

Trout

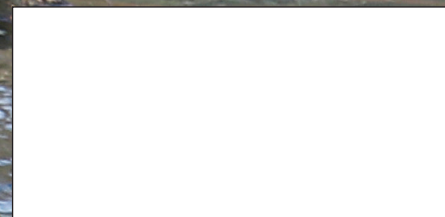


Talk

**Young anglers
learn about
trout fishing**

Page 5

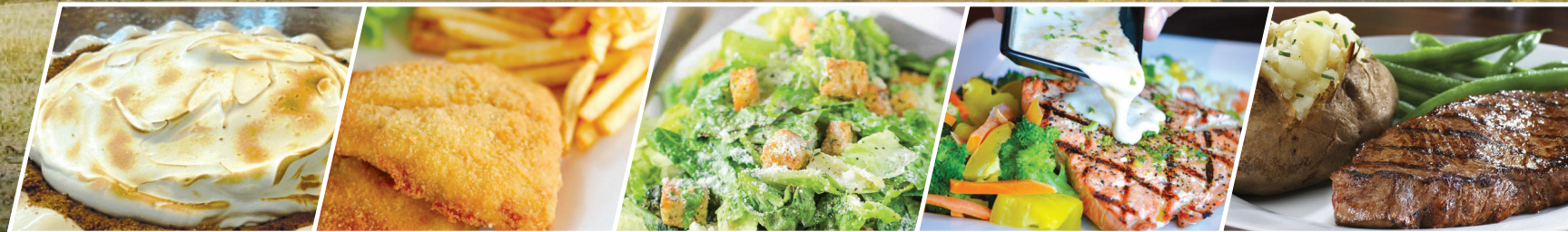
MAY/JUNE 2021



If You Can't

CATCH 'EM

We've Got
You Covered!



DAY TRADERS

G ♦ R ♦ I ♦ L ♦ L

417-344-1234 | [Facebook.com/DayTradersGrill](https://www.facebook.com/DayTradersGrill)

14900 Highway KK • Lebanon, MO 65536

Friday-Saturday: 11am – 9pm | Sunday Brunch: 11am – 4pm

Follow us on our Facebook page The Exchange for live music info.

A day for veterans at Bennett Spring

Veterans were able to fish for free at the state park during a special day in April

LAURA VALENTI • FOR TROUT TALK

Despite cool, damp Ozark spring weather, almost 100 veterans turned out on April 17 for Bennett Spring's fifth annual Veterans Free Fishing Day.

Bennett Spring Hatchery Manager Ben Havens has worked to bring more free fishing days to Bennett in his tenure at the hatchery as a way to encourage more groups such as women and veterans to explore trout fishing at the well-known park. A free fishing day for everyone as well as a Kids Free Fishing Day have been long-standing traditions in the area but Ladies Free

Fishing and Veterans Free Fishing have been added in recent years.

"This is just a good way to get more people out, to enjoy the outdoors," Havens said. "Last year, we didn't do it officially because of COVID, but we still had a few veterans come out and enjoy the day and we were happy to supply them with a free tag. This year, we are back officially with blue free tags for all of our veterans, but the weather has not been as helpful this year as we would have liked."

See 'VETERANS' / page 4



Trout Talk photo/Laura Valenti

Veterans take fly fishing lessons before taking to the stream on Veterans Free Fishing Day.

Cabins, Camping, Floating *& Much More!*

- 44 YEARS OF SERVICE!
- OVER 60 ACRES OF CAMPGROUNDS ON THE NIANGUA RIVER
- OVER 3,000 FT. OF ZIPLINE

NOW SERVING
Ice Cream
FACTORY



Canoe Rental & Campground



417-532-6333 • 417-588-3797 • WWW.NROCANOE.COM • OFFICE HOURS 7AM-10PM

Veterans

from page 3

Still, several veterans came out, many from out of the area, despite the cool temperatures and fortunately, the predicted rain held off for the day.

Amy Milne of Kirkwood, Mo., headed up the volunteers for the day, many of whom came from the St. Louis area and are also associated with other trout fishing organizations.

"We've held this event at all four of the state trout parks now in recent years," Milne said, while manning her post at the table, passing out free blue tags to veterans coming to fish for the day.

"We've had over 2000 veterans to participate," she said.

Several of the volunteers serve with Project Healing Waters, a nonprofit organization, dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military personnel and veterans, through fly fishing and associated activities such as education and sponsored outings. Others are members of the Gateway chapter of Trout Unlimited, one of three TU chapters in the state. As a nonprofit organization, TU works to conserve, protect and restore Missouri cold water fisheries to sustain and improve fishing for present and future anglers through conservation, education and fellowship.

Additional activities for the day included fly tying and casting demonstrations. Volunteers were also available to help veterans into



Trout Talk photo/Laura Valenti

Jimmie Jones, an Air Force veteran from Oklahoma, shows off a trout he caught during Veterans Free Fishing Day.

the water, if needed.

Those who came to enjoy the day included John Stafford of Holts Summit. While he has been a long-time

visitor and fly fisherman at Bennett Spring since 1971, this was his first participation in the Veterans Free Fishing Day.

"We were here for the weekend and then found out it was free for veterans today, so that was a nice surprise," he commented while preparing to walk into the spring branch.

His wife, Pat who says her job is to help prepare his fishing rods, grew up camping and fishing at Bennett Spring as a child.

"My parents, Joe and Betty Maire, brought us here camping and staying in the old CCC cabins when I was a kid," she said.

Jimmie Jones of Ft. Gibson, Okla., an Air Force veteran, came to Bennett Spring to spend the weekend with his sons, one of whom, Jake Jones of Concordia is also an Army veteran. They were pleased to discover that the two of them could also fish for free this particular Saturday.

Perhaps, the best sentiment of the day was shared by Neil Miller, a 78-year-old Army veteran, who struggled but was ultimately successful in putting on his lace-up boots that went over his waders.

"I've been blown up, have rods in both my legs and my pelvis is wired together," he related with a sigh and a smile. "I found out as a 25-year-old draftee that I wasn't as strong as I thought I was. But I'm still here," he concluded with a chuckle, as he climbed to his feet and walked slowly but steadily toward the spring branch with his fishing rod in hand.

B&J Ford's
Antiques & Collectibles

- Antiques • Furniture
- Toys • Books • Dishes
- Collectibles

You name it, we've got it!

Shop our
6,000 sq. ft. of
merchandise.

Hwy. 32 Store Open Mon-Sat 10-4
SHOP BOTH LOCATIONS!
24876 Mineral Dr. Hwy. 64 31950 Hwy. 32
417-588-2509 417-650-4407

Bennett-Spring.com

Food Fun Fishing Flooring Lodging Shopping Events Maps

Opening Day

It's OK to Peek!

Bennett Spring "Country's" ONLY website featuring the area's best fishing, floating, food, insightful articles, and Trout Talk!

www.bennett-spring.com

LC RECORD 417-532-9131 • 100 E. Commercial • www.laclederecord.com

Best Antiques & Collectibles Under the Moon!

WELCOME TO ANTIQUES HOOTIE HOOT HOLLOW STOP

Hootie Hoot Hollow
Antique / Resale
11520 Hwy. 64 • Lebanon
314-346-7098 • 314-610-0204

The Havens share fly fishing love with kids



Trout Talk photo/Laura Valenti
Bennett Spring Hatchery Manager Ben Havens helps tie a fly on a string during Kids' Free Fishing Day.

Ben and Sarah Havens helped out with the recent Kids' Free Fishing Day and local Mayfly Project

LAURA VALENTI FOR TROUT TALK

Ben Havens, Bennett Spring Trout Hatchery manager and his wife, Sarah, a University of Missouri Extension field specialist, work daily with wildlife and conservation issues but also reach out to bring those matters home to children in this area even on their off hours.

On a gorgeous sun-drenched Saturday, May 1, in the Ozarks, both Ben and Sarah were spending their day at Bennett Spring's annual Kids' Free Fishing Day, helping children, including their own to enjoy a day's trout fishing. This particular day was also Harper's

8th birthday, their daughter who along with her brother, Eli, age 12, and their cousin, Carson were fishing and enjoying their day.

Along with attending and organizing events like Kids' Free Fishing Day, the Havens also work to bring a local version of the national program, the Mayfly Project, to Bennett Spring. The Mayfly Project is a nonprofit effort, reaching out to foster children through fly tying and fly fishing. "We were working to get things set up and going the year before last," Ben Havens explained while helping out at Kids' Free Fishing Day.

See 'HAVENS' / page 11

LEBANON / BENNETT SPRING

- **NEWLY REMODELED BATHROOMS!**
- **PLAYGROUND • POOL • GAME ROOM**
- **TENT SITES • DELUXE CABINS**
- **PULL THRU RV SITES - 50/30 AMP**
- **MINING GEM STATION • FREE WIFI!**
- **COMMERCIAL SIZE BOUNCE PAD**
- **75FT. ZIPLINE**

13654 Hwy 64 • Lebanon
417-322-6907 **LebanonKOA**



**THERE WILL BE FOOD.
AND YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE**

THERE WILL BE PINTS **BOONDOCKS**
 **Kitchen**

• **HOUSE SMOKED BBQ**
 • **HOMEMADE PIZZA • ULTIMATE SIDES**

BOAT TOWN BREWING

**18146 CAMPGROUND RD,
PHILLIPSBURG, MO**



CHECK US OUT AT

BOATTOWNBREWING.COM



Where
comfy and
cute collide!

Crazy Daisy
BOUTIQUE

(417)322-5295 • 108A N. Madison 


Mister Eclectic
Antiques & Collectibles

- Jewelry
- Furniture
- Home Decor
- And More!

417-755-3183 • 304 W. 2nd St.
Downtown Lebanon 

REALTY
EXECUTIVES

of Lebanon

205 E. Commercial St.,
Lebanon, MO • 417-588-7000

www.LebanonRealtyX.com

 The
Hairapist
Salon

417-991-3360

106A N. Madison Ave.
Lebanon, MO 65536 

**\$10 HAIRCUTS WHEN
YOU MENTION THIS AD!**



Take the short 11 mile drive to
food, fun, fashion and more!

We want to thank you for visiting our beautiful Bennett Spring State Park. While you are in the Bennett Spring area, we invite you to visit Historic Downtown Lebanon. Take the short, scenic 11-mile drive into the city of Lebanon. Stay straight on Jefferson until you reach Commercial. Whether you decide to turn right or left on Commercial Street, you will find lots of interesting things to do like visiting Downtown

businesses or attending one of our many events.

You will find boutiques, restaurants, ice cream shops, smoothie stores, antique stores, gift shops, salons, jewelry stores, music stores, an art gallery and much more Downtown.

We hope you will make plans to visit Downtown soon or perhaps return to our area to enjoy one of our upcoming events.



MJ's Downtown Treasures

119 W. Commercial St.
Lebanon, MO 65536
417-991-2390

First State Insurance Agency

 **Regina Lumpkin**

Assistant Vice President
First State Insurance Agency
109 W Commercial St.
Lebanon, MO | 65536
Direct: 417-344-1962
Cell: 417-988-1026
rlumpkin@fsia.bz

Breakfast You Will Flip For!

Lunch Wrapped Up In Flavor!

A Slice of Heaven For Dessert!

The Lunch Box Cafe

Mon.-Sat. 6am-2pm • Closed Sundays
417-532-2044 • 106 E. Commercial, Lebanon

Where the LOCALS Meet to Eat

UPCOMING DOWNTOWN EVENTS



ROUTE 66 DOWNTOWN CRUISE

Father's Day Weekend
Friday, June 18, 5-10pm

Downtown Lebanon.

- Classic Car Show - Live Band - Sock Hop
- 50s Wear Contest - Live DJ - Food Trucks
- Prizes & Drawings - Craft Vendors
- Art Walk & More!

**Head over to Boswell Park on
Saturday for more Route 66 Fun!**

LEBANON

FARMERS MARKET

Downtown Lebanon
Open Wednesdays 2 pm to 6 pm
Open Saturdays 8 am to 1 pm
April thru October.



DOWNTOWN

DISTRICT DASH

Promoting healthy habits in
our district. Visit Downtown
Lebanon's facebook page for more
information.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS

Visit a variety of food trucks every
Friday night through September
3 from 5-pm at The Market,
Downtown Lebanon.

Lebanon PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

205 E. Commercial Lebanon
417-588-7006
www.LebanonMoRentals.com

MORE THAN JUST TAXES

Business Services
Bookkeeping
Payroll
Tax & Advice

HRBLOCK.COM/SBS

H&R BLOCK

Nancy Moore
Branch Manager
124 W. Commercial, Lebanon, MO
Give me a call at 417-532-4113
nancy.moore@hrblock.com

THE RUSTY ROOSTER

MARKETPLACE
LEBANON, MO

• ANTIQUES • FURNITURE
• HOME DECOR • VINTAGE & MORE

208 W Commercial • Lebanon • 417-718-9136
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm

**Come for the cookin',
stay for the job.**

Apply Today!

WEST SIDE CAFE

417-532-7742
452 W. Commercial
Downtown Lebanon
For updated hours:

HOOKED
**on a good
time!**

**Shades
of Gray Boutique**

TOYS • LINGERIE • GIFTS • & SO MUCH MORE!

110 E. COMMERCIAL ST., LEBANON • (417) 718- 0175

Take the short, scenic
11-mile drive to Lebanon
in the heart of Laclede County!

ROADTRIP!

So much to do waiting for YOU!



Pick up a
copy of the
Route 66
Map and
Guide...

Cruise the
Mother Road from
Hazelgreen to
Phillipsburg. Stop
at the historic sites,
grab a burger or
some ice cream
along the way.



Enjoy a great meal!

Lebanon is home
to many great
restaurants. If you
are hungry, you will
find just about any
kind of food you are
looking for. Enjoy
one of the many fast
food restaurants you
are familiar with or
try out one of our
great locally owned
restaurants.



Take a walk in the park!

Lebanon is proud
of our parks
and recreation
department. We
invite you to enjoy
one of our many
beautiful city
parks. You will find
walking trails, a
skate park, the city
swimming pool plus
great playground
equipment for the
kids.



Shop for Antiques!

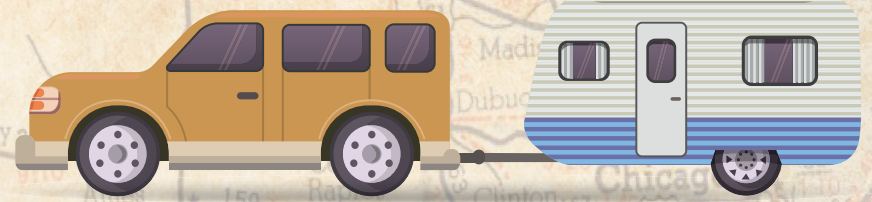
You will find lots
of great antique
and second-hand
stores in Lebanon.
Whether you are
Downtown, or out
on the Interstate you
will enjoy shopping
for those special
treasures.



Visit the Past!

Don't forget to
visit the Route 66
Museum at 915
South Jefferson.
You will enjoy lots
of old photos and
memorabilia from the
past. The museum
is a must see if you
are interested in the
famous highway.

Come On In We're Safely **OPEN**



Take a trip to the Fast Lane!

Lebanon is home to 2 great race tracks. If you are looking for a fun evening excursion, you are sure to enjoy all the excitement waiting for you during racing season in Lebanon.

Worship with us!

We invite you to Church. Lebanon is proud of our more than 250 Churches. We invite you to attend the church of your choice and will do our best to make you and your family feel welcome when visiting our area.

Shop Local!

Continue driving south on Jefferson Avenue and you will find additional shopping including many of the big box stores you enjoy. In addition you will find a number of boutiques and restaurants.

Shop Fresh!

Be sure to visit the Farmer's Market on Jefferson Avenue. The new market pavilion was just completed. You will find lots of fresh produce, fresh eggs, meat and lots more. Plus, you will be supporting our area farmers when you shop the market.

Visit Historic Downtown Lebanon!

If you are looking for a great place to shop, you will find over 50 shops including boutiques, jewelry stores, home décor, flowers, ice cream, shakes, salons, restaurants, floor covering, and antique stores.

Safe Travels Start Here!

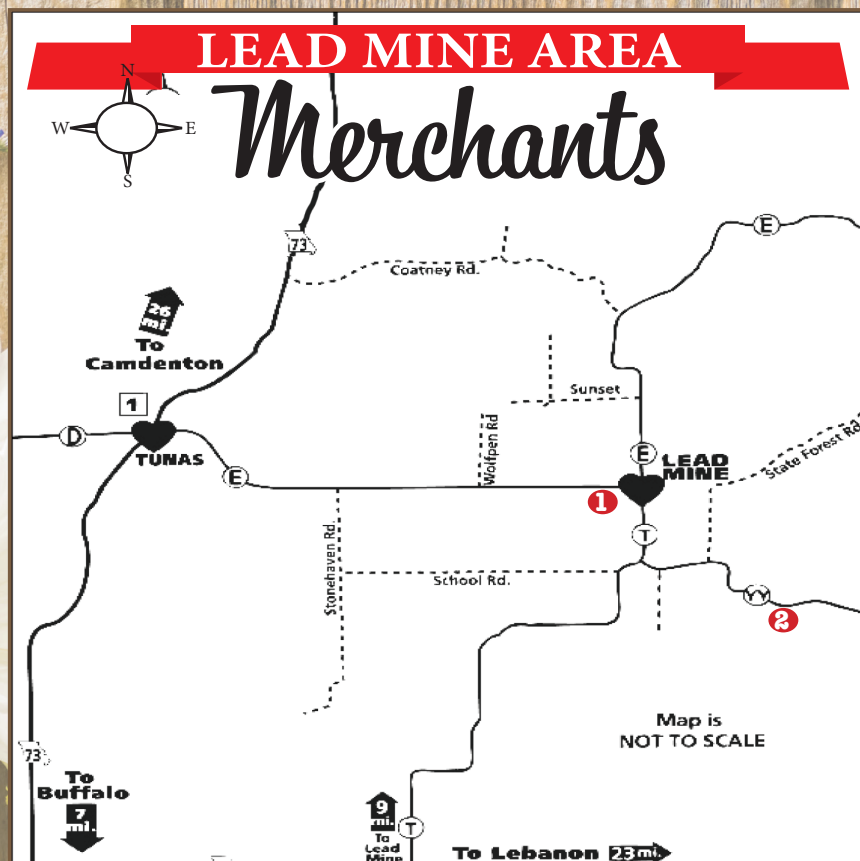


Take A Step Back in Time

You'll feel like you've taken a step back in time when you take a short drive to visit the Leadmine area Merchants.

You'll enjoy tasty homemade foods, browse handmade furniture, outdoor goods and stock up on bulk groceries and fresh produce.

It's a great way to spend any weekday or Saturday afternoon.



Upcoming Events at Bennett

Monthly Hikes

Bennett Spring will be hosting monthly birding activities geared toward youth but open to all ages. Each month will feature a different species. Programs will begin at 10 a.m. with a hike to see the birds' preferred habitat, followed by a related come and go activity at the nature center.

- June 19 – Spring Birds
- July 3 – Bald Eagles
- August 21 – Songbirds, program presented by Paige Witek off Missouri Young Birders Club from the Missouri River Bird Observatory

Painting Exhibit

July 7-July 11 - Paintings of Bennett presented by local artist Deanna Stuckey

Fly Rod Class

Building a Fly Rod class (limit of 10) – Aug 13 and 14, 6-9 pm

Call the Nature Center at 417-532-3925 to register.



Quality Built Built To Last



Bedroom Suites | Dining Sets | Lawn Furniture



Ozarks Country Furniture

885 State Rd. T • Tunas, MO 65764
Tues.-Fri. 8-5 • Sat. 8-12 • Closed Sundays

Havens

from page 5

"We had a few fly tying sessions at the Bennett Spring Church of God and then everything got shut down due to the virus," Ben Havens said.

According to the Havens, the fly tying lesson sessions will begin May 27 at the Bennett Spring Church of God. The first session will last from 6 to 8 p.m. Following that, the sessions will be held the last Friday of the month at the church at the same hours. The lessons are open to anyone, kids and adults alike. Participants are asked to donate \$5 to pay for the cost of materials.

"This project is a mentoring program to help foster children learn how to tie flies and use them to learn a bit about fly fishing," Sarah

Havens said. "The program involves five sessions which correspond to the fact that the Mayfly has five parts to its life cycle. In addition to learning how to tie flies, there is also information to be shared, emphasizing conservation and outdoor activities."

The funds are used to help outfit each child involved in the project with all the gear they'll need to get into fly fishing, including a fly rod, vest and a pack, according to Sarah Havens.

The Havens are cooperating with Fostering Hope, a local Lebanon organization that helps support foster children and foster families, to connect with area children and families.

Sarah and Ben shared that they are always looking for mentors, other adults to help guide the foster children in their new hobby.

"We hope to start with about seven foster children and we hope to have two mentors for each child," Sarah Havens said.

The Havens also recently participated in 4-H's Spin Club, a once-a year activity that emphasizes fly tying and fishing activities. In the previous year, some of the youngsters that participated in that were able to present Governor Mike Parson with flies they had tied. One of the 4-H participants also went on to compete at the Ozark Empire Fair where they won Best of



Trout Talk photo/Laura Valenti

Participants in the Mayfly Project will learn how to tie flies like the ones seen here.

Experience Life In The "Past" Lane!



- Good Old Fashioned Home Cooking
- Homemade Bread, Buns & Pies

- Dry Goods • Gifts • Housewares
- Kitchenwares • Handmade Soaps



The Dutch Kitchen
Located in The Lead Mine Country Store
11-2:30 Daily • Closed Sundays
176 State Rd. YY • Tunas



The Leadmine Country Store
10am-5pm Daily • Closed Sundays
176 State Rd. YY • Tunas



Catch

Every issue of Trout Talk
in your mailbox
for only \$21

Published monthly April-November

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail a \$21⁰⁰ check to: Trout Talk c/o
Lebanon Publishing Company
P.O. Box 192 • Lebanon, MO 65536 or
Call 417-532-9131

Trout Talk

A special publication of
LC RECORD

417-532-9131 • Lebanon, MO
www.laclederecord.com
www.bennett-spring.com

Trout Talk

BENNETT SPRING STATE PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA



Meadowview Dutch Market



- Seasonal Fresh Produce
- Discounted Groceries

- Deli Meat & Cheese
- Homemade Sandwiches

- Bulk Spices
- Bulk Candy

Discount & Surplus Groceries
Prices Subject to Stock on Hand
417-993-3017

23 Miles West on Hwy 64
Right on T Hwy 9 miles
Left on E Hwy 1 mile on Left

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8-5 pm
Fri. 8-6 pm • Sat. 8-5 pm
Now Accepting Credit, Debit Cards & EBT

BLUES BREWS & Good Food!

We're proud to be
AMERICAN!

"We, at Wild Oaks Campground, salute our American flag, stand for the National Anthem, and will not tolerate anyone kneeling. We respect our REAL HEROES, the Armed Forces, our Police, and all the First Responders. We back the President of the United States, and are PROUD to BE AMERICANS! Let us build on our history and not tear it down. America freed the slaves, now let's free America from the real oppressors'!"

-Mel & Cynthia Bidwell



LIVE MUSIC!

Every Saturday Night 6-10pm

S U M M E R 2 0 2 1

MAY 29: Woody & The Outlaws (Memorial Weekend)

JUNE 5: Dave Dunklee (Healing Box Project)

JUNE 12: Kapps & Stems Band

JUNE 19: Uncle Buster (60'S-70'S Theme)

JUNE 26: Brody Buster

JULY 3: Mason Dixon Band (Fireworks Display)

JULY 10: Nathan Bryce & The Loaded Dyce

JULY 17: Steve Moeller Band (Christmas In July)

JULY 24: Levee Town Band

JULY 31: Psychobilly Cadillac Band (Hawaiian Luau)

AUG. 7: Vic Vaughn & Souled Out

AUG. 14: Sean Clavin's & The Dirty Truth Band

AUG. 21: Rock Mob

AUG. 28: Dave Dunklee (Healing Box Project)

SEPT. 4: The Beach Cats (Labor Day Weekend)

NO COVER CHARGE

Cafe Breakfast

Friday - Sunday 7am - Noon

*Everyone
is
Welcome!*

Pizza &
Hand Dipped
Ice Cream

**Saturday Night
Dinner & Live Music
6pm - 10pm**



WILD OAKS
Campground & Roadside Cafe

417-588-1631

www.wildoakscampground.com

Open to the Public



Get in the zone



Take a look at the state park's rules and regulations

FISHING REGULATIONS

The spring branch is stocked daily during the regular fishing season, which is March 1 through Oct. 31. Daily permits are required to fish on the spring branch and zones are set aside for different kinds of lures. Permits are available at the park store. For more information, call (417) 532-4307.

ZONE 1: From the hatchery dam upstream to the end of the area. Only flies are permitted.

ZONE 2: From the hatchery dam to the whistle bridge. Only flies and artificial lures are permitted.

ZONE 3: From the whistle bridge to the Niangua River. Only soft plastic bait (unscented), natural and scented bait are permitted. All flies and artificial lures are prohibited, even if natural bait or scent has been added.

Zone areas are marked in the park and maps are also available in the Park Store.

Trout Fishing Hours

May: 6:30 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.

June and July: 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

August: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

September: 7:30 a.m. to 7:15

p.m.

October: 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

PARK HOURS

Park Grounds: Sunrise to one hour past sunset, daily

DINING LODGE HOURS

7 a.m. to one hour after the whistle during trout season

NATURE CENTER HOURS

Through Oct. 31

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday

Nov. 1 through Feb. 24 - Closed

PARK OFFICE HOURS

SUMMER HOURS (On-Season)

Through Oct. 31

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday

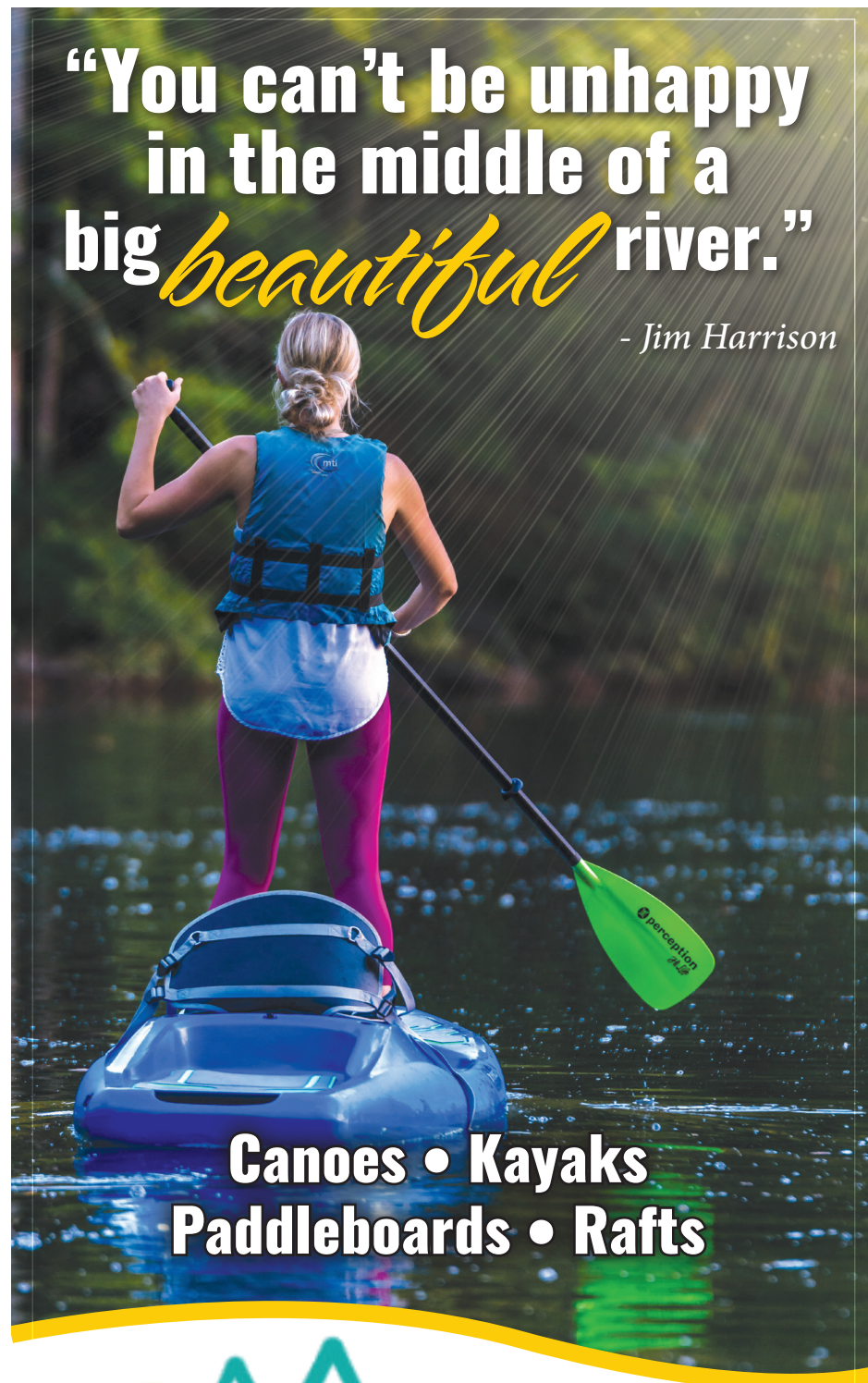
Closed on state holidays

STORE HOURS

One hour before fishing officially starts through one hour after the regular fishing day ends according to the regular schedule daily during trout fishing season at the park

**"You can't be unhappy
in the middle of a
big *beautiful* river."**

- Jim Harrison



**Canoes • Kayaks
Paddleboards • Rafts**



1610 Highway 64 • Tunas, MO 65764

Phone: (417) 588-7238 or (417) 588-7608

MAJESTICVIEWSFLOATS.COM

RESTAURANT, STORE & CABINS OPEN!



Good Times IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Enjoy the outdoors,
it's BROAD, it's OPEN,
it's SOCIAL DISTANCING

101!

Studies show outdoor activities reduce stress & anxiety,
so bring your bike and take a ride at Bennett Spring,
hike along miles of cleared trails and fish at your
favorite watering hole. Explore the Ozarks first hand.

There is so much to see and do at the park, don't miss out!

A NEW
ADVENTURE
EVERYDAY!

Bennett Spring State Park

26248 Hwy 64A • Lebanon, MO 65536

For Information or Reservations: 417-532-4307 • www.BennettSpringStatePark.com

→ BRIDGE TRAIL 3/4 MILE
← BLUFF TRAIL 1/4 MILE
← WHISTLE TRAIL 1 MILE