

WEST PLAINS

Gazette

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SPECK RHODES

The unsung humorist of country music

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Celebrating grandparents for their special day

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ZIZZERS, GRIZZLIES

Soccer, basketball wins; football begins; coaches are in

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Local NEWS

Rickie David Jewelers donates to CASA cause

A 1/3 total carat weight diamond pendant in a 10 karat white gold setting valued at \$900 has been donated by Rickie David Jewelers to the 37th Judicial CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). The jewelry piece will be auctioned off Saturday during the organization's dinner theater fundraiser. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a mixer at Rubydoo's Vintage Events Center, 940 County Road 9190 east of West Plains, followed by dinner at 6:30. Tickets to the event have sold out, CASA officials shared Wednesday evening on social media. Attendees are encouraged to dress as their favorite literary character in keeping with the play, "How To Enchant a Bookshop" by Todd Wallinger, the evening's performance. STAFF / KIMBERLY LANGSTON



Pedal the Cause bike ride set for Oct. 5

The annual IWest Plains Rides for Pedal the Cause Community Bike Ride will be held Oct. 5, starting and finishing at West Plains High School.

The community is invited to bring a bike and helmet and join in the ride to raise funds in support cancer research. Helmets are required for all riders, and 30-minute spin bike sessions will be offered in addition the regular ride.

Gates open at 7:30 a.m., with the ride set to start at 8. The route is expected to take up to an hour and a half to complete, said organizers.

Drawings will be held for prizes, and the first 200 riders to finish will

receive medals. Participants registered by today will be given a free T-shirt.

The cost to enter is \$25 per rider until Sept. 28, after which it will go up to \$30. The fee is the same for all modes of participation, which include 7 and 14 mile courses, the spin bikes and a kids' course for children ages 2 to 6. The spin bike sessions can accommodate up to 10 people per shift, with three shifts planned. Sign up and learn more at

www.givesignup.org/Race/MO/WestPlains/WestPlainsRidesforPedaltheCause.

This year's sponsors include Leonardo DRS; CTI audio/visual services; Mega Motorsports; ABC Carpet One; Mommas, Babies, and Blessings; Holden Construction; West Plains Bike Shop; Wayward Son Productions; Ozark Kids Dentistry; ServiceMaster; Long Electric; Colton's Steak House & Grill; Silver Springs; and Edward Jones.

WEATHER



TODAY:

Sunny, with a high near 73. Northeast wind 9 to 13 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph.
Sunrise: 6:44 a.m.
Sunset: 7:26 p.m.

TONIGHT: Clear, with a low around 48. Northeast wind 5 to 7 mph.

TOMORROW: Sunny, with a high near 73. East wind around 6 mph.

SUNDAY NIGHT: Clear, with a low around 48.

MONDAY: Sunny, with a high near 78.

MONDAY NIGHT: Clear, with a low around 53.

Temperature Year Ago
High: 87
Low: 56

Precipitation: 35.29 inches
Last Year: 28.82 inches
Normal: 33.17 inches

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3rd annual Downtown Fall Block Party next Saturday

Get ready, West Plains, because the 3rd annual Downtown Fall Block Party is just around the corner, and it's shaping up to be one of the biggest and best events of the year! From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept. 14, the heart of downtown will be transformed into a bustling celebration, where community spirit, local talent, and the vibrant energy of fall come together for an unforgettable day.

Those who have attended before know what a blast this event can be. But those new to the Downtown Fall Block Party, are invited to get ready to experience West Plains like never before: Picture Court Square alive with music, the mouthwatering aromas of local food vendors and the sounds of laughter and fun filling the air. It's a day where the whole town comes together.

This year's block party promises a little something for everyone — whether a fan of live music, a foodie looking for their next favorite meal or a parent looking for family-friendly activities, the Downtown Fall Block Party has it all.

Music lovers will be thrilled to hear that a fantastic lineup of local musicians will be taking the stage through the day. There's something for every taste, with performances spanning country, rock, blues and everything in between. So grab a lawn chair or bring a blanket, find a good spot in the square, and enjoy the show. And

don't be surprised if you find yourself dancing in the street — that's just part of the magic.

For the foodies, the block party is a culinary dream come true. Local food trucks and vendors will be out in full force, serving up a variety of dishes guaranteed to satisfy every craving. Imagine sinking teeth into a perfectly grilled burger, savoring some slow-cooked BBQ or being treated to a funnel cake dusted with powdered sugar. And don't forget the ice cream — because no block party is complete without something sweet. With so many options to choose from, revelers might just need to skip breakfast to make room for all the deliciousness.

Families will find no shortage of fun, either. The block party is designed to be a place where kids and adults alike can make memories together. From classic carnival games to kid-friendly activities, there's plenty to keep the little ones entertained. And for the adults, it's a chance to relax, catch up with friends and enjoy the day while the kids play.

This year, the organizers of the block party, the West Plains Downtown Revitalization team, made the decision to move the event from October to September, and it's a change everyone's excited about. With more predictable weather and the perfect early fall atmosphere, Sept. 14 is expected to offer sunny skies and cool breezes — the ideal setting for an outdoor celebration.



Not only does the September date promise better weather, but it also makes the block party the perfect way to kick off the fall season. It's like the first taste of autumn, with the crisp air and colorful leaves setting the stage for everything to come — bonfires, pumpkin patches, and all the other cozy fall traditions we love.

The Downtown Fall Block Party is more than just a day of fun — it's also a showcase for local crafters, artisans, and small businesses. Vendor spots are still open, and it's a golden opportunity for anyone looking to share their products with the community. From handmade jewelry to baked goods, custom woodwork to homemade jams, the block party offers a platform to celebrate the incredible creativity and hard work of local entrepreneurs.

Even for browsers, walking through the vendor

booths is an experience in itself. One never knows what unique treasures may be found, whether it's the perfect gift, a new piece of home décor or a local treat to stock up on. And supporting these vendors isn't just about shopping — it's about investing in the people who make West Plains such a special place to live.

At its core, the Downtown Fall Block Party is a celebration of community. It's about bringing people together, slowing down and enjoying the simple pleasures of life. There's something almost nostalgic about gathering in the heart of downtown, sharing food and conversation, listening to live music and watching kids play. It's a reminder of what makes small towns so special — the feeling that we're all connected, that we're all part of something bigger.

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Heart of the Ozarks United Way announces opening of grant season

The Heart of the Ozarks United Way is now accepting grant applications for up to \$10,000 from 501(c)(3) nonprofit agencies in Howell and Oregon counties, and Fulton County, Ark.

Grant applicants must meet three criteria to qualify said local United Way Executive Director Stacy Tintocalis. Applicant organizations must have at least one year of operating under IRS 501(c)(3) status; must request funds for projects relating to health, education and financial stability in the

above-named counties; and must be able to provide its most recent IRS Form 99a, a current Certificate of Good Standing and an IRS tax letter.

Grant applications are due Oct. 31 and recipients will be announced in January. Apply online by going to the local United Way website at www.heartoftheozarksunitedway.org/grant-application.html.

For further questions, contact Tintocalis at uwayhoo@gmail.com.

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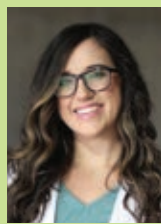
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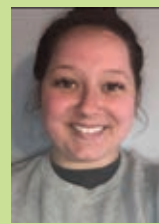
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GRANDPARENTS DAY

September 8, 2024

Ruth Stevens, 'a gem of a lady'



Reader Veronica Aichele writes, "We would like to recognize a very special lady named Ruth Stevens. She lives in Thayer and comes to West Plains often to support her grandchildren who live in West Plains. She attends a plethora of ball games, volunteers in several community service organizations, and is a part of the Grandparents Club at the kids' school. She is always giving of herself and is a gem of a lady." With Stevens are her grandchildren Ellie Aichele, left, and Alex Aichele. COURTESY

A note about Grandparents Day

Each year since former U.S. President Jimmy Carter issued the first Grandparents Day proclamation in 1978, grandparents have been celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. This year, that date falls on Sept. 8, this Sunday.

'Thanks for the memories and life lessons'



The "proudest grandson in the world," Travis Rhoads of West Plains, submitted this photo of his grandparents, Ron and Donna Luna, also of West Plains. "I am extremely thankful for all the memories and life lessons they taught to me that I can pass on to my soon-to-be-born daughter," he shared. COURTESY

'The best grandparents'



Charles and Carolyn VonAllmen of West Plains are shown here with their granddaughter, Riley Nelden following her graduation from Alton High School last spring. Neldon's mother Durreall VonAllmen, who submitted this photo and now lives in West Plains with her family, shouted out to Charles and Carolyn, "Thanks for being the best grandparents!"

Grandparents have a hand to hold and a heart to understand!



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Hang the moon with twilight gardens

Twilight gardens delight the senses of sight and smell by adding another dimension to the gardening experience, says Gwen Funk, University of Missouri Extension horticulture specialist in Maryville.

Also known as moon gardens, twilight gardens use white flowers and plants to capture reflected moonlight. "The use of the color white showcases how we can, with planning, extend our garden enjoyment into the evening," Funk says.

Using moonlight to reflect off white flowers is not new. In Massachusetts in the 1830s, Benjamin Poore created a landscape of white flowers, including daffodils and honeysuckle. He also included white dogs, sheep, cows and other animals.

In the 1930s, Vita Sackville-West created a "white garden" at Sissinghurst Castle in England. She used white stone and flowers such as delphinium, foxglove, hydrangea and artemisia.

Plants with white flowers or white, silvery or variegated leaves transform a daytime garden into a tranquil moon garden, Funk says. Add another sensory element by planting fragrant night-blooming flowers within existing beds or pots.

Consider varying textures, forms and silhouettes by including grasses, flowers, vines, shrubs and trees, she says. The color palette should include white, ivory, pale yellow, lavender, silver



Fragrant moonflowers bloom at night, making a striking visual appeal under the light of the moon. COURTESY / JENNIFER SCHUTTER, MU EXTENSION

and gray for the lightest reflection.

Additionally, place a water feature in your twilight garden to add the sound of trickling water. A small pool with floating white water lilies will reflect moonlight and add interest. "If you use artificial lighting for walkways or uneven surfaces, keep it subdued and aim for amber colored light instead

and gray for the lightest reflection. Additionally, place a water feature in your twilight garden to add the sound of trickling water. A small pool with floating white water lilies will reflect moonlight and add interest. "If you use artificial lighting for walkways or uneven surfaces, keep it subdued and aim for amber colored light instead

of blue to avoid confusing nighttime pollinators," Funk says. "Add comfortable seating so you can sit and absorb this wonderful sensory experience."

Night bloomers attract often overlooked but important pollinators, including unique moths, beetles, flies and bees, she says.

Probably the most famous moon garden plant is moonflower, which is part of the morning glory family. Its huge, fragrant white flowers open at twilight. It blooms for most of the growing season and can form climbing vines up to 10 feet long.

Jennifer Schutter, MU Extension horticulture specialist in Adair County, has grown moonflowers from seed for several years. In the past, she planted them in May, but they didn't bloom until September. This year, she planted the seed indoors in April, transplanted them outside in May and had blooms by late June.

If you are creating a garden from scratch, late summer to early fall is a great time to plant, says Funk.

Choose a location that

is open to moonlight but close to the house so you can enjoy the flowers' fragrance. Keep in mind that these flowers are part of your overall garden and think about how they look during the day.

Fragrant plant choices include lilacs, peonies, day lilies, jasmine, honeysuckle and mock orange. Plants with silvery foliage include dusty miller, pussy toes, some varieties of sage and lavender and artemisia.

A native flower that is essential to nighttime pollinators is Missouri evening primrose. This showy yellow flower opens in late afternoon and remains open through the night. The twilight glow showcases this important pollinator host plant.

As you choose your plants, remember, "the right plant in the right place," says Funk. Environmental factors such as soil, sunlight, wind and water availability are still important. Choose varieties that are not considered invasive or noxious weeds, and plant in groups for the most impact.

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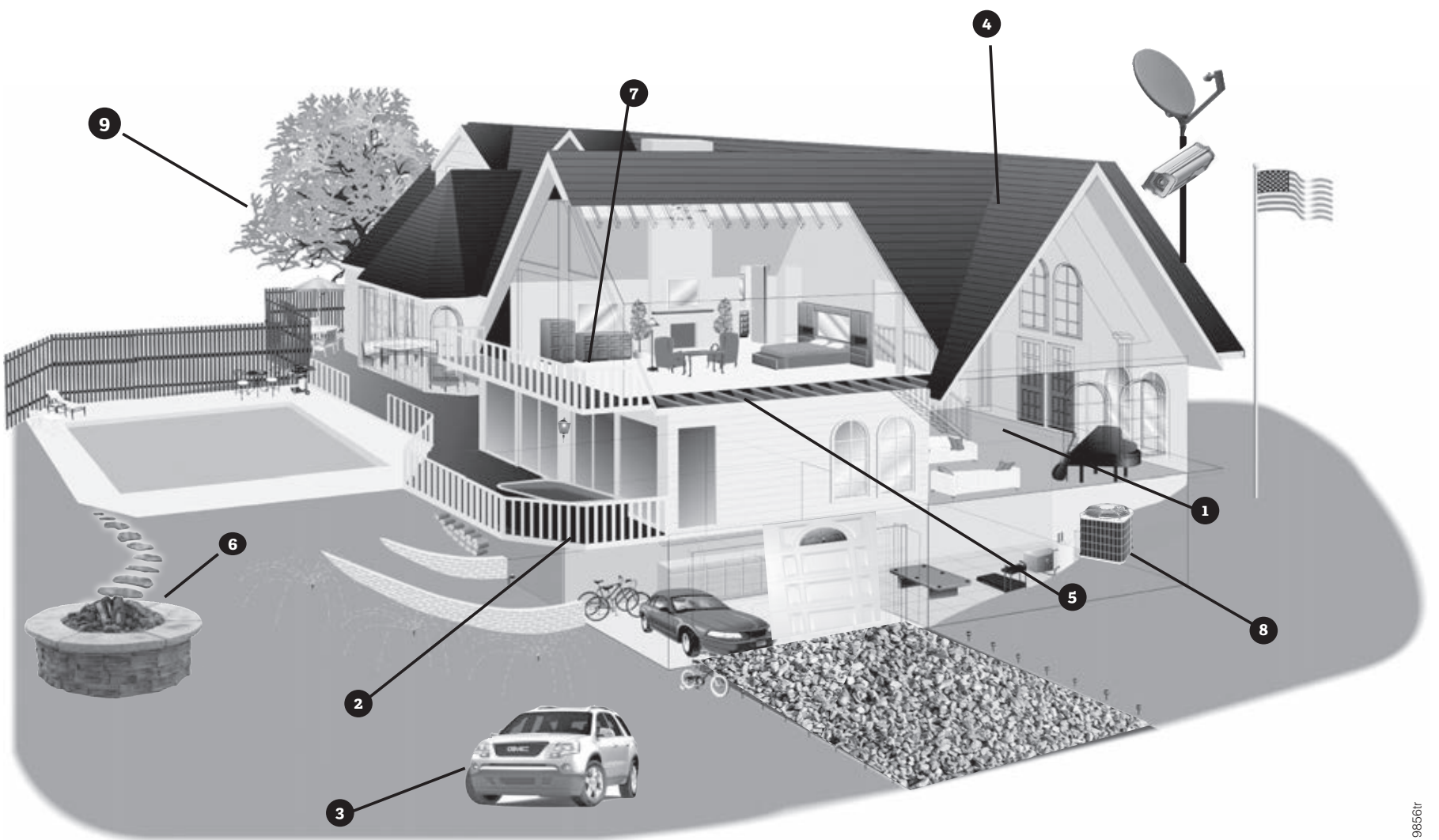
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Speck Rhodes

The Unsung **HUMORIST** of Country Music

By Chris Herbolzheimer

In the small town of West Plains, Missouri, names like Porter Wagoner, Preacher Roe, Jan Howard, Bill Virdon, and even Dick Van Dyke are celebrated with pride. These individuals, through their unique contributions to entertainment, sports, and music, have become synonymous with West Plains itself. Yet, one name often slips through the cracks: Speck Rhodes. For those who tuned in to the Porter Wagoner Show, however, the name Gilbert "Speck" Rhodes is impossible to forget. His signature blend of music and humor made him a beloved figure in country music, though his legacy is often overshadowed by the bigger names of his era.

Speck's story is one that reflects the heart and soul of country music—a blend of hard work, family roots, and humor that strikes a chord with the common man. As a comedian, musician, and entertainer, Speck Rhodes may not be a household name today, but his influence and career spanned decades, bringing joy and laughter to millions.

The Rhodes Family: A Musical Tradition

Speck Rhodes wasn't just a talented performer who stumbled into fame; he was born into a family where music was as essential as the air they breathed. The Rhodes family, hailing from West Plains, Missouri, was deeply steeped in musical tradition, a heritage that would shape not just Speck's future but the futures of his siblings as well. In many ways, the story of Speck Rhodes is intertwined with the story of his entire family—their shared love for music, their journey together across the country, and the way they left an indelible mark on country music's early days.

Speck was one of six children born to James K. Polk Rhodes and Amanda Elizabeth Patterson Montgomery. Life in southern Missouri was simple and often hard, but like many families of the time, the Rhodes found joy in music. Music wasn't just a pastime for the Rhodes; it was the thread that bound the family together. Speck and his siblings, Ethmer "Slim" Rhodes, Perry "Dusty" Rhodes, and Helen Beatrice "Bea" Rhodes, were all musically gifted, and from a young age, they were per-

forming at local gatherings, church events, and family get-togethers.

The Rhodes family had the unique ability to entertain and bring communities together, whether at a barn dance or on a small-town stage. It was clear from the beginning that the Rhodes children had something special—something that couldn't be contained by the small town of West Plains.

By the time Speck, Slim, and Dusty were in their teens, they had honed their talents to a professional level. With their sister Bea occasionally joining in, the three brothers formed a group called The Log Cabin Mountaineers in the early 1930s. The group's name was more than just a nod to their rural roots; it evoked the rustic charm and earthy sincerity that would become their signature. Their performances were a mix of homespun humor, lively tunes, and a deep connection to the country lifestyle, which resonated strongly with audiences.

As the Log Cabin Mountaineers, the Rhodes brothers began touring the RKO vaudeville circuit in 1934. This was a pivotal moment for the Rhodes family. Vaudeville, with its variety acts and live performances, was one of the primary ways Americans were entertained in the days before television. The Rhodes siblings quickly became fan favorites on the vaudeville stage, with their combination of music, comedy, and charm. Their act appealed to a wide range of audiences, from the small towns of Missouri to the bigger stages of California.

What set the Log Cabin Mountaineers apart from other acts of the time was their genuine connection to the music they played. Slim, the eldest brother, took on the role of leader and emcee, guiding the group with his guitar and strong sense of showmanship. Dusty, meanwhile, became a virtuoso on the fiddle, with a talent that would later lead him to be recognized as a fiddle champion. Bea, the only sister to perform with the brothers, brought an added layer of talent, playing fiddle, mandolin, and accordion.

Then, there was Speck. While his brothers played up their musical talents, Speck was honing a different kind of performance. Though



proficient on the banjo and bass fiddle, Speck found himself drawn more and more to comedy. It was during these early years on the vaudeville stage that he began to cultivate the comedic alter ego that would later make him a star.

The family's touring schedule was grueling, as they traveled from town to town, performing for diverse audiences. Yet, the Rhodes brothers thrived in this environment. Their performances were always high-energy, filled with laughter, and left audiences wanting more. Despite the demands of vaudeville life, they remained close as a family, supporting one another through the challenges of life on the road.

As time passed, the Rhodes family's talents caught the attention of radio producers, and in 1938, they made their first regular radio appearance on KWOC-AM in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

This marked the beginning of a new era for the Rhodes family. Now under the name Slim Rhodes and His Mother's Best Mountaineers, the group found even greater success on the airwaves. Sponsored by Mother's Best Flour, the band played a daily show on WMC-AM in Memphis, Tennessee, solidifying their place in the country music world.

The radio programs not only expanded their audience but also showcased the full range of their talents. Slim was the charismatic leader, often cracking jokes and chatting with listeners between songs, while Dusty dazzled with his fiddle skills. Speck, meanwhile, began incorporating more comedy into his act, using the platform to perfect his country bumpkin persona, all while playing his instruments with remarkable skill.

Their blend of music and humor worked well on radio, but it was their weekly

television show that really brought them into people's homes. Starting in the early 1950s, Slim Rhodes and His Mother's Best Mountaineers began a weekly Saturday show on WMC-TV in Memphis, and by 1953, they also had a live 30-minute program on KATV-TV in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. These shows allowed the Rhodes family to connect with their audiences in a more intimate way, as fans could now see the personalities behind the voices they had come to love on the radio.

The band continued to evolve, welcoming new members over the years, including Brad "Pee Wee" Suggs on electric guitar and Danny Holloway on steel guitar. The group's dynamic nature kept their performances fresh, and they seamlessly blended country and rockabilly elements into their music, staying relevant even as musical trends shifted.

While Slim and Dusty continued to lead the band, Speck's comedic talents were becoming undeniable. His character—a lovable, bumbling country boy—was winning over audiences, and his ability to combine comedy with music made him stand out in the crowded world of country music entertainers. Speck's transformation from musician to comedian wasn't a departure from his roots; rather, it was an evolution of the entertainment tradition that had been instilled in him by his family.

The Rhodes family band continued to perform together throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s, but as time passed, each sibling began to explore new avenues for their careers. Slim Rhodes had a significant career of his own, signing with Sun Records in Memphis and touring with some of the biggest names in early rockabilly and country. Dusty

Speck Rhodes from the Porter Wagoner Show.



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708840ch

continued to be celebrated for his fiddling, and Speck, meanwhile, was preparing for the next chapter in his life.

In 1960, Speck auditioned for a new television show in Nashville—the Porter Wagoner Show. Despite both hailing from West Plains, Porter Wagoner and Speck Rhodes had never worked together. However, their shared background, along with Speck's natural charisma, made for an immediate connection. Porter Wagoner recognized the potential that Speck had—not just as a comedian, but as a multi-talented entertainer—and brought him on board.

It was here that Speck truly came into his own, moving from the family act that had defined his early career into a role that would bring him national fame. For more than two decades, Speck Rhodes entertained millions as the comic relief on one of the most beloved country music shows in history. Yet, even as he achieved individual success, Speck never forgot the musical tradition he came from. His performances on the Porter Wagoner Show were informed by years of touring with his family, and his humor remained rooted in the same homespun charm that had made the Rhodes family a success.

The story of Speck Rhodes cannot be told without acknowledging the profound influence of his family. The Rhodes siblings shared a bond not just of blood, but of music. Together, they helped shape the early landscape of country music, creating a unique blend of humor, musicianship, and heartfelt performance that resonated deeply with audiences.

Though Speck went on to achieve fame on his own, his story is forever intertwined with that of his brothers and sister, who all contributed to the Rhodes family's lasting legacy in country music. From the vaudeville stages of the 1930s to the television screens of the 1960s, the Rhodes family was a shining example of how music, family, and tradition can combine to create something truly special.

Today, the legacy of the Rhodes family lives on in the history of country music. While Speck Rhodes may have been the most famous of the siblings, the contributions of Slim, Dusty, and Bea are equally important in understanding the full picture of the Rhodes family's impact. In an era when entertainment was simpler but perhaps more meaningful, the Rhodes family brought music and laughter to countless audiences, leaving behind a legacy that continues to inspire musicians and comedians alike.

Speck's Comic Persona
It was during these early



Speck Rhodes (left) with Hank Williams Jr. (center) and Porter Wagoner.

years that Speck began to develop the comedic alter ego that would define his career. While his brothers played up their musical skills, Speck brought levity to the act with his "country bumpkin" persona—a character that relied on down-home charm and gentle humor. His comedic style wasn't biting or mean-spirited; it was warm and familiar, drawing on the simple joys and mishaps of rural life.

Dressed in a plaid suit, with a bowler hat and blacked-out teeth, Speck's character might have been an exaggerated stereotype, but it was a role that audiences loved. He delivered punchlines with impeccable timing, often engaging in humorous imaginary telephone conversations with his off-screen girlfriend, Sadie. Despite the over-the-top appearance, Speck's humor was never malicious. It was clean, family-friendly comedy, which helped him carve out a lasting place in the world of country music.

Beneath the laughs, Speck was also an accomplished musician. His proficiency on the bass fiddle and banjo allowed him to seamlessly blend his musical talent with his comedy, making him a well-rounded entertainer. In fact, many fans of the Porter Wagoner Show were drawn in by his humor but stayed for his musical contributions.

The Porter Wagoner Show: A Partnership That Lasted Two Decades

In 1960, Speck Rhodes' career would take a monumental turn when he auditioned for a spot on Porter Wagoner's new television show in Nashville. Though both Wagoner and Rhodes hailed from West Plains, they had never worked together before. The chemistry between the two was instant. Wagoner, a rising star in country music, saw in Speck not just a comedian, but a multi-talented entertainer who could add a new dimension to the show.

The Porter Wagoner Show would go on to become one of the most popular country music programs of its time, launching the careers of stars like Dolly Parton and Willie Nelson. Speck's role on the show was that of comic relief, but his presence became essential to its charm. Week after week, viewers tuned in to see his comedy skits and musical numbers, and Speck became a household name for millions of country music fans.

For over 20 years, Speck Rhodes remained a central figure on the show, bringing laughter and joy to countless viewers. His routine might have revolved around a bumbling country character, but his talent was anything but simple. Whether he was playing an upbeat version of "Hound Dog" or engaging in his latest comedic antics, Speck had a unique ability to connect with audiences of all ages.

Alongside other regulars on the show, like banjoist Buck Trent, fiddler Mack Magaha, and guitarist George McCormick, Speck helped create a sense of camaraderie that was palpable even through the television screen. These musicians weren't just colleagues; they were part of a close-knit community that shared a love for country music and entertaining. The show became a family, and Speck was an integral part of that family for two decades.

A Career Rooted in Humor and Music

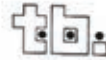
Speck's comedic persona may have been the "country bumpkin," but he never let the character overshadow his musical abilities. Even as he delivered jokes and engaged in slapstick humor, his musicianship shone through. Whether he was performing a lively rendition of a classic country song or playing the bass fiddle in Porter Wagoner's band, Speck's musical talents were undeniable.

Country music, after all, has always had a place for



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humor. From the early days of vaudeville to the rise of variety shows in the mid-20th century, country music has long embraced the blending of music and comedy. Speck Rhodes was a perfect example of this tradition. He wasn't just making people laugh—he was entertaining in the fullest sense of the word, creating moments of levity and connection through both his humor and his music.

Speck was part of a long lineage of country performers who understood the value of laughter in tough times. His comedy was a reflection of the rural Missouri life he knew so well, and that authenticity resonated with audiences. There was no pretense in his act; he was simply a man who loved to make people smile, using the experiences of everyday life to craft his jokes and routines.

A Lasting Legacy in Country Music

As country music evolved, so did Speck Rhodes. He witnessed the genre grow from its early days in vaudeville and radio to the rise of television and beyond. But through it all, Speck remained true to his roots, never straying far from the musical tradition he had

grown up with in West Plains.

In many ways, Speck's legacy mirrors that of the country music genre itself—a blend of humor, heart, and authenticity that speaks to the common man. He may not have had the star power of someone like Dolly Parton or Willie Nelson, but his contributions to the Porter Wagoner Show and the world of country music were significant.

After his long career on television, Speck continued to perform occasionally, but his focus was always on making people laugh and keeping the music alive. On March 19, 2000, Speck Rhodes passed away at the age of 84. He left behind a legacy that is often overlooked but remains integral to the story of country music.

Speck is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee, a fitting final resting place for a man who spent his life entertaining the world through country music. His humor, warmth, and musical talent are still remembered fondly by those who watched him on television and by the musicians who were fortunate enough to share the stage with him.

Remembering Speck Rhodes

In the annals of country music history, the name Speck Rhodes may not be as widely known as some of his contemporaries, but his influence and legacy endure. For over 20 years, he brought laughter and joy into people's homes through the Porter Wagoner Show. He was the kind of performer who made you feel like you knew him personally—his humor was relatable, his music heartfelt, and his presence unforgettable.

Speck's life and career are a testament to the enduring power of music and laughter. While his character may have been a caricature, his ability to connect with audiences was real. Whether he was cracking a joke, playing the bass fiddle, or just flashing his gap-toothed grin, Speck Rhodes embodied the spirit of country music—down-to-earth, genuine, and full of life.

In West Plains, the names Porter Wagoner, Preacher Roe, and Jan Howard might get thrown around a lot, but for those who remember, Speck Rhodes is just as deserving of a place in the town's hall of fame. His story is one of family, music, and a good dose of humor—the very things that make country music such a beloved and enduring genre.

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Obituaries

THOMAS HEDEEN

Oct. 9, 1959 — Aug. 31, 2024



being a prankster. Thomas lived large and made everything he did an adventure. He loved his friends, family and his dog, Lulu.

Thomas was a man of integrity and never allowed himself to get down; he always accepted what life threw at him and made the best of every situation. Mr. Hedeem was of the Catholic faith.

A memorial service for Thomas John Hedeem, 64, West Plains, Mo., will be held from 4 until 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, 2024, at Gracie's Place, 350 Fletcher Terrace, West Plains.

Mr. Hedeem passed away at 7:13 a.m. Saturday, August 31, 2024, at his home.

He was born Oct. 9, 1959, in Duluth, Minn., to Richard Hedeem and Mary Therese Egan Hedeem. On Dec. 26, 2006, he was married in Las Vegas, Nev., to Linda Estes.

Mr. Hedeem was a veteran, having served six years with the United States Air Force.

He loved bowling and bowled two 300 games in his lifetime; he was a lifetime member of the United States Bowling Congress. He enjoyed kayaking, traveling, riding four-wheelers and playing cards. He loved being around people and enjoyed

He is survived by his wife Linda Hedeem, of the family home; three stepchildren Joe Barnard and wife Kista, Theodosia, Mo., Tom Barnard and wife Leann, West Plains, and Michael Barnard and significant other Lana Snodgras, West Plains; one bonus daughter Mikki McMichael; six step-grandchildren; two sisters Patty Johnson and husband Dave, Duluth, and Anne Donahue and husband Michael, Superior, Wisc.; one sister-in-law Trish Hedeem, Rochester, N.Y.; and many nieces and nephews.

His parents and one brother Michael Hedeem preceded him in death.

Arrangements under the direction of Robertson-Drago Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left at www.robertsondrago.com.

VICKI CHRITTON-MYERS

May 30, 1958 — Sept. 3, 2024



and Ft. Walters, Texas. They moved to Springfield, Va., in 1970, where Vicki graduated from West Springfield High School in 1976.

From a young age, it became apparent that Vicki was a talented artist. In high school she excelled in art classes, where she developed great skills in drawing, painting, sculpture and many other art forms.

Upon graduating, she worked for various companies in the Washington, D.C., area as a graphic artist when her parents, Bill and Wanda, moved back to their hometown of West Plains. Vicki soon followed, and became the staff artist for the West Plains Daily Quill.

One night at a local honky-tonk, a tall, dark, handsome man (Vicki said he was the best-looking guy in the place) asked Vicki to dance. She turned him down, telling him she didn't "slow dance" with strangers. She married that stranger Ron Myers on March 19, 1983, at the Chritton Farm.

The city girl packed her bags and moved to Thayer, Mo., where she quickly adapted to rural life. She

loved living in the country and had no desire to ever live in a big city again. She enjoyed hunting, fishing and riding horses. When Ron brought home a big buck during deer season one year, Vicki bought an instructional video tape and taught herself how to do taxidermy. She turned her taxidermy hobby into a thriving business, eventually opening Myers Ark Taxidermy. She entered taxidermy competitions all over the country, and won numerous state and national awards.

Vicki and Ron eventually moved to Willow Springs, Mo., and had two sons, Nick and William. They later relocated to Olden, Mo., where Vicki raised horses, llamas, exotic birds and all sorts of critters.

Her family meant the world to her. She especially enjoyed game nights at the Chritton house, where the women would take on the men in Catch Phrase and other games (the women usually kicked their rearends in Catch Phrase).

In addition to being a talented artist, Vicki was intelligent, funny and quick-witted. She had a beautiful

smile and warm heart. She was down-to-earth, friendly and kind to everyone she met. She was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

Vicki was preceded in death by her father Bill Chritton, Jr., her brother Dan Chritton and her grandparents Nova and Pearl Weatherford and Bill and Margaret Chritton, Sr.

She is survived by her mother Wanda (Weatherford) Chritton, West Plains; husband Ron Myers, West Plains; sons Nicholas Myers, West Plains, and William Myers, Springfield, Mo.; grandchildren Jonathan, Tyler, Zoey, Serenity and Raelynn Myers, West Plains; brother Mike Chritton and his wife Sonia, Las Vegas, Nev.; and sister Toni (Chritton) Johnson and her husband Dennis, West Plains.

Burial will be in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Olden, Mo. Memorial contributions may be made to Mt. Zion Cemetery and may be left at or mailed to Robertson-Drago Funeral Home, 211 W. Main St., West Plains, MO 65775.

Online condolences may be left at www.robertsondrago.com.

NOTICE OF OBITUARY DEADLINES

Obituaries must be received by the West Plains Daily Quill no later than 10 a.m. Tuesdays for publication in Wednesday papers, and no later than 10 a.m. Fridays for publication in Saturday editions of the West Plains Gazette.

All obituaries received after those deadlines will be published in the next printed publication.

Note that in case of holidays, deadlines may be moved earlier. In such cases, notices will be published in the Quill.

Submit obituaries by email to obits@wpdailyquill.net or bring them into the office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays at 205 Washington Ave. in West Plains.

Hip-hop artist Fatman Scoop dies at 56 after collapsing on stage in Connecticut

By JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fatman Scoop, the hip-hop artist who topped charts in Europe with "Be Faithful" in the early 2000s and later lent his distinctive voice and ebullient vibe to hits by artists including Missy Elliott and Ciara, died after collapsing on stage at a show in Connecticut, according to officials and his family. He was 56.

The cause of his death wasn't immediately clear. He was performing at Hamden Town Center Park when he collapsed Friday evening, town chief of staff Sean Grace said Saturday. Mayor Lauren Garrett posted on Facebook that he had a medical emergency. Concertgoers and paramedics tried to aid the artist, who was taken to a hospital, she said.

His family said in an Instagram post that "the world lost a radiant soul, a beacon on stage and in life."

With a gravelly voice and dance-floor-friendly sensibility, Fatman Scoop was a mainstay of club playlists around the turn of the millennium. But if the world knew him as the "voice of the club," his family cherished him as "the laughter in our lives, a constant source of support, unwavering strength and courage," his relatives said.

"His music made us dance and embrace life with

positivity. His joy was infectious and the generosity he extended to all will be deeply missed but never forgotten," they added, saying he leaves a legacy "of love and brightness."

Born Isaac Freeman III, Fatman Scoop was from New York City's Harlem neighborhood and broke out with 1999's "Be Faithful." What started as a minor success in the U.S. took off in Europe with a 2003 re-release, hitting No. 1 on the singles charts in the U.K. and Ireland.

The next year, he appeared on the U.K. television series "Chancers," in which musicians mentored artists who wanted to make it in the U.S., the BBC reported. He also was a contestant on "Celebrity Big Brother 16: UK vs USA," which was filmed in the U.K. and aired in 2015.

Scoop — sometimes stylized as Fat Man Scoop or FatMan Scoop — collaborated with Elliott on "Lose Control," a 2005 song of the summer that also featured Ciara. The track won a short-form music video Grammy at the 2006 award show.

The same year as "Lose Control," he was featured on Mariah Carey's "It's Like That." He also was featured on tracks from Timbaland, David Guetta, The Situation and Skrillex, among other artists. In 2018, he reunited with Elliott and Ciara for a remix of the latter's "Level Up."

Elliott praised Scoop's "VOICE and energy" Saturday on X, saying he had contributed to many songs that made people happy over more than two decades.

"Your IMPACT is HUGE & will be NEVER be forgotten," she added.

His longtime booking agency, MN2S, described him as an artist with "boundless enthusiasm," a passion for music and a voice and personality that "made an indelible mark on the industry."

DEATH NOTICE

Roy Barr

Roy K. Barr, 96, Ozark. Died at 5:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2, 2024, at Ozark Riverview Manor, Ozark. Yarber Mortuary, Willow Springs.

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Fall Gardening

Gardening in the fall is a rewarding and enriching experience for home gardeners. As the summer heat fades and cooler weather settles in, September emerges as an ideal month to plant various crops that will deliver a plentiful harvest throughout the fall and, in some cases, even into the winter. The cool and mild weather provides optimal growing conditions for many vegetables and herbs, helping them establish strong root systems and thrive in the months to come.

However, to ensure a productive fall garden, it is essential to know which crops to plant, when to plant them, and how to care for your plants during the transition from summer to fall. This guide will help you understand the crops best suited for September planting and the critical factors to consider to guarantee a successful harvest.

September is a critical time for planting because it represents the transition between the warm summer months and the colder fall days. The cooler temperatures, shorter daylight hours, and more moderate conditions are perfect for cool-season crops. This month gives gardeners the opportunity to grow vegetables and herbs that flourish in these conditions and can continue to yield well into the fall and early winter.

There are several categories of crops ideal for a fall harvest:

- Root Vegetables: Beets, carrots, radishes, and turnips
- Leafy Greens: Kale, spinach, lettuce, and Swiss chard
- Brassicas: Broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and cabbage
- Other Vegetables: Peas, bush beans, and cucumbers (in warmer climates)
- Herbs: Cilantro, parsley, dill, and thyme

Before jumping into specific crops, it's crucial to keep a few key factors in mind to maximize your fall garden's productivity. These elements will play a significant role in determining the success of your garden and how long you can extend your growing season.

1. Frost Dates

The first factor to consider is your region's average first frost date. This date is essential because some vegetables can tolerate light frost, while others cannot survive the cold temperatures. Knowing your region's frost date allows you to calculate how long your crops have to mature before the first frost. It also

helps you decide if you need to use row covers or other protective measures to extend your growing season and protect your crops from frost.

2. Soil Temperature

While September air temperatures may drop, the soil retains warmth from the summer months, which is beneficial for seed germination and root development. As the season progresses, soil temperatures will continue to cool, making it essential to plant early enough to take advantage of the residual warmth and encourage optimal growth.

3. Day Length

Shorter days in the fall mean that plants have less sunlight to fuel their growth. As a result, planting early in September gives your crops enough time to mature before daylight hours decrease significantly, slowing plant growth.

4. Watering

In contrast to summer gardening, fall gardens generally require less watering due to cooler temperatures and lower evaporation rates. However, maintaining consistent soil moisture is still crucial, especially during the germination period. Overwatering is less of a concern in fall, but you must ensure that your plants receive enough water to establish strong roots.

1. Root Vegetables

Root vegetables develop their best flavors in cooler temperatures, making them an ideal choice for fall planting. Additionally, many root vegetables can be stored for long periods, allowing you to enjoy them throughout the winter.

- Beets: Beets are quick-growing crops that thrive in cool weather. Plant beet seeds in early September for a fall harvest. Beets grow best in well-drained, loamy soil and require consistent watering to ensure proper root development. You can expect to harvest beets in about 50-60 days.

- Carrots: Carrots also perform exceptionally well in fall, and their flavor becomes sweeter when grown in cool weather. To ensure a successful harvest, plant carrot seeds in early to mid-September. Carrots prefer loose, well-drained soil, and typically mature in 70-80 days.

- Radishes: Radishes are one of the fastest-growing crops, maturing in as little as 25-30 days. Planting radishes throughout September ensures a continuous harvest. Radishes are well-suited for cool weather and are less

likely to bolt in fall compared to summer planting.

- Turnips: Turnips are fast-growing and thrive in cooler temperatures. Plant turnip seeds in early September, and they will mature in 45-60 days. Both the roots and the greens of turnips are edible, and they prefer full sun and well-drained soil.

2. Leafy Greens

Leafy greens are highly tolerant of cold weather and even light frosts, making them excellent choices for September planting.

- Kale: Kale is a hardy green that actually becomes sweeter after exposure to frost. Plant kale in early September for a continuous harvest through the fall and into winter. Kale grows best in rich, well-drained soil and benefits from regular watering.

- Spinach: Spinach thrives in cool weather, making it perfect for fall gardens. Plant spinach in early to mid-September for a harvest in 40-50 days. Spinach can tolerate light frost, which allows it to continue producing in colder temperatures.

- Lettuce: Lettuce, including varieties like romaine, butterhead, and loose-leaf, grows well in fall's cool temperatures. Plant lettuce seeds in early September, and they will mature in 40-60 days, depending on the variety. Lettuce prefers consistent watering and some protection from intense sunlight.

- Swiss Chard: Swiss chard is a cold-tolerant leafy green that can be harvested continuously by picking the outer leaves. It thrives in both full sun and partial shade and prefers well-drained soil with regular watering.

3. Brassicas (Cruciferous Vegetables)

Brassicas, also known as cruciferous vegetables, are cool-weather crops that become sweeter after frost exposure, making them excellent for fall gardening.

- Broccoli: Broccoli is well-suited to the cool weather of fall. Plant it in early September, and it will mature in 60-70 days. Broccoli requires full sun, rich soil, and regular watering for optimal head development.

- Cauliflower: Like broccoli, cauliflower thrives in cool weather. It matures in 55-75 days and is more sensitive to frost, so it should be planted early to ensure a fall harvest.

- Brussels Sprouts: Brussels sprouts are highly cold-tolerant, and their flavor improves after a light frost. They take 90-100 days to mature, so planting them in early September ensures a harvest before freezing temperatures set in.

- Cabbage: Cabbage is an-

other brassica that tolerates light frost and matures in 70-90 days. Cabbage prefers full sun and consistent watering for firm, healthy heads.

4. Other Vegetables

- Peas: Peas thrive in cool weather and can be planted in early September. They mature in 60-70 days and can tolerate light frost, making them an excellent fall crop.

- Bush Beans: In warmer climates, bush beans can be planted in early September for a fall harvest. They require warm soil to germinate but grow quickly, maturing in 50-60 days.

- Cucumbers (in warm climates): Cucumbers prefer warm weather and can be planted in early September

in regions with longer growing seasons. They typically mature in 50-70 days.

5. Herbs

Many herbs thrive in cooler temperatures and can be planted in September for a late-season harvest.

- Cilantro: Cilantro is a cool-season herb that matures in 50-55 days and grows well in fall temperatures. It can be harvested continuously by picking the outer leaves.

- Parsley: Parsley is a hardy herb that matures in 70-90 days and can tolerate light frost, making it ideal for fall planting.

- Dill: Dill prefers full sun and well-drained soil and matures in 40-60 days, making it

perfect for a fall garden.

- Thyme: Thyme is a drought-tolerant perennial that thrives in well-drained soil and full sun. It can be harvested continuously throughout the season.

September is an essential month for planting cool-season crops that will yield a bountiful fall harvest. By carefully selecting the right vegetables and herbs and considering factors like frost dates, soil temperature, and day length, you can extend your growing season well into the cooler months. With proper care and planning, your fall garden will provide fresh, homegrown produce for weeks or even months to come.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A SMALL, UNFORGETTABLE SILHOUETTE

To the editor:

I was a teenager growing up in West Plains, out with my then-boyfriend, doing what kids did on weekend nights. Circle the square, go down the Avenue, turn left on Main, around the Dairy Queen, the Sonic, and off to the A & W. Wave at friends, see and be seen. Repeat.

On this well-worn route, one passed the bus station on Main. On one such evening I noticed a little boy in the bus station parking lot perched on a suitcase. I thought nothing of it. It was early, streets were busy, well lit, and included the obligatory police car, or two.

As the evening grew later, the bus station closed, and its lights went out, leaving a small black silhouette in a now-empty parking lot, still perched on a suitcase. As it grew later and later, I glanced over to see if he was still there. He was always still there.

I waited for somebody to pick him up, for someone to stop and check on him, for maybe the police to take notice and stop. He had been perched there for such a long time. Why was he still there? But each time we passed, I looked, and there he was.

The drive-ins closed and traffic dwindled to nothing. I no longer even saw the occasional police cruiser. Yet, there he sat. Alone. In the dark. On a mostly-empty street. Waiting for whoever wasn't showing up to come and get him.

It was time to go home. I wondered what he was thinking, what he must be feeling, if he was scared. Should I mind my own business, go home, trust that he would be picked up? No. Somehow or another he had become my business.

If I went home, a little silhouette would go with me. So I asked my boyfriend to stop so we could talk to him. He told us he had ridden the bus from Pennsylvania or Philadelphia (I don't recall which). His grandparents were supposed to pick him up.

He had no addresses, no phone numbers, no contact information. I don't think he even knew their last names. He didn't know why they had not come for him. We loaded him up with his suitcase, but with absolutely no plan, no sense of direction.

He said they didn't live in town. So the plan we came up with was to drive around in the country while he looked out the window for their house. I secretly feared it

was an absurd exercise in futility, but we didn't have a better idea or plan.

I could take him home with me and try again the next day, hopefully with a better plan. There weren't even streetlights for him to see by. How could he recognize their house? In the meantime, we kept driving, kept hoping, and he kept looking.

Suddenly, he blurted out, "That's it! That's their house!" We pulled into the driveway, staring at the house doubtfully. But he was so excited, so sure of himself, he immediately jumped out, and ran to the door with his suitcase.

We watched and listened, a bit anxiously. But the happy, surprised squeals and chatter from grandma left no doubt that he was where he needed to be. A small 4 a.m. miracle. We left and drove ourselves where we needed to be.

The Quill back then was somewhat challenged in the riveting news department. Front and center in the Quill later was an article saying his grandparents had gotten his arrival date wrong, and wanted to thank whoever had helped their grandson.

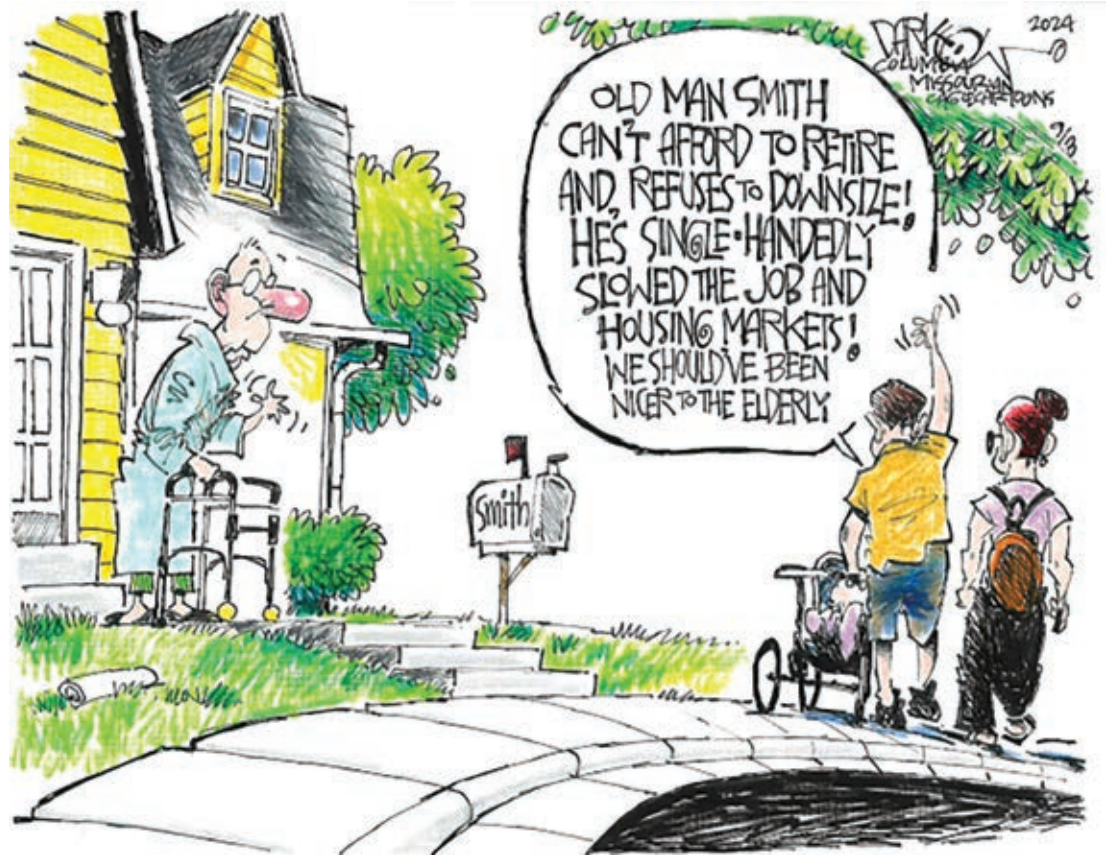
I was a bit shy, content with a little boy's happy ending, and never responded to the grandparents' request. In the 55 years since, what has occasionally come to mind isn't a face or a name, but a little silhouette in an empty parking lot.

Only recently have I thought it might be fun to see if I could contact him. Is it possible the Quill might have the original article, names, the correct state in their archives that might help me on yet another

needle in a haystack venture? Sometimes those needles really do pop up! :-)

Bernadine (Kimbrough) Gerhardt, Ozark

Editor's note: The Quill has referred the author of this letter to the Ozarks Heritage Resource Center in the Missouri State University-West Plains Garnett Library, which keeps the Quill's archives, for assistance finding the article. Readers with memories information about this event are also invited to share what they know, or contact the Quill to be put in touch with the author. Email news@westplainsdailyquill.net or call 417-256-9191.



FROM THE PUBLISHER

Dear Readers,

It seems like fall has been slowly creeping into the air this week, and I have to say, I'm here for it. Football is already in full swing, pumpkin spice is making its annual appearance in our coffee — and just about everything else — and before we know it, all the area fall festivals will be kicking off. But maybe best of all, this shift in the weather means it's officially bonfire season. There's just something about the crisp air and the warmth of a fire that pulls people together this time of year. It's as if the Ozarks are calling us to slow down and enjoy the simpler things in life.

West Plains, Willow Springs, Mountain View, Alton, and Gainesville are all gearing up for their own fall festivals, and each one brings a unique flavor to the season. If you haven't made a point to visit at least a couple of these, you're missing out. There's a real magic to the small-town fall festival — the hayrides, the apple cider, and the unmistakable smell of kettle corn in the air. Whether it's the booths filled with local crafts or the familiar sound of bluegrass music, these festivals capture the heart of what it means to live in this part of the world. They're a celebration of community and tradition, and honestly, they're the perfect way to usher in the cooler months.

But what is it about this time of year that makes us feel so connected to it all? Maybe it's just me, but as soon as the air turns crisp, I get this undeniable urge to be outside, to gather with friends and family, and to sit around a bonfire. It's not just the fire itself — though there's something hypnotic about watching the flames dance — but the whole experience of it. There's a comfort that comes from the combination of chilly air and the



FROM THE PUBLISHER'S Desk

warmth of a fire, the crackle of logs, and the quiet murmur of conversation. Add in a cup of cider and some good company, and that's about as perfect as it gets.

Is this draw to bonfires strictly an Ozarks thing? Or maybe it's just something rural communities share. After all, sitting around a fire at night is about as old as human history. But out here, in the hills and hollers of the Ozarks, it feels like a tradition that runs deep. There's an authenticity to it, a reminder of simpler times when the end of a hard day's work was rewarded by sitting around the fire with neighbors and friends.

Growing up around here, bonfires were a staple of fall weekends. They still are, honestly. Once the football games wrapped up and the sun dipped below the horizon, we'd gather in someone's field or backyard and light up a pile of wood. The evening would stretch out lazily, stories would be swapped, and if we were lucky, someone would bring a guitar. It's a tradition that seems to go hand in hand with the changing season, and it's one I look forward to every year.

There's also something a little bit magical about the way a bonfire can make you feel like you're part of something bigger. When you're sitting there, staring into the flames, it's easy to lose yourself in the

moment, to feel connected to the people around you and the land itself. The fire, the cool air, the distant sounds of nature — it all has a way of grounding you, of making you feel at home, even when the world feels a little bit off-kilter.

Maybe that's what fall is really about — taking a break from the rush and the routine, and reconnecting with the things that matter most. Whether it's football under the Friday night lights, a local fall festival, or a quiet night around the fire, this season invites us to slow down and savor the moments. It's a time for reflection, for gratitude, and for soaking in the beauty of the world around us as it shifts from the heat of summer to the cool of winter.

So as we move deeper into September, grab yourself a pumpkin spice latte (yes, even if it feels a little cliché), pull out your favorite flannel, and make plans to enjoy everything that fall in the Ozarks has to offer. Head out to one of the festivals, take a drive to see the changing leaves, or better yet, build yourself a bonfire and invite some friends over. Fall is coming, and there's no better way to celebrate it than by leaning into all the traditions that make this season so special.

And when you find yourself sitting around that fire, watching the flames flicker and feeling the warmth against the cool night air, take a deep breath and just enjoy the moment. Because in a world that never seems to slow down, sometimes it's the quiet moments — the ones filled with friends, laughter, and the smell of a bonfire — that remind us what life is really all about.

**Warm Regards,
Chris Herbolsheimer
West Plains Daily Quill
& West Plains Gazette**

Today in History: September 7, Germany launches Blitz on UK

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Sept. 7, the 251st day of 2024. There are 115 days left in the year.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Sept. 7, 1940, Nazi Germany began an intense bombing campaign of Britain during World War II with an air attack on London; known as The Blitz, the eight-month campaign resulted in more than 40,000 civilian deaths.

ALSO ON THIS DATE

In 1921, the first Miss America Pageant was held in Atlantic City, N.J.

In 1943, a fire at the Gulf Hotel, a rooming house in Houston, claimed 55 lives.

In 1963, the Pro Football Hall of Fame opened in Canton, Ohio and enshrined its first 17 members.

In 1977, the Panama Canal Treaty, which called for the U.S. to turn over control of the waterway to Panama at the end of 1999, was signed in Washington by U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos.

In 1986, Bishop Desmond Tutu was installed as the first Black clergyman to lead the Anglican Church in south-

ern Africa.

In 1996, rapper Tupac Shakur was shot and mortally wounded on the Las Vegas Strip; he died six days later.

In 2005, police and soldiers went house to house in New Orleans to try to coax remaining residents into leaving the city shattered by Hurricane Katrina.

In 2021, El Salvador became the first country in the world to make Bitcoin legal tender.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Sonny Rollins is 94. Singer Gloria Gaynor is 81. Actor Julie Kavner is 74. Rock singer Chrissie Hynde (The Pretenders) is 73. Actor Corbin Bernsen is 70. Actor Michael Emerson is 70. Pianist-singer Michael Feinstein is 68. Singer/songwriter Diane Warren is 68. Actor J. Smith-Cameron is 67. Actor Toby Jones is 58. Actor-comedian Leslie Jones (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 57. Actor Tom Everett Scott is 54. Actor Shannon Elizabeth is 51. Actor Oliver Hudson is 48. Actor Evan Rachel Wood is 37. Olympic gold medal swimmer Ariarne Titmus is 24. Actor Ian Chen (TV: "Fresh Off the Boat") is 18.

Editor Standards Of Acceptance:

The West Plains Daily Quill encourages readers to express their views. Viewpoints expressed in letters to the editor are those of the writer and not the viewpoints of The West Plains Daily Quill. Letters are limited to 400 words, about one page typed or two pages hand written. Longer letters will be condensed.

Frequent writers should limit submissions to one letter per month. The West Plains Daily Quill reserves the right to accept or reject letters based on content and reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity in order to conform to good taste, readability, the laws of libel and space considerations. Writers may address local political issues but specific candidate endorsements will not be published as a letter. Political letters will stop when early voting begins. All letters must include a single name of one author, complete address and phone number for verification purposes (address and phone number will not be published). Personal attacks on private citizens or businesses will not be published. Unsigned letters, multiple signature letters and third-party letters or letters requesting that the writer's name be withheld will not be published. Submitted letters will not be returned.

Letters may be brought to our office at 205 Washington Ave., downtown West Plains; emailed to news@wpdailyquill.net, or mailed to us at P.O. Box 110, West Plains, MO 65775. Letters may be faxed to 417-256-9196.

LOCAL MATTERS.

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Dusty Collins: Stewarding successful crops in unlikely soil

By MISSOURI FARMERS CARE

In the Ozark Mountains and plateau, south central Missouri farmers are known as livestock production professionals. Dusty Collins has made his own path as an expert at growing the forages and grains to feed the region's livestock. He grows corn, soybeans, corn silage and winter grain near West Plains in Agri-Ready Designated Howell County.

Dusty is a unique deviation, in proficiency and personality, rooted in the Ozark Mountains which are often recognized as the home of cattle and less productive soils. Dusty's farming strategies purposefully steward his land, and he makes valuable contributions to the local agricultural community and economy by focusing on crops not commonly grown in his region.

Unique Training Perspective

Dusty was cross-trained in agriculture and biology, with a focus on botany and chemistry, when he earned his degree in Wildlife Conservation and Management from Missouri State University. Upon his graduation in 2009, a flat job market made the prospect of returning home to the family farm a viable consideration. Reorganization of the family farm created an opportunity for Dusty to become one of eight partners in his family's multi-generational farm business, Collins Farming.

"Now, after almost 15 years as part of the farm, there's nothing else I'd rather do," Dusty shared. While some members of the family business are cattle experts, Dusty's unique agronomic training gave him an edge to develop a different expertise. "There is nothing more stressful than three weeks with no rain in the summer. But there is also nothing more rewarding than planting something and getting to harvest it," Dusty said.

A Progressive Outlook

Dusty's daily view of his farm is through a lens of hard-won, highly specific, cropping knowledge. His acumen for studying seed varieties, yield data, plant health and variable seed and fertilizer technologies drives him to continue to analyze last

year's crop while this year's crop is growing, with the intention of making next year's crop more successful. Dusty utilizes various chemistries to formulate rotating fertilizer and pesticide prescriptions so weeds, pests and disease are less likely to become resistant to treatment.

"A man with many hats doesn't get wet in the rain," Dusty chuckled. "I make sure to use all the tools I have available. In agriculture there is not enough margin to make any big mistakes. Attention to detail is paramount." These efforts make for healthy crops, and they also keep Dusty's soil healthy, too. All of his crops are no-tilled, which means that the soil is not turned over when seeds are planted. Cover crops are used to keep soil in place year-round and produce additional feed for the family's livestock.

Overcoming Geographical Challenges

When circumstances of the Great Depression and World War II brought Dusty's ancestors to the West Plains area, they wouldn't have planned for their descendants to specialize in grain and forage crops. The topography and soil profiles of the Ozark Plateau suggest that the region was divinely designed to support livestock, but Dusty rises to the many challenges of growing crops in such a place.

"Land availability can be an issue. It is messy to assemble a functional and profitable farm in a region where tracts of land are so small. We may farm 3,000 acres, but those acres could be spread across three counties," Dusty described. "We farm on owned, as well as rented ground, so relationships are important. While some of our landlords are businessmen from town, many live out-of-state."

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, 16% of land in Howell County is used as cropland, when compared to 54% for pastureland and 27% for woodlands. Beyond land availability, risk management options are also a hurdle that Dusty has overcome.

"Since our geographic loca-

tion is essentially isolated from other row cropping areas of the state, we originally could not qualify for crop insurance," Dusty said. "The drought of 2012 was nothing less than a large disaster for us because we were unable to secure risk protection at that time."

A Niche Advantage

Howell County is an agricultural powerhouse. Agriculture, food and forestry contributed \$1.024 billion in output annually to the county's economy, while crops contribute less than 1% of the value-added products and agricultural economic output of Howell County, according to the 2021 Missouri Economic Contribution of Agriculture and Forestry Study.

"Grain is generally brought into our area to be milled," Dusty said. "However, we have created a competitive advantage by growing a source of grain right here." The West Plains area is home to multiple mills that supply feed for numerous cattle and poultry farmers. Dusty delivers grain to local processors more economically than grain sourced from further away. Most of Dusty's grain is sold within 50 miles of his farm's home base.

When he does take soybeans to sell at Cairo, Ill, or

Kansas City, he turns those trips into an opportunity as well, usually returning with a load of soybean meal that is easily consumed in the heart of cattle country. Dusty has built a foundation of economic sustainability for his farm by learning to market his crops differently. Instead of only growing corn as grain, he also fills contracts to deliver corn silage to local beef producers.

Beyond the Farm Fences

Dusty is an active leader in his local agricultural community with insights that can be applied to crop production or community development.

"Never allow perfect to be the enemy of good because it will cause you to miss a lot of opportunities. Strive to be both or either, at the right times," Dusty said. He is the president of the Howell County Farm Bureau and was a 2023 member of Missouri Farm Bureau's Advanced Leadership IMPACT class, where he experienced a deep dive study of the agricultural supply chain.

Dusty's wife, Danielle, contributes to the daily operations of the family farm. The couple have a daughter, Ava, 5, and a son, Connor, 3.

USDA Ozarks Regional Stockyards Feeder Cattle - West Plains, MO
AMS Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News
Missouri Dept of Ag Mkt News
Wed Sept 4, 2024

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 5/8/2024 - Final

AUCTION				
	This Week	Last Reported	Last Year	
		8/28/2024		
Total Receipts:	623	750	545	
Slaughter Cattle:	285(45.7%)	293(39.1%)	294(53.9%)	
Replacement Cattle:	338(54.3%)	457(60.9%)	251(46.1%)	

Compared to last week, slaughter cows were steady to weak and slaughter bulls were 2.00-3.00 lower. Demand was good on a moderate supply. The offering included several herd sellouts with the top bred cows bringing 2600.00/head while the top pairs brought 3450.00/pair. Supply included: 46% Slaughter Cattle (84% Cows, 16% Bulls); 54% Replacement Cattle (30% Stock Cows, 56% Bred Cows, 2% Bred Heifers, 11% Cow-Calf Pairs, 1% Bulls).

SLAUGHTER CATTLE					
COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
32	1300-1395	1441	128.00-139.00	134.41	Average
4	1455-1695	1539	139.00-148.00	142.37	High
6	1325-1675	1416	119.00-126.00	123.10	Low

COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
48	1035-1310	1208	126.00-139.00	133.62	Average
12	1000-1330	1182	139.00-149.00	143.43	High
12	1035-1270	1210	114.00-125.00	121.08	Low

COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
46	805-1420	1041	115.00-129.00	122.88	Average
11	880-1125	1006	131.00-145.00	136.46	High
52	755-1378	985	97.50-114.00	107.46	Low
17	700-1035	837	71.00-96.00	88.61	Very Low

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
27	1390-2335	1732	155.00-173.00	165.88	Average
9	1380-2230	1711	177.00-184.00	179.90	High
9	1292-1915	1423	120.00-153.00	139.70	Low

REPLACEMENT CATTLE						
STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	O	6	990-1145	1073	175.00-194.00	182.03
2-8	O	13	850-1300	1145	119.00-172.50	138.69

STOCK COWS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	O	6	990-1145	1073	175.00-194.00	182.02
2-8	O	13	850-1300	1145	119.00-172.50	138.69

STOCK COWS - Medium 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	O	6	700-1025	779	162.50-212.50	188.55
2-8	O	30	727-1220	936	117.50-162.50	138.63

STOCK COWS - Medium 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	O	22	767	767	2000.00	2000.00

BRED COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T1	3	1108	1108	1975.00	1975.00
2-8	T2-3	56	1100-1780	1300	1800.00-2600.00	2221.92

BRED COWS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T1-3	22	1097-1205	1142	1600.00-1750.00	1689.28

BRED COWS - Medium 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T1	3	910-1002	971	1700.00-2025.00	1923.51
2-8	T2-3	30	935-1075	1032	1750.00-2275.00	2003.88

BRED COWS - Medium 2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T1-3	26	845-1053	992	950.00-1750.00	1371.55

BRED COWS - Small and Medium 2-3 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T1-3	3	700-850	758	625.00-925.00	792.86

BRED HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	T1-3	6	832-1000	938	1675.00-2150.00	1917.63

COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 1 w/ >300 lbs calf (Per Unit / Estimate Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T2	2	1175	1175	3450.00	3450.00 Reg

COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 1-2 w/ 150-300 lbs calf (Per Unit / Estimate Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	5	1095-1275	1201	2400.00-2550.00	2475.00
2-8	T1	3	1200	1200	2500.00-2650.00	2550.00

COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium 2 w/ 150-300 lbs calf (Per Unit / Estimate Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	14	900-1100	1014	1250.00-2200.00	1946.43

COW-CALF PAIRS - Small and Medium 2-3 w/ <150 lbs calf (Per Unit / Estimate Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	4	700	700	450.00-1075.00	918.75

BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt. Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	-	2	1475	1475	2300.00	2300.00

Please Note: The above USDA LPMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted. Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News, MO Dept of Ag Market News - Dan Hill, Market Reporter, Jefferson City, MO | (573) 751-5618 | www.ams.usda.gov/lpgnm; https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/ | https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/1249

USDA Ozarks Regional Stockyards Feeder Cattle - West Plains, MO
AMS Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News
Ozarks Regional Stockyards Video Auction - West Plains, MO
Email us with accessibility issues with this report.

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 9/3/2024 (Final)

VIDEO AUCTION						
	This Week			Last Reported 8/27/2024		
	Offered	Reported	PO	Offered	Reported	PO
Total Receipts:	376	376		1,277	1,210	5.2%
Feeder Cattle:	376	376(100.0%)		1,277	1,210 (100%)	5.2%

Special Notes: Video Auctions start at 1:30 p.m. during the Tuesday feeder sale. Demand was good on a light supply for this Video Auction held in conjunction with ORS' regular feeder cattle sale. All cattle offered are in Arkansas. All deliveries are current through September 30, 2024. Current deliveries are cattle that will be delivered up to 14 days from the video sale date. Current delivery is through September 17, 2024. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (64% Steers, 36% Heifers). Feeder cattle over 600 lbs was 100%. Feeder Cattle prices FOB based on net weights after a 2-3% pencil shrink or equivalent, with a 10 cent slide > 600 lbs and 0 cent slide < 600 lbs.

FEEDER CATTLE					
Southeast (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV)					
STEERS - Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt / Est. Wt)					
Delivery	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
Current	58	900	900	228.50	228.50

STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Est. Wt)					
Delivery	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
Current	62	830	830	234.00	234.00
	58	890	890	227.50	227.50
Sept	63	830	830	260.25	230.25

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Est. Wt)					
Delivery	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
Current	135	765	765	230.00-231.00	230.50

Please Note: The above USDA LPMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted. Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News | MO Dept of Ag Market News - Dan Hill, Market Reporter | Jefferson City, MO | (573) 751-5618 | www.ams.usda.gov/lpgnm; https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/ | https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/3416

USDA Ozarks Regional Stockyards Feeder Cattle - West Plains, MO
AMS Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News
Missouri Dept of Ag Mkt News
Tue Sept 3, 2024
Email us with accessibility issues with this report.

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 9/3/2024 - Final

AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported	Last Year
		8/27/2024	
Total Receipts:	2,027	1,581	2,392
Feeder Cattle:	2,027(100.0%)	1,581(100.0%)	2,392(100.0%)

Special Note: An additional 376 head sold through the Video Auction.***Close***Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold steady to 3.00 higher. Steer and heifers calves under 700 lbs sold steady to 5.00 higher. Demand was good on a light supply. Heifers outnumbered steers with several pot-loads of yearling heifers in the offering. The largest draft of the day was 77 head of 691 lb. heifers which sold for 236.50/cwt. Cooler temperatures and lower humidity made movement of cattle much more comfortable. The Cattle Futures traded higher following the Labor Day holiday and Box Beef Cutouts rebounded from last week's decline. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (41% Steers, 51% Heifers, 8% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 50%.

FEEDER CATTLE					
STEERS - Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
10	268	268	383.00	383.00	
25	300-334	327	340.00-360.00	351.93	
21	359-398	370	320.00-343.00	334.45	
25	405-445	422	306.00-322.50	309.06	
21	460-480	469	300.00-314.00	308.51	
40	513-537	518	296.00-304.00	300.46	
14	553-588	571	268.00-277.50	272.82	
36	597	597	265.50	265.50	Unweaned
40	605-638	620	260.00-285.00	269.62	
5	667	667	250.00	250.00	
40	703-731	716	239.00-250.00	245.15	
25	754-755	755	235.50-245.00	240.82	
16	800-812	803	260.00-243.00	239.71	
130	872-887	876	227.00-233.00	231.68	

Area students receive awards from DKG

Two local students have been awarded funds to support their pursuit of higher education, awarded by the Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa

Gamma, a professional women educators society.

Shelby Ledbetter, senior at Southwest Baptist University in Mtn. View, is the recipient

of a \$1,000 scholarship.

"This will help Shelby, a wife and mom of three who has maintained a high GPA, on her way to her goal of becoming a



Kaylee Hall



Shelby Ledbetter

teacher," said chapter officials. "Congratulations, Shelby."

Kaylee Hall, a 2024 Ava High School graduate, is attending Drury University this

fall, helped by being awarded a \$500 grant-in-aid from the Xi Chapter.

"Maintaining an excellent GPA, Kaylee also received a

similar award from the Gamma Phi Chapter in Cabool," said officials. "Kaylee is the daughter of Rhonda Hall. Congratulations, Kaylee."

RAIN OR SHINE PUBLIC AUCTION RAIN OR SHINE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 100 EAST MAIN & 101 WEST MAIN, BRANDSVILLE, MO.

DIRECTIONS TO AUCTION: NOTICE 2 SEPARATE LOCATIONS, APPROX. 2 BLOCKS APART. WE WILL START AT LOCATION (1) 100 EAST MAIN. WHEN FINISHED THERE, WE WILL MOVE TO LOCATION (2) 101 WEST MAIN. SOON AFTER WE WILL BE SELLING THE HOME.

INSPECTION: TO INSPECT THE PROPERTY BEFORE AUCTION DATE, CALL THE AUCTION COMPANY FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

100 EAST MAIN • START TIME 10:00 AM

SELLING: MOBILE HOME, CARPORT, TRUCK, TOOLS, MISC.

Two bedroom 14' x 65' Upland by Fleetwood 1994 single wide mobile home with tongue attached, no axle, 12' x 20' addition on rear, 10' x 20' addition on front; 18' x 20' aluminum carport; 1994 Chevy one ton with 14' box, 454 engine, automatic, runs, needs flywheel & brakes (parts truck); Radial saw; Rockwell 10" table saw reversible Delta Uniforce extended 54" table; misc. Antique tools; Williams crooked end wrench 1 1/4" & 1 1/16"; JH Williams & Co. 5/8"x 1/2"; blocks; Craftsman 10" radial arm saw; wrought iron fireplace screen; misc. toolboxes; router table; specialty woods; propane weed burner; fiberglass kindred double sink; tile saw; black metal screen; misc. light fixtures; small portable air compressor; metal shelves; 1/4 round 1x's; misc. lumber, trim, barn oak, maple, cedar, poplar; 1/4 square flooring; 8" Craftsman tablesaw; come along; grease guns; spreader bar; Porter cable electric Sawzall; port drill; DeWalt drywall gun; Porter cable framing nailer; deck screw gun; Milwaukee drills; Milwaukee Sawzall; nibbler; blacksmithing tools; hoofshears; old doors; 4' fluorescent lights; stacks of plywood 4' cuts; old windows; 100' corrugated 6" roll pipe; misc. cedar boards; few sheets of corrugated barn tin; scaffolding 3 sections 4 walkboards 1 set of wheels; used copper pipe; 3 pallets faux rock; 6' fiberglass extension ladder; used aluminum windows; wheelbarrow; lg refrigerator with water and ice through the door; trade work Crako paint sprayer; form stakes; siding; 6"x 14' lap siding; lumber; spudbar; fireplace entertainment center; oak cabinets.

NOTES: The mobile home and additions and the carport will have to be removed from the property within 30 days.

101 WEST MAIN • SELLING: REAL ESTATE

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Newborns in Need drive is underway

Newborns in Need's annual Sleepers in September donation drive is now underway, local chapter officials announce.

"Too many babies do not have enough clothing or blankets to keep them warm during these cold winter months," says Chapter President Jeanne Roles. "Newborns In Need are doing that for them, in the best way we know how. You can help by providing a warm sleeper or blanket to ensure no matter what the circumstances they can stay warm and comfortable."

The local Newborns in Need group will collect new, unused sleepers in sizes 0-12 months during its annual

Sleeper In September clothing drive. Quilts, afghans or receiving blankets and other clothing items are also welcome.

"Monetary contributions to help in the purchase of material are really needed. We can use yarn as several members knit or crochet," Roles adds. "Our area continues to have many babies needing our help to stay clothed and warm. Any donations stay locally."

The Ozark NIN chapter is among more than 60 chapters across the U.S. Founded in 1992, NIN is a 501(c)(3) charity that seeks to respond to the needs of premature and newborn babies whose parents are experiencing a

crisis situation and have difficulty providing the necessary items for their babies.

NIN chapters also provide bereavement items for those parents experiencing an unexpected death of a newborn.

The local chapter donates between 200 to 400 baby items each month. These items are made by a group of four to six volunteers, going to 13 locations, including 10 health units and three hospitals.

Newborns in Need's stated guiding principle is, "One heart, one mission, serving all God's children."

For more information or to arrange for a donation to be picked up, call Roles, 417-247-1479.

Isaac Haney achieves Austin Peay State University dean's list, graduates

Austin Peay State University officials in Clarksville, Tenn., recognize Isaac Haney from West Plains as one of the students named to its dean's list for academic achievement during the summer session.

To qualify for the list, students must earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or greater.

Haney was also recognized by university officials for being one of 700 graduates to receive degrees during a commencement ceremony held Aug. 2.

Friends of the Paul Weaver Library hosts book sale

The annual Friends of the Paul Weaver Library book sale will be held Oct. 5 in the lobby of the John E. Miller Education Complex on the Ozarka College campus in Melbourne, Ark. The sale will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Friends of the Paul

Weaver Library will team with Melbourne's Manna House Thrift Store to offer a variety of good quality used books, including history, arts and crafts, gardening, and children's books, plus a large selection of paperback fiction. Items will not

be priced but will be sold on a donation basis, with all proceeds helping fund Ozarka College student scholarships, said officials.

For more information, contact Dan Lindsey, Ozarka College librarian, at 870-368-2054.

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Words to Live By: Trees

In science classes we can learn much about trees. They produce oxygen, provide shelter for birds and many animals, give us fruit or nuts, and are used for lumber, paper, and other goods. Did you realize that trees are mentioned throughout the Bible? From the first chapter of Genesis to the last chapter of Revelation, we find references to trees. In Jeremiah 17:7-8 we read, "Blessed are those who trust in the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit." Remember to put your trust in the Lord each day. May God bless your week! Diane Cooke, Pastor of the Presbyterian Churches, Willow Springs and Mtn. View.

Ozarks Christian Academy announces Guardians as their new mascot



Ozarks Christian Academy, a private Christian academy known for its commitment to academic excellence and character development, proudly unveils its new mascot, symbolizing a significant milestone in its rich history.

After careful consideration and in alignment with the school's mission to foster a nurturing environment rooted in Christ and community, the decision to update the mascot was made to better reflect the institution's values, community, and aspirations.

This change embodies Ozarks Christian Academy's dedication to honoring its Christian principles while embracing the future.

The new mascot embodies the spirit of unity, integrity, and academic achievement that Ozarks Christian Academy instills in its students daily. It represents the school's commitment to preparing young hearts and minds for academic success and living a life of service in Christ. Headmaster Vance Viscusi described a Guardian as follows: "A guardian is someone entrusted

with something of great value. OCA Guardians are

entrusted with the truth of the gospel to engage the culture with the message of reconciliation and to serve the communities to which God calls them."

Ozarks Christian Academy is committed to providing an exceptional educational experience integrating faith, learning, and service. The introduction of the new mascot underscores this commitment. It is a testament to the school's enduring legacy of shaping young minds and hearts, ensuring a bright and purposeful future for our students.

Founded in 2006, Ozarks Christian Academy is a distinguished private Christian school dedicated to academic excellence and character development. Located in West Plains, MO, the school offers a Christ-centered classical education environment that prepares students to excel academically and lead lives of integrity and purpose. For more information about Ozarks Christian Academy, please visit www.ozarkschrianiacademy.com

Join the Chancel Choir for the Annual Christmas Cantata

The Chancel Choir of First United Methodist Church of West Plains is inviting you to join us for our annual Christmas cantata. Our cantata, "Carry the Light" is a concert of choral music and narrations that celebrates the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. All choir lovers in our community are welcome to participate. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 11th from

7-8pm in the sanctuary of FUMC. However, you can begin attending any Wednesday night in September. The performance will be Sunday, December 8th at 10am. There are no fees to join, we just want your voice and your presence!

If you have any questions, feel reach out to Jordan Hall at his email jhall@fairview.k12.mo.us

Moment in the Word:

By Edwin Woolsey

Revelation 16:8-9 ...and the sun was allowed to scorch people with fire. They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.

This warning was just released by the World Meteorological Organization on August 13, 2024, "According to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, July 2024 was the warmest July on record for the globe in NOAA's 175-year record and 0.03°C (0.05°F) warmer than July 2023 and 'more likely than not the warmest month on record for the globe since 1850.'"

Why should Climate Change suddenly be a big surprise? The Bible forecast this crisis 2000 years ago. Although Scripture clearly foretold the dilemma of a "hot earth," yet the underlying cause is contested by the secular world which curses the name of God who controls these plagues while they refuse to repent and glorify Him.

What could we possibly be doing wrong to raise the temperature of God's fiery wrath?

Maybe, part of the problem might be the 109,000 children stolen from their families every year to be used in the 32-billion-dollar American sex trade. According to Scripture, God judged Israel because "...they pleased themselves in the children of strangers." Isaiah 2:6

Or, God might be steamed because Americans have slaughtered 70 million babies since 1973, ignoring that the Almighty said, "You slaughtered My children and offered them up..." Ezekiel 16:21

Then again, the Creator and the King of the universe might be heated because we have ignored His Word to blatantly follow the desires of our sinful nature, "The results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20idolatry, sorcery (Greek — pharmakeia, drug addiction), hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition,



EDWIN WOOLSEY
COMMENTATOR

dissension, division, 21envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God." Galatians 5:19-21

What if the temperature is being raised because we have known God, but wouldn't worship Him as God or even give Him thanks? Instead, we began thinking up foolish ideas of what God was "really" like to match our wicked agendas. As a result, our minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, we instead became utter fools. So, God has abandoned us to do whatever shameful things our hearts desire. Creating an entire "alphabet soup" of different flavors of sodomy, we do vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. We trade the truth about God for a lie. We worship and serve our own devilish schemes rather than the God of Creation, who is worthy of eternal praise. Amen! That is why God has abandoned us to our own shameful lusts (Romans 1), while raising the global thermostat one degree at a time like boiling a frog in a pot of hot water.

Considering the gravity of God's ancient

warning regarding the outcome of our immoral sins, could any of the aforementioned crimes be the underlying root of our progressively hotter problem?

Oh, goodness no! Surely not! (Sarcasm) Instead, we've decided the problem must be flatulent cows that are now punitively taxed in Scandinavia for their heinous offense of farting! Obviously, claiming to be wise, we have truly become utter fools (Romans 1:22)!

Thumbing our noses at God (Ezekiel 8:17) who controls these plagues, we tell the Big Guy to go get lost because we're the bosses now, not Him (Jeremiah 2:31)! So, how's that going to work while defiantly refusing to obey His Word? As the heat continues to rise (Revelation 16:8-9), the plants will scorch (Revelation 8:7), the marine life will disappear as the seas become putrid sewers (Revelation 8:8), the rivers and springs will die (Revelation 8:10-11), and famine will sweep the globe (Revelation 6:5-6), followed quickly by death and Hell (Revelation 6:8). Maybe then we'll remember that God warned us long ago to repent (instead of worrying about the guilt of gassy cows).

But... better have some really good sunscreen just in case because the prospects for repentance or a weather change don't look good, "Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries (Greek — pharmakeia, drug addiction), nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." Revelation 9:21

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Local SPORTS

Zizzers Dominate with 3-0 start

The West Plains Zizzers soccer team is coming out hot this season, starting with a bang and refusing to look back! After picking up three straight wins to kick off the 2024 season, it's clear this squad is firing on all cylinders and ready to make waves in the soccer world.

In their first game, the Zizzers took the field against New Covenant, and boy, did they come to play! The team came out swinging, securing a dominant 5-1 victory that set the tone for the season. Ethan Tuma was

unstoppable, bagging two goals and delivering two assists to help drive the offense. Julien Ayala, Hudson Cox, and Johnny Sutherland all found the back of the net as well, turning this match into a scoring clinic. It was the kind of game where the Zizzers proved they've got ice in their veins when it comes to getting the job done. Chase Larsen also stepped up with an assist, and the whole team played like a well-oiled machine. While the JV squad dropped a nail-biter 1-0, the varsity



the scoreboard. The Zizzers weren't just scoring goals—they were dishing out assists like candy, with Cox racking up three, Larsen adding two more to his season tally, and Caleb Cobb getting in on the action. This squad is moving the ball with pinpoint precision, and when they're clicking like this, they're nearly impossible to stop.

Then came the showdown against Camdenton. This one was a tight contest, but the Zizzers proved that when the going gets tough, they get tougher. In a 2-1 victory, it was once again the unstoppable Ethan Tuma who put the team on his back with two clutch goals. Lincoln Miller served up a perfect assist, and the Zizzers' defense locked down, re-

fusing to let Camdenton find a rhythm. It wasn't the blowout of the first two games, but this gritty win showed the heart and determination of a team that knows how to grind out victories.

With a 3-0 start to the season, the Zizzers have shown they're a force to be reckoned with. Their chemistry, work ethic, and sheer talent have them looking like a team that's ready to make a deep run this year. And with Tuma leading the charge, you can bet that this squad will keep putting on a show every time they step on the field.

Next up, the Zizzers will look to keep the momentum going as they return home on Tuesday for another battle. Fans, buckle up—this team is just getting started!

crew showed no signs of slowing down.

Next up, the Zizzers hit their home turf to face Greenwood, and once again, they put on a show for the home crowd, cruising to a 7-1 win. The Ethan

Tuma show continued, as the goal-scoring machine racked up a hat trick! With three goals to his name, Tuma was all gas, no brakes. Julien Ayala chipped in with two goals, and Malakai Coy and Hudson Cox also got on

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Lady Zizzers rule the Court with back-to-back wins

The West Plains Lady Zizzers volleyball team is off to a smashing start, spiking their way to victory and showing everyone they're a force to be reckoned with this season! The Lady Zizzers have been firing on all cylinders, taking down their first two opponents in thrilling fashion.

In their showdown against Willow Springs, the JV squad wasted no time, dominating with a 25-13 and 25-20 victory, setting the tone for the night. But it was the varsity team that really took the spotlight. After a nail-biting first set, where they narrowly fell 25-27, the Lady Zizzers turned the tide and came roaring back. With power at the net and precision passing, they took the next three sets 25-19, 25-16, and 25-15, leaving Willow Springs in the dust. The Lady Zizzers were a well-oiled machine, serving up aces and blocking like a brick wall at the net.

Next, it was Mountain View's turn to face the heat, and the Lady Zizzers didn't let up for a second. The varsity squad cruised to another victory, sweeping Mountain View in three straight sets: 25-13, 26-24, and 25-17. It was a total team effort, with every Lady Zizzer playing their role to perfection.



Whether it was digging out tough spikes, setting up picture-perfect assists, or sending thunderous hits over the net, the Lady Zizzers made it clear they've got their eyes on the prize this season.

The JV team continued their winning ways against Mountain View, taking both

sets 25-15 and 25-20, keeping their undefeated streak alive. The C team battled hard, coming up just short in a tight 24-26 contest, but the fight they showed is a testament to the depth and talent across all levels of the Lady Zizzers program.

With the season heating up, the Lady Zizzers

are looking to keep the momentum going as they prepare for their next matches. They've shown they can dig deep when the pressure's on and are ready to keep racking up wins, one bump, set, and spike at a time! Get ready, because this team is just getting started!

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Zizzers open football season in Mtn. Home

The West Plains Zizzers hit the gridiron for their season opener against Mountain Home, and though the scoreboard might not have been in their favor, these boys battled with everything they had, leaving it all on the field. In a game full of twists and turns, the Zizzers showed heart, grit, and a never-give-up attitude.

It started with a solid opening drive, as Isaiah Jones connected with Ethan Miller and Jacob Moore to keep the chains moving. When Jones hit Moore for

the first touchdown of the season, and Caleb Cobb nailed the extra point, the Zizzers were off to a strong 7-0 lead. The defense was flying around the field, with Jacob Moore and Shane Curtis delivering big tackles and forcing the Bombers to punt. But just when the momentum was in their hands, a fumble recovery by Mountain Home gave the Bombers life, and they quickly responded with a touchdown, tying the game at 7-7.

A tough break followed, with Mountain Home recov-

ering another fumble and turning it into points, making it 7-14 as the first quarter came to a close. The Zizzers found themselves in a battle, but they were far from done.

In the second quarter, the defense stood tall, with Lopez and Hunter combining for a huge sack that backed the Bombers up and forced a punt. When Miller came up with a clutch interception, it seemed like the Zizzers were poised to strike back. But the Bombers' defense tightened up, and the Zizzers couldn't get much

going before the half. Mountain Home tacked on a field goal to make it 7-24 heading into the locker room.

The third quarter didn't start the way the Zizzers hoped, with Mountain Home finding the end zone again and stretching their lead. But the Zizzers kept swinging. Isaiah Jones led the charge, connecting with his favorite target, Moore, for another touchdown to close the gap to 14-36. The Zizzers' defense stepped up once again with Hunter blocking a kick and giving West Plains a spark of energy.

Heading into the fourth quarter, trailing 14-36, the Zizzers refused to throw in the towel. Wilson and Taylor kept pounding the rock, and Jones orchestrated a final drive full of precision passing and determination. The offense marched down the field, converting key plays, and Jones finally punched it in with a quarterback sneak to bring the score to 21-43. The Zizzers fought hard until the final whistle, but the clock ran out before they could close the gap any further.

Though the Zizzers didn't

come away with the win, they showed resilience and flashes of brilliance that will no doubt carry them forward this season. With key performances from Jones, Moore, and the entire defense, this team has the heart to bounce back strong in the next matchup.

This game may not have gone the Zizzers' way, but if we know one thing about West Plains football, it's that they don't stay down for long. Keep your eyes on this squad—they're just getting started!

westplainsdailyquill.net

Assistant coaches hired for Grizzly Baseball team

The coaching staff is set for the inaugural season of Grizzly Baseball at Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP).

Head Coach Kadem Tharp has announced that Jake Woods and Bo Crites will join him on the bench as assistants. Their first day with the team was Aug. 1.

"I'm thrilled to have both Coach Woods and Coach Crites on staff this year. Both of these young coaches know what and how to teach the things that will help these student athletes succeed here and at the next level," Tharp said.

More about Coach Woods

Woods, a native of Camden, comes to the Grizzlies after serving as an assistant at St. Johns River State College in Palatka, Florida. He helped lead the Vikings to a 42-25 record last season, the Region 8 and South District Championships and a third-place finish at the 2024 NJCAA Division II World Series. Woods helped coach the hitters and was in charge of coaching the outfielders for the Vikings.

He also spent the past four years coaching under the Orlando Scorpions baseball club in Casselberry, Florida. He has helped over 50 student athletes

move to four-year and two-year schools over the past five years.

During his five-year collegiate career, Woods played for the University of South Carolina-Sumter during the 2018-2019 season where, as a starter, he led the offense in RBIs. He then transferred to Shorter University in Rome, Georgia, where he was a four-year starter and a staple for the Hawks in the infield. In his time at Shorter, he was a key component in the school's first ever Gulf South Conference (GSC) title berth in 2022. He also received GSC honor roll accolades in 2023.

"Coach Woods provides a solid defensive background as a player and a coach," Tharp said. "He coached at one of the best junior colleges in Florida and knows what talent and what skills it will take to help our program get better."

"I'm excited to be a part of this program and to coach alongside Coach Tharp and Coach Crites," Woods said. "I'm really looking forward to helping build this program year in and year out."

Woods earned a bachelor's degree in sports management with a minor in general business and a master's degree in business administration from Shorter.



THE COACHING STAFF for the 2024-2025 Grizzly Baseball team at Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) is set. From left are Assistant Coach Jakob Woods, Head Coach Kadem Tharp and Assistant Coach Bo Crites. (MSU-WP Photo)

More about Coach Crites
Crites, a former West Plains High School baseball standout, recently completed his fourth season of collegiate baseball at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. Before transferring to Ottawa, Crites played for Tharp's North Arkansas College Pioneers in Harrison, where he helped lead the team to a two-year record of 70-28.

Crites also serves as a coach of the Midwest Mavericks Baseball Club. The club travels throughout the nation to some of the most prestigious scout events in the sport. He also manages Dead Red Baseball, which organizes individual baseball lessons with other college athletes serving as instructors to host summer

and winter baseball and hitting camps.

"Coach Crites is a West Plains native and former player of mine who has a good grasp of what it will take to win," Tharp said. "Through his summer coaching and playing experience, Coach Crites will provide quality instruction." "I'm excited to bring a high level of baseball into West Plains," Crites said. "It's an honor to work in my hometown and with our coaching staff and student athletes. We have the foundation to build a great program and culture, and I'm looking forward to the season!"

For more information about the Grizzly Baseball team, visit MSUWPGrizzlies.com.

Chiefs hold off Ravens in season opener

By DAVE SKRETTA Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Patrick Mahomes thought for a moment that the Chiefs were headed to overtime. So did Ravens counterpart Lamar Jackson, who had found Isaiah Likely in the back of the end zone with no time left for a touchdown that appeared to tie the game.

In the end, the NFL's season opener Thursday night was decided by referee Shawn Hochuli undertaking a video review.

With a capacity crowd that included pop superstar Taylor Swift waiting in anticipation, Hochuli needed just seconds looking at that final play before making his announcement: Likely landed with his toe on the endline, putting the Baltimore tight end out of bounds, and giving the Chiefs a 27-20 victory as they began pursuit of a record third consecutive Super Bowl title.

"Definitely nerve-wracking because it looked good from my angle on the sideline," Mahomes said, "but then the first view you could see his cleat. ... You have to wear white cleats next time. That's my advice for him."

Mahomes threw for 291 yards and with a touchdown pass to Xavier Worthy, who also scored a rushing TD in his NFL debut, as the Chiefs not only won the rematch of last season's AFC title game but beat the Ravens for the fifth time in six meetings.

That lopsided ledger has been especially frustrating for Jackson, who has called Kansas City the Ravens' "kryptonite." He was sublime Thursday night, throwing for 273 yards and a touchdown and adding 122 yards on the ground, but that review of the final play left him to rue another missed opportunity to finally

upstage Mahomes and Co.

"I thought it was a touchdown," Jackson said. "Still think it was a touchdown."

The Ravens were trailing 27-17 in the fourth quarter before kicking a field goal, then got the ball back at their own 13 with 1:50 left and no timeouts. Jackson completed a couple of throws to Likely, who had 111 yards receiving and a score, and scrambled for a crucial first down. Two plays later, Jackson found Rashod Bateman down the sideline for 38 yards to move the Ravens to the Kansas City 10 with 19 seconds remaining.

Jackson's first pass was a throwaway, but his second missed wide-open Zay Flowers in the back of the end zone. Then came the final throw, after Jackson had scrambled for what seemed like an eternity, and Likely looked like he had forced overtime.

Ravens coach John Harbaugh even signaled for his team to try a winning 2-point conversion, though it never got the chance.

"I thought our guys (overcame) setbacks at times, and fought like crazy to overcome. It looked like we had an opportunity there to tie the game up and try to win," Harbaugh said. "Didn't happen at the end, but our guys fought."

The wild ending came after the start was delayed about 20 minutes by a storm that brought heavy rain and lightning.

The Ravens proceeded to open with an 11-play, 70-yard drive that ended with Derrick Henry, who had tormented the Chiefs in six previous meetings while he was with Tennessee, plunging into the end zone from 5 yards out for the early lead.

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See CHIEFS, Page B4

CHIEFS

From Page B3

But the high-octane Chiefs, trying to avoid back-to-back season-opening losses, needed just two minutes to answer. Mahomes twice connected with Rashee Rice, who has so far avoided any NFL punishment for his role in an alleged street-racing crash in Dallas, before Worthy showed why the Chiefs made him their first-round pick with his 21-yard touchdown run.

After those two drives, though, the first half was mostly marked by Week 1 blunders.

Jackson was strip-sacked by Chris Jones deep in his own territory, leading to a Kansas City field goal. Flowers was stopped short of the first-down marker on fourth-and-3 near midfield on the Ravens' next series, leading to another field goal. And even Justin Tucker, one of the league's most accurate kickers, pulled a 53-yard field-goal attempt wide left.

The Chiefs were not immune to mistakes. Mahomes' pass was picked off by Roquan Smith on a poor throw late in the first half, leading to a chip-shot field goal that got Baltimore — which trailed twice at halftime all of last season — to 13-10 at the break.

Yet the Ravens' inability to get into the end zone, and swing the momentum their way, ultimately proved costly.

The Chiefs opened the second half with an 81-yard touchdown march to extend their lead. Then, after Jackson had connected with Likely on a broken play for a 49-yard touchdown throw, Mahomes drove them 70 yards against the No. 1 scoring defense in the NFL last season for a touchdown that made it 27-17 with 10 minutes to go.

Tucker made it a one-score game with his field goal with 4:54 to go, and Baltimore quickly forced a punt. But despite Jackson's impassioned play, he was left to trudge off the field after another disappointing loss to the Chiefs.

"It was a fight down to the end," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "When they say it's a game of inches, might be shorter than that."

Star-studded crowd

Swift, the girlfriend of Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, wasn't the only star attending the NFL's opening night. Quincy Hall, the Olympic 400-meter champion, was in the crowd along with AC Milan midfielder Christian Pulisic, who will join his U.S. teammates Saturday night for an exhibition against Canada at nearby Children's Mercy Park.

Injuries

Baltimore: LB Kyle Van Noy left six plays into the second half because of an eye injury and did not return.

Up next

Ravens: Host Las Vegas on Sunday, Sept. 15.

Chiefs: Host Cincinnati on Sunday, Sept. 15.

No. 9 Missouri out to showcase its refreshed run game with Buffalo on deck

By DAVE SKRETTA Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The hole left in the Missouri backfield after last season was a mere 5 feet, 9 inches tall, yet it seemed so much bigger than that, given the way Cody Schrader performed during his final season with the Tigers.

First-team All-American. Doak Walker Award finalist. The SEC's leading rusher.

So it made some sense that Tigers coach Eli Drinkwitz chose to use not one but two transfers — Appalachian State's Nate Noel and Georgia State's Marcus Carroll — to fill that enormous hole during college football's offseason roster merry-go-round.

Their performance last week in their first game in black-and-gold was an encouraging sign that the Tigers will be just fine with the graduated Schrader off to the NFL. Noel carried 11 times for 48 yards and a touchdown, and Carroll carried six times for 35 yards and another score, leading the ninth-ranked Tigers to a 51-0 win over Murray State.

"It's always been very smooth," Noel said of the move to Missouri. "The whole coaching staff, everybody in the building really, from the players to the training coach

— I mean, the coaches just took us transfers in and treated us like we've been here."

Noel and Carroll figure to get a bigger test Saturday night against Buffalo. The Bulls held Lafayette to 43 yards rushing in a 30-13 win last week, and FCS preseason All-American Jamar Curtis managed just 12 yards on 14 carries against them.

"To be honest, you don't even know who is in there at times," Tigers offensive tackle Connor Tollison said of the two new running backs. "It's really not until they get past you that you see it in a game."

"I think they bring their own specialties," Tollison added, "but together they're pretty good."

It's not just Noel, the speedster, and Carroll, the bruiser, who deserve the credit for their performance against Murray State, though. The Tigers' rebuilt offensive line, which added transfers Marcus Bryant from SMU and Cayden Green from Oklahoma, helped them run for 179 yards and pass for 310 in the opener.

"I don't think we gave up any sacks and maybe a few tackles for a loss," Tollison said, "and I'd say those are two stats that have more say on how an offensive line did

throughout a game."

Familiar foe

First-year Buffalo coach Pete Lembo has some experience against Missouri. He spent the previous three years at SEC-rival South Carolina, while his defensive coordinator, Joe Bowen, was a graduate assistant for the Gamecocks during the 2021 season.

"Familiarity with the opponent helps," Lembo said, "but at the end of the day, you have to tackle, you have to throw and catch, and you have to take care of the ball. Yes, there is some background knowledge of Missouri, and Joe was with me the first year at South Carolina; he had to play these guys as well. But really, it comes down to playing great fundamental football."

Dolac's back

Buffalo linebacker Shaun Dolac is back after missing all but four games to an injury last year. Dolac had 11 tackles, two for a loss, along with a sack and an interception against Lafayette. He was voted the MAC defensive player of the week.

Speaking of defense

Missouri limited the Racers to 85 yards in last week's shutout. Not only that, the Tigers' defense put up points of its own when Clemson transfer Toriano Pride Jr.

returned an interception 25 yards for a first-quarter touchdown.

Overcooked

Missouri quarterback Brady Cook was 19 of 30 for 218 yards and a TD against Murray State, playing just over two quarters before giving way to backup Drew Pyne. Those numbers could have been better, though, had Cook not overthrown a couple of targets who had had gotten wide open beyond the coverage.

"It starts with fundamentals: route depth, timing, the quarterback setting his feet when he makes a throw. Not drifting after he throws the ball to get ready to go do a celebration," Drinkwitz said. "Wide receivers have to run their routes at the correct depth. They've got to explode out of them. The quarterback has got to make the throws."

Looking ahead

The Tigers insist they are focused only on Buffalo, but everyone inside Memorial Stadium on Saturday night — players included — know what awaits them the following week. Boston College, a once-downtrodden program many viewed as just another team on a season-opening four-game homestand, impressed in a win over Florida State last weekend.

Lamar Jackson desperately rallies Ravens falls 27-20 to Chiefs for 5th loss in 6 meetings

Falls 27-20 to Chiefs for 5th loss in 6 meetings

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Lamar Jackson threw for 273 yards and a touchdown and ran for 122 yards, gamely trying to rally Baltimore from 10-point deficit against two-time defending NFL champion Kansas City. And it looked for a moment as if Jackson had at least forced overtime when he hit Isaiah Likely in the back of the end zone with no time left. The play immediately went to a video review, though, and the evidence was clear: The tight end's toe had landed on the endline, putting him out of bounds. The pass was incomplete. The game was over. And the disappointment quickly set in. The Ravens lost 27-20, the fifth time in six matchups that Jackson has lost to Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs.

Taylor Swift shows up at Arrowhead Stadium to watch Travis Kelce, Chiefs face Ravens in NFL opener

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Pop superstar Taylor Swift has returned to Arrowhead Stadium to watch her boyfriend, Travis Kelce, and the rest of the Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs open the NFL season against the Baltimore Ravens. Swift arrived about 90 minutes prior to the AFC title game rematch, wearing a denim crop top and shorts along with red, knee-

high boots. She joined nearly 80,000 fans who were hoping that storms in the area did not disrupt a festive night in Kansas City. Swift became one of the Chiefs' biggest fans last season, when she began a high-profile her romance with Kelce after a game against Chicago.

US Open: Jessica Pegula reaches her first Grand Slam final at age 30 and will play Aryna Sabalenka

NEW YORK — Jessica Pegula has shrugged off a sluggish start and come back from a set and a break down at the U.S. Open to defeat Karolina Muchova 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 for a berth in her first Grand Slam final. The No. 6-seeded Pegula won for the 15th time in her past 16 matches Thursday night. She will meet No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka for the title on Saturday. Sabalenka reached her second consecutive U.S. Open final by beating Emma Navarro 6-3, 7-6 (2) with her usual brand of high-risk, high-reward tennis. The No. 2-seeded Sabalenka is a 26-year-old from Belarus who won each of the past two Australian Opens.

Analysis: History suggests a team will make a big leap to reach a conference championship game

Some of the 18 NFL teams that missed the playoffs last year have reason to hope for much greater success this season. Since 2019, seven teams have reached a conference championship game after failing to make the playoffs the previous season. Four of those seven teams won six or fewer games the year before advancing to the NFL's Final Four. The Tampa Bay Bucca-

neers went from 7-9 in 2019 to Super Bowl champions in 2020. The San Francisco 49ers rebounded from a 4-12 season in 2018 to reach the Super Bowl the following year.

US Open: The spray that caused Jannik Sinner's failed drug tests has 'DOPING' warning

ROME — The word "DOPING" is printed in all caps inside a red circle with a slash through it on the box containing the over-the-counter spray sold in Italy that caused No. 1-ranked tennis player Jannik Sinner to fail two drug tests in March. He was exonerated in the case and will play in the U.S. Open semifinals Friday. Trofodermin contains the anabolic steroid Clostebol and is available without a prescription in Sinner's home country. The product is meant for treating cuts and scrapes. It contains an underlined doping warning on the medication guide that comes inside the box. A small spray can of Trofodermin was purchased for \$16 at a Rome pharmacy by an Associated Press reporter.

Xavier Worthy scores 2 TDs in NFL debut, giving the Chiefs' offense another dangerous dimension

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs hoped that Xavier Worthy would give their offense some pop when they picked the speedy wide receiver out of Texas in the first round of the NFL draft. It only took him five plays to make his presence known Thursday night. That is when Worthy took an end-around 21 yards for a touchdown. Worthy hauled in a 35-yard TD reception later in the game, helping the Chiefs to a 27-20

victory. It showed just how dynamic Worthy can make the Kansas City offense, especially when fellow wide receiver Marquise Brown returns from his shoulder injury in the next week or two.

Chiefs hold off Ravens 27-20 when review overturns TD on final play of NFL's season opener

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Patrick Mahomes threw for 291 yards and a touchdown, and the Kansas City defense kept Lamar Jackson and the Ravens out of the end zone on three consecutive plays in the closing seconds. That allowed the Chiefs to begin their pursuit of a third straight Super Bowl title with a 27-20 victory over Baltimore on Thursday night. The game ended with a video review after Jackson appeared to hit Isaiah Likely in the back of the end zone with no time left for a touchdown. The video clearly showed Likely's toe on the line, though, and the call was overturned and the pass ruled incomplete.

Sarah Storey secures her 19th Paralympic gold with sprint finish in cycling road race

PARIS — Sarah Storey won her 19th Paralympic gold medal in the women's C4-5 road race, narrowly defeating French teenager Heidi Gaugain. Storey and Gaugain completed the 71-kilometer race in 1 hour, 54 minutes, and 24 seconds, with Storey winning in a sprint finish. Storey previously won the C5 individual time trial, adding to her extensive Paralympic success across cycling and swimming since 1992. Also, China set a world record in the 4x100-meter universal relay in para

athletics, clocking 45.09 seconds in the heats to qualify for the final.

Jannik Sinner plays Jack Draper in the US Open semifinals weeks after a doping exoneration

NEW YORK — Jannik Sinner will play in the U.S. Open semifinals six months after he failed two drug tests, and 2 1/2 weeks after he was exonerated because he said trace amounts of an anabolic steroid entered his system unintentionally via a massage. The No. 1-ranked Sinner will play No. 25 Jack Draper on Friday for a spot in the championship match. No. 12 Taylor Fritz faces No. 20 Frances Tiafoe in the other men's semifinal. That will be the first matchup in the final four at Flushing Meadows between two American men in 19 years.

Aaron Rodgers might have 'a little smirk' before his 5th snap in the Jets' opener to mark his return

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Aaron Rodgers is nearly a year removed from the torn Achilles tendon that ended his first season with the New York Jets after just four snaps. The 40-year-old quarterback says he always has something to prove, but as he gets older he focuses on proving things to himself. He's looking forward to getting back on the field and in the huddle in the season opener Monday night at San Francisco. Rodgers said he's feeling ready and in a good mind space and expects "greatness." He adds he might even give "a little smirk" to the "Monday Night Football" cameras when he gets to his fifth snap against the 49ers.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DYANN MCMASER, DECEASED, NO. 60PR-23-592 Name of Decedent: Dyann McMaster Last Known Address: 1201 Carolyn St. Jacksonville, AR 72076. Date of Death: August 5, 2022. NOTICE: On March 20, 2023, an affidavit for collection of small estate by distributee was filed with respect to the estate of Dyann McMaster, deceased, with the clerk of the probate division of the circuit court of Pulaski County, Arkansas, under Ark. Code Ann. § 28-41-101. The legal description of the real property listed in the affidavit is as follows: 1701 Carolyn St. Jacksonville, AR 72076, Lot 8 Block 4 Sub- Keaton WW Addn. All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, properly verified, to the distributee or his or her attorney within three (3) months from the date of the first publication on 3-28-2023, of this notice or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit of the estate. The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the distributee or distributee's attorney is: Hollie McMaster, 42 Byrd Ln Cabot, AR 72023. DR2T- 3/28,4/4/23

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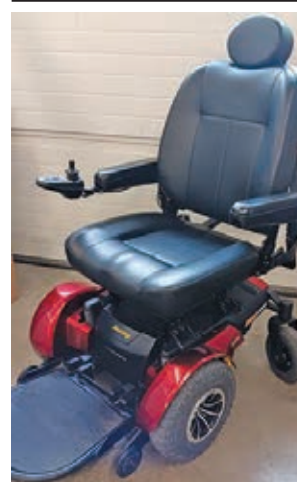
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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preferences, limitations or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised herein are available on an equal opportunity basis.

RECREATION

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2021 NITRO Z18. 150 proxs. 46 hrs. like new. tandem trl. white, silver, black. Bergman area. with extras \$28500. 217-778-701

V BOTTOM ALUMINUM BOAT. 9.8 horse power, gasu motor vgc, both 2020 model. \$1800, call (850)-830-XXXX

Camper & Trailers

2006 MONACO MONARCH SE. 31 ft, 2 slides, 8.1 liter gas engine, Workhorse chassis, Allison transmission, auto-leveling system, generator, central H&A, satellite, 2 TVs, OTA antenna, TIVO. \$32,500. 870-445-2327

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMERCIAL investment now for sale. Owner retiring and offering a bundle of income properties. Included 2 small car washes, a motel and restaurant, a 3600 sq ft commercial building and a mini storage unit complex. Located in a small north-west Arkansas town. Offering as one sale only. Serious inquiries only - For sale by owner-NO AGENTS PLEASE. Call 870-350-4153.

Mobile Homes For Sale

WIDE SELECTION OF new manufactured mobile homes available. Call 417-293-0528. View at vonallmenmobilehomes.com.

WIDE SELECTION OF new manufactured mobile homes available. Call 417-293-0528. View at vonallmenmobilehomes.com.

RECREATION

Accessories-Recreation

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8 days/40 words \$60
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Call us

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JASPER
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RECREATION

Boats & Motors

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Camper & Trailers



2006 MONACO MONARCH SE. 31 ft, 2 slides, 8.1 liter gas engine, Workhorse chassis, Allison transmission, auto-leveling system, generator, central H&A, satellite, 2 TVs, OTA antenna, TIVO. \$32,500. 870-445-2327



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Any errands, remodeling, lawn care, trees, gardening, doctor appointments, groceries, etc.
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Sell it fast in the Regional Classified Marketplace. Give us a Call today!

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Call Joe 870-701-5169

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OLD WASH TUB with old hand pump made into a fountain. \$100. Call 870-491-5815.

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mtnhomegolf.com
870-425-2028

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Miscellaneous

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold in your home. If you have water damage to your home, call for a free estimate for complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-593-7772

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INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PAINTING, DECK STAINING AND POWER WASHING.

FREE ESTIMATES
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POWER WASH

Remove Mold, Mildew, Dirt
Free Estimates

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THE BATHROOM OF your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-866-460-1048

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Automobiles

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De-clutter your home quickly! Sell it in The Regional Classified Marketplace.

YARD SALES

Baxter County

GARAGE SALE 1895 Hwy 5N Sat. Sept. 7th and Thurs Sept. 12th-Sat. Sept. 14th from 8-4. Women's clothing Torrid, Chic Soul, Judy Blue, etc. sizes 14-20, many new with tags. Kendra Scott Jewelry, home Fall and Christmas decor and much more!

YARD SALE SEPTEMBER 6th and 7th at 1511 Meadowhill Drive, Mountain Home. Tools, hardware, camping equipment, CD's and DVD's, reloading, antiques, and more. From 8-2.

Boone County

YARD SALE

228 HUDSON ROAD, HARRISON
(trailer before the red house)
8am-2pm

Ladies clothing - many size large and xl, home decor, vintage knock knacks, vinyl record cabinet, house wares, misc., toys, trampoline, swing set, board games, baseball bat, youth baseball helmet, kids/boys cleats, lots of stuff!

4 FAMILY GARAGE sale Friday and Saturday 9/6 and 9/7 Edwards FM DR off 392w. 730-6pm. Small furniture, record player, air mattress & pump old records DVD, VHS, CDs Seasonal Décor, Wm clothes s-XL dishes crafts supplies, fabrics, books, shoes, yard tools antiques lots of free stuff

HUGE SALE, SEPT 6th and 7th, 9427 Ironwood lane Harrison. 3 miles out hwy 62/412 West. WATCH FOR SIGNS.

HUGE SALE FRIDAY-SATURDAY, 6TH - 7TH, 8:00 A.M. - ? 10 Mimosa Drive, Harrison. Antiques, Piano Books, wood puzzles, silverware set in wood box, kitchen items, golf clubs in cart, bread machine, microwave, TV, jewelry, shoes, bags, good clothes, patio table+2 chairs, plants, hot-water heater, portable hot tub, lots misc!

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted
(Supervised Administration)

IN THE 37TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI

PROBATE Case Number: 24AL-PR00114
Filed 08/15/2024
Cynthia Lee
Clerk, Circuit Court
Howell County

In the Estate of GLENDA JEAN WINCHESTER, Deceased.

Notice of Letters of Administration Granted
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of GLENDA JEAN WINCHESTER, Decedent: On JULY 26, 2024, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of GLENDA JEAN WINCHESTER, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of HOWELL COUNTY, Missouri.

The name, business address, and phone number of the personal representative is: YVONNE FAYE RILEY, 8875 CR 7590, POTTERSVILLE, MO 65790. The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: DEEDRA LYNNE NICHOLSON, PO BOX 1030, MOUNTAIN VIEW, MO 65548, 417-934-2226.

Legal Notice

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

Date of the decedent's death: 20-MAY-2024

/s/ Cynthia Lee, Circuit Clerk
By: Bri Brodrick, Deputy Clerk

Receipt of this notice by mail should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient necessarily has a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, can be determined from the files and records of this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.
Publication Dates: August 17, 24, 31, and September 7, 2024

Legal Notice

Trustees Sale

In Re: Jackie S Martin, his heirs and assigns
TRUSTEE'S SALE - Under the terms of the Deed of Trust executed by Jackie S Martin, his heirs and assigns dated 11/04/2010 and recorded on 11/04/2010 Document 2010R4784 in the office of the Recorder of Deeds for Howell County, MISSOURI, the undersigned Successor Trustee, will on 09/19/2024 at 9:00 AM at the East Front Door of the Howell County Courthouse, Courthouse Square West Plains MO 65775, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash subject to the terms announced at the sale, the realty described in said deed of trust, to wit:

A PART OF LOT 7 OF DAVIDSON'S SUBDIVISION OF THE NW1/4 OF THE SE1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING 442 FEET WEST OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 1 [7], WHICH POINT IS THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF A TRACT CONVEYED TO S.A. SKINNER AND WIFE BY DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 330 AT PAGE 145 OF THE RECORDS OF HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE WEST 10 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THIS SURVEY, THENCE WEST 70 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 218 3/4 FEET, THENCE EAST 70 FEET, THENCE NORTH 218 3/4

Legal Notice

FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. ALSO, A PART OF LOT 7 OF DAVIDSON'S SUBDIVISION OF THE NW1/4 OF THE SE1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING 442 FEET WEST OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7, WHICH POINT IS THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF A TRACT CONVEYED TO S.A. SKINNER AND WIFE BY DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 330 AT PAGE 145 OF THE RECORDS OF HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE WEST 10 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF A TRACT CONVEYED TO DAVID E. RICHARDSON AND WIFE BY DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 392 AT PAGE 281 OF THE RECORDS OF HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID RICHARDSON TRACT 218 3/4 FEET, THENCE EAST 85 FEET, THENCE NORTH 59 3/4 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF A TRACT CONVEYED TO KENNETH D. JARRETT AND WIFE BY DEED RECORDED IN CABINET B, DRAWER 3, AT PAGE 2916-86 OF THE RECORDS OF HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID JARRETT TRACT 75 FEET, THENCE NORTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID JARRETT TRACT AND CONTINUING NORTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID

Legal Notice

SKINNER TRACT 159 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. [INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BRACKETS HAS BEEN ADDED TO MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION]

Eastplains Corporation
SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE

Published in the West Plains Daily Quill
File #: MARJASLS
Publication Dates: August 24, 31, September 7, and 14, 2024

Request for Proposals

The West Plains R-VII School District is conducting a Request for Proposals to include bid specs and prices for two new 77 passenger school buses. RFPs will be accepted until 12:00 pm, September 30, 2024. Bids will be opened at 12:01 pm at the Superintendent's Office. The bid selection will be approved at the October 15th, 2024 school board meeting. The West Plains R-VII Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Delivery is required for April 1 - June 15, 2025. Please contact Dr. Don-

Legal Notice

nie Miller, Mr. Matthew Orchard, or Dr. Wesley Davis at the following address for details.

West Plains R-VII School District
610 E. Olden Street
West Plains, MO 65775
417-256-6155

Publication Dates: September 7 & September 14, 2024

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 FCC's concern
- 6 Rocker Frank
- 11 Pizzeria fixtures
- 12 Have substance
- 13 Thrashes
- 14 Brown shade
- 15 Questions
- 17 Guy's friend
- 19 Has permission to
- 20 Research site
- 23 Comes up
- 25 Walk through water
- 26 Race goals
- 28 Nourish
- 29 Caress
- 30 Snaky shape
- 31 Minivan alternative
- 32 Rent out
- 33 Seasoned sausage
- 35 Column style
- 38 Hackneyed
- 41 Subatomic particle
- 42 Mislead
- 43 Places
- 44 Car of the '50s

DOWN

- 1 Unruly group
- 2 Abel's mother
- 3 Editor's concerns
- 4 Wild about
- 5 Takes for granted
- 6 Full of flavor
- 7 Symmetry lines
- 8 Card spot
- 9 Next-to-last letter
- 10 — loss (confused)
- 16 Shy
- 17 Social blunder
- 18 Zodiac ram

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

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Cell precursors
- 21 "Sky-fall" singer
- 22 Trouble
- 24 Comic Caesar
- 25 Take the title
- 27 Darling
- 31 Gives the boot
- 33 Royal address
- 34 Hotel worker
- 35 They're high among high-brows
- 36 Anjou answer
- 37 D.C. baseballer
- 39 Brunched
- 40 "Very funny!" in a text

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
11											
			15			16					
17	18			19				20	21	22	
23			24					25			
26								27			
28				29							
30				31				32			
			33					34			
35	36	37						38		39	40
41								42			
43								44			

9-5

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Batted a toy mouse, e.g.
- 6 Remote locales?
- 11 Make amends
- 12 Eat away
- 13 Bookish bunch
- 14 Higher than
- 15 Pop producer
- 18 Brief drop
- 19 Pharaoh's symbol
- 20 Hosp. parts
- 21 Letter before omega
- 22 Peaceful
- 24 Small songbird
- 25 Michigan neighbor
- 27 Rainbow shapes
- 29 Unpleasant-tasting
- 32 Last letter
- 33 Tour carrier
- 34 Sense of self
- 35 CIA forerunner
- 36 "That's gross!"

DOWN

- 37 Start for cone or Caps
- 38 Tricks, e.g.
- 40 Derby town
- 42 Wed in haste
- 43 Resort site
- 44 Wander off
- 45 Tritite
- 8 Kitchen gizmo
- 9 Counsel
- 10 Enter via cracks
- 17 Floor cover
- 23 Print units
- 24 Take the title
- 26 Most impulsive
- 27 Islands off Portugal

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

Yesterday's answer

- 28 Outcome
- 30 Disregard
- 31 Sure to fail
- 33 "The Buddy Holly Story" star
- 39 Clean Water Act org.
- 41 Greek consonant

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11										
13										
15				16	17			18		
19				20				21		
22			23					24		
			25					26		
27	28					29			30	31
32				33				34		
35				36				37		
38			39					40	41	
42								43		
44								45		

9-6

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

- SUPAE
- RETXE
- GBOLEG
- LIHAEW



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LANKY DOUGH BATTER VORTEX
Answer: Their garage sale brought in exactly \$1,000. They were happy with that — GRAND TOTAL

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

- LIPYM
- HSWSI
- KEAANW
- DBHIYR



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

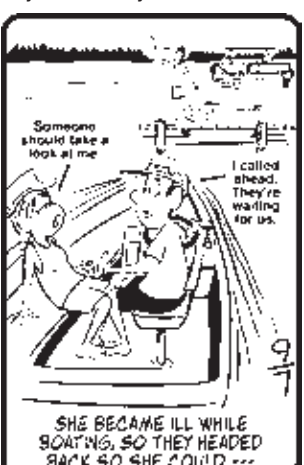
Yesterday's Jumbles: PAUSE EXERT BOGGLE AWHILE
Answer: Being afraid to go to bed in the dark made their son a — LIGHT SLEEPER

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

- HADAE
- OFTAO
- RHAECG
- TGURET



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IMPLY SWISH AWAKEN HYBRID
Answer: The general was the highest-ranking officer there, and everyone called him — BY HIS "SIR-NAME"

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

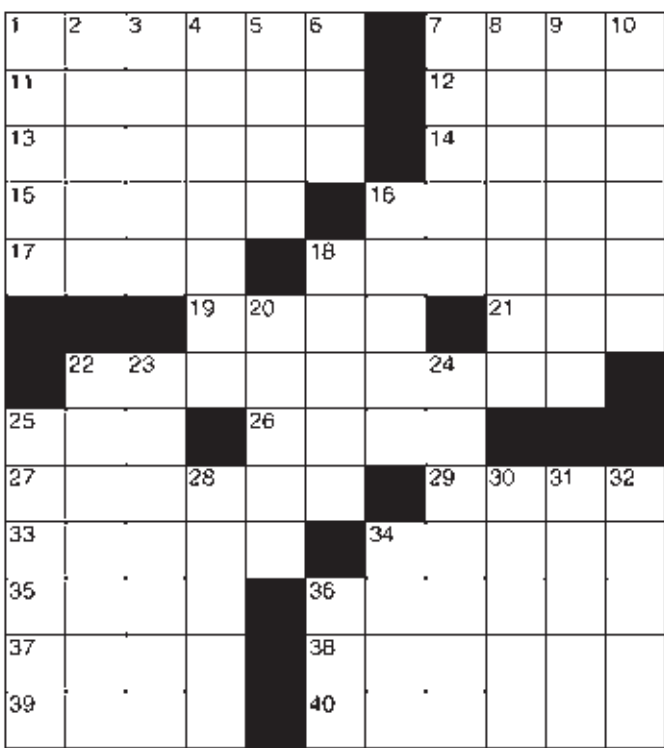
- ACROSS**
- 38 Leader who
 - 1 Hack brings parties together,
 - 7 Sweeping Italian cheese
 - 11 Crumbly Italian cheese
 - 12 Milky gem
 - 13 Sur-rounded

- DOWN**
- 1 Insertion sign
 - 2 Digression
 - 3 Watch the whole season, say
 - 4 Ink color
 - 5 Historic times
 - 6 Approval
 - 7 Deep sleep

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

Yesterday's answer

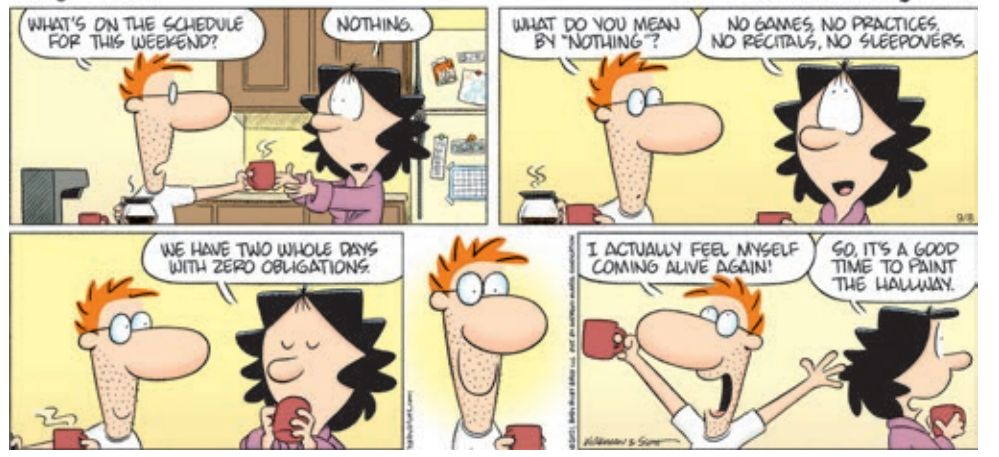
- 8 John or Paul
- 9 Grail seeker
- 10 Dawn-to-dusk
- 16 Took notice
- 18 Wall art
- 20 Let in
- 22 Mexican greeting
- 23 Anonymous
- 24 Medium
- 25 Calm
- 28 Grove
- 30 Steaming makeup
- 31 Trims
- 32 Prepares for a fight
- 34 Rational
- 36 California's Big —



9-7

Baby Blues

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



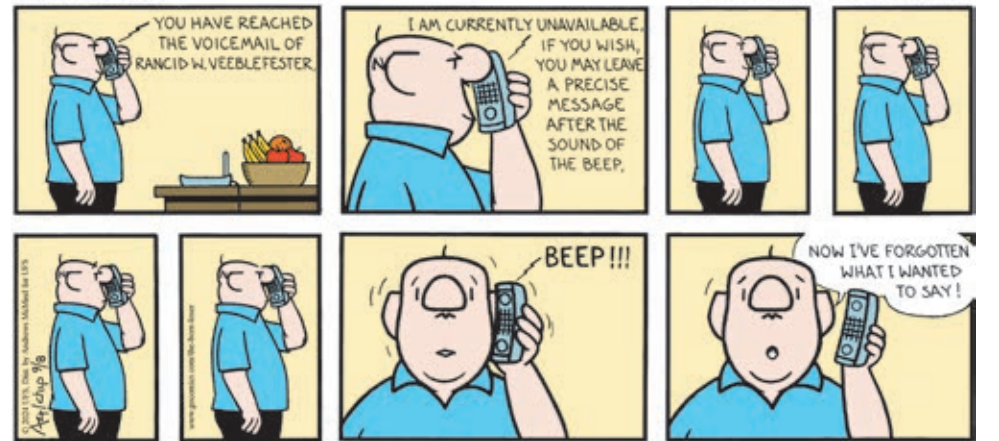
BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER



BORN LOSER

BY ART & CHIP SANSOM



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

