



**SPORTS | B1-2**  
**MEXICO HIRES**  
**TWO NEW HEAD**  
**COACHES**



**COMMUNITY | A3**  
**FATHERS DAY**  
**CONTEST WINNERS**  
**ANNOUNCED**

# The Mexico Ledger

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

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The Mexico Public Schools Board of Education approved a budget for the 2023-24 school year that includes everything from pencils to diesel fuel for the buses. [Dennis Sharkey]

## Mexico Public Schools approves fiscal year budget

By DENNIS SHARKEY  
 Editor

The Mexico Public Schools Board of Education approved the budget for the upcoming school year with all members present in support.

The only board member not present was Scott Nichols. The budget includes a 3.5 percent raise for current administration and support staff and a \$1 across-the-board raise to the support staff schedule for new hires to stay ahead of the rising minimum wage in Missouri. A \$4 an hour bump was given to the nurse schedule for RNs and a \$3.50 bump for LPNs after looking at nearby districts and what they were paying. The base for pay for new teachers is \$41,000.

In formulating the budget, the district built a two percent increase for assessed valuation even though that number wasn't set when the budget was approved. Stephanie Norris, director of business operations, said that number had not been finalized by the county assessor's office at the time the budget was written. Norris said she conferred with the Assessor's office and was told the two percent increase was safe. The district is expecting the assessed valuation to be about \$233 million.

The budget calls for just under \$37 million in total revenues. The biggest chunk of that money, 30 percent, comes from property taxes followed by federal

programs and grants at 23 percent and basic state aid at 23 percent. Prop C makes up nine percent of revenues while local taxes account for eight percent.

Most of the district's expenditures, a total of 83 percent, are spent on labor and benefits with 63 percent accounting for salaries and 19 percent going to employee benefits. According to Norris, supplies make-up 10 percent of the budget and can be anything from pencils to diesel fuel. The budget rounds out with seven percent going to paid services and subscriptions.

"We are a service industry of some sort, which we do spend the most of our operating budget on our people," Norris said. "Which is where we should be spending it."

The district will set aside about \$2.1 million for bond and interest payments. The tax levy will virtually remain the same.

The board also set fees for lunch and breakfast for next year with a \$0.10 increase to the high school lunch from \$2.90 to \$3 with the breakfast rates staying the same at \$1.30. Elementary and Middle school students are free. The elementary students have had free lunch since the 2014-15 school year and middle schoolers began free lunch in the 2017-18 school year. High school students were free during the COVID-19 years but had to start paying for lunch again this past year. For comparison high school students paid \$1.85 at the end of the 2009 year.

## Local officials outline transportation priorities

By DENNIS SHARKEY  
 Editor

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) has released a draft version of its fiscal year 2024-28 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and is asking for public comment.

Those interested in commenting can search STIP on MoDOT's website and there is an online comment form. Commenting period ends July 6.

The Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments which includes Audrain County met last week in Perry to hear from MoDOT about the STIP and to share projects local officials have prioritized for adding to the STIP. MoDOT senior planner Rob Frese told the group MoDOT welcomes any and all comments.

"It's a lot of asset management and taking care of roads trying to keep things open and passable," Frese said.

Representing Audrain County at the meeting were Presiding Commissioner Alan Winders and Mexico Public Works Director Drew Williford to communicate the local needs and priorities.

The top priority locally is the construction of a four-lane shared roadway from Mexico to Louisiana on U.S. 54. MoDOT has completed a study of the project but has not released a draft to the public. Those who have seen the draft said the total project will cost more than \$90 million. Winders noted it's

also the top priority for Pike County.

The second priority is Missouri Routes 15/22, also known as Muldrow Street in Mexico. Williford said the street is in poor condition and it receives the most complaints from the city fields.

"While it's in the city it does impact Audrain County because it does have several truck traffic and cargo that goes through that particular route," Williford said.

The third priority is safety and congestion upgrades along Business U.S. 54 in Mexico on the south side of town. Another project a little further down the list in Mexico is to improve the intersection of Missouri Route 22 and Morris Street which also includes an intersection with the railroad tracks.

"It's an odd atypical configuration," Williford said. "We've got some safety concerns and so does the railroad."

Another top priority is adding a turn lane at Route A (Benton City) off of U.S. 54 Highway.

"There continues to be more traffic there," Winders said.

The last thing on Audrain's list is all lettered highways in the county which also seems to be a top priority in the region. Winders said Audrain County doesn't have any specific issues it wants to be addressed but would like to see MoDOT allocate some resources.

See **TRANSPORTATION**, Page A2

## New Edward Jones office opens downtown

By DENNIS SHARKEY  
 Editor

The city of Mexico has a new Edward Jones Investments office now open just off the Square on Love Street.

Kevin Duncan opened the office last Thursday, June 22, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony put on by the Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce. Duncan was joined by his

wife Krista and Chamber President Todd Geeson and office administrator Joyce Williams.

Geeson, who is a limited partner in the firm, helped get Duncan going in his career by offering him a spot in his office until he established himself. Duncan said he will be forever grateful to Geeson.

See **DUNCAN**, Page A2



From left, Krista Duncan, Kevin Duncan, Mexico Chamber President Todd Geeson, and Joyce Williams cut the ribbon on Duncan's new office on Thursday, June 22. [Dennis Sharkey]

## Mexico school board looks to fill vacancy

By DENNIS SHARKEY  
 Editor

There's a help wanted sign hanging outside the Mexico Public School's Board of Education room.

Board President Todd Yager verbally announced an open seat on the board of education at the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 20, after the board accepted the resignation of board member Marci Orr.

Orr is returning to a role with the district where she previously served as the district's communication director. Before the final vote, some board members wanted to thank Orr for her service on the board.

"It's going to be hard to vote yes for your resignation," board member Matt Pilger said. "We'll do it and thank you for your service and standing up for kids in this district and doing what's right for this district."

"It's been great serving on the board with you and I can't think of a better reason to leave the board than to see you back as our communications director," board member

Nicole Jahn said. "Thank you for everything you've done and will keep doing for the district."

Orr's resignation was effective as soon as the vote was made. She will begin her first day in the new position on July 1.

The board is accepting applications for the open seat which can be turned into the district office. Applications must be filed with the board secretary by July 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Candidate applications will be discussed in an open session. The board can choose to interview candidates which also would occur in an open session. An appointment to the board will be made by a motion by a board member and a vote will occur. No timetable was given for when the board will consider candidates. The next regular meeting scheduled is July 25, at 5:30 p.m. The board could choose to call a special meeting to fill the board seat.

Whoever is appointed to the seat will serve the rest of Orr's term which ends next April. At that time the seat will be up for election.

## Man arrested after allegedly destroying property

A Fulton man was arrested and faces possible charges after a spree of damaging private property.

On Monday, at approximately 3:20 a.m., the Mexico Public Safety Department responded to the 200 block of N Washington in reference to property damage. Responding personnel learned that someone had broken vehicle windows and building windows, and damaged utility boxes in the 200 block of N Washington and between the 300 to 800 blocks of W Monroe.

Information from alert residents led to the arrest of William L. Cruce, age 21, of Fulton, at about 7:15 a.m. Cruce was processed at MPSD and released to family members. The cases will be completed and forwarded to the Audrain County Prosecuting Attorney for charging decisions.



# TRANSPORTATION

from page A1

“What we’re asking MoDOT to do is use your expertise, your knowledge, your understanding of what the problems are and what’s available to make as many of those repairs as possible,” Winders said. “We listed it as a need but I think it’s a need shared by every county in this region.”

There are also some pedestrian traffic upgrades Mexico and Audrain County would like to see. This fiscal year MoDOT will begin a project to upgrade sidewalks and make them ADA-compliant along Muldrow Street and there are plans for upgrades in Farber.

“It has a lot of connection to downtown and commercial districts,” Williford said about the Muldrow project.

Other projects slated for this year include bridge improvements over the Kansas City Southern railway west of Centralia on Route 22; pavement improvements and rumble strips on Route 22 from Mexico to Boone County; a bridge improvement over Goodwater Creek on Route C; more than 16 miles of pavement improvements on Route D from Route Z to Route 15; pavement improvements on Route FF from Route Z to one mile east of Route 15; pavement improvement

on Route M from Route FF to Route D; and a bridge improvement over Hickory Creek on Route K.

Other representatives from counties in the planning district also had concerns about lettered routes and some wondered if particular routes would ever be completed. Frese caught a little bit of heat from some. Frese said the department works with what’s given and progress is being made.

“There are needs that come off the list,” Frese said. “We have moved a lot off recently.”

MoDOT officials said the department is also fighting inflation which is forcing some projects to be pushed back a little bit as costs rise.

“The price of everything is going up and it doesn’t go as far as it used to,” Frese said.

Winders defended the department and said MoDOT is also dealing with outdated practices and more traffic than what the roads were originally designed for.

“I think we understand that this wasn’t MoDOT’s problem that created this,” Winders said. “It was the construction methods from 50 years ago and truck weights and the relationship between those two things.”

# DUNCAN

from page A1

“Todd was gracious enough to open up his office to me to have a desk and a place to sit when I first joined Edward Jones,” Duncan said. “He didn’t have to do that; that was just his choice. He could have declined and I’m thankful that he didn’t.”

Duncan said Williams will have a big role in keeping the office running including keeping him on the right path.

“She is the heart and soul of the office and keeps everything rolling and flowing,” Duncan said. “She keeps me in line.”

Duncan also thanked his wife for her help in guiding him.

“I would like to thank her and all she’s done over the years supporting me in my crazy dreams and ideas that I always bring to her,” Duncan said. “She’s always open and listens and I think we make a pretty good team.”

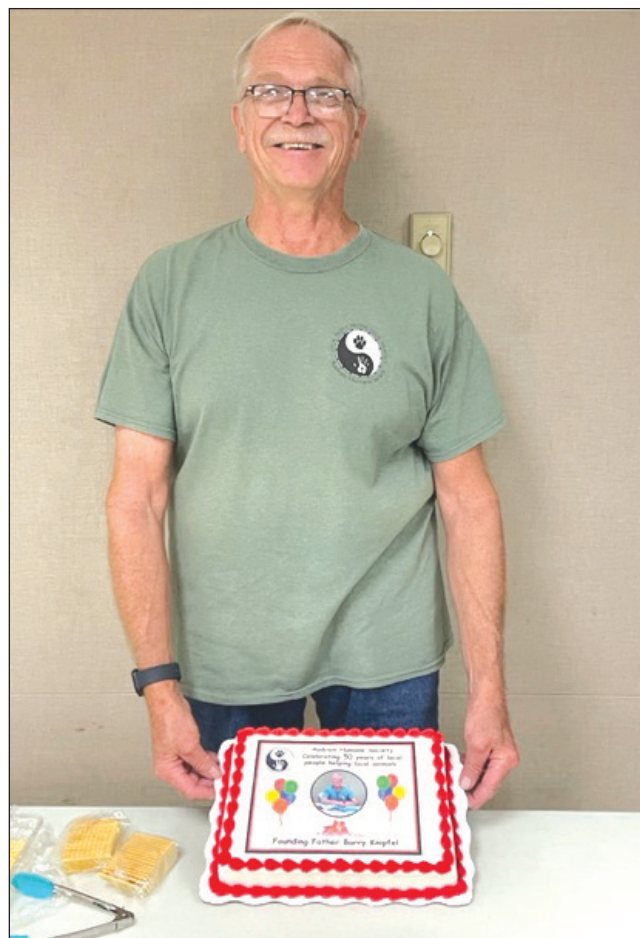
Duncan also noted the historical ties the firm Edward Jones has with the city of Mexico. Edward Jones was founded in 1922 in St. Louis and the first office opened outside of St. Louis in 1957 by Zeke McIntyre. McIntyre is such a legend that Edward Jones annually awards the Zeke McIntyre Pioneer Award.

“Edward Jones has a deep, deep history here in Mexico,” Duncan said. “His office was on the second floor of where Stubblefield furniture is now. That was a piece of history I didn’t know.”

Duncan also noted the roots he and Williams both share with Mexico. He said both were born and raised here.

“We both chose to make Mexico our permanent home and we’ll continue to do so in the future so you can always find us here,” Duncan said.

## Audrain Humane Society Celebrates 50 Years of Local People Helping Local Animals



The Audrain County Humane Society honored its founding member, Barry Knipfel, with the Lifetime Appreciation Award at the Society’s 50th anniversary celebration on June 5. [Submitted]

The Audrain County Humane Society (AHS) celebrated its 50th year of local people helping local animals on Monday, June 5 with some special guests.

The special guests included life-time AHS members Winne Runge and Nancy Baker and 2022 Humane Society members Clint and Brenda Gilbert along with Barry Knipfel, the AHS’s founding father, who was presented with the Lifetime Appreciation Award for his 50 years of continued support and contributions



to AHS. Board members who were present included: Connie Secrease, Kate Keith, Jennifer Dick, Carol Senor, Cathy Foreman, Tammy Gibbons, Ron Niekamp, Marilyn Niekamp, Julie Key, Chad Colley, Andy Baker and Knipfel.



Mexico Chamber President Todd Geeson, right, presented Kevin Duncan with his first dollar at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, June 22. [Dennis Sharkey]

### Man arrested on child sex crimes

A Mexico man has been arrested and charged with six felonies involving child sex crimes.


Wesley A. Cloven, 56, is currently being held in the Audrain County Jail with no bond amount listed. Cloven was arrested on Thursday, June 22, and had his first court date on Tuesday, June 27.

Cloven is charged with one Class B felony of promoting child pornography and five Class B felonies of possessing child pornography. Each charge can carry a prison sentence of five to 15 years. All persons charged are innocent until proven guilty. The arrest was made by the Audrain County Sheriff’s Department.


### Come Dance - Mexico

The Silver Wings Band will perform at the KB Event Center, 14813 Audrain Rd. 823, Mexico, from 7-10 p.m. July 7. The event is a carry-in. For more information, contact Kathy Beaseley, 660-676-2301.


## Pool Staff Employees Of the Week




**Thomas Peuster**  
Years working: 2 years  
School & grade: Benedictine College (Freshman)  
**Hobbies:** Running, piano player, guitar, trombone, hiking  
**Best part about working at pool:** Best part of working at FAC is the swimming lessons!



**Paige Meyer**  
Years working: 3 years  
School & grade: 2nd year at Mizzou  
**Hobbies:** Hanging with friends & family  
**Best part about working at pool:** The people & the tan



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## Red Cross blood drive

The Red Cross will host a blood drive on the last Monday of every month from 12 to 4:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center at Church of God Holiness, 1215 West Boulevard, Mexico.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

## Happy Fourth of July!

We will be CLOSED July 3rd and 4th.

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# Ledger announces Father's Day photo winners



The Mexico Ledger recently announced its online 2023 Father's Day Photo Contest winners: first place, Father of the Year, recipient of 4 tickets to Holiday World Splashin' Safari; second place, Father and Son Playing Peek-a-Boo, winner of two tickets to a St. Louis Cardinals game; and third place, The Proudest Dad, winner of a one-year subscription to The Mexico Ledger. Thanks to all who participated at mexicoledger.com and congratulations to the winners!



Father of the Year



Father and Son Playing Peek-a-Boo



The Proudest Dad

## Upcoming Planned Roadwork for Northeast Missouri, June 26 to July 7

The following is a list of general highway maintenance work the Missouri Department of Transportation has planned in the Northeast Missouri region for the next few weeks.

All road closures and planned roadwork may be viewed on the Traveler Information Map at <http://traveler.modot.org/map/>.

Inclement weather may cause schedule changes in some of the planned work. There may also be moving operations throughout the region, in addition to the work mentioned below. MoDOT asks drivers to work with us by buckling up, putting your phone down, slowing down and

moving over in work zones.

### Audrain County

Route BB – June 26, CLOSED for culvert replacement operations from CR 757 to CR 629 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Route D – June 27, CLOSED for culvert replacement operations from McDonald Road to CR 989 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Route D – June 28, CLOSED for culvert replacement operations from Route DD to CR 975 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

### Monroe County

Route V – June 27, CLOSED for asphalt pavement repairs from Route

FF to U.S. Route 24 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

Route V – June 29, CLOSED for patching operations from Route FF in Monroe County to U.S. Route 36 in Shelby County between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Route HH – June 26, CLOSED for seal coating operations from U.S. Route 24 to CR 562 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

Route PP – July 5 – 6, CLOSED for patching operations from Route FF in Monroe County to U.S. Route 36 in Shelby County between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

### Montgomery County

Route P – June 26 – 29, CLOSED for patching operations from Missouri Route 94 to Wardens Branch Road between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.



Thank You for traveling on this journey with us. We are looking forward to great adventures ahead!

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## Correction

Miss Kansas City Georgia Barge receives a hug from Miss Missouri 2022 Clare Marie Kuebler after being announced the rookie talent winner from Wednesday.

In the June 17 Issue of the Ledger we misidentified Miss Kansas City. We apologize for the mistake.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be emailed to [editor@mexicoledger.com](mailto:editor@mexicoledger.com) or mailed to The Mexico Ledger, P.O. Box 8, Mexico, MO 65265. They are always welcome. Your letter should be signed and your daytime phone number included (the phone number will not be published). It should be brief (one typed page or two pages handwritten), typed if possible (please not in all capital letters) or clearly handwritten. Letters should be in our office by Friday prior to the week you would like to have it included in the paper. The letters can be edited. Neither libelous material or personal attacks are allowed. Readers are limited to one letter per month. Political endorsement letters will be charged at the political ad rate. All letters are published at the discretion of the editor.

### Carolyn Weddle

Carolyn J. (Lincoln/Kelsay) Weddle, 80, of Fulton, died Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Monroe Manor in Paris.

Carolyn was born on September 29, 1942, in Bowling Green, Mo., the daughter of O.H. "Shorty" and Anna Belle (Haltom) Lincoln. She graduated from Mexico Senior High School in 1960 and attended Kidwell's School of Hairdressing in Columbia. After her graduation, she worked for many years at multiple beauty shops in Mexico. Later in life, Carolyn relocated to Iowa and operated the Country Corner restaurant in Ralston for many years.



Carolyn is survived by her son, Ken Kelsay (Michelle) of St. Charles; daughter, Brenda Kelsay of Mexico; four grandsons, Joel Kelsay of Kansas City., Noah Kelsay, Zachary Kelsay and Levi Kelsay all of St. Charles; two brothers, Donald Lincoln of Mexico and Glen Lincoln (Linda) of High Point, N.C.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Wesley Lincoln; and two sisters, Elaine Harvey and JoAnne Page.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be left at [www.arnoldfh.com](http://www.arnoldfh.com).

### John W. Swatek III

John W. Swatek II of Lee's Summit passed away on June 17, 2023. He was born on Feb. 9, 1945 in Davenport, Iowa, to Jack and Margaret (Bruce) Swatek.

He was a proud graduate of Mexico High School in Mexico, Mo., where he played football and would continue playing football at the University of Missouri. During college he enlisted in the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam, Okinawa, and Japan.

After returning home he completed his degree at the University of Missouri; he married his high school sweetheart, Karen (Shoemaker) Swatek and had a son and two daughters. Together, they would move 14 times during his career with John Deere. As president and owner of Mid-America Industrial Equipment Company, he and his family spent most of those years in the Blue Springs and Sunrise Beach area. After retirement, he would take on the ranching business for almost 15 years at his favorite place, Deere Valley Ranch.

He was a big supporter of all things Mizzou, weekends at the lake, John Deere, and the Marine Corps. Most importantly, he was a proud dad and grandad. His big heart, funny stories and sense of humor will forever be missed. His canine companions were dear to him. Molly girl will stay behind with Karen, but we know Dozer is on a long walk with him now.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jack W. Swatek. He is survived by his beloved wife, Karen, of 56 years. Survivors also include son Justin Swatek (Jen) of Denver, Colo., daughters Allison (Adam) Minks of Lee's Summit, and Megan (Ryan) Yagelski of Dallas, Texas. He was the proud grandad to Colton, Summer, Maren, and Lane. He is also survived by his mother, Margaret B. Swatek of Mexico and two sisters.

A memorial service with full military honors will be held at Woods Chapel United Methodist Church on Thursday, June 29 at 11 a.m. The church is located at 4725 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64064. A reception will follow, to be held at the Stanley Historic Event Space from 12:30-2:30 p.m., 308 SE Douglas Street, Lee's Summit, MO, 64063.

A burial service will be held in Mexico, Missouri at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes that donations be made to the Semper Fi Fund in honor of John Swatek, <https://thefund.org/donate/>.

### Elizabeth Brown

Memorial services for Elizabeth Nadine Brown, 92, of Perry, will be held at noon Friday, June 30, at the Cannon Dam Opry in Perry with Pastor Kenny Sharp officiating. Burial will follow in Fern Chapel Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. Friday until the time of the service at the Opry.

Bienhoff Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. Brown passed away at 11:03 p.m. Sunday, June 25, 2023, at Luther Manor Nursing Home in Hannibal surrounded by her family.



She was born on September 14, 1930, in Perry, the daughter of Rollie Richard and Sarah Helen Buffington Robinson.

Elizabeth married Rex DeWitt Brown on July 28, 1951, in Hannibal and he preceded her in death on February 20, 2023.

Survivors include her nine children: Calvin (Gina) Brown of Perry, Richard (Tina) Brown of Monroe City, Lance (Sherrie) Brown of Monroe City, Bruce (Cindy) Brown of Perry, Marilyn (Rick) Frey of Perry, Rita (John) Gottschalk of Wright City, Vickey (Bill) Nutt of Vandalia, Helen (Randy) Watson of Lee's Summit, and Karen (Jake) Mast of Moberly, and one brother; Raymond (Joyce) Robinson of Marceline. Elizabeth left a large legacy with 91 grandchildren, great, and great-great-grandchildren, along with nieces, nephews, other relatives, and a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one brother; Johnnie Robinson, two sisters; Lettie Peery and Evalene Enochs, and one granddaughter; Beth Spradley.

Mrs. Brown was a lifetime area resident and a member of the Union Chapel Christian Church in Center. Elizabeth raised her children at home and later worked as a cook for 15 years at Twain Haven Nursing Home in Perry. She loved spending her time painting tea towels and doing puzzles. Most of all, Elizabeth loved to bake her homemade cinnamon rolls and cook for family dinners.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fern Chapel Cemetery in care of Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 427, Perry, MO, 63462.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bienhofffuneralhome.com](http://www.bienhofffuneralhome.com).

### Margaret Primus

Margaret Emma (Vieck) Primus, 101, of rural Martinsburg, died June 22, 2023 at her home surrounded by her family. She was a kind and wonderful person who will be greatly missed.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 10 a.m. Monday, June 26, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Martinsburg with Father Philip Kane officiating. Burial followed at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers were Jon Primus, Tyler Mays, Gary Wilburn, Kevin Kleinsorge, Josh Korte and Brad Gannon.



Visitation was from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, June 25, at the church with a Rosary at 4:45 P.M. Arnold Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Margaret was born November 2, 1921, near St. Thomas, Indiana, to George and Sophia (Hess) Vieck. On July 16, 1941, she married Paul Herman Primus at St. Thomas Catholic Church. The couple farmed near Hazleton, Ind., before moving their family to Missouri in 1958, buying a farm near Benton City.

Margaret had a long life that was well lived. Raised during the Great Depression, she survived polio at a young age. She and Paul were married for nearly 40 years before his death in 1981, and together they raised eight children. She was a devoted caregiver to her son Eddie throughout his life. She was a devout Catholic, a 65-year member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and a former member of the Ladies Sodality. She always had a pie or two ready for every meal, sold eggs to buy groceries, sewed many of the family's clothes, and had a large flower and vegetable garden. She had a love of learning and read several magazines and newspapers each week. She loved to mow her yard and kept it immaculate. She made the best noodles.

Margaret is survived by seven of her eight children: Paul and Elizabeth Primus of Williamsburg; Richard and Sandra Primus of Martinsburg; Peggy and Dale Wilburn of Martinsburg; Barb Welschmeyer of Wellsville; Mary Jo and Rich Kleinsorge of Middletown; Rose and Michael Korte of St. Joseph; and Cathy and Greg Gannon of DeWitt, Iowa; 21 grandchildren: Paula and Jim Cunningham of Columbia; Stacey and Tracey Hoffman of Leawood, Kan.; Jon Primus of Columbia; Tina and Dave Schmeling of Martinsburg; Kim and Harold Willhelm of Martinsburg; Michelle and Darren Hombs of Martinsburg; Debbie and Aaron Gottsch of O'Fallon; Gary and Leah Wilburn of Wildwood; Katy and Chris Korte of Kirksville; Kris Welschmeyer of Columbia; Abby Lynn of Wellsville; Anna and Chad Powell of Montgomery City; Kevin and Jennifer Kleinsorge of Overland Park, Kan.; Dan and Jamie Kleinsorge of Holts Summit; Josh and Lindsay Korte of Holts Summit; Angela and Josh Linville of Platte City; Sarah and Alex Murray of St. Joseph; Matt Korte and Sarah Guenat of Waco, Texas; Hannah and Luke Linnenbringer of Auxvasse; Colleen Gannon and Jonathan Barickman of Denver, Colo.; and Brad Gannon and Morgan Van Staaldune of Peoria, Ill.; 46 great-grandchildren: Lindsey Hudson (Miguel); Sophie Cunningham; Grant and Gavin Hoffman; Mary and Maggie Primus; Kayla Schmeling; Megan Vomund (Braden); Tyler Mays (Teddie); Leah Mays and Brett May; Adam, Eric, and Emma Hombs; Madison and Katelyn Gottsch; Jane and Reid Wilburn; Zoe, Isaiah and Eleisa Korte; Silas, Alva and Jasper Powell; Cameron and William Kleinsorge; Stella Kleinsorge; Heidi, Michael, Hendrik, Brigitta, Paul, Karl, Isabella, Nikolaus and Johann Korte; Zach and Tim Linville; Simon, Gabriel, Clara, Thomas, James and Joseph Murray; Edward, John Paul and Teresa Linnenbringer; and two great-great-grandchildren: Colt and Nova Kinard.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Eddie Primus; son-in-law, Jim Welschmeyer; two brothers, Louis Vieck (Creba) and Francis Vieck (Marilyn); two sisters, Pauline Carie ("Bud") and Bernadine Richardville (Jack); and brothers- and sisters-in-law, Clarence Primus (Becky); Mary Frey ("Butch"); Irene Primus; Rosella Lankford (John); and Jean Glass (Jack).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Handi Shop, Inc., 508 E. Liberty St., Mexico, MO 65265.

### Senior Center Menu

June 28-30

**Wednesday:** Turkey, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Biscuit, Milk, Cheery Pie/Ice Cream

**Thursday:** Beans with Ham, Fried Potatoes & Onions, Spinach, Cornbread, Milk, Banana Cake

**Friday:** Grilled Burgers with Fixins, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Milk, Dessert

The Mexico Senior Center is located at 606 East Park Street. The center can also be found on Facebook @MexicoSeniorCenter.

## Mexico CINEMA

FILMS FOR JUNE 30 - JULY 6

**INDIANA JONES & THE DIAL OF DESTINY**  
(PG-13, 154 MIN)  
DAILY 1:30, 4:15, 7:00

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**FLASH**  
(PG, 144 MIN)  
DAILY 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

---

**ELEMENTAL**  
(PG, 110 MIN)  
DAILY 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

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573-581-8383  
[www.mexicocinema3.com](http://www.mexicocinema3.com)  
f/mexicocinema3

### Wanda S. Baize

Wanda S. Baize, of McCredie, passed away Saturday, June 24, 2023.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Wanda was born March 21, 1952, the youngest of 6 to John and Aileen Brink of Sturgeon.



Wanda had a huge heart when she loved you, she loved you with her whole being. She was a fierce protector of everyone she loved. Wanda's pride and joy were her grandkids and great-grandkids. She enjoyed her outside flowers and watching hummingbirds. As a huge animal lover, she had a special place in her heart for her dogs.

Survivors include her life partner, Jackie Brown; a daughter, Kim (Bill) Brink; four grandkids, Josh (Liz) Brink, Jacqueline Brink, Meghan Huddleston and Daniel Huddleston; six great-grandkids; Alex, Aeryn, Aohdan, Dalilah, Greyson and Magnolia; two sisters, Carol Carr and Theresa Brink; and one brother, David Brink.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Aileen Brink; one brother, Lester Brink; and one sister, Mary Sherrick.

Arnold Funeral Home is serving the family.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.arnoldfh.com](http://www.arnoldfh.com).

### Janette Grossmann

Janette Grossmann, 89, of Wellsville and formerly of rural Laddonia, died on June 21, 2023 at King's Daughters Home in Mexico, Mo.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, June 27, at Resurrection Catholic Church in Wellsville. Burial was in the Resurrection Catholic Church Cemetery following the Mass.

Visitation was from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, June 26, at Myers Funeral Home in Wellsville.

Condolences may be given at [myersfuneralhome.biz](http://myersfuneralhome.biz).

## Fulton woman injured

Margie A. Power, 41, of Fulton, sustained moderate injuries in a two-vehicle accident that occurred at 7:40 a.m. Friday, June 23 on Missouri 22 at Audrain County Road 9377. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the accident occurred when the southbound 2003 Pontiac Grand Prix, driven by Power, turned into the path of the westbound 2020 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Gavin A. Christy, 40, of Marshall, causing the Silverado to strike the Grand Prix.

Power, who was wearing a seatbelt, was taken by ambulance to University Hospital, Columbia, by ambulance.

Both vehicles were totaled and were towed from the scene.

## Bulldog Golf Classic

The Bulldog Golf Classic v.12, sponsored by the Mexico Golf Organization, will be held Saturday July 15 at The Oaks, Mexico. All proceeds will benefit the Mexico High School boys and girls golf teams as well as the Bulldog Golf Classic Scholarship Fund. The tournament is a four-person scramble format, with



registration at 8:30 a.m. and shotgun tee time at 9:30. For more information, call Layne Ray, 573-473-0636 or find them on Facebook.

### The Arbors

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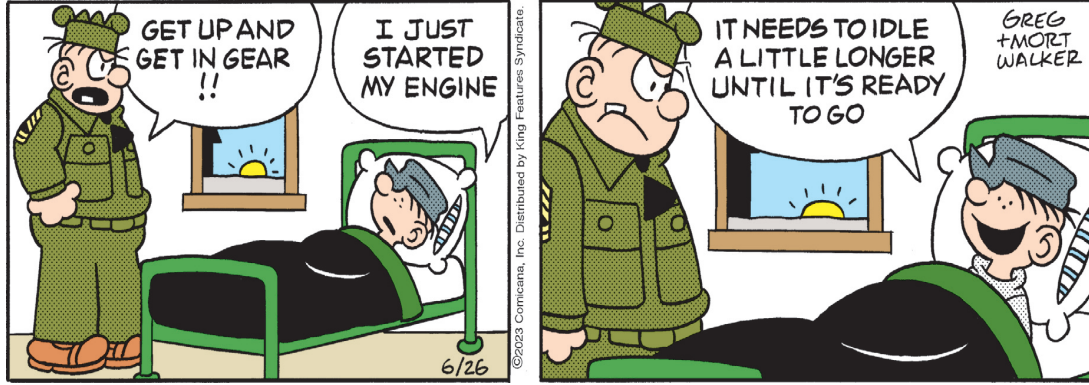
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 <b>Kevin Duncan</b> Financial Advisor	 <b>Ross Fryer</b> Financial Advisor	 <b>Todd M Geeson</b> Financial Advisor	 <b>Patrick Ryan</b> Financial Advisor
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Beetle Bailey

By Greg, Brian and Neal Walker



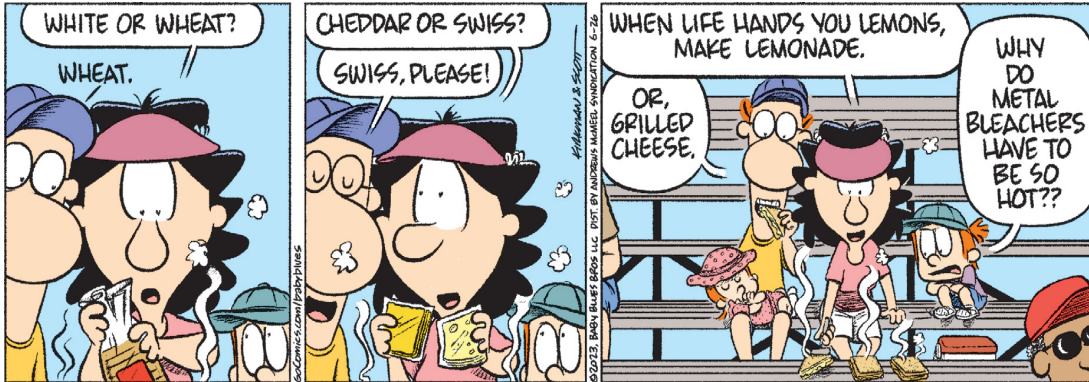
Blondie

By Dean Young and John Marshall



Baby Blues

By Jerry Scott and Rick Kirkman

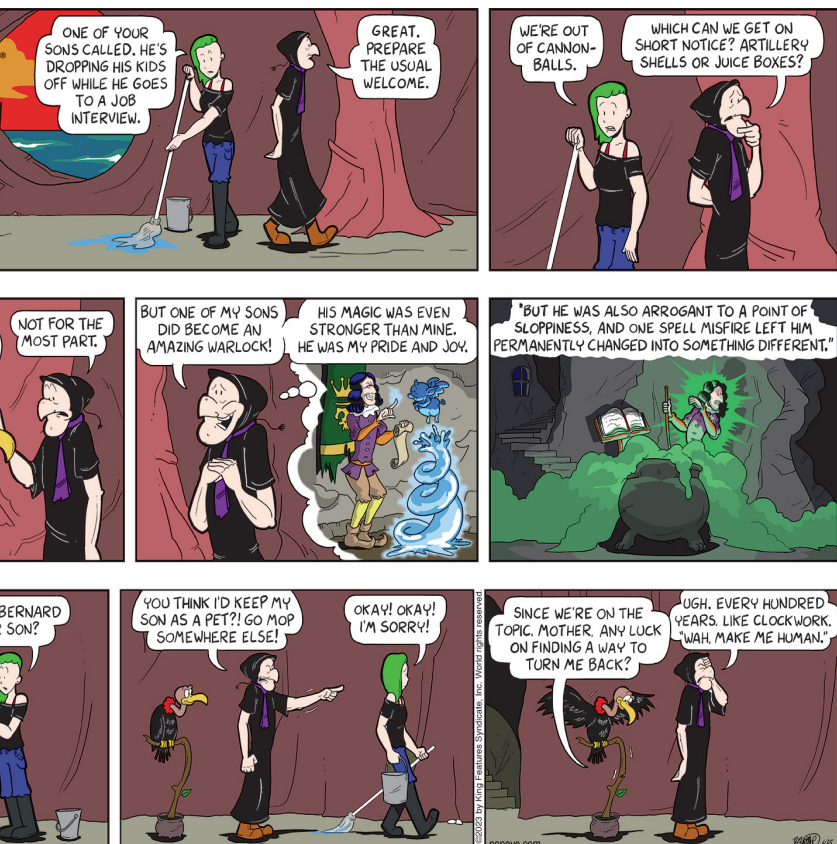


The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



POPEYE



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



"The doctor said I should watch my calories at mealtimes...he said nothing about \_\_\_\_\_ meals."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

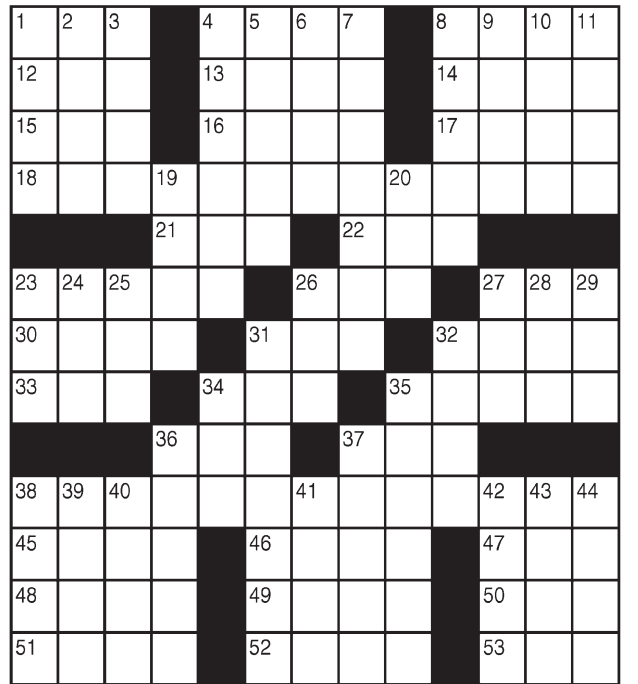
- Placid **TENGL**
- Charge **MABLE**
- Amble **WADDLE**
- Pivot **NIGHE**

**TODAY'S WORD**

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 America's uncle
- 4 "Dracula" author Stoker
- 8 Leftovers recipe
- 12 Chinese chairman
- 13 Roof overhang
- 14 Arizona tribe
- 15 Samovar
- 16 On the rocks
- 17 Hurler
- 18 "Syriana" Oscar winner
- 21 British ref. work
- 22 Caribou kin
- 23 Gold-loving king
- 26 "See ya!"
- 27 Scale abbr.
- 30 Privy to
- 31 "Of course"
- 32 Cheer (for)
- 33 Joke
- 34 Chic, to
- 35 Five dozen
- 36 Droop
- 37 Iota
- 38 1997 film starring Nicole Kidman and 18-Across
- 45 Only
- 46 Algeria's neighbor



- 7 Musical mixes to exercise class
- 8 Trembled
- 9 Undecided
- 10 Duel tool
- 11 Sly
- 19 Reddish horse
- 20 Flamenco cheer
- 23 "Top Gun" target
- 24 — jiffy
- 25 Pooch
- 26 Nap site
- 27 Bagel topper
- 28 Automaton, for short
- 29 Hog haven
- 31 Pad you bring
- 32 Ms. Moreno
- 34 West of Hollywood
- 35 Ape
- 36 Asparagus unit
- 37 Prove untrue
- 38 Despot
- 39 Vagrant
- 40 Exile isle
- 41 Give a darn
- 42 Hawaiian coffee
- 43 Historic periods
- 44 Filches

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: What is the tallest building in the world?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does HTTP stand for in a website address?
- LITERATURE: Which kind of animals are featured in the novel "Watership Down"?
- HISTORY: When was the first iPhone released?
- MOVIES: What kind of fish is Nemo in "Finding Nemo"?
- GAMES: What is the final course on Mario Kart video games?
- ASTRONOMY: How many planets in our solar system have moons?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was licensed as a bartender?
- MEDICAL: What is a more common term for somnolency?
- TELEVISION: How many castaways are on "Gilligan's Island"?

Answers

- Burj Khalifa, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- HyperText Transfer Protocol.
- Rabbits.
- 2007.
- Clownfish.
- Rainbow Road.
- Six of the eight planets.
- Abraham Lincoln.
- Talking in your sleep.
- Seven.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Glasses are different. 2. Neckline is different. 3. Sign is missing. 4. Pocket is smaller. 5. Number is missing. 6. Ball is shorter.

S	A	S	N	E	L	H	O	R
A	V	A	R	I	A	B	B	A
R	O	L	I	M	A	L	L	E
T	H	E	P	A	C	E	R	A
S	A	G	E	R	I	T		
L	X	I	S	D	O	M	G	A
O	O	T	S	E	S	N	O	N
M	I	D	A	E	S			
E	D	E	L	K				
N	E	O	L	O	C	E	O	O
L	E	L	I	O	E	D		
M	A	V	E	A	V	E	O	
S	A	M	B	R	A	M	S	T

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Q equals R

RY SIUGLIQO, N'U YJXXIYGT HI  
 QGRT HSNY MIIO ME LQNHGQ  
 TRSZ NA IAG TRE.  
 HNUG HI SNH HSG QIRZT!

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Cryptoquip  
 Answer  
 As homework, I'm supposed to read this book by writer Dahl in one day.  
 Time to hit the Road!

SCRAMBLERS  
 Today's Word  
 1. Gentle 2. Blame; 3. Dangle; 4. Hinge

## POET awards Community Impact Grants to four local organizations

POET Bioprocessing – Laddonia awarded \$4,000 in grants to four local organizations through POET’s 2023 Community Impact Grant Program. Each organization received a \$1,000 grant for its respective project.

The Center Park Board Committee received a grant to help renovate the southeast section of Mason Park located in Center, Missouri. The renovation will include the addition of playground equipment safe for children up to five years old.

The Middletown Community Fire Protection District received a grant to purchase grain bin rescue equipment for their firefighters. The firefighters service Pike, Lincoln, Montgomery, and Audrain Counties.

The Audrain County 4-H will use the funds to replace the aging and broken boards on the fairground bleachers.

The Laddonia Cemetery received a grant to help with the cost of repairing and resealing the cemetery roads.

“These four organizations work hard to make our community a better place,” said Steve Murphy, General Manager of POET Bioprocessing – Laddonia. “We at POET are proud to support organizations that share our drive to give back to our communities.”

Through POET’s Community Impact Grant Program, individuals and organizations were invited to apply for funding for projects aimed at changing their community for the better. For more information, visit [poet.com/grants](http://poet.com/grants).

## DOORWAYS to provide supportive housing assistance in 62 outstate Missouri counties

*Serving people who are unsheltered/unstably housed and living with HIV*

DOORWAYS, headquartered in St. Louis will begin providing, in 62 Missouri counties, supportive housing services for people living with HIV who are unsheltered or in need of temporary rent/utility assistance to avoid a loss of housing. Program staff will be based in Columbia, MO, and Springfield, MO.

These services are funded through a grant secured by DOORWAYS from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program to improve quality of life and health outcomes for people affected by HIV.

“DOORWAYS has a long-standing connection with these 62 Missouri counties,” stated Opal M. Jones, President & CEO of DOORWAYS. “We have been awarded HOPWA funds to bring supportive housing services to this area since 2004 – 19 years.”

Up to now, housing and supportive assistance have been provided by a

subrecipient; however, starting June 1, DOORWAYS is assuming direct leadership for the program. There will be no disruption to in client care because those previously providing client care will continue to do so as members of the DOORWAYS team.

About DOORWAYS

Founded in 1988, DOORWAYS is celebrating its 35th year of operations. From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, the agency provided housing and supportive services to 3,184 individuals and families battling homelessness and illness from HIV in 124 counties in Missouri and Illinois. In St. Louis, the agency provides emergency, assistive, permanent, and flexible housing plus a rent/utility subsidies program to prevent homelessness for people living in their own accommodations.

Empowerment programs include one-to-one care coordination, onsite behavioral health services, onsite career employment services, pharmacy delivery, skill-building classes to fill gaps from a legacy of poverty, and a provisions pantry provided through partnership with Food Outreach. DOORWAYS employs nearly 100 staff with an annual agency budget of \$14.5M.

# AG LEADER SPOTLIGHT

SPONSORED BY  THE Callaway Bank  
With You For The Moments That Matter



Jack Norfleet - Mexico FFA Chapter

### How did you get involved in FFA?

I joined FFA to follow the footsteps of my brother. I attended events prior to getting into high school watching my brother. As I began FFA I was able to start my own journey.

### What’s your favorite part about the program?

My favorite part of FFA is the many different opportunities I have had the chance to do and people I have been able to meet from across the state.

### What are you involved with through FFA?

MHS Student Council, MO Beef Kids, Northeast District FFA Expo Fair Board, MO Jr. Cattlemens, Audrain County Junior Fairboard, Special Olympics Volunteer

### What are some reasons to be excited about the future of ag?

Agriculture is ever changing part of our world. As technology and our world advances, it is fun to see how it will impact our future. Agriculture can adapt to new technology and connect with the ever changing world.

### What are some challenges in agriculture?



The lack of agriculture knowledge from those removed from production agriculture. The weather is a huge challenge each day is different. Negative opinions and false information about production.

### What’s on the FFA horizon for you this year?

I am serving as Area 4 FFA Vice President and the Mexico FFA Chapter President. Both of these roles will allow me to advocate for agriculture and connect with other members.

### What are your future plans?

As of right now, I want to attend a Missouri college to major in Agriculture Business and later attend auctioneering school. I want to continue raising cattle with my dad and grandpa.

## Ask Dr. Finck

ACHD Medical Director

### QUESTION:

How do I protect myself from the sun during spring and summer?

### ANSWER:

1. Seek Shade: Whenever possible, find shade, especially during peak sunlight hours between 10 am and 4 pm.
2. Wear Protective Clothing: Cover exposed skin by wearing loose, lightweight, and tightly woven clothing. Opt for long sleeves, long pants, and a wide-brimmed hat to shield yourself from direct sunlight.
3. Apply Sunscreen: Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher. Apply it generously to all exposed skin, including your face, neck, ears, and hands. Reapply every two hours or more frequently if swimming or sweating.
4. Stay Hydrated: Drink plenty of water throughout the day. Avoid excessive alcohol and caffeine consumption as they can contribute to dehydration.
5. Take Breaks and Cool Down: When spending prolonged periods outdoors, take regular breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas. Use cool compresses or mist sprays to lower body temperature.
6. Be Mindful of Medications: Some medications can increase sensitivity to the sun. Consult with your healthcare provider or pharmacist to determine if any medications you are taking might increase your risk of sunburn

## Have a Question for Dr. Finck?

Submit Your Questions to ACHD at [info@myachd.org](mailto:info@myachd.org)  
[www.myACHD.org](http://www.myACHD.org)

## Moments Matter.



## An ag community is built one family, one field, and one moment at a time.

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Nancy Kathleen Boswell as Laura Ingalls Wilder (left) at the Paris Library. [Submitted]

## Summer speaker series continues at library

Submitted by: LDRL Staff

The third annual summer speaker series kicked off with a full house at the Paris Library. On June 8, Little Dixie Regional Libraries welcomed 65 Little House on the Prairie fans to hear from Nancy Kathleen Boswell. Boswell presented the story of Laura Ingalls Wilder while in character as Laura. She also answered questions from fans old and young.

On Thursday, June 22 at 6 p.m., local history enthusiasts heard from Linda Bondy at the Moberly Library. Bondy discussed her book, *Rural Schools of Randolph County*, and how the loss of rural schools has impacted our community.

The speaker series will continue throughout the summer.

In July, guest speakers will focus on Missouri's history and culture. The Paris Library will wel-

come Dr. Patrick Hotle of Culver-Stockton College on Thursday, July 13 at 6. Dr. Hotle will present his talk "Slavery and the Underground Railroad on the Missouri-Illinois Border".

The final speaker of the series will be food historian Suzanne Corbett. Corbett will visit the Moberly Library on Thursday, July 28 at 6 p.m. to discuss the history of Missouri's food culture.

The summer speaker series is free to attend and best suited for adults. The presentations by Boswell, Hotle, and Corbett are part of the Missouri Speakers Bureau, which is jointly organized and managed by Missouri Humanities and the State Historical Society of Missouri.

To see the full list of summer events and sign up for the Summer Reading Program, visit [ldrl.org/summer](http://ldrl.org/summer).

## Apply Now for Missouri Soybean Association's Policy Leaders Fellowship Cohort

*Applications are now open for young, talented agriculturalists interested in public policy*

Missouri's soybean farmers are investing in the future with the Policy Leaders Fellowship (PLF) program. In partnership with Iowa soybean growers, the program offers leadership training, networking opportunities, and hands-on work with policy, government and legislative processes.

"The Missouri Soybean Association (MSA) is a farmer-led organization with strong grassroots support, and we're very proud of that foundation," said Matt Wright, Missouri Soybean Association (MSA) president. "Investing in the next generation of agricultural and policy leaders is key to serving Missouri's soybean farmers. Our impact grows as we work together, and this is a great step forward for ensuring soybeans are front and center in Missouri and the Midwest well into the future."

PLF is a collaborative, one-year experience for soybean farmers who possess a desire to learn more about government and the legislative process, all while improving their core leadership and advocacy skills. PLF will give participants a deep understanding of policies, laws and regulations that affect agriculture, the soybean industry and rural America. Weaving travel and social interaction into the program curriculum, participants will become aware of the role policy advocacy and a unified voice play in today's political atmosphere.

"In an industry that

seems to be under constant scrutiny, having people to effectively advocate on its behalf is critical," said Baylee Asbury, Missouri Soybeans director of education and outreach. "PLF not only allows producers to take a deep dive into the policy process but also connect with leaders in the industry and have a better understanding of why the power of partnership is so important."

One applicant will be selected from each crop reporting district in Iowa (9) and Missouri (7). The strongest candidates will have an interest in agricultural policy education and be active members of their state soybean associations. Applications may be submitted online at [mosoy.org/fellow](http://mosoy.org/fellow) through July 31.

The program will kick off August 24-25 in Jefferson City at the Center for Soy Innovation, with a joint meeting of participants from Iowa and Missouri, as well as national-level speakers and mentors. Key components of the program will include participants' opportunities to:

- Network and socialize with fellow producers, industry professionals and key decision-makers;

- Build a foundational understanding of the legislative and regulatory process;

- Engage policymakers to advocate on behalf of agriculture and the soybean industry; and

- Develop and strengthen personal leadership skills.

This educational program is possible thanks to support from Missouri soybean farmers and their checkoff. Producers selected to participate in the program will be announced in early August.

To find out more about the program, visit [mosoy.org](http://mosoy.org) or check out the latest issue of the Missouri Soybean Farmer for a feature on PLF.

## USDA Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Grant program available

The National Institute of Food & Agriculture's Agriculture in the Classroom Program (AITC) serves nearly 5 million students and 60,000 teachers annually through workshops, conferences, field trips, farm tours, and other educational activities. The AITC

program works in partnership with state AITC organizations. The program also supports activities that focus on ag literacy in rural and urban settings. Private organizations and individuals are eligible to apply for grants. Applications are due July 6.

Visit [nifa.usda.gov/grants/](http://nifa.usda.gov/grants/) for more information.

## Taylor Medical Services is Proud to Add Nichole Aulisio to Our Team!



Nichole Aulisio, Nurse Practitioner

Nichole is a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner with a strong background in ER.

Join us in welcoming her and call for an appointment today.

Taylor Medical Services provides friendly, courteous, and convenient medical care in downtown Mexico, Missouri. Dr. Taylor treats a variety of medical problems including hypertension, diabetes, osteoporosis as well as other general medical problems.



**For an appointment, please call the office at 573-581-1129**

Taylor Medical Services will host an open house for Nichole Aulisio July 25 - watch *The Mexico Ledger* for more information.



# Farm & Field

Brought to you by:  
**Audrain Agribusiness and Audrain County Health Department**







### Mexico FFA attends conference

Mexico FFA officers attended the LEAD conference in June hosted by Missouri FFA Association. Officers were able to gain leadership skills and plan the year ahead for chapter members. Officers planned fun, educational, and agricultural events for chapter members and community members. [Submitted]



Audrain youth will take the spotlight at this year's fair. [Nathan Lilley]

### Audrain Youth Fair is July 20-25

The 2023 Audrain County Youth Fair is set for July 20-25 at the Audrain County 4-H Center and Fairgrounds. And for those wanting to see what this year's edition holds, the fair book is now available, both digitally and in print. Available through a link on the fair's Facebook page, [acebook.com/audrainco4hyouthfair/](https://www.facebook.com/audrainco4hyouthfair/), and through the Audrain County Extension, the book has nearly 50

pages of content. Cover art is by Bree Stowers, fair book cover art contest winner. Ella Duenke was the winner in the t-shirt design contest.

With a 101-year history, the fair offers a spotlight for the next generation of the ag industry.

For more fair information, find them on Facebook or visit [mexicoledger.com](http://mexicoledger.com) and click the fair's web ad.

### Cattlemen host successful youth expo

The Missouri Cattlemen's Association hosted the 2023 Youth Expo, which includes the all-breeds junior show and the 2nd annual replacement heifer show and sale June 9-11. MCA President David Dick said each event exceeded expectations and brought together over 300 exhibitors and 600 head of cattle to participate in youth activities offered by the association in Sedalia.

The grand champion market animal went to the crossbred steer exhibited by Clara Wallace from Vandalia.

Along with the grand overall drive, exhibitors were selected during the

show to represent their breed in their respective age divisions to then participate in showmanship.

"The Missouri Cattlemen's Association has a lot of youth exhibitors participating in showing cattle and that's amazing. We also have a lot of youth involved in commercial cattle production during the shows," said Dick. "The replacement heifer program provides youth an opportunity to showcase their cattle and get them involved in youth activities."

There were five pens of bred heifers and three pens of open heifers for a total 16 females. The

open heifers averaged \$1,967 and the bred heifers averaged \$2,840. All bred heifers were Show-Me-Select certified. Dick said the show and sale was a success and he is excited for the program to grow in numbers in years to come.

The champion open pen went to Ethan Vanderwert from Columbia, Mo.

"I fully expect this program to grow each and every year," said Dick. "The youth exhibitors learn firsthand what it's like to be a commercial producer, raising and marketing a quality product. There's no other youth program like it in the state."

### Pike County Fair is in July

The Pike County Fair, held in Bowling Green, will run July 25-29. This year's event promises another jam-packed lineup. With a carnival, demo derby, live music, horse shows, moto cross, bloomin' onions and a lot more, the fair is a can't-miss area event. Headlining the concert will be Mark Wills, Friday, July 28. For more information, visit [pikecountyfair.org/](http://pikecountyfair.org/) or click their ad on [mexicoledger.com](http://mexicoledger.com).



Mark Wills will headline the 2023 Pike County Fair. [Submitted]



### Poet donates

Mexico FFA officers attended the LEAD conference in June hosted by Missouri FFA Association. Officers were able to gain leadership skills and plan the year ahead for chapter members. Officers planned fun, educational, and agricultural events for chapter members and community members. [Submitted]

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## Mudd continues journey in Mexico girls basketball as head coach

BY JEREMY JACOB  
Sports Editor

Makenzie Mudd has devoted much of her life to Mexico girls basketball.

The former Lady Bulldog player and assistant coach rose up the ranks to be the high school head coach, as announced on June 21, to take the baton from longtime head coach Ed Costley, who stepped down after 20 years to focus on family and being solely a physical education teacher in the district.

Mudd was in a Lady Bulldog uniform from 2005-09, coached middle school for the district for four years and then spent five years as a high school assistant, so she said she has logged 13 years in Costley's program. Now she is the one leading the program, Mudd said there are some aspects that will be similar and some differences as Mexico looks to bounce back from a 9-18 season — its first losing



Makenzie Mudd

season since 2017.

"A lot my background now comes from playing for coach Costley and then seeing it on the other side from coaching with him," Mudd said. "I've got an idea how it comes across to a player and how it translates to the coaching side. I think we're going to carry a lot of similar things over from when he was here, but we're also going to throw in some things based on our clientele and what I feel like I want this program to turn into."

Athletic director Brandon Schafer said Mudd coaching many of the same high school girls in middle school helps a lot and leaves a better chance for a smooth transition. She also just identifies strongly with the school and community.

"She knows the girls, and the girls know her expectations for the program," Mudd said. "She's a Mexico graduate so she really wants the girls program to continue to be successful. She has good connections

within the community to help with our feeder programs and help with our younger kids to get developed."

Mudd is a language arts teacher at the middle school after earning bachelor's and master's education degrees from the University of Missouri and William Woods University, respectively. Even in this break from the basketball, Mudd said she has always taken an interest in defense and is an area Mexico can emphasize in the future.

"Defense is my favorite thing to watch in a game," Mudd said. "That's what sets our tempo so I feel like that's what I want to focus on first. That's where our energy comes from. You get a good stop on defense or you get a lot of action going on in the form of turnovers. That's where you get that buy-in from the girls and that's where they get their energy and excitement to want to keep going."

Mudd said the defensive side is a good place to start as the Lady Bulldogs are still adjusting after losing its core group that helped win two North Central Missouri Conference titles and is also looking to replace three senior starters from a season

See **MUDD** on page B2

## Energetic Willis named Mexico volleyball HC

BY JEREMY JACOB  
Sports Editor

RaShonda Willis' playing career ended a decade ago, but she has done much since then.

Willis was an assistant volleyball coach for Mexico last season and was promoted to the head coaching role, as was officially announced on June 21, after Mendie Tutt stepped down but will remain a fourth-grade teacher at Hawthorne Elementary School. The Blackburn College graduate and current Hawthorne elementary teacher has been a volleyball head coach and has led the softball, soccer, track and field, and basketball programs at her high school alma mater Clyde C. Miller Career Academy in St. Louis.



RaShonda Willis

Having all those positions is exactly what Willis wanted as she admits she likes to stay busy. She also describes herself as energetic and wants to pass that on to the Lady Bulldogs.

"Being a cheerleader for them, helping build their confidence and understanding that they need to show explosion (goes into coaching volleyball)," Willis said. "Explosion meaning on the hits, on the passes, in the talking and in everything."

Athletic director Brandon Schafer said Willis impressed him last season just by how she was coaching on the sidelines.

"As an assistant coach, I got to watch her on the sidelines during games. She did a lot of in-game strategy," Schafer said. "She was high energy, which is what those volleyball girls need. The volleyball girls responded really well to her every time I watched her coaching. She has a high knowledge of the game."

Being an energetic coach is just who Willis is as she said she is talking to her players and walking the sidelines constantly.

She believes the about 32 girls Mexico currently has in the program are coachable and can come together to win more games this season than the 8-15-1 campaign from a year ago. JacLynn Cline and Emily Moppin will be key returning hitters and Skyler Arnold expects to be the team's libero.

"I see us at least winning more games, doing a lot of team bonding," Willis said. "We're looking to

See **WILLIS** on page B2



Area youth participate in a scrimmage during Mexico High School's summer soccer camp held last week at Chris Hotop Field. It was the school's first camp in a while as coaches Bill Gleeson and Sarah Olson said it hasn't been a thing since they've been at the school.

[Jeremy Jacob]

## Mexico soccer restores youth summer camp

BY JEREMY JACOB  
Sports Editor

Mexico brought back what the school has been lacking for years.

Boys soccer head coach Bill Gleeson and girls soccer head coach Sarah Olson hosted a youth soccer camp from June 19-21 at Chris Hotop Field at the high school. Gleeson, Olson and several other coaches and players worked with 25-30 area kids from grades third through eighth.

Gleeson said he is in his sixth year at Mexico while Olson is coming her first year as a head coach for the Lady Bulldogs following time as an assistant. In that time, Mexico hasn't had a youth soccer camp so they took the necessary steps to correct that.

"Both coach Olson and I have never done a camp before," Gleeson said. "Years before I started, they used to have the camps. One way to help raise some money for the soccer program and to raise interest in soccer, we decided it's time."

Gleeson said the kids were split into three groups — third grade, fourth and fifth grade, and sixth through eighth grade — working on several drills before being allowed to scrimmage.

Olson said the coaches wanted to see each kid get the most out of the drills they planned so grouping with similar ages was important.

"We worked some basics," Gleeson said. "Every day, we worked some passing, some dribbling, some basic footwork skills with the ball, and just try to integrate it all and show 'This is what soccer's like.'"

Olson said she is pleased with how the camp turned

See **CAMP** on page B2

Look for more camp photos on B2 and in a gallery on the Mexico Ledger website



Mexico girls soccer head coach Sarah Olson demonstrates how to dribble the ball during a drill last week during the high school's youth soccer camp. Kids were split up by grades and assigned to coaches. Olson led the youngest group of kids at the camp.

[Jeremy Jacob]



Mexico boys soccer head coach Bill Gleeson instructs kids on what to do during a passing drill last week during the school's youth soccer camp. Gleeson was one of several coaches and high school players present from Monday through Wednesday last week as area kids were walked through the basics of soccer before they were allowed to scrimmage.

[Jeremy Jacob]



The Mexico Bulldogs gather together for a chat on the sidelines with coaches Darren Pappas and Dion Nunnally during last week's Rib City Shootout in Poplar Bluff.

[Submitted]

## Mexico boys wrap up shootout schedule in Poplar Bluff

BY JEREMY JACOB  
Sports Editor

The Mexico boys encountered some tough competition to end last week.

The Bulldogs' scrimmage games also ended their summer shootout schedule as they went 1-5 on Friday and Saturday at the Rib City Shootout in Poplar Bluff. They defeated James Lawson (Tennessee) on Friday but lost to Conway (Arkansas) and defending Missouri Class 3 state champion New Madrid on the same day and then dropped games Saturday to Malden, Class 4 second place Park Hills Central and Branson.

Head coach Darren Pappas said the Bulldogs' final crop of competition of the summer was tough as, for example, they drained nine 3-pointers against New Madrid but lost largely due to turnovers and rebounding.

When Mexico has been at its best this summer, Pappas said it has played lockdown defense as was the case against James Lawson. He has said the Bulldogs have tried to be more aggressive on defense this summer.

Pappas said the team still has plenty of work left in the weight room the rest of the summer and is grateful to the Mexico Bulldogs Booster Club for purchasing the team's new practice gear, which was displayed during the two-day shootout.



Community R-6's Alyssa Beamer sustains contact while taking the ball to the rim against Silex on Thursday during a scrimmage in the Lady Trojans' summer league.

[Jeremy Jacob]

# Lady Trojans split 2nd home summer games

BY JEREMY JACOB  
Sports Editor

The Community R-6 girls finished another day of summer hoops on Thursday.

In the second league day of the summer for the Lady Trojans, they lost by single digits to Wellsville-Middletown and defeated Silex by double digits on their home court in Laddonia. The junior varsity girls lost a game to Silex on the same night.

Community hosts one more girls basketball league night today starting at 4 p.m. Mark Twain, Sturgeon and Clopton are expected to appear.

*Look for more photos from the Lady Trojans' second summer scrimmage night at home in a gallery on the Mexico Ledger website.*



Community R-6's Rylee Rafferty drives the ball into the lane against Wellsville-Middletown on Thursday during a scrimmage in the Lady Trojans' summer league.

[Jeremy Jacob]



Community R-6's Peyton Beamer passes the ball away from a scrum on the floor against Silex on Thursday during a scrimmage in the Lady Trojans' summer league.

[Jeremy Jacob]



Community R-6's Jocelyn Curtis keeps the ball away from the Wellsville-Middletown defense on Thursday during a scrimmage in the Lady Trojans' summer league.

[Jeremy Jacob]



For three days last week, Mexico High School hosted a youth soccer camp that brought in area kids from grades third to eighth, teaching them the basics and leaving them some time to scrimmage. Kids were separated into groups that contained third graders, fourth and fifth graders, and sixth through eighth graders.

[Jeremy Jacob]

## Camp from page B1

out as she wanted to see kids being outside and having fun with the game. She noticed the kids seem to be pleased as well after receiving their camp T-shirts and popsicles to cool them off after spending time in the sun.

"I could see (the younger kids) progressing a little bit each day, getting a little better at it," Olson said. "That was the main idea, get kids out here, have fun and support soccer in the community. I think we did all those things."



**Makenzie Mudd worked with the Mexico girls during a practice the day she was announced as the new head coach of the Lady Bulldogs basketball program. Mudd graduated from Mexico and became a coach with the district years later, including serving five years as an assistant to longtime coach Ed Costley.**

[Jeremy Jacob]



## Mudd from page B1

ago. So she said there will be three starting spots and bench roles up for grabs.

This summer, Mudd said she has been figuring out how the "puzzle pieces" fit as the Lady Bulldogs practice and play in shootouts.

"We definitely need to figure out what our defensive

identity needs to be," Mudd said. "We've changed a lot over the last few seasons — from season to season. We haven't found one that I really think has been our strong suit so that is something I want to work on early in the season."

The career Lady Bulldog wants to see the same success she has experienced for present and future Lady Bulldogs.

"I'm excited to continue where it started for me in 2005," Mudd said. "I want to build on the stuff I've been learning being an assistant and see how I can make it my own."

## Willis from page B1

compete this year, for sure."

At Blackburn, Willis earned a business and administration and economics bachelor's degree before earning a master's in business administration from Lindenwood University. She also had plenty of opportunities for team bonding at Blackburn as part of the volleyball and basketball teams for four years and softball for one. She recalls her Beaver teams at that point being good as they were in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament in all three sports.

Willis said she attended Blackburn for academics initially but then eventually picked up the ball for each of those sports, convincing her she can cover multiple sports as a coach too.

"I was used to (multiple sports) because I did the same thing in high school," Willis said. "We had our tutors with us, and we were always on the road. It's just that camaraderie with your teammates and building those friendships that are there 10 years later."

This summer, Willis said Mexico is working on strength and conditioning in the weight room and in open gyms so the team doesn't get "bulky" but rather "build our agility and endurance." She is honored to have the opportunity and is thankful to the district and athletic department for choosing her.

"We lost a lot of girls, so I'm a bit nervous to mix and match the newcomers and the returners," Willis said. "But, I'm very excited and I'm honored to be in the head coach position."



**BULLDOG BITES**

News and Insights from Mexico Schools



By Allen Miles, MPS Assistant Superintendent

## School Safety Grant Will Provide Safety Improvements to Buildings

On Friday, April 28 the Mexico School District #59 received notification that they were awarded a substantial school safety grant in the amount of \$250,000. We were excited when we were notified, and are eager to begin the process of utilizing those funds to make the biggest impact for our district. The purpose of the grant is to support physical safety improvements to our buildings.

The competitive grant, administered by DESE, will allow the district to proactively implement a wide range of safety measures, further ensuring a secure educational environment for students and staff alike. The district is taking proactive steps to stay ahead of any potential threats and provide peace of mind to students,

parents, and staff members. The funds will be allocated towards initiatives designed to enhance emergency preparedness and physical security.

We looked at everything that we could do to improve the safety of our district and chose to focus on what would make the biggest impact on student and staff safety. One of the main focuses of the grant is improving the physical security of our buildings. This will include the installation of safety film, upgraded door hardware, secure exterior doors with key fob entries, and upgraded classroom doors. These measures, when paired with the new cameras and secure entries that will also be purchased with grant funding, will provide cutting edge solu-

tions to the safety of our staff and students.

The school district's success in securing the grant is a testament to the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders within the district. The commitment to student safety demonstrated by these individuals have not only helped us secure the grant, but has also instilled a sense of confidence and reassurance among our staff. Thank you to Jason Benjamin for assisting with the grant writing process, and a huge thank you to his maintenance department who will undertake the main portion of installing our upgrades. These grant funds will help give us a peace of mind when it comes to the safety of our students and staff.

## Membership has its benefits



Members of the Missouri Retired Teachers Association (MRTA) stopped by Mexico Schools central office last week and gave Mexico superintendent Melissa Chastain an associate membership of MRTA. They are giving all Audrain county superintendents this membership. MRTA is a guardian of teacher and staff pensions and loyal supporters of teachers and staff in public education. They believe in the A-B-Cs: Advocacy, Benefits, & Community. The district appreciates MRTA, for taking care of current and retired public educators. Attending the presentation are Jan Douglas, Melissa Chastain, Maureen Hacker, and Diana Henage. [Submitted]



## STORY Time

BY: LORRY MYERS

### Lullabies from a lunch lady

The phone rang and it was Kay, the school lunch lady. Her call was unexpected and so was her question. Kay wanted to know about my youngest daughter's name. When I told her I found the name, Mariah, in a song from a musical western called, Paint Your Wagon, Kay immediately asked me to sing it. "I am not a singer," I told her, laughing it off.

"That's not what your daughter says." Kay Thurston was a school cook before dietary guidelines and government mandates transformed the food tray. This lunch lady cooked with bacon grease, plenty of sugar, and salt.

Miss Kay took her job seriously. She had a powerful imagination and the kids she served only fueled it. Kay collected costumes for every season and every reason, creating beloved characters like the feisty Mrs. Milkbottoms, and the Green Witch on Halloween. For a generation of children, Kay was Mrs. Claus, reading holiday stories and handing out hugs all while living her best life.

Kay was something else. She seemed to look inside a person and see what others didn't. If she sensed a child needed food, she gave them more. If a child needed someone to say their name, Kay would be the one. This lunch lady had a way of pulling children into her world, one of those children was my daughter. Day after day, year after year, their relationship grew into something remarkable.

Something worth talking about. Mariah told Miss Kay that her name came from a song her mother sang to her so that's when Kay called. When I denied that I was a singer, Kay told me she didn't care. She simply wanted to hear how I sang the song to my baby. Hearing a professional sing, They Call the Wind Mariah, was not enough.

Kay needed to hear this momma's lullaby. So, I sang it, right then and there, over a phone attached to the wall by a cord. I sang from memory, getting lost in the words as I did. When the verses were through, Kay simply said, "Thank you, dear.", and hung up.

The next day, Mariah was serenaded in the school lunch line. My daughter's face glowed red as everyone stopped to hear Miss Kay belt out a showtune.

Mariah loved everything about it. The serenading continued, both in and out of the lunch line. For her eighth-grade graduation and every graduation after that, Miss Kay showed up at our door and sang my daughter's song. She sang for Mariah on every birthday and even on her wedding day. When Mariah's young husband was diagnosed with cancer, Kay added her own words to the song, recorded them, and sent them to Mariah. New verses full of encouragement, strength and hope that a young girl desperately clung to.

Miss Kay sang my daughter through it all. When healing came and then the babies, Miss Kay continued calling Mariah and singing that ever-changing lullaby. Mariah began saving them all, playing them on repeat when she needed Kay's words the most. That friendship between a young girl and the lunch lady only deepened over the years.

Everyone needs a lunch lady like Kay in their lives. She was the spreader of joy, a faithful servant to her faith, and the one you could count on to show up with her arms open and her hands full. Miss Kay's impact went far beyond the school lunch line.

Kay changed the world she served in. I held my daughter when she learned of Kay's passing, her tears full of deep sorrow. In the middle of those tears, Mariah reached for her phone and there in a file all its own, were the many renditions of, They Call the Wind Mariah. In each one, Kay's voice wraps around you with a tone and tenderness that I recognized from a phone call years ago.

A legacy of lullabies for a little girl who loved the school lunch lady.

You can contact Lorry at [lorrysstory@gmail.com](mailto:lorrysstory@gmail.com)



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Interested in growing vegetables and flowers in raised beds? Gardeners can learn insights on the practice from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Audrain County Courthouse. The University of Missouri Extension will conduct the session; registration is available online or people can call the Audrain County Extension office at 573-581-3231. Registration is required; deadline is July 17.

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Board of Education vacancy

The Mexico Public School District currently has a vacancy on the school board. The Board is seeking a qualified person to fill the vacancy until a candidate is elected and sworn in after the April 2, 2024 election. The deadline for interested individuals to submit an application is July 18, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Applications need to be submitted to the Board Secretary at 2101 Lakeview Road Mexico, MO 65265 or via email to bcollins@mexico.k12.mo.us.

Applications are available in the office, online at www.mexicoschools.net, or can be e-mailed or mailed upon request by contacting Bethany Collins, 573-581-3773 ext. 2401 or bcollins@mexico.k12.mo.us.

NOTICE OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION HEARINGS

The Audrain County Board of Equalization will open on Tuesday, July 18th, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Hearings will be held in the County Commission Room, Audrain County Courthouse, 101 N. Jefferson St., Mexico, MO 65265.

Appointments for the board are made by calling the County Clerk's Office at (573) 473-5820. The deadline to make appointments is Monday, July 10th, 2023.



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BERGESCH REBECCA L	202 E WASHINGTON ST	VANDALIA
BERRY SUSAN E	2622 AUDRAIN ROAD 353	MEXICO
BIRDOQUEST LLC	PO BOX 157	MEXICO
BISE LUCY	433 W VINE ST	MEXICO
BISE LUCY ESTATE	601 FAIRGROUND ST	MEXICO
BLACK AMY L	619 BAKER ST	MEXICO
BLACKBURN JOSEPH	8881 AUDRAIN ROAD 355	MEXICO
BLACKWELL NAUTICA	708 W WOODLAWN	VANDALIA
BLOCKTON JACQUISE	607 SEMINARY ST	MEXICO
BODIWALLA KISHOR J	3602 S CLARK ST	MEXICO
BOHR CHRIS	11553 COUNTY ROAD 1054	MARTINSBURG
BOUCHARD PATRICIA	709 WEST WOODLAWN	VANDALIA
BRANDOW LORI	1514 WEBSTER DR	MEXICO
BREWER ERICH	3539 AUDRAIN ROAD 209	THOMPSON
BRIDGFORD ALAN D	705 S OLIVE	MEXICO
BROOKS SARAH	32441 AUDRAIN ROAD 744	MARTINSBURG
BROOKSHIER AUBREY L	800 S UNION ST	MEXICO
BROWN BILLIE D	211 HIGHLAND MEADOWS DR	VANDALIA
BROWN HARRY	932 EMMONS ST	MEXICO
BROWN ROSALIE	211 HIGHLAND MEADOWS DR	VANDALIA
BRUSH KAYLEE	808 W HWY 54 B	VANDALIA
BULSON JOSHUA FRANKLIN	1023 EMMONS ST	MEXICO
BUNGE N J	3626 S CLARK ST STE A	MEXICO
BUSHNELL KRISTIE	505 N WALNUT ST	VANDALIA
BUTLER EVELYN R	53200 SWIFT LN	VANDALIA
CAMP JULIE	8343 ACR 355	MEXICO
CAMPBELL MARY	1722 HUNTINGFIELD DR UNIT B-1	MEXICO
CAPITOL COMM INC	3622 S CLARK ST	MEXICO
CARDENAS LARA ADRIAN	10516 AUDRAIN ROAD 9377	MEXICO
CARMAN MARK	29568 BRICE RD	VANDALIA
CARPENTER HAYLEY	1010 WEST ST	MEXICO
CARR DUSTIN	14577 AUDRAIN RD 9821	MEXICO
CARR MARY	14577 AUDRAIN RD	MEXICO
CARROZ A	125 JOSEPHINE ST	MEXICO
CARTEE JACOB T	1227 W LIBERTY ST	MEXICO
CARTWRIGHT BRUCE	109 S KENTUCKY	MEXICO
CATO DANNY	823 CONCORDIA ST	MEXICO
CHAMBERLAIN JEFFERY	19852 AUDRAIN ROAD 9306	MEXICO
CHAMBERLAIN TIFFANY	19852 AUDRAIN ROAD 9306 LOT 1	MEXICO
CLARK KRISTEN	1107 N JEFFERSON ST	MEXICO
CLARK ROBERT	820 LAFAYETTE ST	MEXICO
CLEETON VICKIE GEAN	802 N WESTERN ST	MEXICO
COCKELREAS MARY	918 RUTH CT	MEXICO
COLLINS BRITANY DARLENE	AUDRAIN COUNTY JAIL	MEXICO
COLSON YVETTE	200 GASLIGHT RD APT 31	VANDALIA
CONSOLIDATED ENERGY LLC	1730 E LIBERTY ST	MEXICO
COOPER HUDSON L	1727 ASHLEY CT #7	MEXICO
COOPER SHELTON	1100 WOODLAWN ST	MEXICO
COX BETTY R GOLDEN LIVING CENTER PIN OAKS IONA RUTH ROSS		MEXICO
COX GILBERT	1102 N WASHINGTON ST	MEXICO
CRADDOCK BRIAN	1000 AUDRAIN COUNTY ROAD	MEXICO
CRAVEN JOHN	10695 AUDRAIN RD	MEXICO
CRENSHAW CRYSTAL GAIL WOMENS EASTERN RECEPTION		VANDALIA
CROUCH MARK	2702 BLUEBIRD DR	MEXICO
CROWDER BRIAN	212 N 6TH ST	VANDALIA
CROWN	PO BOX 597	MEXICO
CRUM JENNIFER	24642 AUDRAIN ROAD 822	MEXICO
CUNO WILLIAM W	7502 AUDRAIN ROAD 447	RUSH HILL
DALTON BARRY NEIL	915 SOUTH OLIVE	MEXICO
DALTON RUBEN	940 FRANCIS ST	MEXICO
DAVIS KIMBERLY	210 E WOODLAWN ST	VANDALIA
DAY JOHN F	RR 1	MEXICO
DAY PAUL R	PO BOX 513	MEXICO
DEIHL AMY S	1515 BENNINGTON	MEXICO
DEINES CHARLES	520 W LOVE ST	MEXICO
DELONG LORI	210 E LOVE STREET MAXWELL ANN HAGAN	MEXICO
DETIENNE MELINDA	16178 AUDRAIN COUNTY RD 815	MEXICO
DIABLASI EVAN A	413 E HOLM	MEXICO
DIEGO JUAN	204 N GRAND	MEXICO
DODD JUDY	1067 AUDRAIN RD 579	VANDALIA
DOEDLI PENNY M	812 E HOLT	MEXICO
DOLLENS MELISSA	809 YALE ST	MEXICO
DONALDSON MARGIE	1411 RINGO	MEXICO
DRAINER JEAN ANN	PO BOX 185	FARBER
DRAINER MCCAILYN M	1517 HIGHWAY B	LADDONIA
DUDLEY NELLIE E	1001 S MAPLE ST APT 5B	VANDALIA
DUDLEY THOMAS E	1208 E PROMENADE ST	MEXICO
DYCUS ROBERT L	2733 HIGHWAY Z	MEXICO
EARLE VICKIE	903 CONCORDIA	MEXICO
EARLY PHILLIP	11239 AUDRAIN RD 929	MEXICO
EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI	321 W PROMENADE ST	MEXICO
EBBERT GEORGE	1109 W OLD FARM RD	MEXICO
ELIJAH ROBINSON	4162 E LIBERTY	MEXICO
ELLIS BRENT	16207 HIGHWAY JJ	MEXICO
ELZEA WILLIAM	1123 E JACKSON	MEXICO
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS OF MID MO	210 E LOVE ST	MEXICO
ENGINUITY WORLDWIDE LLC	651 E COMMERCE RD	MEXICO
ENGLISH MATTHEW C	1309 MARGRETTA ST	MEXICO
EOFF JULIES	908 S MAPLE	VANDALIA
EPPELSON JORDAN M	50728 HWY 154	VANDALIA
ESTATE OF HARRY DOWNS	1121 W CURTIS ST	MEXICO
EUGENE	1004 CONCORDIA ST	MEXICO
EVANS TRACY L	PO BOX 798	MEXICO
FARROW JAMES C	1903 SPRINGDALE CT	MEXICO
FEGER DONALD P	1430 S COAL ST	MEXICO
FENNEWALD JOHN	933 N KENTUCKY STREET	MEXICO
FISHER HAROLD E	617 E PARK ST C O WANDA CHARLENE MCDONALD	MEXICO
FITZGERALD SEAN M	1220 WEBSTER ST	MEXICO

FLISS MARTA G	1357 BENNINGTON ST	MEXICO
FLOWERS BRADLEY A	503 E LINDELL	VANDALIA
FORCK DOLORES	1810 BENNINGTON ST	MEXICO
FORREST BARBARA J	11679 ROUTE ZZ	MEXICO
FORREST GERALD	1306 E ANDERSON ST	MEXICO
FRANZ CYNTHIA	221 E WHITLEY	MEXICO
FREYER KEVIN	33780 AUDRAIN ROAD 416	LADDONIA
FRIEDRICH COREY	27734 AUDRAIN ROAD 384	MEXICO
GALARZA BENJAMIN	PO BOX 814	MEXICO
GARRETT LINDELL D	1512 S SINGLETON ST	MEXICO
GARRETT REBECCA L	1512 S SINGLETON ST	MEXICO
GENTLE CONNIE J	22753 AUDRAIN ROAD 364	MEXICO
GEVERMUEHLE CHRISTOPHER D	606 MARS APT D	MEXICO
GIBSON LUCAS V	32330 HIGHWAY P	VANDALIA
GIBSON NATALIE R	32330 HIGHWAY P	VANDALIA
GIESEKER ALEXIS	17078 HWY JJ	MEXICO
GILLEY CODY	508 S ELM	VANDALIA
GOODMAN PORTER L	910 SAVANNAH CT	MEXICO
GORE PAUL	52447 HIGHWAY 154	VANDALIA
GRANT CHARLES	209 W MAPLE ST	MEXICO
GRAVES CAREY	705 S PINE ST	LADDONIA
GREEN JOSH	1026 HAZEL PL	MEXICO
GREGG GLENDA	1002 HASSEN DR APT B	MEXICO
HAAG DEBORAH	337 JEFFERSON RD	MEXICO
HADEN BRENDA	21952 AUDRAIN RD 982	MEXICO
HAEFLING HENRY	6 MARINE DR	MEXICO
HAGER JESSE LEE	902 S UNION ST	MEXICO
HAMLETT JOEY	1101 N GALLOWAY RD	VANDALIA
HAMMETT LESLIE	6149 AUDRAIN ROAD 539	FARBER
HAMMETT MICHAEL D	6149 AUDRAIN ROAD 539	FARBER
HANLEY MARK P	25276 AUDRAIN ROAD 838	MEXICO
HANNON REX	4516 RIVERS DR	MEXICO
HAROLD LIBBY	22282 PIKE 446	VANDALIA
HARPER CHRISTINA	209 W MCPIKE	VANDALIA
HARPER COURTNEY	1525 N OLIVE	MEXICO
HARTEGAN NATHAN SCOTT	10513 AUDRAIN RD 9377	MEXICO
HARTLEY ERIN C	8 VENUS ST	MEXICO
HATTON PAULA A	6570 COUNTY RD 102	MEXICO
HEATHMAN JOHN	206 ROLLINS	MEXICO
HELLING KEITH	21669 AUDRAIN CO RD 344	MEXICO
HENDERSON VOISY	2616 RANDY ST	MEXICO
HENKE ROGER D	1006 S MAIN ST	VANDALIA
HERRON RACHEL R	803 WOODLAWN ST	MEXICO
HICKS RICHARD OWEN	PO BOX 354	LADDONIA
HILTBIDEL GREGORY A	1525 N OLIVE ST	MEXICO
HINTON DANA	11337 AUDRAIN ROAD 945	THOMPSON
HITT LISA	1216 E PROMENADE ST	MEXICO
HIVELY SHAWN	49444 HUMMINGBIRD LANE	VANDALIA
HODDE LEILANI K	1111 E WOODLAWN ST	VANDALIA
HOFER KENNETH JR	613 S HIGHLAND ST	VANDALIA
HOFER TIFFANY	613 S HIGHLAND ST	VANDALIA
HOFFMAN POLLY V	1311 SPRINGDALE ST	MEXICO
HOLDEN BRIAN	5033 COUNTY ROAD 489	LADDONIA
HOLDEN CHARLES	927 BUCHANAN ST	MEXICO
HOLMAN DENISE LARYNN	1030 W TEAL LAKE RD	MEXICO
HOLMAN IMOGENE	1017 BOOKER ST	VANDALIA
HOLMES ERIC S	700 E 3RD ST	LADDONIA
HOME EXCHANGE BANK	1120 MARKET DR	MEXICO
HOOK BARBARA S	HWY 15	MEXICO
HOOPER DYLAN	601 W MCPIKE ST	VANDALIA
HOPKE JUSTIN	44871 HWY W W	VANDALIA
HOPKINS ERIC R	16 WONNEMAN CIR	MEXICO
HOTT VERONICA	22383 ACR 9832	MEXICO
HOUGHTON FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE		MARTINSBURG
HOWDESHELL AMBER	310 N TAYLOR ST	VANDALIA
HOYT ANTHONY	PO BOX 222	LADDONIA
HUNT JUDY	21565 HIGHWAY HH	MEXICO
HUTCHESON THOMAS	305 E UNION	VANDALIA
IBRAIMI BLIERIM	1003 WEST ST	MEXICO
INGEBRITSON CONNIE	10641 AUD RD 929	MEXICO
INGRAM DONALD	210 S TAYLOR ST	VANDALIA
ISGRIG DAKOTA W	118 WYLD ST	BENTON CITY
JACKSON NELDA J	202 E ARLINGTON AVE	VANDALIA
JAEGER DENNIS S	214 E LIBERTY	MEXICO
JAMES DAWN M	320B E PROMENADE ST	MEXICO
JAMES ROBERT	320 E PROMENADE ST	MEXICO
JENNINGS DANNY E	709 E HOLT ST	MEXICO
JENSEN NICHOLAS C	307 W 4TH ST	LADDONIA
JOHNSON DORIS L	28 MARINE DR	MEXICO
JOHNSTON LIZ 614 S JEFFERSON ST APT B		MEXICO
JOLLY ANN V	20985 AUDRAIN ROAD 334	MEXICO
JOLLY BEN L	20985 AUDRAIN ROAD 334	MEXICO
JONES GAVIN	1932 CHERRY ST	MEXICO
JONES JASON	523 N WADE ST APT K	MEXICO
JONES SHAWN P	1707 REAVIS RD	MEXICO
JORDAN JESSE L	314 N CRAIG ST	MEXICO
KALUHOIKALANI MARY E	19915 AUDRAIN ROAD 9308	MEXICO
KEEHART GARY	420 N JEFFRIES ST	MEXICO
KELLER DANA	314 E MONROE ST	MEXICO
KELLER MARTIN	314 E MONROE ST	MEXICO
KELLY TRAVIS A	1112 E JACKSON ST	MEXICO
KELSAY CHRISTOPHER	19554 AUDRAIN RD 918	MEXICO
KENDRICK DIANA	620 S CLARK ST	MEXICO
KINDER MICHAEL	401 E 3RD ST	LADDONIA
KINNARD WILLIAM	1901 SESSION PL	MEXICO
KNEPP HOLLIS N	40766 AUDRAIN ROAD 572	VANDALIA
KOELLER DAVID	6478 GLENSTONE DR	LADDONIA
KOLKS ANTHONY	5 VENUS ST	MEXICO
KRUSE BONNIE LOU	28001 AUDRAIN ROAD 818	MEXICO
LARA ADRIAN CARDENAS	10516 AUDRAIN ROAD 9377	MEXICO
LARUE ANNA N	432 HENDRICKS ST	MEXICO
LIBERTY DINER LLC	621 E LIBERTY ST	MEXICO
LBSACK ABBY	910 CONCORDIA	MEXICO
LINEAR DESIGNS LLC	310 W MONROE ST	MEXICO
LITTLE KIM	1529 ASHLEY CT	MEXICO
LITTELL TERRY	1116 LUTHER DRIVE	MEXICO
LOGAN AUSTIN JAMAL	1505 N JEFFERSON ST	MEXICO
LOPEZ DIANE	914 HASSEN DR APT A	MEXICO
LOPEZ ZORAIDA	2780 S CLARK ST	MEXICO
LOVE TAMMY	58 OAKCREST TR CT	MEXICO
LOVELACE KEVIN E	939 HAZEL PLACE	MEXICO
LOWE CYNTHIA A	916 WEST BOULEVARD ST	MEXICO
LUNCEFORD ALYSSA	22303 AUDRAIN ROAD 9832 APT 65	MEXICO
LUNCEFORD JENESA	25351 AUDRAIN RD 844	MEXICO
LYNN MARGARET	1210 S JEFFERSON ST	MEXICO
MADISON EDWARD	600 N WADE APT I	MEXICO
MALEY KENNETH	1120 MARKET DR	MEXICO
MARCH RODNEY	1010 MACFARLANE ST	MEXICO
MARKS APRIL	22355 AUDRAIN ROAD 9832	MEXICO
MARTIN BERTHA	115 E GUTHRIE ST	MEXICO
MARTIN SHIRLEY J	115 E GUTHRIE ST	MEXICO
MATHEWS FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC PLLC	PO BOX 122	MEXICO
MATHEWS SHANNON C	14538 SHADIN RD 256	THOMPSON
MATTINGLY JUDY K	617 WOODLAWN ST	MEXICO
MAXWELL CINDY	20029 HIGHWAY 22	MEXICO
MAXWELL JOHN L	812 W LIBERTY ST	MEXICO
MAXWELL STEVEN	7652 AUDRAIN ROAD 473	RUSH HILL
MAYES CHARLES T	415 FAIRGROUND ST LOT 15	MEXICO
MCCANN DAVID	1115 PARIS RD	MEXICO
MCDANNOLD VERL	1505 PINELAWN CT	MEXICO
MCDERMOTT SARA J	326 CRAIG	MEXICO
MCDONALD TRAVIS	11236 AUDRIAN CO RD 671	VANDALIA
MCGLOSSON CHUCK	2601 PIKE COUNTY RD 25	VANDALIA
MCHATTON HEATHER L	2809 HIGHWAY Z	MEXICO
MCHATTON RYAN T	2809 HIGHWAY Z	MEXICO
MCINTOSH PATTY L	822 ROBINHOOD RD	MEXICO
MCMINN NICOLE	930 N WADE ST	MEXICO
MED CHOICE	PO BOX 478	MEXICO
MEDICAL IMAGING ASSOC OF MEXICO	620 EAST MONROE	MEXICO
MERANDA MIA L	513 UTTERBACK ST	VANDALIA
MEXICO COUNTRY CLUB	1801 E LIBERTY	MEXICO
MEXICO WOMENS HEALTH SPE	626 E SUMMIT ST STE J	MEXICO
MICHAEL HARBIT LOUISE	21789 AUDRIAN RD 964	MEXICO
MICHAEL HARBIT RALPH	21789 AUDRIAN RD 964	MEXICO
MID AMERICA BRICK		MEXICO
MIDDLETON JENNIFER	213 W WOODLAWN ST	VANDALIA
MIDWAY CEMETERY FUND	29584 MONROE ROAD 900	MEXICO
MIDWEST PAINTEING COMPANY	17553 AUDRAIN CTY RD 939	MEXICO
MILLER BRANDIE	1403 N WASHINGTON	MEXICO
MISSOURI CROP MANAGEMENT	1990 HUNTINGFIELD CT	MEXICO
MOELLER JEFFREY A	340 KELLEY PKWY	MEXICO

MOODY LINDA M	10248 AUDRAIN ROAD 421	MEXICO
MOONLIGHT S NUSKIN	907 FAIRGROUND ST	MEXICO
MOORE JAN	1402 WEBSTER DR	MEXICO
MOORE ROBERT	1402 WEBSTER DR	MEXICO
MORRIS NORITA S	110 W HOME ST	VANDALIA
MOUSTRAY CONNIE R	613 N JEFFRIES ST	MEXICO
MUCKERMAN PATRICK I	11450 ACR 935	MEXICO
MUNOZ ILENE WOMENS EASTERN RECEPTION		VANDALIA
MURALLES HECTOR D	515 S OLIVE ST	MEXICO
MURRAY DOUGLAS EDWARD	PO BOX 188	MEXICO
MURRAY LACY	401 TRABUE DR APT 11	FARBER
MYERS ESTILL E	821 S JEFFERSON ST	MEXICO
NEW YEARS FIRE	13732 ACR 819	MEXICO
NGO PAT	4474 FRIENDSHIP DRIVE	MEXICO
NICHOLS DAREEN	12333 CURTIS ST	MEXICO
NOEL JOHN J	1908 BEACON ST	MEXICO
NOLAN MILDRED JUNE	1011 LAKEVIEW RD	MEXICO
NORMAN MORGAN LANE WOMENS EASTERN RECEPTION		VANDALIA
NUNNELLY JENNIFER G	1309 MARGRETTA ST	MEXICO
OAKES BETH	21320 AUDRAIN ROAD 328	MEXICO
OCONNOR COREY JACK	716 S MULDRROW ST	MEXICO
OLIVER BLAKE	2809 1ST ST	MEXICO
OLIVER HEATHER E	10402 AUDRAIN ROAD 945	THOMPSON
PAGE JAMES	1021 MULDRROW	MEXICO
PARENT NICOLE S	PO BOX 412	VANDALIA
PARROTT MICHELLE K	2638 AUDRAIN ROAD 209	THOMPSON
PASWATERS DYLAN	22270 ACR 320	MEXICO
PAULS AUTO BODY	11450 AUDRAIN ROAD 355	MEXICO
PEERY MARGARET S	1020 N WASHINGTON	MEXICO

# B5 CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

Wednesday, June 28, 2023 mexicoledger.com

## How to place a Classified ad

### CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS

**\$10**

per column inch

An additional charge of **\$100.00** per month to have your ad run online at [mexicoledger.com](http://mexicoledger.com).

### CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

**\$10**

Minimum 10 words

An additional charge of **\$.20** per word over the initial 25 words.

Classified ads can be placed by calling **573-581-1111** or emailing [circulation@mexicoledger.com](mailto:circulation@mexicoledger.com).

## The Mexico Ledger

### GARAGE SALE

**CLEANING OUT THE HOUSE:** Huge sale off JJ - tons of women's plus clothes, juniors small/medium, some men's clothes, household clean out. We moved and I have gone through everything! All priced to sell! June 28-30, Wednesday 7 am- 7 pm, Thursday noon-8 pm, Friday 7 am-7 pm, Saturday 6 am-2 pm. 15188 ACR 821, watch for signs second house on left.

### HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED:** Seeking a full-time person for immediate opening at Plumbing/HVAC company in Paris, MO. Experience preferred but not mandatory. Contact Johannaber Plumbing LLC at 660-327-6500

**PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!** Call The Mexico Ledger: 573-581-1111.



**CountrySide Outdoor Solutions**

- Tree Trimming & Removal
- Lawn Mowing
- Power Washing • Landscaping

**573-418-2662**

### Mid Missouri Detailing LLC

- Hand Car Washing
- Vehicle Detailing
- Headlight Lens Restoration
- Power Washing
- Unlock Car Doors

910 W. Liberty St. - Mexico  
**573-253-5185**

## RESCARE COMMUNITY LIVING

A Host Home is where an individual with intellectual or developmental disabilities can live. The individuals we serve have a wide range of intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. If you love helping others, have an extra bedroom in your home, are able to pass background checks and have a clean driving record, you may qualify.

**Please contact:**

**Danielle Taborsky, BS Customer Relations Manager**  
(636) 388-8415 • [danielle.boehm@brightspringhealth.com](mailto:danielle.boehm@brightspringhealth.com)

### IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

In the Estate of  
**MARTIN R JONES,**  
Deceased,

**Case Number: 23AU-PR00038**

**Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted**  
(Independent Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of  
**MARTIN R JONES,** Decedent:

On JUNE 9, 2023, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of MARTIN R JONES, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of AUDRAIN COUNTY Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The name and address of the personal representative is: **PHILLIP LLOYD JONES 25476 STATE HWY 149 NEW CAMBRIA, MO 63558**

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number are: JAMES M. POWELL 414 E. BROADWAY, SUITE 200 COLUMBIA, MO 65201 (573)-449-2451

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

Date of the decedent's death: April 29, 2023

Date of first publication: June 21, 2023

Kristina Knipfel  
Clerk

PUBLICATION DATES: 6/21, 6/28, 7/5, 7/12


### NOTICE

#### NO HUNTING/TRESPASSING:

Fishing, swimming, no destruction of property. James A. Williams Farm (12/23)

### YARD SALE

**YARD SALE:** Lots of stuff! Party Lite items, Jim Beam decanter, German bowls, coolers, mens and womens shirts, golf clubs, mens golf shoes, table and chairs outside, lots of other misc. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, June 30, and 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (noon) Saturday, July 1. 17841 Hwy. FF, Mexico.



**SHOW ME STATE CONSTRUCTION**

Commercial & Residential  
Roofing, Pole Barns,  
Horse Barns,  
Cattle Barns,  
Houses & Garages

**660-346-1037**  
**MACON, MO**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

#### QUALITY PROFESSIONAL WORKMANSHIP

Your Satisfaction at Affordable Rates is our #1 Goal



## I GOT IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

*The Mexico Ledger Classifieds deliver!*

**The Mexico Ledger** Call **573-581-1111** to place your ad today!

### IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: Probate

In the Estate of MAX KENNEN, Deceased.

Case Number: 23AU-PR00039

**Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted**  
(Independent Administration)

#### To All Persons Interested in the Estate of MAX KENNEN, Decedent:

On 06/14/2023, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of MAX KENNEN, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of AUDRAIN COUNTY Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The name and address of the personal representative is:

DAN K ERDEL, 100 N JEFFERSON, MEXICO, MO 65265

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number are: DAN K ERDEL, 100 N JEFFERSON, MEXICO, MO 65265 (573) 581-5280

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

Date of the decedent's death: 25-MAY-2023

Date of first publication: June 28, 2023

  
Clerk

Publish dates: 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19

### TRUSTEE'S SALE

**IN RE: Catherine Belcher, a single person Trustee's Sale:**

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Catherine Belcher, a single person dated October 17, 2022 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Audrain County, Missouri as Instrument Number 2022DT000762 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Friday, July 21, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., (at the specific time of 1:25 PM), at the East Front Door of the Court House, City of Mexico, County of Audrain, State of Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, described in said Deed of Trust, and situated in Audrain County, State of Missouri, to wit:

**LOT 13 OF LAWRENCE M. BARNE'S SUBDIVISION NO. 2, IN THE CITY OF MEXICO, COUNTY OF AUDRAIN AND STATE OF MISSOURI.**

**to satisfy said debt and cost.**

**MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,**  
Successor Trustee  
612 Spirit Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63005  
(636) 537-0110  
File No: 214888.072123.431608 FC

#### NOTICE

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 the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

PUBLISH ON: June 28, 2023 07/05/2023, 07/12/2023, 07/19/2023

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Audrain County Commission is accepting sealed bids for the sale of the following used surplus:

#3- used tank car

We encourage bidders to set up a time between 7:30 AM and 2:30 PM to look at the tank cars before bidding. Bidders are responsible for moving the tank cars from our county road shed.

Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked "BID" on the outside of the envelope.

Submit SEALED bids to: Audrain County Clerk  
101 N Jefferson St  
Mexico, MO 65265

Bids will be accepted until 9:30 AM Monday July 10, 2023 at which time they will be opened and publicly read in the Audrain County Commission Office.

The Audrain County Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any, or all, bids.

For more information contact Tiffnay Burts or Travis Meyer at 573-473-5895.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and affixed the SEAL of said (SEAL) County, in office at Mexico, Missouri this 26th day of June 2023

s/Lisa Smith, Audrain County Clerk

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI JUVENILE DIVISION

**In the Matter of the Adoption of Blake Evan Karl Matthews, a minor, DOB: December 28, 2010**

**Christeena Evan Matthews,**  
Petitioner,  
v.

**Bethany Marie Clanahan f/k/a Bethany Marie Matthews, and Unknown natural father,**  
Respondents.

**Case Number: 23AU-JU00027**

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO THE UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF BLAKE EVAN KARL MATTHEWS:


You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court of Audrain County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is to obtain a Decree of Adoption of Blake Evan Karl Matthews by Christeena Evan Matthews, Petitioner.

The name of the court in which this action is pending and the names of all the parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is: Jason E. Newton, Erdel, Owings, Tanzey & Newton, P.C., JOO North Jefferson, Mexico, Missouri 65265.

You are further notified that, unless you file an Answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid Petition within forty-five days after the first day of publication 2023, a Decree of Adoption will be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that a copy hereof be published according to law in the Mexico Ledger a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Audrain, State of Missouri.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court, County of Audrain, State of Missouri, the 22nd day of June, 2023.

  
Judge

PUBLICATION DATES: 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19

### IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: Probate

In the Estate of JIM (JAMES) L. JONES, Deceased.

Case Number: 23AU-PR00040

**Notice of Letters of Administration Granted**  
(Independent Administration)

#### To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JIM (JAMES) L. JONES, Decedent:

On June 21, 2023, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of JIM (JAMES) L. JONES, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of AUDRAIN COUNTY, Missouri.

The name and address of the personal representative is:

BARBARA ANN JONES, 409 SOUTH WESTERN STREET, LADDONIA, MO 63352

The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number are: DAN K ERDEL, 100 N JEFFERSON, MEXICO, MO 65265 (573) 581-5280

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 defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's death: 05/14/2023

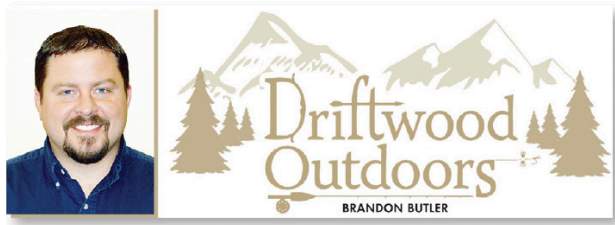
Date of first publication: June 28, 2023

  
Clerk

Publish dates: 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19

# EVERYTHING OUTDOORS

## Beat the heat while making outdoor memories Up North this summer



By Brandon Butler

driftwoodoutdoors@gmail.com

Stepping outside through the sliding glass door onto my deck in the early afternoon is an unpleasant experience this time of year. The hot, humid air is heavy. It feels like you're in a small bathroom with a closed door after taking a hot shower. I enjoy nothing about the heat of summer. Once the temperature is above 80, all I can do is dream of going north.

Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota are what I mean when I talk about going north. Look, I'm keenly aware north is relative to where one lives, and in some sense, everywhere is north of somewhere. But, for folks from Chicagoland, like myself, going north usually means you're heading to one of these three states. And when you get there, you're probably going fishing.

My grandpa spent 50 weeks a year preparing for the two weeks he and grandma would go up north. One week in the spring. Another in the fall. With the "Lady Dee" in tow, which is the boat

he named after her because her name was Dorlis but people called her Dee. They'd descend on some small fishing lake where they'd stay in a rental cabin. They wanted to be far enough north to need a light jacket in the morning and evening while fishing.

I think I was eight the first time I went north with my grandparents. We went to Yellow Lake in Wisconsin, near the town of Webster. It was the biggest adventure of my life at that point. My grandparents would explore the small towns along the way. I'll never forget the big breakfasts, and being allowed to order fried shrimp for dinner. On one early trip, my grandma bought a giant sack of candy bars. We ate them all. It was a memory we'd recall and laugh about for 30 years.

So much of my love for the outdoors comes from these simple trips with people who cared about me. I know how blessed I was. My parents took me camping as kid, and allowed me the freedom

to roam about outdoors. Both sets of my grandparents were amazing. They took me on many trips that involved time in nature. Two of my uncles took me hunting before I was old enough to go on my own. These days I'm trying to pay it forward.

If you want to influence a young person in your life; your own child, a grandchild, a nephew or niece, or any young person who may benefit from your time and attention, you should take them outdoors. Do an activity with them. I vote for fishing, but camping, hiking, bird watching, bicycling and so many other activities also provide opportunities to capture the heart and mind of a youngster who may be forever grateful for, and better because of, the time you spent with them.

If you want to get out of the heat for a while this summer, you should head up north. Find a cabin and book it. Take your family. There are all kinds of price ranges. Or take tent, rent a room, pull a camper, or crash with family or friends. Whatever way you go, just have a good time. That's what my grandparents did so right. They made sure we were having fun. Grandpa appreciated when that meant being in the boat and fishing hard. But grandma made sure I had whipped cream on my



Up North this time of year flannel shirts are still worn outdoors.

## Red Cross offers tips to help you have a great - and safe - summer

As we all head outside to enjoy the sunshine and warm weather this summer, the American Red Cross, Central and Northern Missouri, has steps you can follow to help stay safe.

"Many of us enjoy spending time outdoors with loved ones," said Rebecca Gordon, Executive Director of the Central and Northern Missouri Chapter. "The Red Cross wants you to avoid any danger no matter what your plans include and offers steps you can follow to have a safe summer." Visit [redcross.org/summersafety](http://redcross.org/summersafety) for more information.

### WATER SAFETY

Drowning can happen quickly and silently. Unless rescued, it could take as little as 20 to 60 seconds for a drowning person to submerge.

Learn to be safe, make good choices, learn to swim and know how to handle emergencies.

Provide constant, active adult supervision and know how to swim.

Swim in an area with lifeguards. Designate a "water watcher" to keep a close eye and constant attention on everyone in and around the water until the next water watcher takes over.

Wear your life jacket.

Reach or throw, don't go! In the event of an emergency, reach or throw an object to the person in trouble. Don't go in! You could become a victim yourself.

Swimming classes are available for both children and adults. Visit [redcross.org/watersafety](http://redcross.org/watersafety) for a map of Learn-to-

Swim providers in your community.

Download the Red Cross Swim app for safety tips, kid-friendly videos and activities, and take the free Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers online course in English or Spanish.

### PICNIC, GRILLING SAFETY

Summer is a great time to get outside for a picnic or to fire up the grill. Follow these tips to prevent illness and keep everyone safe:

Wash your hands, utensils and workstation before preparing the food.

Separate uncooked meats, poultry and seafood from ready-to-eat foods like salads, fruits, vegetables, cheeses and desserts. Use separate plates and utensils to prevent cross-contamination.

Bring hand sanitizer if your picnic site doesn't have hand-washing facilities.

If you are going to cook on the grill, bring a food thermometer to be sure grilled foods are cooked enough.

Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use.

Don't add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.

Never grill indoors.

Make sure everyone, including pets, stays away from the grill.

Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches or anything that could catch fire.

Use the long-handled tools especially made for

cooking on the grill to help keep the chef safe.

Wash your hands before preparing the food.

Don't leave food out in the hot sun. Keep perishable foods in a cooler with plenty of ice or freezer gel packs.

### OUTDOOR SAFETY

Whether camping or just enjoying the outdoors, follow these tips:

If a camping trip is in your plans, know the level of ability of the people in your group and the environment around you. Plan accordingly.

Pack a first aid kit.

Take a Red Cross first aid and CPR course and download the First Aid app.

Watch for sprains, falls and dehydration.

Share your travel plans and locations with a family member, neighbor or friend.

Bring nutritious food items and water, lightweight clothing to layer and supplies for any pets.

There is a greater chance of getting bitten by mosquitoes and ticks outdoors. Use insect repellents containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide) when you are outdoors. Be sure to follow the directions on the package.

Consider staying indoors at dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active.

Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and tuck your pant legs into your socks or boots.

For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or [CruzRojaAmericana.org](http://CruzRojaAmericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

pancakes.

Up north, people are generally very nice. It's a welcoming part of the world, with a Friday night fish fry in every town and supper clubs where the prime rib comes soaked with Au jus with a side of fresh horseradish. If lake perch and cheese curds aren't on the menu, something's amiss. You find a lot of transplanted Chicago Bears fans mixed amongst the Packers and Vikings loyalists. This

makes for fun Sundays in the taverns. Most of which have the same knotty pine interior decorated with old, local taxidermy and fishing antiques.

Day dreaming about going north, and those long ago trips taken with my grandparents, leaves me longing to load up the Lady D and hit the road. I've had the old boat since my grandpa passed away in 2004. I'm proud to say, she's still fishing. I

don't know exactly where we'd go, but Hayward, Wisconsin, Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, and Gaylord, Michigan would all be top considerations where flannel shirts and shorts would be likely attire in the same day.

See you down the trail...

For more Driftwood Outdoors, check out the podcast on [www.driftwoodoutdoors.com](http://www.driftwoodoutdoors.com) or anywhere podcasts are streamed.






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# Ameren warns of aggressive scammers targeting utility customers during summer months

*Understanding top scam tactics can help customers avoid being a victim*

The summer season has become prime time for aggressive scammers to increase their activity by targeting utility customers throughout Illinois and Missouri. Ameren is encouraging both residential and business customers to be aware that they may be contacted by a scammer looking to steal money or obtain personal or financial information.

“Unfortunately, utility scams continue to be an ongoing issue for our customers, but it’s encouraging that more customers are becoming aware of these scams and not falling victim to their tricks,” said Maria Gomez, security supervisor for Ameren. “The sophistication of the scams is increasing as new technology provides more ways to mask or make the scams seem more legitimate.”

Customers should be very aware, especially during the summer months when they are busy with vacations, special events and as social activity increases, which may lead to being distracted and getting scammed.

Since the start of 2023, approximately 1,000 Ameren customers have reported a scam to the company, while hundreds of other scam attempts often go unreported. The total amount of reported money lost by Ameren customers in 2023 is more than \$15,000. In 2022, more than 3,000 scams were reported to the company.

Ameren wants customers to notify them of any suspicious communications so they can alert other customers to scams that might be circulating. Report a potential scam to Ameren Illinois at 1.800.755.5000 or Ameren Missouri at 1.800.552.7583.

**Top 5 most common scams reported in Ameren’s region include:**

**Rebate, refund or overpayment scam:** This scam is increasing as thieves offer customers a rebate or refund if they provide financial information for the transaction. Ameren would never request a customer’s financial information for a refund or rebate.

**Threat of disconnection scam:** This is one of the most often tried scams that uses a scare tactic that a customer will have their service disconnected if an immediate payment is not made, generally with a request to use a cash app or prepaid card.

**Senior discount scam:** Scammers also have been targeting seniors, offering a discounted rate to pay their utility bill upfront.

**Smart meter installation scam:** As Ameren installs smart meters in Missouri, some customers are receiving calls from scammers asking for an upfront installation fee. Remember, there is no installation cost for your upgraded smart meter.

**Ameren imposter at the door scam:** This scam is more prevalent in Illinois where various utility service providers are available but can also occur in Missouri. Customers are encouraged to always ask for identification and never provide any form of payment to the person. Close the door and reach out directly to Ameren to inquire about any service or account issues. Please report suspicious people to the police immediately.

**Key tips to protect yourself from scams:**  
**Beware of false urgency.** Scammers often push customers to act immediately. Remember that Ameren will never require immediate payment.

**Never purchase a prepaid card or make a Zelle, Cash App or Venmo transfer to avoid service disconnection or shutoff.** Legitimate utility companies do not specify how customers should make a bill payment and always offer a variety of ways to pay a bill. Ameren customers can make payments online, by phone, electronic check, by mail or at in-person pay locations.

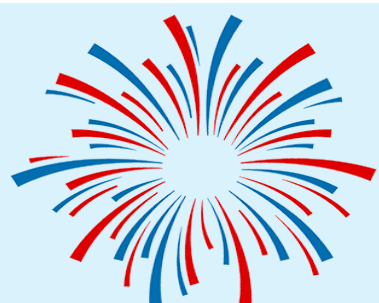
If you suspect someone is impersonating an Ameren employee, end the conversation and im-



mediately call Ameren Illinois at 1.800.755.5000 or Ameren Missouri at 1.800.552.7583.

Report to your local police department as soon as possible if you have given the suspected scammer money.

For more information, visit Ameren.com/stop-scams. You also can sign up to manage your account online at Ameren.com so you can immediately check the status if you think you may have been scammed.



## Independence Day Parade in Auxvasse on July 1

Auxvasse will hold its Independence Day Parade, starting at 11 a.m. on July 1. Parade lineup starts at 10 a.m. at Auxvasse Middle School. The parade is sponsored by the City of Auxvasse Park Board.

**ESTATE SALE!**  
 July 6-8, 2023 - 8 AM til 5 PM Each Day  
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