

Kansas man pleads guilty in fatal shooting

By Democrat Staff

A Kansas City, Kansas, man has pleaded guilty in connection with a February 2020 shooting death in Sedalia.

Daniel Fernandez, 27, was set for trial in Pettis County Circuit Court earlier this month but it was canceled just a few days prior. A hearing was scheduled for Monday morning, where Fernandez entered a guilty plea to amended charges: volun-

tary manslaughter and third-degree kidnapping.

He was sentenced to eight years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for manslaughter and one year in jail for kidnapping. The sentences are to be served consecutively.

Fernandez was charged last year with felony second-degree murder, felony armed criminal action, felony second-degree kidnapping and felony

unlawful use of a weapon. He was apprehended in Overland Park, Kansas, Feb. 27, 2020, without incident and was extradited to Pettis County.

A second suspect, Joseph D. Rankin, of Kansas City, Kansas, was taken into custody March 2, 2020, in connection with the homicide and was indicted by a grand jury in June 2020. However, Rankin's case is no longer available in online

court records.

He had been charged with felony second-degree murder, felony armed criminal action, felony second-degree kidnapping and felony unlawful use of a weapon.

According to a Sedalia Police Department report, at approximately 6:40 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020, officers responded to the



Fernandez

700 block of East 17th Street for a man lying in the roadway. Officers located a deceased white male, identified as Robert G. Fox Jr., with what appeared to be a gunshot wound. According to a second SPD report, an autopsy was conducted and confirmed the victim died from a gunshot wound.

Court documents state

cell data was also obtained for Fox's cell phone, which showed the phone leaving Sedalia and going to Kansas City, Kansas.

Individuals close to Fox revealed a man Fox had prior problems with. He was interviewed and stated Fox had come over the previous evening. After Fox left, Rankin allegedly came over to the man's residence looking for a subject close to Fox who owed him money.

See GUILTY | 8A

Arrest made in Centennial Park shooting

By Chris Howell

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An arrest has been made in a previously unresolved Sedalia shooting case from February.

According to the Sedalia Police Department, officers were initially dispatched at 8:23 p.m. Feb. 27 to Centennial Park for a report of gunfire. A search of the park and surrounding areas on 24th Street found multiple shell casings, indicating a roving gunfight between two vehicles. That evening, an 18-year-old was treated for a gunshot wound at Bothwell Regional Health Center.

Detectives were able to establish a cause through investigation, and on April 22, an officer stopped a vehicle and arrested an occupant, 17-year-old Kobe Staten, for his involvement in the shooting.

"We kind of developed him and saw that he was involved in it," said SPD Detective Davis Mittelhauser. "We had to find out where he was, watching him get in the car and then ended up stopping it."

Staten was then transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold.

Mittelhauser was assigned the case, and after Staten's arrest, he worked to obtain a search warrant for Staten's residence in the 400 block of North Prospect Avenue.

"I drafted a search warrant to search the residence that he came from, which is up there on North Prospect," said Mittelhauser. "Several items were found in the search of his residence. We ended up seizing a fair amount with these two firearms, one of which was reported stolen out of state. There are some items, baggies, scales. Stuff that shows he was distributing drugs

out of the apartment. Then we also found some files as well."

Those files reportedly contain child pornography, adding additional weight to the body of evidence against Staten. Charges relating to the weapon, drugs, and child pornography are being requested, and the possibility of additional charges for other individuals has not been eliminated.

Anyone driving through Sedalia shooting from a vehicle faces determined law enforcement, warns Mittelhauser. "If you're out on the streets or in a park shooting at each other, we're gonna get you," he said. Mittelhauser said the investigation remains active and open.

"I believe I'm going to request additional charges for different people," said Mittelhauser. "Some are juvenile, some are adults."

The Pettis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has sealed the case, presumably to not endanger the active investigation or cases against Staten or others that may be developing.

Sedalia Police detectives are still conducting a thorough investigation prior to Staten's trial.

"I'm still working on things," said Mittelhauser. "I still have things that I need to do with the case before it ends up going to trial. I did some other search warrants and talked to some people, there are witnesses."

Any witness who has not been spoken to or anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call Mittelhauser at the Sedalia Police Department at 660-827-7823 ext. 1244.

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.



Kobe Staten



PHOTOS BY NICOLE COOKE | DEMOCRAT

Child Safe of Central Missouri Executive Director Mari Asbury, center, cuts the ribbon at Tuesday afternoon's Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce ceremony for the new Child Safe facility at 3309 W. Main St.

New facility means more opportunities for Child Safe

By Nicole Cooke

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Child Safe of Central Missouri celebrated a new chapter in its 21-year history with a Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday afternoon at its new facility.

According to information from Child Safe, the nonprofit organization serves children who are victims of child abuse in 13 counties in west central Missouri. Child Safe provides services to more than 450 children each year at no cost to the family. Executive Director Mari Asbury told the Democrat

on Tuesday that Child Safe has served 7,119 children over the last 20 years; 2020 marked the organization's 20th anniversary.

Child Safe hosted a groundbreaking ceremony in August and moved into its new home about two weeks ago. Child Safe is leasing the building from KPIII and the lease will be paid through a grant, the Democrat previously reported. The new center was built by Josh and Kevin Kroeger, of Preferred Properties.

"When we started this, they told us we could work with the architect and we worked with Rollings Architects. So we got to



Child Safe of Central Missouri Executive Director Mari Asbury talks with Pettis County Sheriff Brad Anders as she gives a tour Tuesday afternoon. They are standing next to one of the two interview rooms.

help with the floorplan and tell them what our needs were," Asbury told the Democrat in between giving tours to guests. "We

could strategically place things where they needed to be placed, which is huge for an advocacy center.

See SAFE | 8A

New CEO takes helm at Center for Human Services

By Faith Bemiss

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As Center for Human Services Chief Financial Officer Ann Graff prepares to retire in June, David Kramer is stepping into the position as of May 10.

Kramer and his family hail from St. Charles County. He noted on Monday during his more than 30-year career he's worked exclusively with intellectually and developmentally disabled clients with a variety of organizations. He's worked for

the state of Missouri and also in the private not-for-profit sector. Kramer, who has a bachelor of science degree in psychology from St. Louis University and an MBF from Washington University, said he's also worked as a national support consultant and as an accreditation surveyor for other services in the U.S. and Canada.

"I think David is coming to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience with similar programs as the center runs and uses," Graff said on Monday.

See CEO | 5A



PHOTO BY FAITH BEMISS | DEMOCRAT

David Kramer became the new chief executive officer at the Center for Human Services Monday, May 10. Kramer, from St. Charles County, will fill the spot for current CEO Ann Graff, who is retiring at the end of June.



A News
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 6A
Weather 8A

B Sports
Horoscope 3B
Comics 6B
Classified 7B

LOTTERY
Midday Drawing
Pick 3: 9-5-7
Pick 4: 6-9-9-1

Evening Drawing
Pick 3: 7-3-8
Pick 4: 5-3-8-6
Show-Me Cash: 12-16-26-37-38

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STATE FAIR ANNOUNCES 2 COACHES
• Sports 1B

OBITUARIES

John R. Butterbaugh

John R. Butterbaugh, 84, of Springdale AR, formerly of Sedalia, passed away Tuesday, May 11th, 2021, at UAMS Medical Center in Little Rock, AR, due to injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was born December 2, 1936, in rural Pettis County, the son of Richard Emmitt and Stella (Spratley) Butterbaugh, who preceded him in death.

He transported bait to several bait shops in Missouri. In his later years, he did metal reclaiming. He loved being in his truck visiting different places and states. But most of all he loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. John will be missed by so many.

John is survived by four daughters, Janie Nease (Earl), Penny Barnett (Dwayne), Lisa Allee (Tim), Misty Shoemaker (Jack); three sons Orville McKeown (Jessica), David Butterbaugh (Maggie), Thomas Butterbaugh (Kelcie); 19 Grandchildren, Donna

Nease, Shawn Butterbaugh, Angela, Mikenzie and Treshaun Allee, Corissa Butts (Josh),



Jessica Taylor, Meghan Davis (Chris), Coleta Tull Winkler (Benson), Joseph Barnett, Cassie and Jared Bilke, Jayden and Ryler McKeown, Merideth, Kar-

leigh, and Dawson Butterbaugh, Delta, Aleigha and Layne Shoemaker; 33 Great-grandchildren; 5 Great-Great Grandchildren; and a sister Myrtle Priesmeyer.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by a daughter Rhonda Miller; two grandsons, James Nease Sr., Mitchell Allee; a great-granddaughter Lindsey Winkler; a brother David Butterbaugh; and two sisters Helen Butterbaugh and Stella Alline Hutcheson.

Graveside services will be held at Hopewell Cemetery on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. with Pastor Rusty Thomas Officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

DEATH NOTICE

Olsen

Beverly Sue Olsen, 78, of Marshall, died Thursday, May 15, 2021, at Centerpoint Medical Center, in Independence.

There will be a memorial service held at a later date at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Marshall. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

FUNERALS

Horton, Maxine

12 p.m. today at Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home in Topeka, Kansas. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia, and Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home in Topeka, Kansas.

Younger-Loesing, Wyatt

10:30 a.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church in Marshall. Arrangements are under the direction of Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home.

Turner, Gladys N.

11 a.m. Saturday graveside service at Rehoboth Cemetery at Slater. Arrangements are under the direction of Weiker Funeral Home in Slater.

Butterbaugh, John R.

10 a.m. Monday, May 24 graveside services at Hopewell Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Ragland, Dr. Jerry J.

11 a.m. Saturday, May 29 at Cole Camp First United Methodist Church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Donath, Edith Y.

3 p.m. Sunday June 6 at Heckart Funeral Home. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

CRASH REPORTS

Eldon man hurt in Morgan accident

Stephen D. Soppe, 41, of Eldon, received minor injuries at 9:07 a.m. Monday in a Morgan County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Soppe was driving south on Route AA in a 2005 Ford F350 when he traveled off the left side of the roadway, struck the fence, and

overturned. He was not wearing a seat belt and was transported to Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach by Mid-Mo Ambulance District.

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

Compiled by Chris Howell.

CORRECTION

In the May 6 edition, incorrect information was included about the Board of Trustees' face covering rule vote in August 2020 in "Health Center board to discuss mask mandate." It should have stated Doris Thurston abstained. The Democrat apologizes for the error.

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 Arrests May 18

1:05 p.m.: Patricia Lee Ann Dildine, 30, of Steelville, was arrested after officers conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of West Broadway Boulevard and Winchester Drive for an equipment violation. K9 Charlie was deployed and alerted to the presence of narcotics inside the vehicle. A search of the vehicle revealed methamphetamine and other items of drug paraphernalia. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pettis County

Jail where more methamphetamine was located on her person. Dildine was charged with possession of a controlled substance, delivery of a controlled substance into the county jail, possession of drug paraphernalia, and driving with a suspended/revoked license.

Incidents May 17

8:55 a.m.: Gregory Esquivel, 48, of Leavenworth, Kansas, was issued a summons after a traffic stop in the area of Mill Street and Saline Street for failure to use a turn signal. The driver was valid through the State of Kansas but had a revoked driver's license through the State of Missouri. He was issued a summons for driving without a driver's license.

2:50 p.m.: An officer was dis-

patched to the 1200 block of South Summit Avenue in reference to a theft. In the overnight hours of May 16-17, someone got into the caller's unlocked vehicle and stole several items out of it.

Pettis County Sheriff's Office Arrests May 18

12:52 a.m.: Benster Rope, of Sedalia, was arrested after deputies responded to the 23000 block of Cedar Drive in Sedalia in reference to a suspect walking around a residence. Upon arrival, deputies located the male subject identified as Rope and arrested him for second-degree trespassing. Rope was transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Veterans organizations plan for Memorial Day

The American Legion Post 642, VFW Post 2591 and State Fair Voiture 333, 40 & 8 are planning to place American flags on the graves of local veterans Saturday, May 29 at all three Sedalia cemeteries. At 10 a.m. Monday, May 31, the VFW will host its annual Memorial Day program at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Also on May 31 the 40 & 8 will host its annual picnic from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Liberty Park. The picnic will be different this year and will offer curbside pickup as well as sit-down dining. On the menu is a choice of hamburger, hot dog or bratwurst with baked beans, chips and drink (water or soft drink) all for \$5. An additional entrée is \$1. Those attending are encouraged to bring their old and tattered flags for retirement.

The 40 & 8 will have tickets for sale prior to the picnic and at the event. Tickets may be purchased from any 40 & 8 member or by calling Chef de Gare Cmdr. Cliff

McBride at 660-826-1910, Secretary/Treasurer Ernie Parker at 660-460-0991 or Don Barbour, past commander, at 660-826-2102.

All proceeds from the picnic go back into Sedalia to fund projects such as American flags for first graders, flags for downtown, trophies for the Smith-Cotton High School JROTC program nursing scholarships, statewide Special Olympics and the Box Car on the Missouri State Fairgrounds.

Jim's Express to donate to Buddy Pack program

Jim's Express, 200 Winchester Drive, will donate \$1 to the Food Bank of Central Missouri for every oil change from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Donations will help pay for the Buddy Pack Program in Pettis County.

Sedalia 200 to host Free Physical Night

Sedalia School District 200's Free Physical Night is back after a one-year hiatus. It is scheduled for

6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, in the Smith-Cotton High School gym. Those attending must enter through the front gym doors and check in at the table in the lobby.

Students must arrive with a Pre-Participation Evaluation Form with pages 2-3 completed with the help of their parents. The nurses and doctors will complete page 1.

After the doctors and nurses provide the evaluation, students must leave their form at the main table at center court. Requests for copies should be made in writing to the athletic office.

Free physical night is a courtesy for Sedalia School District 200 students entering grades 7-12 for the 2021-22 school year who are going to participate on athletic teams for the school.

Pre-Participation Evaluation Forms are available to download at www.sedalia200.org/domain/60 under Quick Links on the right side of the page; they also can also be picked up at the junior high and high school main offices.

Contact the athletic office with questions at davis@sedalia200.org.

STATE BRIEFS

Police find man shot to death at Springfield home

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Police in the southwestern Missouri city of Springfield are investigating the shooting death

of a man whose body was discovered during a welfare check.

Officers were sent around 12:30 a.m. Monday to a home to check on the well-being of a person there, Springfield police said in a news release. Arriving officers found James Kenney, 41,

of Springfield, dead on the property. Police said he had suffered gunshot wounds.

Investigators do not have a suspect in the killing, police said.

Kenney's death marked Springfield's ninth homicide of the year.

St. Louis man who waved rifle at protest running for Senate

By Jim Salter

Associated Press

Mark McCloskey, a St. Louis personal injury lawyer who gained national attention after he and his wife waved guns at racial injustice protesters who marched near their home last summer, said Tuesday he will run for the U.S. Senate in 2022.

McCloskey made the announcement on Tucker Carlson's show on Fox News. Earlier Tuesday, the Federal Election Commission's website showed "Mark McCloskey for Missouri" was registered, and a website, mccloskeyforsenate.com, was seeking campaign donations.

"God came knocking on my door last summer disguised as an angry mob," McCloskey told Carlson. "And it really did wake me up."

Incumbent Missouri Republican Roy Blunt announced in March he would not seek a third term. McCloskey will seek the Republican nomination against two contenders with strong name recognition: Former Gov. Eric Greitens, who resigned from office amid a sex scandal in 2018; and Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt.

Several members of Congress are weighing runs in heavily-Republican Missouri. Five lesser-known Democrats also have announced Senate bids.

Mark and Patricia McCloskey became celebrities in conservative circles — and were vilified among Democrats — after the incident on June 28 outside their lavish home in St. Louis' Central West End.

Demonstrators were marching to the home

of then-Mayor Lyda Krewson amid nationwide protests after police killed George Floyd in Minneapolis. The protesters ventured onto a private street that includes the McCloskey mansion. The couple, both of them attorneys in their early 60s, said they felt threatened after protesters broke down an iron gate and ignored a "No Trespassing" sign. Protest leaders denied damaging the gate and said the march was peaceful.

Mark McCloskey came out of his home with an AR-15-style rifle and Patricia McCloskey emerged with a semiautomatic handgun. Cellphone video captured the confrontation.

St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner, a Democrat, charged the couple with unlawful use of a weapon. A

grand jury in October indicted them on the same charge and added an evidence tampering charge. The indictment states that a semiautomatic pistol was altered in a way that "obstructed the prosecution of Patricia McCloskey" on the weapons charge.

The couple contended the charges were politically motivated. They spoke via video at last year's Republican National Convention. Republican Missouri Gov. Mike Parson has said he will pardon the McCloskeys if they are convicted.

Their case is due to go to trial in November, but Gardner's office won't be prosecuting it. A judge sent the case to a special prosecutor because Gardner made reference to the case in fundraising emails during her successful bid for reelection in 2020.

Photo Submissions

We invite readers to submit photos for "Community Snapshot," which features images of local residents and events. Images must be current, in JPEG format and must be the property of the person submitting the photo. Please include your name, city and a contact telephone number with your submission (phone numbers will not be published). Please also include the names of all persons in the photo and any additional information. Email your submissions to news@sedaliademocrat.com.

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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SFCC Navigator program featured in What Works Clearinghouse

The State Fair Community College Navigator program was recently featured in a webinar presented by What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) in the March release of its new practice guide, "Designing and Delivering Career Pathways at Community Colleges."

For more than a decade, the WWC has been a central and trusted

source of scientific evidence on education programs, products, practices, and policies. It reviews the research, determines which studies meet rigorous standards and summarizes the findings. The WWC focuses on high-quality research to answer the question "what works in education" and to provide elementary, secondary

and post-secondary educators with the answers that will help them make evidence-based decisions that improves classroom practices and ensures student success.

A panel of six national experts and practitioners compiled the new practice guide that offers evidence-based recommendations. Each recommendation includes

research-based strategies and examples for implementing these recommendations at community colleges. SFCC's Navigator program that began in 2014 to promote student retention and success was one of the examples the WWC recognized.

As part of SFCC's Student Success Center, trained navigators work

closely with faculty and staff to help students define, clarify and achieve their academic, personal and professional goals. All students admitted to SFCC are assigned a personal navigator based on their area of study. Navigators help students enroll in classes, overcome obstacles and stay on track to graduation. To learn more about

the Navigator program, go to www.sfccmo.edu/navigator.

The WWC is an investment of the Institute of Education Sciences within the U.S. Department of Education that was established in 2002. To learn more, visit whatworks.ed.gov.

Release courtesy of State Fair Community College.

Missouri lawmakers pass longtime priorities

By Summer Ballentine

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's Republican-led Legislature this year pushed through a number of longtime priorities that failed for years and, in some cases, decades.

Successes from the legislative session that ended Friday include bills to create a prescription drug monitoring program, raise the gas tax for the first time in 25 years, and make Missouri the last state to require out-of-state companies to collect sales taxes on online purchases made by residents.

Republican Senate

Majority Leader Caleb Rowden said the number of accomplishments is "unmatched" compared to recent years.

Missouri for years has been the only state without a database of addictive medications that doctors and pharmacists can check. A faction of Republicans aggressively fought the effort over concerns that data on prescriptions would be misused by the government or hacked.

It took lawmakers a decade to pass the bill.

Lawmakers also took the first significant step to rein in police use-of-force powers since Michael Brown, a Black 18-year-old, was fatally shot in 2014 by a white Ferguson police

officer, and they managed to get a so-called school choice bill to Republican Gov. Mike Parson's desk.

The session marked victories for bipartisan policies in a GOP supermajority Legislature, with Democrats sometimes teaming up with more moderate Republicans on issues that conservatives opposed.

That helped usher in success for the gas tax hike and the opioid database.

"House Democrats are proud of our work providing critical support on a range of legislative accomplishments," House Minority Leader Crystal Quade said in a statement.

In other cases, bipartisanship meant overwhelm-

ing support for proposals that previously floundered, such as police use-of-force changes and the online sales tax bill.

Only 10 lawmakers voted against the internet tax bill, a rarity in a Legislature that abhors anything that even resembles a tax hike. The online sales tax collection requirement was paired with a small income tax cut, which eased Republican opposition.

A bill limiting chokeholds passed with only seven lawmakers voting against it. The proposal was linked to a bill to lift a requirement that Kansas City police live within the city, a Republican-backed policy.

"Today we've proven, since the death of Mi-

chael Brown, that Black lives matter in the state of Missouri," said St. Louis Democratic Sen. Brian Williams, who grew up in Ferguson and led the push to restrict police use of chokeholds.

Republican Senate President Pro Tem Dave Schatz supported the prescription drug database and online sales tax and personally sponsored the gas tax hike. He said splitting up those sticky issues into separate bills also helped get the policies across the finish line.

The school choice bill was one of House Speaker Rob Vescovo's top priorities. Two similar measures passed the Legislature that would create a tax credit

program to pay for kids to go to private schools.

Republicans pushed the bills over the finish line in part by limiting it to the state's largest cities, which helped buy support from some rural Republicans concerned about the impact on public schools.

"Not everyone in our caucus agrees with everything that we got done, including myself," Vescovo said told reporters after session ended. "There were some things that passed that even I didn't vote for, but collectively as a group we continue to work through some of those things."

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Court: Medical marijuana license applications not secret

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — State regulators cannot keep information from medical marijuana license applications secret, a Missouri appeals court ruled Tuesday.

The Western District of the Court of Appeals ruled in a lawsuit filed by a California-based company that was denied an application to cultivate cannabis as part of Missouri's medical marijuana industry.

The court said it would be "unreasonable and absurd" to keep the applications secret from companies trying to determine

why their applications to grow, distribute or sell marijuana were denied, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Missouri voters approved the use of medical marijuana in 2018. Since then, more than 800 companies that were denied licenses have appealed and are asking an administrative hearing commission to determine if the scoring system used to award licenses was fair.

The state's scoring system and rollout of the program also has drawn criticism from state lawmakers, with many of the concerns involving the state's decision to hire a private company to score applications for licenses. In the lawsuit ruled on Tuesday, Kings Garden Midwest, which had sought a cannabis cultivation license, said the state's scoring process was "arbitrary and capricious in that other applicants were awarded more

points for the same and/or similar answers provided by Kings Garden."

The company said it needed the information on other applications to challenge the denial of its license, and the court agreed.

"Because applications are not judged solely on their own merits but are ranked competitively against other applications, the only way to determine whether the Department denied Kings Garden's applications in an arbitrary or capricious manner is to compare its applications against information from those of successful applicants," the court wrote.

The Department of Health and Senior Services, which oversees the application process, argued the constitutional amendment approved by voters says the information should remain confidential.

Lisa Cox, a department

spokeswoman, said Tuesday the constitutional amendment approved by voters in 2018 requires the agency to "maintain the confidentiality" of information from facility applicants and licensees.

"Today, the court of appeals determined that (the amendment) permits the disclosure of facility applications, in limited circumstances, at the Administrative Hearing Commission subject to a protective order," Cox said in a statement. "The Department is reviewing this order and next steps in fulfilling the mandates in (the amendment), including seeking final review by the Missouri Supreme Court."

In March, the department's top marijuana regulator, Lyndall Fraker, told a House panel that health officials expect to spend at least \$12.4 million fighting legal challenges to applications in the coming year.

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STATE BRIEFS

Police: Woman strangled daughter as part of suicide pact

ST. PETERS, Mo. (AP) — Authorities in the St. Louis suburb of St. Peters say a 69-year-old woman strangled her daughter and cut her own throat as part of a suicide pact.

Donna Scuderi was charged Tuesday with first-degree murder in the death of her 39-year-old daughter, Laura Scuderi.

Police were called Friday evening after Donna Scuderi's husband found his wife and daughter unresponsive. Charging documents say Laura Scuderi was in a bedroom with a plastic bag over her head and a black cord tied around her neck. Police also said they found prescription pill bottles.

Donna Scuderi was found alive in a bathroom with a large knife wound. Authorities say she told officers that her daughter had

been depressed and wanted to die, so they planned to kill themselves together. Scuderi allegedly told police she gave her daughter pills and then put the bag over her head.

Charging documents say Scuderi tried to kill herself by putting the bag over her own head, and when that failed, she slashed her own throat with knives.

Springfield city council repeals COVID-19 masking rules

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's third largest city of Springfield is ditching its indoor mask rule but not until summer break begins for the area's public school students.

The Springfield News-Leader reports that the city council voted Monday to drop the requirement after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

issued new guidance last week that Americans who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 need no longer wear face masks.

Springfield-Greene County Acting Health Director Katie Towns said waiting until 11:59 p.m. on May 27 for the change to take effect "will allow children not yet eligible for a vaccine to continue to be protected with masks."

Towns added, "We need to spend these next two weeks working hard to improve our vaccination rates while we wrap up school."

Towns told council that Greene County's rolling 7-day COVID-19 infection rate has declined 93% since its wintertime peak.

"These lower numbers give us confidence in our ability to continue to respond to COVID-19," she said, citing health department efforts such as contact tracing investigations to slow the spread of the disease.

Hy-Vee open for business in Warrensburg

By Dustin Steinhoff
dustins@warrensburgstarjournal.com

WARRENSBURG — Hy-Vee opened its doors for the first day of business at its newest location in Warrensburg Tuesday morning, May 18.

The Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for the business the same day to celebrate the grand opening.

Hy-Vee is located at 410 E. Young Ave., Warrensburg. The facility was previously occupied by BiLo Country Mart before being purchased and renovated into Hy-Vee.

BiLo Country Mart operated in the space for more than 70 years, opening in Warrensburg in 1950.

Hy-Vee District Store Director Brian Stevens said the Hy-Vee organization had been considering the Warrensburg area as a potential location for a number of years until recently finding a good opportunity to do so with the purchase of the BiLo facility.

Stevens said the biggest benefit for Hy-Vee in obtaining ownership of

the facility was the ability to maintain the existing employees of BiLo Country Mart.

“Being able to come into a storefront that already has great employees makes it easier for us to make the transition into Hy-Vee,” Stevens said.

Tina Potthoff, Senior Vice President of Communications for Hy-Vee Corporate, told the Star-Journal that the company planned to keep all of BiLo’s roughly 95 employees and that company leaders began meeting with employees to get them onboarded into Hy-Vee’s system.

Because all of the existing staff were able to continue their employment following the transition, the number of new employee hires was kept relatively low.

Stevens said Hy-Vee hired about 17 additional part-time employees for the new location with a few full-time positions planned to be offered in the future.

BiLo Country Mart closed its doors on Thursday, May 13, and following a short period of closure for renovations, Hy-Vee



PHOTO BY DUSTIN STEINHOFF | WARRENSBURG STAR-JOURNAL
Hy-Vee employees cut the ceremonial ribbon alongside community members and Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce members and staff to celebrate the store's grand opening on Tuesday, May 18.

re-opened the doors on May 18.

Stevens said changes to the storefront during this time included painting, cleaning, replacing items carried by BiLo with the items carried by Hy-Vee,

replacing produce cases and changing various fixtures.

He went on to say more remodels of the facility are planned to take place in the future.

Stevens said not all of these remodels have been

finalized by the organization, but some of these projects will include replacing shelving, replacing freezers and replacing the deli area.

Stevens said Hy-Vee of Warrensburg made the decision to be a Warrensburg

Chamber of Commerce member to stay active in the community and assist the community and other local businesses.

Dustin Steinhoff can be reached at 660-747-8123.

Missouri man charged in brother's deaths accused of fraud

By Heather Hollingsworth
Associated Press

A Missouri farmer accused of attempting to cover up a \$215,000 cattle fraud scheme by killing two Wisconsin brothers was indicted Tuesday on a federal mail fraud charge.

Garland Joseph Nelson, 27, is awaiting trial on state murder and other charges in the deaths of 24-year-old Justin Diemel and 35-year-old Nicholas Diemel, of Shawano County, Wisconsin. The brothers disappeared after visiting Nelson's farm in July 2019, and their burned remains were later found in Missouri and Nebraska.

The federal charge focuses on the financial deal that brought the brothers

to Missouri.

Nelson agreed to feed and pasture cattle belonging to the brothers' Wisconsin livestock trade and investment business, the indictment says. The arrangement was supposed to end with Nelson, who worked for J4s Farm Enterprises Inc., a business started by his mother, selling the cattle and sending the brothers the proceeds, minus the costs of raising the cattle.

But the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release that Nelson sold, traded or killed many of the Diemels' cattle without paying them.

The indictment also alleges that the cattle in Nelson's care "had high death rates due to underfeeding, neglect, and/or maltreatment."

In one case, he dropped hay bales in a pasture for calves but did not remove the plastic covering, so calves ate the plastic and died.

Throughout the spring of 2019, Nicholas Diemel pressed Nelson for payment. Nelson responded by fraudulently sending the Diemels a bad check for \$215,936 while the account had a balance of 21 cents, according to the U.S. attorney's office. The check had been intentionally torn and damaged so it could not be submitted for payment.

The brothers eventually fled to Kansas City in July 2019, rented a pickup truck and drove to Nelson's mother's farm in Braymer. The indictment alleges that Nelson then killed them.

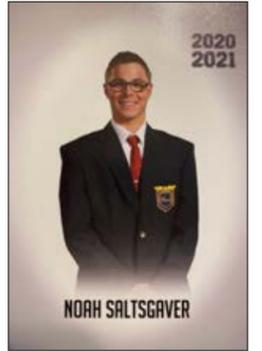
Saltsgaver named State FBLA officer

The Otterville FBLA Chapter announced its first state office member, Noah Saltsgaver.

Saltsgaver was elected as Vice President of Communications to the state office team for the 2021-22 academic year. He is a junior at Ot-

terville and is District 6 President along with Chapter President for the upcoming year.

Saltsgaver is active in National Honor Society, cross country, Junior Class President, A+, and Student Awareness Group representative.



Noah Saltsgaver

Release courtesy of Otterville FBLA.

CEO

From Page 1A

“So, I think that’s the primary reason he was chosen. He’s well respected in the state. I’ve known Dave professionally ... and was very impressed with him.”

She added she felt extremely comfortable passing the CEO position on to Kramer.

“I’m confident that he’s going to carry the center forward in the tradition it’s always had,” she noted.

Kramer said he was familiar with CHS for many years before taking the new position, often playing in the center’s golf tournaments. He also knew the late Roger Garlich, the former executive director of the Children’s Therapy Center in Sedalia.

Kramer’s wife, Rachel, also serves in the same field. She is the executive director for the Missouri Mentor network. Rachel is originally from Marshall and the move to Sedalia will bring them closer to family.

“This opportunity presented itself and gives a chance to not only work for one of the leaders in our field here in the state, but then

also it’s a family connection,” he noted.

Kramer said he’s excited to work for “an amazing organization” with “high-quality services” and “distinguished leadership.”

“A keyword for me is ‘impact,’” he said. “When I look at being able to impact more than 5,000 people’s lives with our mission — I think it was definitely a draw for me.”

Kramer added although his career is only beginning at CHS, he hopes to see growth continue.

“The board and the leadership team here sold me again ... to that term of ‘impact,’” he explained. “I feel we are aligned in saying, ‘if you provide high-quality services, wouldn’t you want everybody in the state of Missouri with developmental disabilities to receive those types of services?’ So, we are looking at how to impact more people ... regardless of what the service type is.”

Kramer noted CHS is a mission-based organization.

“If you believe in your mission, and you want people to benefit from your mission, you have to look at growth,” he said. “I think it’s the ironic thing about a not-for-profit to a certain

extent ... I want to grow because our mission is important, because of what it does for people.”

Kramer said he’s stayed in this career field for more than three decades because while working in direct support care he could see the “immediate impact” of helping another person.

“It’s more than just caring and doing something for them,” he noted. “It’s also teaching and helping them learn to do for themselves.”

“I think from that initial recognition of how rewarding that was for me as a person, then realizing as I progressed professionally ... that you can take action as an administrative person,” he continued. “You can help others create that same rewarding experience.”

He added he looks forward to spreading CHS’s mission, “Life Without Limitations.”

The Kramers have two grown children who live in the St. Louis area and two younger children still at home. Kramer said once school is out, the family will be settling into a Sedalia home over the summer.

Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter @flbemiss.

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EDITORIAL

CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Finding ways to better manage stress

Stress. We all have it to different extents.

Good managers know how to work their best under the stress of deadlines and troubleshooting. They are clear-minded and precise with their actions, which generally become some of their best work.

Others are the complete opposite. When they are experiencing a lot of stress and unexpected circumstances, they choke. This person freezes up like a statue and can manage no longer. They leave decisions to the person above and have a seat in the corner.

The four major types of stress are time, anticipatory, situational and encounter stress.

We all know time stress. Every time we think that we will be late for work we get a taste of this. That knot in your belly, the extra 5-10 mph faster than the speed limit and the "Come on, already!" at the stop light.

This can happen on our way to the airport, to a school or sporting event or even in more serious situations such as getting someone to a hospital who requires emergent care.

According to healthline.com, experiencing some stress is normal, and sometimes even beneficial for your health. But over time, persistent surges of adrenaline can damage your blood vessels, increase your blood pressure, and elevate your risk of heart attacks or stroke. It can also result in anxiety, weight gain, headaches, and insomnia. That's not a great option for living a healthy lifestyle.

Anticipatory stress is much the same. It can become chronic when our health is failing and we are lost in what's to come, or it can be short-term like it is when we are waiting to unwrap gifts.

We have to be careful with anticipatory stress because it can quickly turn into a chronic state that leads us into a poor health situation.

People who worry a lot are actually anticipating something that may or may not happen. They worry about whether or not everything will be perfect for every occasion.

I call those people "Martha." She was the sister of Lazarus and Mary Magdalene and a friend of Jesus. Every time Jesus would come, Martha would scurry around making sure that everything was perfect. Her sister Mary, on the other hand, would stop what she was doing, sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to what he had to say.

It infuriated Martha that Mary would be so "lazy" in front of the Lord so she asked Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" Jesus turned to Martha and



STEPHANIE LEFEVERS
Contributing Columnist

said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed — or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

"What is better." That's something to ponder in the world today. Is it better to put ourselves through anticipatory stress or to teach ourselves how to take things and accept them as they come?

Situational stress is the opposite of anticipatory stress. It is the daily stress of a job, coworker(s), a 2-year-old who trips over the carpet in the bathroom and puts her two front teeth through her lip by hitting the bathtub! (True story.)

We can recover rather quickly from situational stress when we have a good support system or simply have good coping skills. Taking a break from situational stress often puts us back on track and allows us to recharge for the next round.

Encounter stress is like running into a bear while on a hike. It also happens when a person experiences anxiety at the thought of running into a certain person or being in a crowded area. It can happen with anything that is unpredictable.

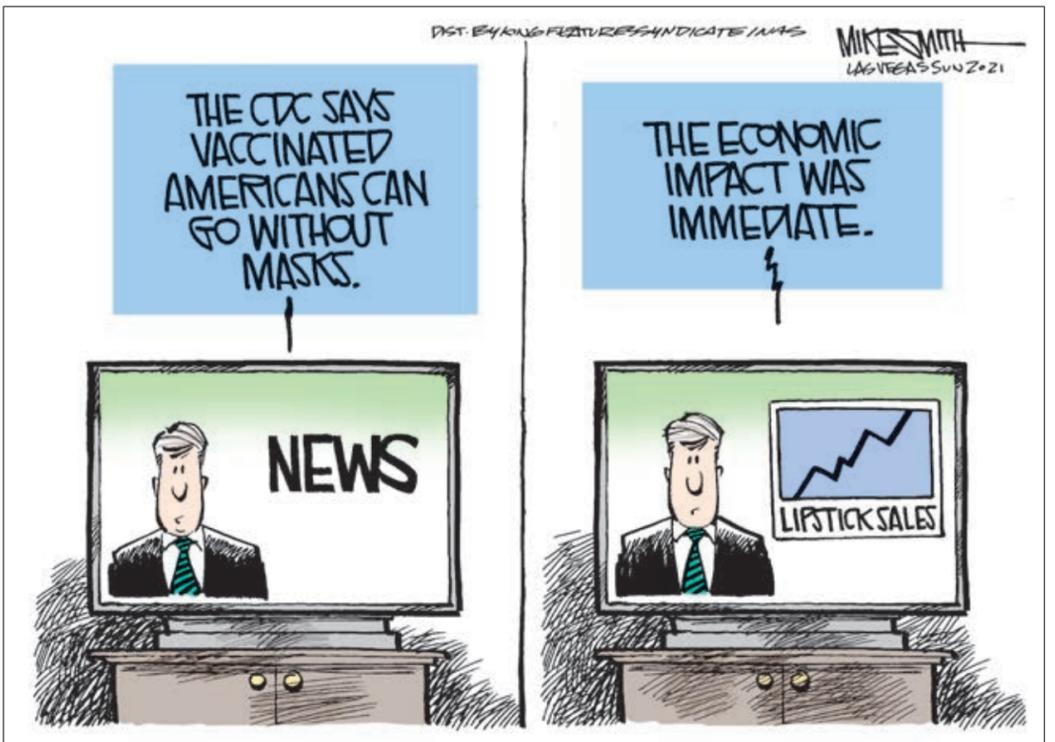
I experience encounter stress every time we go to Worlds of Fun when my husband and daughter ride that creepy thing that pulls you 300 feet into the air and then drops you so that you can swing like a pendulum for several minutes. Who in their right mind would do that?

No matter what kind of stress you may be enduring, it is worth taking some time to self-evaluate and pinpoint what kind of stress you are experiencing and to what degree.

If stress can kill you (and it can), it is worth finding and practicing anti-stress methods. If you believe stress has taken you into a place of depression, reach out for help from your primary care physician or your local health center. They will be able to guide you to a new and better version of yourself.

Now, if I can only follow the recommendations I have made, things will be fine!

Stephanie Lefevers is a local business owner, former member of the Sedalia 200 Board of Education and a resident of Sedalia for more than 40 years.



CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Streetcar workers strike resolved

The Great War raged in Europe in July 1918. American troops had been in Europe since 1917. The Sedalia Democrat was filled with news from the front and reports from "Our Boys in the Service." National news included reports of President Wilson's attempts to keep gasoline prices stable and to stem the "evil" of "the mob spirit" that led to violence directed against Americans of German descent.

Local news was dominated by the upcoming Missouri State Fair. While the Defense Department planned a major wartime exhibit, M.V. Carroll, president of the Sedalia Chamber of Commerce, in an attempt to make Sedalia seem more friendly to outsiders, asked merchants to stop requesting tips from fair visitors.

In the midst of this news, the Democrat reported on a short-lived strike by workers of the City Light and Traction Company, which ran the city's streetcars. Ten of the 13 car operators had walked off the job



RHONDA CHALFANT
Contributing Columnist

on Sunday, July 21. On Monday, following threats of violence, the cars remained in their barn while City Light and Traction officials debated the operators' demands. The strike threatened attendance at the fair.

On Tuesday, the Democrat noted that members of the Sedalia Chamber of Commerce had met with representatives of the streetcar company and the strikers under the leadership of County Commissioner F.R. Hatton.

The group learned that the only grievance the strikers had was the issue of wages, which the strikers believed were too low. The strikers were asking for an increase to 30 to 35 cents per

hour, up from the 23.6 to 27.6 cents per hour they were then being paid. The company had offered a raise to 27 to 31 cents per hour, but the strikers had rejected it.

In addition, the strikers wanted to form a union in affiliation with the Sedalia Federation of Labor. Whether the company would recognize the union was also discussed.

Ultimately, the Chamber appointed a committee to mediate between the strikers and the company. Al Baumgartner, Will J. Riley, and Ira Melton were to meet with a committee from the Sedalia Federation of Labor, representing the strikers.

After the morning's meeting, City Councilman R.W. Robertson told a Democrat reporter that he was confident the strike could be settled and that streetcar service would be in place in time for the state fair. If, however, the local committee was unable to bring the strikers and the company to an agreement, he threatened that the matter would be referred to the state's

utility commission or to "some other outside and disinterested body of men."

During the conference, a coded telegram arrived from the main office of the company in New York City. The men agreed to wait until it was deciphered and to meet at 4 p.m. Before the 4 o'clock meeting, however, the men agreed to a proposed wage scale of 28 to 30 cents per hour. In addition, the company agreed to recognize the union and the workers agreed to accept as coworkers and union members the three men who had refused to strike.

Feuers was confident that the main office would accept the men's agreement provided the company maintained an open shop, meaning that workers did not have to belong to a union in order to be employed.

Rhonda Chalfant is the president of the Pettis County chapter of NAACP and a member of the Pettis County Historical Society.

CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Bill would corrupt the election system

Pettis County Clerk Nick La Strada is ordinarily a mild-mannered guy. But the "For the People Act" has got him pretty peeved.

He has good reason. Here's a summary of the bill from the Heritage Foundation:

"(The act) would federalize and micro-manage the election process administered by the states, imposing unnecessary, unwise and unconstitutional mandates on the states and reversing the decentralization of the American election process — which is essential to the protection of our liberty and freedom. It would implement nationwide the worst changes in election rules (in) the 2020 election and go even further in eroding and eliminating basic security protocols that states have in place."

"It is clearly taking elections out of the states' hands," said La Strada. "It's a laundry list of ways to corrupt



DOUG KNEIBERT
Contributing Columnist

the system."

That's no exaggeration. The bill mandates early voting, automatic and same-day voter registration, online voter registration and no-fault absentee ballots — which Heritage calls "the tool of choice for vote thieves."

Democrats' attempts to pass the bill fell short in the Senate last week, but that doesn't mean we've heard the last of it.

As Pettis County's election authority, La Strada is proud of the steps he's taken to ensure elections are run properly.

"We have a very clean list of registered voters," he said. "This bill opens up Pandora's box for less local control of elections."

La Strada is a strong supporter of voter ID laws, which the bill bans. But things get even worse. The bill prohibits election officials from checking the eligibility of voters and removing from the rolls those who don't qualify.

There's much more in the bill and it's all bad. Instead of ensuring clean elections on the federal level, it does just the opposite. If it becomes law — a dreadful thought — La Strada said "people are going to lose their confidence in the election system."

That confidence has already been shaken, leading several states to tighten up their election laws — which wouldn't pass muster under this bill.

Democrats would lead you to believe there's a vast con-

spiracy to keep certain groups from voting. That's a smokescreen to conceal the real reason for this bill. Like D.C. statehood and plans to stack the Supreme Court, it's all about gaining political power. A more accurate title of the For the People Act would be the For the Party Act — and we don't need to be told which party.

President Joe Biden applauded House passage of this monstrosity in March, saying it would "safeguard the integrity of our elections." How does a bill that removes safeguards wholesale do that? Biden has told some whoppers in his public life, and he's still at it.

A more honest appraisal of the act comes from La Strada:

"It's a political agenda, that's what's going on."

Doug Kneibert is a former editor of the Sedalia Democrat.

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House to vote on independent panel to probe Jan. 6 attack

By Mary Clare Jalonick, Alan Fram and Lisa Mascaro

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House is poised to vote on a 9/11-style commission on the deadly Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, a first step toward creating an independent, bipartisan panel that would investigate the siege and try to prevent it from happening again.

While the measure is expected to be approved Wednesday by the House, a commission will likely be a more difficult sell in the Senate. Republicans there are signaling that they will try to block — or at least slow down — the effort.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said Tuesday that he is "pushing the pause button" on the legislation to form the commission. While controlling the Senate, Democrats would need at least 10 GOP votes to pass the measure under Senate rules.

McConnell told reporters that his caucus is "undecided" but willing to listen to arguments about "whether such a commission is needed." He questioned whether the panel's work would interfere with the hundreds of criminal cases stemming from the Jan. 6 attack, in which rioters brutally beat police, broke in through windows and doors and hunted for lawmakers as they fled. McConnell said he also wanted to read the "fine print" of the bill and ensure that both parties on the commission have an equal say.

McConnell also questioned a separate, \$1.9 billion spending bill that the House is expected to pass this week for security upgrades. "We're not sure what to spend the money on yet," he said.

McConnell's hesitancy came hours after House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy said he would oppose the bill. The two leaders' positions will almost certainly mean fewer Republicans will support the commission in both chambers, as most in the party are still loath to upset former President Donald Trump. He had encouraged his supporters to head to Capitol Hill that day to stop the counting of the electoral votes and overturn his defeat to Democrat Joe Biden.

Trump released a statement Tuesday night urging Republicans against approving what he called a "Democrat trap."

The votes in the House and Senate will also expose divisions in the party, as some Republi-

cans have said they think an independent review is necessary.

In private GOP caucus meetings across the Capitol on Tuesday, members argued for and against the idea.

Several Republican lawmakers joined McCarthy in speaking against the commission early Tuesday during a meeting of House Republicans, according to one Republican familiar with the private session who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss it. The Republican who negotiated the bill with Democrats, New York Rep. John Katko, argued in favor.

"I recognize there are differing views on this issue, which is an inherent part of the legislative process and not something I take personally," Katko said in a statement. "However, as the Republican Leader of the Homeland Security Committee, I feel a deep obligation to get the answers U.S. Capitol Police and Americans deserve and ensure an attack on the heart of our democracy never happens again."

McConnell said his caucus had "a good discussion" in their closed-door lunch.

Some Republicans, such as Missouri Sen. Roy Blunt, recommended that his colleagues oppose the commission. Blunt, the top Republican on the Senate Rules Committee, is working on a bipartisan report with his Democratic colleagues that will include some recommendations for security upgrades. He said an independent investigation would take too long and "frankly, I don't think there are that many gaps to be filled in on what happened on Jan. 6, as it relates to building security."

Other Senate Republicans have signaled support for the commission. Utah Sen. Mitt Romney said Tuesday that given the violent attack, "we should understand what mistakes were made and how we could prevent them from happening again."

Modeled after the investigation into the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the bill would establish an independent, 10-member commission that would make recommendations for securing the Capitol and preventing another insurrection. The panel would have to issue a final report by Dec. 31.

The debate over the commission comes at a time when some Republicans have begun to downplay the severity of the Jan. 6 attack. And many Republicans say the commission should only

be established if it can investigate other violent acts, including racial justice protests last summer following the killing of George Floyd by police. McConnell declined to answer a question about whether he agreed with that, despite advocating for a broader investigation earlier this year. On Tuesday, McConnell would say only that Republicans were "evaluating what is appropriate."

Some have suggested that McCarthy himself could be subpoenaed by the panel because he talked to Trump as the Capitol was breached. Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, who was booted out of GOP leadership last week for her criticism of Trump's false claims of a stolen election, suggested as much in an interview with ABC News, saying she "wouldn't be surprised" if McCarthy was questioned in the investigation. Cheney has backed the commission.

Cheney and Katko are two of 10 Republicans who voted to impeach Trump after the insurrection for telling his supporters that day to "fight like hell" to overturn his defeat. The Senate later acquitted him.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., called McCarthy's opposition to the commission "cowardice" and said he doesn't want to find the truth. She released a February letter from the GOP leader in which he asked for an even split of Democrats and Republican commissioners, equal subpoena power and no predetermined findings or conclusions listed in the legislation. The bipartisan legislation accommodates all three of those requests, she said.

"Leader McCarthy won't take yes for an answer," she said.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., vowed to bring the House measure for a vote. "Republicans can let their constituents know: Are they on the side for truth or are they going to cover up?" Schumer said.

He questioned why Republicans even negotiate with Democrats "if the Republican leaders are just going to throw their lead negotiators under the bus."

The Biden administration said that it supports the legislation and that the American people deserve "a full and fair accounting to prevent future violence and strengthen the security and resilience of our democratic institutions."

Associated Press writer Steven Sloan contributed to this report.

Congress OKs bill to fight hate crimes vs. Asian Americans

By Brian Slodysko

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress approved legislation Tuesday intended to curtail a striking rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, sending President Joe Biden a bipartisan denunciation of the spate of brutal attacks that have proliferated during coronavirus pandemic.

The bill, which the House passed on a 364-62 vote, will expedite the review of hate crimes at the Justice Department and make grants available to help local law enforcement agencies improve their investigation, identification and reporting of incidents driven by bias, which often go underreported. It previously passed the Senate 94-1 in April after lawmakers reached a compromise. Biden has said he will sign it.

"Asian Americans have been screaming out for help, and the House and Senate and President Biden have clearly heard our pleas," said Rep. Grace Meng, D-N.Y., who helped lead efforts to pass the bill in the House.

To many Asian Americans, the pandemic has invigorated deep-seated biases that in some cases date back to the Chinese Exclusion Act of more than a century ago. President Donald Trump repeatedly referred to the virus, which emerged in Wuhan, China, as the "China Virus" or the "Kung Flu." And as cases of the illness began to rise in the U.S., so too did the attacks, with thousands of violent

incidents reported in the past year.

Rep. Judy Chu, D-Calif., said it's painful for many to "open up the newspaper every day and see that yet another Asian American has been assaulted, attacked and even killed."

In February, an 84-year-old man died after he was pushed to the ground near his home in San Francisco. A young family was injured in a Texas grocery store attack last year. And in Georgia, six Asian women were killed in March during a series of shootings targeting workers at massage parlors. Prosecutors are seeking hate crimes charges. The women who were killed are mentioned in the text of the bill.

"You start to think, 'Well, will I be next?'" Chu said.

Yet to some activists, including organizations representing gay and transgender Asian Americans, the legislation is misguided. More than 100 groups have signed onto a statement opposing the bill for relying too heavily on law enforcement while providing too little funding to address the underlying issues driving a rise in hate crimes.

"We have had hate crimes laws since 1968, it's been expanded over and over again, and this new legislation is more of the same," said Jason Wu, who is co-chair of GAPIMNY-Empowering Queer & Trans Asian Pacific Islanders. "These issues are about bias, but also rooted in inequality, and lack of investment and resources

for our communities. Not a shortage of police and jails."

Meng acknowledged some of the concerns raised by the groups, but countered that the widespread underreporting of hate crimes needs to be addressed.

"Law enforcement is currently underreporting these kinds of incidents and it makes it easy to ignore hate crimes all together," she said.

Rep. Jim Jordan, an Ohio Republican, suggested that the surge in Asian American violence was tied to efforts backed by some Democrats and other progressives to decrease funding for the police.

"This violence, by and large, is happening in Democrat-controlled cities," said Jordan. If "money wasn't taken from police and they were allowed to do their jobs, we would probably be in an entirely different position."

Yet the bill also represented a rare moment of bipartisanship in a Congress that has struggled to overcome partisan gridlock, while underscoring an evolution in Republican thought on hate crimes legislation.

Many conservatives have historically dismissed hate crimes laws, arguing they create special protected classes so that victims of similar crimes are treated differently.

"I'm glad Congress is coming together in a bipartisan way," said Rep. Young Kim, a California Republican who is Korean American.

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6099765

STATE BRIEF

Police: 2 fatal shootings in St. Louis area could be linked

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Police are investigating the possibility that two shootings less than an hour apart in suburban St. Louis over the weekend are related.

The first shooting happened around 11 p.m. Saturday in University City, when 70-year-old

Barbara Goodkin was shot in the head as she and her husband were traveling in a car. Goodkin's husband, Stanley Goodkin, was also shot in the torso and a leg, police said. Both were rushed to a hospital, where Barbara Goodkin died of her injuries.

Less than an hour later in Brentwood, about 3 miles away, Sergei Zacharev was fatally shot in a hotel parking lot, the Major Case Squad of Greater

St. Louis said. Zacharev, 53, was an anesthesiologist who lived in Town and Country.

Police said they're unaware of any links between the victims, but that forensic evidence connects both shootings. Investigators are searching for a small silver or metallic sport utility vehicle that may have been involved in the shootings, and police asked that anyone with information call CrimeStoppers.

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610476

Guilty

From Page 1A

The subject close to Fox contacted SPD on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020, saying they witnessed a homicide. The subject said they and Fox owed \$600 to a Kansas City man who was in the cartel. The subject said Rankin acted as a middleman or enforcer. The subject and Fox were going to pay Rankin money.

According to court documents, Rankin showed up at a residence twice looking for the subject. When he arrived the second time, Rankin allegedly told the subject to get in a white box-style Jeep with Rankin and an unknown driver, later identified as Fernandez.

Rankin allegedly directed Fernandez to the residence where the money was supposed to be obtained in the 700 block of East 17th Street but no one answered the door. The suspects went back to the first residence, where Fox now was. Rankin went into the residence and

returned with Fox before all four people returned to East 17th Street.

According to court documents, the subject stated at one point Rankin allegedly started saying he enjoyed spending time with his victims and he cut off their body parts and was tapping the subject on the back of the head with an ax.

Comments were made about it being 4:30 a.m. and needing to get back to Kansas City. A call was made to the cartel man and he allegedly told Rankin to "take them out Highway 50 and finish it."

According to court documents, the subject looked in the back seat and saw Fox on top of Rankin when Rankin called out "He's stabbing me, shoot him!" The subject said they did not see Rankin with a gun but knew Fernandez did not shoot Fox and said multiple times Rankin did. Fox opened his door and got out and the subject ran from the Jeep. After the vehicle left, the subject found Fox and went to several porches for help but no one answered their doors. The subject then left the area and did not call the police out of fear.

Safe

From Page 1A

Most of the time you go into a building and have to take what's there. This, we got to pick what we wanted and where we needed it. "Then they gave us the leeway to work with Dugan's Paints to pick out the flooring, paint colors. So we were able to do that as well, which was so much fun for all of us. It gives you ownership in where you're at."

The new facility at 3309 W. Main St. is about 4,000 square feet, nearly double the size of the former facility on East 10th Street.

More space means more individual offices for staff members — Asbury said she'd never had her own office during her many years at Child Safe — an area designed to house records compared to a previous tiny closet, two interview rooms instead of one, and room to bring therapy services under the same roof instead of in a separate office across town.

"We only had one (interview room) before so we could schedule four a day, a lot of times we would do more because we would have them after 5 o'clock," Asbury said. "But this will give us the opportunity to schedule eight a day if we had to."

She said Child Safe has the staffing capacity to handle that many forensic interviews per day, as she and the program director still help with advocacy and interviewing. Asbury,

who began as a forensic interviewer at Child Safe, said the majority of staff members are cross-trained.

Those interview rooms are also sound-proof to hopefully avoid the waiting room noise and chatter that could be heard in the old building's interview rooms.

The first interview in the new facility took place last Monday and this Monday was the first time for two simultaneous interviews, which Asbury said went well.

Child Safe's therapists now have offices next to their coworkers after spending years in a rented office space on the west side of Sedalia.

"That opens it up for our therapists if we have something that needs to be dealt with, a child has an emergency right then, then our therapist can talk to them and the family at that point," Asbury said.

There are many other small aspects that will have a big impact. Law enforcement and members of Children's Division can now be buzzed in through a back door so they don't have to cross paths with the children and their families. Security has been improved to protect staff and clients. An open storage area was created to house donated blankets and stuffed animals. Each child interviewed at Child Safe receives a blanket and stuffed animal to take home. Previously, staff would grab the items from a closet but now the children can make their own selections just outside the interview rooms. In ad-



PHOTOS BY NICOLE COOKE | DEMOCRAT

Child Safe therapist Katie Kirby talks to a guest at Tuesday's open house as she explains the storage area next to them that houses blankets and stuffed animals, which are given to children after their interviews.



From left, Shelly Kempton of Dugan's Paint & Flooring Center, Child Safe Executive Director Mari Asbury, Ken Weymuth of W-K Chevrolet and KPIII and Center for Human Services Director of Development Susan Mergen talk during Tuesday afternoon's open house at Child Safe.

dition to child therapy rooms, there is now a designated room for adult therapy, as the children's non-offending family members can also receive free therapy. And a conference room allows for better space for board and staff meetings.

There is also an area that is meant to eventually allow a health care worker to be on site for medical services. Asbury said Child Safe is in discussions with Bothwell Regional Health Center and Children's Mercy Hospital to create such a partnership.

Asbury said she's excited to be in this long-awaited building and said the large crowd Tuesday "speaks volumes to how much support we have."

"It really helps when you have a strong, really good team," Asbury said. "I think that's always been Child Safe's strongest aspect is they've always had very, very good people working for them."

For more information, visit child-safehouse.org.

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

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THE WEATHER

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
75 66	78 68	82 68	83 64	83 65	81 62	76 60
A t-storm; breezy in the a.m.	Cloudy with a t-storm or two	A strong p.m. t-storm	Times of clouds and sun	Partly sunny with a t-storm	More sun than clouds	A thunderstorm possible

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:58 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:22 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:35 p.m.
Moonsset today	2:13 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
May 19	May 26	Jun 2	Jun 10

WEATHER HISTORY

Dense smoke from forest fires in the interior of the nation caused unusual darkness at midday in New England on May 19, 1780. Noon seemed almost as dark as midnight, causing chickens to roost.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Monday

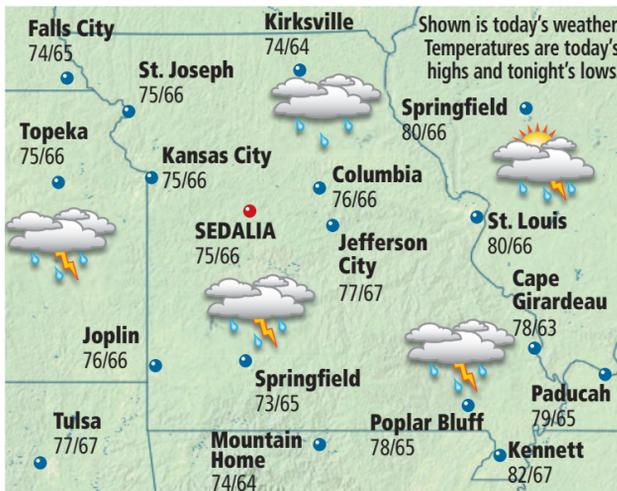
TEMPERATURES	
High	70
Low	61
Normal high	74
Normal low	52
Record high	94 in 1939
Record low	36 in 1997

PRECIPITATION	
Monday	0.66"
Month to date	3.65"
Normal m-t-d	3.10"
Year to date	19.32"
Normal y-t-d	13.85"

COOLING DEGREE DAYS	
Monday	1
Month to date	16
Year to date	43
Normal year to date	46
Last year to date	34

RIVER LEVELS				
In feet as of 7 a.m. Tuesday				
Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld	Stg
Blue Lick	28.15	+14.80	24	
Valley City	28.29	+2.68	22	
Lamine				
Otterville	12.89	+5.06	15	
Missouri				
Boonville	15.04	+5.44	21	

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



BRANSON
High: 75. Low: 65. Cloudy today with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm. A stray thunderstorm late tonight. A couple of thunderstorms tomorrow.

KANSAS CITY
High: 75. Low: 66. Cloudy and humid today with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm. Some clouds tonight with a thunderstorm in parts of the area; mild.

ST. LOUIS
High: 80. Low: 66. Breezy today; cloudy, then clouds and sun with a thunderstorm. Considerable cloudiness tonight.

NEW YORK CITY
High: 87. Low: 66. Sunny and very warm today. Clear and warm tonight. Remaining warm tomorrow with sun and some clouds. Friday: periods of clouds and sun.

LOS ANGELES
High: 73. Low: 61. Patchy fog in the morning; otherwise, low clouds followed by sunshine today. Mainly clear early tonight, then areas of low clouds forming.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W		Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	80/61/pc	81/60/pc	Milwaukee	72/64/t	79/68/t
Baltimore	86/58/s	89/61/pc	Nashville	82/64/pc	85/62/pc
Billings	69/48/pc	59/36/sh	New Orleans	80/75/t	84/74/t
Boston	78/60/s	72/58/pc	Norfolk	82/61/s	82/61/s
Buffalo	83/63/s	80/65/pc	Oklahoma City	74/62/t	72/65/t
Charlotte	82/57/pc	84/58/s	Orlando	82/68/pc	83/70/pc
Chicago	80/67/t	84/70/pc	Phoenix	99/74/s	97/73/s
Cleveland	80/61/c	83/64/pc	Pittsburgh	81/59/s	85/61/pc
Dallas	75/65/r	77/69/r	Portland, ME	75/50/pc	66/51/s
Denver	72/51/t	81/57/pc	Portland, OR	60/45/pc	62/46/sh
Detroit	78/61/t	85/64/pc	Sacramento	70/47/s	71/51/pc
Honolulu	85/73/s	86/72/s	St. Louis	80/66/t	85/67/pc
Houston	82/69/r	80/72/r	San Francisco	62/49/s	63/50/s
Indianapolis	76/62/t	84/63/c	Seattle	59/45/c	64/46/c
Las Vegas	95/69/pc	85/57/s	Washington, DC	86/63/s	88/62/pc

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



Summary: Warmth will slowly build in the East today. Downpours and heavy thunderstorms will continue to lead to flooding problems over the South Central states. Rain and snow will affect the Northwest.

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Collier to lead Lady Roadrunners

By Democrat staff

State Fair Community College named Nicole Collier as head coach of the women's basketball team Monday in a press release.

Collier spent the last five seasons as assistant coach/assistant recruiting coordinator at Southern Illinois University - Carbondale.

"I am familiar with State Fair," Collier said in the release. "I've been around the region and know (SFCC Athletic Director Darren Pannier) really well. I think he is a great person to work for. Sedalia is a great location and SFCC is a phenomenal college."

Before coaching at SIUC, Collier was head coach for four years at Lincoln University in Jefferson City. She was an assistant for the Blue Tigers before a promotion to head coach, and served as an assistant coach for Central Missouri women's basketball.

Collier was a student-athlete at Jefferson College, garnering two All-American selections. She was the first student-athlete to be inducted into the Jefferson College Athletics Hall of Fame.

Collier has an Associate's degree from Jefferson College, an undergraduate degree in Physical Education from Missouri Western State University, and a master's degree in Exercise Science and Sport Administration from the University of Central Missouri.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity at SFCC," said Collier. "I want to thank Dr. Anderson, Dr. Bates, and Coach Pannier for embracing my vision for the program. State Fair traditionally has had a lot of success in women's basketball, and I want to hit the ground running and make this program

fun to watch."

Coleman hired to lead SFCC esports

State Fair Community College hired Jacob Coleman as head coach for the inaugural season of Roadrunners esports, announced Monday in a press release.

Coleman has 14 years of experience in esports as a tournament host and partnered Twitch streamer.

"I am looking for students who are in good academic standing, have positive attitudes, and are

dedicated to learning and improving their esports knowledge and ability," Coleman said in the release. "A level of skill of esports will be a great asset to any student interested in the program."

Coleman currently serves as an area manager for the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Harrisonville, where he was hired in 2017. He was a store manager at GameStop in Lumberton, North Carolina, and served as a department manager for the Wal-Mart in Clinton.

Coleman earned an Associate Degree in Biology from State Fair Community College and a bachelor's degree from Belleville University in Belleville, Nebraska in Supply Chain Transportation and Logistics Management.

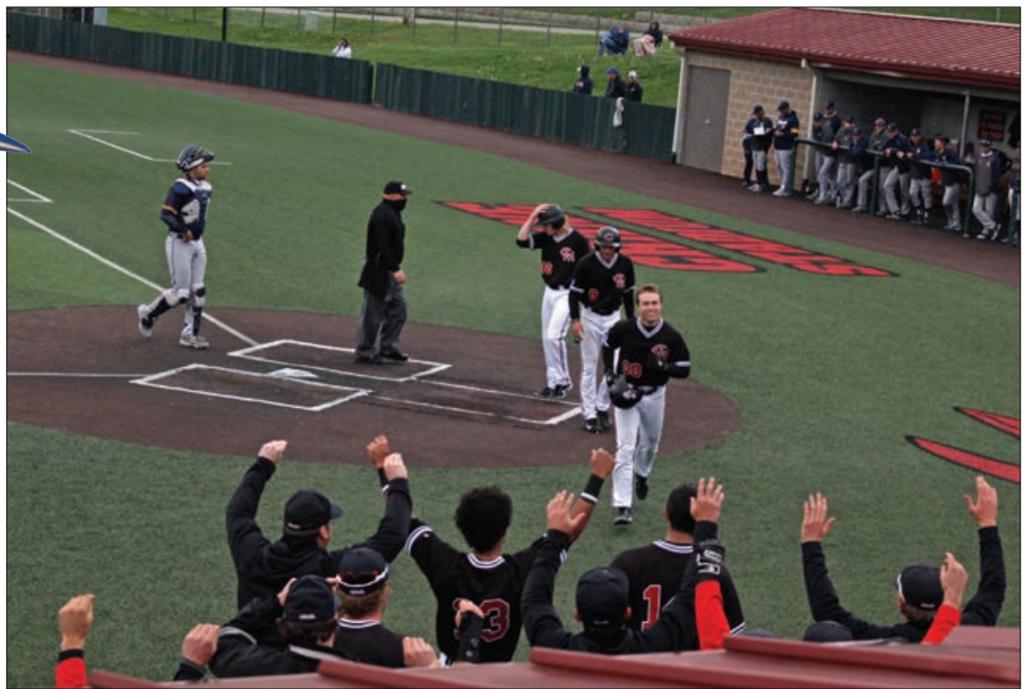
The SFCC esports program's inaugural season opens next fall.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF

Smith-Cotton junior Keaton Mateja carded a 79 on the second day of the MSHSAA Class 5 Boys Golf Championships at Sedalia Country Club, tying for 44th Tuesday with a two-day total of 155.

Mateja logged eight pars and one birdie for a 18-hole total of nine-over-par 79.

See SFCC | 5B



STAR-JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

Central Missouri junior Donovan Ditto returns to the dugout after hitting a homer against Central Oklahoma on Saturday, April 17 at Crane Stadium.

Mules baseball advances to MIAA semis

By Taylor Burlingame

For the Democrat

Central Missouri baseball team took on the No. 8 seed Emporia State Hornets in a best-of-three series as part of the MIAA Tournament, advancing to the semifinals two wins.

In game one on Thursday, the Mules came out on top by a score of 3-2.

All five runs of the game were scored in the first four innings.

The Mules offense didn't waste any time putting runs on the board. In the bottom of the first, redshirt junior Cole Taylor hit a sacrifice fly to left to score redshirt senior Josh Schumacher who led the inning with a single.

ESU came right back and took the lead with a run in the third

and fourth innings.

The Mules scored their remaining runs in the fourth inning reclaiming the lead for the rest of the game.

A triple from Schumacher scored redshirt junior Donovan Ditto to tie the game.

Schumacher then came in to score as a bad throw on redshirt senior Erik Webb's ground ball was unable to be picked up at first.

Redshirt junior Mason Green threw the first six innings for the Mules allowing just two runs with six strikeouts.

Schumacher led the offense going 2-4 with a triple, RBI and a run scored.

In game two on Friday, the Mules defeated the Hornets by a score of 7-3 securing their spot in the MIAA Tournament

Semifinals.

UCM scored five of its seven runs in the first inning and kept the Hornet offense fairly quiet.

ESU scored its first run in the fourth off of a homerun and added another run in the sixth with an RBI single and the eighth off of a wild pitch.

UCM ended its scoring with a single run in the eighth when Schumacher doubled into right centerfield to score redshirt freshman Carter Young.

Schumacher led the offense for the second time in the series adding three hits with a double, a run, and an RBI.

The Mules travels to Joplin, Missouri tomorrow to face Pittsburg State in the MIAA Tournament Semifinals.

See MULES | 5B

Royals' Duffy glad IL trip is for minor injury

By Dave Skretta

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Royals placed Danny Duffy on the injured list after the left-hander experienced pain in his left forearm, though an MRI exam showed it was a flexor strain and not something more serious.

The move with one of the top starters in baseball this season is retroactive to Friday. Duffy's last start was Wednesday in Detroit,

where he allowed four runs over six innings with eight strikeouts and two walks.

"You know, I tried to wait as long as you could without trying to put the team and the bullpen in a hole," Duffy said before the Royals opened a two-game series against Milwaukee on Tuesday night. "I was pretty confident I could make a start today but pretty confident for me is probably a little different than a lot of people."

See ROYALS | 5B



PHOTO BY CARLOS OSORIO | AP PHOTO

Kansas City Royals starting pitcher Danny Duffy throws during the second inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers, Wednesday, May 12, 2021, in Detroit.

Veteran goalies getting their shot in Stanley Cup playoffs



PHOTO BY DAVID ZALUBOWSKI | AP PHOTO

St. Louis Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington makes a glove save against the Colorado Avalanche in the second period of Game 1 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup first-round playoff series Monday, May 17, 2021, in Denver.

By Aaron Beard

AP Sports Writer

For teams in the NHL playoffs Wednesday, there is comfort with having experience — particularly with a Vezina Trophy or a Stanley Cup winner — between the pipes.

Washington has the postseason's oldest goaltender with 39-year-old Craig Anderson, who has held his own against 2014 Vezina winner Tuukka Rask of Boston entering Game 3 of their first-round series. Edmonton hopes for the same from Mike Smith (also 39) entering its opener against Winnipeg's reigning Vezina winner,

Connor Hellebuyck.

There is also a Game 2 matchup of players who have been part of Cup-winning teams in Colorado's Philipp Grubauer (2018 with Washington) and Jordan Binnington (2019) of St. Louis.

"I think playoff hockey's a lot about experience," said Smith, who watched Anderson's Game 1 win against the Bruins. "You can't tell a young player what playoffs are like until they've actually witnessed it themselves. It's something that's unique to a veteran player and a player that's been in the playoffs a few times over

the course of my career."

Anderson stopped 44 shots Monday in the Capitals' OT loss to the Bruins that evened their best-of-seven series. It was his first playoff start since 2017 and his third all season.

"As we get older, things become a little bit more difficult, so for Andy, he's a veteran player," Capitals coach Peter Laviolette said. "He's been around, and he's played a lot of games. The one thing that you'd like is to have that rhythm of playing games all the time so that he can keep his rhythm in the net, and he wasn't afforded that luxury."

See HOCKEY | 5B

SPORTS CALENDAR

Wednesday

ON AIR HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

10 a.m. Sacred Heart OR Bunceton with Prairie Home at Northwest (at Class 1 District 9 Tournament in Pilot Grove)

AUTO RACING

4:25 a.m. (Thursday)
ESPN2 — Formula One: Practice 1, Circuit de Monaco, Monaco

COLLEGE TENNIS (WOMEN'S)

4:30 p.m. TENNIS — NCAA National Championships, Women's Team Quarterfinals 3 & 4

CURLING (MEN'S)

Midnight (Thursday)
NBCSN — World Mixed Doubles Championship: U.S. vs. Switzerland, Aberdeen, Scotland (taped)

MLB BASEBALL

Noon MLBN — Chicago White Sox at Minnesota
3 p.m. MLBN — Colorado at San Diego
6:30 p.m. MLBN — Washington at Chicago Cubs OR NY Mets at Atlanta

6:45 p.m. BS-M — Pittsburgh at St. Louis
7:10 p.m. BSKC — Milwaukee at Kansas City

NBA BASKETBALL

6:45 p.m. ESPN — Western Conference Playoff: San Antonio at Memphis, Play-In Round
9:05 p.m. ESPN — Western Conference Playoff: Golden State at LA Lakers, Play-In Round

NHL HOCKEY

2:30 p.m. NBCSN —

Stanley Cup East Division Playoff: Washington at Boston, First Round, Game 3
7 p.m. CNBC — Stanley Cup Central Division Playoff: Nashville at Carolina, First Round, Game 2

8 p.m. NBCSN — Stanley Cup North Division Playoff: Winnipeg at Edmonton, First Round, Game 1

9:30 p.m. CNBC — Stanley Cup West Division Playoff: St. Louis at Colorado, First Round, Game 2

RUGBY

7 p.m. FS2 — MLR: Los Angeles at Austin

SOCCER (MEN'S)

1:50 p.m. ESPN2 — Coppa Italia Cup: Atalanta vs. Juventus, Final, Reggio Emilia, Italy

2:10 p.m. NBCSN — Premier League: Liverpool at Burnley

SURFING

9 p.m. FS2 — WSL Championship Tour: The Rip Curl Rottneest Search, Rottneest Island, Western Australia, Australia

TENNIS

4 a.m. TENNIS — Geneva-ATP, Lyon-ATP, Belgrade-WTA, Parma-WTA, Early Rounds

5 a.m. TENNIS — Geneva-ATP, Belgrade-WTA & Parma-WTA Quarterfinals, Lyon-ATP Early Rounds

4 a.m. (Thursday)

TENNIS — Geneva-ATP, Belgrade-WTA & Parma-WTA Quarterfinals, Lyon-ATP Early Rounds

5 a.m. (Thursday)

TENNIS — Geneva-ATP, Belgrade-WTA & Parma-WTA Semifinals, Lyon-ATP Quarterfinals

WNBA BASKETBALL

6 p.m. CBSN — Indiana at Connecticut

La Russa says Mercedes made mistake hitting HR on 3-0 pitch

By Jay Cohen

AP Baseball Writer

White Sox manager Tony La Russa said Yermín Mercedes made a “big mistake” when he crushed a 3-0 pitch from infielder Willians Astudillo for a solo homer in the ninth inning of Monday night’s 16-4 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

The 76-year-old Hall of Fame manager said he was yelling for Mercedes to take. Instead, the rookie drove the 47-mph eephus pitch deep to center for his sixth homer — and touched off yet another debate about baseball’s unwritten rules.

“That’s just sportsmanship, respect for the game, respect for your opponent,” La Russa said Tuesday. “He made a mistake, so there will be a consequence that he has to endure here within our family. But it won’t happen again because (third base coach Joe McEwing) will be on the lookout and I will be too, and we’ll go running in front of the pitcher if we have to.”

The 28-year-old Mercedes has been one of baseball’s biggest surprises so far this year, and the designated hitter was back in the Chicago lineup for Tuesday night’s game at Minnesota. He hit a major league-best .364 with 25 RBIs over his



PHOTO BY JIM MONE | AP PHOTO

Chicago White Sox's Yermín Mercedes, right, is congratulated by third base coach Joe McEwing after his home run off Minnesota Twins' Willians Astudillo in the ninth inning of a baseball game, Monday, May 17, 2021, in Minneapolis.

first 36 games.

“I’m going to play like that. I’m Yermín. I can’t be another person because if I’m changing, everything is going to (be) changing,” Mercedes said. “Everything was good. Some of my teammates just talked with me. Just be relaxed, everything was good, everything was good, just do you. We’re good.”

Mercedes’ swing put the spotlight back on lingering questions about how the game should be played, with a new wave of players challenging what is regarded as proper on-field decorum. While bat flipping was once frowned upon in the sport, it has now almost become just another part of the game.

Young Padres slugger Fernando Tatis Jr. hit a grand slam on a 3-0

pitch off Juan Nicasio with San Diego leading by seven runs last August in a game it eventually won 14-4. That play drew a rebuke from Jayce Tingler, Tatis’ manager, for missing a take sign.

After La Russa and Mercedes talked Tuesday, shortstop Tim Anderson backed Mercedes in an Instagram comment under an NBC Sports Chicago post featuring pulled quotes from the manager and the slugger.

“The game wasn’t over! Keep doing you big daddy,” Anderson wrote.

Mercedes responded: “yes sir let’s do it baby.”

San Francisco Giants pitcher Alex Wood also weighed in, posting on Twitter that he felt a position player on the mound meant “all ‘rules’ are out the window.”

“Plus do y’all realize how hard that is to launch a 49mph pitch 400 feet lol? Give the people what they want,” Wood wrote.

La Russa didn’t feel like having Astudillo on the mound changed the equation very much. La Russa said he apologized to the Twins.

“He’s not going to do that again,” La Russa said. “I heard he says something like I played my game, but no, he doesn’t. He plays the game of Major League Baseball that respects the game, respects the opponents, and that was not (it). And he’s got to respect the signs. When he gets the take sign, he takes.”

La Russa was hired by Chicago in October in a surprise move, putting him back in the dugout for the first time since he won the World Series with St. Louis in 2011. While it has been a little bumpy so far — La Russa wasn’t aware of an extra-inning rule that played a role in a loss on May 5 — the White Sox had the best record in baseball heading into play on Tuesday.

La Russa said he talked to Mercedes, and called what happened “a learning experience.”

“The fact that he’s a rookie and was excited helps explain why he just was clueless,” La Russa said. “But now he’s got a clue.”

W-K

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

The Sedalia Democrat is pleased to announce Adamaris Ramirez and Daniyel Kukosh as area athletes of the week for Sunday, May 9 to Saturday, May 15.

Boys: Smith-Cotton senior **Daniyel Kukosh** sealed a Class 2 District 5 Tournament championship for the Tigers with a 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 singles victory over his Helias Catholic opponent Wednesday at Liberty Park in Sedalia. Kukosh and junior Ein Martin won their No. 2 doubles match 8-6 to help S-C win its first district title in 33 years.



Girls: Lady Tigers junior **Adamaris Ramirez** recorded a hat trick May 13 in a 3-1 victory over Bolivar at Susie Ditzfeld Memorial Field in Sedalia. S-C senior Ally Woolery, freshman Zoey Hieronymus and sophomore Sydney Toops provided assists to help the Lady Tigers secure a regular-season record of 18-3-1 and an undefeated (8-0-1) regular-season slate at home.





Sedalia, MO wkfamily.com Boonville, MO

Mets’ Pillar has multiple nasal fractures after hit by pitch

By Paul Newberry

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — New York Mets outfielder Kevin Pillar suffered multiple nasal fractures when he was hit in the face by a fastball from Braves reliever Jacob Webb, a frightening scene that shook both teams.

Pillar made everyone feel a lot better when he brought out the lineup card before Tuesday night’s game.

Pillar was at Truist Park after meeting with a facial specialist to determine the next steps in his recovery. The 32-year-old veteran was placed on the 10-day injured list before the second game of the series between the NL East rivals.

“It was such a scary moment,” Mets manager Luis Rojas said. “It unbelievable that he’s here and walking around.”

While Pillar is expected to be out for an extended period, he jokingly told Rojas that if “he could see a little better, he’d be fighting with me to be in the lineup.”

As it was, Pillar brought out the Mets lineup for the exchange at home plate with Braves coach Walt Weiss and the four umpires.

Even with a bruised and badly swollen face, and a small pad stuffed into his right nostril, Pillar smiled and shook everyone’s hands. Weiss gave him a warm pat on the shoulder.

Pillar was hit square in the nose by a 95 mph pitch from Webb with the bases loaded in the seventh inning Monday night.

Webb said he was trying to throw a high pitch to Pillar, but the ball simply got away from him in the delivery.

“I wasn’t trying to hit him,” the pitcher said, still clearly affected a day after the incident. “It definitely came out of my hand weird. I knew right away when I threw it. I felt it.”

Webb sent a message to Pillar, who responded that there were no hard feelings. The Mets player also provided an encouraging update on his Twitter account.

“Thanks to everyone that has reached out! Scary moment but I’m doing fine!” he posted.

Pillar was knocked to the ground, and blood poured from his nose when he lifted his head. After the game, the veteran outfielder was taken to the hospital for a CT scan, which showed no serious damage.

The Mets announced they had acquired veteran outfielder Cameron Maybin from the Chicago Cubs for cash. The 34-year-old Maybin had been in the minors this season and New York assigned him to Triple-A Syracuse.

In the meantime, infielder Wilfredo Tovar was selected from Syracuse to fill Pillar’s spot on the roster. Catcher Deivy Grullón was designated for assignment.

Webb said his only concern was Pillar’s health.

“Obviously, I’m thinking about him,” Webb said. “I injured the guy. It’s definitely tough moving forward. It’s just something you’ve got to get out of your mind and go back to doing your thing. But my main concern was making sure he’s all right.”

Braves manager Brian Snitker said he would likely give Webb a day or two off before sending him back to the mound. But he’s counting on the right-hander to move past the frightening incident.

“The next time he gets the call to come in and pitch, you just have to do it,” Snitker said. “You’ve got to make a living. Those things happen. You hate it. But you’ve got to get right back out there if you get the opportunity.”

Starter Taijuan Walker also was forced to leave Monday’s 3-1 win over the Braves, joining a long list of injured Mets players. Walker pitched only three innings, allowing one hit and no runs, before exiting with tightness in his left side.

Rojas said the Mets got an encouraging report on Walker following an MRI.

“The MRI came back clean. He feels great today,” the manager said. “They’re going to watch video and pay attention to his mechanics to see if there’s anything causing him to tighten up during the outing. From outing to outing, it’s no issue. We’re just going to take it day by day.”

The injuries to Walker and Pillar came after the Mets added two regulars to the injured list on Monday. Ace starter Jacob deGrom already is on the IL, recovering from right side tightness.

Outfielder Michael Conforto and second baseman Jeff McNeil went on the 10-day IL with hamstring injuries.

“It’s going to be a week to week approach,” Rojas said. “We’ll just see how they respond to the different treatments they get.”

HOROSCOPES

By Jacqueline Bigar

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, May 19, 2021:

You're clever, mentally fast and compassionate. You have endurance, stamina and a wide variety of interests. You are impulsive and creative and yet, practical and detail-oriented. Your focus on close friendships and partnerships will increase in the coming year. This is your opportunity to learn more about yourself and the relationships that you want. This year will be gentler.

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)

★★★★ Today has two distinct moods. In the morning and during the Moon Alert, you feel festive. You will enjoy taking it easy or having fun with sports and playful times with kids. Once the Moon Alert is over, it's time to be productive! Tonight: Make practical plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Today begins with a focus on home and family. You might have an important discussion with a female family member. During the Moon Alert, don't shop for anything except food. However, after the Moon Alert is over, you will want to have fun! Tonight: Shopping choices will be fun and practical.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ You have a strong urge to communicate today. You have something you want to say and you want to be heard. You also want to hear what others have to say. Note: During the Moon Alert midday, avoid important decisions. Don't agree to anything important. Afterward, relax at home. Tonight: Wardrobe purchases will please you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Money issues are on your mind today, which is why it's important for you to be aware of the Moon Alert that occurs midday. During that time, restrict your spending to food. Make no important decisions. Tonight: A secret love affair or meeting is likely.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Things will tend to go your way today. During the Moon Alert midday, restrict your spending to food and avoid important decisions. After it's over, your mind will turn to financial matters. Tonight: Listen to the advice of someone more experienced.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Today you want to withdraw from the busyness around you. If you're working, you will prefer to work alone or behind the scenes. That's fine. During the Moon Alert midday, tread carefully. After it's over, you are empowered because the Moon is in your sign! Tonight: You make a great impression on others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ A conversation with a female friend might be important today. You might discuss future goals. (Avoid decision-making during the Moon Alert midday.) After the Moon Alert is over, seek out solitude and relax. Tonight: You will learn something from a teacher.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Personal details about your private life are made public today. (Whaaat?) Meanwhile, be cautious during the Moon Alert midday. Don't volunteer for anything during that time. Once it's over, enjoy schmoozing with friends online or in person. Tonight: Think about budget ideas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You need stimulation and adventure today, which is why you want to do something different or learn something new. Make no important decisions during the Moon Alert midday. Afterward, people notice you, especially bosses, parents and the police. Tonight: Enjoy a practical discussion with someone.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Financial concerns are on your mind today, especially inheritances or how to share something. Make no important decisions during the Moon Alert today. Don't sign documents then. Afterward, enjoy your day! Tonight: A practical discussion will benefit you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Today your focus is on close friends and partners; nevertheless, do not agree to anything important during the Moon Alert. (For your own good.) After the Moon Alert is over, tie up loose ends with red-tape issues — taxes, debt and shared property. Tonight: Learn valuable information from someone older.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You're keen to take care of errands. You might do a favor for someone. During the Moon Alert, restrict your spending to food and gas. Afterward, a conversation with a partner or close friend will be meaningful. Tonight: It's a good time for a family discussion.

BORN TODAY

Director, screenwriter, producer Nora Ephron (1941), musician, songwriter Pete Townshend (1945), actress Polly Walker (1966)

MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE STANDINGS

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	25	17	.595	—
Toronto	22	17	.564	1½
Tampa Bay	23	19	.548	2
New York	22	19	.537	2½
Baltimore	17	23	.425	7

Monday's Games

Texas 5, N.Y. Yankees 2
Chicago White Sox 16, Minnesota 4
Detroit 4, Seattle 1
L.A. Angels 7, Cleveland 4

Wednesday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Giolito 2-4) at Minnesota (Shoemaker 2-4), 12:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Hill 2-1) at Baltimore (Means 4-0), 6:05 p.m.

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	25	15	.625	—
Cleveland	21	18	.538	3½
Kansas City	18	22	.450	7
Detroit	15	26	.366	10½
Minnesota	13	26	.333	11½

Boston (Richards 3-2) at Toronto (Stripling 0-2), 6:37 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Kluber 3-2) at Texas (TBD), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Civale 5-1) at L.A. Angels (Ohtani 1-0), 7:07 p.m.
Milwaukee (Burnes 2-3) at Kansas City (Keller 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Greinke 3-1) at Oakland (Montas 5-2), 8:40 p.m.
Detroit (Skubal 0-6) at Seattle

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	25	17	.595	—
Houston	24	17	.585	½
Seattle	21	21	.500	4
Los Angeles	18	22	.450	6
Texas	19	24	.442	6½

(Gilbert 0-1), 9:10 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 11:35 a.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 1:05 p.m.
Houston at Oakland, 2:37 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Angels, 3:07 p.m., 1st game
Minnesota at L.A. Angels, 6:07 p.m., 2nd game
Boston at Toronto, 6:37 p.m.

MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	19	16	.543	—
Philadelphia	21	20	.512	1
Atlanta	19	22	.463	3
Miami	18	22	.450	3½
Washington	16	21	.432	4

Monday's Games

San Francisco 6, Cincinnati 3
N.Y. Mets 3, Atlanta 1
Chicago Cubs 7, Washington 3
San Diego 7, Colorado 0
L.A. Dodgers 3, Arizona 1

Wednesday's Games

Colorado (González 2-1) at San Diego (Musgrove 3-4), 3:10 p.m.

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	23	18	.561	—
Milwaukee	21	20	.512	2
Chicago	20	20	.500	2½
Cincinnati	19	20	.487	3
Pittsburgh	17	23	.425	5½

San Francisco (Gausman 3-0) at Cincinnati (Miley 4-3), 5:40 p.m.
Miami (Rogers 5-2) at Philadelphia (Eflin 2-2), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Peterson 1-3) at Atlanta (Smyly 2-2), 6:20 p.m.
Washington (Scherzer 3-2) at Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 4-3), 6:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Cahill 1-4) at St. Louis (Flaherty 7-0), 6:45 p.m.

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	25	16	.610	—
San Diego	25	17	.595	½
Los Angeles	23	18	.561	2
Arizona	18	24	.429	7½
Colorado	15	27	.357	10½

Milwaukee (Burnes 2-3) at Kansas City (Keller 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
Arizona (Smith 1-3) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 6-3), 9:10 p.m.
Thursday's Games
San Francisco at Cincinnati, 11:35 a.m.
Washington at Chicago Cubs, 1:20 p.m.
Miami at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Atlanta, 6:20 p.m.
Arizona at L.A. Dodgers, 9:10 p.m.

WNBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	2	0	1.000	—
Connecticut	2	0	1.000	—
Chicago	1	0	1.000	½
Washington	0	1	.000	1½
Atlanta	0	1	.000	1½
Indiana	0	2	.000	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	1	0	1.000	—
Seattle	1	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	1	1	.500	½
Las Vegas	0	1	.000	1
Minnesota	0	1	.000	1
Los Angeles	0	1	.000	1

Monday's Games

No games scheduled.

Wednesday's Games

Chicago at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Connecticut, 6 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Seattle at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Friday's Games

Atlanta at Indiana, 6 p.m.
New York at Washington, 6 p.m.
Connecticut at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Los Angeles at Las Vegas, 9:30 p.m.

Spieth in good place at PGA as he takes long view of career

By Doug Ferguson

AP Golf Writer

KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Jordan Spieth has a much clearer outlook now than he did the last time the PGA Championship was at Kiawah Island.

For starters, he wasn't even at Kiawah in 2012.

Spieth was in Denver that week preparing for the U.S. Amateur while trying to decide whether to turn pro or return to Texas for his sophomore year of college. With an unclear future weighing on him, he had to face NCAA champion Thomas Pieters in the opening round at Cherry Hills and lost on the 18th hole.

Spieth headed back to school. "I wasn't in a good place back then," he said with a laugh Tuesday as he headed out for his first look at the windswept Ocean Course at Kiawah Island.

Now it's different, for a variety of reasons.

Spieth has emerged from three dark years of not winning, rarely even contending and a slide so far down the world ranking that he nearly fell out of the top 100. He often says he'll always bet on himself — a reference to self-belief, not gambling — and there was a time the odds were getting pretty long.

He comes into the PGA Championship trying to become only the sixth player to complete the career Grand Slam, and this chance is as good as any since he captured the third leg in the 2017 British Open.

Spieth has finished in the top 10 in seven of his last nine tournaments, including the last four, one of those a victory in the Texas Open for his first trophy since Royal Birkdale. He's not all the way back — what golfer ever feels that way? — but is among the leading favorites going into the second major

of the year.

And he believes the rough times have made him better.

"I've proven to be very human. It's kind of fun," Spieth said. "When I've been on in the past, I've won tournaments by eight out here, and that's obviously the goal. But the ability to shun off a bad shot and come back the next hole and make a long putt or something like that — just the grind — is enjoyable when you're on the positive momentum side of it."

Spieth isn't sure when he turned the corner. He points to a two-week stretch at Phoenix and Pebble Beach where he had chances to win on Sunday as evidence he was on the right track.

Will Zalatoris offered another example.

He grew up playing amateur golf with Spieth in Dallas — they will be playing together the opening two rounds at Kiawah — and they still play at home. One match a few months ago at Dallas National stands out.

Spieth missed the green left of a cart path on a par 3. His partner also missed the green. Zalatoris was certain they had the hole won.

"Jordan hits this chip shot that skips through the rough, goes up, checks on the hill and then basically goes Mach 3 and just slams into the back of the hole and goes in," Zalatoris said. "Then he follows it up with a 30- or 40-footer on the next hole. This is just Jordan.

"I'd seen it for the few months leading up to that, but that was when I knew, 'OK, he's back.'"

Nine years seems like a lifetime ago for the 27-year-old Spieth. He lasted only one more semester at Texas and turned pro with no status. It took him only nine months to earn temporary membership on sponsor exemptions, win on the PGA Tour, finish No. 7 in the FedEx Cup and play in the Presidents Cup.

And it only got better. The Masters and the U.S. Open in 2015, capped off by a FedEx Cup title. No. 1 in the world. The third leg of the Grand Slam at Royal Birkdale.

Spieth prefers the long term — forward and backward.

He doesn't read about himself, though he has a sense of what people are saying and writing based on the questions he gets asked. He mentioned something Tiger Woods said years ago — the media and the public tend to exaggerate the bad times and the good times alike.

"I've had some pretty high ups and some pretty low lows for my age, but it's just part of the learning curve," he said. "You've just got to laugh it off and stick to your game plan and believe in yourself, bet on yourself. I've always done that, and I feel like that's paid off pretty well to this point.

"And if my next eight years are like my last eight years, I'd certainly sign up for that."

Especially if those eight years include a Wanamaker Trophy to round out his collection. None of the other five players with the career Grand Slam — Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, Ben Hogan and Gene Sarazen — got the final piece at the PGA Championship.

It won't be easy this week, if Tuesday was any indication, with another dose of wind strong enough to make the Ocean Course feel longer than its 7,838 yards.

The course won't play to that length. The PGA of America will move around tees depending on the wind. Before he set out for his first practice round, Spieth heard plenty of tales from players wearing out 3-iron and 4-iron into some of the par 4s.

"If the wind blows this way for the rest of the week, it's going to be a battle to just get in the clubhouse," Adam Scott said.

Brewers' Yelich returns from injured list to face Royals

By Dave Skretta
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers activated Christian Yelich from the injured list Tuesday and expect the two-time All-Star to play for just the second time in five weeks when they open a two-game interleague set in Kansas City.

Yelich played nine games to start the season before leaving with stiffness in his lower back on April 11 in St. Louis. He tried to return on May 3 in Philadelphia but played just one game before returning to the injured list.

"I'm just excited to be back in there and contribute at some level," Yelich said.

Brewers manager Craig Counsell said the 2018 National League MVP underwent some different training methods during his last IL stint and Yelich's back finally showed some improvement. He wound up playing three consecutive rehab games at Triple-A Nashville over the weekend, going 0 for 5 with a pair of walks while playing in the outfield.



Milwaukee Brewers' Christian Yelich, left, hits a single during the first inning of a baseball game in front of Philadelphia Phillies' J.T. Realmuto (10), Monday, May 3, 2021, in Philadelphia.

PHOTO BY DERIK HAMILTON | AP PHOTO

More importantly than the numbers, Yelich experienced none of the pain that has sidelined him for 31 games this season.

"It was more just proving to the team that I could play back-to-back-to-back days and not have any issues like I had in Philly," he said. "That

was kind of the purpose of the rehab assignment, to get multiple days playing and kind of avoid the Philly situation like last time, where I felt OK and then after the game and the next day I just wasn't good.

"I feel confident now," Yelich added, "and I'm looking forward to being back."

Yelich is hitting .353 but has no homers and just one RBI in 41 plate appearances this season. While the contact rate is

a welcomed turnaround from the .205 average he had during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, the lack of power could be due largely to the recurrence of back trouble that Yelich has played through for much of his career.

"It's just a combination of things," Yelich said. "When your back bothers you, it sucks to do everything. It's just one of those things. I had to get better and play the field and hit and do

everything down there those few days."

The Brewers created roster space for Yelich by optioning left-hander Hoby Milner to Nashville.

His return should provide a boost in confidence — if not some on-field production — for a club that has struggled to score runs the past few weeks. The Brewers were 17-10 and in first place on May 1 but have lost 10 of their last 14 games, twice getting shut out

and scoring a single run in three other games.

"I think we were all following his games down in Nashville, and more importantly, trying to get the updates from the training staff to see if he was bouncing back in the days afterward," said Corbin Burnes, who will start Wednesday's game in Kansas City. "It's good to see him back. We expect big things when he's in there."

Wait a minute — did the training staff actually provide some intel?

"Nah, it was pretty hush-hush," Burnes said. "It was pretty much like, 'Oh, he's good.' We were all just keeping an eye on it and just seeing how he's doing. We wanted him back. He's a big piece of our lineup."

In other injury news, struggling reliever Eric Yardley was sent to Nashville to begin a rehab assignment for a right shoulder strain; fellow right-hander Bobby Wahl had his rehab assignment for a strained right oblique transferred from Double-A Biloxi to Nashville; and outfielder Derek Fisher returned from his rehab assignment in Nashville, though he remains on the injured list for the strained left hamstring that has sidelined him since the middle of March.

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Order By 5:00 pm Monday, May 31, 2021
Pickup On Friday, June 4, 2021

Angels star Mike Trout out 6 to 8 weeks due to calf strain

By Joe Reedy
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Los Angeles Angels star outfielder Mike Trout is expected to be sidelined for six to eight weeks because of a strained right calf, a setback that could keep him out through

the All-Star break.

The Angels put Trout on the injured list Tuesday, a day after he made an early exit in a 7-4 win over Cleveland. Trout came up limping after running toward third on an inning-ending popup in the first.

Manager Joe Maddon said

after the game that Trout was in a lot of pain.

The three-time MVP is sixth in the American League with a .333 batting average, and was 1 for 17 in his past six games. He snapped a five-game hitless streak Sunday at Boston, which was one game shy of the longest of his career.

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RESIDENTIAL LOT
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BENTON COUNTY, MO

LOCATION: From Lincoln, MO, head south on Hwy 65 for 0.6 miles, then take a right onto Zion Church Road, go 0.2 miles the lot is on the corner.

PRICED AT \$55,000



DEVELOPMENTAL GROUND
3.3± ACRES
BENTON COUNTY, MO

LOCATION: Located right off Hwy 65 at the Warsaw Airport.

PRICED AT \$90,000



DEVELOPMENTAL GROUND 5.8± ACRES
BATES COUNTY, MO

LOCATION: From north and south via Interstate 49. Take exit 141 to RT-18. Head east on RT-18 towards Adrian for 0.2 miles to McCollough Street, turn left, heading south on McCollough Street for 450 ft to Ada Street. Take a left on Ada Street heading east. The property is on the south side of Ada Street.

PRICED AT \$2,500,000



WATERFOWL LAND 323± ACRES
PETTIS COUNTY, MO

LOCATION: From Sedalia, MO, head east on Highway 50 to Highway 135, then in approximately 5 miles, turn left onto Highway JJ. Then about 3 miles, turn left onto Lookout Road, and the land will be on both sides of the road for 1 mile down Lookout Road.

\$2,650 PER ACRE



DEVELOPMENTAL GROUND 265.3± ACRES
CAMDEN COUNTY, MO

LOCATION: From Camdenton, MO, head east on US 54. The property will be 3 miles on the west side of the road. Or from Camdenton, MO, go east on US 54 for 2 miles and turn left onto Lake Street, then a right on to Cape Wood Drive, the property is behind the Soccer Complex.

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Mules

From Page 1B

Jennies softball wins MIAA Tournament

The Central Missouri Softball team traveled to Edmond, Oklahoma, last week to and claimed the MIAA Tournament with victories over Missouri Southern, Central Oklahoma and Rogers State.

The Jennies picked up their eighth shutout of the season last Thursday with a 7-0 victory over Missouri Southern.

Due to two MSSU errors in the first inning, UCM scored two runs off of a sacrifice

bunt by redshirt sophomore Ashlyn Cook.

Cook then scored off of a double by redshirt sophomore Makenzie McAtee, giving the Jennies three runs to start off the game.

UCM added another run in the third as McAtee singled allowing redshirt freshman Sydney Wellshear to score.

In the fifth inning, the Jennies scored its three final runs off of three hits, with one being a solo home run by Cook.

On Friday, the Jennies moved on to compete against Central Oklahoma in the second game of the MIAA Tournament Semifinals.

In an eight-inning game, the Jennies took the win by

a score of 3-2 off of Ashlyn Cook's walk-off single.

UCM's offense scored the first two runs of the day making it 2-0 in the second until Central Oklahoma came back in the sixth inning to tie it up at two.

The tie forced an eighth inning.

UCO couldn't score in the top of the inning, but Ashlyn Cook came out for the Jennies as the first batter and scored off of a base-hit single that was misjudged by the Bronchos right fielder.

The ball made its way to the fence allowing Cook to travel around the bases for the Jennies walk-off victory.

This win brought the Jen-

nies to the MIAA Tournament Championship for the first time since 2015.

On Saturday, UCM faced Rogers State to see who would be crowned the 2021 MIAA Tournament Champions.

In a close game with a score of 6-5, the Jennies came out on top to secure their spot in the NCAA Central Region Tournament.

After both teams stayed quiet offensively through the first four innings, UCM broke the silence with four runs off of three hits in the fifth inning.

RSU's shortstop homered for the Hillcats' first run of the game. Another home run

by RSU's Makayla Bowman added three more runs, tying the game 4-4.

UCM quickly responded with two more runs in the seventh off of a single and two Hillcat errors.

In RSU's final at-bats, the Jennies defense allowed one run to score, but kept the lead until the end to gain the victory and the MIAA Tournament Title.

Jennies Softball will make its 12th NCAA Regional Tournament appearance in the 2021 Central Region Championships.

The Jennies are scheduled to play noon today against No. 19 Southern Arkansas in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Royals

From Page 1B

Duffy said he tried to play catch and couldn't get loose, so he asked head trainer Nick Kenney to take a look. The results of the MRI exam came as something of a relief to Duffy, who underwent Tommy John surgery in 2012.

"Honestly, I was really thankful for the news it wasn't something worse. I'll be back in no time," Duffy said. "I'll just sit for about five days and then re-asses. It's just one of those things that happen."

The Royals filled his roster spot by returning right-hander Kyle Zimmer from his rehab assignment. He had reported to Triple-A

Omaha about a week ago as he ramped up work following a back injury.

Duffy has gone through long periods of ups and downs during his career in Kansas City, but he's been riding arguably the hottest streak of his career. He's seventh in the majors among qualified starters with a 1.94 ERA through seven starts, and he has 48 strikeouts in 41 2/3 innings while pitching into the sixth inning in all but one start.

"Not great news for us," Royals manager Mike Matheny said. "I know these guys always have something that's kind of barking and it's just a matter of how your body rebounds, and for starters, they can tell, 'Is this my normal pain?'"

"Danny has just been throwing the ball so well," Matheny contin-

ued. "(The pain) just wasn't backing off. We got to Sunday and it just wasn't rebounding. It was time to take a look for a number of reasons, but the biggest was peace of mind so that he knows exactly what we're looking at."

Kris Bubic got the start in Duffy's place Tuesday night. He had allowed two runs in 12 2/3 innings in relief this season.

"We'll be OK," Duffy said. "It's very disappointing, don't get me wrong. I swear, there's a parallel universe where I'm going to make every start at some point in the year. But I'm going to keep grinding for that and give my team as much as I can. It's a big source of pride for me if my body is able to go get it and unfortunately right now it's not."

Hockey

From Page 1B

The Nashville-Carolina series is the outlier. The Hurricanes gave 25-year-old Alex Nedeljkovic his first playoff start in Monday's 5-2 win in Game 1 while fellow 26-year-old goalie Juuse Saros made his fifth career post-season start.

It's unclear if Hurricanes coach Rod Brind'Amour will rotate goaltenders as he did last season to give Petr Mrazek a start after he missed significant time due to injuries.

"Yeah, Petr is our guy, but he's had a lot of time off," Brind'Amour said. "Not that I was questioning whether or not he could do it, it just gave Ned an opportunity this year. I just felt like he earned the start."

BLUES at AVALANCHE, Colorado leads series 1-0 (10:30 p.m. ET, CNBC)

The status of St. Louis leading scorer David Perron is unclear for Game 2 after he missed Monday's 4-1 loss due to the league's COVID-19 protocols.

Regardless, the Blues need to slow Colorado's speedy top line.

The combination of captain Gabriel Landeskog, Nathan MacKinnon and Mikko Rantanen accounted for three goals, five assists, 16 shots and a fighting major, which was courtesy of Landeskog after he stood up for Rantanen following a big first-period hit.

The Avalanche finished with a 50-23 edge in shots, breaking through for three third-period goals.

"It's not going to start going in because you start over-passing or looking for the perfect play," Landeskog said. "You've got to keep throwing pucks there."

JETS at OILERS, Game 1 (9 p.m. ET, NBC Sports Network)

The NHL's leading scorer starts the playoffs as Connor McDavid and Edmonton open against Winnipeg. McDavid put up 105 points in 56 games and is "as motivated as you can be" going for the Stanley Cup.

"That's the ultimate goal, and all those other (awards) don't really mean anything unless you win," McDavid said. "It's always what I've wanted to do. I have an opportunity here with this group to play a good Jets team and go from there."

PREDATORS at HURRICANES, Carolina leads series 1-0 (8 p.m. ET, CNBC)

The Predators tinkered with their Game 1 lineup to add size, but Carolina pulled away with three third-period goals.

"We've talked a lot about lineup changes and who's in and who's out," coach John Hynes said Tuesday. "But you know, there's lots of players that are in the lineup that don't really ever come out and they need to be better."

There was at least one positive: The Predators killed off all four power plays against a team ranked second in the NHL with the man advantage.

CAPITALS at BRUINS, series tied 1-1 (6:30 p.m. EDT, NBC Sports Network)

After back-to-back overtime games and nine consecutive one-goal post-season games between Washington and Boston, don't expect any less in Game 3.

"Once you've been in a lot of playoff wars, you feel the good of it, you feel the scars from it," Laviolette said. "This group, I think, understands a lot. They understand an overtime win. I think they understand an overtime loss. I think for the most part, you realize that the sun comes up the next day."

AP Hockey Writer Steve Whyno and AP Sports Writer Pat Graham contributed to this report.

SFCC

From Page 1B

Class 1

Sacred Heart senior Jeff Hollabaugh fired a day-two round of 76 to tie for seventh at the MSHSAA Class 1 Boys Golf Championships at Fremont Hills Country Club in Nixa.

Hollabaugh shaved five strokes from his score Monday to post a 36-hole total of 19-over-par 157.

Gremlins freshman Luke Jenkins carded an 89 on Tuesday for a two-day total of 172, tying for 25th.

Windsor senior Camden Fowler tied for 33rd, shooting a 90 on Tuesday for a 36-hole total of 177.

Cole Camp freshman Matthew Bright was 35th with a 178, while classmate Tyler Howard tied for 40th with a 181. Bright improved by four strokes with an 87 on Tuesday, while Howard carded a 96 on the second day.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Blue Springs South 9, Smith-Cotton 3

Bunceton with Prairie Home 5, Sacred Heart 2

Tipton, Holden Warsaw, Cole Camp Green Ridge, Pilot Grove Windsor, Crest Ridge Lincoln, St. Paul Lutheran

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TENNIS

Branson 5, Smith-Cotton 0

NEWSPAPERS HAVE YOUR BACK



Ask the Expert

By Debra Dickinson
Owner of Express Employment Professionals

Job Insights for 2021

Third-party research sheds light on hiring trends for the first half of 2021.



To provide accurate and timely employment forecasts for business leaders, Express Employment Professionals International Headquarters commissions an ongoing Job Insights survey to track employment and hiring trends across a wide range of industries.

INSIGHT: Hiring Outlook for the First Half of 2021 Trends Upward

Although the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact businesses around the world, there are encouraging signs that hiring trends are on an upward trajectory as more U.S. hiring decision-makers say they plan to increase their employee count in 2021, as compared to 2020. In fact, the percentage of hiring decision-makers who said they were decreasing their employee count dropped from 16% in the second half (July - December) of 2020 to 7% for the first half (January - June) of 2021.

According to hiring decision-makers, in the first half of 2021:

- 46% plan to increase the number of employees at their company
- 43% expect no change to the number of employees
- 7% anticipate a decrease in employee count

INSIGHT: COVID-19 Has Made a Lasting Impact on the Hiring and Workplace Experience

Hiring experiences and future practices are changing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with companies prioritizing soft skills more than ever before when considering applicants to hire. Additionally, keeping employees safe at work is a challenge that has prompted many companies to make changes to their work processes and physical spaces.

Fifty-one percent of U.S. hiring decision-makers have had open positions during the COVID-19 pandemic for which they've hired or are hiring.

- 77% are willing to overlook long career gaps in

resumes right now because of the pandemic's impact on the applicant pool

- 74% agree their company values soft skills more than ever when considering applicants to hire

INSIGHT: Companies Taking Action on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives

Businesses are making significant and meaningful strides in implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. Although there is still much work to be done, according to the survey, more than 3 in 4 hiring decision-makers (78%) say their company has taken action on DEI.

The most common DEI initiatives cited in the survey include:

- Providing training for employees (40%)
- Offering safe methods for reporting discrimination and harassment complaints (31%)
- Revising policies and procedures in regard to DEI (29%)
- Changing recruitment and hiring practices (28%)

The survey was conducted online within the United States by The Harris Poll on behalf of Express between Nov. 16 and Dec. 7, 2020 among 1,002 U.S. hiring decision-makers (defined as adults ages 18+ in the US who are employed full-time or self-employed, work at companies with more than 1 employee, and have full/significant involvement in hiring decisions at their company). Data were weighted where necessary by company size to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population.

The Sedalia Express office is located at 1030 S Limit and serves these counties Pettis, Johnson, Saline, Benton, Henry and Lafayette. Local businesses and applicants are encouraged to stop by, visit www.expresspros.com or call (660)851-2323.

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BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



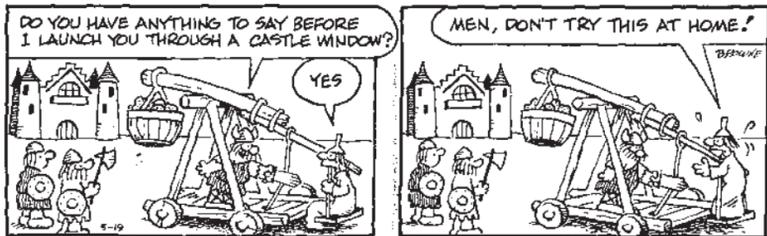
BEETLE BAILEY

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



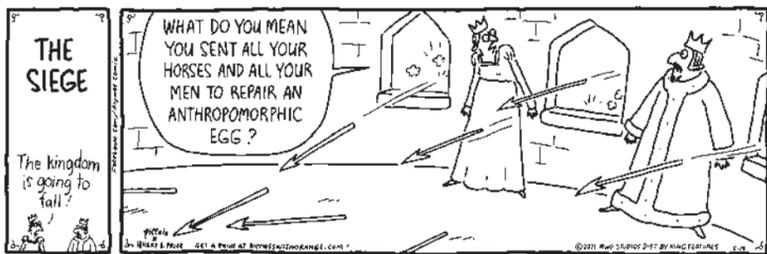
PARDON MY PLANET

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



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Visit
 - 1 Velocity briefly
 - 6 "Dragnet" org.
 - 39 Garden item
 - 10 Words on a check
 - 41 Dispatched subway
 - 12 Dancer Castle
 - 13 Available
 - 14 Pathfinder launcher
 - 15 Not alfresco
 - 16 Sense of self
 - 17 Weed whacker
 - 18 Playfully bashful
 - 19 Persecutes
 - 22 Must have
 - 23 Diving birds
 - 26 Raging rivers
 - 29 Back muscle, for short
 - 32 Opposing vote
 - 33 Have lunch
 - 34 Response to a joke
 - 36 Nautilus captain
 - 37 Some die rolls
- DOWN**
- 1 Small piano
 - 2 Model of perfection
 - 3 Ugly sight
 - 4 Sicilian volcano
 - 5 Fawn's mother
 - 6 Camera part
 - 7 Top floor
 - 8 Madrid museum
 - 9 Happy colleague
 - 11 Like some rewards
 - 15 Charged particle
 - 17 Pleasure seeker
 - 20 Got together
 - 21 Take to court
 - 24 Patella protector
 - 25 Endurance
 - 27 Informant
 - 28 Pothead
 - 29 Speech problems
 - 30 Like gymnasts
 - 31 Lone Star
 - 35 Circus sight
 - 36 Zilch
 - 38 Shot

T	A	M	P	A	P	A	S		
A	R	I	E	L	A	D	O	R	E
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S	E	E	P	S		R	A	T	E

Yesterday's answer

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

5-19

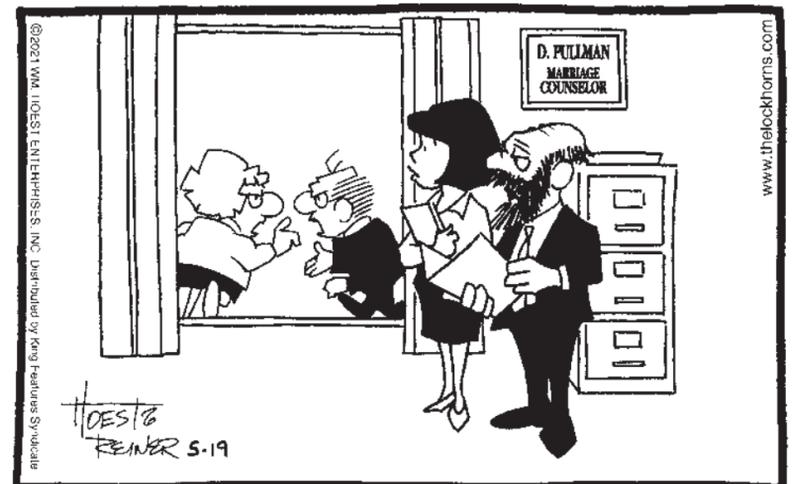
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT & RICK KIRKMAN



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



"FOR EVERY OPINION, THERE'S AN EQUAL AND OPPOSITE OPINION."

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 Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

5-19

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Weekend Edition: Friday at 2pm

All legals, auctions & bordered ads deadline 24 hours prior to above deadlines.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notices

In Compliance with the MO Self Storage Act, Section 415-400 to 415-430 and due to the repeated failure to pay monthly lease on storage unit lease, the following Leasee's stored items will be sold to the highest bidder by Public Auction at 9:00 A.M., Saturday, May 22, 2021, at Easy-Stor Storage, 3025 Clinton Rd., Sedalia, MO. Sale to be conducted by the owner's of Easy-Stor Storage, Sedalia, MO. All sales are final. Must be paid for with cash.
H-9: Pamela S. Hoskins, Sedalia, MO

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To: Lori A. Quick &/or heirs (s)
A Notice of Dangerous Building has been prepared for a building located at 807 E 18th St, Sedalia, Missouri 65301,

Legal Notice

described as beginning at a point 300 feet south and 120 feet east of the northwest corner of the east half of the east half of the south half of the north half of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 10, in township 45 north, of range 21 west, thence running north 135 feet, thence east 180 feet, more or less, to the west line of Marvin Street, a street in the City of Sedalia, Missouri, thence south along the west line of said Marvin Street 135 feet to the north line of 18th Street, thence west along the north line of 18th Street 180 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning, less and except: the east 90 thereof, all in the City of Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri.

Land records of the Pettis County Recorder of Deeds show that you are either the owner, occupant, lessee, mortgagee, agent or another person having an interest in the above-described property. The building on said property has been found to be a public nuisance, because it has one or more of the conditions set out in Section 10-445 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Sedalia, Missouri, namely subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, and 12.

You are therefore ordered to obtain a permit and abate the nuisance by either repairing said building or demolishing the building, as it has been found to be a public nuisance under conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 12. Sec. 6-123(f).
The day of first publication of this notice is May 12, 2021. If you do not begin the specified work by the time stated, or proceed with such work continuously without delay within 45 days from the date of first publication of notice, a full and adequate hearing will be held before the board of appeals, and you may be ordered to perform the specified work by a specific time or risk having the buildings or structures demolished and the work taxed to you by special tax bill.

Jillian Fosnow,
Code Enforcement Supervisor
Municipal Building
200 South Osage Avenue
Sedalia, Missouri 65301
Telephone: (660)827-3000

ATTEST:
Arlene Silvey, MPCC
City Clerk
4x-5/12, 19, 26, 6/2, 2021

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To: Ina Jane Hill, Carol Hill, Lonnie Reed &/or heirs (s)
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Please come to the Department of Natural Resource's informational meeting to express your concerns about the proposed landfill between Dresden and LaMonte in Pettis County which could accept trash from unlimited cities outside Pettis County. You are needed to voice your concerns.



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Legal Notice

abate the nuisance by either repairing said building or demolishing the building, as it has been found to be a public nuisance under conditions 2, 3, 4 and 5. Sec. 6-123(f).
The day of first publication of this notice is May 12, 2021. If you do not begin the specified work by the time stated, or proceed with such work continuously without delay within 45 days from the date of first publication of notice, a full and adequate hearing will be held before the board of appeals, and you may be ordered to perform the specified work by a specific time or risk having the buildings or structures demolished and the work taxed to you by special tax bill.

Jillian Fosnow,
Code Enforcement Supervisor
Municipal Building
200 South Osage Avenue
Sedalia, Missouri 65301
Telephone: (660)827-3000
ATTEST:
Arlene Silvey, MPCC
City Clerk
4x-5/12, 19, 26, 6/2, 2021

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
PROBATE DIVISION
In the Estate of
LONA MARCINE SEIFNER,
Deceased
No. 15PT-PR00173
**NOTICE OF FILING OF
FINAL STATEMENT
OF ACCOUNT
AND
PETITION FOR
DISTRIBUTION
AND DISCHARGE**
(Sec. 473.840 RSMo.)

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF LONA MARCINE SEIFNER, DECEASED:
Notice is hereby given that a Final Statement of Account and petition for determination of the persons who are the successors in interest to the personal and real property of the decedent and of the extent and character of their interest therein and for distribution of such property, will be filed in the Probate Court of Pettis County, Missouri, by the undersigned on June 24, 2021, or as continued by the Court, and that any objections or exceptions to such settlement or petition or any items thereof must be in writing and filed within twenty days after the filing of such Statement of Account.

DOUGLAS RAMEY
Personal Representative
of the Estate of
Lona Marcine Seifner,
Deceased
INGRUM LAW FIRM, L.L.C.
/s/Donald W. Ingrum
Missouri Bar No. 24000
P.O. Box 1105
Branson, Missouri 65615
Telephone: 417-334-8101
Facsimile: 417-334-8165
don@ingrumlaw.com
4x-5/19, 26, 6/2, 9, 2021

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Job Opening

Alma Communications Company, a fiber to the home voice and internet service provider, is currently accepting applications for a Technical Operations Technician: Duties will include maintaining Central Office, Outside Plant, and both a Broadband Fiber-To-The-Home and Wireless Internet Network. Minimum requirements include ability to lift at least 50 pounds and climb 25 feet, a valid driver's license with clean driving record, ability to perform physically exerting tasks with routine exposure to the outside elements and temperatures. Working knowledge of computer systems is a must with experience in fusion splicing preferred. Organizational and critical thinking skills with the willingness to learn and be a team player is a must, will train the right candidate.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

Associate's degree (A.A.) or equivalent plus specialized training in electronics that includes knowledge of principles of electronics, electronics maintenance and telephony; Must possess knowledge of methods and techniques of computer operation, menu-driven software programs.

Resumes may be submitted to Alma Telephone Company, PO Box 127, Alma, MO 64001 or emailed to almatel@almanet.net. Benefits available. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Alma Communications Company is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer and a Drug/Alcohol-free Workplace.

611853s

City of Sedalia, Missouri
We're HIRING!

The City of Sedalia is looking for a **Part-Time Site Supervisor – Security** working in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Approx. 20-30 hours a week.
Rate of Pay \$11.25/hr.

Additional information is available at <https://www.sedalia.com> under the employment tab.

The City of Sedalia is an equal opportunity employer.

We're HIRING

The Sedalia Democrat is looking for a full time employee to work Monday through Friday, evenings into the night. The employee must be self motivated and dependable. Strong attendance is a must. Responsibilities include running a counter stacker, catching bundles of paper off the press while carting them for production, using a strapper to bundle papers off the press while palletizing, splicing leftover rolls of paper together for future use and general clean up. Benefits offered include paid time off, 401K, Medical, Dental and Vision insurance.

Please send resumes to christophers@sedaliademocrat.com or come in and apply at: 700 S Massachusetts Sedalia, MO

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Minimum Qualifications: Current driver's license, 5 years electrical experience, PC skills required (Excel, Word & Outlook)

Complete Position Description available upon request.

Send resume to Careers@MCPower.com or 101 Thompson Road, Sedalia MO 65301

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