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SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

Issue 55 • Volume 153 | Friday, March 19, 2021 | SedaliaDemocrat.com • $1

United Way presents funds for SPD's drug incinerator

By Ryan Sheehan
ryans@sedaliademocrat.com

The United Way of Pettis County is helping the Sedalia Police Department purchase a new drug incinerator.

United Way of Pettis County Executive Director Catterina Riddle presented a $4,590 check to Sedalia Police Chief Matt Wirt and members of SPD on Thursday afternoon at SPD Headquarters.

Wirt said the drug incinerator costs $4,590 and that it was recently purchased but has not been used yet. According to information from Riddle, the drug incinerator is set to destroy roughly 15 to 25 pounds a month of prescription pills brought in by the Pettis County Sheriff's Office along with roughly 350 to 500 pounds a year of drugs, drug-related paraphernalia, and so on brought in by the SPD.

Wirt said people who want to get rid of their unused prescription pills can place them in drop-off boxes, such as at the Sheriff's Office. The goal is to keep potentially addictive drugs from being abused, especially pain medications because many are highly addictive.

"We're glad to get that off the street," Wirt said.

According to Wirt, the Sheriff's Office is still holding onto the prescription pills set to be destroyed and will only bring in drugs collected in the drop-off box. Wirt said the boxes are operated on a "don't ask, don't tell" basis when it comes to people who drop off unused prescription pills.

SPD has previously partnered with the DEA and other agencies for the Drug Take Back initiative, a national program aimed at collecting unwanted prescription pills in the community. According to Wirt, Sedalia Police Sgt.

See FUNDS | 3A



PHOTO BY RYAN SHEEHAN | DEMOCRAT

United Way of Pettis County Executive Director Catterina Riddle, center, presents a check to Sedalia Police Chief Matt Wirt on Thursday afternoon at the Sedalia Police Department. Also pictured are members of the SPD.



PHOTOS BY NICOLE COOKE | DEMOCRAT

From left, Missouri Park & Recreation Association Executive Director Gary Gates, Sue Heckart, Gov. Mike Parson and Sedalia Parks and Recreation Director Amy Epple pose for a photo after Heckart was presented the MPRA Philanthropist of the Year award Thursday night at Convention Hall.

Heckart recognized for philanthropy efforts

By Nicole Cooke
ncooke@sedaliademocrat.com

Sedalia philanthropist Sue Heckart was recognized for her contributions to the community by the Missouri Park & Recreation Association during a dinner and award ceremony Thursday night at Convention Hall.

MPRA presented Heckart with the Philanthropist of the Year award, otherwise known as the Individual Citation Award. Sedalia Parks and Recreation Director Amy Epple, who nominated Heckart, said the award is usually presented at the annual MPRA conference, but due to the pandemic, awards were presented individually.

Heckart, the former owner of Heckart Funeral Home, has been a supporter of many causes in Sedalia, such as the Sedalia Animal Shelter, Heckart Performing Arts Center and most recently, the upcoming Heckart Community Center. Heckart made a multi-million dollar donation to help fund the community center project by paying the interest on the bonds.

"I feel very honored and very humbled," Heckart told the Democrat of the award. "It's all in memory of my parents and their legacy.

"... I've worked on this for 20 years. It's going to be a culmination of a 21-year dream. The most important thing is, this is something that my parents really wanted for Sedalia and so I've made it my mission to see that that's accomplished."

Heckart had expressed to Epple that she hoped to have the community center open by March 18, 2021, the 20th anniversary of her mother's death. While that goal has been pushed to March 18, 2022, Epple still wanted to find a way to honor the anniversary. When she was notified earlier this year that Heckart would be an MPRA award recipient, she immediately asked if the Sedalia ceremony could be hosted March 18.

"Sue's gift, it's a multi-million dollar donation and all the work that we did, we knew we couldn't do the community center without her generous gift of paying the interest on the loan for the community center," Epple told the Democrat.

See HECKART | 6A



Through tears, Sue Heckart, right, embraces Sedalia Parks and Recreation Director Amy Epple after thanking those gathered Thursday night for honoring her with the Missouri Park & Recreation Association Philanthropist of the Year award.

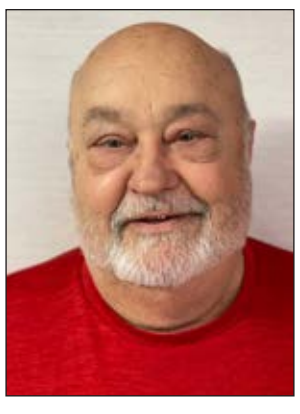
10 candidates vying for Health Center board

By Democrat Staff

Ten candidates have filed for three seats on the Pettis County Health Center Board of Trustees in the April 6 municipal election.

Ann Richardson, Philip J. Fracica, John Sultanov, Brandy Von Holten, Dorothy Webner, Joe Wasson, Matthew K. Smith, Amanda McClain, Tina Schroeder, and Kathy Jane Kempton have all filed as candidates for the board. Richardson is a current member. Trustees serve a four-year term.

Each candidate was asked to fill out a questionnaire. Answers were limited to 150 words and are listed in the order the candidates appear on the ballot. Five candidates were published in Thursday's edition and five candidates are being published in Friday's edition.



Joe Wasson



Matthew K. Smith



Amanda McClain



Tina Schroeder



Kathy Kempton

Why are you running for office?

Wasson: To assure the citizens of Pettis County have a wide choice of options for the elected position of Pettis County Board of Health.

Smith: I am running for the PCHC Board of Trustees position because there needs to be more diversity in the beliefs and opinions of board members. To ensure that all people in Pettis County are represented and being heard. To give the voters a choice for the first time that anyone can remember. I believe the Health Center's Board should be working better to support our local businesses and work to keep them open to keep our communities prosperous and growing.

McClain: I decided late summer 2020 that I wanted to run for the Health Center's Board of Trustees. I saw a need within the Board and while discussing it with my family I decided that I would run because I have worked within a health center and have working knowledge of public health. I am confident I could be an asset to the Board.

Schroeder: I have always been an advocate for the underserved. I strongly believe that community health is extremely important. My children are grown, I now have the time to devote.

Kempton: I am running for the PCHC Board of Trustees because I am interested in the health and welfare of the citizens of Pettis County. This pandemic has illustrated that nothing is more important than helping keep people safe and healthy and I would like to try and help with this endeavor.

What are your qualifications?

Wasson: A concerned lifelong resident of Pettis County, a medic in the Army during Vietnam, the first nationally registered EMT in Pettis County, owned and managed the first EMS service in Pettis County, assisted the State of Missouri in 1973 to establish current EMS laws and standards that are now in place, served on the State Board of EMTs from 1974 until 1984.

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LOTTERY
Midday Drawing
Pick 3: 4-9-5
Pick 4: 8-5-7-6

Evening Drawing
Pick 3: 9-1-2
Pick 4: 6-3-9-4
Show-Me Cash: 7-15-16-27-35

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
What's your take on today's news? Go to sedaliademocrat.com or visit us on Facebook to share your thoughts @ SedaliaDemocrat!

ALL-CMAC HOOPS LISTS RELEASED
• **Sports 1B**

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Walter Harms

IONIA — Kenneth Walter Harms, 77, of Ionia, passed away Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at his home.



He was born on March 22, 1943, at home on his parents' farm west of Cole Camp, Missouri, a son of Harry E. and Bertha (Bremer) Harms.

He was baptized at his parents' home on April 9, 1943, by Rev. Henry J. Gerike and was confirmed on April 14, 1957, at Trinity Lutheran Church by Rev. Henry J. Gerike, where he was a life-long member. He graduated Cole Camp High School in 1961, which was the first class to graduate from the new school. While in high school, he played baseball and basketball.

On January 2, 1965, at Zion Lutheran Church in Lincoln, he was united in marriage to Kathleen Schenewark. This union was blessed with the gift of two children, Lisa and Kevin.

From November of 1966 to November of 1968, Kenneth served his country honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Ceremonial Honor Guard at Ft. McNair, D.C. while in the Army and was a member of the American Legion Post No. 305 of Cole Camp.

From December of 1968 to April of 1981, he worked for Alcan Cable in Sedalia. After retiring from Alcan Cable, he continued farming and worked part time at the Sedalia Sale Barn. For many years, Kenny enjoyed playing both slow pitch and fast pitch softball. He also enjoyed watching the St. Louis Cardinals and Mizzou Tigers on television and watching his grandchildren's ball games. He loved to watch a good western on television, some he watched many times.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-six years, Kathleen Harms of the home; a daughter, Lisa Lillard of Lee's Summit; a son, Kevin Harms and his wife Connie of Mora; a sister, Ruth Kerksiek of Cole Camp; four grandchildren, Jackson Lillard, Courtney Lillard, Kaden Harms, and Kyla Harms; two brothers-in-law, Ben Childress of Streamwood, Illinois, and Ray Schenewark of Lincoln; and a sister-in-law, Kay Schenewark of Lincoln.

He was preceded in death by his parents, five sisters, Dorene Martens, LaVerne Rhodes, Mary Ann Childress, Betty Jean Pritzel, and Lois Harms, two brothers, James (Jim) Harms and Dennis Harms, and four brothers-in-law, Mel Martens, Jack Rhodes, Dick Pritzel, and Merlin Kerksiek.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cole Camp, with Pastor Gregory Truwe officiating. Burial will be in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Cole Camp, with military honors by the American Legion Post No. 305 of Cole Camp.

The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. until service time on Saturday at the church.

Pallbearers will be Jackson Lillard, Kaden Harms, Stan Rhodes, Billy Childress, Steve Pritzel, Darin Harms, Brian Harms, Derick Harms, and Alan Kerksiek.

The family suggests memorial contributions be given to Lutheran School Association, American Legion Post No. 305, or Trinity Lutheran Cemetery in care of the Fox Funeral Home, Cole Camp. Online condolences may be left at www.foxfuneralhome-colecampmo.com.

Robert Vest Hirst Jr.

JEFFERSON CITY — Robert Vest Hirst, Jr., 85, of Tipton, passed away Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City, MO.



He was born June 22, 1935, to Vest and Fern (McGill) Hirst at Fremont, MO. On November 4, 1961, he was united in marriage to Glenda Nau at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Tipton.

Junior attended Baxter School and Tipton Public School, graduating from Tipton High School in 1953. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1953 and served until 1957. Junior worked for United Telephone Company and Sprint, retiring in 1993. He loved working with his cattle operation and also enjoyed gardening and hunting. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the love of his life.

Survivors include his wife Glenda of 59 years; three children, Jeannette (Jon) Daniel, Rob (Deb) Hirst, and Lawrence (Tracy) Cooper; eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren with one more on the way; two brothers, Paul (Diana) Hirst, Ronnie (Judi) Hirst; and one sister, Carol Wirths.

In addition to both of his parents he was preceded in death by one daughter, Tina Hirst-Cooper; and one sister, Phyllis Huddleston.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. until service time at the Meisenheimer Funeral Home in Tipton. Memorial services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday at the funeral home with full military honors to follow provided by the American Legion Edgar Cole Post 304 and the United States Navy.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Central Missouri Honor Flight in care of Meisenheimer Funeral Home.

Father Joseph Miller

Father Joseph Miller, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in St. Joseph, passed from this life on March 16, 2021.



Visitation will be held at St Francis Xavier Church on Friday March 19, from 2:00 PM till 7:30 PM. A Vigil Prayer Service will follow at 7:30 PM. The Mass of Christian Burial will be on Monday March 22, 2021 at St. James Catholic Church in Liberty, MO. at 11:00 AM. Visitation from 10: 00 AM till 11:00 AM. Interment will be in Carthagena, Ohio, at a later date.

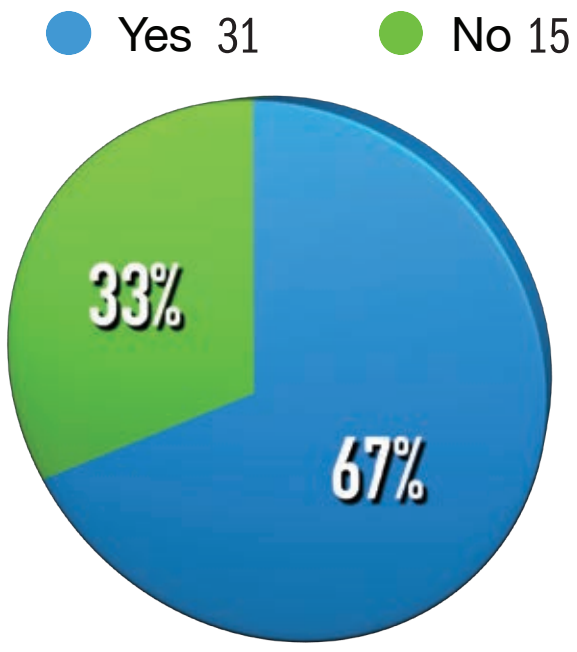
In Lieu of flowers, the family suggests Memorial Contributions to The Society Of The Precious Blood.

The service will be live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StJames-LibertyMO, YouTube at https://bit.ly/3bWFCfn and www.stjames-liberty.org.

Facial coverings will be required at all services.

POLL RESULTS

Do you agree with Congress approving more stimulus checks?



To participate in the Democrat's polls, visit sedaliademocrat.com.

CRASH REPORTS

Two women injured in Henry crash

Two women were injured in a two-vehicle accident at 10:20 a.m. March 17 in Henry County.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Shannon M. Untersee, 47, of Urich, was northbound on Highway B at Northwest 1100 Road in a 2008 Chevrolet Impala when Petra M. Shaffer, 59, of Kingsville, was southbound in a 2014 Camry and crossed the centerline, striking Untersee's vehicle.

Untersee, who was wearing a seat belt, was transported by ambulance to Golden Valley Memorial Hospital in Clinton. Shaffer, who was also wearing a seat belt, received minor injuries and refused treatment.

Barnett woman seriously injured in ATV crash

A Barnett woman suffered serious injuries in a single-vehicle accident at 4:28 p.m. March 17 in Morgan County.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Mary B. Thompson, 47, was westbound on Marvin Cutoff Road west of Little Marvin Drive on a 2015 Honda Rancher ATV when the vehicle began to skid on the roadway and overturned, ejecting Thompson, who was not wearing a seat belt.

She was transported by ambulance to Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach.

Lincoln man hurt in Benton crash

A Lincoln man received moderate injuries in a single-vehicle accident at 8:55 p.m. March 17 in Benton County.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Patrick L. Gordon, 40, was southbound on U.S. 65 at state Route 83 in a 2007 Ford when he traveled off the roadway and his vehicle struck a rock bluff.

Gordon, who was wearing a seat belt, was transported by ambulance to Bothwell Regional Health Center.

Lexington teen hurt in Johnson crash

A Lexington teenager was injured in a vehicle accident at 10:36 a.m. March 18 in Johnson County.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, a 15-year-old male lost control of a 2003 Ford that was northbound on Northwest 1000 51st Street north of Northwest 375th Road. The vehicle traveled off the roadway, overturned and came to rest in a ditch.

The driver, who was wearing a seat belt, was transported by Johnson County Ambulance District to Western Missouri Medical Center in Warrensburg.

Pleasant Hill woman injured in Johnson crash

A Pleasant Hill woman was injured in an accident at 5:40 a.m. March 18 in Johnson County.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Jessica C. Hunter, 23, was westbound on Highway 50 east of Northwest 601 Road in a 2016 Toyota Prius when she lost control on ice and struck a tree, coming to rest in a pond.

Hunter was transported by Johnson County Ambulance District to Western Missouri Medical Center in Warrensburg.

Information is taken from preliminary Missouri State Highway Patrol reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

DEATH NOTICE

Harms

IONIA — Kenneth Harms, of Ionia, died Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 20, 2021, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Cole Camp. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:30 a.m. Arrangements are under the direction of Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Stone

SEDALIA — Dennis Ray Stone, 67, of Sedalia, died Monday, March 15, 2021, at his home.

There will be no formal services. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

FUNERALS

Privitt, Lela S.

2 p.m. today memorial service at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Johnson, Elijah N.

7 p.m. today memorial service at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Harms, Kenneth

11 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Hirst, Robert Vest

11 a.m. Saturday at Meisenheimer Funeral Home. Arrangements are under the direction of Meisenheimer Funeral Home in Tipton

Seidl, Diane L.

11 a.m. Saturday funeral services at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Williams, C.H. (Clarence Henry) Jr.

2 p.m. Saturday funeral services at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Miller, Fr. Joseph

11 a.m Monday, March 22 at St. James Catholic Church in Liberty. Arrangements are under the direction of Heaton-Bowman-Smith & Sidenfaden Chapel in St. Joseph.

Brandl-Hatcher, Anna

11 a.m. Tuesday, March 23 at Meisenheimer Funeral Home. Arrangements are under the direction of Meisenheimer Funeral Home in Tipton.

Chaplin, Ralph E. (Gene)

Friday, March 26 at Memorial Park Cemetery in Sedalia.

Mahin, Arthur E.

10 a.m. Monday, April 5 graveside service at La Monte Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia.

POLICE REPORTS

This list is a sampling of crime in Sedalia and the surrounding area. Information is taken from official police reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved in each case.

Sedalia Police Department Incidents

March 17

11:50 a.m.: An officer took a missing person report in the SPD lobby. The complainant said his brother did not show up for work several days in a row. The subject was entered into NCIC and MULES as a missing person.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

LOCAL BRIEFS

CVS Health to administer COVID vaccines

CVS Health has begun to administer COVID vaccines to eligible populations at four CVS Pharmacy locations in Missouri, including Sedalia, 100 E. Broadway Blvd. Appointments for the latest allocation of doses will start to become available for booking on Friday, March 19, as stores receive shipments of vaccines.

Supply for the rollout in the state is sourced directly from the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program. Participating CVS Pharmacy stores are in the following communities: Kansas City, St. Louis, Sedalia, and Ballwin. As more supply becomes available CVS will expand to more store locations and in more Missouri communities.

Vaccines at these CVS Pharmacy locations will be available to individuals meeting state eligibility criteria, as well as K-12 teachers and staff and childcare workers. Patients must register in advance at CVS.com or through the CVS Pharmacy app, and people without online access can contact CVS Customer Service: 800-746-7287. Walk-in vaccinations without an appointment will not be provided.

The retail sites in Missouri are among more than 1,300 CVS Pharmacy locations across 35 states and Puerto Rico where the company is administering vaccines. Vaccines will eventually be available at CVS Pharmacy locations throughout the country, subject to product availability, with the capacity to administer 20-25 million shots per month.

Phillips Media Group, LLC. (USPS 488-400)
Telephone: 660-826-1000 or 800-892-7856

Publishes Tuesday through Saturday
Subscription rate is $175.00/year, plus tax.
Prices are subject to change at any time; no refunds.

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Missouri to open vaccines to everyone beginning April 9

By Summer Ballentine
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Missouri Gov. Mike Parson on Thursday said the homeless, minorities, restaurant workers and other vulnerable communities will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccines beginning March 29, and the vaccine will be opened up to everyone soon after.

Any adult in Missouri who wants a COVID-19 vaccine will be eligible to get one beginning April 9, Parson said.

The governor said he expects a large influx of vaccines to Missouri beginning in April, and his administration wants to open up eligibility to ensure there are enough interested people ready to be vaccinated.

"Supply projections are subject to change, but it is critical that we start preparing for this potential influx and ensure there is a consistent number of people who are eligible and interested in receiving a vaccine," Parson said in a statement.

People covered by the state's second phase of the vaccine rollout also include workers at casinos, stores, hotels, campgrounds, amusement parks, stadiums and arenas, shopping malls and other stores. That phase begins March 29.

Higher education employees and all government workers also will be eligible then.

Meanwhile, a new effort has begun in St. Louis County to help homebound residents and people with disabilities get COVID-19 vaccinations.

The county health department is working with 15 fire and emergency management services districts to deliver vaccine to homes and independent living facilities, St. Louis Public Radio reported.

"Some homebound residents can rely on family members or loved ones to drive them to schedule appointments, but not everyone can immediately respond when a vaccine becomes available," said Dawn Chapman, a member of the county's disability commission who also is helping schedule vaccine appointments.

Statewide in Missouri, the seven-day average of new cases is down 5.9% compared with the previous seven days, according to data from the state health department website on Friday. Overall, the state has reported 485,009 confirmed cases and 8,364 deaths since the onset of the virus.

The Kansas City region is seeing a slight uptick in the rolling average for new coronavirus cases. The region, which includes Kansas City and its suburbs in both Missouri and Kansas, reported 160 new cases Wednesday.

The seven-day average for new cases was 128. A week ago, the seven-day average for the Kansas City region was 102, according to data compiled by The Kansas City Star.

PASTOR'S PULPIT

Finding your purpose in life

By Jon Church
Pastor of Katy Park Baptist Church

Got milk? What a great ad! It's simple, catchy, and to the point. It was so popular that everyone has borrowed the idea for their own business or hobby. Got soccer? Got health? Got radio? Got art? For just about any interest, the ad works and makes you think. Even the "church" has gotten in on the fun with "Got Jesus?"

But the one I like the best is "Got Purpose?" Have you ever stopped to ponder one of life's best questions? Why do I exist? Does my life really have any significance?

Dr. Hugh Moorhead, a philosophy professor at Northeastern Illinois University, once wrote 250 of the best-known philosophers, scientists, writers, and intellectuals in the world, asking "What is the meaning of Life?" He then published the responses in a book. Some offered best guesses, some admitted that they just made up a purpose for life, and others were honest enough to say they were clueless.

The problem with so many people who are trying to discover their purpose for existence is that they begin with themselves. What do I want to be? What should I do with my life? What are my goals? What are my ambitions, my dreams for my future? Focusing on ourselves will never reveal our true life's purpose.

The easiest way to discover the purpose of an invention is to ask the creator about it. God wants us to know Him and His purpose for our lives. In fact, His word reveals many things about life. In Ephesians 1:11-12 (The Message) Paul says, "It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone."

Our purpose is not found in a job, in success, in accomplishment, or in stuff. Those things bring temporary purpose; however, there is a broader, longer-lasting purpose that will outlive our lives on earth. Our purpose is found through and in a trust relationship with Jesus. God was thinking of you long before you ever thought about Him and He can't wait to help you become the person He created you to be. Before I truly gave my heart to Christ and followed Him, I was living for myself. That type of living stops when I die. There is no hope in that type of living. Since trusting Christ, I now understand why I am here, where I came from and where I am going. The things around me make more sense. True purpose brings ultimate fulfillment. This all happens because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ which we will be celebrating next month. Jesus died for my rebellious nature and disobedience to Him. He paid the price for me and you, a horrible death on the cross. The good news is he didn't stay dead. Jesus rose again and because of His victory over death, all who believe and follow Him have been given new life. We call that being born again. Now I no longer live for my glory but God's glory.

God's inviting you to live for his glory, fulfilling his purpose he made for you, everything else is just "existing." I invite you to seek out his purpose for your life this week.

CHURCH NEWS

St Vincent de Paul Parish news

Sacred Heart is hosting a Parish Mission on Stewardship featuring Fr. Steven Jones, Diocesan Director of Stewardship, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 21-23 at St. Patrick Chapel. For more information, visit svdpparish.diojeffcity.org and click on Parish Mission.

Forgiven Series

This week the Lenten series "Forgiven" focuses on Biblical Foundations: Sin, Mercy and the Sacrament of Confession. There are three times available for those wanting to join at the Sacred Heart Chapel Parish Center: 9:30 a.m, 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be hosted Fridays during Lent:

St. Patrick Chapel, noon (English), 6 p.m. (Spanish)

Sacred Heart Chapel, 6 p.m.

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Chapel

Tap Into Faith

This month, the "Tap Into Faith" series at the Sacred Heart Chapel Parish Center will focus on Humane Vitae.

STATE BRIEFS

Church council calls for resignation of Kansas City chief

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The regional body that represents the Presbyterian Church is joining other civil rights organizations in calling for the dismissal of Kansas City Police Chief Rick Smith.

The Kansas City Star reports that the Heartland Presbytery said in a letter Thursday that the church wants the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners to hire a new chief who would protect residents equally and discipline officers who "act lawlessly, unethically and without proper respect, especially for Black and Brown people."

Capt. David Jackson, a spokesman for the Kansas City Police Department, said the chief has no plans to resign.

The letter from the council cited Smith's "total lack of a working relationship" with Jackson County Prosecutor Jean Peters Baker, who has said the department has refused to issue probable cause statements in use-of-force cases.

Representing 81 congregations and 173 ministers in Missouri and Kansas, the council commended some of Smith's efforts, such as the deployment of body cameras. But it said his "lack of a working relationship" with the Black community was problematic.

Civil rights leaders have wanted Smith to resign or be fired for years, and the calls gained momentum after social justice demonstrations in Kansas City last summer.

Funds

From Page 1A

Casey DeVorss helped coordinate the project between SPD, the Pettis County Sheriff's Office, and United Way. Wirt said the United Way "feels strongly" about the Drug Take Back program and wants to help, which was part of the reason for the donation to SPD.

"(There are) different events usually throughout the year, non-COVID year, that we and the sheriff's department participate in, and sometimes other organizations participate in, trying to get… those drugs taken back, and get them destroyed," Wirt said.

In addition to prescription pills, Wirt said the drug incinerator will be used to destroy drug evidence seized in arrests, whether the drug evidence is non-prescribed drugs or illegal narcotics.

"(The drug incinerator) gives us an avenue to also get rid of that drug evidence that's no longer needed for court," Wirt said.

Wirt said the length of time drug evidence is needed is dependent on the court process and how long it lasts. Once the drug evidence is no longer needed, per the prosecutor and court system, the SPD has the authorization to destroy the drug evidence in question. The amount being destroyed each year will vary based on when evidence can be disposed of.

"There may be a time where a lot of cases are disposed of. And so, then all of sudden, we're gonna go destroy 50 pounds," Wirt said. "And then... there may be very little for the next couple months."

Wirt said the drug incinerator is a Drug Terminator from Elastec Portable Incinerators. He explained the incinerator operates off of charcoal, which it uses to start a fire and incinerate the drugs. The drug incinerator also has filters to keep the air clean. Wirt said after the drugs are incinerated, the only waste remaining is ash, which is non-toxic.

Ryan Sheehan can be reached at 660-530-0144.

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Answers to Sedalia Democrat's Prizeweek Puzzle





March 13th Answers

$550 Could Have Been Yours!

There was NO WINNER last week, so be sure to look in Saturday's Sedalia Democrat for your chance to win up to $600

ACROSS

5. LAPEL not label. The LAPEL on a clothing item such as a blazer or jacket might not "stay flat." But many labels are intended to conform to a curved surface, such as bottle labels, for example.

6. WINGED not winded. "Even when" WINGED (defined as: wounded in an arm) is a good answer. When an "athlete" is winded, it isn't possible for even the most perseverant type to have the breath to "keep going," at least for a period of time.

8. SHEEN not sheer. The clue implies that the fabric has considerable weight when it's a big order, which makes SHEEN a good answer. Being sheer suggests the material is thin and, therefore, weighs less.

11. SHARE not spare. The clue phrase "has more than enough" is redundant with spare. SHARE is best.

13. TALE not sale. Usually a customer doesn't have to perceive anything about a sale because ads for sales are generally straightforward in order to attract consumers, rather than to confuse them. TALE fits the clue's context better since it's quite common for "readers" to perceive a story in a variety of ways.

14. HIT not hot. If a player is involved in "wild games of hockey," it's pretty much a certainty that he will be hot from all the exertion. A "common" occurrence, however, is "getting" HIT by a puck or a player who's speeding by.

15. SCORE not store. Often people are delegated the "task" of keeping SCORE during a game. Keeping a store is a full-time job, rather than a task.

18. POISONER not prisoner. It would probably be far easier for someone who is plotting a POISONING to "leave" a room than it would be for a prisoner, whose every move is watched or recorded. Furthermore, the prisoner wouldn't be leaving his confinement; rather, he'd be escaping.

DOWN

1. BLAND not blank. The clue suggests that some "relevant information" might be forthcoming, although not "much," which fits well with a BLAND "expression." There's no reason for the "officer" to "anticipate" any "relevant information" at all from a "witness" with a blank "expression."

2. TEA not ten. "Rowdy" parties often involve alcohol, not TEA, so naturally it would be something unexpected. There's no indication of the size of the "block," which is important to the clue since, if it's a small street, ten neighbors showing up for the "party" would be "expected."

3. WISER not miser. If he's "only" focused on "saving money," he would be showing miserly tendencies already, making miser unnecessary. WISER makes a straightforward answer.

4. BEST not jest. BEST is apt. Jest is superfluous with "stand-up comic."

7. POSTS not pests. A "landscaper" usually deals with site planning as opposed to pest control. Planning where to place POSTS on the "property" makes a better answer.

9. CAKE not case. While the couple might enjoy the CAKE "containing amazing liqueurs," it's not so much the case they would enjoy as it is the "liqueurs" it contains.

10. TERSE not tense. The "head of advertising" would probably have already become tense prior to the "meeting, having recently received" the "revised deadline." However, it is at the "meeting" that she might well speak in a TERSE manner.

12. RESTING not rusting. Since the ship "sank centuries ago," its remains might primarily be made of wood, rather than rusting metal. Therefore, a RESTING "vessel" makes a better answer.

14. HERS not hero. HERS is best. Hero needs to be explained since there's nothing to indicate that he was ever in battle or participated in a heroic endeavor.

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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Board

From Page 1A

Smith: I was born and raised in Pettis County. I graduated from Smith-Cotton High School, State Fair Community College with my Associate's degree, and from the University of Central Missouri with my Bachelor's in Business Administration and a Master's in Education. I have worked as an insurance adjuster, accounting, and worked in the Emergency Room at Bothwell Regional Health Center. I currently work in sales.

McClain: I started my nursing career in 2004 by working my way through LPN, RN, and BSN school. I have worked within a public health center, taught nursing students, been a director of nursing and worked extensively with the geriatric population, to name a few of my areas of experience.

Schroeder: I am a registered nurse. I received my bachelor's of science degree at Wichita State University. The first 10 years of my career were centered around individual care, i.e. intensive care and emergency nursing. The remainder has been around home health and hospice. Going into homes to treat clients increased my interest into community aspects. Access to good health care is essential toward the goal of a healthy productive community.

Kempton: My qualifications are that I have been a long-time resident of Pettis County. I have been involved in the educational system for 30-plus years so I feel I have a good insight into the needs of members of the community. I have a good understanding of what might be necessary for promoting healthy lifestyles and protecting the members of the community. I have a deep connection to this county and I would like to spend some time giving back.

What do you think are some top issues facing the Pettis County Health Center that need to be addressed soon?

Wasson: The need for qualified personnel to assure that the citizens of Pettis County are provided appropriate care for all communicable diseases with vaccines and health care guidance.

Smith: I believe that the Pettis County Health Center needs to be more transparent. Board meetings should be more available to the public by webcast and posting board meetings for public viewing. The Pettis County Health Center website needs to be updated and more user-friendly. The Health Center could do a better job of promoting programs on infant care, parenting classes, drug awareness, suicide and grief, along with health awareness programs.

McClain: Transparency is a big one for me. The website has very limited information and is not very user-friendly. Prior to running, information was very slow to be released, if released at all. COVID isn't going away so we have to deal with it in a way that allows Americans and Pettis County voters to live their lives while protecting our most vulnerable population.

Schroeder: Of course, the current most important issue is moving forward with control of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have to get this virus under control. It has been tragic for our entire community. The loss of life is the most obvious, but the isolation, loss of income and anxiety has been devastating to many. With our numbers being so low currently, it is obvious that this community has taken this seriously and doing their parts to reduce the spread. Thankful to all who have done their part!

Kempton: The pandemic is of course the top issue that faces the PCHC. We must continue to do what is necessary to help keep our community safe. Not only do we need to provide information to prevent people from becoming sick, but we also need to stress the importance of healthy lifestyles. The PCHC must be a conduit for information about things that can help protect members of the community. The entire process of dealing with the COVID-19 virus has been a mammoth undertaking for the PCHC. The process of testing, contact tracing, and providing vaccines has been a huge strain on the entire staff. I believe it will continue to be this way as the year progresses. Hopefully, this will not continue much longer than 2021.

How do you think the Pettis County Health Center has handled the COVID-19 pandemic? Is there anything you would do differently?

Wasson: Would find a way, other than the internet, to reach the at-home and elderly that have no way to obtain the vaccines. Would also give churches more appropriate ways to be able to continue to gather for worship. Schools to be able to stay open safely by the administration. Would continue to keep large gatherings at a minimum.

Smith: I believe the Pettis County Health Center did a poor job of listening to the concerns of majority of the citizens in Pettis County in attempting to mandate the wearing of masks and their concerns about being forced to wear a mask. Further, the Health Center's focus on COVID-19 seems to have caused them to overlook the other health needs of the community and neglected to keep the website updated. The Health Center Board failed to work with small business owners to help keep them prosperous and growing but worked to shut them down.

McClain: Communication with the public needed to be handled differently which could have prevented a lot of problems. It seems like an agenda was being pushed because again the transparency wasn't there. A lot more information could have been released to the public just like other counties were doing with their voters. Now we are down to about 30 active cases, and the last NIXLE alert changed the quarantine guidelines and stated we need 75% of the county vaccinated to consider reopening. Why hasn't this information been posted on their website and Facebook pages with information about why changes have been made and explaining their reasoning. I wish I could adequately answer this question but 150 words or less isn't enough to list the problems and solutions.

Schroeder: I am extremely proud of our health department! I would have voted in support of the mask mandate. It's as simple as that. Masks and distancing to reduce spread. Masks are a barrier, if the virus cannot get into your respiratory system, you cannot be infected. I understand they are an inconvenience but we have to protect each other. I care about our community, therefore I wear a mask. Of course, they are not perfect and we make mistakes. Even the most conscientious of us can break the "sterile field." However, by doing our best we can keep the cases low. The goal is not to overwhelm our health care system.

Kempton: I think the PCHC has done a wonderful job during the pandemic. They have taken the necessary steps to provide accurate information to the public while doing what is necessary to ensure the safety of the population. We need to remember that this was an unprecedented set of circumstances with no "blueprint" for how to proceed. I realize that many people were not in favor of the mask ruling, but I feel it was appropriate given the situation. The PCHC relies on direction from state and CDC guidelines and my understanding is that this is what they were following. I think that the director and her staff are deserving of kudos for how they have handled a very difficult situation that none of us could ever have predicted. I applaud them all for their patience, diligence and their hours and hours of hard work.

What do you think is the PCHC Board's role in the community?

Wasson: To ensure the Health Department follows all state guidelines and make any adjustments needed to cover the local areas. Listen to the citizens for their input and make sure they have the needed education to make appropriate decisions, not just emotional ones.

Smith: The Health Center Board is responsible for promoting programs that oversee the health of our community by working with other entities to address issues like mental health, reproductive health issues and health wellness training. The Health Center Board should be working with all businesses, including small businesses that have been ignored or pressured during these trying times of COVID-19.

McClain: I think that it is the PCHC Board's role to be accountable to the community. Seek input from the community and then use that input to make decisions in the best interest of the public. It is also the board's job to make sure we are being good stewards of the taxpayers' money. Then turn around and be transparent with where money is being spent and why it is being spent.

Schroeder: The purpose of PCHC is to bridge the gap between people with health insurance and those without. It is important to have access to primary care, mental health care and dental care to all citizens of Pettis County. There is a wealth of knowledge at the center, from pregnancy to death. From food safety and dietary information to substance abuse. I would love to play a role in identifying problems and promoting health and well-being through all stages of life! A healthier community is a stronger community! We all long for a return to "normal." I would like to help Pettis County achieve this.

Kempton: The PCHC Board's role in the community is to direct and guide the activities of the health center. They are the face of the programs for the PCHC. They should be well versed in the core elements of the health center which include prevention of illnesses, promoting healthy lifestyles, providing wellness services and helping to protect members of the community. I would hope that they would be available to provide information to constituents in all of these areas.

Other than items related to COVID-19, what else is an important part of the board's duties you are interested in working on?

Wasson: Ensuring appropriate care for the children, elderly and infirm, and providing accurate community education.

Smith: I would like to be part of a Health Center Board that promotes more community awareness to issues like suicide awareness, drug awareness, child/infant training and CPR classes, getting the website updated and kept current.

McClain: Oversight and communication with the public. I want our community to know what programs are available to them, what those programs cost, how those programs are paid for, and where and when funding is received for those programs. Do we have a Safe Cribs program? There are programs in surrounding community health centers that provide safe portable cribs to those in the community that meet the criteria. I've looked on our local website and can't tell if we participate in the program or not.

Schroeder: There are so many factors that make up a health community. My top three would probably be substance abuse, mental health care access and adequate living conditions.

Kempton: One of the most important reasons I have chosen to run for this office is to promote the mental health of those in our community. This pandemic has impacted so many who have never had issues with mental health before. There are those that have never experienced anxiety and depression that are struggling now. It's imperative that we help reduce the stigma for those in need. Doing more to emphasize the importance and access for mental health services will be something I would like to help with. As a licensed professional counselor, I feel that my expertise in this area could be an invaluable resource as a member of this board

What goals do you have for office if you are elected?

Wasson: Review current qualifications for the director's position, level of knowledge of epidemiology, and management skills.

Smith: I would like to be a part of the board to bring about more transparency to the Health Center's Board. To be a part of a board that is open and listens to local businesses "big and small," a board that listens to and make informed decisions, one that is diverse in thought and works to better inform the people of Pettis County.

McClain: Provide adequate information to the public in a variety of ways, such as the website, social media, newspaper, etc. Be transparent and accountable to the community. Explore more programs and services that we could provide for the county. Be sure we are being good stewards of our resources and using funding in the most efficient and effective ways.

Kempton: My goals will be to gather information to help be a responsive and responsible member of the PCHC Board of Trustees. I am willing to devote the time and effort to be a contributing member of this board. My only agenda in this election is to be supportive of the PCHC and to help promote the goals they have set forth, especially in the areas of increasing awareness of mental health needs.

Why should people vote for you?

Wasson: I bring unique qualifications and perspective to the position. Able to keep an open mind and evaluate conditions of need. I will listen to the citizens' voices. Most of all to make sure the Board of five understands that two members are not a majority.

Smith: I hope to put my work experience and education to use and ensure the people of Pettis County are informed about the decision that affect their lives. It is clear to me that we need an energized board reflective of the whole community. I want to be your voice and give you better choices regarding your health care. I am for keeping our business open, and keeping our community growing and prosperous. I would appreciate your support and vote during early voting or on April 6. Thank you for your consideration.

McClain: I am volunteering to serve because I care about our community and want to see positive changes. I have experience in various areas of health care, including public health, so I am quite familiar with what this position will entail. I have a passion for educating the public on how to make good health decisions and would love to see more of that implemented in our county. I have a flexible schedule and am willing to commit as much time as needed to the Board of Trustees. I will always welcome your ideas and concerns and do my best to be your voice.

Schroeder: I moved to Sedalia 11 years ago from Wichita, Kansas. I loved my big city and the fast pace but I also love this small town. I love that I've gotten to know so many good people. I will bring my knowledge of being a registered nurse, my knowledge of being a mom to three awesome kids to the department. My son died as a result of substance abuse, therefore I am passionate about this subject. I will bring my compassion for all people. I love learning and know we achieve great things when we put good minds together that are in the best interest of serving the people.

Kempton: I would appreciate your vote for this Board as I feel that I am a level-headed person who is able to look at information and make rational decisions. Having taught speech and debate previously, I am very aware that there are two sides to every issue. I am open-minded and willing to educate myself to make informed decisions that will help benefit the members of the Pettis County community.

STATE BRIEFS

2 St. Louis police officers accused of raping several women

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Two St. Louis police officers have been charged with sexually assaulting four women, while a third office has been charged with witness tampering in the case.

Officer Lafeal Lawshea, 38, is charged with two counts of forcible rape and counts of forcible sodomy, sexual misconduct and tampering with a victim, while Officer Torey Phelps, 38, is charged with one count of forcible rape, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Investigators have accused Lawshea of raping two women in 2009 at his home. One of the women told investigators that Lawshea had drugged her and raped her while she was unconscious, while the other woman said Lawshea gave her two strong drinks and raped her as she begged him to stop.

Lawshea is also accused of sexually assaulting a civilian police department employee in 2019 after she declined his sexual advances.

Investigators say Phelps raped a woman at Lawshea's home in 2010 while Lawshea was present.

Bond was denied for Lawshea and Phelps on Wednesday. Jim Towey, an attorney listed as representing both men, did not immediately return a phone message left Thursday seeking comment.

The witness tampering charge against Sgt. Jatonya Clayborn-Muldrew accuses her of trying to dissuade one of the women from filing a sexual assault complaint against Lawshea. Clayborn-Muldrew's attorney, Peter Bruntrager, alleges the tampering charge amounts to political retaliation because his client led an investigation into misconduct by the prosecutors' office last year.

Firefighters identify body found in burning Kansas City home

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Police in Kansas City have identified a man whose body was found by firefighters who were battling a house fire near the city's east side.

The body was that of 37-year-old Edwyn Roland, Kansas City police said in a news release.

Roland's body was discovered around 9 p.m. Tuesday as fire crews worked to extinguish the blaze along Wabash Avenue in a house believed to have been vacant, police said. An initial investigation led detectives to believe that Roland's death was a homicide, police said.

Police have not released details about how he died and said they were seeking leads in developing a suspect in the case.



Pettis County Church Directory

For more information on how to become a sponsor of this informative church directory, please contact Kim Robertson at 931.237.7923 or email kim@burchettmedia.com

FEATURED CHURCH OF THE WEEK



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
1200 W. Broadway Blvd. - Sedalia, MO.



This local Church Directory is made possible by these businesses. The Church Listings are provided at no charge to our area churches in Pettis County. If your church is not listed, please contact news@sedaliademocrat.com.













ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Encounter Church — 1201 N. William Parkhurst Drive (behind Sierra Bullets). Rev. Chris Gray, pastor. Sunday worship 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday service 7 p.m., www.encounterchurch.ag

Living Waters Assembly of God — 909 S. State Fair Blvd., Sedalia, 660-826-9236. Rev. Ancel Compton - Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Children's Church 10:00; (2nd & 3rd Sunday of month), Fellowship 5:30 (4th Sunday of month).

BAPTIST

Antioch Baptist — Southeast of Green Ridge on Route E, Pastor Dan Hankins, 660-221-0283. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

Bethany Baptist — 500 North Park, 826-8743. Pastor Craig Bowen. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Bible Study, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Baptist — Anderson School & Wingate. Rev. Jason Kindle. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

Broadway Baptist — 2119 East Broadway, 826-1557. Dr. Nicholas J. Gray, pastor. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday prayer, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Bible study, 5:00 p.m.

Burns Chapel Free Will — 207 East Pettis. Bishop Paul Jones, pastor. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Thursday.

Calvary Baptist — 1015 West 16th, 826-5011. Pastor Don Satterwhite. Sunday school, 8:50 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wed, Mid Week Bible Study & Prayer 6:00 p.m.

Camp Branch Baptist — 18020 West 32nd Street, (660) 527-3539. Pastor Rob Ayers. Sunday school, 9a.m.; Sunday worship, 10a.m. & 6p.m.; Wed. worship, 7 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist Church — 19856 Hwy. Y (three miles past SFCC). 827-4833. Sunday: 9:00 a.m.. Bible Study &10:00 a.m. Worship; Celebrate Recovery Mon. 6:00 p.m.; Awana Wed. 6:00 p.m.; Student Ministry Sunday 5:00 p.m..

East Sedalia Baptist Church — 1019 East Fifth, 826-3887. Pastor Tim Smith. Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Kids K-5 5:30 p.m. First Sunday Youth 6-12 5:30 p.m.

Emmet Avenue Baptist — 400 East Walnut. Interim Pastor Gary Palmer. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m..

Faith Baptist — 2331 South Ingram, 827-1394. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Matt Edwards.

First Baptist - Sedalia — 200 E. Sixth Street, Sedalia, MO - 660-826-2160. Pastor Jeremiah Greever; www.fbcsedalia.org. 8:15 & 10:45 Morning Worship; 9:30 Sunday School/Bible Study - All Ages;

First Baptist - Cole Camp — Hwy F, Pastor Chris Nichols, 727-207-9211; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist - Otterville — 101 Union Stret, Otterville; 660-366-4772. Rev. Russ Slocum. Sunday morning Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Wednesday , 6:30 p.m.

Flat Creek — 30501 Carpenter Road; Pastor, Bill Boatman; Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m.

GDP Sedalia — 600 S. Summit Ave. 660-826-0621; Sunday: Worship Service 12 p.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Worship 7 p.m.; Friday: Union of Preparation 7 p.m.

Grace Baptist — 3304 South Ingram, 826-2918. Pastor Alvin Sipe. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.

Green Ridge Baptist — Bible study, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

Harmony Missionary Baptist — LaMonte, (660) 347-5544. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

Heath Creek — Exit 84, Highway J, Nelson. 660-287-0085. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.

Hopewell Baptist — Hwy. EE., Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.

Houstonia Baptist Church — Morning Worship 9:00am; Fellowship 10:00am; Sunday School 10:15am; Wednesday Kid's Club 6:00-7:00pm.

Hughesville Baptist Church — Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

Katy Park Baptist — 901 West 24th, 826-7497. Pastor Jon Church. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening, various times; Wednesday prayer service, 6:30 p.m.

Lamine Baptist — Pastor John Dumsday. Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

LaMonte Baptist — 1005 Midland, (660) 347-5412. Pastor Larry Chappel. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday service, 6 p.m.

Memorial Baptist Church — 13998 Hwy Z, Nelson, MO, 660 827-3699. Rev. Bill McDowell. Sunday school, 9a.m.; Worship, 10a.m.; Sunday evening service 6 p.m.

Mount Herman Baptist Church — 25229 Mount Herman Road, Sedalia. Rev. Robert Sisney. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; church services, 10:30 a.m.

New Hope Baptist — 664 East 16th, 826-6277. Pastor Duane Duchesne. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m.; Wednesday worship, 6:15 p.m.

Olive Branch Baptist — 20657 Highway O. 827-4529. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.; Pastor Jason McClain; Associate Pastor Donnie Hayworth

Parkway Freewill Baptist — 120 South Park, 827-1832. Pastor Dan Talbott. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Providence Baptist Church — Hwy 35N & Providence Rd., Smithton; Sunday Worship; 9:00 a.m. Rev. Leroy Moon Sunday School 10 a.m.

Smithton Baptist — (660) 343-5213. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible study, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday evening prayer and discipleship, 6:30 p.m.

Ward Memorial Missionary Baptist — 412 North Osage, 826-5366. Rev. John Williams. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

CATHOLIC

Sacred Heart — 421 West Third, 827-2311. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Sunday Mass, 8 and 10 a.m.

St. John's — Bahner. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Saturday Mass, 7:30 p.m.

St. Patrick's — 415 East Fourth, 826-2062. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Saturday Mass, 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass, 9 & 11:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

Bethel Temple Church - 207 E. Allen Street, Knob Noster, MO 65336. 660-624-1971. Wednesday: Bible Study 7:00pm; Sunday Worship Service: 11:00am. Pastor, S.L. Fisher

First Christian, Disciples of Christ — 200 South Limit. Traditional Sanctuary Service - 9:00 a.m., Sunday School for all ages - 10:15 a.m., Rest Haven - 10:30 a.m., CrossWalk Contemporary Service - 11:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin.

LaMonte Christian Church — 902 South Oak, LaMonte, MO, Alan Morse, Minister. Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. and Worship, 10:00 a.m. Ph# 660-347-5400

Parkview Christian — 1405 East 16th, 826-3624. Jeff Randleman, minister. Sunday school, 9:40 a.m.; Sunday worship, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist — 120 East Sixth, 827-1458. Sunday worship, 10 a.m.; Every first Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.

EPISCOPAL

Calvary Episcopal — 713 South Ohio, 826-4873. The Rev. Anne Kyle, Rector. Worship, 9 a.m.; Fellowship time, 10 a.m. www.calvarye.org

EVANGELICAL

Community Church of Sedalia — Sixth and Osage. Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.

Ecclesia Chapel — 900 East Ninth, Sunday 7:30 p.m. Worthship & Ministry of the Word. Joey Beaher, 660-281-1286; P. C. Thomas, 826-9988, p.c.thomas@charter.net.

Maplewood — 25396 State Route O, 827-0532. Pastor Robert Wauchope; Assoc. Pastor Ty Burgoon. Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 8:30 am mask-required service and a 10:00 am mask-optional service

FOURSQUARE

Bethel Family Church — 120 E. 5th, Sedalia. www.bethelfamilychurch.org. Sunday Services at 10:30am; Wednesday Services at 6:30pm.

LUTHERAN

Amigos de Cristo Mission — 3003 West 11th, 826-2788. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.; worship, Noon.

Christ & Trinity Evangelical Lutheran — 3201 Southwest Blvd. 826-8764. Pastor Anne Kyle. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11:00 a.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran — 11357 Lake Creek Ave., Cole Camp. Pastor Tyler Poppen. Worship Service to 10:30am and Sunday school and bible class to 9:30am.

Our Savior Lutheran — 3700 West Broadway, 827-0226. Pastor Andrew Tessone, Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran — 24295 Cheese Creek Rd., Cole Camp. Pastor Tyler Poppen. Sunday worship, 8:00 a.m.; Sunday school and Bible class, 9:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran — 701 South Massachusetts. 826-1164. Pastor Jeremy Freeman. Sunday school and Bible classes, 10:15 a.m.; Saturday worship, 5:30 p.m. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.

MESSIANIC

Beit Mayim Chayim, Home of Living Waters — 1200 E. Broadway, Sedalia, MO 65301; Meeting every Saturday/Shabbat at 10:00 am. Contact 660-829-5581.

METHODIST

Bethel United Methodist — 22150 Smelser Rd., Rev. Wesley H. Wingfield; Sunday worship service, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.

Eldorado Methodist — 10405 Eldorado Road, Green Ridge. 816-331-5686. Rev. Chris Jackson. Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.

Epworth United — 1124 East Broadway, 826-1302. Calvin Pritchard, Pastor, Worship service, 9:30 a.m; Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.

First United — Celebration Center - 1701 W. 32nd. Saturday, 5:30 pm; Sunday, 8:35 and 9:45 am; Sunday at 916 Thompson (site), 11 am. 827-2993. Pastor Jim Downing

Florence United — Highway 135. (660) 368-2098, Rev. Vonda Veale. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

Georgetown United — (660) 826-6457. Pastor Kenneth Cripe. Sunday school 9:00 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:00 a.m., first, third and fifth Sundays.

Goodwill Chapel United — 26400 Goodwill Chapel Road. Pastor Vonda Veale, 660-596-2548. Worship Service, 9:00 a.m., Sunday school, 10:15 a.m

Lake Creek United — Six miles south of Smithton on Highway W. (660) 343-5222. Pastor Jason Veale. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10 a.m.

LaMonte UMC — 400 North Main, 347-5557. Rev. Chris Jackson. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

New Bethel UMC — Five miles south on U.S. 65, 826-9388. Rev. Deb Galey. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10 a.m.

Pleasant Hill United Methodist — 30219 Pleasant Hill Road, 826-8856. Rev. Deb Galey. Sunday worship, 10:15 a.m.

Smithton UMC — Walnut and Webster Streets. (660) 343-5560. Rev. Jason Veale. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m.

Taylor Chapel UMC — 400 North Lamine. Pastor Calvin Pritchard. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.

Wesley UMC — 1322 West Broadway, 826-4502. Rev. Dennis Harper. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Agape House Ministries — 200 S. Moniteau, 826-5581. Pastor Gloria Perez. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.; Tuesday Making Disciples, 7 p.m.; Thursday Behind the Veil, 7 p.m., agapehouseministries@yahoo.com

Ancient of Days — 1201 South Summit. Pastor Gordon Adair. Sunday morning Bible Study & Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

Antioch Fellowship — 507 West 24th, 827-3739. Apostle Harvey Miller; Pastor Steve Graff; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday worship, 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — 1201 West Broadway, 827-3166. Bishop Anthony Beard. Sacrament meeting, 9 a.m.; Sunday school 10:10 a.m; Wednesday meetings, 6:45 p.m.

Community of Christ Church — 2000 South Ingram. 826-2881. Pastor Marilyn Grechus. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m; Wednesday Prayer Service, 7:00 p.m.

Abundant Harvest Worship Center — 2825 South Ingram, 827-5153. Sr. Pastors Tony & Mary Kroeger. Service 10am Sunday; 7pm Wednesday.

Abundant Life Christian Center — 15423 Centerline Ave. Hwy 65 & Cole Camp Jct., Cole Camp, MO, Pastor's Herbert & Renee Robertson. Sunday Worship 10:00 am, Children's Church 10:00 am. Sunday Evening 6:00 pm, Bible Study Wed. Night 7pm, all ages.

Houstonia Community Church — 10 a.m. Sunday morning.

Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witnesses — 2810 East Broadway. Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Watchtower Study, 10:20 a.m.

LifePointe Church — Rusty Thomas-Lead Pastor;2500 E. Broadway, Sedalia, MO, 573-301-0544; Sunday 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

New Apostolic Church — Pastor Ricky Rehkop; 28th & Grand, Sedalia, MO, 660-909-4993; Sunday Morning Service, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Sedalia Christian Center Faith Church — 3240 South Kentucky, 827-0559. Pastors Jack and Sue Menges. Worship, 10 a.m.

Sedalia Healing Rooms Church — Craig Shorey, Director; Service Tuesday, 7pm; 660-826-1963; 305 S. Ohio, Sedalia

Stewart Avenue Church of Christ — 14th and Stewart. Bible classes, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Every 2nd & 5th Sunday - 10:40am & 1:30pm; Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

The Gathering Church — Sunday Service 10:45 a.m. 206 W. Main St., Sedalia, MO 65301. For more information email cate_Joanna@yahoo.com.

True-Vine Church of God in Christ (formerly Jones Holy Temple) — 600 North Moniteau. Pastor Javion Jones. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11:15 a.m. Bible Study-Tuesday 6:00PM

Vision Church — 723 E. 13th. Pastor Dave Hague. Prayer service Wednesday 6:30 p.m.; Sunday school, 9:30-1030 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m.

W.A.T.E.R. Ministries — Dresden- 19131 Third Road, 660-343-3650. Pastors Reed & Kim Lange; Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Word of Life Apostolic Temple — 701 W. Main, 573-644-2132. Elder Willie Cunningham. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.; Bible Class, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Worship House — 701 E. 5th St., Sedalia. Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study, Communion & Prayer Wed., 6:00 p.m..

OPEN BIBLE

Liberty Life Center — 1501 Driftwood Dr., 826-5145 or 281-7404. Pastor Gary & Linda Smith.

Church of New Beginnings — 1200 E. Broadway (Salvation Army Building), Sedalia. 827-3302. Pastor Wayne Pacheco. Friday evening worship, 7 p.m.

New Life Open Bible — 23000 Route B, 826-8712. Lead Pastor Ed Spencer, Jr., Associate Pastor David Simmons. Sunday worship, 10 a.m. Family Night 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

PENTECOSTAL

Crossroads Church of God — 2119 East Ninth, 827-2258. Pastor Chris Cantrell, Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Night Service, 6:30 p.m.

First United Pentecostal — 2805 South Ohio, 826-4556. Pastor Steven Palmer. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday worship, 7:30 p.m.

New Life Apostolic Church – 22743 Hwy T, Dresden. Service time: Sunday 11am; Wednesday 7:30pm Bible Study; Friday night prayer meeting 7:30pm; Pastor Stephen Zingre 660-281-9584

New Life United Pentecostal Church – 356 SW State Route 13, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Sunday School, 10am; Sunday Night Worship, 4pm; Wednesday Night Bible Study, 7pm; Pastor Mike Jackson (660) 596-3452

Real Life Church — 24th and Ohio, 826-5330. Logan Patrick, pastor. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 7 p.m.

Victory Tabernacle — 505 W. Gay St, Warrensburg, 816-304-2914. Pastor Harry D. Stevens, Christian Education, Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Tues. Bible class, 11 a.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Broadway Presbyterian — 209 W. Broadway, 826-1708. Pastor Rob Hughes. 9:30 a.m. Faith education; 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Green Ridge Presbyterian — 310 South Main, (660) 527-3533. Randy & Dianna Marcum, pastors. Sunday Morning: Worship, 10 a.m.;

Longwood Presbyterian — Sunday worship, 10:15 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m; Pastor Roberta Karchner

Otterville Presbyterian — (660) 366-4280. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10 a.m.; Pastor Dianna Marcum

Range Line Presbyterian — Houstonia, (660) 568-3383. Sunday worship, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Pastor Roberta Karchner

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh-Day Adventist — 29525 Highway 50. Pastor Al Oetman. Sabbath school and Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Saturday; Saturday worship, 11 a.m.

Sharon Chapel — 105 East Johnson. Pastor Donnie McClure. Saturday Sabbath school, 9:30 a.m.; Saturday worship, 11 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

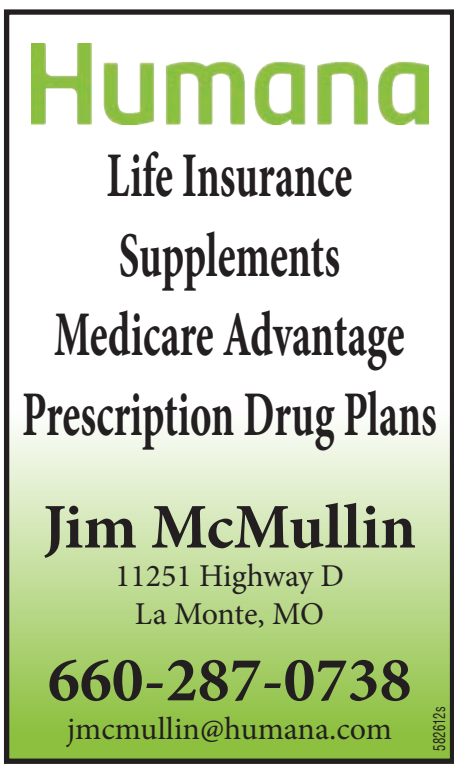
Immanuel United Church of Christ — 418 W. Fourth, 826-3553. Sunday worship and Children's Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. www.iuccsedalia.com











Heckart

From Page 1A

"A gift like that deserves recognition. Sue is very humble and doesn't like the recognition but it's deserving. I don't know too many people who give that much money to make something happen."

Also present were Gov. Mike Parson and first lady Teresa Parson, Sedalia Mayor John Kehde and his wife, Chelsea, members of the Sedalia City Council and Pettis County Commission, and many of Heckart's friends. Missouri Park & Recreation Association Executive Director Gary Gates presented the award to Heckart.

"Not one of these communities could have done that without their local spark," Gates said of projects completed by Parks and Rec departments across the state. "I think you all know what I mean when I say local spark — it's that one person in the community who has the know-how and charisma to really get things done. From what I've gathered, Sue is Sedalia's spark."



PHOTOS BY NICOLE COOKE | DEMOCRAT

Sedalia Mayor John Kehde and Sue Heckart laugh during Gov. Mike Parson's remarks Thursday night at Convention Hall.

Parson said Heckart was one of the first people he met in Sedalia. He spoke to the legacy she is preserving for her family and for Sedalia.

"I think that Sue's willing to not only build something like this with her ability to do that money-wise, it's the legacy," said Parson, who noted he was wearing a tie that was a gift from Heckart. "… It's about thinking about all the things in your lives, who you are, how you're molded. I think when someone like Sue steps forward, does something like this for the community, it's a special time."

During her remarks, Heckart thanked all those gathered and thanked the Sedalia Parks and Recreation Department and Sedalia Park Board for their efforts to improve the quality of life in Sedalia.

"The recognition truly belongs to the people like Amy who make our parks and recreation opportunities for the utmost enjoyment for Missourians," she said. "Investing in your work is a privilege."

It was 100 years ago that Sarah Smith Cotton, the daughter of Sedalia's founder Gen. George R. Smith, deeded the land for Hubbard Park, just one of many donations she offered Sedalia. Epple said Heckart is like the Sarah Smith Cotton of modern Sedalia with all the contributions she has given the community.

The community center, which is located in Liberty Park, is on schedule to open March 18, 2022.

"We're at a really good point right now. We have the windows in, the roof's on, they're putting walls up in the office space, if you go into the locker room the showers are already up," Epple said. "They're making really good headway. We're very happy, I'm very confident our ribbon cutting ceremony will be March 18. One year from today we will be open to the public."

Nicole Cooke can be reached at 660-530-0138 or on Twitter @NicoleRCooke.

STATE BRIEFS

Kansas City man charged in death of 4-month-old

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A 40-year-old Kansas City man has been charged in the death of his fiancée's 4-month-old grandchild, prosecutors announced Thursday in a news release.

Matthew Beck faces one count of second-degree murder, and the child's grandmother, 38-year-old Carly George, has been charged with hindering prosecution of a felony. No information is listed in online court records, and it's not clear whether they have attorneys who can speak on their behalf.

Court documents say Beck told officers that he awoke to find the infant blueish in color and not breathing last week. He said the baby had been sick and throwing up beforehand.

The child was taken to a hospital, where he died the next day. He had multiple skull fractures, a brain bleed and chest trauma, according to court documents.

Officers also spoke with George, who described giving CPR and said the infant had been sick lately. But the charging documents said the infant's injuries were "not consistent with a natural death."

Court documents say another witness told police that after the child died, she overheard George tell Beck to hide.

Jackson County Prosecutor Jean Peters Baker described the child's death as "an awful tragedy" in the news release and urged people to report abuse.

Man charged in woman's killing faces new murder charge

ST. LOUIS (AP) — One of three men charged in the killing of a St. Louis woman as she held her 4-day-old baby now faces a new murder charge in a separate killing.

Deyontez Huntley, 19, was charged Wednesday with second-degree murder and armed criminal action in the Dec. 8 shooting death of 20-year-old Samson Cooper, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

In charging documents, police accuse Huntley of arranging to meet and sell prescription pills to Cooper, who paid using a counterfeit $100 bill. Police said another man with Huntley then chased down and fatally shot Cooper.

Huntley and two other men also have been charged in the Nov. 23 deadly shooting of 20-year-old Joyce Freeman, who was holding her infant son when she was shot. Freeman was fatally wounded in a drive-by shooting while she sat in a vehicle driven by her boyfriend on her way to a doctor's appointment, police said.

THE WEATHER

AccuWeather | Go to AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
49 / 25	56 / 41	62 / 47	61 / 51	62 / 43	60 / 43	61 / 38
Mostly sunny	Sunny and pleasant	Pleasant with some sun	Mostly cloudy	Strong t-storms possible	Times of clouds and sun	Showers and t-storms possible

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:18 a.m.
Sunset tonight	7:24 p.m.
Moonrise today	10:36 a.m.
Moonset today	12:36 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Mar 21	Mar 28	Apr 4	Apr 11

WEATHER HISTORY

A heavy, wet snowstorm began in the mid-Atlantic region on March 19, 1958. By the time it ended, over 18 inches of snow had accumulated from northern Virginia to Massachusetts.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Wednesday

TEMPERATURES

High	49
Low	37
Normal high	55
Normal low	32
Record high	82 in 2012
Record low	14 in 1941

PRECIPITATION

Wednesday	2.77″
Month to date	5.64″
Normal m-t-d	1.46″
Year to date	8.40″
Normal y-t-d	5.11″

HEATING DEGREE DAYS

Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was below 65 degrees for the day.

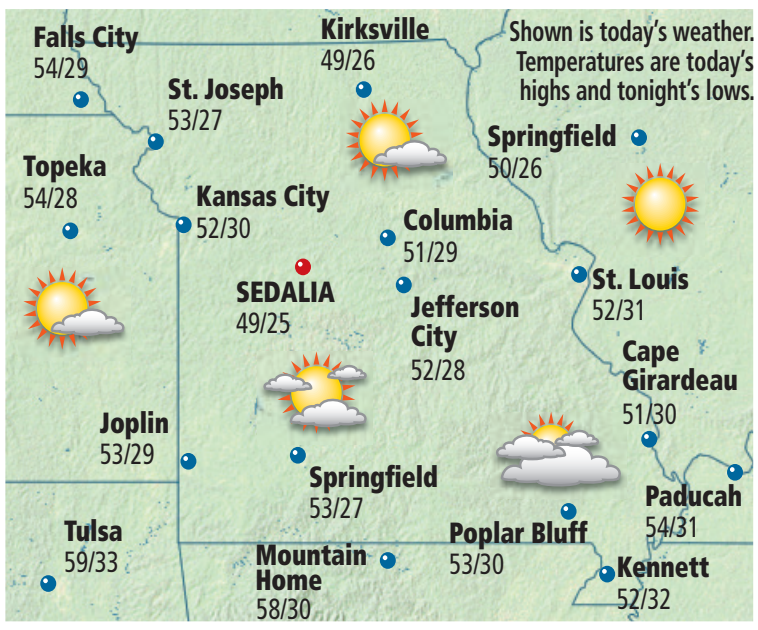
Wednesday	22
Month to date	254
Season to date	3997
Normal season to date	4528
Last season to date	3991

RIVER LEVELS

In feet as of 7 a.m. Thursday

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld Stg
Blue Lick	28.06	+1.49	24
Valley City	28.24	+10.29	22
Lamine			
Otterville	16.77	+11.84	15
Missouri			
Boonville	19.58	+5.36	21

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021



BRANSON

High: 59. **Low:** 32. Times of clouds and sun today. Clear tonight. Plenty of sunshine tomorrow. Sunday: sunshine and patchy clouds. Monday: clouds and sun.

KANSAS CITY

High: 52. **Low:** 30. Mostly sunny today. Clear tonight. Pleasant tomorrow with plenty of sun. Sunday: clouds and sun. Monday: a thunderstorm in the afternoon.

ST. LOUIS

High: 52. **Low:** 31. Partly to mostly sunny today. Clear tonight. Plenty of sunshine tomorrow. Sunday: partly sunny and pleasant. Monday: clouds and sun.

NEW YORK CITY

High: 42. **Low:** 30. Times of clouds and sun today. Clear tonight. Plenty of sun tomorrow. Sunday: plenty of sun. Monday: sunshine and patchy clouds.

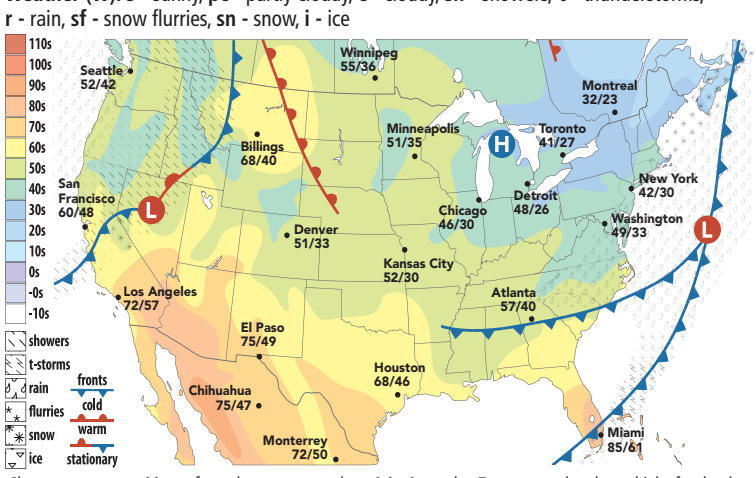
LOS ANGELES

High: 72. **Low:** 57. Beautiful today with clouds and sun. Mostly cloudy tonight. Clouds giving way to sun tomorrow, Sunday and Monday.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today Hi/Lo/W	Saturday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	57/40/c	56/41/pc
Baltimore	48/27/r	55/31/s
Billings	68/40/pc	46/32/c
Boston	41/28/s	54/35/s
Buffalo	39/26/s	50/30/s
Charlotte	53/36/r	55/39/pc
Chicago	46/30/s	58/38/s
Cleveland	38/26/s	50/34/s
Dallas	64/42/s	66/45/s
Denver	51/33/s	62/33/pc
Detroit	48/26/s	56/31/s
Honolulu	79/70/pc	79/69/pc
Houston	68/46/s	68/45/s
Indianapolis	47/27/s	56/32/s
Las Vegas	78/59/pc	70/51/s
Milwaukee	43/30/s	51/36/s
Nashville	55/38/c	64/35/s
New Orleans	60/50/pc	65/53/c
Norfolk	49/40/r	48/42/s
Oklahoma City	58/34/s	66/41/s
Orlando	76/54/s	71/54/pc
Phoenix	84/58/s	83/57/s
Pittsburgh	47/25/s	54/30/s
Portland, ME	38/22/s	50/29/s
Portland, OR	54/43/r	55/38/sh
Sacramento	61/40/pc	61/39/s
St. Louis	52/31/s	59/39/s
San Francisco	60/48/pc	59/45/pc
Seattle	52/42/r	53/40/pc
Washington, DC	49/33/r	55/36/s

Weather (W): **s** - sunny, **pc** - partly cloudy, **c** - cloudy, **sh** - showers, **t** - thunderstorms, **r** - rain, **sf** - snow flurries, **sn** - snow, **i** - ice



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation today. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Summary: Rain and a narrow stripe of snow will move off the East coast today. A Pacific storm will push rain and mountain snow inland over the West. Much of the rest of the nation can expect dry weather.

WEATHER SPONSORED BY THEHOMESTOUR.COM

3 women sue Texans QB Deshaun Watson for alleged sex assault

By Jake Bleiberg
Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson is being sued by three masseuses who accuse the star player of sexual assault in a "disturbing pattern" of behavior toward women.

In lawsuits filed this week, two of the woman claim that Watson touched them with his penis during massages last year, and the third alleges he forced her to perform oral sex.

Watson, 25, has broadly denied that he acted inappropriately and said he looks forward to clearing his name.

"I have never treated any woman with anything other than the utmost respect," the quarterback said in a statement posted to Twitter Tuesday. His attorney and agent did not immediately respond to requests for comment Thursday.

Houston police spokeswoman Jodi Silva declined to comment on whether any of the alleged sexual assaults were reported to police, saying the department does not identify people who have not been charged with a crime.

The women, who are not named in the lawsuits, are represented by Houston lawyer Tony Buzbee. He did not immediately respond to requests for comment Thursday, but wrote in one of the lawsuits that "Watson's behavior is part of a disturbing pattern of preying on vulnerable woman."

See DESHAUN | 6B



PHOTO BY KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI | AP PHOTO

Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) looks to pass the ball during the second half of an NFL football game against the Chicago Bears, Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020, in Chicago.

Lincoln's Betts signs to ECC baseball

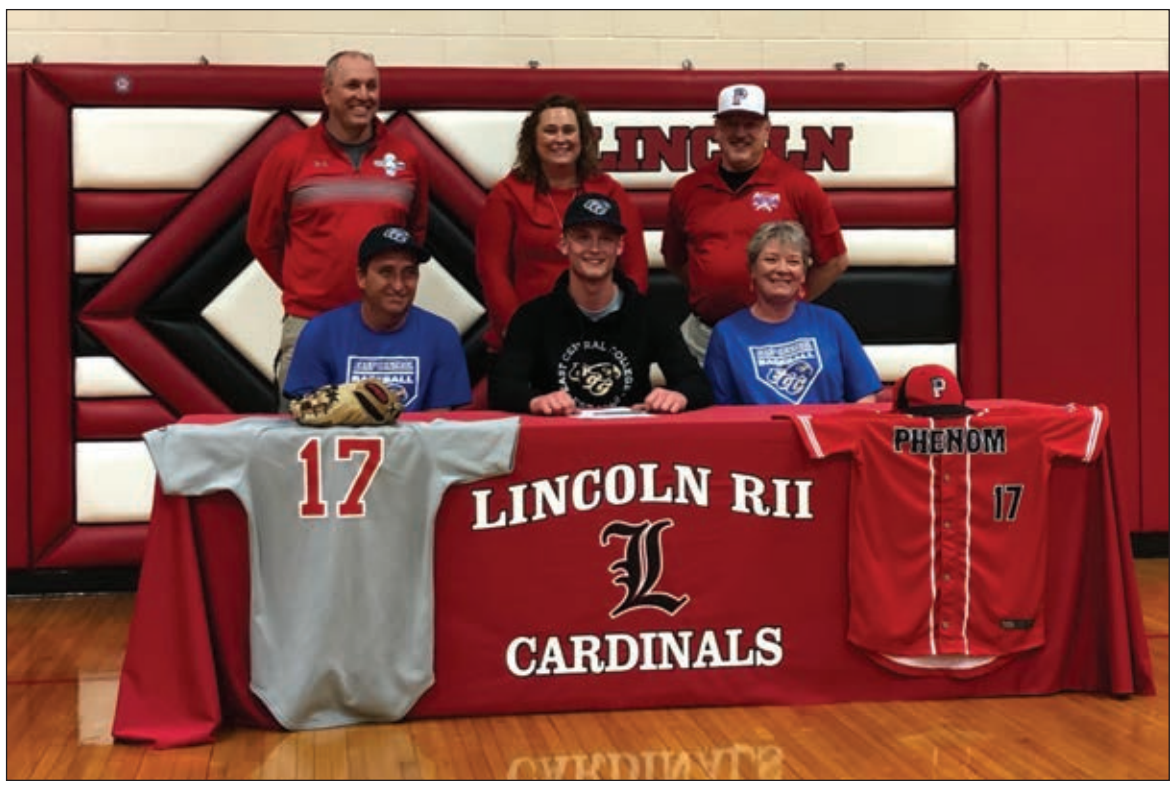


PHOTO COURTESY OF ADAM CURTIS

Lincoln senior Levi Betts, front and center, poses for a photo after committing to play baseball at East Central College in Union, Missouri, during a signing ceremony Thursday at Lincoln R-2 School. Levi is joined in the front row, from left, by Robert and Andrea Betts. In the back row, from left, is Will Lynde, Julie Miller and Neal Sidebottom.

Thompson, Brown named all-CMAC

By Democrat Staff

Smith-Cotton senior Matt Thompson and Lady Tigers junior Bailey Brown each earned all-conference recognition after the inaugural season of the Central Missouri Activities Conference.

Both players earned all-district honors after the Class 6 District 9 Tournament.

Brown was a second-team all-conference selection. She was joined by Sophia Elfrink and Ella Rogers of Hickman, Mary Primus, Kyrah Brodie and Averi Kroenke of Rock Bridge, Eliyah McCarthy of Battle, Lindsey Byers and Kylie Bernskoetter of Helias Catholic and Hannah Nilges, Sarah Linthacum and Kara Daly of Jefferson City. Kroenke was named conference MVP and Jefferson City's Kay Foster was named Coach of the Year.

The Lady Tigers finished 1-18 overall, picking up a 65-25 victory to close the regular season at Northeast High School in Kansas City. Brown led the team with 25 points to help S-C win its first game of the season.

See POST SEASON | 6B

Long, Thuney ready to protect Chiefs quarterback Mahomes

By Dave Skretta
AP Sports Writer

Kyle Long was just as certain that he wanted to return to the NFL after a year in retirement as the three-time Pro Bowl offensive lineman was that he wanted to protect Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes.

So, when free agency began, that's exactly who he called.

"I absolutely did talk to Pat. I reached out to him, said, 'Patrick, get me in there, man. I'd love to come play for you,'" said Long, who agreed Wednesday to a $5 million contract for the 2021 season. "I'm so happy here, so happy to be a Chief."

It wasn't always that way. Long is the son of longtime Raiders defensive end Howie Long, so he grew up in a household knowing the intensity that marked the Los Angeles-turned-Oakland-turned-Las Vegas rivalry with Kansas City.

But after Long, who spent his first seven seasons in Chicago, spent a year watching from afar as an analyst for CBS, he realized the Midwest suited him just fine: He gets to play for coach Andy Reid, protect one of the NFL's best quarterbacks in one of its most dynamic offenses, all while getting to bulk up on some of Kansas City's famous barbecue.

In fact, that's what Long did on Wednesday night with Joe Thuney, the former Patriots offensive lineman that earlier in the week agreed to a five-year, $80 million contract to begin the overhaul of the Chiefs' beleaguered offensive line.

"I got to meet Joe last night and if there's one thing I know about Joe, I know he's tough, he's intelligent and he knows the game of football," Long said during a Zoom call Thursday.

"When I had a chance to break some bread with him over some barbecue, it felt like he wasn't a stranger, and I don't think I'll ever be a stranger to him."

See CHIEFS | 2B



PHOTO BY STEVEN SENNE | AP PHOTO

New England Patriots offensive guard Joe Thuney takes questions from reporters in the team's locker room following an NFL football practice, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019, in Foxborough, Mass.

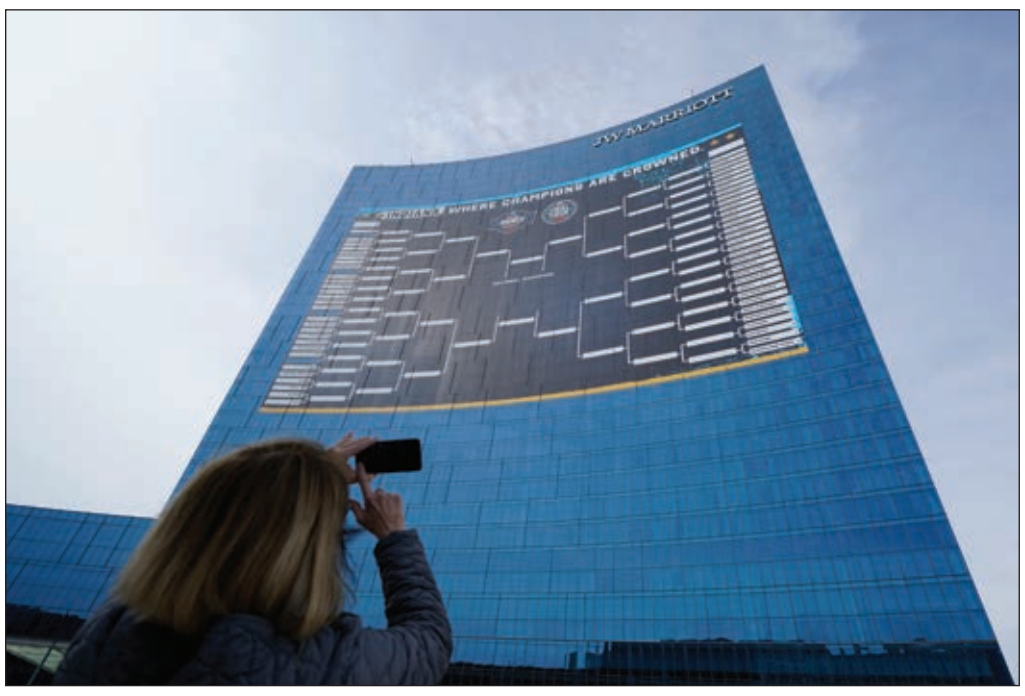


PHOTO BY DARRON CUMMINGS | AP PHOTO

Lisa Moeller takes a photo of the NCAA bracket for the NCAA college basketball tournament on the side of the JW Marriott in downtown Indianapolis. Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

NCAA basketball players use biggest stage to deliver message

By Ralph D. Russo
AP College Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A social media effort to raise awareness about inequities in college sports by some prominent basketball players came with calls for rules changes and requests for meetings with the NCAA president and lawmakers.

The players who got #NotNCAAProperty trending on social made no threats of protests at tournament games, which start Thursday night and will have millions of viewers all weekend.

Following a year of activism in sports that included NBA players shutting down the playoffs after a police shooting, it seems fitting that college athletes would use March Madness to get a message across.

NCAA Vice President of Basketball Dan Gavitt, who communicates frequently with coaches, said Thursday he was not aware of any plans for players protests that could interfere with tournament games being played.

"Am I concerned? I would be concerned about any potential disruption, I guess, of games," Gavitt said. "I'm certainly not at all concerned and, and quite frankly, supportive of student-athletes using their voices for advocacy in issues that they are very passionate about. We have certainly seen that throughout 2020 in particular."

Using the #NotNCAAProperty hashtag on Twitter, players pushed for the NCAA to change its rules banning college athletes from earning money for things like endorsements, sponsorship deals and personal appearances, all encompassing revenue tied to their name, image or likeness (NIL).

Three prominent Big Ten players — Isaiah Livers of Michigan, Geo Baker of Rutgers and Jordan Bohannon of Iowa — led the way, and players from at least 15 tournament teams jumped on board with tweets of support.

The National College Players Association, a college athlete advocacy group, released a statement late Wednesday that detailed the players' goals. They included meetings with NCAA President Mark Emmert and the opportunity to meet with state and local lawmakers who are working on passing laws that could set parameters for the association's NIL rules.

See NCAA | 6B

Deshaun

From Page 1B

According to the suits, the women live in Texas, Oregon and Georgia and work giving massages. Two claimed that during massages in March and August of last year Watson was sexually suggestive, exposed his genitals and moved toward them in ways that caused his penis to touch their hands. The lawsuit from the third woman describes similar behavior and alleges that during a massage in December, Watson "coerced" her into giving him oral sex. The woman did not consent and then "blacked out for a few minutes from fear," the lawsuit states.

The alleged assaults took place at one of the women's homes, a Houston hotel and an office building in the city, according to the suits. They state that Watson connected with the women over social media, where they advertised their businesses, and flew one of them from Atlanta to Houston for a massage.

Each woman is suing for compensatory and punitive damages, as well as court costs.

Texans spokesman Omar Majzoub said that the team first learned about the allegations against Watson through a social media post Tuesday.

"We take accusations of this nature that involve anyone with the Houston Texans organization seriously," Majzoub said in a Wednesday statement. He declined to comment further Thursday.

Watson is one of the league's top quarterbacks and led the NFL in yards passing last season. He signed a four-year, $156 million contract extension with the Texans last offseason, but he became unhappy with the direction of the team as Houston sunk to 4-12 and he requested a trade in January.

Associated Press writer Kristie Rieken in Houston contributed to this report.

Angels' Ohtani off to great start at plate in Cactus League

By David Brandt
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — It remains to be seen whether Shohei Ohtani can recover his form on the mound and regain his reputation as a two-way star.

But one thing seems clear: The man appears to remember how to hit.

The 26-year-old Japanese star is off to a terrific start at the plate in Cactus League action, batting .600 (12-for-20) with four homers through eight spring games for the Los Angeles Angels.

Ohtani barely pitched in 2020 because of discomfort in his throwing arm and also had a rough season at the plate, batting just .190 with seven homers and 24 RBIs. But he's looked much better so far this spring, flashing the batting skill that helped earn him 2018 Rookie of the Year honors.

A healthy and productive Ohtani would be a big boost for an Angels team trying to bounce back from a disappointing 26-34 finish last season.

"I've been swinging, hitting all offseason, and I think my swing is feeling really good right now," Ohtani said when spring training started in February. "My body is feeling really good. I think we're in a good spot, hitting-wise."

Here's a look at a few others who are playing well in Grapefruit and Cactus League action:

Joc Pederson, OF, Cubs: Pederson signed a one-year deal with the Cubs in the offseason with the hope he could earn everyday at-bats in the Chicago lineup. The way he's hitting so far this spring, it looks like he'll have an important role. The 28-year-old had 13 hits in his first 26 spring at-bats (.500), including five homers and three doubles.

Jacob DeGrom, RHP, Mets: The two-time Cy Young winner is close to 33 years old but showing no signs of slowing down. If anything, the hard-throwing righty is getting even better. He gave up just three hits through his first nine innings this spring while striking out 16. What's more, he's routinely topping 100 mph and looks as overpowering as ever.

Corey Seager, SS, Dodgers: One big reason the Dodgers were the best team in baseball last year was the performance of Seager, who batted .307 with 15 homers in the abbreviated 2020 season. He's back at it again in Cactus League action with 13 hits in his first 27 at-bats (.481), including five homers.

Sandy Alcantara, RHP, Marlins: The 25-year-old was a part of Miami's surprise success one year ago, with a 3-2 record and 3.00 ERA in seven starts. He's looked ready to build on that success in the Grapefruit League this spring. He hasn't given up an earned run through 12 2/3 innings and has struck out 19.

Pete Alonso, 1B, Mets: The young slugger had a mildly disappointing 2020 season after pounding 53 homers in 2019 earned him Rookie of the Year honors. The 26-year-old has looked good in the Grapefruit League, batting .407 with three homers and four doubles through his first 11 games.

Domingo Germán, RHP, Yankees: The 28-year-old has returned from a domestic violence suspension that had sidelined him since September 2019. He appears likely to earn a spot in the Yankees rotation after his performance so far this spring. He's allowed just five hits and a walk in nine spring innings while striking out 13.

Chiefs

From Page 1B

So what about Mahomes, the 2018 league MVP and proud new papa?

"I've never been around a guy that can throw it from any inch of the football field to every inch of the football field," Long said. "It's a unique opportunity. He's a special talent."

The Chiefs knew they had to rebuild their offensive line, which was decimated by opt-outs and injuries, was ransacked by Tampa Bay in the Super Bowl.

Most players that started that game were headed for free agency, and more holes opened up when the Chiefs waived tackles Eric Fisher and Mitchell Schwartz to create some salary cap space.

Thuney provides a durable anchor at one of the guard spots after starting every game over the past five seasons in New England, and the Chiefs expect Laurent Duvernay-Tardif — the physician who opted out to help treat COVID-19 patients in his native Canada — to return next season and hold down one of the other guard spots.

"I just want to help the team out in any way I can, in any capacity," Thuney said. "First time joining a new team. I'm sure it'll be great. I just want to come in and work hard every day and show the guys I can contribute to help the team."

Third-round pick Lucas Niang, who also opted out of his rookie season, provides an option at one of the tackle spots, and Long could end up at the other one. He played guard for six seasons in Chicago but also spent one season at right tackle.

"I'm comfortable with anywhere on the offensive line," he said. "One thing I can tell you with conviction, I've never played center. I'm left-handed. I don't know many left-handed centers. But I'll try anything."

Well, if the Chiefs can't find a replacement for Austin Reiter, he just might have to. They could still find an offensive lineman in the upcoming NFL draft, but they also have holes to plug at wide receiver, linebacker and in the secondary.

As for Long, the Chiefs hope he can be the durable Pro Bowl standout he was his first three seasons with the Bears and not the player waylaid by injuries entering his prime. He hurt his ankle in 2016, his neck, shoulder and elbow the following year, had a foot injury midway through 2018 and landed on injured reserve in 2019 with a foot injury.

All told, the 32-year-old Long has played in just 30 games since 2015.

"I've been in one place my entire career and it was home for me," he said, "and the opportunity to come to a place like this — I wanted to schedule it early in free agency, because I know there are a litany of players that want to come into a building like this and play for a coach like this. ... I knew right away when I was let go in Chicago that I would be back, and I needed to do everything in my power to get back to where I could come in and play at a level I know I can play."

SPORTS CALENDAR

Friday

ON TAP

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

5 p.m. Warrensburg at Smith-Cotton

Tipton at Pilot Grove

Green Ridge at Crest Ridge

Northwest at Lone Jack

Stover at Eugene

Windsor at Concordia

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

5 p.m. Otterville at Stoutland

Smithton at Tipton

Green Ridge at Crest Ridge

Northwest at Lone Jack

Windsor at Concordia

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER

5 p.m. Smith-Cotton at Chillicothe

HIGH SCHOOL

BOYS TENNIS

4:30 p.m. Smith-Cotton at Helias

COLLEGE BASEBALL

11 a.m. St. Charles Community College at State Fair Community College (at Versailles High School)

1 p.m. St. Charles Community College at State Fair Community College (at Versailles High School)

4 p.m. Central Missouri at Emporia State

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

3 p.m. Sioux Falls at Central Missouri

5 p.m. Sioux Falls at Central Missouri

ON AIR

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

3:30 a.m. FS2 — AFL: Western at Collingwood

BIATHLON

9:30 p.m. NBCSN — IBU: World Cup, Östersund, Sweden (taped)

COLLEGE BASEBALL

3 p.m. ACCN — North Carolina at Boston College

6 p.m. ACCN — Florida St. at Miami

SECN — Mississippi St. at LSU

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

11 a.m. CBS — NCAA Tournament: Virginia Tech vs. Florida, First Round, Indianapolis

11:30 a.m. TRUTV — NCAA Tournament: Colgate vs. Arkansas, First Round, Indianapolis

Noon TBS — NCAA Tournament: Drexel vs. Illinois, First Round, Indianapolis

12:30 p.m. TNT — NCAA Tournament: Utah St. vs. Texas Tech, First Round, Bloomington, Ind.

2 p.m. CBS — NCAA Tournament: Oral Roberts vs. Ohio St., First Round, West Lafayette, Ind.

2:20 p.m. TRUTV — NCAA Tournament: Hartford vs. Baylor, First Round, Indianapolis

2:50 p.m. TBS — NCAA Tournament: Georgia Tech vs. Loyola of Chicago, First Round, Indianapolis

3:20 p.m. TNT — NCAA Tournament: Oregon St. vs. Tennessee, First Round, Indianapolis

5:15

TBS — NCAA Tournament: Liberty vs. Oklahoma St., First Round, Indianapolis

6 p.m. CBS — NCAA Tournament: Wisconsin vs. North Carolina, First Round, West Lafayette, Ind.

ESPN2 — NIT Tournament: Buffalo vs. Colorado St., First Round, Denton, Texas

TRUTV — NCAA Tournament: Cleveland St. vs. Houston, First Round, Bloomington, Ind.

6:15 p.m. TNT — NCAA Tournament: North Texas vs. Purdue, First Round, Indianapolis

8 p.m. ESPN2 — NIT Tournament: Louisiana Tech vs. Mississippi, First Round, Frisco, Texas

8:10 p.m. TBS — NCAA Tournament: Rutgers vs. Clemson, First Round, Indianapolis

8:40 p.m. CBS — NCAA Tournament: Syracuse vs. San Diego St., First Round, Indianapolis

8:45 p.m. TRUTV — NCAA Tournament: Morehead St. vs. West Virginia, First Round, Indianapolis

8:50 p.m. TNT — NCAA Tournament: Winthrop vs. Villanova, First Round, Indianapolis

COLLEGE LACROSSE (MEN'S)

4 p.m. ESPNU — Penn St. at Johns Hopkins

COLLEGE SOCCER (MEN'S)

Noon BTN — Penn St. at Northwestern

2 p.m. BTN — Ohio St. at Wisconsin

COLLEGE SOCCER (WOMEN'S)

6 p.m. PAC-12N — Oregon at Oregon St.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

6 p.m. ESPNU — Tennessee at Alabama

8 p.m. ESPNU — Arizona at Washington

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S)

8 p.m. PAC-12N — Utah at Colorado

9 p.m. PAC-12N — UCLA at Southern Cal

COLLEGE WRESTLING

10 a.m. ESPNU — NCAA Championships: Quarterfinals, St. Louis

2 p.m. ESPNU — NCAA Championships: Quarterfinals, St. Louis

7 p.m. ESPN — NCAA Championships: Semifinals, St. Louis

GOLF

5 a.m. GOLF — EPGA Tour: The Kenya Open, Second Round, Karen Country Club, Nairobi, Kenya

1 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The Honda Classic, Second Round, PGA National Golf Club, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

4:30 a.m. (Saturday)

GOLF — EPGA Tour: The Kenya Open, Third Round, Karen Country Club, Nairobi, Kenya

MLB BASEBALL

Noon MLBN — Spring Training: St. Louis vs. NY Mets, Port Saint Lucie, Fla.

3 p.m. MLBN — Spring Training: Arizona vs. Milwaukee, Phoenix

8 p.m. MLBN — Spring Training: Texas vs. LA Dodgers, Glendale, Ariz.

6 p.m. NHLN — NY Rangers at Washington

NBA BASKETBALL

9 p.m. NBATV — Dallas at Portland

RUGBY

11 p.m. FS2 — NRL: Panthers at Bulldogs

Midnight (Saturday)

NBCSN — Premiership: Wasps at Newcastle (taped)

SKIING

8 p.m. NBCSN — FIS: Alpine Skiing World Cup Finals, Lenzerheide, Switzerland (taped)

SOCCER (MEN'S)

2:30 p.m. FS2 — CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying: Honduras vs. Haiti, Group B, Guadalajara, Mexico

2:55 p.m. NBCSN — Premier League: Leeds United at Fulham

5 p.m. FS1 — CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying: Canada vs. El Salvador, Group B, Guadalajara, Mexico

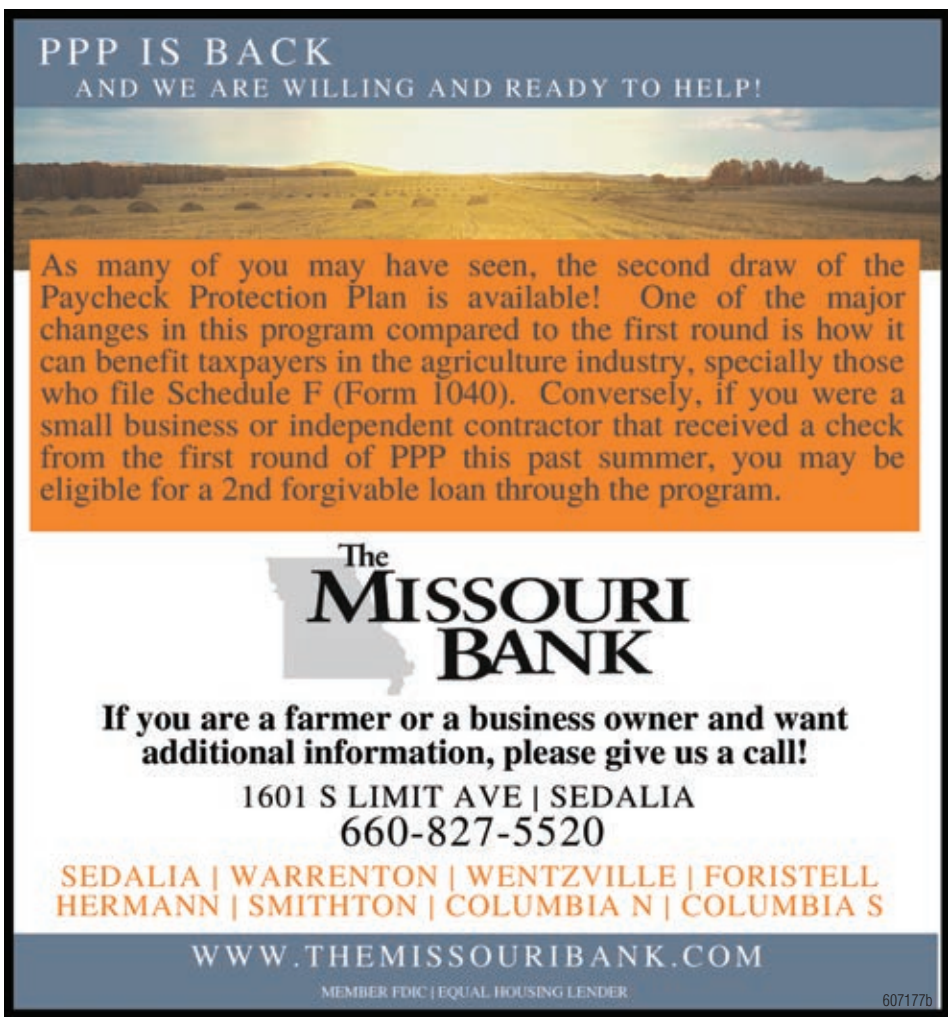
7 p.m. FS1 — CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying: U.S. vs. Costa Rica, Group A, Guadalajara, Mexico

TENNIS

5 a.m. TENNIS — Dubai-ATP Semifinals, St. Petersburg-WTA & Monterrey-WTA Quarterfinals

2 p.m. TENNIS — Monterrey-WTA Quarterfinals 1 & 2

7 p.m. TENNIS — Acapulco-ATP Semifinals & Monterrey-WTA Quarterfinals 3 & 4



HOROSCOPES

By Jacqueline Bigar

A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 19, 2021:

Charming, kind and introspective, plan several trips that are both educational and enjoyable. This year, expressing yourself artistically is high on your priority list, even if you step back from other activities. Give back by mentoring or volunteering for a group that shares your ideals. If single, you want to love and be loved, so it can happen. If attached, take your partner on an adventure. CANCER understands you deeply.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Make sibling rivalry a thing of the past. Bite the bullet and contact them with a friendly message. Get your errands done early. Brush up on your time management skills, and everything will get done. Tonight: Try on a new outfit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Something you ordered may be delayed or out of stock. Do your research and find alternative products. It is never too early to explore vacation destinations. "Save more and spend less" should be your mantra. Tonight: Rearrange furniture to increase comfort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Today might bring messages from friends who you love hearing from. Observe the effect you have on others. People want to be around you but may drain your energy. You might need to define your boundaries. Tonight: Home sweet home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Volunteer for a cause you believe in, but do not feel pressured. Whatever you can do will be most appreciated. Time alone may be time well spent. Take a walk outside and enjoy your playlist. Tonight: Catch up on email.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) 11

★★★★★ Try out a new exercise, dance or yoga class, either in person or online. Invite friends along to sample the wares. Exchange ideas with people you admire. Get past your insecurity even if you get overruled. Tonight: Reading in bed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ A speech or presentation may get you noticed by your peers. Sigh a breath of relief that you achieved your goal with flying colors. Celebrate your victory. Go to your favorite restaurant with someone you love. Tonight: Attend a weekly meeting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Mentor someone who wants to learn skills you have mastered. You might be surprised that others want to absorb your knowledge. This is not the time for modesty. Be proud of what you know and can share. Tonight: Chat with friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Review savings or investment accounts. Carve space in your schedule to organize tax documents. There may be a problem you need to solve. A friend may arouse your interest in spy or mystery novels. Tonight: Update your wardrobe with accessories.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Today brings people you love closer together. You might need to mediate and straighten out a misunderstanding between two colleagues. Remind someone special how much they mean to you. Plan a surprise they will never forget. Tonight: Get a massage.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Exchange different points of view with a new team. Compromise is the keyword. Share social time after hours with co-workers. Aim to unwind and feel fit. Blow off steam at the gym or take a power walk. Tonight: A healthy dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Children and grandchildren have words of wisdom. Just listen. No need to respond. Creative urges are put to the test since you need your own space. Involve those closest to you and your problem is solved. Tonight: Work up a sweat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Connect with a relative you miss seeing. Be supportive, not argumentative, when you hear the latest news. Vehicles may cause problems, so be on the lookout. Shop for colorful home furnishings, but keep to your budget. Tonight: Turn on dance music.

BORN TODAY

Marshal Wyatt Earp (1848), comedienne Jackie "Moms" Mabley (1894), actress Glenn Close (1947)

Possible postseason ban didn't deter Cowboys' Cunningham

By Steve Megargee
AP Sports Writer



PHOTO BY CHARLIE RIEDEL | AP PHOTO

Oklahoma State's Cade Cunningham (2) passes over Baylor's MaCio Teague during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in the semifinals of the Big 12 tournament in Kansas City, Mo., Friday, March 12, 2021.

Cade Cunningham always figured he'd get a chance to play in the NCAA Tournament even after he enrolled at a school facing a postseason ban.

Oklahoma State was sanctioned by the NCAA back in June stemming from a federal corruption investigation into college basketball. Those penalties included a one-year restriction from the postseason.

Cunningham, the nation's No. 1 overall recruit in his class, committed to Oklahoma State anyway, maintaining his faith that the postseason issue would work out in his favor. Playing for the Cowboys kept him within a four-hour drive of his 2-year-old daughter, Riley, in Texas. It also enabled him to join his older brother, Cannen, an assistant coach on Oklahoma State's staff.

"To be completely honest with you, I knew that if we did what we had to in all the regular-season games, I know how this works," Cunningham said. "They were going to put us in."

The Cowboys (20-8) are playing because the sanctions remain under appeal, giving the likely No. 1 pick in this year's NBA draft an NCAA Tournament showcase.

Oklahoma State, the No. 4 seed in the Midwest Region, will try to earn its first NCAA Tournament victory since 2009 when it faces Atlantic Sun champion Liberty (23-5) at Indiana Farmers Coliseum in Indianapolis.

"I think we have a team that can beat anybody in the field," Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton said. "Certainly there are a lot of factors that go into each game, but I'll say this: There's not anybody we could play that I wouldn't go into the game thinking I have the best player in the game."

Cunningham led Oklahoma State to its first NCAA Tournament berth since 2017 while the Cowboys dealt with the distraction of the potential ban.

An NCAA infractions committee determined former assistant coach Lamont Evans accepted up to $22,000 in bribes intended to help steer athletes to specific financial advisers. Boynton wasn't accused of any wrongdoing, and the events occurred years before Cunningham committed to Oklahoma State.

"Obviously with the ban, we feel like the school didn't do anything wrong, but it was put in place," Cunningham said.

Cunningham certainly did his part to make his team worth including.

The 6-foot-8 freshman guard is the first Oklahoma State player to earn first-team Associated Press All-America honors. He leads the Big 12 in scoring (20.2 points per game) and averaged 6.3 rebounds and 3.6 assists. Cunningham joined Kevin Durant, Michael Beasley and Marcus Smart in earning Big 12 player of the year and freshman of the year honors in the same season.

Boynton said Cunningham has been a solid teammate who's deferred credit to others.

But he certainly realizes how good he is.

That was apparent this week when Cunningham was asked if he knew how Carmelo Anthony led Syracuse to a 2003 NCAA Tournament title as a freshman.

"I've been saying I wanted to have a Melo-type year since I got here," Cunningham said. He later added that "Melo's (are) big shoes to fill, but I'm up for the challenge."

Cunningham has experienced the thrill of March Madness before. Cunningham said this week that he and a friend were working as ball boys for a 2013 regional semifinal when Michigan's Trey Burke hit a 3-pointer in the closing seconds of regulation to help the Wolverines beat Kansas in overtime at Arlington, Texas.

"I'm right under the goal when he hits the 3," Cunningham said. "It was just like one of the craziest moments of my life."

Now he gets a chance to create his own March memories.

Here are some other Midwest Region story lines heading into Friday's action:

SHORT-HANDED YELLOW JACKETS

Georgia Tech is playing its first NCAA Tournament game since 2010 but may have to do it without its best player.

Yellow Jackets coach Josh Pastner said this week that a member of his school's traveling party had tested positive for the coronavirus and wouldn't be available unless Georgia Tech (17-8) reached a regional semifinal.

Pastner didn't identify the person, but Stadium reported that ACC player of the year Moses Wright won't be able to play in the ninth-seeded Yellow Jackets' first-round game with No. 8 seed Loyola Chicago (24-4).

SAMPSON RETURNS TO BLOOMINGTON

Former Indiana coach Kelvin Sampson will be making his return to Assembly Hall when his second-seeded Cougars (24-3) face No. 15 seed Cleveland State (19-7) in Bloomington.

Sampson was Indiana's coach from 2006-08. He received a five-year show cause order from the NCAA in 2008 due to violations involving impermissible calls he made to recruits while coaching at Oklahoma and Indiana.

He took over Houston's program in 2014 and has gone 163-63 in seven seasons.

VOLS UNCERTAIN ABOUT FULKERSON

Tennessee forward John Fulkerson's availability is unclear after he took two elbows to his head from Florida's Omar Payne in the Southeastern Conference Tournament, causing a concussion and facial fracture.

Tennessee coach Rick Barnes has said Fulkerson is day to day as the fourth-seeded Volunteers get ready to meet No. 13 seed Oregon State.

Fulkerson averages 9.5 points and 5.5 rebounds.

AP Sports Writer Pete Iacobelli contributed to this report.

Let's Talk: NFL free agents and traded players speak up

By Barry Wilner
AP Pro Football Writer

Let's talk.

Now that the muzzles have been removed for NFL team executives and the players they either re-signed or added in free agency, Thursday was a time for explanations and reflections.

Yes, there were more transactions: Las Vegas getting running back Kenyan Drake while Denver bid adieu to RB Phillip Lindsay. New England brought back Kyle Van Noy, Buffalo grabbing Mitchell Trubisky, and Tennessee getting All-Pro long snapper Morgan Cox.

There also were plenty of words from guys switching teams (Carson Wentz, Ryan Fitzpatrick, Joe Thuney, A.J. Green), players staying put (Leonard Williams, Derek Wolfe) and even a player coming out of retirement (Kyle Long).

Wentz was the headliner, in great part because of the perceived nastiness of his split with the Eagles, who got two draft picks from Indianapolis for their once-franchise quarterback. Wentz took the high road in his Zoom news conference.

"Anytime you hear those things you want to play detective and figure out who said it. But it really doesn't matter," he said of anonymous comments in Philadelphia during and after the season ended. "If it's out there, then you have to ask yourself how can I learn from it? It's unfortunate people have those opinions and if any of my teammates didn't think I was the best teammate, I apologize. I wish I could have been better."

The Colts expect Wentz to be the right successor to the retired Philip Rivers.

"I can't emphasize how strongly I feel Carson is the man for the job for the Colts at this time," team owner Jim Irsay said. "I really think he can be that guy that's going to be the centerpiece for the next decade who can give the Colts a chance at greatness."

WASHINGTON

Fitzpatrick joins his ninth team in his soon-to-be 17th pro season, and he's never been to the playoffs. He left Miami, which has its likely franchise QB in Tua Tagovailoa, for DC, where there is an opening, particularly after NFL Comeback Player of the Year Alex Smith was released.

"It's me. That's part of my story," the quarterback nicknamed FitzMagic said. "Part of my story is skipping around to different teams and just trying to instill belief and just show that passion to these guys. ... Every time I go to a new place, it's just a new opportunity. It's just a new adventure, a new journey for me, and I kind of get to reinvent myself every year on a new deal and I have to prove myself again."

ARIZONA

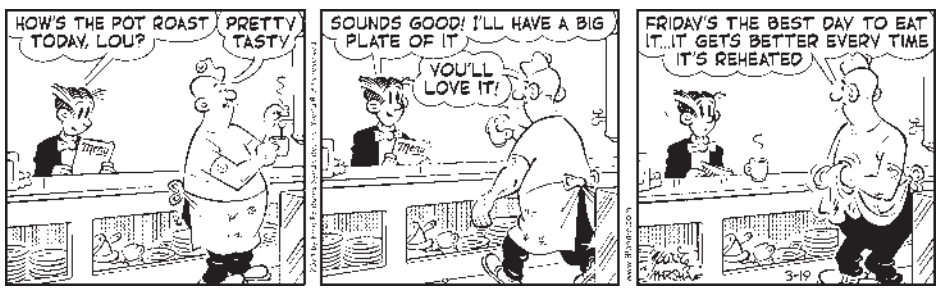
One of several additions to the Cardinals, Green got a one-year deal worth around $8 million. The star wideout missed the entire 2019 season (ankle injury) and his production was down in 2020 when the Bengals went 4-11-1.

"I feel like I have a lot left in the tank," said Green, who will be joined in the desert by center Rodney Hudson, kicker Matt Prater and, oh yeah, edge rusher and three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year J.J. Watt. "I still feel young. My legs feel young. Last year was a difficult year for me playing with three different quarterbacks and coming off an injury. But I wouldn't change that for anything in the world. I think that made me a better person on the field, mentally stronger."

AP Sports Writers David Brandt, Stephen Whyno and Michael Marot contributed.

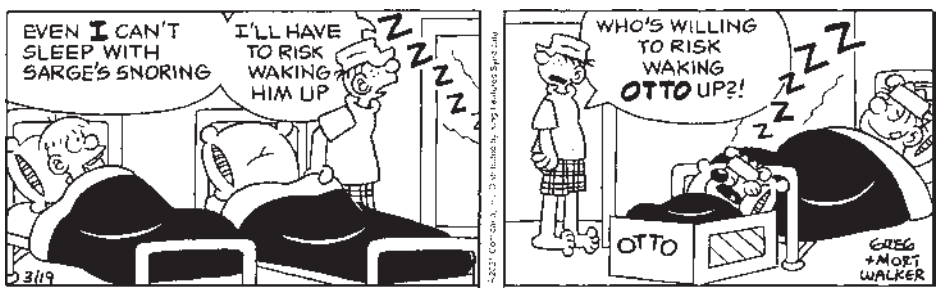
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



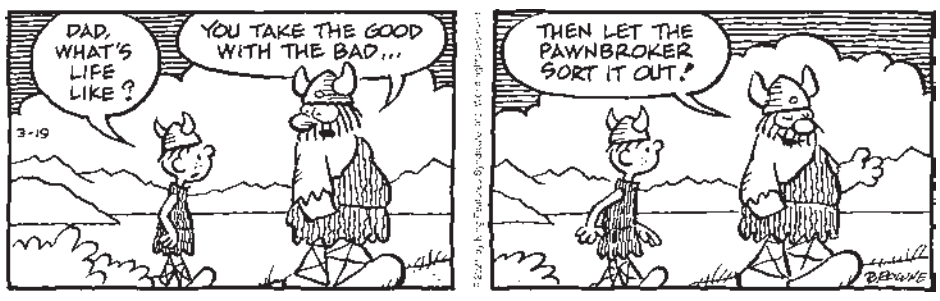
BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT, GREG AND BRIAN WALKER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



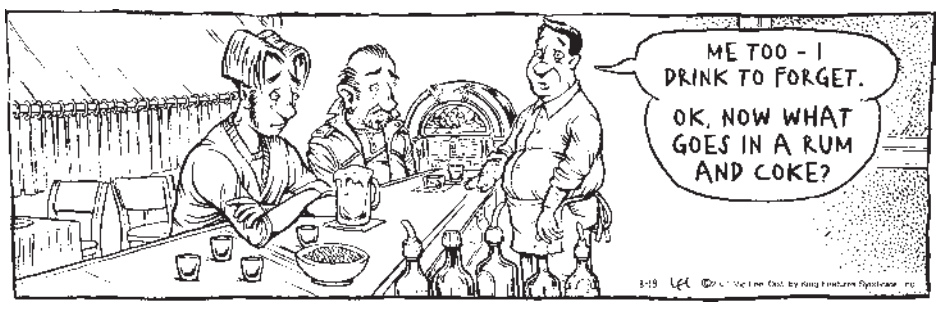
HI AND LOIS

WRITTEN BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER; DRAWN BY CHANCE BROWNE



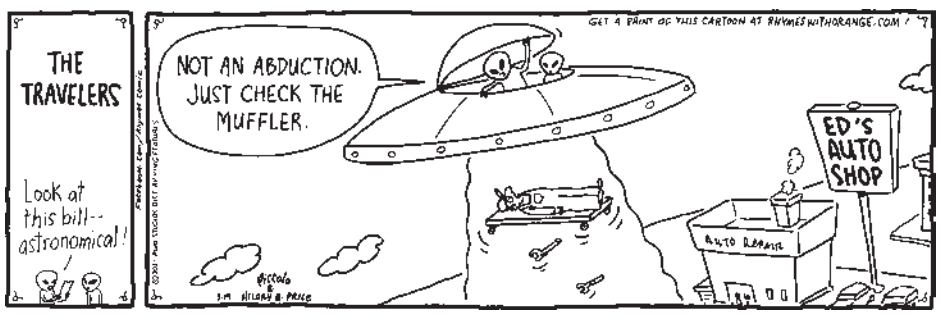
PARDON MY PLANET

BY VIC LEE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY PRICE



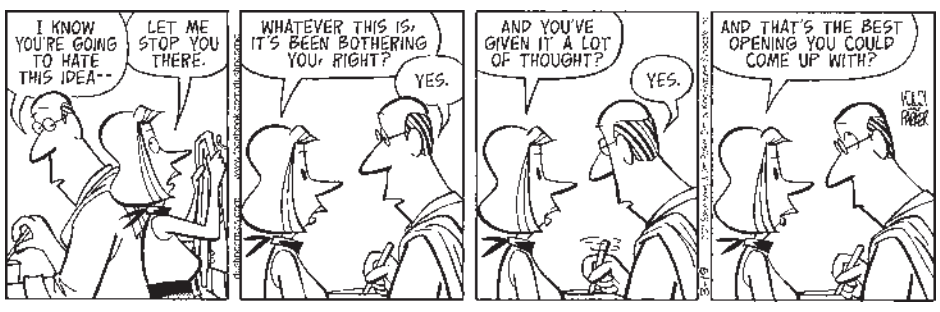
THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

BY JOHN HAMBROCK



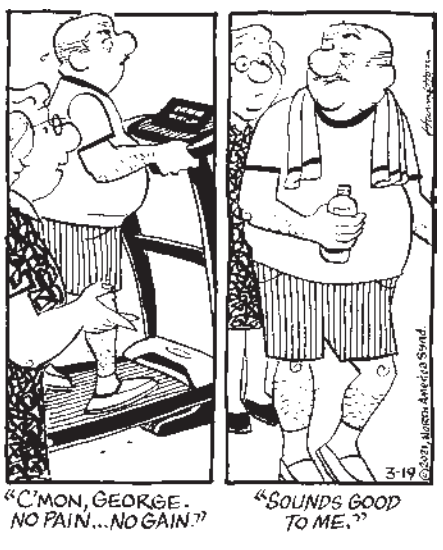
DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

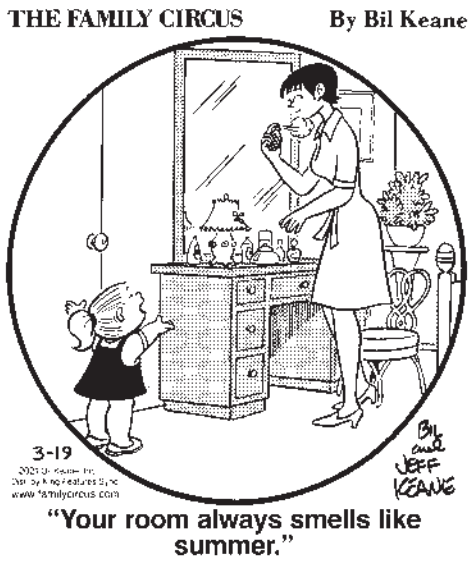


"C'MON, GEORGE. NO PAIN...NO GAIN."

"SOUNDS GOOD TO ME."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Your room always smells like summer."

CROSSWORD

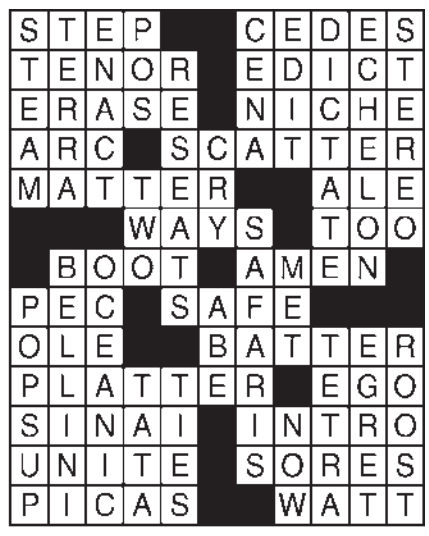
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

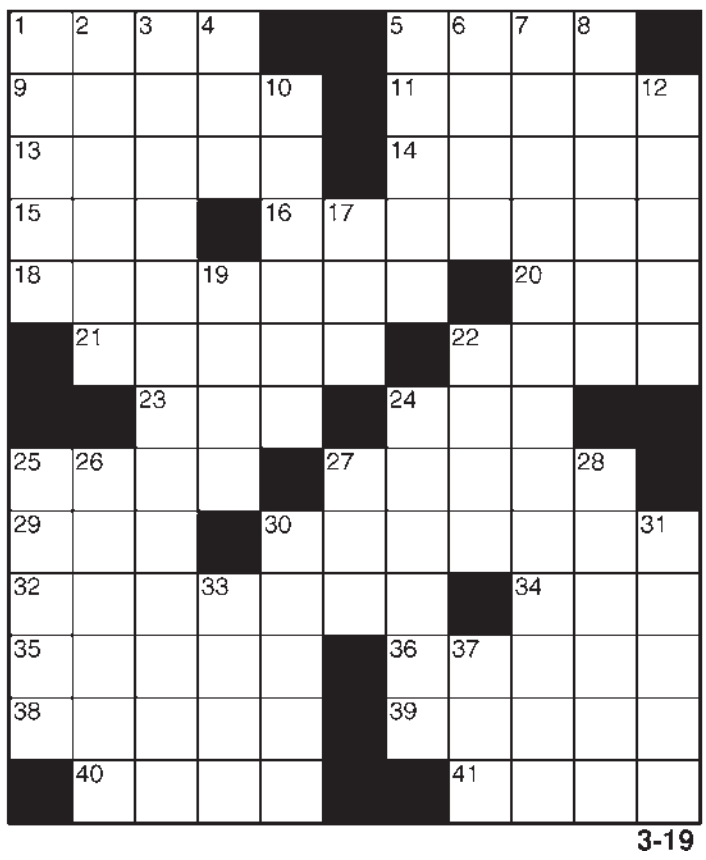
1 Moral flaw
5 Enjoys Aspen
9 Director Malle
11 Some change
13 Quartet doubled
14 Man with a moral
15 Heating choice
16 Mark for cancellation
18 Comfy shoes
20 Private room
21 Utopias
22 Sunset direction
23 Major lang.
24 Nap site
25 Almanac bit
27 Secures, as a boat
29 Bat material
30 Sterling K. Brown's "This Is Us" role
32 Rink fun
34 Quartet halved
35 Musical sounds
36 Lab liquids
38 Bolivian city
39 Scorch
40 Addition column
41 A long time

DOWN

1 Online journals
2 Spot
3 Long shot
4 Men's store buy
5 A bunch
6 Boat bottom
7 Illegal investing
8 Go pieces
10 Herculean
12 Depleted
17 Print units
19 Cooped (up)
22 Golfer's choice
24 Winding dances
25 Extreme diets
26 Invite on a date
27 Supply with staff
28 Oozy sediment
30 Gets up
31 Places last
33 Small seabird
37 Spy grp.



Yesterday's answer



3-19

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT & RICK KIRKMAN



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



"MY HUSBAND BOUGHT IT FOR ME. NEVER MIND THE VALUE...WHAT THE HECK IS IT?"

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/19

©2021 Conceptis PuzzAles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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IH TRACTOR #574, 8 trans, Gas, 1,244 hours. 53hp, Bush Hog included. Runs well. $5,500 or best offer. Cole Camp, Call Gary 816-506-1512

Livestock

Mar. 21, 1:00 p.m. Briarwood Angus Farms Production Sale, Butler, MO. Carcass focused, calving ease, Angus bulls. Outstanding cow/calf, bred and open Angus females for the commercial cattleman. Live Auction at farm also live streamed on Facebook. Phone Bids accepted. Bull Buyers Drawing for FREE Heifer. More Info: 660-679-3395 https://www.briarwoodangusfarms.com/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notices

PLEASE READ YOUR ad carefully for accuracy. The classified advertising staff makes every effort to print your ad correctly. However, if an error is made in your ad, it must be reported immediately. We will only be responsible for errors the first time your ad runs. Call Mon.-Fri., 8:00am-5:00pm 660-826-1000; fax to 660-826-2413.

Storage Auction
Storage Unit
G03 L Hundley
will be sold after 03-26-21.
West 50 Self Storage
Sedalia, MO

EMPLOYMENT

Miscellaneous

HELP WANTED:
LABOR/ Skilled Labor
Local construction company
Some travel
Call 660-826-3352

REAL ESTATE RENTALS

Apartments

1 OR 2 BR Ground level, stove & refrigerator, private entrance & parking, all utilities paid. Call 660-826-6918

THE NICEST, all one level, 2-3 bedroom 2 bath Twin homes with garages in the area. Westside location, near medical, shopping & College. Fully appointed kitchens, with all appliances, including washers/dryers, security systems, walk out back patios and garages with auto garage door openers. Call 660-619-0384 See us on Face book at Ensign Properties.

Homes For Rent

HOUSE FOR RENT, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $850 monthly rent, $850 deposit, Call 916-529-6613.

Mobile Homes For Rent

Mobile Home
Lease-To-Own or Rent
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Freshly Remodeled. Nice quiet park. Pet Friendly.
Call 660-333-4780

YARD SALES

Pettis County

5 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
4030 E 32ND
(COVERED BRIDGE ESTATES)
TODAY 7am-?
Furniture, washing machine, TV, toys, books, bedding, clothes, baby to adult 4x, Pampered Chef, decor, Step 2 tool bench, baby swing, DVD's, miscellaneous. Something for everyone!

Got Piles of Kids Stuff Everywhere??
Sell it!! CASH IN!! Signup www.kidscloset.biz/warrensburg PROMO CODE SPRING21 to get a $5 Gift Card to use at the Sale. March 25-27 @ NOW LOCATION
JOHNSON COUNTY MO FAIRGROUNDS
386 NW 145th Rd
Warrensburg

MOVING SALE
1103 W. 35th
St. Terrace
Saturday 8 - ?
Pub table, outdoor furniture, children's toys and books, clothing & tons of miscellaneous. All must go!

Legal Notice

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT,
PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 21PT-PR00039
VIOLET M MARSH,
Deceased.
Notice to Creditors
(Small Estate)
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of VIOLET M MARSH, Decedent.
On 05-MAR-2021, a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri.
All creditors of the decedent, who died on 08-DEC-2000, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.
Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri.
Date of first publication is 12-MAR-2021.
Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk
By: /s/Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk
2x-3/12, 19, 2021

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
JUVENILE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF:
ALEX MICHAEL VERHAALEN,
a male minor child,
born 11/30/2012,
JENNIFER LYNN PHILLIPS, Petitioner.
Case No.: 21PT-JU00017
NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
State of Missouri to RESPONDENT: UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER
You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is to secure a judgment of adoption for your child and to change his name. The names of all parties to this action are stated above, and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is Kimberly L. Tanner 110 East 5th Street, Sedalia, Missouri, 65301. You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 45 days after the 19th day of March, 2021, the date of first publication of this notice, judgment by default will be taken against you. It is ordered that a copy hereof be published according to law in The Sedalia Democrat, a newspaper of general circulation published in Pettis County, Missouri.
Dated: March 17, 2021
Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk
By: /s/Mary Eberting, Deputy Clerk
4x-3/19, 26, 4/2, 9, 2021

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
In Re the Marriage of:
ZOILA OLIVIA PAOLA AZURDIA MONTENEGRO, Petitioner,
vs.
RONALD KEITH JONES, Respondent.
Case No. 21PT-DR00106
NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
The State of Missouri to Respondent, RONALD KEITH JONES
You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Pettis, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is for Dissolution or Marriage.
The names of all parties to said action are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is
Kimberly L. Tanner,
110 East 5th Street,
Sedalia, Missouri, 65301.
You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the 19th day of March, 2021, judgment by default will be rendered against you.
Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 16th day of March 2021.
Susan Sadler, Clerk
By: /s/Cindi Ross, Deputy Clerk
4x-3/19, 26, 4/2, 9, 2021

NOTICE
BIDS FOR MOWING WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 12 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021 FOR THE FOLLOWING TOWN PROPERTIES:
WELL HOUSE LOT # 1
(WATER TOWER)
WELL HOUSE LOT # 2
(FOWLER STREET)
PARK
(INCLUDING KID PARK)
AND POND AT PARK
ROAD SHED LOT
COMMUNITY BUILDING LOTS
BEHIND TOWN HALL
LAGOONS & ROAD LEADING TO LAGOONS (AS NEEDED)
BIDS SHOULD INCLUDE MOWING & TRIMMING
TOWN'S MOWER, GAS & UPKEEP ARE PROVIDED BY TOWN.
IF USING OWN EQUIPMENT, BIDS SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE PROOF OF INSURANCE COVERAGE
YOU MAY BID ON ONE OR ALL PROPERTY LOCATIONS AND PLEASE LIST TYPE OF EQUIPMENT THAT WILL BE USED.
THANK-YOU
HUGHESVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
5x-3/13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 2021

NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
The City of Sedalia invites bids from vendors for the removal and installation of one (1) M11 Cummins Diesel Engine for the City's Public Works Department.
To obtain a full copy of the Invitation for Bid packet, please contact Elizabeth Nations at (660) 827-3000 ext. 1166 or via e-mail at enations @cityofsedalia.com .
All responses to this IFB are due on April 5, 2021 by 2:00 p.m. CDST at which time the proposals will be opened by the City Clerk's Office in the Council Chambers in City Hall.
Responses to the IFB must be addressed to the City Clerk's Office and mailed, couriered, or hand-delivered to:
Office of the City Clerk
City of Sedalia
200 S. Osage
Sedalia, MO 65301
or e-mailed to:
bidresponse@cityofsedalia.com
The outside of the response envelope, packet or e-mail subject line must clearly state: **Response to IFB 2021-022 REMOVE & INSTALL REMANUFACTURED DIESEL ENGINE.** Any proposal received after the above stated date and time; will not be opened and will be discarded or upon request and at the expense of the bidder will be returned. The City of Sedalia retains the right to reject any and all bids submitted, and to waive any minor irregularity contained in any proposal.
This project requires compliance with Section 285.530 RSMo in relation to employment of unauthorized aliens to perform work within the state of Missouri and the requirement for participation in a federal work authorization program (E-verify).
The City of Sedalia in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§2000d to 2000d-4) and Regulations, hereby notifies all respondents to this request that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.
1x-3/19, 2021

Little ads. Big results. The Marketplace is a great place to advertise.



"Get It All." In the Classifieds

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Showcase your stuff for sale in the Sedalia Democrat, and reach thousands of potential local buyers with print exposure!

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Contact Classifieds at 660-826-1000 or classifieds@sedaliademocrat.com

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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Call 660-826-1000 to Place Your Ad

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• Roof Repairs •
Metal & Steel Roofing
FREE ESTIMATES
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551520b

EXPERT ROOFING
660-221-2037
Free estimates • locally owned
HAIL • WIND STORM DAMAGE
580627b

PAINTING

HOUSE PAINTING
660-827-1211
FREE ESTIMATES
Max Frisby
605449h

616543s

NCAA

From Page 1B

The NCAA has been working toward changing its rules governing NIL compensation to pull back most restrictions. But those efforts have bogged down under scrutiny from the U.S. Department of Justice and with an antitrust case involving the NCAA heading to the Supreme Court later this month.

The players were back to Twitter on Thursday, circulating the hashtag and what they hoped to accomplish.

There were no hints about what was next or whether they would take their messages to the courts when they start playing.

"The players are driving this so I'm not going to speak on their behalf," said NCPA executive director Ramogi Huma, a former UCLA football player.

The real madness starts Friday, with 16 games going from noon to midnight, and then another 16 on Saturday to wrap up the first round.

Because of the pandemic, the entire tournament is being staged in Indiana. All 68 teams are being hosted in what the NCAA is calling a "controlled environment" in Indianapolis, just blocks away from the association's home office.

Last year, college football players from the Pac-12 threatened boycotts over concerns about COVID-19 protocols, social justice issues and economic rights for college athletes. The Big Ten had its own #WeAreUnited movement related to health and safety protocols.

Players also led the push to play after the Big Ten and Pac-12 conferences canceled fall football seasons, only to reverse course and play. College athletes across the country were not only notable participants in "Black Lives Matter" demonstrations, but in some cases organized and led marches.

Attorney Tim Nevius, a former NCAA investigator, said college athletes are increasingly aware of their power to effect change. Especially when they organize.

"No matter how big or small something like this is, it gets the NCAA's attention," Nevius said.

Whether the latest social media campaign could lead to something bigger like a strike or walkout by players during one of the biggest events on the American sports calendar, Nevius did not know.

"These are warning shots," he said, 'until they're not."

Post season

From Page 1B

Thompson, second-team all-CMAC, averaged 21 points per game to help the Tigers finish the season with a 4-15 record.

Cachao Gianquinto, Tristan Meny (Battle), Kevion Pendleton, Sterling Desha (Jefferson City), Damon Johanns, Malcolm Davis, Desmond White (Helias), Jordan Rooney, Seth Larsen (Hickman) and Hudson Dercher, Xavier Skyes (Rock Bridge) earned the remaining positions on the all-conference team. Hickman's Cray Logan was named Coach of the Year.

NBA tells teams rules will be relaxed for vaccinated persons

By Tim Reynolds
AP Basketball Writer



Toronto Raptors guard Fred VanVleet looks to shoot as Detroit Pistons center Isaiah Stewart (28) defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 17, 2021, in Detroit.
PHOTO BY CARLOS OSORIO | AP PHOTO

The NBA is relaxing some of its health and safety protocols for individuals who are fully vaccinated, changes including fewer mandated coronavirus tests, no quarantine requirements following contact tracing issues and even the ability to visit restaurants again.

Only one team — the New Orleans Pelicans — has publicly acknowledged a team-wide vaccination effort so far, doing so this past weekend after state rules in Louisiana were amended and made it possible for the team to start the process for players, coaches and staff. No one in the NBA will be considered fully vaccinated until two weeks after receiving the final vaccine dose.

Once that happens, rules for some of those individuals will change, the NBA said in a memo sent early Thursday to teams and obtained by The Associated Press. Daily point-of-care testing will not be required for players or head coaches prior to entering team facilities, nor will testing still be required on days off.

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said at the All-Star Game earlier this month that changes would be in store for those who choose to get the vaccine.

"Right now we operate under this so-called work quarantine protocol, where players are largely only going between their homes and the arenas," Silver said. "Once they get vaccinated, they'll be able to do more in their communities. That's something we've already begun talking to the players association about. So, there will be some real advantages and benefits to getting vaccinated for the players."

The contact tracing part of the new rules will be a major benefit. Being flagged by contact tracing has been an issue for many players this season including Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid of the Philadelphia 76ers, both of whom had to miss the All-Star Game and the start of the season's second half because a barber that they visited tested positive — but they did not. Had they been fully vaccinated, they would not have had to miss any time even after being around someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

Other benefits for those who are vaccinated, the league said, would include the ability to have other family members and friends visit their homes without a need for testing; being able to have visitors at the team hotel on road trips; eating outdoors at restaurants at home or on the road; and being able to commute to and from team facilities with other fully vaccinated individuals.

And when a team has 85% of its personnel vaccinated, those individuals who got the shots will not be required to wear facemasks at their team's practice facility, may eat indoors or outdoors at restaurants as local rules allow, eat on flights, leave the team hotel more freely on road trips and schedule more user-friendly testing times.

Toronto's Fred VanVleet revealed earlier this week that he tested positive for the virus and that his recovery process, at times, was not easy. VanVleet returned to the Raptors' lineup on Wednesday.

"I wouldn't wish it on anybody," VanVleet said. "But I'm here, I'm alive, I'm breathing and I know there's a lot of people that didn't make it through COVID. So, my thoughts and my heart are with the families and people that's been affected by this thing that weren't as fortunate as I was — as I am."

The NBA said earlier this week that three new players out of 490 tested between March 10 and March 16 returned positive COVID-19 results. More than 100 players have tested positive this season, nearly half of them doing so in November just before training camps around the league opened.

HURRY! Reserve your booth space by March 19th!
HOME & Garden SHOW
Saturday April 10, 2021
9am - 6pm
Mathewson Exhibition Center at Missouri State Fair Grounds
FREE Admission to the Public!
Door Prizes
VENDORS:
Booth Space $250, $200 for each booth after that.
Lunch provided for vendors.
Payments Due by March 19, 2021.
Will be following Social Distancing Guidelines.
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Contact Julie White at 660-287-7936 or juliew@sedaliademocrat.com
607179b