, Page 835 as Instrument No. 202200000942, Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Adair County, Missouri. The undersigned Successor Trustee, between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, will on 01/16/2025, at 11:00 AM at 106 West Washington Street, Kirksville MO 63501, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only) the following real estate:

A PART OF LOT 1 OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 62, RANGE 15, IN THE CITY OF KIRKVILLE, MISSOURI, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT 744.1 FEET NORTH AND 177.65 FEET WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER, THENCE NORTH 123 FEET, THENCE WEST 71.5 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 123 FEET, THENCE EAST 71.5 FEET TO THE BEGINNING, SAID DESCRIPTION INCLUDING 20 FEET IN MARY STREET ON THE NORTH END THEREOF.

MORE CORRECTLY DESCRIBED AS: PART OF LOT I OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 62, RANGE 15, IN THE CITY OF KIRKVILLE, ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT 744.1 FEET NORTH AND 177.65 FEET WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER, THENCE NORTH 123 FEET, THENCE WEST 71.5 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 123 FEET, THENCE EAST 71.5 FEET TO THE BEGINNING, SAID DESCRIPTION INCLUDING 20 FEET IN MARY STREET ON THE NORTH END THEREOF.

to satisfy said debt and costs.

Western Progressive - Missouri, Inc., Successor Trustee, (866)-960-8299, may be deemed to be a debt collector and, if so, is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction.

Western Progressive - Missouri, Inc., Successor Trustee (866)-960-8299

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold via online auction by Smartlock Self Storage® - Kirksville 2104 S Baltimore St, Kirksville, MO, 63501 to satisfy a lien on Jan 10, 2024 at approx. 11AM online at: www.Lockerfox.com, Nickoles Shaw

IN THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI (Date File Stamp) Judge or Division: PROBATE In the Estate of THRESA L. BURRUS, Deceased.

Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted (Supervised Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of THRESA L BURRUS, Decedent: On December 19, 2024, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of THRESA L BURRUS, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of ADAIR COUNTY, Missouri. The name, business address of the personal representative is: Shannon J. Bowen, 24969 Walking Trail Drive, Queen City, Missouri 63561

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: Andrew R. Farwell, 715 N. Baltimore, Kirksville, Missouri, 63501, 660-665-2115

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

/s/Martha Cole Adair County Circuit Clerk Date of the decedent's death: September 24, 2024 Date of first publication: December 25, 2024 PUBLICATION DATES: 12-25-2024, 1-1-2025, 1-8-2025, 1-15-2025

Miscellaneous

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-866-686-8347 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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Trucks, 4x4's, SUV's

2007 ford F150, 4x4, sound truck, small V8, good rubber, extended cab, \$7950.00. 660-626-6575.

2005 Ford F350, single rear wheel, 6.0 diesel with updates. 4 door long bed, 4x4, with B&W hitch, good tires, new battery, rebuilt title. \$6500. 660-346-0438.

2017 Chevy Colorado, black exterior, charcoal/grey interior, V6, automatic, matching Leer topper, running boards, chrome grill guard, Linex, very good condition. 87,000 miles, 1 owner, can text pictures, \$28,000, Moulton, IA, 319-560-6720.

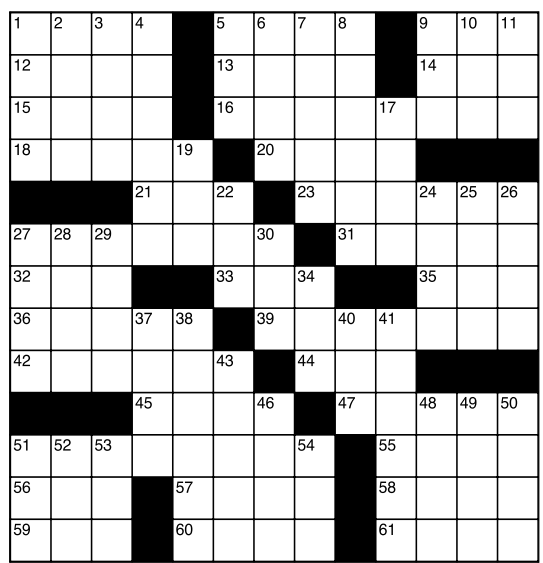
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CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 272

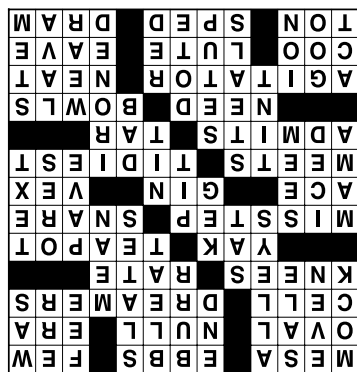


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- 46. ___ on (love excessively)
48. Put on, ___ as clothes
49. Liquid rock
50. Flower support
51. Tread the boards
52. Muck
53. Electrified particle
54. Ruby-hued

- ACROSS: 1. Tableland, 5. Flows back, 9. Handful, 12. Arena shape, 13. Invalid, 14. Historic epoch, 15. Monk's quarters, 16. Romantic ones, 18. Leg joints, 20. Evaluate, 21. Shaggy ox, 23. Brewing vessel, 27. Slip, 31. Capture, 32. Get an "A" on, 33. Clear liquor, 35. Aggravate, 36. Comes together, 39. Least messy, 42. Allows to enter, 44. Goopy liquid, 45. Require, 47. Stadiums, 51. Provoker, 55. Orderly, 56. Bill and ___, 57. Guitar's kin, 58. Overhanging roof part, 59. Shipping weight, 60. Drove over the limit, 61. Small portion, DOWN: 1. Mimic, 2. Fifty-fifty, 3. Bargain offering, 4. Side streets, 5. Come to a close, 6. "Perry Mason" star, 7. Lamb's comment, 8. Blackboards, 9. Attorney's charge, 10. Botch, 11. Had being, 17. Nasty, 19. Posed for a picture, 22. Barrel, 24. ___ the way, 25. Mineral resources, 26. Printed matter, 27. ___ Cass, 28. Frozen, 29. Appear, 30. Cherry seed, 34. Young bug, 37. Dye, 38. Robs, 40. Small quantity, 41. Pressed, 43. Raise: 2 wds.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 272

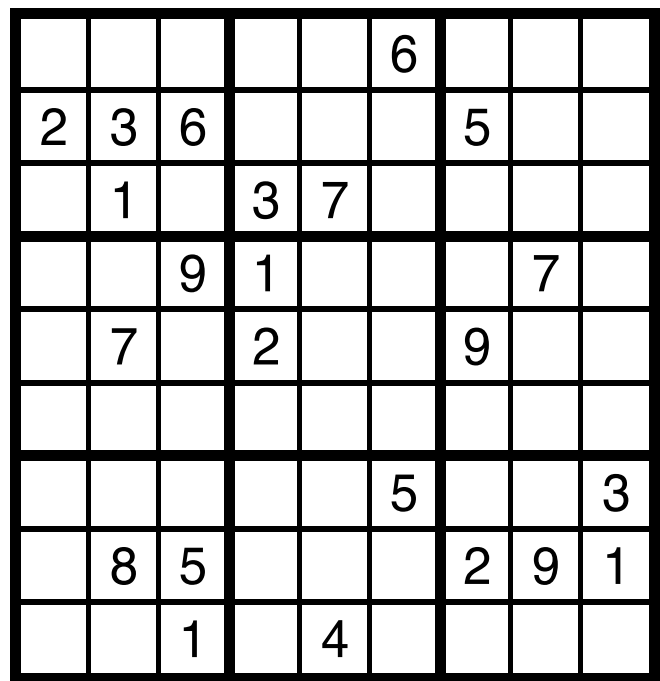


CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS USE AMERICAN SPELLING

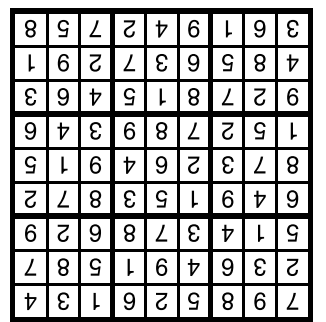
Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 1011

LEVEL: ADVANCED



ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 1011



How to play:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: you must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.

Advertisement for BCI Bath & Shower featuring a \$1000 OFF promotion and financing options.

Advertisement for Consumer Cellular offering big wireless coverage without big wireless cost.

Advertisement for Hale Groves featuring a 42% savings on a holiday fruit assortment.

Advertisement for Briggs & Stratton generators offering a 7-year warranty and \$849 value.

Advertisement for Omaha Steaks featuring a deluxe package with 8 free burgers.

Advertisement for Generac generators offering a free 5-year warranty.

Local news article from the Kirkville Daily Express about the school board naming Tricia Reger as the next superintendent.

Large advertisement for the Kirkville Daily Express newspaper, highlighting local news, sports, and city coverage.

AGENT AFIELD

Winter hunting and fishing seasons present unique opportunities and challenges

Winter hunting and fishing seasons in Missouri present some unique opportunities and challenges. Outdoor pursuits include muzzle loader hunting, small game hunting, and ice fishing for lunkers. The Missouri Department of Conservation would like to remind anyone taking part in winter activities to have a safety plan, cold weather gear, and self rescue equipment.

The Missouri alternative method deer season will begin Dec. 28, a half hour before sunrise and conclude Jan. 7, 2025, one half hour after sunset.

This season is typically called muzzle loader season due to the restrictions in methods. Muzzle loaders are an excellent way to test your hunting skills and presents a unique set of challenges. The familiar cap or ball type muzzle loaders dominate use during this season, however other methods are legal as well.

Centerfire pistols or revolvers using expanding type bullets such as lead or copper, air powered rifles 40 caliber or larger, and archery methods are legal. Pistol hunting is an excellent challenge for most hunters and requires a significant amount of practice. The Wildlife Code has a lengthy

definition of "pistol" that can be found on page 234. Hunters that are interested in using an AR style platform for alternative method season are encouraged to read that in its entirety.

As the weather remains colder and the ice becomes thicker, ice fishing is an excellent chance to enjoy the sunny winter days. Farm ponds are an excellent place to pursue iced in fish. Many of these smaller bodies of water are not suited for boats or make it hard to launch. When the ice is safe to be on, preferably four inches or greater, some simple equipment such as an ice auger and a scoop are all that

you need to get at those trophy class bluegill.

Catfish and bass can remain active but at times are harder to entice. Small jigs and wax worms dominate the ice fishing scene as bait. Modern electronics can be very helpful so that less time is spent drilling holes and making the pond look like Swiss cheese. Spur Pond in Kirksville is heavily stocked with rainbow trout. There are few lunkers put in as well! Those fish are legal to keep Feb. 1. Make sure that any ice fishing trip is accompanied with a plan of action, self rescue equipment, and preferably a partner to share the day.



Kevin Powell

For more information on Missouri outdoors and conservation related interests, please visit our regional office at 3500 S Baltimore St. Kirksville. If you witness a wildlife violation, please call me, Kevin Powell, conservation agent, at 660 216-1389. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you afield.

Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce

November 2024

Executive Director: Marie Murphree

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UScellular donates \$1,500 worth of arts and craft supplies to the Kirksville Arts Association

By UScellular

This holiday season, UScellular is giving back to the Kirksville community by donating \$1,500 worth of arts and crafts supplies to the Kirksville Arts Association to support its mission of celebrating, fostering, and sharing the arts within the rural communities of Northeast Missouri.

As part of UScellular's "Gift of Connection" program, the donation to the Kirksville Arts Association is one of 50 gifts to non-profits across the country. The company is helping organizations by providing needed supplies in gratitude for their dedi-

cation to building connection through art, music and sports in their local communities.

"We're proud to support Kirksville Arts Association with arts and crafts supplies to help the organization continue enriching the community's creative culture and expanding access to artistic opportunities," said Mike Burwell, director of sales at UScellular in Missouri and Illinois. "Giving back is a part of UScellular's commitment to connect people to what matters most, and we're honored to give the gift of connection this holiday season."

UScellular is also inviting community members to participate in the Gift

of Connection through a donation drive at select UScellular retail locations. Everyone is encouraged to donate new sports equipment, art supplies, or family board games that will be gifted to a local non-profit. Customers who donate will receive 20 percent off an accessory of their choice* — go to uscellular.com/store-locator to find a nearby location.

* Minimum of one toy dropped off to a retail location by Jan. 15, 2025. Discount available day of toy donation. Offer valid while supplies last. Discount valid on eligible essential accessories only including cases, screen protection, chargers and



Associates from UScellular donated \$1,500 worth of art supplies to the Kirksville Arts Association as part of the wireless carrier's "Gift of Connection" program. (Left to Right): Ryan Bowen, Mark Barrett, Linda Treasure, Melissa Stuart, Ben Beard, Karen Mayhew, Dwight Buckingham, Janie Theobald, Joanne Jackson, Aimee Carrell, Anthony Nelson, Ashton Clema, Daryl Shafer.

memory. Excludes Apple and Samsung branded accessories. Limited time offer. Cannot be combined

with any other accessory offer, i.e. discount stacking. Offer valid at company owned UScellular retail

stores. Taxes, fees and additional terms apply. See UScellular.com/terms for details. ©2024 UScellular

MU Extension offers vegetable production series

By University of Missouri Extension

COLUMBIA — University of Missouri Extension will offer a seven-part webinar series in January and February on how to manage vegetable crops for maximum yield. The series runs 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 6-Feb. 25, 2025.

"This will be a great webinar for aspiring and beginning farmers, and for seasoned growers looking to sharpen their game," says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist Justin Keay. "This series has all the classes to help growers build a solid foundation to support successful production of vegetable crops."

Later in the year, MU Extension will offer other classes on specific crops such as tomatoes, root crops and leafy greens.

Class sessions cover planning, soil management and plant nutrition, weed manage-



ment and mulching, irrigation management and fertigation systems, integrated pest management and produce safety. The last session includes a farmer panel.

This webinar series is designed for vegetable producers growing crops for sale, but all are welcome to attend, says Keay. Live webinars will be recorded and made available to all registrants.

Scholarships are available in some counties for qualifying beginning farmers.

Register at <http://muext.us/VPWS>. For more information, contact the MU Extension Center in Pike County at 573-324-5464.

A USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Missouri Beginning Farmers and Ranchers and Beginning Veteran Farmers grant provides funding for this webinar.

Protect your sewer — don't put fats, oils and grease down the drain

By Kirksville Public Works Department

Plenty of great cooking happens during the holidays. Here's a quick reminder from the Kirksville Public Works Department to not put any leftovers or cooking byproducts down your drain.

Fats, oils and grease are found in or created by some of our favorite foods — like meat, butter, oil, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise, cheese and salad dressing. Keeping fats, oils and grease out of your drain is an easy way to prevent a sewer backup in your home.

Fats, oils and grease harden and congeal over time, which can cause a blockage in your sewer line. Those blockages also put

stress on and can damage city infrastructure.

Helpful tips for holiday cooking:

- Never pour fats, oils, or grease down sink drains, garbage disposals, or toilets.

- Pour them into a covered, disposable container (coffee can, glass jar, bottle, etc.) and put that in the trash.

- Once a pan or pot has cooled, wipe it with a paper towel before washing.

- Place fatty food scraps in the trash and not the sink or garbage disposal.

- Use the basket or strainer on your sink drain to catch food scraps and other solids, then put those in the trash.

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Letters to Santa Claus

It's Christmas Time,
and Santa will be here soon!



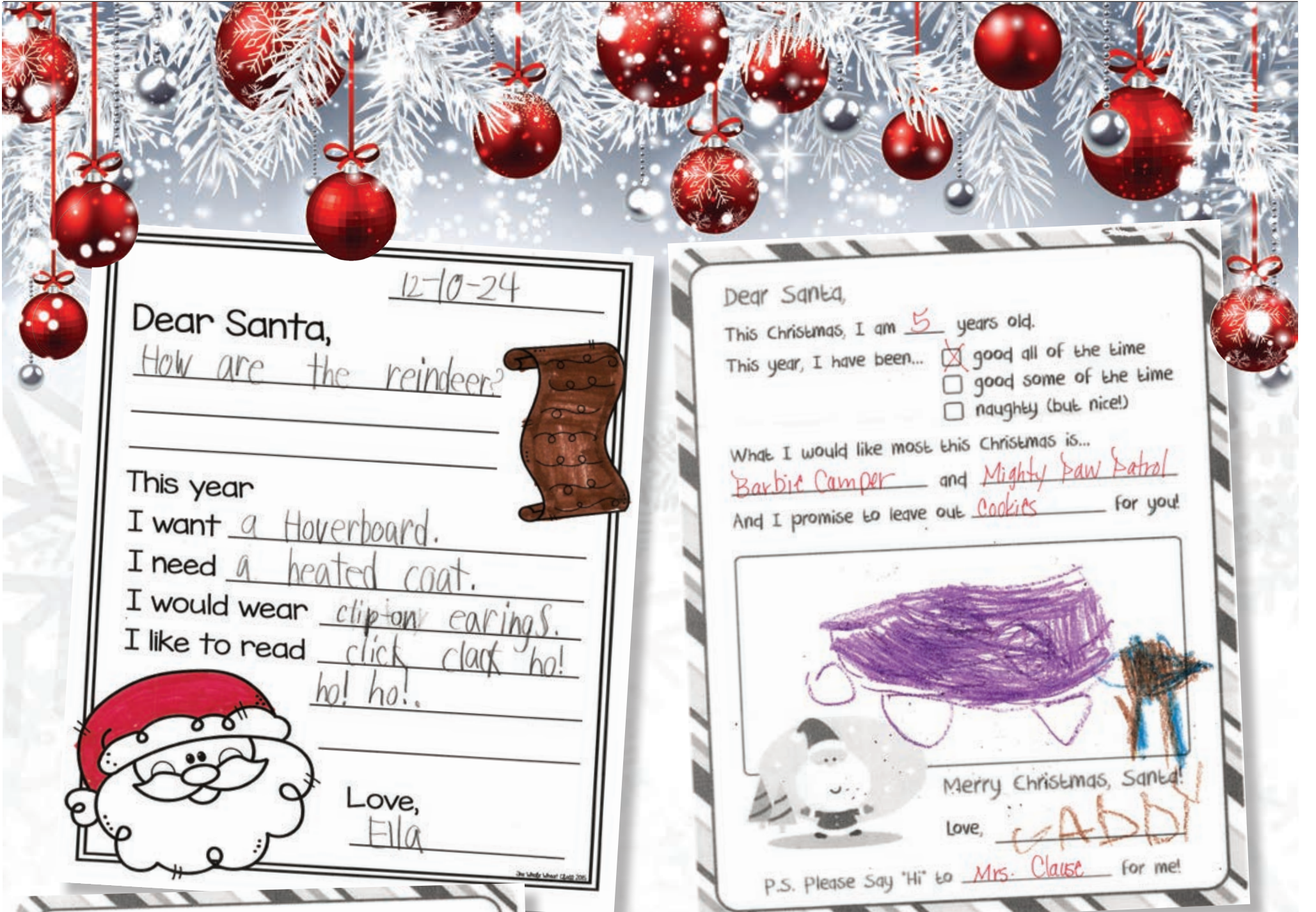
The City of Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department is hard at work again this year, helping Santa by collecting letters from area children.

Again this year, it is our pleasure to be able to partner with the City of Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department, and Santa Claus, to publish just a few of the Letters To Santa submitted by our area children, before they continue their journey to the North Pole.

We hope that you enjoy reading them as much as we have!

-Kirksville Daily Express







12-10-24

Dear Santa,
 How are the reindeer?

This year
 I want a Hoverboard.
 I need a heated coat.
 I would wear clip-on earrings.
 I like to read click clack ho!
 ho! ho!


 Love,
 Ella

Dear Santa,
 This Christmas, I am 5 years old.
 This year, I have been... good all of the time
 good some of the time
 naughty (but nice!)
 What I would like most this Christmas is...
 Barbie Camper and Mighty Paw Patrol
 And I promise to leave out cookies for you!



Merry Christmas, Santa!
 Love, ADDY
 P.S. Please Say "Hi" to Mrs. Clause for me!

Dear Santa,
 This Christmas, I am 5 years old.
 This year, I have been... good all of the time
 good some of the time
 naughty (but nice!)
 What I would like most this Christmas is...
 Robot and Plushies
 And I promise to leave out Cookies & Milk for you!



Merry Christmas, Santa!
 Love, CARIE P
 P.S. Please Say "Hi" to Mrs. Clause for me!



Dear Santa,
 My name is Alice G
 and I am 4 years old
 This year I have been very naughty nice
 For Christmas, please bring me
 A baby doll, a Doctor Play set, a Hatchimal Alive, a camera & a Princess phone,
 Some Hotwheels & carwash, a monster truck, a robot toy,
 Some more kitty things. And a fur Peck!

With Love,

Merry Christmas



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Dear Santa,
 My name is Lincoln R
 and I am 4 years old
 This year I have been very
 naughty nice
 For Christmas, please bring me
Hot wheels, transformers,
Spiderman toys, Mickey Mouse
Ready to Race Garage, Pirate
Island Playset, and Ninja Turtles.

With Love,
 Lincoln

12-12-2024

Dear, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus too
 Thank you for giving me a satchase
 Last Christmas. I like your red suit it
 is amazing!!! I would like a Knew P
 Barbie House. Because my Barbies need
 a new won. A Baby Doll pleas I need
 a new won. Maby a Vanidy and
 Make up pleas. Because I need a
 New place to do homework.

Thank you!

Love,
 Makenna

Dear Santa

2024

Dear santa can i get a Baskin
 BALL cuz ima not on the noty
 List and i also want a candy cane
 and i also want a PSE so much
 and i also want a IPONE 15somvsh
 And i also want a macanakoil
 penson and i also want a ROBOT

LOVE
 AXELMC.

Dear Santa Claus,
 My name is Autumn
 I am 4 years old.
 I live in Kirkville
 This year, I have been really good
 I would really like it if you could bring me:
 I really want a rears kitten, I
 also really wish for a Tiny Tiny Tiny punkin
 so I can paint

Thank you and Merry Christmas!



Merry Christmas
 and
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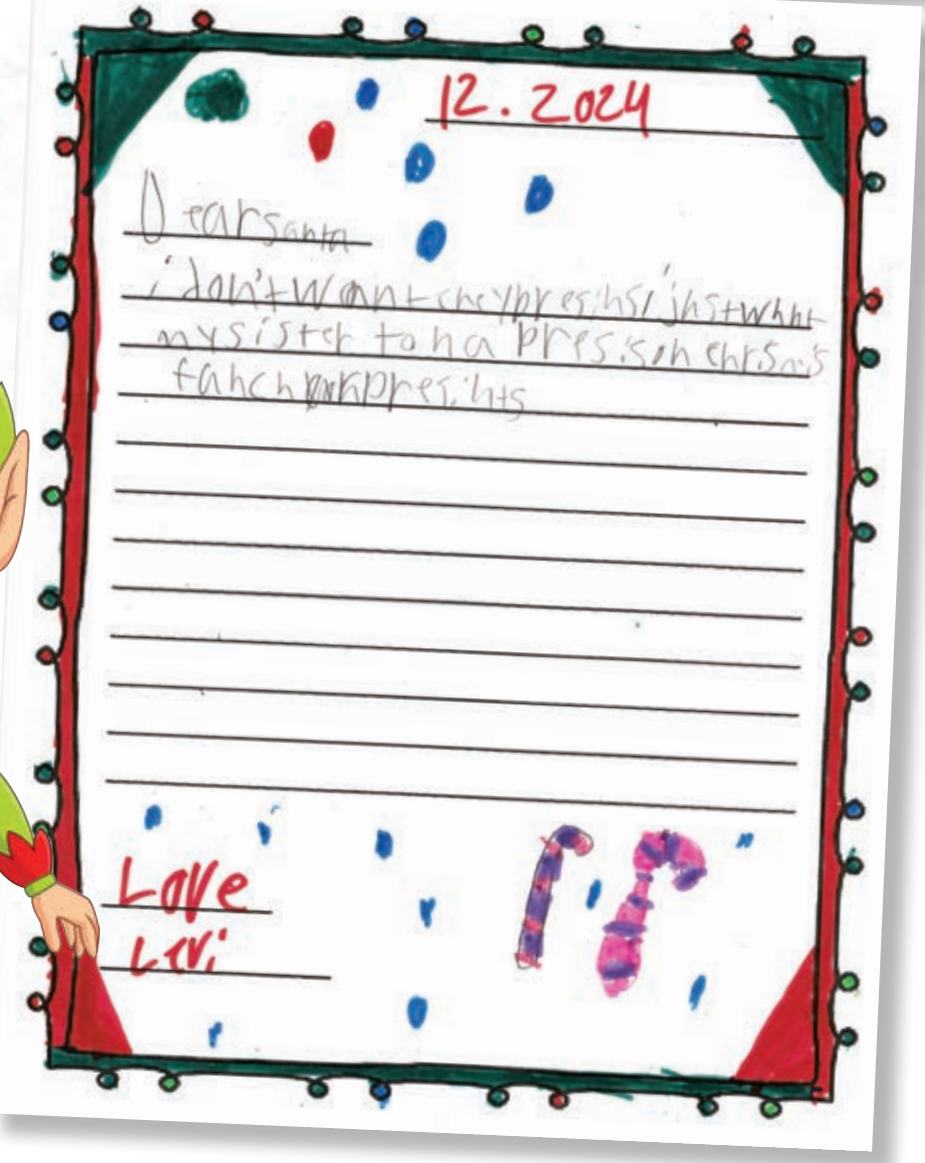
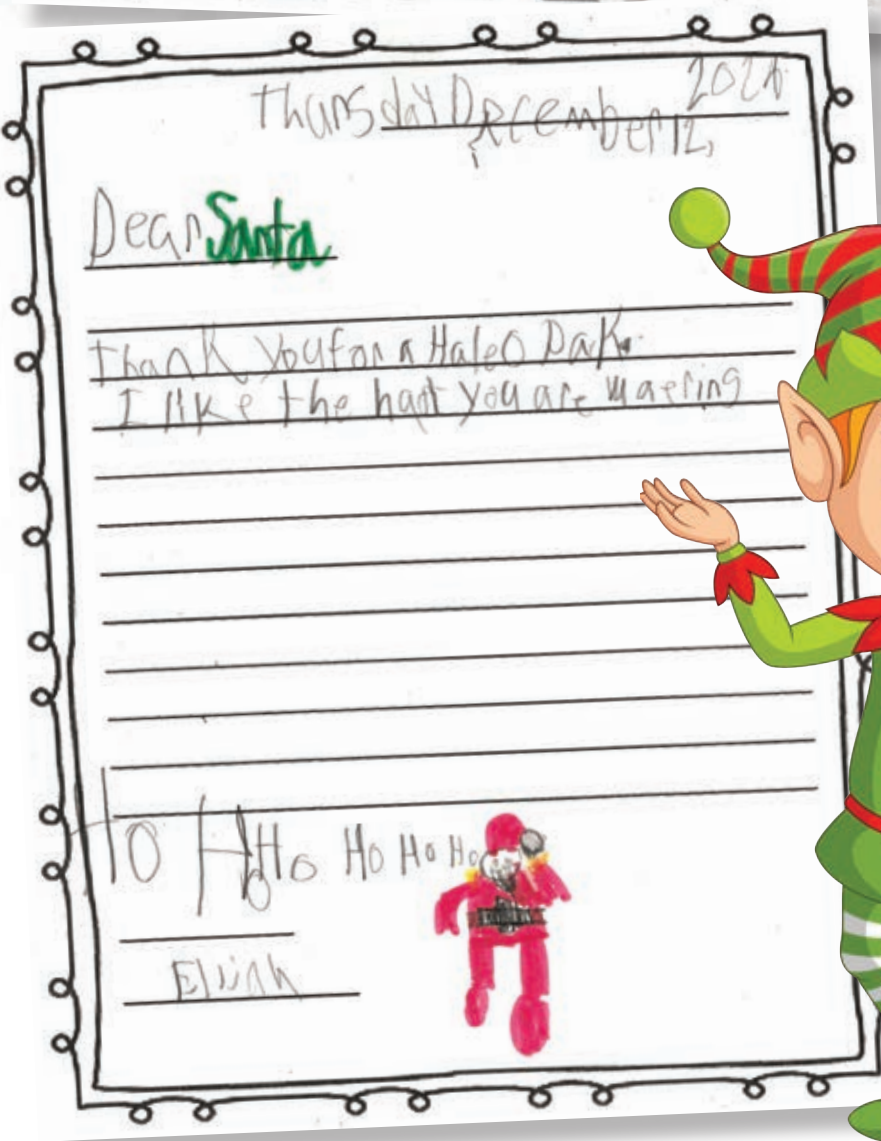
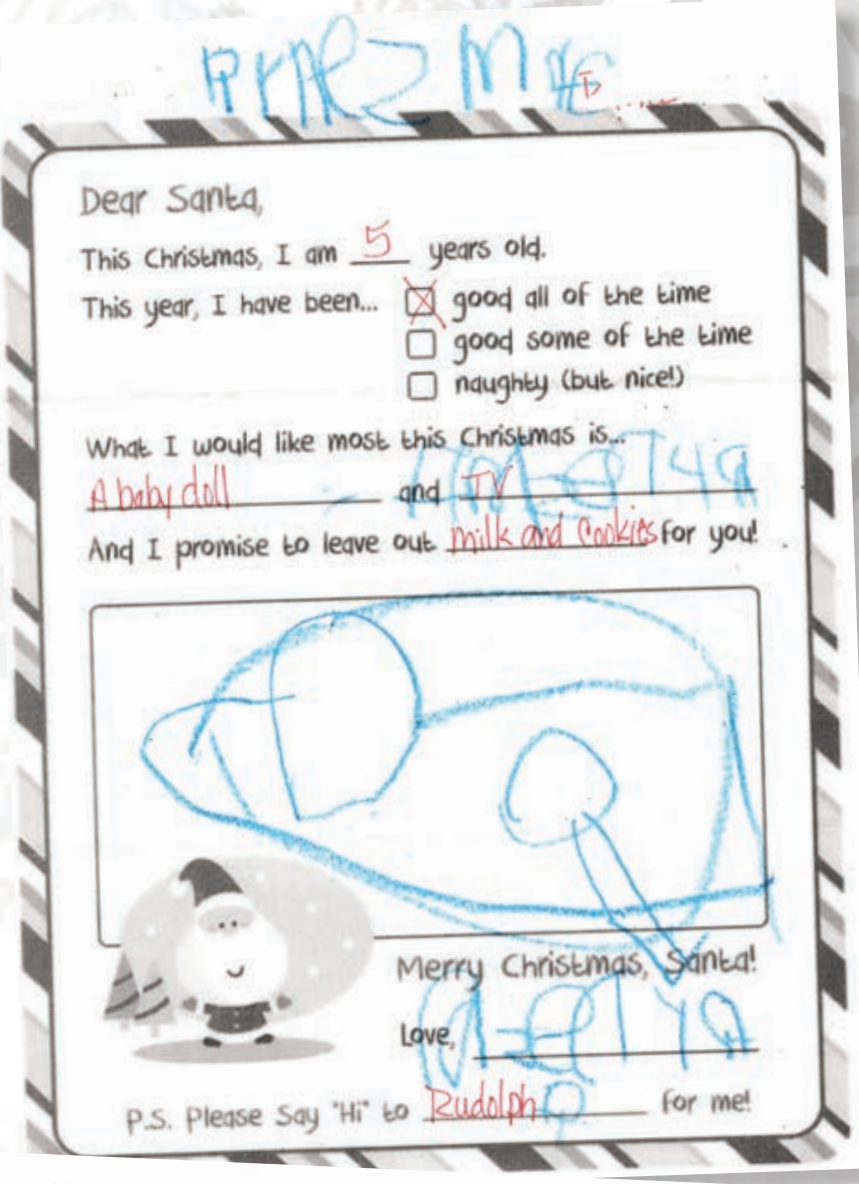
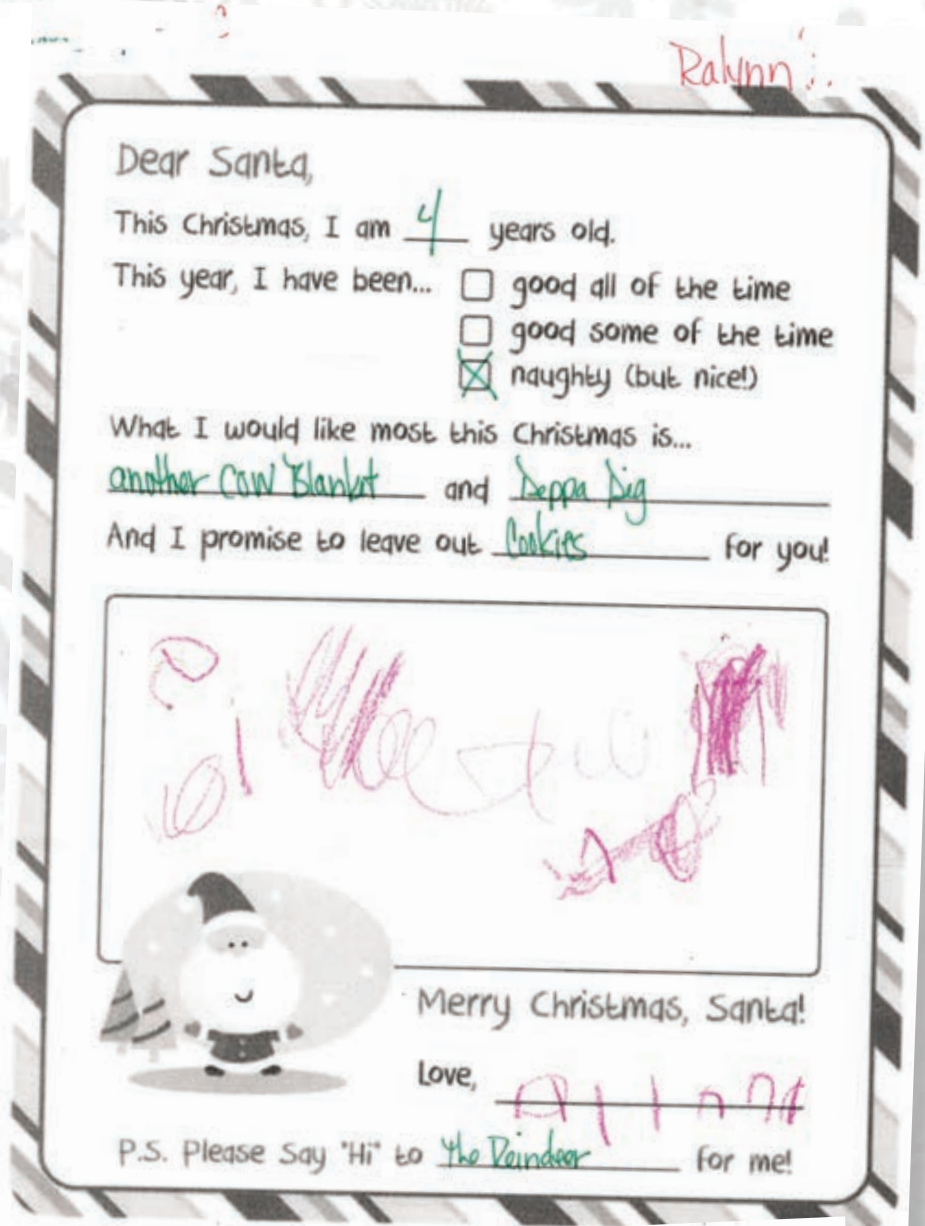
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Dear Santa:

My name is Madi

I am 4 years old.

I live in my home

This year, I have been really
 nice naughty

For Christmas, please bring me:
 Car (pink)
 Bike

Thank you and Merry Christmas!
 Love, Madi

12/10/24

Dear Santa,
 How are the reindeer?

This year
 I want The uhoh go to go turtle
 I need Underwear and slippers
 I would wear A heated coat
 I like to read Cookie fiasco

Love,
DELYN



Dear Santa I want
 a vr headset and a
 pet for my elf. Some
 book. Art supplies. A lego
 set. A book without words.
 A christmas game. A
 christmas hat. Some
 stuff animals that look
 like a wolf dog. for jesus
 to have a nice birthday. for
 my sister to have a nice
 christmas and can you
 make her a stuff animal
 that says I love you
 sissy from Jazzy
 Merry christmas
 Jasmine

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 and a Happy New Year!
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Merry

Christmas



Dear Santa,

My name is Kiram.

This Christmas, I am 8 years old.

This year, I have been nice.

What I would love most for Christmas is Robux, Poké man and books

Love,
Kiram

© Simple Living Creative Learning

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? Have the elves been good? Is one of your reindeer named Rudolph? I love how you make kids happy. Do you have a tree at the North pole? May I have a Barbie doll house and Legos for Christmas? Thank you for thinking of me.

Sincerely,
Reese

NAME: Bryce

Question: Do you have a fun

Need: I need more maracas.

Want: I want a trumpet for christmas

someone else: for someone else a robot.

NAME: Merye

Question: are you giving presents?

Need: I need a hat.

Want: I want a hover board

someone else: a hbey.

NAME: rock

Question: Der santa I want you to a Barb.

Need: Der santa I want a cat.

Want: Der santa I want you to a Bymadoff.

someone else: my Mom and ther By me a Christ.

Dear Santa, how are you

How are you doing? May I have a Skates, and Slime and a baby doll for christmas? Thank you for making all of the kids Spoiled and happy.

Love,
Makenna

Dear Santa,

My name is Kate.

This Christmas, I am 8 years old.

This year, I have been nice.

What I would love most for Christmas is Slime, a dog, a small dog, dig pool so I can have family time.

Love,
Kate

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