

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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Congressman Alford discusses government spending, 2024 election

By Faith Bemiss-McKinney
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U.S. Congressman Mark Alford, a Republican who represents Missouri's 4th District, which includes Pettis County, visited Sedalia on Wednesday, Jan. 24.

Alford, a former Kansas City newscaster for Fox 4, talked about several issues, including the stopgap spending bill and the presidential election, during his stop at the Sedalia Democrat. According to his bio, after being sworn into the 118th Congress as a freshman member, Alford was selected to the House Armed Services Committee, House Agriculture Committee, and House Small Business Committee. Alford will run again this year in the August primary election; candidate filing begins Feb. 27.

On the road in the district

Alford noted that when not in Washington, D.C., he enjoys driving around his district and talking with its people.

"We spend 117 days in session up there," he explained. "Which I think isn't enough, especially with what's going on. The time that I am home, I come home every Friday ... I like to spend in the district."

"We have 24 counties in our district," he continued. "And during the campaign, we traveled 70,000 miles."



U.S. Congressman Mark Alford

I like to be out listening to people; that's what being a rep is supposed to be about."

He added the House of Representatives was set up to be out among the people and listen to their concerns — "to be a voice for them."

"And you can't really do that sitting at home or sitting in D.C.," he said.

Alford said when he began as a freshman, he went in bright-eyed and bushy-tailed.

"I wasn't necessarily thinking I was going to change the world, but I wanted to see how I could be effective," he noted. "And as a freshman, that's challenging."

He found he had to lobby to be on committees. His preference was to be on the Agricultural and Armed Services Committees, but he was told by Leader Kevin McCarthy that wouldn't happen; since he was a freshman, those committees were supposedly out of reach.

See **ELECTION | A5**

Cornerstone Baptist reopens 1897 church in Hughesville

By Chris Howell
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With much hard work and dedication, Cornerstone Baptist Church in Sedalia has renovated and reopened a Hughesville church that had been closed for years.

"The church dates back to 1897," Cornerstone Pastor/Elder Roger Austin said, "so it's got a long history in that community with the railroad town. It's been there over 100 years but got shut down finally during COVID. They had a water break during that time, so there had been some flooding."

Cornerstone Baptist was approached by the Harmony Baptist Association last spring to see if it wanted to move into that location, 206 Moore St. in Hughesville.

"Our elder group went out to Hughesville, looked through the facility and then we started having meetings with various folks about what the cost to rehabilitate the building would be," Austin said.

"Just in general costs of running of that ministry up there, and then frankly, started reaching out to folks within the community and people that have been involved in that church in the past to see if there were still a desire to have a facility in that area."

It turns out there were



Hughesville City Clerk Catherine Sanchez lives across from the Cornerstone Baptist church, 206 Moore St. in Hughesville, and appreciates them renovating the 1887 church for the small community. PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

many looking for a local church, with some faithful making the long trip into town to worship.

"Part of the reason we ultimately decided God was moving in that direc-

tion was that if you kind of look around Hughesville and draw a radius out around Hughesville, there's only one other active church in that area," Austin said. "We felt like this

was a great opportunity to move into that area and provide a Bible-believing church so folks that needed and wanted to attend can have that ability."

See **CHURCH | A6**

Gallery Director cultivates art and community at UCM

By Zach Bott

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WARRENSBURG — Jamie Platt knew she wanted to pursue a career in art at the age of 5.

To pursue her dream, Platt studied painting for her undergraduate degree at her hometown college, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Despite feeling uncertain about the future of art as a career, Platt had found her calling.

"I took a figure drawing class and a painting class and I just fell in love with



Jamie Platt

both of those things," Platt said. "I wanted to pursue (a) studio art track, which felt more ambiguous (in not knowing) how the career path would go, but I just felt like I needed to

do it."

After she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from Kendall in 2003, Platt migrated more than 300 miles south for her graduate degree at Indiana University Bloomington. While being a student beyond the teacher's desk, Platt also began getting behind one herself, as she taught painting, color theory and design during her two years at IU. She received her Master of Fine Arts degree in painting in 2005. Although time as a student dissipated quickly in college, Platt thought teaching was the

best way to "stay in school forever."

Platt would spend more than a decade working as an independent visual artist, a part-time faculty member at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and an instructor at The Smithsonian Associates in Washington, D.C. But, she wanted to go back to school.

In January 2019, Platt's next educational escapade took her further east. She traveled to Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, to be its gallery director. Throughout her four years there,

Platt pushed through the hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and worked to broaden the art community in Huntington.

"I was doing things that were way out of my comfort zone," Platt said. "I felt like I was learning to be nimble in a way that I had never been before."

But, she sought something bigger.

That something was an opportunity to be the Gallery and Events Director at the University of Central Missouri. Now, having been at UCM for a year, Platt has built an albeit

short but impressive line of work in Warrensburg.

First impressions

UCM Art & Design Associate Professor Marco Rosichelli was on the committee that hired Platt last January. He had a visual of what was needed for the position of gallery director.

"I would say someone who's really organized was high on my list. Someone that presented well, that could speak well, had a vision for the gallery, and someone that could look at things creatively and bring some energy to the position," Rosichelli said.

See **UCM | A5**



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MARIO KART TOURNAMENT

- TODAY, January 27, 2024
- HCC- Room C
- 10AM-3PM
- \$10 per player, lunch included
- Open to all ages
- Register up until the tournament starts

Sedalia Parks & Recreation's Activity Guide will be in your mailboxes soon!

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OBITUARIES

Robert D. May

Robert D. May, 76, of Smithton, was received into the arms of Jesus in the comfort of his home, surrounded by his loving family, on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

Robert, fondly known as Bob, was born to Ernest Thomas and Carrie Ellen (Cook) May on January 3, 1948, in Pettis County, Missouri. On November 22, 1969, he married the love of his life, Phyllis Lynn Burnett. They were blessed with two children, Jana and Justin, who completed their lives.

Bob was a 1966 graduate of Smithton High School. He retired from Alcan Cable in 2010 after 43 years of service. He called that his “day” job because the time after his workday ended was what brought him joy.

He was a member of Hopewell Baptist Church and lived his Christianity by being a very kind and humble man who took pleasure in the simple things like spending time with his family and many friends and being outdoors. He loved to fish, camp and hunt. He and his son were falconers, traveling together to hunt their birds throughout the Midwest.

Robert had a lifelong love of horses and through 4-H horsemanship, he met his future wife, Phyllis. They rode horses together throughout their lives. Bob taught

his children how to ride horses and the family went on frequent adventures together. He worked as a farrier for many years, shoeing show horses at stables in Missouri and Kansas and then for customers around the mid-Missouri area. He was thrilled that his grandchildren shared in his passion for horses and began teaching them how to be a farrier. He was also a talented taxidermist for many local hunters.

Bob was a smart and talented man who could build and fix anything. He built the home where he and Phyllis raised their family and was a self-taught leather craftsman who spent countless hours mastering his art. His home is filled with handcrafted pictures and examples of his workmanship. He made custom holsters, knife sheaths, and hunting gear, and built and repaired saddles and horse tack for many years. Bob was excited to teach his grandchildren the basics of leather work and watch them progress.

He and Phyllis filled their home with unconditional love and acceptance and impressed upon his children and grandchildren the importance of being a compassionate and generous helper.



Steven Ray Eck

With a heavy heart, we announce the passing of Steven Ray Eck, fondly known as Steve, on December 30, 2023.

Born on August 8, 1952, in Sedalia, MO, Steven was a dedicated and compassionate man who touched the lives of many throughout his 71 years. As Albert Schweitzer once said, “The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.” Steve was the epitome of this quote, always ready with a helping hand and a warm smile.

Steve loved sports of all kinds. Growing up in Sedalia, Steve played both baseball and football while attending Smith-Cotton High School and participated in summer league baseball for many years. Steve was also an avid fisherman growing up fishing for big cats on the Lamine River to hooking large trout with

his fly rod.

Steve found joy in the simple pleasures of life. He coached youth sports for his children, grandchildren and community. His love for sports did not stop there; he was a great supporter of Webb City athletics, and youth sports through the lives of his grandkids, making significant contributions to the Webb City community. He was also a hardworking carpenter, dedicating his professional life to commercial construction. He retired in 2016 from Webb City Schools, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and commitment.

What mattered most to Steve were his grandkids and great-grandkids. He was an amazing grandfather, always showering his family with love and affection.

He is survived by his daughter Krista Eck,



DEATH NOTICE

Vansell
Ronald K. Vansell, 83, of Sedalia, died Friday, Jan. 26, 2024.
Arrangements are pending at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia.



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POLICE REPORTS

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

Sedalia Police Department Incidents

Jan. 21
4:49 p.m.: An officer responded to the 3100 block of South Grand Avenue for a theft report. The victim reported an Amazon package was stolen off his front porch valued at \$38.95. A video of the suspect was available. The suspect has not been located.

Jan. 24
10:34 a.m.: Officers spoke with a victim in the police department lobby in reference to a stolen credit card that was fraudulently used at a local business. They collected the information and submitted a report.

4:17 p.m.: Officers were dispatched to a business in the 3100 block of Iron Avenue in reference to a possible stolen vehicle. They made contact with the subjects who had possession of the vehicle, which was seized and towed for safekeeping. A report has been submitted.

9:59 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 3200 block of South Limit Avenue in reference to a theft from inside a vehicle. The reporting party said her purse and its contents were stolen. The suspect is unknown.

Jan. 25
7:09 a.m.: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of East Fifth Street. The reporting party explained there was damage to the property but does not have information on a suspect.

8:03 a.m.: Officers responded to a burglary call In the 500 block of West Third Street. The reporting party said a residence had items taken and damage to the interior. A suspect has not been identified.

2:49 p.m.: Officers were dispatched to the police department lobby in reference to fraudulent activity on a checking account. The reporting party gave information and a report was completed.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

CRASH REPORTS

Three hurt in Henry County crash
An 8-year-old boy from Clinton, Leanna J. Williams, 30, of Clinton, and Colby J. Bullock, 23, of Montrose, sustained minor injuries at 12:50 p.m. Thursday in a Henry County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Bullock was driving a 2017 Dodge Journey south on state Route 7 when he hydroplaned and traveled off the roadway. The vehicle hit an embankment and became airborne before coming to rest.

It is unknown if Bullock was wearing a seat belt, the others were restrained. Everyone was transported by Golden Valley ambulance to Golden Valley Memorial Hospital in Clinton.

Holden woman killed in Johnson County accident
Julie M. Huston, 44, of Holden, was killed at 11:34 a.m. Thursday in a Johnson County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Huston was driving a 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe east on state Route 2 when she traveled off the right side of the roadway. Her vehicle struck a ditch, overturned, and struck trees.

Huston was not wearing a seat belt and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Slater man seriously injured in US 50 accident
Edwin E. Petty, 63, of Slater, was seriously injured at 5:10 p.m. Thursday in a Moniteau County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Petty was driving a 2014 Ford Fusion east on U.S. Highway 50 when he traveled off the right side of the roadway and struck an embankment. The vehicle continued across Koerken-Meier Road and struck a stop sign.

Petty was wearing a seat belt and was transported by Mid-MO Ambulance District to Bothwell Regional Health Center.

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

Compiled by Chris Howell.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Businesses to host dinner fundraiser for local man

Two Bit Barber and Stay True Tattoo will host a dinner fundraiser for Zach Monath from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at American Legion Post 642, 2016 W. Main St. in Sedalia.

All proceeds will benefit Monath, who sustained a traumatic brain injury in a motorcycle accident last year. The cost of the meal is a freewill donation. There will also be a raffle and a 50/50 drawing.

FUNERALS

William ‘Mack’ Parrish
11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Cheri Lynn Smith
Noon Saturday, Jan. 27 at First Baptist Church in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of H.T. May & Son Funeral Home in Sedalia.

Richard William Bracken
1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at Zion Hill Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Williams Funeral Chapel in Warrensburg.

Diane “Tiny” Lynn Jones
1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at Parkview Christian Church in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of James O'Donnell Funeral Home in Hannibal.

Lex Villines
1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at Scrivner-Page-Dady Funeral Home in Stover.

Arrangements are under the direction of Scrivner-Page-Dady Funeral Home.

Robert D. May
10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 29 at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Carolyn Sue Foster
2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29 at the Church of Christ. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Bruce D. Snyder
2 p.m Friday, Feb. 2 at the Tipton Chapel in Tipton. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Anne Cheney Randa
Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Hospitality Suite at Hotel Bothwell in Sedalia.

Steven Ray Eck
11 a.m. Feb. 10 at First United Methodist Church, Thompson Site in Sedalia.

STATE BRIEF

Gun-waving STL lawyer wants misdemeanor off his record

ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis man who gained notoriety for pointing a gun at social justice demonstrators as they marched past his home asked a local judge to wipe the misdemeanor from his record.

Mark McCloskey pleaded guilty in 2021 to misdemeanor fourth-degree assault and was fined \$750. Republican Gov. Mike Parson pardoned him, as well as his wife Patricia McCloskey, weeks later.

Mark McCloskey filed a form Tuesday seeking to have the misdemeanor scrubbed from his record, multiple St. Louis media outlets reported.

The McCloskeys said they felt threatened by the protesters, who were passing their home in June 2020 on their way to demonstrate in front of the mayor’s house nearby. It was one of hundreds of demonstrations around the country after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. The couple also said the group was trespassing on a private street.

Mark McCloskey emerged from his home with an AR-15-style rifle, and Patricia McCloskey waved a semi-automatic pistol, according to the indictment.

COLE CAMP HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Cole Camp High School announced the following students were named to the honor roll for the second quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

Honorable Mention

Seventh Grade: Julissia Deloris Abey, Sidney Marie Cameron, Riley Joseph Gallagher, Jacob Lee O'Connor, Hudson Thomas Schardan and Andrew Gage Swafford.

Eighth Grade: Miguel David Alcala, Paige Marie Bialik, Colton Michael Grooters-Larsson, Logan Joe Harrison, Ean Jace Modesto, Carson Tyler Webb, Dylan Michael Whitlow and Kiptyn Michael Wiley.

Ninth Grade: Ava June Barklage, Grace Harms, Elizabeth Mardayle Harrington, Sharmayne Isaiah Jackson, Wyatt Allen Keith, Leah Grace Lemens and Alyssa Lynn Thorsen.

10th Grade: Clayton Ziggy “Ziggy” Archambault, Daniil Emile Hughes, Dahved Dean Alan Stuerke and Kadin Michael Teague.

11th Grade: Ronnie James Bockelman, Hannah Faith Louis Cardwell, Luis Mercado Chavez, Skyla Lynn Jackson, Liliya Raine Lenae “Lily” Nine, and Jackson H. Schmidt.

12th Grade: Samuel Austin Jones and Anthony David Villegas.

Honor Roll

Seventh Grade: Leo Ervin Ahnen, Enrique Rafael Cano, Taylor Monai Chambliss, Wesley James Cramer, Jaxen Ryder Daily, Yishay Victor Kryshchendyuk, Grant Eric Kullman, Jaran Kevin Kyle, Veda June Lutjen, Jarrett William Phillips, and Payton James Wilson.

Eighth Grade: Kimberly Renee Barnes, Yoselin Mecader Chavez, Brody Michael Jones, Haley Marie Keutzer, Ashley Nicole Sash, Gage Tyler Sauer and Jesse Lee Wilson.

Ninth Grade: Micah Aden Branch, Caleb Reign Cardenas, Bovey Wayne Clark, Eva Elizabeth Sue Demoss, Mark Andrew Johnson, Kolton Henry Phillips, Leighton Pearl Tinney, and Avien Marcquese Walker.

10th Grade: Lilly Laine Burton and Colton James Dieckman.

11th Grade: Kolby Douglas Bohon, Nathaniel Cole Brown, Jentzen Allen Crider, Jason Emery Dieckman, Carson Daniel Hoke, and Alan Jonathan Ray McCullough.

12th Grade: Valerie Rosa Eddingfield and Izah Cole Kruse.

Principal’s List

Seventh Grade: Alexandria Lee Albin, Daniil A. Arabadzhi, Kadence Marie Beckmann, Gentry Matthew Cooper, Wyatt Howard Cooper, Jaylyn Renee Dixon, Grady Marshall Elliott, Jolee Kay Espey, Kylie Reece Estes, Rhett Daniel Harms, Charlotte Rae Ross Harper, Lane Asher Hassler, Robert Wayne Heimsoth, Jacelynn Sue Ellen Heyer, Braylon Izaac Jackson, Leila Nicole Mahnken, Ainsley Marie Mangiaracina, Zlata Marcheva, Kendall Alexander McLeMore, Carter James Noble, Abigayle Marie Roark, Addison Paige Rodriguez, Ashlyn Louise Sabala, Cherokee Lorene Rayne Shephard, Levi P. Sisler, Zekilah Loyce Dawn Soles, Lucas David Steffen, Gabriella Marie Stuerke, Diana Timoshchuk, Adeline Tsipan, Mikah Nikolao Tuiteleleapaga, Angelina Victoria Uzun, Angelina Victoria Uzun, Jude David Dean Viets, and Hailey Jane Wallace.

Eighth Grade: Jaxon Avery Alleman, Blake Andrew Bell, Ryan Edward Dean

Brown, Kristin Lynn Carl, Adilynn Rae Craig, Dakota Ann Dieckman, Sophia Maria Edwards, William Richard Espey, Kenidy Dawn Farnham, Madolyn Jane Flores, Kyziah Bradley Hunt, Clayton James Jackson, Kaelyn Jo Keith, Anna Lianna Kryshchendyuk, Kaia Raene Kyser, Allyie Lyn Martin, Leah Lynn Moore-Allison, Madilynn Renee Ogle, Adaleigh Makenzie Russell, Claire Annilee Sadler, Scarlett Noelle Sassmann, Keyra N. Stewart, Uriy Tsipan, Aleeya Isabelle Tucker, Dianna Maria Uzun, Evan Wyatt Vansel, and Liberty Fawn Yager.

Ninth Grade: Blake Warren Abey, Trinity Renee Anderson, Landon Bauer, Mary Grace “Jaiden” Brown, Andrea Michelle Dieckman, Lucas Eldon Eckhoff, Rylee Elisabeth Fairchild, Matthew Odell Freiwald, Mia Lynn Fueston, Kayden Thomas Howard, Matthew Joseph Kryshchendyuk, Sophia Kryshchendyuk, Taylor Lynn Loganbill, Macy Violet Luetjen, Oliver Robert Moritz, Kaylee Ann Naylor, Anna Marie Petersen, Viktoriya Procopisen, Riley Mae Raetz, Abbigail Lynn Rodriguez, Taylor Nicole Rogers, Kyler Richard Sabala, and Schardan, Brooklyn Piper.

10th Grade: Logan Scott Anderson, Leah F. Bauer, Adam Christopher Bell, Drew William Lewis Burke, Emily Anne Marie Cano, Jacob Alexander Daily, Christian Cole Draper, Andrew T. Gare, Mandy Beth Goosen, Deborah LeAnn Green, Alivia Marie Haase, Danna Kate Harrison, Shaun Travis Hawkins, Marilyn Marie Hesse, DaVeigha Ann Holt, Adison S. Ives, Andrey Victor Kryshchendyuk, Ty Alexander Loganbill, Serena Abigail Mahnken, Cadence Riann Modesto, Noa Pare Cucurella, Madison Sue Paxson, Olivia Bree Piliant, Grant Austin Rodriguez, Abby Lynn Sash, Payten Renee Shoemaker, Katherine Timoshchuk, Lindsey Grace Vansel, Kaitlyn Leeann Whitworth, Laura Belle Zimmerman.

11th Grade: Colby Joel Benn, Lillian Faith Brown, Alexis Marie Casdorff, Madison Nicole Cooper, Dalila Danielle Fanin, Summer LeeAnne Hagen, Leigha J. Harrison, Adam Joseph Kammeyer, Grace Elizabeth Koenke, MacKenzie Lilah Moellman, Conner Johann Petersen, Anastasia Procopisen, Emelia Marie Root, Ashlyn Grace Russell, Bailey Rae Stoppel, Emma DeLayne Thayer, Kyle Wesley Thomas, Colton Eric Thompson, Shane Michael Wallace, and Amber Marie Zimmerman.

12th Grade: Jerra Faith Allen, Ekaterina Mikhaylovna “Katya” Boychuk, Dalton Gregory Brandt, Dawson Leigh Brandt, Matthew Alan Bright, Emily Elayne Burdick, Cassidy Winifred Carl, Kennlee Jo Cooper, Emma Kate Corpening, Aiva Marie Cruse, Ashlyn Paige Degraffenreid, Cody Jay DeWitt, Gentry Lane Dieckman, Elijah Mark Gare, Renee Ann Hakala, Reid Michael Harrison, Tyler William Howard, Gunner James Johnson, Tori Ella Luebbering, James Oleg Matychenko, Cora Elizabeth Oelrichs, Trinity Ann Olsen, Connor Jacob Rogers, Camille Grace Schear, Andrew Tyler Staus, Chase Michael Stone, Grady Neil Strathman, Isaac Benton Vosmith, Shakota Jolynn Wade, Morgan Renee Stacy Wagner, Trey Marshall Wehmeyer, Ashton Bryan Cole Whitson, and Joseph Dylan Zimmer.



Harrison Li holds a photo of his father, Kai Li, as he poses for a photo, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, in Palo Alto, Calif. Despite the succession of high-profile releases, jubilant family reunions and triumphant photos on government airplanes, his father, Kai, remains detained in China on espionage charges his family says are bogus and politically motivated. PHOTO BY JEFF CHIU | AP PHOTO

As US brings home jailed Americans, some families still waiting

By Eric Tucker

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — By any standard, the past 18 months have been remarkable for getting wrongfully detained Americans home. There were major swaps with adversaries like Iran and Russia, including one that secured the freedom of WNBA star Britney Griner, and a large prisoner exchange just last month with Venezuela.

But Harrison Li has had little to celebrate. Despite the succession of high-profile releases, jubilant family reunions and triumphant photos on government airplanes, his father, Kai, remains detained in China on espionage-related charges his family says are bogus and politically motivated.

Li, a Stanford University doctoral student, says though he feels “so much joy and happiness” for the other families — many of whom he’s become friendly with over the years — “I’d be lying if I didn’t say that then the next thought is, you know, when’s it our turn?”

He added, “When you see so many folks come home but then you still see your loved one not, then, yeah, there’s definitely an element of frustration.”

Li is not alone. For all the releases of wrongly detained Americans, many more remain either locked up or missing in countries including Russia, Syria and Afghanistan — often held by a hostile foreign government. In some instances, there have been few signs of progress, and families have sometimes seen the countries that are holding their loved ones release other detainees but not yet their relatives.

Those sensitivities are not lost on Roger Carstens, the special presidential envoy for hostage affairs and the Biden administration’s public face for matters related to hostages and wrongful detainees — the label applied to Americans jailed in foreign countries for what the government considers legally specious allegations or for improper motivations.

He handles negotiations with foreign governments and once the deal is done flies out to bring the released American back, routinely telling them that on behalf of the U.S. government, “I’m here to take you home.”

“There’s always a very short-lived celebration because we still have a lot of work to do to bring other people home,” Carstens said in an interview.

The Biden administration has been notably aggressive in

cutting deals, signing off on prisoner exchanges and other concessions that would once have been unthinkable and achieving releases at what advocates say is a historically high level. U.S. officials have called bringing home wrongfully detained Americans a core administration priority even when it collides with other foreign policy or law enforcement interests, though in all cases, the ability to achieve a deal depends on negotiators reaching mutually agreeable conditions — no small thing when countries otherwise have little they agree on.

Last month, Venezuela freed 10 Americans and returned to the U.S. for prosecution an indicted Navy contractor known as “Fat Leonard” in exchange for the U.S. releasing an ally of President Nicolas Maduro charged in a money-laundering conspiracy. In September, five Americans jailed for years in Iran walked free in a deal that saw the release of nearly \$6 billion in frozen Iranian assets. Months earlier, Rwanda freed Paul Rusesabagina, who inspired the film “Hotel Rwanda,” after a diplomatic intervention by the U.S.

And in 2022, the U.S. swapped an imprisoned Taliban drug lord for an American contractor in Afghanistan, and a notorious Russian arms trafficker for Griner.

As hostage diplomacy has generated front-page news and become a key area of focus — elevated in part by the October capture of scores of hostages in Israel by Hamas — families of detainees have jostled for attention from the U.S. government, including from President Joe Biden himself.

The president has met with some families — he had in-person and virtual conversations with families of American hostages held in Gaza — though some, like Li, are still seeking their first encounter.

Kai Li, a Chinese immigrant who started an export business in the U.S., was detained in September 2016 after flying into Shanghai. He was placed under surveillance, interrogated without a lawyer and accused of providing state secrets to the FBI. The U.S. government has designated him as wrongfully detained. A United Nations working group has called his 10-year prison sentence arbitrary.

Complicating the matter are diplomatic tensions between the U.S. and China, which view each other as strategic rivals. Harrison Li regards last November’s summit between Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping as a missed opportunity to more forcefully

move his father’s case toward resolution, and wonders what additional steps can be taken.

“You think, OK, what else can you do? What is something that you’re not doing properly or you could do better or you could do more of?” Li said.

Maryam Kamalmaz has had no trace of her father, Majd Kamalmaz, since the psychologist from Texas was stopped at a checkpoint in Syria in 2017 after traveling there to visit a family member. He remains one of several Americans missing in Syria, including journalist Austin Tice, despite a 2020 visit by Carstens to try to negotiate their release.

“Other families know their loved ones’ condition. They know what’s going on. In my father’s case, there’s been no trial, there’s been no case. There’s nothing against him. He’s just basically disappeared into their system, disappeared completely,” said Kamalmaz.

Part of Carstens’ job involves regular communication with families. Sometimes the updates are cheerful, sometimes they’re painful.

Just before Griner’s release, a representative from his office visited the sister of Paul Whelan, a corporate security executive from Michigan detained in Russia since December 2018, to break the news in person that Griner would be coming home but that Moscow had refused to free Whelan’s part of a swap.

Carstens said deals like that, in which a detainee from one country is released but another is not, are “no small thing” and weigh heavily on his team.

“Unless someone’s coming off a plane, onto a tarmac, in the United States of America and into the arms of their loved ones, we’re not getting a win,” he said.

Whelan’s brother, David, released a statement upon Griner’s release trumpeting her freedom while noting the “public disappointment” of his brother’s continued imprisonment.

In an interview, David Whelan said he feels elated when detainees return, though he acknowledged his feelings are more nuanced when it has come to deals with Russia that don’t involve his brother. He laments that his brother is not home, but also doesn’t believe that the U.S. government has diverted resources to other detainees.

At the end of the day, Whelan said: “I think the enemy is the Kremlin. And the people who can make the decision are in the Kremlin.”

CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Believe Science! is in for a reckoning of Biblical proportions

“Believe Science! Trust the science!”

If you’ve observed or participated in any online debate in the past four years, it’s likely you’ve heard these slogans. They crop up frequently in the discussion of many hot-button topics, from COVID-19 vaccines to legalized abortion. Science, says Webster, is “the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation, experimentation, and the testing of theories against the evidence obtained.”

Sounds like a pretty solid system to put your trust in, and most Americans do, some in a downright religious fashion. The superiority of science is extolled in schools and at home from the earliest age. There are popular board books for infants entitled “Goodnight Lab” and “Quantum Physics for Babies.” Children are encouraged to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and discouraged from careers in the humanities, which make little money. Congress funds scientific research and development initiatives to the tune of roughly \$160 billion per year. Scientists have become our popular heroes (Neil Degrasse Tyson, Bill Nye) and even our villains (Anthony Fauci).

Science, both as a general discipline and a nebulous idea, is often pitted against religion and the humanities or used as the last word in an argument. Most of us don’t really understand what we’re talking about when we reference “the science” in a debate about epidemiology or climate change, but that doesn’t stop us from believing wholeheartedly in its efficacy or using it as a rhetorical tool. This is what science has to say about the matter, and so it is settled. Period. End of story.

But America’s pious worship at the altar of science may be giving way to a crisis of faith.

This week, technology news website ArsTechnica broke news of a scandal brewing in the scientific world: “Top Harvard cancer researchers accused of scientific fraud; 37 studies affected: Researchers accused of manipulating data images with copy-and-paste.”

“The Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School, is seeking to retract six scientific studies and correct 31 others that were published by the institute’s top researchers, including its CEO,” ArsTechnica reported. “The researchers are accused of manipulating data images with simple methods, primarily with copy-and-paste in image editing software, such as Adobe Photoshop. The accusations come from data sleuth Sholto David and colleagues on PubPeer, an online forum for researchers to discuss publications that has frequently served to spot dubious research and potential fraud.”

Cancer research and



Liz Schleicher
Contributing Columnist

treatment that might be affected by this fraud include colon, breast and prostate cancers, as well as melanoma, multiple myeloma, B-cell lymphoma, and Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia.

This discovery follows on the heels of last year’s bombshell that details in critical Alzheimer’s disease research from the University of Minnesota had been falsified, potentially leading the search for effective treatments in a dead-end direction for more than a decade. It seems probable that with the recent rise of AI plagiarism detection programs, these shocking findings are only the tip of the iceberg. We are in for a national and worldwide reckoning that many of the scientific “facts” we have believed in our hearts to be true cannot be replicated at all.

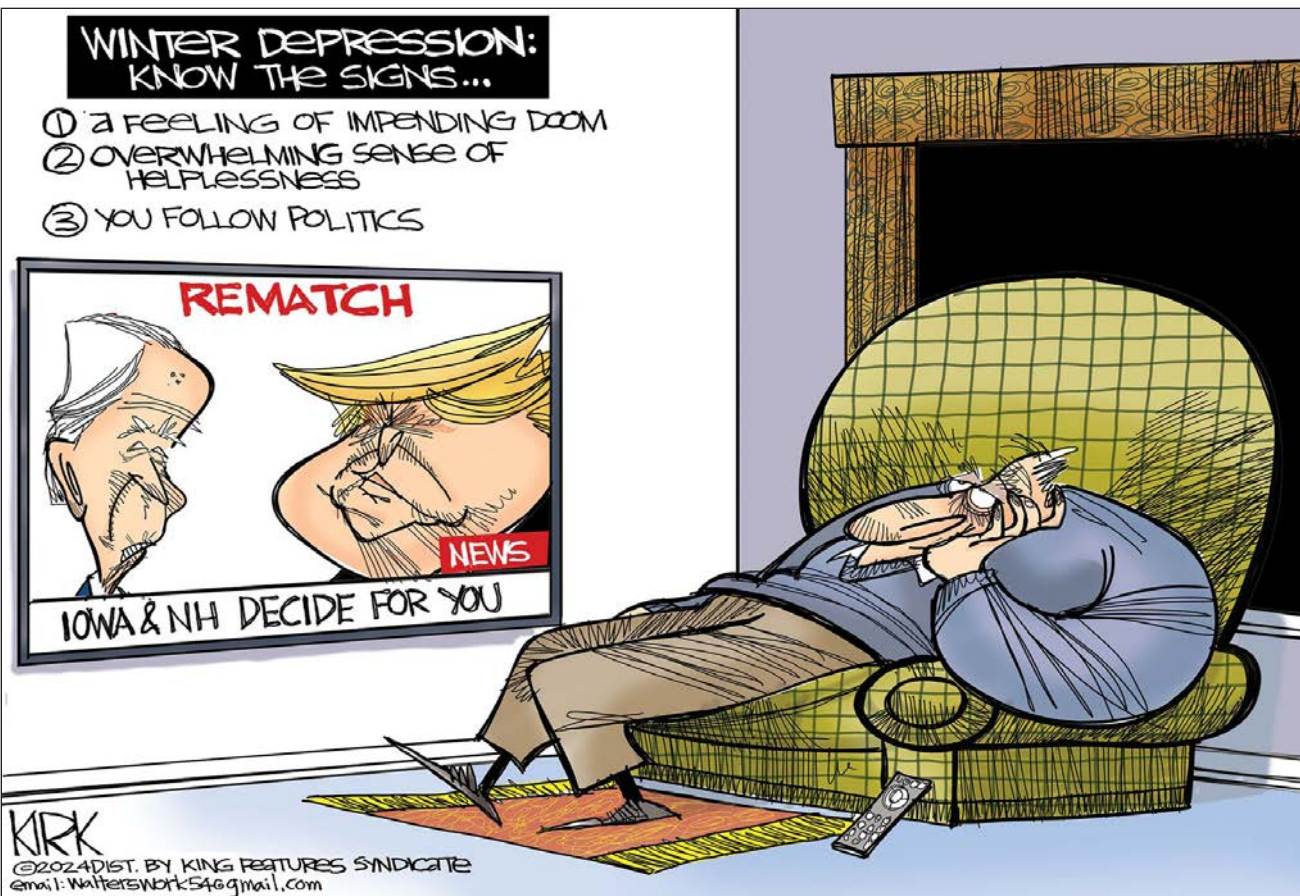
“Science” as a holy, unimpeachable, indisputable last word is about to discover a truth that religion has known for millennia: The sacred cow dies eventually. There is always an iconoclasm. There is always a rebellion against the high priests and secret keepers of knowledge, usually after those high priests become so corrupt they no longer follow the tenets and rituals of the faith to which they belong.

The collapse is already happening. It can be seen in the anti-vaccine movement, the proliferation of alternative health care, and new, rogue theories in every discipline from archeology to zoology, ranging from the exciting to the insane. People sense that they cannot just “trust the science” and that scientists are not some kind of supremely reasonable demigods, but imperfect beings prone to laziness, greed, pride and all the other moral diseases endemic to humanity.

We must not let science, the systematic study of the world, come to a shuddering halt as its devotees realize that they have been swindled by a priestly class of charlatans whose only concerns are research funding and publication. Real, honest science is still the way we heal the sick, address climate change, feed the world and explore the stars. But it is high time to slaughter the sacred cow and put an end to the conflation of science with religion. Instead of “trust the science,” we must turn back to the older and wiser Russian proverb, доверяй, но проверяй):

Trust, but verify.

Liz Schleicher lives in Green Ridge and is a wife, stay-at-home mother, writer and rare cancer survivor.



CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

The flaws and strengths of Romney

I bought “Romney: A Reckoning,” by McKay Coppins, a while back, not knowing what to expect. The book reads like a novel: Coppins tells the story of a man who began his life admiring his father and how his father stuck to his principles, changed his tune during the middle of his life, but has returned to the idea that standing immutably for something is the right thing to do.

My parents were fans of George Romney’s, apparently for good reason. According to “Romney,” Mitt Romney’s father, who supported civil rights in the 1960s, was elected governor of Michigan and “placed himself squarely in the liberal wing of the Republican Party” (16). He admired Martin Luther King Jr., and eschewed Barry Goldwater – in essence, anathema to his own political party.

Mitt Romney’s biography says that, at the 1964 Republican convention, when his father stood against the crowd, denouncing “‘extremism and lily-white Protestantism’ that had come to define the now-extinct Whigs,” the crowd stood against him. Mitt Romney says that he didn’t understand what his father was talking about, but, as Coppins relates, he knew this: “‘If ...Dad was standing alone [against a crowd], I knew



Deborah Mitchell
Contributing Columnist

he was right” (17).

The book details Mitt Romney’s rise in business and politics. Though he admired his father and his steadfastness, he decided that George Romney’s sticking to his guns might not have served George well. He decided to do something different: “Foolish consistency was not a virtue. Changing your mind could be good” (83). He then began a series of political “compromises.” For instance, Mitt Romney accomplished a lot as governor of Massachusetts, implementing “Romneycare,” and insuring everyone in Massachusetts; however, when he ran for President in 2012, he stood against “Obamacare,” though Obamacare was based on the plan Romney spent years developing.

He also noticed that people sometimes follow the lead of their political party even when they don’t understand the

issue. Coppins relates the story of the crowd that went wild when Romney called for the repeal of the “death tax,” although “[t]his was not a position [Romney] felt strongly about” (83). He was mystified by the crowd’s response, because the people who were roaring in approval would never be subjected to the estate tax. The estate tax, you see, termed “death tax” for more “punch” and sleight-of-hand, is designed to limit the amount of money that wealthy people can pass on to the next generation without incurring a tax. That year, it was about \$2 million per person (this year, it is \$11 million).

Though I can’t summarize the whole book here, this is what stands out: Romney admired his father, who stood up to prevailing winds to his detriment; however, when it came time for Mitt Romney to do the same thing, he made “compromises” to accomplish success in politics. He adopted the idea that changing his mind, or saying one thing and meaning another, might be acceptable.

Now, later in his life, he sees things differently. He states that many leaders in the Republican Party have taken his earlier compromising path: Behind closed doors, they acknowledge

Donald Trump’s unfitness for office, but they’ve discovered that political expediency instead requires fawning support of the man who incited an insurrection. So they don’t speak out against him.

I look at Mitt Romney through Coppins’s biography and see a story of loss and redemption. After all, manipulating his political stances to mirror those of the Republican Party did little for him. Sure, he was the Republican nominee in 2012, but one of the labels that hurt him was “flip-flopper.”

Since then, Romney has returned to his roots, according to Coppins, standing for his convictions as his father did years ago. He grapples with his political “compromises,” as he says, and wonders whether he would have done the same things 30 years ago, including voting to impeach Donald Trump. Today, he believes that vote was the right thing, though it made him a pariah in the Republican party.

It would be idyllic to see him as a completely heroic figure, but he, like all of us, is flawed. It seems, though, that he has come through at the right time.

Deborah Mitchell is a Sedalia attorney.

GUEST COLUMN

Today’s world has quiet pockets

As I picked up a dime from my floor the other day, I started thinking about how little I use change any more. When I was a kid, finding a coin of any kind would have been a huge deal.

I call this piece “Quiet Pockets” because I no longer hear the distinctive jingle of coins in my pockets that I used to hear. I cannot speak for other people, but I no longer carry coins the way I used to; actually, I no longer carry much money at all, because using a debit card is so much easier today.

As a kid, however, the coin was very important, and if I was lucky enough to have more than one coin in my pocket so they would jingle, I felt rich. The only times I remember having more than a nickel or dime in my pocket was when I went to my grandparents for a visit.



Columnist
Jack Miller

My grandfather loved giving out quarters to his grandchildren whenever we went for a visit. Coins were also great gifts that aunts and uncles gave out on a kid’s birthday; usually, it was a half-dollar coin, which I remember felt like a manhole cover in my hand.

The dime I picked up earlier would not make a dent in the cost of a candy bar today, but when I was a kid, it would have bought two big Babe Ruth bars at Reed’s grocery. A quarter would

get me into the Uptown Theater for a movie and popcorn, and I would have a hard time making up my mind on what to spend a whole half dollar on.

Today, if you gave a kid of any age a quarter, they would not be able to buy anything; today, they would only be impressed with folding money.

I do miss the jingle of coins in my pocket, which has been replaced by the unsatisfying sound of my car keys. I now keep my loose change in a big jar in the house and a change holder in the car that the manufacturer puts in all cars today. I cannot help but believe those coin holders contribute to that quiet pocket thing.

I do admit that I am one of those people who will pick up a penny lying on the ground, which makes me a little different than a lot of people, according to an experiment a news

station in a big city ran at a crowded airport. The experiment was to see if someone would think it was worth bending over to pick up a coin lying on the floor. They started with one coin that everyone ignored, then they began adding coins to see at what point someone would stoop down and pick them up.

I do not recall the amount of money that was eventually placed on the floor, but it was a pretty good pile before someone finally picked it up. I thought it was an enlightening experiment that I guess proved grown-ups hate to bend over, even for money.

I do know if they had run that experiment in the ‘40s, the coins would not have piled up at all.

Jack Miller is a longtime Sedalia resident, former radio news reporter and former Democrat contributing columnist.

Election

From Page A1

“So, I started an immediate campaign for the steering committee members ...” he noted with a smile. “And I won them over with my reasoning and maybe a little bit of charm to get on the committees.”

“Not just for me, but for our district,” he added. “Now I’ve got my feet wet, and I know how things operate, good and bad; I’m going to use my knowledge and my year under my belt to do the best job I can for the district.”

Spending bill votes

Alford discussed the controversy about a government shutdown and the stopgap spending bill that went before Congress recently.

“The mistake we made last spring was not coming up with our own budget,” he said. “We kept waiting on the President to come up with his budget before we started the appropriations process.”

“There are 12 appropriation bills that have to be passed to fund the government,” he explained. “We hemmed-hawed around for whatever reason and ended up coming home in August.”

“We worked, but we should have been in Washington finishing these appropriation bills,” he continued. “Instead, some people were overseas, some people were back working in their district. And that’s been the problem — they keep sending us home.”

He added that although he’s home this week, he believes the House should be getting the appropriation bills done in Washington.

“So, we don’t have to keep kicking the can down the road,” Alford said. “We do it every time. This is the third continuing resolution since I’ve been there. And I voted for the first one because I thought Kevin McCarthy in our process needed little breathing room to get it done.”

Alford told the House that he was only “good for one continuing resolution” until the end of October.

“Once they went past that, I’m not doing it anymore,” he said. “So, I voted against these last two. We have eight of the 12 appropriation bills passed; we need four more done. And there’s no reason we should be there right now getting that work done.”

Thoughts on endorsing Trump

Alford recently endorsed former President Donald Trump as the Republican presidential nominee for 2024. He explained his stance on the

controversial candidate.

“I know that President Trump is the only person with the experience, the stamina, the grit, the determination needed to sit behind the resolute desk and be the resolute leader that we need at this time in our world’s history,” he noted.

He cited the “problems on the world stage,” such as Russian President Vladimir Putin invading Ukraine, China “breathing down the neck of Taiwan,” and Hamas invading Israel.

“None of these aggressions would have happened had President Trump still been in office,” he noted. “President Biden has shown extreme weakness on the world stage and has created uncertainty.”

“It started with the way he pulled out of Afghanistan,” he continued. “How he left 13 service members there to die there on the gates at Abbey Wall, and he’s checking his watch as their bodies come home. His weakness has created a national security issue for America.”

“And I believe President Trump is the strongest candidate to get back in office and take immediate action,” he added. “And part of the effectiveness of Donald J. Trump is that no one knows what he’s going to do.”

When he was asked about the controversy surrounding Trump, such as the Jan. 6, 2021, incident at the U.S. Capitol Building and the ongoing E. Jean Carroll defamation trial, Alford noted he doesn’t agree with everything Trump stands for.

“I don’t agree with everything President Trump says, everything he does, but we’re not electing a pope,” he said. “We’re electing the strongest leader who can lead us to make America great again. I think with any leader of his aptitude, there’s going to be controversy because he doesn’t owe anyone anything.”

Voice for the people

As for Alford, he said he plans to continue to be there for the constituents in his district. He noted he and his staff have three offices: Cass County, Boone County, and Laclede County.

“I had seven primary challengers last go around,” he said of the 2022 election. “And I just think we made the strongest case that someone who’s not a career politician, who’s been a small business owner, who’s been a professional communicator, can be the best listener and the best voice for the people of the 4th Congressional District.”

Faith Bemiss-McKinney can be reached at 660-530-0289.

What are the symptoms of an enlarged prostate and how is it treated?

By Carla K. Johnson

Associated Press

The announcement that King Charles III was admitted to a private hospital Friday to undergo a procedure for an enlarged prostate has sparked interest in what is an extremely common condition among older men.

The 75-year-old monarch is in good company. About half of men in their 50s have enlarged prostates and that prevalence climbs to more than 80% of men by the time they reach age 80.

It’s a common result of aging, said Dr. Stephen Nakada, a University of Wisconsin urologist.

“It’s like getting gray hair,” Nakada said.

An enlarged prostate doesn’t always cause symptoms, but when it does, they can be annoying. And some men

have more trouble than others.

A look at the condition, also known as benign prostatic hyperplasia:

WHAT IS THE PROSTATE GLAND?

The prostate is part of the reproductive system in men. It makes fluid for semen. It’s located below the bladder and it wraps around the urethra, the tube that carries urine and semen out through the penis.

WHAT CAUSES AN ENLARGED PROSTATE?

First, it’s not cancer. The word “benign” in benign prostatic hyperplasia means the prostate isn’t cancerous.

What causes the prostate to grow isn’t completely clear, but it’s possibly caused by hormonal changes as men age.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF AN ENLARGED PROSTATE?

The symptoms of an enlarged pros-

tate can include frequent urination and needing to get up many times in the night to pee. A man might have trouble getting started in the bathroom or dribbling when finished. The inability to completely empty the bladder is also a common symptom.

WHAT MIGHT HELP SYMPTOMS?

Doctors may first advise patients to stop drinking fluids after dinner. Antihistamines can contribute to symptoms, as can alcohol and caffeine.

“A good initial intervention would be to decrease caffeine and alcohol intake, even decrease spicy food intake, because those can irritate the bladder,” Nakada said.

HOW IS AN ENLARGED PROSTATE DIAGNOSED?

Doctors will ask about symptoms and medications. They will perform a rectal exam to determine the size and shape of the prostate.

UCM

From Page A1

First impressions are key to landing any job. For Platt, it seems like she made a good impression on everyone she met.

“From the very beginning, she had sort of a vision of what she wanted to do with the gallery. Some of those things I think are common a lot among a lot of applicants,” Rosichelli said. “But her vision was unique.”

Rosichelli said Platt brought a sense of “energy and enthusiasm” for the position that set her apart from other candidates.

“My first impression was her sincerity and her ability to really connect with people individually,” UCM Art Education Professor Rahila Weed said. “In addition to that, she had a very strong representation of what she had done at other institutions in a similar position and ideas for the future.”

Weed was Platt’s supervisor for eight months as the Chair of the Department of Art and Design. She has spent 18 years in the UCM Art & Design department.

“I would say enthusiastic, outgoing, organized, efficient,” Mid-Missouri Artists President Rebecca Limback said. “She already has us on the schedule for the summer exhibition in June.”

Flourishing future

Building a sense of community in the art program has been a goal for Platt since day one in Warrensburg.

To foster that, Platt has taken a page out of her time at Marshall. When Platt first stepped into the gallery director role in Huntington, the

“Art Lease” program was already up and running. The program allowed local businesses, like law firms or banks, to lease artwork to hang in their workplaces. Made by faculty, students and staff, the art allowed the everyday citizen to see works made in their community and encouraged them to further support the schools.

“When you have a small town with a university (with) an art program, it’s really great if they can find a way to partner with each other so that the students can feel more grounded in the community,” Platt said.

Upon joining UCM, Platt recognized the program was at her disposal and anticipated a positive response from the community.

“When you have people who are not necessarily connected to the arts, (they) feel a little bit intimidated about going into a gallery space,” Platt said. “People have a chance to look at it on their own time and form their own feelings, without the pressure of being in the gallery.”

In addition to the “Art Lease” program, exhibi-

tions and workshops have also allowed people to connect with the art at UCM. Recently, the “Empowered by Design” exhibition and the Gallery Kids and Gallery Grownups workshops have showcased the fun of art to the community.

“She has a really great way of making those connections with people who walk in the door and look at the art or the artists who are coming to drop off their work or the students who show up for a show,” Weed said. “That’s a real talent to make people feel comfortable in an art space, because that’s not always the case.”

“She’s been curating some interesting shows, and filling all of the gallery spaces,” Rosichelli said. “She’s also been doing this art loan program that she started, lending out artworks or renting out artworks to local businesses where they can have them up in their offices. And so all of that’s been really great to see.”

While her job title is with UCM, Platt has also reached out to and impacted local organizations like the Mid-Missouri Artists.

“The exhibitions have just really been a nice, wonderful variety of different kinds of mediums and artists. It’s accessible right here in Warrensburg, so it’s a great thing for the community,” Limback said.

As for what the future holds for Platt, only time will truly tell the impact she makes in Warrensburg.

“She’s really trying to touch on all of our majors, touch on all of our students, whether they be men or women, people of color,” Weed said. “Making it broader and more diverse. I’m excited about all of the different things that she’s doing to bring the community in because I think that’s just going to make this a more vibrant place.”

“You don’t have to have a background in art,” Platt said. “Art can be a very solitary activity. But, when you put it up on the wall, then the spark comes from people engaging with it together, even if they don’t necessarily talk to each other while they’re in a space.”

Zach Bott can be reached at 660-747-8123.

●●●

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Church

From Page A1

Austin is from the Hughesville area and he and his wife, Sheri, have roots in the area, having both graduated from Northwest.

“We were familiar with that facility,” Austin said, “but honestly because we’ve been actively involved at Cornerstone, we hadn’t been up there to see that particular facility.”

After taking over, the rehabilitation of the church went quickly as many hands made light work.

“The Lord really blessed us during that period,” Austin said. “We’ve had over 100 volunteers, from not only our church and the Hughesville community but other places as well that had gone out and helped to kind of strip things down and then slowly start to rebuild.”

Catherine Sanchez works as the city clerk in Hughesville and moved there after the church was already closed. She lives near the church and noticed the flurry of activity one day.

“I live a block over, like the church is right in front of my house,” Sanchez said. “We saw everybody over there working on it and everything, so I went over, offered to help, you know, and they told us when they’d be open.”

Sanchez has a friend who made the commute to Cornerstone Sedalia for church before the restoration.

“She got a message



Cornerstone Baptist Church Pastor/Elder Roger Austin, seen during the first Sunday morning service in Hughesville on Jan. 21, is the new lead pastor at the Hughesville campus and will lead Sunday services at 10:30 a.m.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

from them saying that they would be here because it’s closer for her,” Sanchez said. “She’s been waiting for them to open over here, but she let me know and mom and I went on Christmas Day, they had a candlelight service. There was lots of people there for the Christmas candlelight vigil.”

“We had our first service on Christmas Eve and our first Sunday morning service,” Austin said. “We will now be open every Sunday. We opened this past Sunday (Jan. 21) at 10:30 with our first Sunday. We have three active pastor elders at Cornerstone today: Pastor Tim, Pastor Troy, and myself. I will be the lead pastor in Hughesville. They’ll be up there on occasion filling in, but with my ties to Hughesville, it just felt like a nice

opportunity to minister to people I’ve known pretty much my whole life.”

Cornerstone’s new ministry is a calling they are ready to answer, even if they aren’t certain of every detail.

“It’s both exhilarating and exciting, but also, there’s some trepidation with that,” Austin said. “We’ve never had a second campus. We really believed as an elder body that this was the right approach in a smaller community. You’ve got financial support if you run this as a second campus of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Cornerstone Ministries, but also we get to share our most valuable asset, which is our people – people that can come in, support, and reach out to that community, provide them a great place.”

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



Volunteers Matt Guier and his daughter Lucca help ready the 1897 church that had been shuttered since the COVID-19 pandemic.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH



Pews are filled at the new Cornerstone Baptist Church in Hughesville during the location’s first Sunday morning service on Jan. 21. Cornerstone reopened the Hughesville church on Christmas Eve after being asked to take over from the Harmony Baptist Association.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

THE WEATHER

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
40 31	43 32	56 34	48 32	45 29	51 36	53 36
Cloudy	Low clouds may break	Partly sunny and milder	Turning cloudy and cooler	Mostly cloudy	Partly sunny and mild	Plenty of sunshine

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:23 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:28 p.m.
Moonrise today	7:27 p.m.
Moonset today	8:45 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 2	Feb 9	Feb 16	Feb 24

WEATHER HISTORY

A five-day blizzard began Jan. 27, 1966, around Oswego, N.Y. Accumulation reached 102 inches with 50 inches falling on Jan. 31 alone.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Thursday

TEMPERATURES

High	40
Low	36
Normal high	38
Normal low	19
Record high	74 in 1950
Record low	-10 in 1940

PRECIPITATION

Thursday	0.51"
Month to date	2.06"
Normal m-t-d	1.51"
Year to date	2.06"
Normal y-t-d	1.51"

HEATING DEGREE DAYS

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

Thursday	27
Month to date	1010
Season to date	2425
Normal season to date	2960
Last season to date	2452

RIVER LEVELS

In feet as of 7 a.m. Friday

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld Stg
Blue Lick	18.48	+7.27	24
Valley City	21.89	+15.60	22

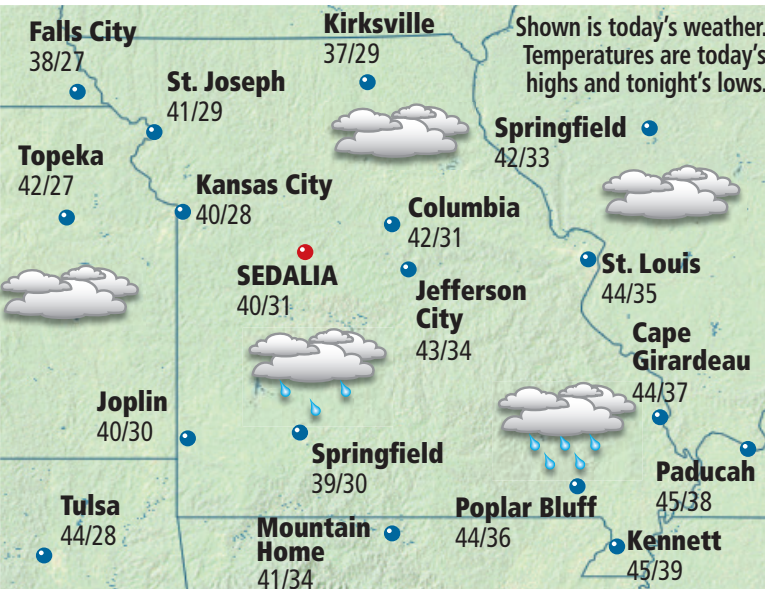
Lamine

Otterville	4.71	-1.39	15
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Missouri

Boonville	1.34	+1.86	21
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Forecasts and graphics provided by
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BRANSON

High: 40. Low: 32. A little rain in the morning; otherwise, cloudy today. Low clouds tonight. Low clouds, then perhaps some sun tomorrow.

KANSAS CITY

High: 40. Low: 28. Cloudy today. Areas of low clouds tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow. Monday: partly sunny and mild. Tuesday: sunny to partly cloudy.

ST. LOUIS

High: 44. Low: 35. Areas of fog during the morning; cloudy with a little rain today. A couple of showers of rain or snow tonight. Low clouds tomorrow.

NEW YORK CITY

High: 48. Low: 39. Patchy fog in the morning; otherwise, cloudy today. A touch of rain tonight. Rain tomorrow.

LOS ANGELES

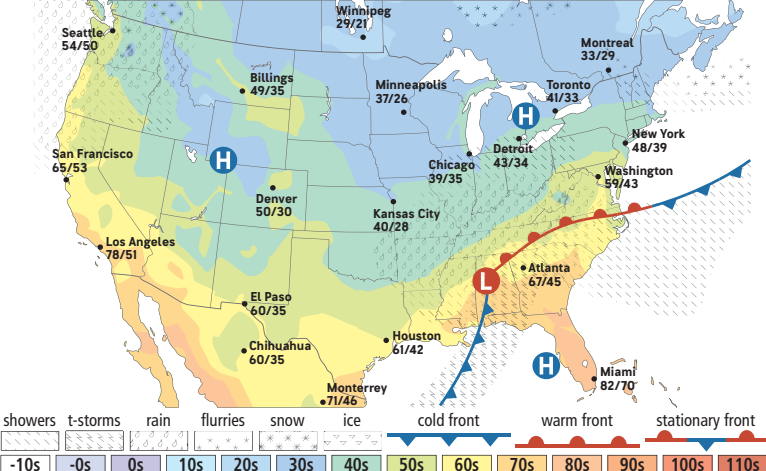
High: 78. Low: 51. Mostly sunny and warm today. Mainly clear tonight. Partly sunny and very warm tomorrow. Monday: plenty of sunshine. Tuesday: mostly sunny.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today	Sunday
Atlanta	67/45/r	51/41/c
Baltimore	56/42/c	47/37/r
Billings	49/35/pc	54/37/pc
Boston	38/33/c	38/31/sn
Buffalo	41/33/c	36/31/sn
Charlotte	63/55/r	61/40/r
Chicago	39/35/c	39/31/c
Cleveland	43/36/sh	39/34/sn
Dallas	51/34/s	61/37/s
Denver	50/30/s	59/32/s
Detroit	43/34/c	40/33/sn
Honolulu	81/70/sh	83/69/sh
Houston	61/42/pc	61/40/s
Indianapolis	42/35/r	41/33/c
Las Vegas	62/45/s	65/48/pc

	Today	Sunday
Milwaukee	42/36/c	41/32/c
Nashville	52/40/r	44/36/c
New Orleans	70/49/r	59/43/pc
Norfolk	57/56/c	58/47/r
Oklahoma City	41/28/r	57/33/s
Orlando	84/67/pc	71/47/t
Phoenix	73/50/s	74/50/s
Pittsburgh	48/40/sh	43/32/sn
Portland, ME	36/28/c	36/27/sn
Portland, OR	56/51/r	60/47/r
Sacramento	60/49/c	67/48/pc
St. Louis	44/35/r	41/30/c
San Francisco	65/53/c	69/52/pc
Seattle	54/50/r	59/49/r
Washington, DC	59/43/c	47/38/r

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice. Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation today. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



Summary: Heavy rain and strong thunderstorms will occur across the Southeast today. Clouds, fog and drizzle will continue in the Great Lakes. Another storm will bring more rain to the Northwest.

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Chiefs-Ravens matchup features QBs, stingy defenses and potential HOF coaches

By Rob Maaddi
AP Pro Football Writer

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs took a different route to face the Baltimore Ravens in the AFC championship game. They're going on the road. After hosting this game five straight seasons, the No. 3 seed Chiefs had to beat Josh Allen and the Bills in Buffalo and now travel to Baltimore to face Lamar Jackson and the Ravens. The defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs (13-6) are looking for their third Super Bowl title in five years and are trying to become the first team to repeat since Tom Brady and the New England Patriots did it in the 2003-04 seasons. They have to get there first. Standing in their way are the No. 1 seed Ravens, who have played their best against tough opponents. The Ravens (14-4) had 11 wins over winning teams, including nine by at least 14 points. The Chiefs shut down Tua Tagovailoa and Miami's potent offense in the wild-card round and sneaked past the Bills in Mahomes' first career playoff game on the road. The Ravens rolled to a 34-10 win over Houston after enjoying a

first-round bye. They're 3 1/2-point favorites, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. **WHEN THE CHIEFS HAVE THE BALL** The Chiefs had the league's sixth-ranked passing offense behind Mahomes and 19th-ranked rushing attack. The Ravens gave up the fewest points per game (16.5) and were sixth against the pass and 14th against the run. Mahomes is a magician and what he's been able to do without a legitimate No. 1 wide receiver has been impressive. The two-time NFL and Super Bowl MVP threw for 4,183 yards with 27 touchdowns, a career-high 14 interceptions and career-low 92.6 passer rating. His receivers dropped 44 passes, most in the league. Mahomes' go-to option still is tight end Travis Kelce. The Ravens have All-Pro safety Kyle Hamilton to match up against Kelce so rookie wideout Rashee Rice, veteran Marquez Valdes-Scantling and Kadarious Toney, if he's healthy, need to step up. Kelce had 93 catches for 984 yards and five TDs in the regular season and caught two scores last week in Buffalo. Rice had 79 receptions for 938 yards and seven TDs. See **MATCHUP | A9**



Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes stretches during the NFL football team's practice Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo. PHOTO BY CHARLIE RIEDEL | AP PHOTO

AREA ROUNDUP

S-C LADY TIGERS ADVANCE TO TOURNEY FINAL



Smith-Cotton junior Eliza Cavanaugh brings the ball up the floor against Eldon on Dec. 16, 2023. She finished with 23 points against Summit Christian Academy to help carry the Lady Tigers to the Clinton Tournament Final. FILE PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

By Democrat staff

Smith-Cotton girls basketball is back in unfamiliar but welcome territory. The Lady Tigers strung together back-to-back wins at the Clinton Tournament to reach their first tourney final since the Marshall-MVC Tournament in 2011-12. S-C (9-7) scored a 53-27 victory Thursday over Summit Christian. Eliza Cavanaugh finished with a game-high 23 points and was aided by eight each from teammates Dominique Bell and Anastasia Bellamy. "Our team started out slow on offense but we played great defense holding them to 11 points in the first half," S-C head coach Ron Rhodes said. On Tuesday night, the Lady Tigers opened up the action in Clinton with a 61-23 victory over Pleasant Hill. They were led by 15 points from Zoey Hieronymus followed by 13 from Bell and 11 from Bellamy. "I thought we played one of our best overall games [against Pleasant Hill]," Rhodes said. "We held them to seven points in the 2nd half. Pleasant Hill was seeded second and the Lady Tigers were seeded third in this tournament. Super proud of our energy and effort." Brooklyn Lamar contributed five points off the bench and Emmaline Kensinger got into the scoring column for the first time as a varsity player as well. The Lady Tigers tip-off at 6 p.m. on Saturday night. **S-C Tigers struggle in Eldon** Smith-Cotton boys basketball, meanwhile, had a difficult few results against good competition in the Eldon Tournament over the week. Opening against Versailles (13-2), the Tigers lost on Tuesday, 72-37. Demarcus Simms led with 10 points and Joseph Rubio and Michael Staysuk followed up with seven and six points, respectively. S-C was plagued by 13 turnovers and a lack of intensity on the offensive boards per head coach Ben Lyles.

In their second game of the format against Eugene, ranked top-5 in Class 2, the Tigers lost on Thursday, 67-51. Jayshawn Bennett had 12 points, Jaevion Dye put in 10 and the pair of Dax Wiskur and Nikiah Cole chipped in six. "We played three tremendous quarters of basketball and gave ourselves a chance to win a ball game [against Eugene]," Lyles said. "We went into the fourth quarter down six but just couldn't make enough plays late in the game and had to foul to stop the clock, and still couldn't find some late baskets ... All-in-all, I was happy with the response from a really bad game the night before." The Tigers wrap up action in Eldon on Saturday. **SFCC teams fall in Moberly** Both State Fair Community College teams fell short in their bids for victory in Wednesday's trip to Moberly Area Community College. Trailing by four at half-time, the Lady Roadrunners (16-3) made up that deficit and pushed it to overtime before coming up short to the Lady Greyhounds, 65-61. Myra Claas scored all of her points from beyond the arc and ended with 12 points, while Tanila Marshall provided a double-double off the bench with 13 points and 12 rebounds. Jaida Shipp also had eight points and Quincenia Jaddockson and Briar Cox provided six. Shooting was not at a premium in the defeat as SFCC went just 13 of 29 (44.8%) at the free-throw line and shot under 25% from distance. The men's team dropped to 7-13 on the year with a 68-44 defeat to the Greyhounds after falling behind by 19 at the half. After hitting half their shots from 3-point range in their previous outing at home, the Roadrunners went only 5 of 28 (17.9%) from three-point range. Like their Lady Roadrunners counterparts, they also struggled at the stripe, going only 7 of 15. Elijah Edwards ended with a team-high 11 points.

Klopp leaving Liverpool after this season because he's 'running out of energy'

By James Robson
AP Soccer Writer

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp took a deep breath and stared into the camera before saying the words that shocked the world of soccer on Friday. "I will leave the club at the end of the season," Klopp said in a pre-recorded interview with club media. "It is not what I want to (do), it is just what I think is 100% right." Klopp, who has won the English Premier League and Champions League in a trophy-laden spell at Anfield, said he was "running out of energy" after more than eight years in charge. "I am like a proper sports car. Not the best one, but a pretty good one. I can still drive 160, 170, 180 miles per hour, but I am the only one who sees the tank needle is going down. The outside world doesn't see that. That's good. So you



Liverpool coach Juergen Klopp lifts up the trophy as he celebrates with players after winning the Champions League final soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool at the Wanda Metropolitano Stadium in Madrid, June 1, 2019. FILE PHOTO BY ARMANDO FRANCA | AP PHOTO

go as long as you have to go, but then you need a break." The 56-year-old German said he told Liverpool of his decision in November and he would wait at least a year before considering another job in management. He also ruled out joining a Premier League rival. "What I know definitely, I will never, ever manage a different club in

England than Liverpool, 100%," he said. "That's not possible. My love for this club, my respect for the people is too big. "Of course, I know myself, I cannot just sit around. I will find something else maybe to do. But I will not manage a club or a country at least for a year, that's not possible, I cannot do that and I don't want to." See **KLOPP | A11**

Chiefs to be without injured All-Pro guard Thuney for AFC title game

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs will be without All-Pro offensive guard Joe Thuney and run-stuffing defensive tackle Derrick Nnadi when they play the Baltimore Ravens in the AFC championship game on Sunday. Thuney, who has helped to anchor one of the best interior offensive lines in the league, was ruled out Friday with a pectoral injury that he sustained in a divisional round win over the Buffalo Bills. Thuney underwent an MRI exam early in the week that revealed a strain, and it became increasingly clear that he would be unavailable when he was unable to practice. The Chiefs will replace him veteran Nick Allegretti, who has

appeared in 14 playoff games over the past five seasons. Most of those snaps have come on special teams, but he also started along the offensive line throughout the 2021 postseason, including the Chiefs' loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the Super Bowl. "All of the guys look at him like he's a starter, so everybody's got con-

fidence that he can come in and do a nice job," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "Tough kid. Not everything is the prettiest thing that you've ever seen, but he's going to fight you right to the end, and he's smart. Good combination." Nnadi was ruled out of the AFC championship game with a triceps injury. See **GUARD | A11**



Kansas City Chiefs guard Joe Thuney (62) gets set to block during an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the Miami Dolphins Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo. PHOTO BY PETER AIKEN | AP PHOTO

SPORTS CALENDAR

Saturday
ON TAP
COLLEGE MEN’S BASKETBALL
7 p.m. State Fair Community College at MSU-West Plains

COLLEGE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
5:30 p.m. State Fair Community College at Crowder College

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL
10 a.m. Tipton vs Northwest (at S-C)

1 p.m. Sacred Heart vs Green Ridge/Windsor (at S-C)

3 p.m. Smith-Cotton at Eldon Tournament

4 p.m. Cole Camp vs Lincoln/La Monte (at S-C)

7 p.m. Stover vs Smithton/Otterville (at S-C)

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL
11:30 a.m. Windsor vs Green Ridge (at S-C)

2:30 p.m. Stover vs Smithton/Sacred Heart (at S-C)

5:30 p.m. Tipton vs Lincoln/La Monte (at S-C)

6 p.m. Smith-Cotton at Clinton Tournament

8:30 p.m. Northwest vs Cole Camp/Otterville (at S-C)

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING
Windsor at Warrensburg

ON AIR
AUTO RACING
12:30 p.m. NBC — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

1:30 p.m. USA — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

9 p.m. USA — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

5 a.m. (Sunday)
USA — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

(MEN’S)
11 a.m. BTN — Nebraska at Maryland

CBSSN — Lehigh at Holy Cross

CW — Virginia at Louisville

ESPN — Kansas St. at Houston

ESPN2 — Georgia at Florida

ESPNU — Boston College at Notre Dame

11:30 a.m. FOX — Georgetown at Providence

USA — Fordham at Duquesne

Noon FS1 — Seton Hall at Marquette

SECN — Missouri at South Carolina

12:30 p.m. CBS — Kansas at Iowa St.

1 p.m. CBSSN — Towson at Delaware

ESPN — North Carolina at Florida St.

ESPN2 — Texas at BYU

1:15 p.m. CW — Pittsburgh at Miami

2 p.m. FOX — Indiana at Illinois

FS1 — Villanova at Butler

2:30 p.m. SECN — Auburn at Mississippi St.

3 p.m. CBSSN — UNC-Wilmington at Stony Brook

ESPN — Clemson at Duke

ESPN2 — TCU at Baylor

ESPNU — Charlotte at Tulane

4 p.m. ACCN — Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech

FS1 — Iowa at Michigan

PAC-12N — Colorado at Washington St.

4:30 p.m. FOX — Arizona at Oregon

5 p.m. CBSSN — Dayton at Richmond

ESPN — Kentucky at Arkansas

ESPN2 — James Madison at Appalachian St.

ESPNU — Bradley at Indiana St.

SECN — Tennessee at Vanderbilt

5:30 p.m. BTN — Minnesota at Penn St.

6 p.m. ACCN — NC State at Syracuse

FS1 — DePaul at Creighton

PAC-12N — Arizona St. at Oregon St.

7 p.m. CBSSN — VCU at Davidson

ESPN — LSU at Alabama

ESPN2 — UCLA at Southern Cal

ESPNU — Tulsa at Rice

7:30 p.m. BTN — Ohio St. at Northwestern

SECN — Mississippi at Texas A&M

8 p.m. FS1 — UNLV at San Jose St.

9 p.m. ESPN2 — Utah at Washington

ESPNU — Loyola Marymount at Saint Mary’s (Cal)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN’S)
1 p.m. BTN — Nebraska at Iowa

7 p.m. FOX — Notre Dame at UConn

COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN’S)
5 p.m. PAC-12N — Washington at UCLA

COLLEGE HOCKEY (MEN’S)
3 p.m. BTN — Minnesota at Michigan St.

FIGURE SKATING
1:30 p.m. NBC — U.S. Championships: Free Dance, Columbus, Ohio

7 p.m. USA — U.S. Championships: Pairs Free, Columbus, Ohio

GOLF
2:30 a.m. GOLF — DP World Tour: The Ras Al Khaimah Championship, Third Round, Al Hamra GC, Ras al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates

1 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The Farmers Insurance Open, Final Round, Torrey Pines South Course, La Jolla, Calif.

GOLF — LPGA Tour: The LPGA Drive On Championship, Third Round, Superstition Mountain Golf & Country Club, Gold Canyon, Ariz.

3 p.m. CBS — PGA Tour: The Farmers Insurance Open, Final Round, Torrey Pines South Course, La Jolla, Calif.

5 p.m. GOLF — LPGA Tour: The LPGA Drive On Championship, Third Round, Superstition Mountain Golf & Country Club, Gold Canyon, Ariz. (Taped)

2 a.m. (Sunday)
GOLF — DP World Tour: The Ras Al Khaimah Championship, Final Round, Al Hamra GC, Ras al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates

HORSE RACING
11 a.m. FS1 — NYRA: America’s Day at the Races

Noon FS2 — NYRA: America’s Day at the Races

3:30 p.m. NBC — The Pegasus World Cup Invitational Stakes: From Gulfstream Park, Hallandale Beach, Fla.

NBA BASKETBALL
2 p.m. ABC — Miami at New York

4:30 p.m. ABC — Philadelphia at Denver

7:30 p.m. ABC — LA Lakers at Golden State

NHL HOCKEY
11:30 a.m. NHLN — Boston at Philadelphia

6 p.m. NHLN — NY Rangers at Ottawa

RODEO
9 p.m. CBSSN — PBR: Round 2 & Championship Round, Houston

SOCCER (MEN’S)
4:45 p.m. FS2 — CONMEBOL U-23 Olympic Qualifier 2024 Group Stage: Uruguay vs. Chile, Group B, Valencia, Venezuela

5:30 a.m. (Sunday)
CBSSN — Serie A: Lecce at Genoa

SOCCER (WOMEN’S)
7 a.m. CBSSN — Bundesliga: Hoffenheim at Bayern

TENNIS
2:30 a.m. ESPN — WTA: The Australian Open, Championship, Melbourne, Australia

7 a.m. ESPN2 — WTA: The Australian Open, Championship, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)

2:30 a.m. (Sunday)
ESPN — ATP: The Australian Open, Championship, Melbourne, Australia

X GAMES
11:30 a.m. ABC — World of X Games: Day 2, Aspen, Colo.

7 p.m. ESPNEWS — World of X Games: Day 2, Aspen, Colo.

9 p.m. ESPN — World of X Games: Day 2, Aspen, Colo.

Sunday ON AIR AUTO RACING

5 a.m. USA — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

11 a.m. NBC — IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship: The Rolex 24, Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, Fla.

Midnight (Monday)
CNBC — AMA Super-cross Series: Round 4, Anaheim, Calif. (Taped)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN’S)
11 a.m. FS1 — Xavier at UConn

Noon ESPN2 — North Texas at FAU

FOX — Purdue at Rutgers

2 p.m. ESPN2 — SMU at Wichita St.

4 p.m. ESPN — Memphis at UAB

ESPN2 — Temple at East Carolina

9 p.m. FS1 — Nevada at New Mexico

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN’S)
11 a.m. ACCN — Virginia Tech at Syracuse

CBSSN — St. Bonaventure at Dayton

CW — North Carolina at Virginia

ESPNU — East Carolina at South Florida

Noon SECN — Texas A&M at Florida

1 p.m. ACCN — Duke at Miami

CBSSN — Seton Hall at Creighton

ESPNU — Baylor at Oklahoma St.

FS1 — Villanova at DePaul

PAC-12N — Stanford at Arizona

2 p.m. ESPN — Tennessee at Mississippi

SECN — Vanderbilt at South Carolina

3 p.m. ACCN — Florida St. at Georgia Tech

CBSSN — Oral Roberts at S. Dakota St.

PAC-12N — Washington St. at UCLA

4 p.m. SECN — Kentucky at Alabama

5 p.m. ACCN — Wake Forest at Clemson

COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN’S)
4 p.m. BTN — Oklahoma at Illinois

COLLEGE WRESTLING

11 a.m. BTN — Penn St. at Maryland

1 p.m. BTN — Nebraska at Wisconsin

5 p.m. PAC-12N — Arkansas-Little Rock at Stanford

FIGURE SKATING
2 p.m. NBC — U.S. Championships: Men’s Free Skate, Columbus, Ohio

GOLF
2 a.m. GOLF — DP World Tour: The Ras Al Khaimah Championship, Final Round, Al Hamra GC, Ras al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates

1 p.m. GOLF — LPGA Tour: The LPGA Drive On Championship, Final Round, Superstition Mountain Golf & Country Club, Gold Canyon, Ariz.

4 p.m. GOLF — APGA Tour: The APGA Farmers Insurance Invitational, Final Round, South Course at Torrey Pines Golf Club, La Jolla, Calif.

HORSE RACING
1:30 p.m. FS2 — NYRA: America’s Day at the Races

3:30 p.m. FS1 — NYRA: America’s Day at the Races

NBA G-LEAGUE BASKETBALL
3 p.m. NBATV — Windy City at Birmingham

NFL FOOTBALL
2 p.m. CBS — AFC Championship: Kansas City at Baltimore

5:30 p.m. FOX — NFC Championship: Detroit at San Francisco

NHL HOCKEY
1 p.m. NHLN — Los Angeles at St. Louis

SOCCER (MEN’S)
5:30 a.m. CBSSN — Serie A: Lecce at Genoa

TENNIS
2:30 a.m. ESPN — ATP: The Australian Open, Championship, Melbourne, Australia

8:30 a.m. ESPN2 — ATP: The Australian Open, Championship, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)

1 a.m. (Monday)
TENNIS — Hua Hin-WTA Early Rounds

X GAMES
Noon ABC — World of X Games: Day 3, Aspen, Colo.

6 p.m. ESPN — World of X Games: Day 3, Aspen, Colo.

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HOROSCOPES

By **Georgia Nicols**

Moon Alert: Wait until 2:30 p.m. EST today (11:30 a.m. PST) to shop or make important decisions. After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

Happy Birthday for Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024:

You push yourself because you want to prove yourself to others. You have a fine, discriminating mind, plus verbal skills, which helps you to motivate others. This is the final year of a nine-year cycle for you, which means it's time to take inventory and do some housecleaning.

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)

★★★★ This is a great day to make things happen! Get out and enjoy yourself, because you'll be convincing when talking to parents, bosses and people in authority. You will impress them with your practical ideas. In turn, someone might have advice for you. Tonight: Work.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ This is a great day to travel or make travel plans. Because you look strong in the eyes of others, you can explore opportunities in publishing and the media, or something to do with medicine and the law. Very likely, someone older or more experienced will help you. (You also might be attracted to them.) Tonight: Play!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ This is a positive day! Use this energy to socialize or get work done, especially tidying up loose ends regarding shared property, taxes, debt, insurance issues or inheritances. This is the time for you to benefit from the wealth and resources of others or to get money from the government or other sources. Tonight: Cocoon.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ It's a social day! You will attract people to you who are keen to talk and share their ideas. In fact, you might learn something from someone who is older or more experienced. Enjoy time spent with those who are close to you, as well as members of the general public. Tonight: Conversations!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ This is an upbeat day! Use this energy to get things done, because you will be productive. Choose the tasks you want to tackle, and once they're finished, you can celebrate a job well done! Everyone deserves a reward. Tonight: Check your belongings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ This is a wonderful day to socialize. Later in the day, when the Moon moves into your sign, you will feel energetic and lively! Sports events, social outings and playful activities with kids will appeal to you. This is also a romantic, flirtatious day. Tonight: You win!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You are the most social sign in the zodiac, and today is your chance to get out and enjoy the company of others. Accept invitations to party or meet others for lunch, coffee or a drink. You will also enjoy entertaining at home and inviting others to drop by for good food, drink and some laughs. Tonight: Solitude.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ This is the perfect day for a short trip. If you can't take a short trip, tour your own neighborhood and talk to neighbors, relatives and friends. You will enjoy learning something new today. However, some of you will have increased responsibilities with children. Tonight: Friendships.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ This is a fast-paced day. People are friendly and the energy is upbeat. Because you will be inclined to shop today, please be aware of the restrictions of the Moon Alert. Meanwhile, why not write down your moneymaking ideas? They might be worthwhile for future consideration. Tonight: Show respect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You're enthusiastic and energetic today, which is why you're keen to express your views to others. And you will do so, because Mercury is lined up with fiery Mars in your sign! Meanwhile, look for ways to improve your immediate surroundings, especially in practical ways. Tonight: Explore!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

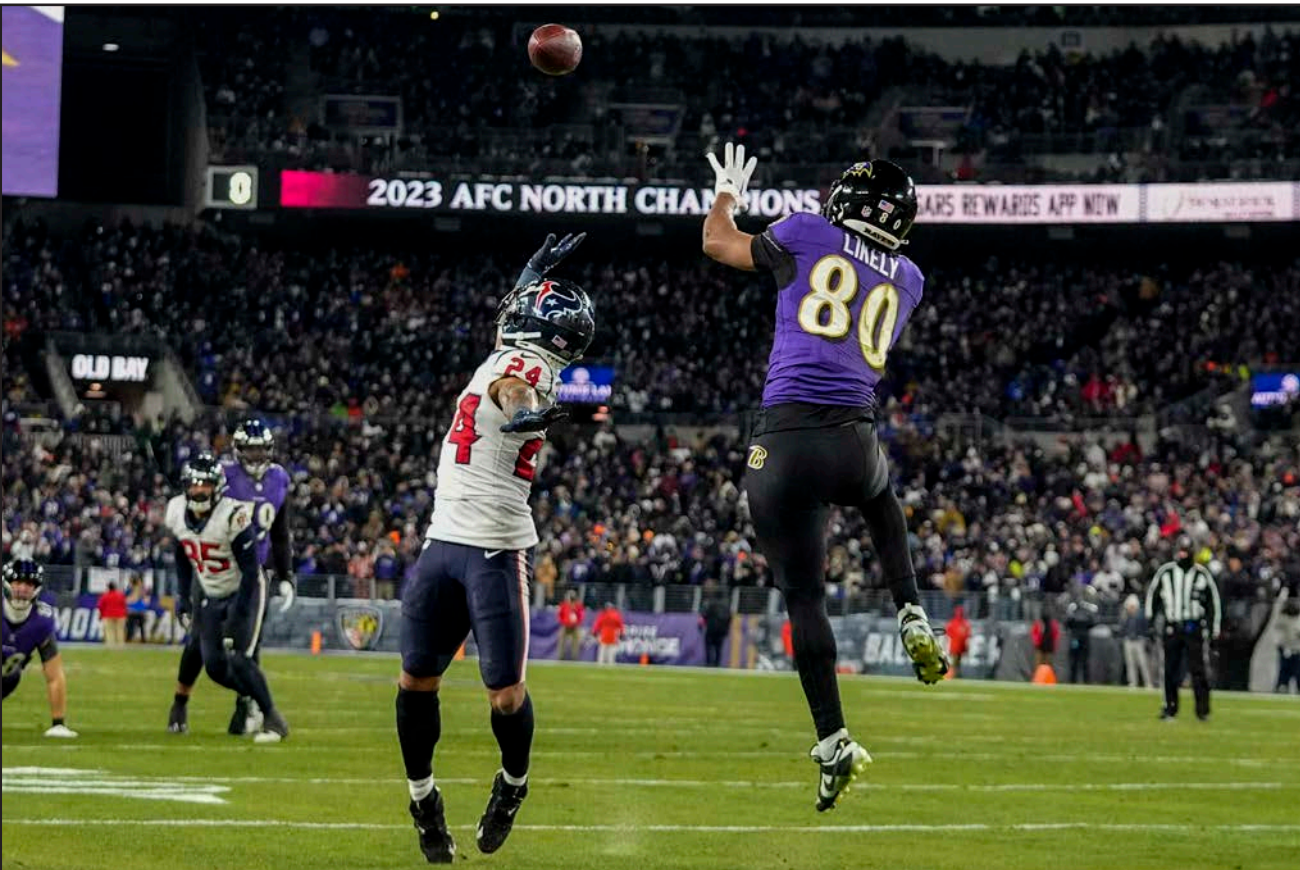
★★★★ This is a fun-loving, vibrant day for you because the Sun is in your sign. However, a handful of planets are "hiding" in your chart, which means you will welcome moments of privacy and solitude in beautiful surroundings. (With snacks, of course.) Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ This is a great day to enjoy the company of others, especially younger people and creative, talented types. You might be involved more than usual with groups and clubs, because everyone is energetic and friendly! Tonight: Cooperate.

BORN TODAY

Actress Rosamund Pike (1979), actress Mimi Rogers (1956), actor Alan Cumming (1965)



Baltimore Ravens tight end Isaiah Likely (80) makes a touchdown catch in the end zone against Houston Texans cornerback Derek Stingley Jr. (24) during the second half of an NFL football AFC divisional playoff game, Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, in Baltimore.
PHOTO BY JULIO CORTEZ | AP PHOTO

Final 4 teams in NFL playoffs rely heavily on tight ends

By **Josh Dubow**

AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Few people proselytize about the importance of tight ends more than San Francisco's George Kittle.

He helped the NFL create a "holiday" to honor the position each October and launched the annual Tight End University where scores of players gather to share tips of the trade.

So Kittle showed no surprise about the fact that the four teams playing on championship weekend all rely heavily on the tight end in the passing game.

"That they do," he said with a smile.

Whether it's a first-team All-Pro like Kittle or the record-setting, celebrity dating Travis Kelce of Kansas City or a prolific rookie like Detroit's Sam LaPorta — or Baltimore's dynamic duo of Mark Andrews and Isaiah Likely — tight ends will be a focal point of the offenses on Sunday.

"I feel like if you look back at most of the last Super Bowl winners, every team has a very, very talented tight end that they use, whether that's run game or the pass game," Kittle said. "Tight ends give you the ability to mismatch whether it's on linebackers or safeties. If you want to use two guys to cover them, it doesn't matter. It opens up other people. If you have someone that can

dominate the middle of the field, it makes it a lot easier on the quarterback."

Kittle was the most productive player at the position this season with his 1,020 yards receiving leading the way among tight ends. He earned his second career first-team All-Pro selection.

While San Francisco has an offense filled with playmakers like Christian McCaffrey, Deebo Samuel and Brandon Aiyuk, Kittle's ability to make big plays down the field in the passing game and dominate on the line of scrimmage as a blocker in the run game is a major part of the success.

"I've got a lot of respect for the way he plays the game, man," said Lions coach Dan Campbell, a former NFL tight end. "He's high energy, he does it all, he's an aggressive blocker, he's strong, he's physical, he's good in pass protection, he's an explosive route runner, creates separation, run after catch, plays strong, team guy. I mean he does it all. He does it all. But I like our guy too and our guy can do quite a bit of things as well."

LaPorta is the latest in a line of productive tight ends out of Iowa that followed Kittle's lead from college to the pros.

The second-round pick set a rookie playoff record for tight ends with nine catches last week and his 86 for the season also were the most ever for a rookie tight

end. LaPorta also led all tight ends with 10 TD catches in the regular season.

The success comes as no surprise to Kittle, who saw those traits when LaPorta came to Tight End University this summer.

"He didn't stand out in a way like, 'Oh, this is a college kid.' You could tell he understood what he was doing," Kittle said. "He has an understanding of the game and what the Lions want from him. When you put him out there with Coach Campbell and their mindset, I think he fits the mold perfectly and kind of adds to that mold himself. He's everything that you want in a tight end."

While Kittle and LaPorta were the first and second-team All-Pros at the position this season, the AFC tight ends remaining have sterling credentials of their own.

Kelce received more press this season for dating Taylor Swift, but he has been one of the most productive tight ends ever, ranking in the top five all-time at the position in receptions (907), yards (11,328) and TDs (74).

The 34-year-old narrowly missed out on extending his own record of seven straight seasons with at least 1,000 yards when he rested in the season finale and fell 16 yards short.

He has been at his best in the playoffs as evidenced by his two TD catches last week and his receiving numbers

that are only behind Jerry Rice all-time. He has formed a bond with Patrick Mahomes that has led to a play-off-record 16 touchdowns for the duo. Coach Andy Reid says they have the best chemistry he has seen in his more than three decades as a coach in the NFL.

"It's hard to explain why and how these guys connect like that but they do," Reid said. "They both have great feel for the game and great feel for what the other one sees and will do."

The Ravens have two tight ends featured prominently this season in the passing game. Andrews has been Lamar Jackson's favorite target since they arrived together in 2018, with five straight seasons with at least five TD catches.

But he got hurt midway through this season and Likely stepped up with five TD catches in the past six games.

Andrews was activated from injured reserve Friday, giving the Ravens two options at the position — a luxury missing from many of the teams that have already gone home this season.

"I think when you have a guy that can do everything, can do multiple jobs and do them well, I think those guys are hard to find," Campbell said.

AP Sports Writers Larry Lage, Dave Skretta and Noah Trister contributed to this report.

Matchup

From Page A7

The Chiefs will rely on running back Isiah Pacheco to balance the offense. He ran for 935 yards and seven TDs in the regular season, and had 97 yards on 15 carries with one TD against the Bills last week. Baltimore's front seven led by All-Pro linebacker Roquan Smith, LB Patrick Queen and defensive tackle Justin Madubuike held Houston to 38 yards rushing last week and kept nine teams under 100 this season.

Chiefs coach Andy Reid is one of the NFL's all-time great offensive innovators and he's been known to add a few new wrinkles in big games. Injured All-Pro left guard Joe Thuney will force Reid to make some adjustments to the game plan. Ravens defensive coordinator Mike Macdonald has become a hot candidate for head coaching positions after Baltimore's defense became the first in NFL history to lead the league in fewest points allowed, sacks

and turnovers.

WHEN THE RAVENS HAVE THE BALL

The Ravens led the NFL in rushing and were 21st in passing behind the dual-threat Jackson. The Chiefs gave up the second-fewest points (17.3), were fourth against the pass and 18th against the run.

Jackson is one of the league's most talented all-around offensive players so defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo's unit will have its hands full. The All-Pro QB and 2019 NFL MVP threw for 3,678 yards and 24 touchdowns and also ran for 821 yards and five scores. Jackson excelled in the biggest games this season, outplaying Brock Purdy in a rout over San Francisco and tossing five TD passes in a win over Miami that determined the AFC's No. 1 seed.

The Chiefs can expect to see a heavy dose of Gus Edwards, Justice Hill and Dalvin Cook running the ball and have to watch out for Jackson's scrambles. The trio of backs ran for 129 yards on 31 carries against

Houston last week. Jackson led the way with 100 yards rushing.

Rookie Zay Flowers led Baltimore with 77 catches for 858 yards and five TDs. Jackson also has veterans Nelson Agholor and Odell Beckham Jr. Tight end Mark Andrews is expected to return from an ankle injury, giving Jackson his favorite playmaker.

All-Pro slot cornerback Trent McDuffie against Flowers, who lines up everywhere, will be a key matchup. Blocking All-Pro defensive tackle Chris Jones, who can be a game-changer, is a top priority for Baltimore's offensive line.

Jackson flourished in his first season in offensive coordinator Todd Monken's system. Spagnuolo's defense can perplex the best teams. His unit shut down Brady, Randy Moss and the undefeated Patriots when the Giants pulled off a stunning Super Bowl upset 16 years ago.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Two of the best kickers in the NFL are in this one. Chiefs kicker Harrison

Butker made 33 of 35 field goals, including all five from beyond 50 yards. Ravens five-time All-Pro Justin Tucker had a down season by his standards, going 32 of 37 on field goals and missing four of five from 50-plus yards.

Ravens punter Jordan Stout had a 39.1-yard net average while Kansas City's Tommy Townsend had a 41.9-yard net average.

The Chiefs use Mecole Hardman and Richie James for returns. Hardman had the longest punt return at 50 yards and James had the longest kick return at 31. Devin Duvernay is a solid returner for the Ravens. He returned a punt 70 yards.

COACHING

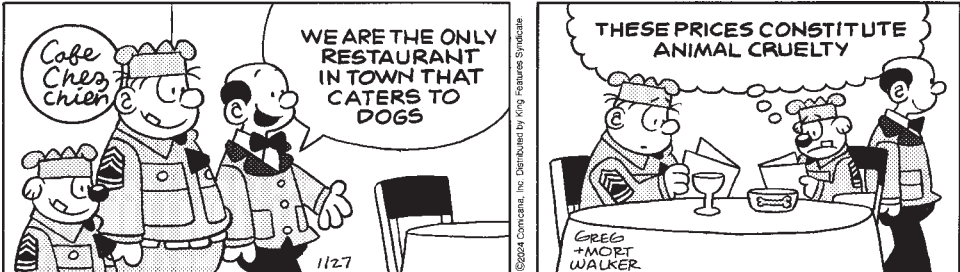
Reid is a likely future Hall of Famer. He already has two Super Bowl rings and is the winningest coach in the history of the Chiefs and Eagles.

Ravens coach John Harbaugh, a Reid disciple, also has a Hall of Fame-caliber resume. He's only had two losing seasons in 16 years with Baltimore and led it to one Super Bowl title.

BLONDIE



BEETLE BAILEY



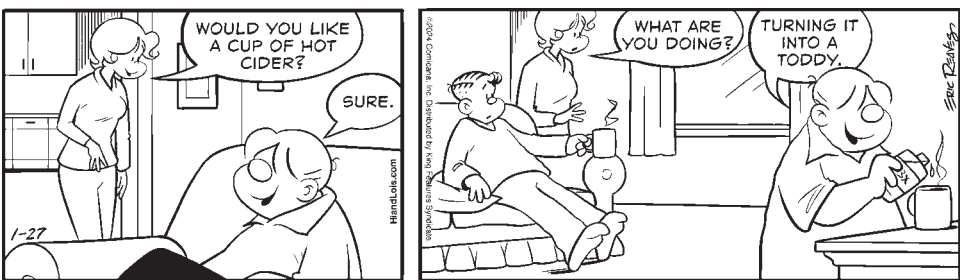
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ZITS



HI AND LOIS



PARDON MY PLANET



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



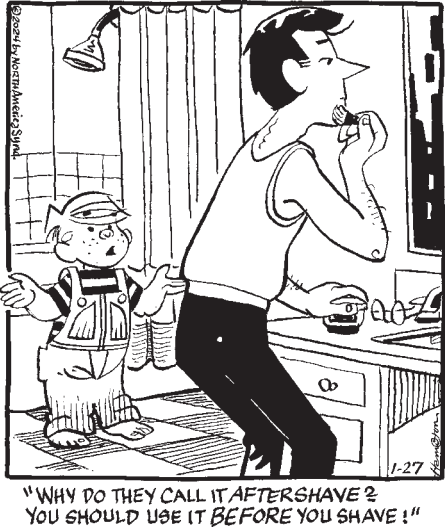
THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE



DUSTIN



DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 37 Viral concept
- 38 Tickles
- 39 Important times
- 40 Maroon

DOWN

- 1 Fire starter
- 2 Verdi creation
- 3 Stair part
- 4 Sentiment for an ailing friend
- 5 Good pair
- 6 Homer's neighbor
- 7 In the area
- 8 Shore flier
- 9 Changed
- 10 Stuck
- 16 Assertive
- 18 Conver- gence-based
- 20 Venom- ous snake
- 22 Persuade
- 23 Beach in a 1964 song
- 24 Panama, for one
- 25 Tahini base
- 28 Spiked clubs
- 30 Bring up
- 31 Ed of "Up"
- 32 Baker's need
- 34 Arrived
- 36 Young buck

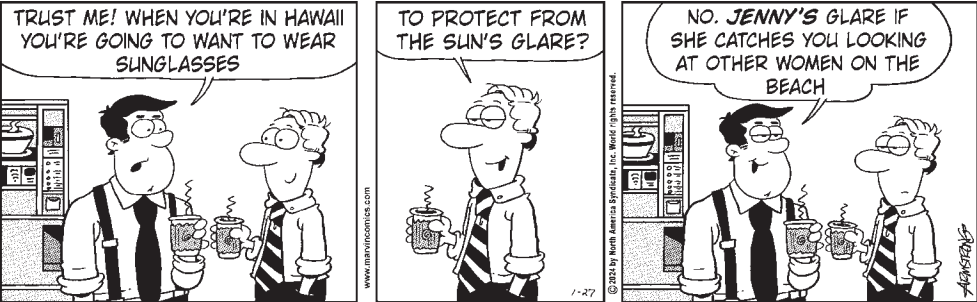
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Yesterday's answer

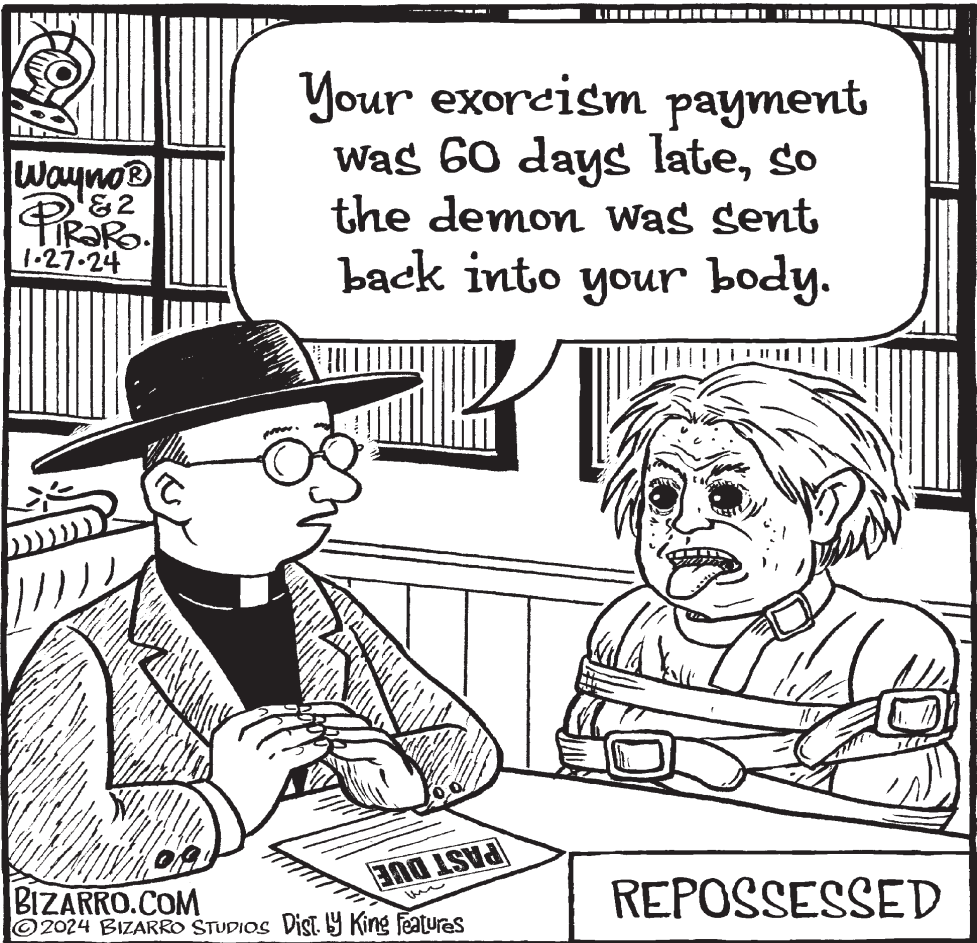
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1-27

MARVIN



BIZARRO



King Classic Sudoku

		3	6	7				
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7		5			9			
			9			8		
3		6			8			
4			3			2		1
		8			6		3	
	5					6	2	
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Difficulty: ★★★★★

1/27

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

1/26

Klopp

From Page A7

Klopp's status as a Liverpool icon is secure after returning the club to the summit of European soccer and ending its 30-year wait for an English league title in 2020.

His decision comes as a surprise considering his recently rebuilt team leads the league and has advanced to the English League Cup final where it will play Chelsea.

Liverpool is also still in contention for the FA Cup and Europa League after ending last season trophyless and failing to qualify for the Champions League.

Klopp described that campaign as "super difficult" and spoke of his determination to rebuild.

"For me it was super, super, super important that I can help to bring this team back onto the rails. It was all I was thinking about. When I realized pretty early that happened, it's a really good team with massive potential and a super age group, super characters and all that, then I could start thinking about myself again and that was the outcome."

Klopp had already built up a reputation as a proven winner before joining Liverpool by leading Borussia Dortmund to back-to-back Bundesliga titles in 2011 and 2012.

With Liverpool he's won seven trophies, and in 2022 was in contention for an unprecedented quadruple after winning the League Cup and FA Cup. His team missed out on the Premier League title on the final

day of the season and was beaten by Real Madrid in the final of the Champions League.

He is on the trophy hunt again and said he didn't want his announcement to distract from his targets.

"Let's now really go for it," he said. "The outside world want to use that — this decision — to laugh about it, blah, blah, blah. Want to disturb us. We are Liverpool.

"Let's make a strength of it. That would be cool. Let's squeeze everything out of this season and have another thing to smile about when we look back in the future."

Liverpool did not put a timeframe on recruiting a new manager and Klopp said he would play no part in identifying his successor.

"The last thing they need is advice from the old man walking out and telling them, 'By the way, make sure you take or bring him in' or whatever, and I will definitely not do that."

Former Liverpool player and current Bayer Leverkusen coach Xabi Alonso was quickly linked with the job.

"What Jurgen has done at Liverpool, I have great respect, great admiration for him . . . but my focus is here at Bayer Leverkusen," Alonso said.

Liverpool confirmed Klopp's assistant managers, Pepijn Lijnders and Peter Krawietz, and elite development coach Vitor Matos, will also leave at the end of the season.

It was also announced sporting director Jorg Schmadtke will depart at the end of the January transfer window.

Pacheco said earlier this week. "Getting better every day."

Gay, who has been dealing with a neck injury, could be crucial to slowing down Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson. He was the designated spy for Kansas City last weekend against Josh Allen, and once Gay had to leave the game, the Buffalo quarterback piled up a big chunk of his 72 yards rushing.

"Willie is a big part of our defense," Reid said. "I would not slight Drue (Tranquill) for the job he did coming in, but Willie is a good player. He's part of the success that we've had."

Edwards was back at practice Thursday after sustaining a concussion against the Bills, while Toney — who has been under intense scrutiny from dropped passes and mental mistakes all season — has been dealing with a hip injury.

Former WWE employee files sex abuse lawsuit against the company and Vince McMahon

By Pat Eaton-Robb
Associated Press

A former WWE employee filed a federal lawsuit Thursday accusing executive Vince McMahon and another former executive of serious sexual misconduct, including offering her to a star wrestler for sex.

The graphic 67-page suit from Janel Grant, who worked in the company's legal and talent departments, also includes allegations that McMahon, now 78, forced her into a sexual relationship in order for her to get and keep a job and passed around pornographic pictures and videos of her to other men, including other WWE employees.

McMahon stepped down as WWE's CEO in 2022 amid an investigation into allegations that match those in the lawsuit, which was filed in U.S. District Court in Connecticut, where WWE is based.

Grant also names as defendants in the lawsuit the WWE and John

Laurinaitis, the company's former head of talent relations and general manager.

The AP typically does not name accusers in sexual assault cases, but Grant's representatives said she wished to go public.

"Ms. Grant hopes that her lawsuit will prevent other women from being victimized," her attorney, Ann Callis, said in a statement. "The organization is well aware of Mr. McMahon's history of depraved behavior, and it's time that they take responsibility for the misconduct of its leadership."

WWE's parent company, TKO Group, issued a statement saying it is taking the allegations seriously.

"Mr. McMahon does not control TKO nor does he oversee the day-to-day operations of WWE," TKO Group said in a statement. "While this matter pre-dates our TKO executive team's tenure at the company, we take Ms. Grant's horrific allegations very seri-

ously and are addressing this matter internally."

Email and social media messages seeking comment were also left for McMahon and Laurinaitis.

According to the lawsuit, McMahon lived in the same building as Grant and in 2019 offered to get her a job at WWE after her parents died.

She alleges that he eventually made it clear that one of the requirements of the job was a physical relationship with him and later with Laurinaitis and others.

Over the next few years, McMahon lavished her with gifts including a luxury car, the suit says.

It also alleges that McMahon offered one of his star wrestlers — a person not named in the lawsuit — sex with Grant as a perk in 2021.

"WWE benefited financially from the commercial sex act venture orchestrated by McMahon, including by having wrestling talent, such as WWE Superstar, sign new contracts with WWE after McMahon

presented Plaintiff as a sexual commodity for their use," the lawsuit states.

Grant is seeking unspecified monetary damages and to have the court void a \$3 million nondisclosure agreement, of which she alleges she received only \$1 million.

McMahon was the leader and most recognizable face at WWE for decades. When he purchased what was then the World Wrestling Federation from his father in 1982, wrestling matches took place at small venues and appeared on local cable channels.

WWE matches are now held in professional sports stadiums, and the organization has a sizable overseas following.

WWE merged last April with the company that runs Ultimate Fighting Championship to create the \$21.4 billion sports entertainment company TKO Group Holdings, and McMahon serves as that group's executive chairman of the board.

Deebo Samuel cleared to play for 49ers in the NFC title game vs. Lions

By Josh Dubow
AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Deebo Samuel has been cleared to play in the the NFC championship game against the Detroit Lions on Sunday after leaving last week's game with a shoulder injury.

Samuel was a full participant in practice Friday and had no injury designation as San Francisco (13-5) heads into the the conference title game in good health.

"It's huge," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "A little scary at the beginning of the week. The fact that he was able to go full go today and no restrictions on him is definitely a good thing for us."

Detroit (14-5) will be without left guard Jonah Jackson, who injured his knee in last week's win over Tampa Bay but will have second-team All-Pro center Frank Ragnow available for the game.

Ragnow has been

slowed by injuries to his ankle, toe, knee and back and didn't practice until Friday but had no injury designation for the game.

"He's good," coach Dan Campbell said. "Frank's doing well. And Frank will be ready to go. I mean you're not going to hold him out of this one, and he gets better every day. So, he'll be ready."

The Lions also are expected to get edge rusher James Houston back for the first time since he hurt his ankle in Week 2. He was activated from injured reserve last week and is ready to play Sunday.

Samuel's status was the biggest question after he injured his left shoulder on San Francisco's opening drive last week against Green Bay.

He was initially checked for a concussion but was cleared to return. He tried to play through the shoulder injury, but was in too much pain and couldn't continue.

"At the time, it was feeling really bad," Samuel said. "I was kind of scared a little bit. I thought I had fractured it again. I was all over the place. In a big game like that, I had millions of emotions on the sideline to try to keep it together for my team."

Tests earlier in the week showed no break in the bone and Samuel was able to get back on the field for practice on a limited basis Thursday.

Shanahan said he had contingencies in the game plan in case Samuel couldn't play, but was confident once the tests came back Monday and the pain started to subside.

Samuel is a key part of one of the league's top offenses with his ability as receiver as well as a runner making the Niners difficult to defend.

He had a hairline fracture in his shoulder early in a game in Week 6 at Cleveland and missed the next two games. The Niners lost

all three of those games.

Samuel gained 1,117 yards from scrimmage with 12 TDs in the regular season. He had two catches for 24 yards on the opening drive last week before getting hurt.

"It's huge for us," quarterback Brock Purdy said of having Samuel healthy for Sunday. "Deebo's a game-changer. He's one of the best in the NFL at what he does. ... Obviously seeing him run around at practice and look good for us, it's like, 'All right. It's on.'"

The Lions also will be without receiver Kalif Raymond (knee). Cornerback Chase Lucas (illness) and third-string quarterback Hendon Hooker (tooth) are listed as questionable.

San Francisco linebacker Oren Burks is questionable after hurting his shoulder in practice Thursday and defensive lineman Kalia Davis is questionable with an ankle injury.

Guard

From Page A7

The Chiefs are hopeful that they will have running back Isiah Pacheco, linebacker Willie Gay Jr., safety Mike Edwards and wide receiver Kadarius Toney available, listing each of them as questionable to face the Ravens.

Pacheco, who led the Chiefs with nearly 1,000 yards rushing despite a shoulder injury that limited him to 14 regular-season games, looked spry in the portion of practice open to reporters Friday. He missed work earlier in the week with a toe injury, went through a walkthrough Thursday but appeared to be going full speed in the final practice before leaving for Baltimore.

"Just working with the training room, doing a great job in there,"

Michigan promotes OC Moore to replace Jim Harbaugh as head coach

By Larry Lage
Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Michigan hired Sherrone Moore on Friday to replace coach Jim Harbaugh, giving the 37-year-old offensive coordinator an opportunity to lead college football's winningest program.

The school made the move two days after Harbaugh bolted to lead the Los Angeles Chargers with a five-year deal that gives him another chance to chase a Super Bowl title.

Moore was 4-0, includ-

ing wins over Ohio State and Penn State, while filling in for Harbaugh as he served two separate suspensions for potential NCAA rules violations during the 2023 season.

"You've already got a glimpse of the shining star that he is," Harbaugh said before beating Washington for the national championship last month. "He's just phenomenal, so smart, works so hard at it."

Michigan's offensive line has been among the best in the country under Moore, helping the traditional

power restore its glory with a national title and three straight Big Ten championships.

Retaining Moore may help the Wolverines maintain some continuity in the post-Harbaugh area with many of his assistants staying on the staff.

Moore joined Harbaugh's staff in 2018 as tight ends coach on the recommendation of Dan Enos, who spent about six weeks after the 2017 season as a member of Harbaugh's staff before leaving to be an Alabama assistant.

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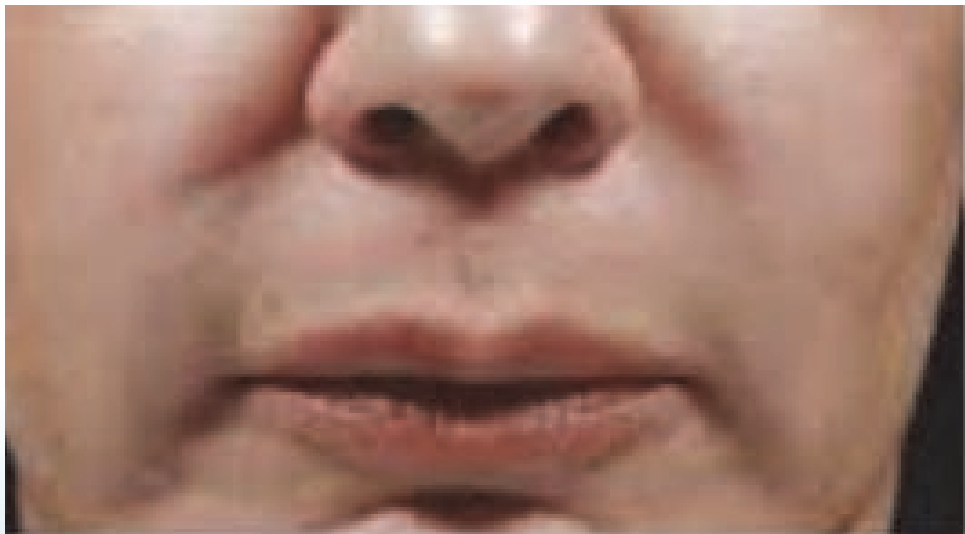
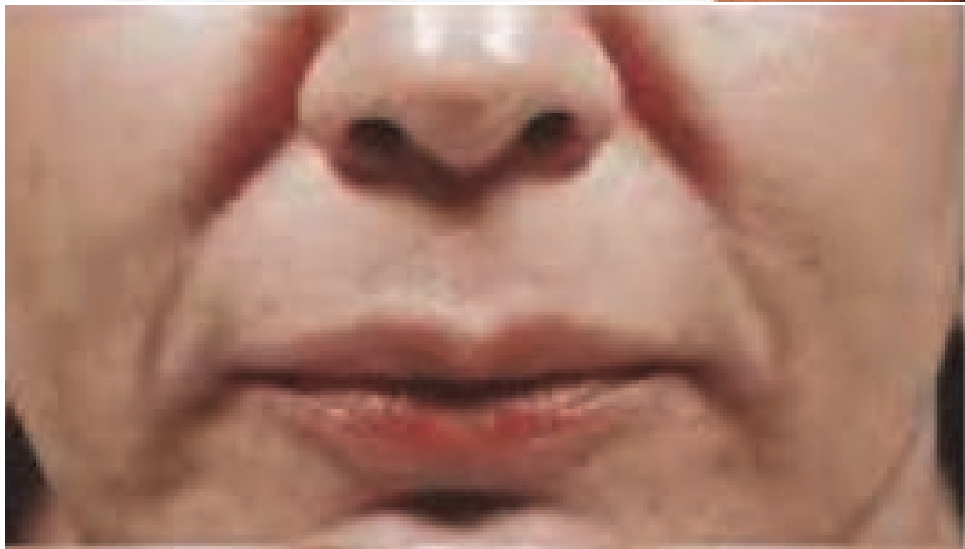
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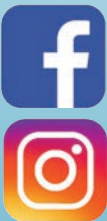
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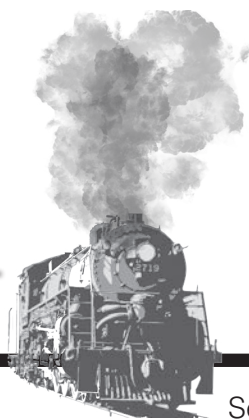
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Greta Gerwig, left, and Margot Robbie accept the award for best comedy for “Barbie” during the 29th Critics Choice Awards on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, at the Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, Calif. PHOTO BY CHRIS PIZZELLO | AP PHOTO

‘Barbie’ Oscars snubs prompt a backlash, even from Ken

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK — “Barbie” was the biggest hit of 2023, the highest-grossing movie ever directed by a woman and a bona fide cultural sensation that turned movie theaters pink and left a still-going trail of think pieces in the wake of Greta Gerwig’s feminist fantasia.

But while “Barbie” received eight Academy Awards nominations on Tuesday, including best picture, it was easily bested by its unlikely double-feature partner at the box office, “Oppenheimer.” And when the Academy Awards passed over Gerwig for best director and Margot Robbie for best actress, many saw some of the same patriarchy parodied in “Barbie” at work.

Even Ken was furious. “There is no Ken without Barbie, and there is no ‘Barbie’ movie without Greta Gerwig and Margot Robbie, the two people most responsible for this history-making, globally celebrated film,” Ryan Gosling said. “No recognition would be possible for anyone on the film without their talent, grit and genius. To say that I’m disappointed that they are not nominated in their respective categories would be an understatement.”

By Wednesday, the backlash had already passed into the political realm. Hillary Clinton, posting on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, wrote:

“Greta & Margot, While it can sting to win the box office but not take home the gold, your millions of fans love you. You’re both so much more than Kenough. #HillaryBarbie”

Clinton’s post sent the internet in a frenzy that, from afar, looked something like the beachfront warfare that breaks out in “Barbie.” The firestorm on the heels of nominations ensures that the runup to the March 10 Oscars — which had started to feel like a straightforward march to coronation for “Oppenheimer” and a handful of frontrunners — will have plenty of drama.

Jimmy Kimmel, who will host those awards, has already weighed in. On Tuesday night’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live,” he quipped that Gosling

being nominated for Ken while Robbie and Gerwig were snubbed “was kind of the plot of the ‘Barbie’ movie.”

If the summer phenomenon of Barbenheimer was defined by a strange counter-programming synergy that lifted both films up, the same dual effect didn’t quite transfer to the Academy Award nominations. The disparity was striking, in part, not just because of the strong support for “Barbie,” but because the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences has a long history of overlooking women behind the camera and female-led films.

Gerwig, herself, has already been in the middle of that history. When she was nominated for best director in 2018 for “Lady Bird,” she was just the fifth woman nominated in the category. At the time, only Kathryn Bigelow had previously won best director. Since then, both Chloé Zhao (“Nomadland”) and Jane Campion (“The Power of the Dog”) have.

At the same time, Gerwig has been uniquely celebrated by the academy. Her first three films as a solo director — “Lady Bird,” “Little Women” and “Barbie” — have all been nominated for best picture. On Tuesday, Gerwig and her husband, Noah Baumbach, with whom she co-wrote the film, were nominated for best adapted screenplay. (In another twist that didn’t delight “Barbie” fans, the academy deemed the script would be categorized as adapted.) Robbie, as a producer, shared in the best picture nomination.

Neither Gerwig nor Robbie has commented publicly yet on either the nominations the movie received or the ones they didn’t. Representatives for Gerwig and Robbie didn’t respond Wednesday to queries.

Meanwhile, debates raged about the nature of the “Barbie” snubs. Mary McNamara, the cultural columnist for The Los Angeles Times, wrote: “Did too many people (particularly women) enjoy ‘Barbie’ for it to be considered ‘important’ enough for academy voters? Did Robbie’s Barbie not suffer enough? Did Gerwig simply make it look too effortless? Was it just too pink?”

See **BARBIE** | B6



On the right, Cole Camp artist Neil Heimsoth and a workman hang one of his large-scale acrylic paintings at the German Table restaurant a few years back. The painting depicts Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany. On Friday, Jan. 26, Heimsoth, now 89, said he had created five large paintings for businesses in Cole Camp free of charge because he loves the small town and loves to paint. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIL HEIMSOOTH

For the love of art and community

Heimsoth creates paintings for Cole Camp

By Faith Bemiss-McKinney
faithb@sedaliademocrat.com

COLE CAMP — Long-time artist Neil Heimsoth, 89, has always loved the small community of Cole Camp, so much so that he has created large paintings over the last few years that grace several downtown businesses. Heimsoth created the works free of charge because he loves Cole Camp and because he loves to paint. ‘A great town’

On Friday, Jan. 26, Heimsoth, while sitting in the Handel Haus Tea Room, said he moved to Cole Camp in 1989 but had always loved the town from afar. He grew up in Stover and loved the arts from an early age. His large paintings can be viewed at Cole Camp’s Handle Haus, Wine, Women, and Song, Calgaro’s Pizza, and the German Table.

“This is a great town,” he noted. “I grew up in Stover, and all of my relatives lived over here. What I love about this town is that I joined the Chamber of Commerce,



The newest Neil Heimsoth oil painting is titled “Elegant Dining” and is a replica by French artist Jules Grun. It hangs at the Handel Haus Tea Room in Cole Camp, and the woman on the far left is painted to look like owner Judy Smasal. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIL HEIMSOOTH

and I had the feeling that if somebody would have said, ‘Hey, we ought to shut down Main Street every day at noon and have a mule show,’ they would have said, ‘that’s a great idea.’

“They were just so agreeable, so open,” he continued. “And we had a mayor, R.E. Harris, who challenged our Chamber. He said, ‘I want you people to come up with some kind of an event once a month — every month.’ And we worked hard at trying to do that.”

He added that in Cole Camp, there is “always something going on.”

“It became obvious to me that what people liked about this town was that

we did unusual things,” Heimsoth noted. “That’s what made us different than Stover, Lincoln and Warsaw. We were a little different. I decided anything I could do to help that was good for the community.”

Celebrating a renaissance

Another factor that made a difference in Cole Camp was the town’s 150th Anniversary celebration in 1989.

“There was a group of 46 people from a little town of Elsdorf, Germany, that came over here,” he said. “They stayed here for two weeks, and it was wonderful.”

The group inspired the residents of Cole Camp,

many of whom are of German heritage.

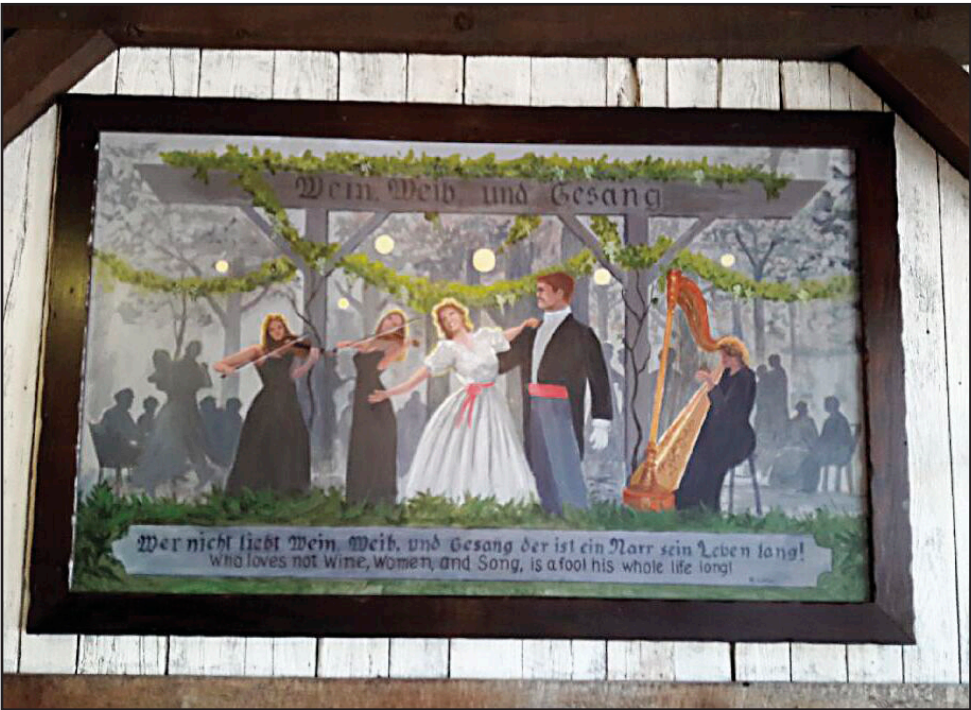
“We discovered that even though our Low German language, which we still speak, was 150 years old, we could communicate with those people,” he noted. “Their Low German had evolved, and they used a lot of High German.”

“And they thought it was wonderful that they heard us use words that they hadn’t heard in years,” he continued. “It was so good. People who used to be ashamed of the fact that they were German because of the Second World War, all of a sudden, these people were proud that they could speak the language — that was our big renaissance. All of that added to the fact of why I love this town.”

Art is in his blood

Over the years, Heimsoth not only painted but was responsible for many activities in Cole Camp, such as creating the Cole Camp German Choir and helping establish the Cole Camp German Immigrant Memorial. Living in Cole Camp also brought Heimsoth a wife, Marilyn Jagels, whom he married in 1992.

On Friday, while having lunch with Marilyn, Heimsoth reminisced about when his father would read the Cole Camp paper and remark, “Look what they’re doing in Cole Camp ...”



This large painting, “Wine, Women and Song,” by Neil Heimsoth, hangs in the Cole Camp Business of the same name, Wine, Women and Song. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIL HEIMSOOTH

See **ART** | B6



MCCLURE ANNIVERSARY

William C. and Susan A. McClure will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 9.

Susan Schmich and William McClure were married Feb. 9, 1974, at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Louis by the Rev. Leonard Pranschke.

The couple has four children, Sarah McClure (Mark) Gartin, of Joplin, Matthew (Jen) McClure, of Stoughton, Wisconsin, Stevens (Karen) McClure, of Fairway, Kansas, and Hannah McClure (Graham) Jenkins, of St. Louis; and four grandchildren.

Mr. McClure is a semi-retired cattle farmer. Mrs. McClure is retired. She worked as a FACS teacher at Smithton R-VI and Green Ridge R-VIII school districts and as a service coordinator at MPower Case Management in Sedalia.

There will be a celebration dinner for family and friends in July. The couple is also celebrating their 50th anniversary with Mrs. McClure's sister, Kathryn Schmich (Mike) Gelner, of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, who was married on Jan. 26, 1974, and cousin, Curtis (Kathy) Schmich, of St. Louis, who was married on Jan. 25, 1974.

BRL2GO SCHEDULE

Boonslick Regional Library Monday	Friday
No run.	9:30 a.m. to noon: Smithton City Park
Wednesday	1:30 to 3:45 p.m.: Pilot Grove Katy Park
No run.	

NEW BOOKS

Sedalia Public Library Fiction

“Random in Death,” by J.D. Robb (mystery).

“The Last Summer at Chelsea Beach,” by Pam Jenoff (historical fiction).

“Come & Get It,” by Kiley Reid (fiction).

“Dream Town,” by Lee Goldberg (mystery).

“The Parliament,” by Aimee Pokwatka (fantasy).

“Double Take,” by Lynette Eason (Christian fiction).

“The Missing Witness,” by Allison Brennan (suspense).

“The Fury,” by Alex Michaelides (suspense)

“The Friendship Club,” by Robyn Carr (fiction).

Nonfiction

“Mistress of Life and Death,” by Susan J. Eischeid.

DIVORCES

These people were recently granted divorces in Pettis County Circuit Court:

Derek A. Garrigus and Vanessa R. Garrigus;

Catherine M. Schneider and Troy D. Schneider;

Melissa M. Anstine and Dillon B. Anstine;

Brandon N. Bom and Erika T Bom;

Katy D. Franklin and Eric R. Franklin.

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CLUB NOTES

Grow and Glow Garden Club

The Grow and Glow Garden Club met on Tuesday, Jan. 23 at the Tipton Methodist Church for an informative and tasty program prepared for the group by Sofia Teegarden.

Teegarden, a Tipton resident, is formerly from Salamanca, Guanajuato, in Mexico, but has made her home in Missouri since marrying her husband, Chuck, in 1977. Sofia demonstrated to the group how to make tamales as she discussed food preparation native to her former country. The ladies got to taste tamales prepared in advance for the group and try their hand at making tamales by spreading the masa dough on prepared and soaked corn husks and sprinkling shredded roast beef before rolling them up. There were many questions for Sofia and all were in agreement that the tamales were delicious.

A brief business meeting was called to order by Linda Dahl, president. Roll call question was, “What are the easiest house plants to keep alive over winter?” Twelve members were present, with one guest. January birthdays were recognized: Nicki Kelley, Janet Mulcahy, and Kathy Coffman.

2024 officers were installed with these officers retaining their positions: President Linda Dahl, Co-Vice President Gay Nau, Co-Vice President Micki Williams, Treasurer Linda Reid, Historian Micki Williams, and Chaplain Cynthia Broderson. Nicki Kelley was installed as the new secretary of the club as JoAnn Collier stepped down after faithfully serving the club for 20 years in this position.

Dorothy Collett and Nancy Byars have agreed to be the club's representatives on Feb. 10 for the judging of the 2024 yearbooks.

Micki Williams and Verna Koechner will be auditing the club's books for 2023.

Gratitude was ex-



Members of the Grow and Glow Garden Club in Tipton learn to make tamales at a recent meeting.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROW AND GLOW GARDEN CLUB

pressed to JoAnn and Harold Collier and Pam Bishop for their involvement with the poetry contest. Linda and Jim Reid and Gay Nau were recognized for putting up and taking down the Christmas decorations for the club in the Tipton City Park. Gratitude was also expressed to Dorothy Collett for her work on the club's roadside park, particularly working around the Blue Star Memorial Marker, which landscaping and renovating in that area is the project for the 2024 year.

The 2024 Grow and Glow Garden Club books were passed out with thanks to Debbie Ellis-Harper for a fantastic job. Everyone loved the newly designed book.

Grow and Glow is hosting the hospital-ity room at the state meeting May 6-9. Linda Dahl is attending, and Kendra Johnson said she would help Linda host.

The next meeting will be at 10 a.m. Feb. 20, at the Fortuna Community Church, with Rose Pace demonstrating how to make her picturesque greeting cards. Kendra Johnson is responsible for the Price James Library floral design.

For questions or to join the club, call 660-433-2381.

Martin Warren



Janice Powers, Warrensburg Chapter, Missouri Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and Mike Powers, President of the Martin Warren Chapter MOSSAR.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTIN WARREN CHAPTER, MOSSAR

Chapter, MOSSAR

Janice Powers, a rural Warrensburg resident, was presented with the Lydia Darragh Medal at the Martin Warren Chapter, Missouri Society, Sons of the American Revolution (MOSSAR) meeting on Jan. 20.

Authorized by the SAR in 2013, the medal recognizes the assistance of the ladies who work behind the scenes supporting SAR programs. The Lydia Darragh Medal is named in honor of Lydia Barrington Darragh, who crossed British lines in 1777 during the British occupation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to deliver information to Gen. George Washington. That information allowed Washington to bring the Continental Army to arms. The British Army found the Continental Army ready

to repel their troops and they were forced to return to Philadelphia. Lydia Darragh is credited with saving Washington's Army.

As did Lydia Darragh, many ladies have had to courageously adapt to various circumstances to work side by side with Chapter Presidents. A lady may receive this medal only once from a chapter.

The Martin Warren Chapter meets at 10:30 a.m. at the RISE Café in Warrensburg on the third Saturday of the month, except in December on the second Saturday. The Chapter does not meet in February, July, and August. Those interested in becoming a member of the NSSAR may contact the Chapter Genealogist, Mark Parks, at mark.e.parks@gmail.com.

POPULAR BOOKS

Boonslick Regional Library Fiction

“Sanctuary of the Shadow,” by Aurora Ascher.

“Anna O,” by Matthew Blake.

“The Storm We Made,” by Vanessa Chan.

“One in a Million,” by Janet Dailey.

“The Heiress,” by Rachel Hawkins.

“The Fury,” by Michaelides, Alex.

“The American Queen,” by Vanessa Miller.

“Hero,” by Thomas Perry.

“Last Acts,” Alexander Sammartino.

“The City of Stardust,” by Georgia Summers.

Nonfiction

“Disillusioned: Five Families and the Unraveling of America's Suburbs,” by Benjamin Herold.

“Madness: Race and Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum,” by Antonia

Hylton.

“One in a Millennial: On Friendship, Feelings, Fangirls, and Fitting In,” by Kate Kennedy.

“Tightwads and Spendthrifts: Navigating the Money Minefield in Real Relationships,” by Scott Rick.

“The Holocaust: An Unfinished History,” by Dan Stone.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is a nonprofit organization that delivers meals to seniors, the homebound and handicapped citizens of Sedalia. The food is prepared by Superior Vendall and is delivered by volunteers. Meals cost \$4. For more information on receiving meals or becoming a

volunteer, call 660-826-5039.

Meals will be delivered by the Sedalia Harley Owners Group.

Monday: Goulash, green beans, bananas and milk.

Tuesday: Chicken tenders, macaroni and cheese, peas, cookie

and milk.

Wednesday: Ham and cheese on bun, coleslaw, peaches and milk.

Thursday: Chicken pot pie, beets, pudding and milk.

Friday: Country fried steak, corn, potatoes and gravy, pears and milk.

Community Calendar

JANUARY

To have your event or meeting listed, send details to faithb@sedaliademocrat.com or call 660-826-1000 ext. 1481.

SUNDAY

Noon and 7 p.m.: Alcoholics Anonymous 12x12 Non-smoking group, Sunday through Saturday, at 417 E. Pettis St., 660-310-9922, sedalia12x12aa@gmail.com.

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

7 p.m.: Narcotics Anonymous Because We Care and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave. For more information, call 660-221-2221.

MONDAY

8 a.m.: Courthouse Prayer Group meets on the lawn of the Pettis County Courthouse, Monday through Friday. During the winter months, the group

meets at Panera.

10 a.m.: Show-Me Mad Tatters, University Extension Office Conference Room, 1012A Thompson Blvd.

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

Noon: Sedalia Rotary Club, Best Western State Fair Inn, 3120 S. Limit Ave.

1:45 p.m.: TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 0102 Sedalia meets at the Boonslick Regional Library, 219 W. Third St., in the lower level meeting room. All are welcome to attend. The first meeting is always free. Call 660-525-4142.

6 p.m.: Cornerstone Celebrate Recovery. A Bible-based 12-step program for Hurts, Habits and Hangups; Cornerstone Baptist Church, 660-827-4833.

6 p.m.: Smithton Senior Citizens Group Pitch and Pool, Smithton Senior Center on Washington Street.

6:30 p.m.: Show Me Sound, Sweet Adelines International, rehearsals at Wesley United Methodist Church basement, 1322 W. Broadway Blvd. All women who like to sing are welcome. For more information, call 660-851-2205.

7 p.m.: Al Anon, at 417 W. Pettis. For more information, call 660-473-0855.

7 p.m.: Sedalia Chorale Rehearsal, rehearsal room 67 in the Stauffacher Center at State Fair Community College.

TUESDAY

8 a.m.: Central MO Business Builders (BNI), at Heckart Family Center, 903 S. Ohio Ave.

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

Noon: Sedalia Optimist Club, in Room C at the Heckart Community Center, 1800 W. Third St.

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Birthright Pregnancy Center, 1810 W. 11th St., Tuesday through Friday; and other hours by appointment. The office number is 660-826-9060.

6 p.m.: NarAnon meet-

ings at LifePointe Church, 2921 W. Broadway Blvd.

6 p.m.: Sedalia Runners Club-Track at Smith-Cotton Track.

7 p.m.: OIC Studios will present the SpoFest writing prompt/open mic event streaming live via Zoom, Facebook and OIC Radio. Signup and event guidelines at www.oicstudios.com/spofest-online.

WEDNESDAY

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

Noon: Sedalia Lions Club, Heckart Community Center, 1800 W. Third St.

5:30 p.m.: Amigos de Cristo, Teen Mom Classes at 3003 W. 11th St., 660-826-2788.

THURSDAY

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

Noon: Kiwanis of Sedalia, at Lamy's, 108 Pacific St.

1 p.m.: Sedalia Duplicate Bridge Club at First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave.

6 p.m.: Old Drum Open Mic at Java Junction, 112 N. Holden St., downtown Warrensburg.

6 p.m.: Sedalia Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group, First Christian Church Disciples of Christ, 200 S. Limit Ave. For more information, call 660-287-6930 or 660-851-0668.

6 p.m.: Women in Crisis Group, call 660-827-5555 for location.

6:30 p.m.: Sedalia Business Women, Sedalia Shrine Club, 1375 Elm Hills Blvd. For more information, visit www.sedaliabwm.org.

7 p.m.: Sedalia Bible Academy, Boonslick Regional Library, 219 W. Third St., Sedalia. For more information, call 660-826-9988. It is free and open to the public.

7 p.m.: Smith-Cotton Choral Society, vocal music room at Smith-Cotton High School.

FRIDAY

11 a.m.: Stroke Survivors Support Group, Bothwell Education Center, 600 E. 14th St.

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pet-

tis St. Call 660-827-1613.

Noon: Pettis County Pachyderms, Room C at the Heckart Community Center.

SATURDAY

7 a.m.: Sedalia Runners Club-Group Run every Saturday at Clarendon Road and Katy Trail.

7 to 10 a.m.: Shrine Breakfast, Sedalia Shrine Club, 1615 Elm Hills Blvd. Cost is \$10.

8:30 a.m.: SPARK (Sedalia/Pettis Amateur Radio Club) Repeater Club at EMA Building, 1511 N. Ohio Ave.

11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.

1 to 4 p.m.: The Pettis County Museum and Historical Society is free and open for guests, 228 Dundee.

5 to 8 p.m.: Family Night at the Cole Camp Library. Tabletop Gaming, VR games and experiences, family escape room games and full access to the library after hours. Light refreshments will be provided. Call 660-668-3887 for reservations.

Billy Idol talks upcoming pre-Super Bowl show, working on new album

By Jonathan Landrum Jr.
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Billy Idol normally takes advantage of riding his motorcycle on the open road knowing there's hardly any traffic because millions are usually glued to watching the Super Bowl.

But this year, Idol's bike won't be leaving his garage on game day. Instead, the legendary British rocker will be strolling on stage to headline a pre-game concert in Las Vegas ahead of the big game on Feb. 11 just outside Allegiant Stadium, where the NFL's two best teams face off.

Idol, 68, is expected to perform some of his biggest hits including "Dancing with Myself" "Mony Mony" and "Rebel Yell" during a 35-minute set on two different stages at On Location's Club 67 and Touchdown Club in front of nearly 9,000 anticipated guests. It's the second time the singer has taken part in a pre-Super Bowl show after he rocked out with Miley Cyrus three

years ago outside Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida.

In a recent interview, Idol exclusively chatted with The Associated Press about his Super Bowl halftime aspirations, the inspiration behind his Hoover Dam show, if he would ever consider doing Broadway and looking to soon release his first studio album in a decade.

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: What will be your mentality heading into your show hours before the Super Bowl?

IDOL: It's about adding excitement to the event.

You're pumping people up. That's a fun feeling. You can tell the people are excited, what's going to happen and you're entertaining them in those moments before it really happens.

AP: Would you ever want to perform during Super Bowl halftime?

IDOL: That would be incredible. But I don't know. It would be fantastic, but I can't imagine me being asked

to do it. It would be great. I'd love to do it. It would be amazing if it involved some other artists or a combination of people. That would be great. It would be one of the craziest things in the world to play. Everybody in the country watches it. Playing the pregame for me is good. Pumping people up before it and getting them ready is kind of a fun thought.

AP: You celebrated the 40th anniversary of your album "Rebel Yell" and had a five-night residency in Las Vegas last year. How does it feel to have your music still resonating today?

IDOL: When we were starting out, I couldn't have imagined the effect of (our) music. We were living one day at a time. The songs were for that time period. They were just for that moment. You weren't thinking about any long-term effects. You're just thinking right now. But the songs have legs. It's like "Wow, people have really embraced this crazy idea I had years ago." They're still enjoying it, and I am too.

Who would have thought that 40 years later? I'm still pinching myself.

AP: You released a couple EPs and recently rereleased "Rebel Yell." Will you drop any new music soon?

IDOL: We have a new album coming out in October this year. We're still carrying on and enlarging what my music is about. I enjoy doing it. Me and (guitarist) Steve (Stevens) are still finding ways to excite ourselves. We're not out there going through the motions. We're actually out there taking prisoners. That's how we feel.

AP: How far along are you in the process?

IDOL: We've got most of it recorded with just some finishing touches. We're doing a cover. We're thinking about videos and all the promotional things that go along with it. There's a lot of stuff we're going to be thinking about this year. But playing at the Super Bowl, that's pretty fantastic.

AP: You have a built-in fanbase. With your new album, have you taken a

different approach musically with your upcoming project compared to past works?

IDOL: Not really. We're bouncing off our last album "Kings & Queens of the Underground." We did that in England and had strings on it. With this, we tried to make a lot more of an up-tempo album. There are nine songs and six of them are up-tempo. Three of them are kind of slower. It's more of a youthful sounding record. I think it'll allow our audience to have a lot of fun.

AP: What inspired you to perform at Hoover Dam?

IDOL: It was something like I would see in movies when I was a child. There was an Alfred Hitchcock movie ("Saboteur") that referenced Hoover Dam. There was another film "711 Ocean Drive" that ended on the Hoover Dam. You know, it had a shootout. For someone like me, growing up in England, I saw this iconic place in movies then I got to play in front of it. Hoover Dam was right behind me

with my logo on it, which was insane.

AP: Are there any other locations like Hoover Dam where you would like to perform?

IDOL: Mount Rushmore. I couldn't have ever imagined Hoover Dam, so now the world is my oyster. There's the incredible Crazy Horse statue that's carved out in the Black Hills. We can play anywhere. Nothing can stop us.

AP: Have you ever thought about doing Broadway?

IDOL: Of course, we have. We haven't quite worked out our direction. We've had several different ideas we've sort of fielded. Nothing has come to fruition yet. As you can see, they're doing Prince's "Purple Rain" on Broadway, so it's not out of the question that we would do one. It's just been sort of trying to work out how to do it. That's what's fun about having a catalog. It does resonate with a lot of people and there are possibilities like that in the future.

Documentary's nomination comes as bombs fall on filmmaker's hometown

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK — "20 Days in Mariupol," Mstyslav Chernov's harrowing chronicle of the besieged Ukrainian city and the international journalists who remained there after Russia's invasion, has been nominated for best documentary at the Academy Awards, handing The Associated Press its first Oscar nomination in the 178-year-old news organization's history.

The film, a co-production between the AP and PBS "Frontline," was shot during the first three weeks of the war in Ukraine, in early 2022. Chernov, a Ukrainian journalist and filmmaker, arrived in Mariupol one hour before Russia began bombarding the port city. With him were photographer Evgeniy Maloletka and field producer Vasilisa Stepanenko.

The images and stories they captured — the death of a 4-year-old girl, freshly dug mass graves, the bombing of a maternity hospital — unflinchingly documented the grim,

relentless realities of the unfolding siege.

"It is a bittersweet feeling because we know this film represents a huge tragedy for humanity, for Ukrainians it's a huge loss of lives," Chernov said in an interview. "All we can do is try to make sure this tragedy is not going to be forgotten. Every single nomination, every single prize, every single recognition for this film means that we are able to tell this story to more people, to make sure it's not going to be forgotten."

Chernov spoke Tuesday after arriving in Paris for a screening of "20 Days in Mariupol." On the same day where he could celebrate the film's Oscar nomination, he learned that his hometown of Kharkiv in northeastern Ukraine had been bombed earlier in the day by Russian forces. The missile attacks killed six people and injured 57, including eight children, the United Nations said. The bombings also damaged about 30 residential buildings.

That news weighed heavily on Chernov.

"My hometown got

bombarded," he said. "I keep seeing the images of what's in the film and what is happening right now in Ukraine — not only in Kharkiv but also Kyiv and other cities — and they are the same images. The same things are happening over and over."

"Every day, a city somewhere in Ukraine suffers a fate that is very similar to what happened to Mariupol," added Chernov. "Throughout the two years this film has journeyed, it became a symbol of more than just Mariupol. It became a symbol of every Ukrainian city that got destroyed and wiped out by Russian bombs."

More than 10,000 civilians have been killed and nearly 20,000 injured since Russia's full-scale invasion began, the U.N. said.

The work of Chernov, Maloletka, Stepanenko and Lori Hinnant last year won the Pulitzer Prize for public service and featured prominently in a Pulitzer for breaking news photography. Since the Sundance Film Festival premiere of "20 Days in Mariupol" a year ago, Chernov's film

— now available to watch for free in North America on YouTube, PBS and other streaming services — has been hailed as one of the most important nonfiction films of the year. It's also been nominated by the BAFTAs, the Producers Guild and the Directors Guild for best documentary, and the Academy also shortlisted it for best international film.

Meanwhile, the war in Ukraine is nearing the two-year mark. Fighting through the winter is mired along a 1,500-kilometer (930-mile) front line. In recent months, Russian aerial attacks have sharply increased civilian casualties.

The war in Ukraine and other conflicts, including the war between Israel and Hamas, have been particularly dangerous for journalists. In December, the International Federation of Journalists said 94 journalists were killed around the world in 2023 and almost 400 were imprisoned.

In "20 Days in Mariupol," Chernov, Maloletka and Stepanenko are challenged not just by the ar-

tillery shells falling around them but by the Russian blockade of the city. Water, food supplies and, critically, the internet were cut from Mariupol days into the invasion. The journalists had to search for places to file their dispatches from, sending minutes of their hours of footage.

"Despite extremely challenging and deeply personal circumstances, AP's Mariupol team offered the world an essential window into the Russia-Ukraine war as it was beginning to unfold," AP Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Julie Pace said in a statement. "That the academy has chosen to recognize '20 Days in Mariupol' is a testament to the power of eyewitness journalism and the bravery of the journal-

ists on the ground."

The other nominees for documentary feature are: "Four Daughters," "Bobi Wine: The People's President," "The Eternal Memory" and "To Kill a Tiger."

As documentary filmmaking has proliferated in recent years, news organizations have played prominent roles in Oscar-nominated documentaries. Last year, CNN Films won its first Oscar for the Alexei Navalny documentary "Navalny." In 2022, the New York Times took its first Academy Award for the documentary short "The Queen of Basketball." Last year, four New Yorker shorts received four Oscar nominations.

The 96th Oscars are on March 10.



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Art

From Page B1

“I grew up thinking that this place was really something,” he said with a bright chuckle.

After spending time in the U.S. Navy, Heimsoth attended Drury College in Springfield, majoring in art. Art was already in his blood, and he followed its path. Heimsoth had two cousins in Cole Camp who were painters, and he remembers walking into their home and smelling turpentine used for oil painting.

“There was one easel set up in the bedroom

and another one in the living room with big paintings on them,” he said. “These guys painted all the time.”

Another cousin from Cole Camp, Neva Weymuth, was an illustrator and influenced Heimsoth’s work. His artistic roots also run internationally.

“My mother’s mother was from Austria,” he noted. “Marilyn and I found my relatives when we went over there, and guess what? My cousin was an artist. Mom always said, ‘That’s where you get your art from, Austria.’”

Heimsoth, who had a career as an illustrator

and map maker with the Mark Twain National Forest and worked for a time as a watercolorist at Silver Dollar City, has no plans to paint large right now. However, he said he has been painting at his home instead of his studio.

He added Cole Camp “is just a wonderful place to live.”

“I always felt obligated to do anything I could to help with that image,” he added. “That’s the main reason for these big paintings ... it’s something different and unusual.”

Faith Bemiss-McKinney can be reached at 660-530-0289.



An acrylic painting depicting Venice sits on an easel in Neil Heimsoth's studio in Cole Camp. The completed painting now hangs in Calgaro's Pizza on Maple Street in Cole Camp. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIL HEIMSOOTH

Barbie

From Page B1

Sexism might have played a role. Yet Justine Triet, the filmmaker of the Palme d'Or-winning French courtroom drama “Anatomy of the Fall,” was among the nominees for best director, along with Christopher Nolan (“Oppenheimer”), Martin Scorsese (“Killers of the Flower Moon”), Jonathan Glazer (“The Zone of Interest”) and Yorgos Lanthimos (“Poor Things”). That left two Directors Guilds nominees — Gerwig and Alexander Payne (“The Holdovers”) — on the outside.

One likely factor: the increasingly international composition of the film academy. Partly to expand the diversity of

Oscar voters, the academy is spread around the world more than ever; ballots were filed from a record 93 countries this year. Potentially, that may have favored Europe-based filmmakers like Triet, Lanthimos and Glazer.

The academy could also point to another record: For the first time, three movies directed by women were nominated for best picture: Gerwig’s “Barbie,” Triet’s “Anatomy of a Fall” and Celine Song’s “Past Lives.”

Still, the end result — with the creative brains and star of the year’s most-talked about movie left out — just felt wrong to many.

“Greta Gerwig: Made a critically acclaimed, culturally profound, feminist movie about Barbie and the patriar-

chy that made a billion dollars at the box office,” activist Shannon Watts tweeted. “Oscar nomination goes to ... Ken.”

Sometimes, a glaring snub can boomerang a flagging awards campaign. After Ben Affleck went un-nominated for directing 2012’s “Argo,” voters rallied around his movie, ultimately handing Affleck the Oscar for best picture. Whether the same effect could follow “Barbie” will be one of the biggest questions leading up the Academy Awards.

On Wednesday, Billie Jean King, who fought for and won equal pay for women in tennis, posted that she was “really upset” about the snubs.

“The movie is absolutely brilliant,” wrote King, “and Greta Gerwig is a genius.”



Artist Neil Heimsoth works on a painting of a street scene from Rothenburg ob der Tauber, from the Franconia region of Bavaria, Germany. The completed painting now hangs at the German Table restaurant in Cole Camp. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIL HEIMSOOTH

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Sedalia, MO 65301

Phone: 660-826-2222
Fax: 660-826-2223
www.sedaliachamber.com

COVER PHOTO BY RANDY KIRBY

2024 Chamber Board



Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce

600 E. Third St., Sedalia, MO 65301
Phone: 660-826-2222 | www.sedaliachamber.com

A warm word of welcome to the Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce! My name is Katie Shannon and I am thrilled to be your Chamber President. Our Chamber consists of a masterful community, enriched with hardworking, energetic, and passionate people whose common goal is to work together to create limitless expectations for the betterment of the place we know and love.

We are a family here at the Sedalia Chamber of Commerce. When you become a member of the Chamber, you have now entered into our Chamber family. A family that is willing to do whatever it takes to help you succeed, and we have a grand time doing it! So what are you waiting for? Let us help you become a Sedalia Chamber of Commerce member today!

Katie Shannon
Chamber President

Chamber Staff



Katie Shannon
Chamber President



Debra Andresen
Executive Director
debra@sedaliachamber.com



Chloe Stebbins
Office Manager
chloe@sedaliachamber.com



Khloe Shelledy
Administrative Assistant
kshelledy@sedaliachamber.com

Important Numbers

Better Business Bureau of Greater Kansas City	816-421-7800
City of Sedalia	660-827-3000
Economic Development Sedalia-Pettis County.....	660-827-0884
U.S. Postal Service	660-826-8887
Pettis County Courthouse.....	660-826-5000
Voter Registration	660-826-5000 ext. 918
Social Security Administration	1-877-405-5459
License Bureau	660-826-3316

Utilities

Evergy	888-471-5275
AT&T.....	800-288-2020
Central Missouri Electric Co-op.....	660-826-2900
Spectrum.....	877-463-0677
Liberty Utilities.....	1-800-424-0427
I-Land Internet	800-526-8302
Socket Internet.....	800-762-5383
Sedalia Water Department	660-826-1234
Sedalia Trash Pickup.....	660-827-7820

Transportation

Amtrak	800-872-7245
City Bus.....	660-827-2611
OATS	660-827-2611
Sedalia Regional Airport	660-826-4128

Emergency Numbers

Emergencies.....	911
American Red Cross	573-635-1132
Bothwell Regional Health Center	660-826-8833
Emergency Management Agency.....	660-827-4800
Sedalia Fire Department	660-826-8044
Sedalia Police Department Missouri State	660-826-8100
Highway Patrol	1-800-525-5555 or *55
Pettis County Fire Department	660-826-9058
Pettis County Sheriff’s Office.....	660-827-0052
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Road Conditions.....	1-800-222-6400



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The Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce is an independent, membership-funded organization and is proud to be a leader in community development. We bring the best minds within the community together to touch virtually every aspect of our businesses and community life. Our program of work involves small business assistance, community strategic planning, military affairs, and the promotion of Sedalia as a retail hub in the region.

Looking to the future, the Chamber is playing a large role in the development of future leaders in our community. One leadership opportunity we offer is Lead Sedalia. Lead Sedalia classes have more than 300 alumni and many are very active in the community. Another leadership opportunity we offer is Sedalia Chamber Emerging Leaders, founded in 2014. Sedalia Chamber Emerging Leaders looks forward to a bright future as they bring together the best of social networking, volunteering and professional development to showcase upcoming talent.

Ambassadors

Our strong group of Chamber ambassadors meets monthly, recruits new businesses, encourages growth in Chamber activities, and is instrumental in ribbon cutting ceremonies and other events.

Business Development

We provide a forum for businesses to join together in dealing with common issues affecting the profitability of local retail and service businesses, supporting small business startups and expansions.

Community Development

We strengthen the community by providing a representative voice for the business community relative to health and wellness, education, economic development, social services, arts, and recreation issues.

Lead Sedalia

We offer a Lead Sedalia program, formerly known as Leadership Sedalia, to bring together a diverse representation of current and emerging leaders and local business professionals to build techniques, increase community awareness and encourage community involvement.

Military Affairs

The committee supports Whiteman Air Force Base with efforts to support airmen and their families and improve their quality of life. We accomplish this through engagement on base and in the Sedalia community. The community support is accomplished through the help of volunteers and financial support from our Chamber members.

Member Services

We support the individual vitality of our members by providing membership benefits through programs, products and services designed to promote business growth and economic prosperity.

Emerging Leaders of the Sedalia Chamber

This group of leaders offers professional development, community involvement, networking and social activities. For more information, visit facebook.com/Sedalia-ChamberEmergingLeaders.



2024 Chamber Events

Chamber Breakfast:

We have a monthly sponsor and a marketing minute sponsor. Don't forget to bring your business cards! It is hosted at 7:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month at LifePointe Church, 2921 W. Broadway Blvd., and is \$10 per person.

Chamber Annual Awards Banquet:

It is the social event of the year for the Chamber, recognizing our businesses and volunteers. It will be at 6 p.m. March 21, 2024, at The Venue, 219 S. Ohio Ave.

Whiteman Wreath Laying Ceremony:

The community-wide ceremony to remember the sacrifice one young lieutenant made will be at 11 a.m. May 18, 2024, at Memorial Park Cemetery, 3306 Greenridge Road.

Hot Air Balloon & Kite Festival:

Join us in our second annual Hot Air Balloon & Kite Festival on June 7-9, 2024. It will be hosted on the Missouri State Fairgrounds at Gate 9.

Event times:

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, and 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Sunday. This will be a free family event with the help of our wonderful community and local businesses.

Piccadilly Gala:

The Piccadilly Gala is a fun evening out for ladies with a Piccadilly auction. This year's event is from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 26, 2024, at the Foundry 324, 324 W. Second St.

Christmas Parade:

The community-wide Chamber Christmas Parade is hosted on the first Saturday in December in downtown Sedalia. This year's event is at 6 p.m. Dec. 7, 2024.

For additional information, visit www.sedaliachamber.com or call the Chamber at 660-826-2222.



Historic *Sedalia*

By Dr. Becky Imhauser

When George R. Smith borrowed money to buy 337

acres of treeless prairie in 1856, his neighbors questioned his sanity. They wondered why he would leave the then-Pettis County seat of Georgetown to start a new town. Smith was convinced his prairie land held the promise of becoming a railroad terminus, an asset he had been unable to secure for Georgetown.

Smith named his new town Sedville after his youngest daughter, Sarah, or “Sed,” because he had named a boat for his other daughter. Shortly after founding Sedville, Smith visited a St. Louis friend who expressed interest in the city but dismay at its name. The friend suggested the suffix “alia” in keeping with larger cities such as Philadelphia.



Aerial of downtown featuring Trust Building.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. BECKY IMHAUSER

Smith persuaded the Pacific Railroad to locate a depot on his land in 1859. His image — and that of the new town — then began to change. The Missouri-Kansas & Texas (MK&T, or Katy) and Pacific (later Missouri Pacific) railroads established shops that sustained the town for nearly a century. Sedalia was also a railhead for cattle drives and host to flourishing stockyards.

By the end of the late 19th century, towering brick buildings had replaced the city’s decrepit wooden structures. Sedalia’s downtown district was a center of commerce and culture. The town experienced phenomenal growth through the early part of the 20th century, largely due to railroad expansion. Then came the Depression. Life magazine declared Sedalia as the city second-hardest hit by the



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Section of Victorian Towers Historic District.

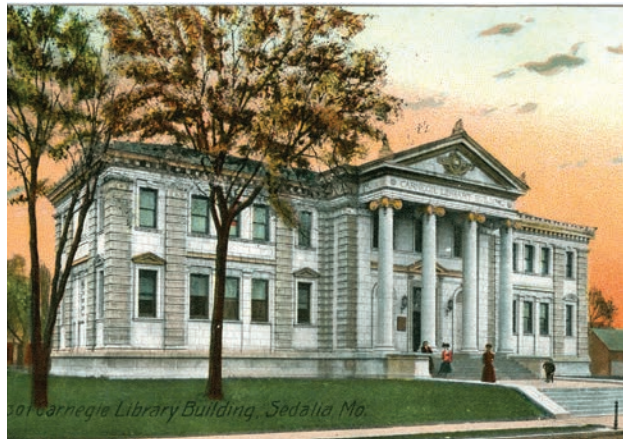
Great Depression in the entire United States.

Despite their hardship, Sedalians were united in their quest for better times. World War II continued to bring the city together through bond drives and support for soldiers stationed at the nearby Sedalia Army Air Field (now Whiteman Air Force Base) in Knob Noster.

The postwar prosperity of the 1940s and 1950s brought new life to Sedalia. Houses could not be erected quickly enough to meet the demand. Manufacturing and industry sprang up, setting the stage for future industrial development.

Today, nearly 165 years after its founding, Sedalia continues to offer economic and employment opportunities. Its early emphasis on education, health care, the arts, and entertainment is evidenced by modern facilities that support these community pillars.

Sedalia's rich history is due to its people — visionaries who saw its potential. Sedalia's Chamber of Commerce provides support for modern visionaries to write new chapters of their personal and community history.



The Sedalia Public Library's historic Carnegie building.



A view of Ohio Avenue looking north

Whiteman AIR FORCE BASE

By 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Whiteman Air Force Base is located 21 miles from the city of Sedalia in central Missouri. Over the base's history, the mission has transitioned numerous times.

In 1942, Sedalia Army Air Field was home to the 12th Troop Carrier Command, serving as a training site for glider tactics and paratroopers.

However, after the end of World War II, the base closed.

The base's latest name change came about in 1955 when it was renamed Whiteman Air Force Base in honor of 2nd Lt. George A. Whiteman. Whiteman, a Sedalia native, is thought to be one of the first American airmen killed during World War II. As the sun rose over Oahu, Hawaii, on the morning of Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Lt. Whiteman got to his P-40B aircraft at Bellows Field and had just lifted off the runway when a burst of enemy gunfire hit his cockpit, wounding him and throwing the plane out of control. The plane crashed just off the end of the runway.

The news of Lt. Whiteman's death

reached his family at 10:13 p.m. Dec. 7. In an interview with the Sedalia Democrat that evening, his mother, Earlie Whiteman, said, "It's hard to believe. It might have happened anytime, anywhere. We've got to sacrifice loved ones if we want to win this war." She gave the reporter a photograph of her son sitting in an aircraft with the inscription "Lucky, lucky me." For his gallantry that day, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, the American Defense Medal with a Foreign Service clasp, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze star, and the World War II Victory Medal.

The installation's connection to Sedalia goes deeper than just a name. Our connection to the city spans years, invaluable support and, above all, a partnership that has lasted through many changes. Today, the base is home to the 509th Bomb Wing and the Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Bomb Wing and their mission of maintaining and operating the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber. It is also home to the Air Force Reserve Command, 442d Fighter Wing and 1-135 Assault Helicopter Battalion.

The B-2 mission launched Dec. 17, 1993,


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when the Spirit of Missouri first touched down on our runway. Not only did the date mark the 90th anniversary of the first powered flight by the Wright Brothers, but it also fell on the 49th anniversary of the original activation of the 509th Composite Group. As more B-2s arrived at Whiteman, the 509th Bomb Wing continued to pioneer the operation of one of the world's most advanced aircraft.

On Feb. 1, 2010, the bomb wing officially transferred from Air Combat Command to the Air Force's newest major command focused on the nation's nuclear enterprise, Air Force Global Strike Command.

Some significant firsts associated with the B-2 include:

- The first operational delivery of munitions by the Spirit of California on Sept. 23, 1994.
- First B-2 appearance at a Red Flag exercise on Jan. 20, 1995.
- First B-2 flight to Europe by the Spirit of Missouri on June 10-11, 1995.
- The first B-2 mission over the Pacific by the Spirit of Kansas on Sept. 1, 1995.
- The first operational combat mission was flown on the first night of Operation Allied Force on March 24, 1999. The B-2s flew less than 1% of the combat sorties during the operation but dropped 11% of the total bombs.
- The first combat deployment of B-2s saw aviators flying 22 sorties from a forward operating location in addition to 27 sorties directly from Whiteman AFB in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- Two B-2s flew a 34-hour, round-trip mission from Missouri to Libya, contributing to the fight against ISIS, on Jan. 18, 2017.

Throughout these changes and milestones, the city of Sedalia has always been one of the base's biggest supporters. From its Military Affairs Committee and its participation in the Base Community Council to its partnership with our 509th Security Forces Squadron, the citizens of Sedalia have given the base their time, love and support and we are forever thankful.

For more information, visit
www.whiteman.af.mil.

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2024 Demographics

Information obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau and the Missouri Department of Labor.

Race and Ethnicity

Caucasian.....	82.5%
Hispanic or Latino	13.8%
Two or more races.....	7.4%
Black or African American.....	4.4%
Asian	1%
Native American	0.6%
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0.1%

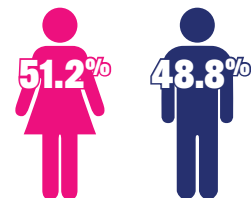
Key facts about Sedalia

Founded.....	1860
Land Size	14.22 sq. mi.
Elevation	909 feet
Population.....	21,947
Median Household Income	\$48,518
Median Housing Value.....	\$127,200

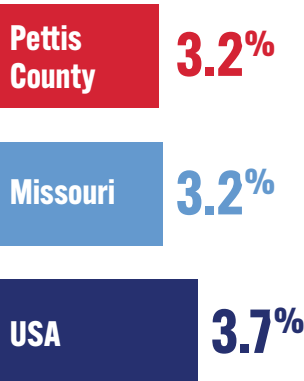
Employed by Industry

Management, business, science, and arts	24.9%
Service	21.4%
Sales and office	18.4%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	10.4%
Production, transportation, and material moving	25%

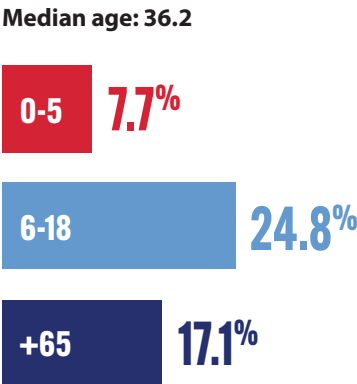
POPULATION BY SEX



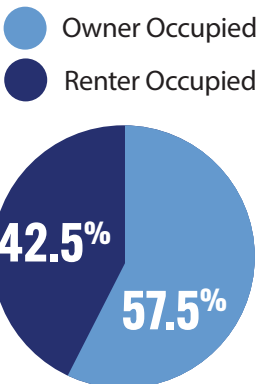
Unemployment Rate



Population by Age



Housing Status



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Health & Wellness

American Family Care

American Family Care has earned a reputation as the nation's leading urgent care provider, and with good reason. We help families avoid the stress and extended wait times of the ER, all with the same high level of quality you'd expect from your primary health care provider.

At our Sedalia urgent care center, we can offer everything from flu shots to x-ray imaging and deliver your test results quickly from our on-site lab. You can also rest assured that you'll be seen by a highly-skilled and caring physician each and every time you visit. There's no need to scramble for a doctor's appointment when you can visit American Family Care Sedalia.

For more than 35 years, we've been dedicated to giving families a more affordable and dependable option for their urgent medical needs. With state-of-the-art equipment, short wait times, and compatibility with most insurance providers, it's easy to understand why patients turn to AFC.

Visit our walk-in clinic today or call 660-951-1091 and find us online at afurgentcare.com/sedalia to schedule your non-emergency medical appointment in Sedalia.

Bothwell Regional Health Center

Bothwell Regional Health Center is a comprehensive and fully accredited health system serving Pettis and Benton counties and surrounding communities with locations in Sedalia, Cole Camp,

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Families can start their little ones on a healthy journey by seeing our team at Bothwell TLC Pediatrics for all their needs. For general care, we offer family medicine services at six clinics, including Bothwell Cole Camp Clinic, Bothwell Eldenburg Family Practice, Bothwell Family Health, Bothwell Family Medicine Associates, Bothwell Lincoln Family Medicine, and Bothwell Health Center-Truman Lake. Several of our family medicine physicians also care for pregnant women and deliver babies.

For those seeking guidance on adult

care, Bothwell Pulmonary Specialists focuses on pulmonology and ailments concerning the lungs, Bothwell Internal Medicine Specialists offers pulmonology services and nephrology care for issues concerning the kidneys, and Bothwell Rheumatology specializes in arthritis and other musculoskeletal conditions and systemic autoimmune disorders.

We also provide compassionate and comprehensive cancer services at Bothwell Susan O'Brien Fischer Cancer Center, state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging at Bothwell Diagnostic Center, and head and neck care and an on-site Hearing Aid Specialist at Bothwell Ear, Nose & Throat.

Our newest specialty is Bothwell Neurology, where our board-certified, fellowship-training adult neurologist treats migraines and other headache disorders, epilepsy, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and other disorders involving the central and peripheral nervous system.

Our diverse team of practitioners at Bothwell OB/GYN Associates includes physicians and advanced practice providers who offer comprehensive women's health specialties, including midwifery, obstetrics and gynecology; Bothwell Orthopedics & Sports Medicine offers cutting-edge orthopedic and sports medicine care, including the EyeBOX, the first FDA-approved objective concussion assessment; and Bothwell Pain Clinic diagnoses and treats chronic pain.

Physical and occupational therapy services can be found at Bothwell PEAK Sport & Spine, while Bothwell Sleep Center diagnoses and treats sleep disorders; Bothwell Urology Services specialists diagnose and treat urologic conditions and diseases and the Healogics Center of Excellence Bothwell Wound Healing Center provides treatment for chronic and hard-to-heal wounds.

Flexibility and convenience for minor illnesses and injuries are available at two walk-in locations in Sedalia. Walk In Winchester on the first floor of the Healing Arts Center, 3700 W. 10th St., is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday

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and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Walk In Off Broadway at 700 S. Hancock Ave. is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. In partnership with local businesses, we offer their employees health and safety services at Bothwell Employee Wellness Clinic and provide medical supplies at Bothwell Medical Equipment. Bothwell Regional Health Center has served the area since 1930.

For more information about how we can help you get well and stay well, call 660-826-8833 or visit www.brhc.org.

Katy Trail Community Health

Katy Trail Community Health is a community health center with two locations in Sedalia – 821 Westwood Ave. and 305 W. Main St. – in addition to Marshall, Warsaw, Versailles and Ivy Bend. We provide mobile dental and medical services at area schools, and we have school-based clinics in five school districts.

Katy Trail Community Health provides comprehensive primary care, including medical, dental, behavioral health, and vision services. We have discount programs for those without insurance, free and discounted prescriptions, transportation services, chronic disease management, coordinated specialty care, extended hours of operation, an on-site pharmacy, and our West Main Street location provides Saturday walk-in care.

Translation services are available for patients with limited English capabilities. Our staff of 150 people includes five physicians, 10 nurse practitioners, four dentists, three hygienists, and eight licensed mental health professionals. We provide free COVID-19 testing and free COVID-19 vaccines in all our locations.

Our Board of Directors consists of community leaders who use KTCH as the primary care provider. KTCH accepts most insurance plans, Medicaid, MC+ plans, Medicare, and Marketplace plans.

For more information about Katy Trail Community Health, call 1-877-733-5824 or visit www.katytrailcommunityhealth.org.

Education

One of Sedalia's greatest assets is its quality educational system. From the fully accredited Sedalia School District 200 and quality parochial and private schools to a progressive community college, Sedalia has the facilities to meet the community's needs.

Sedalia School District 200

Total district enrollment was 5,036 at the start of the 2021-22 school year. The district maintains Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) accreditation and is a Missouri Model District. There are five elementary schools (grades K-4) with before- and after-school programs available through the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri. Sedalia Middle School is an intermediate extension of the elementary schools and houses fifth-grade students.

Students in grades 6-8 attend Smith-Cotton Junior High School, while Smith-Cotton High School comprises grades 9-12. The district also offers an alternative high school, Whittier.

For more information on Sedalia School District 200, contact the Central Office at 660-829-6450 or visit www.sedalia200.org.

Early childhood programs are offered at the Pettis County Early Childhood Cooperative, administered by the Sedalia School

District. For more information, call 660-827-8955.

State Fair Community College

SFCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and serves 14 counties in west central Missouri. Last year, nearly 7,000 students chose SFCC for credit and continuing education classes online and on-campus in Sedalia, Boonville, Clinton, Eldon, Jefferson City, the Lake of the Ozarks, and Whiteman Air Force Base.

Located at 3201 W. 16th St., SFCC's beautiful Sedalia campus includes a residence hall; Fred E. Davis Multipurpose Center; 240-seat Stauffacher Theatre located inside the Stauffacher Center for the Fine Arts; Heckart Science and Allied Health Center that includes a 200-seat multimedia conference center for educational and community use; Marvin R. Fielding Technical Center; Charles E. Yeater Learning Center that includes the Donald C. Proctor Library; William C. Hopkins Student Services Center; Potter-Ewing Agriculture building; Automotive Technology building; and Daum Museum of Contemporary Art.

In 2022, the college opened the 38,500-square-foot Olen Howard Workforce Innovation Center. This cutting-edge facility expanded the college's Welding and Precision Machining programs, which feature the only five-axis CNC machines in any training center or college in the state.

Sedalia School District 200

Mission Statement: Provide a challenging education in a safe environment for all students so they will become productive, responsible and successful members of our diverse society

Superintendent Dr. Todd Fraley
Central Office
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SFCC offers four transfer degrees — Associate of Arts, Associate of Fine Arts in Music, Theatre, Musical Theatre, or Art, Associate of Arts in Teaching and Associate of Science in Chemistry or Engineering — plus 35 Associate of Applied Science degrees in career programs ranging from accounting to welding. Students can also choose from Skills Certificate or Professional Certificate programs that lead to quick employment in high-demand jobs.

More than 260 online classes plus two complete online degree programs are offered: an Associate of Arts degree and a Business Management degree. SFCC offers accredited, highly acclaimed programs in Automotive Technology, Construction Technology, Manufacturing Technology with emphasis in Precision Machining, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Health Information Technology, Medical Laboratory Technician, Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Surgical Technician, Behavioral Science, and Radiologic Technology.

Agreements with four-year Missouri schools ensure earned credits at SFCC will transfer to these institutions: Central Methodist University (CMU) provides bachelor's degree programs at SFCC's Sedalia, Clinton and Lake of the Ozarks campuses and online; Drury University; Grantham University; University of Central Missouri (UCM); Lincoln University; University of Phoenix; Park University; Ottawa University; University of Missouri-Columbia; and Western Governors University. CMU and UCM also offer dual admission through SFCC.

For more information about SFCC, a catalog of courses or a free admissions ap-

plication, visit www.sfccmo.edu or contact Admissions and Outreach at 660-530-5833 or admissions@sfccmo.edu.

Other programs and services:

The LearningForce, www.sfccmo.edu/the-learning-force, offers customized training for business and industry and professional development and personal enrichment courses for children and adults.

Small Business Development Center, www.sfccmo.edu/SBDC, provides entrepreneurs with leading-edge resources, business plan development, market analysis, training, and more. Services are free or for a nominal cost.

Adult Education and Literacy, www.sfccmo.edu/AEL, provides free adult literacy, High School Equivalency preparation, English Language Learner, and U.S. citizenship classes on the Sedalia campus and other sites.

Roadrunner athletics, www.sfccmoroadrunners.com, includes men's and women's soccer, basketball, cross country, track and field, esports, clay-target shooting, baseball, softball, and the Spirit Squad.

Fine and Performing Arts, www.sfccmo.edu/the-arts, music, theatre and fine art performances and exhibitions.

Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, www.daummuseum.org, features a diverse permanent collection, up to 15 exhibitions a year, and educational programming for elementary and high school students and the community; admission is free. SFCC is also the home of the State Fair Career and Technology Center (CTC), which offers free technical training to juniors and seniors from 11 high schools in 10 school districts in eight technical programs.



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Applewood Christian School

Applewood Christian School is an A+ designated school that serves students in grades K-12.

At Applewood, students and staff strive for academic excellence while growing in their walk with Christ. The school has a comprehensive academic program and offers many extracurricular activities. The small class sizes form lasting friendships around a common faith.

For more information, call 660-827-4700 or visit www.applewoodchristianschool.org.

Pettis County R-XII School District

The Pettis County R-XII School District in Dresden, in partnership with the community, provides the highest quality learning environment to prepare and assist students in becoming responsible, self-motivated, contributing, and ethical members of a global society.

For more information, call 660-826-5385.

Sacred Heart School

Established in 1882, Sacred Heart is a fully accredited, distinguished Catholic, co-educational school for preschool through 12th grade students.

The downtown Sedalia campus provides a faith-filled, familial, academically challenging, and safe environment to help students fully develop their God-given spiritual and academic lives. While religious teachings are based on Catholicism, Sacred Heart respects and welcomes all faiths.

To schedule a tour or for more information, call 660-827-3800 or visit www.gogremlins.com.

Sedalia Seventh-day Adventist School

We exist to help students grow in their love for Jesus. While spiritual growth can't be measured and quantified with numbers, we do see it happening every day. It starts with our commitment to making Christ the center of all we do, not just the subject of a single Bible class. And it continues through our focus on the Bible as the sole guide for our beliefs and behavior as Protestant Christians.

We invite you to visit our campus and experience how our teachers and staff model their love for God and nurture it in our stu-

dents in grades K-8. For more information, call 660-826-8951.

St. Paul's Lutheran School

St. Paul's Lutheran School is a fully accredited elementary school, serving students preschool (ages 3 years old) to eighth grade. The preschool provides the option of half or full day.

St. Paul's offers a high-quality Christ-centered education taught by educators holding advanced degrees. St. Paul's offers small class sizes, caring staff, a family atmosphere, and before and after school care, as well as a variety of sports and clubs.

To schedule your tour, contact the school office at 660-826-1925.

Word of Life Christian Academy

We believe that with the infusion of the Word of God into the core of our curriculum, our educational system becomes an important training tool that will guide students K-12 on the true path to success. We actively and effectively serve to assist parents with the mandate found in scripture, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

For more information, call 660-951-1120.

Libraries

The Sedalia Public Library's Historic Carnegie building is at 311 W. Third St. The library serves residents of Sedalia, as well as surrounding areas.

City of Sedalia residents may obtain a library card for free. Pettis County residents may obtain a library card for their entire household for \$20 per year and residents outside of Pettis County may obtain a library card for their entire household for \$25 per year.

The library is open seven days a week. For more information, call 660-826-1314 or visit www.sedaliapubliclibrary.com.

The Boonslick Regional Library, at West Third Street and South Kentucky Avenue, is available to residents of Pettis, Benton and Cooper counties (excluding the Sedalia Public Library District). For more information, call 660-827-7323 or 660-827-READ or visit www.boonslickregionallibrary.com.

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Community *Services*

Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri

For more than 60 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri has been a safe, fun and educational place for children to go when school is not in session.

With 14 Club Sites in eight communities and a 10-week-long Summer Program in Sedalia, Boys & Girls Club continues to put children on the path to a great future. The Club offers a variety of hands-on learning programs that build on concepts learned during the school day, including STEM, arts, literacy programs, cooking, life skills and more.

The Administration Office is at 3100 Aaron Ave. in Sedalia. For more information, call 660-826-8331 or visit www.bgckids.com.

Center for Human Services

In 1955, the Center for Human Services (CHS) began serving six children in Sedalia. Since then, it has grown to serve more than 10,000 income-eligible families, children and individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in nearly 50 counties.

CHS provides critical support through Missouri First Steps, Early Head Start, Head Start, Aquatics, Clinical Behavioral Services, Employment Services, Residential Services, Service Coordination, and Community Support Services.

For more information, visit chs-mo.org or contact 660-826-4400 or info@chs-mo.org.

Open Door Service Center

Food is a necessity, and Open Door has been helping Pettis County citizens with food security since 1972.

The Open Door Thrift Shop provides a place to donate gently used items and purchase items at great prices. All proceeds support Open Door's mission to feed and support those in need.

By providing food boxes at the pantry, hot nutritious meals at the meal program kitchen, and emergency assistance to families at the service center, Open Door serves as a com-

munity resource center for the regional area.

For more information, call 660-827-1613 or visit www.opendoorservicecenter.org or www.facebook.com/OpenDoorSedaliaMissouri.

Pettis County Community Partnership

The Pettis County Community Partnership seeks to help low-income families and individuals overcome housing instability by providing resources that are available in the community to obtain financial stability and maintain housing.

PCCP, 1400 S. Limit Ave. Suite 29 in Sedalia, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

For more information, call 660-827-0560 or visit pettiscountycommunitypartnership.com or the Facebook page.

Sedalia Senior Center

The Center, located inside the Heckart Community Center, 1800 W. Third St., offers many services for older adults.

A hot, nutritious lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Home-delivered meals are available to Pettis County seniors as well.

The Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, offering a variety of social, recreational, educational, and wellness activities.

For more information, call The Sedalia Senior Center/Care Connection at 660-826-0713.

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Community Profile

Location

Sedalia is centrally located in Missouri, with easy access to anywhere in the state.

Major highways 50 and 65 intersect in our city. We are 20 minutes east of Whiteman Air Force Base and an hour east of Kansas City. To the east on U.S. Highway 50, a short drive will take you to Missouri's capital, Jefferson City. A quick 30-minute trip south on U.S. Highway 65 takes you to the tranquility of the Truman Lake area. Travel a bit further to Springfield, only 130 miles south of Sedalia. Head 20 miles north on Highway 65 to access Interstate 70 East and you're on your way to St. Louis. Our convenient yet rural location makes Sedalia an ideal place for you and your family.

Whether you enjoy the serenity of the country or the bustle of the city, Sedalia has it all. Our city prides itself on being an excellent place to raise a family and an ideal place for growth and development. We boast an outstanding school system, a variety of quality housing, plenty of job opportunities, a safe community environment, and lots of recreation.

Sedalia's typical Midwest climate spans all four of Mother Nature's seasons. The warmest month is July, with an average temperature of 85 degrees, while January brings the coldest temperatures, with an average of 19 degrees. We average 44 inches of rain and 13 inches of snow annually. Sedalia sits 904 feet above sea level.

Sedalia is the commercial hub of a nine-county area, serving more than 145,000 residents within a 45-mile radius. The Sedalia Chamber works hard to assist existing businesses.

Public Transportation

The Sedalia Regional Airport, located at 1910 E. Boonville Road on the northeastern side of Sedalia, services the aviation needs of the residents and businesses of Sedalia and Pettis County. The airport's main runway (Runway 18-36) is a lighted 5,500-foot-by-100-foot runway that can accommodate propeller and business jet aircraft. Secondary Runway 5-23 is a 3,520-foot-by-50-foot runway and is also lighted.

The airport offers line service, ground transportation, airframe maintenance, aircraft service and repairs, restroom facilities and internet access. For user convenience, most major credit cards are accepted as payment

for services and fees.

The Sedalia Regional Airport operates from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

OATS operates from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 660-827-2611 for service.

City bus service is available from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, stopping at major shopping, medical, school and park areas. Cost is \$1.50 per ride. For more information, call 660-827-2611.

Amtrak is located on Pacific Street and North Osage Avenue in Sedalia. More information is available at www.amtrak.com or by calling 800-872-7245.

Driver and Vehicle Licenses

Newcomers to the state have 30 days after they have established residency to file for a valid Missouri driver's license and vehicle plates.

Driver's tests, both written and road, are conducted at the Missouri State Highway Patrol office on the Missouri State Fairgrounds from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Those who must take the tests are asked to allow at least half an hour for the driving portion of the test. If newcomers have valid out-of-state licenses, they are required to take the vision test and road signs recognition test at the License Office. The out-of-state license must be surrendered.

A Missouri operator's license may be obtained at the Sedalia Driver's License Office in Thompson Hills Shopping Center after completing a vision examination. The vision examination is administered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to noon the last Saturday of the month. For more information, contact the license office at 660-826-3316.

New license requirements have changed as of March 25, 2019. Anyone applying for a new or renewal license, or coming in from out of state, must choose between the federally compliant Real ID or a standard Missouri license. The federally compliant REAL ID will be required for boarding domestic airplane flights and accessing federal facilities after May 7, 2025.

The full requirements, as well as a list of acceptable documents for proof of lawful presence, proof of address and proof of Social Security number, can be found at dor.mo.gov.

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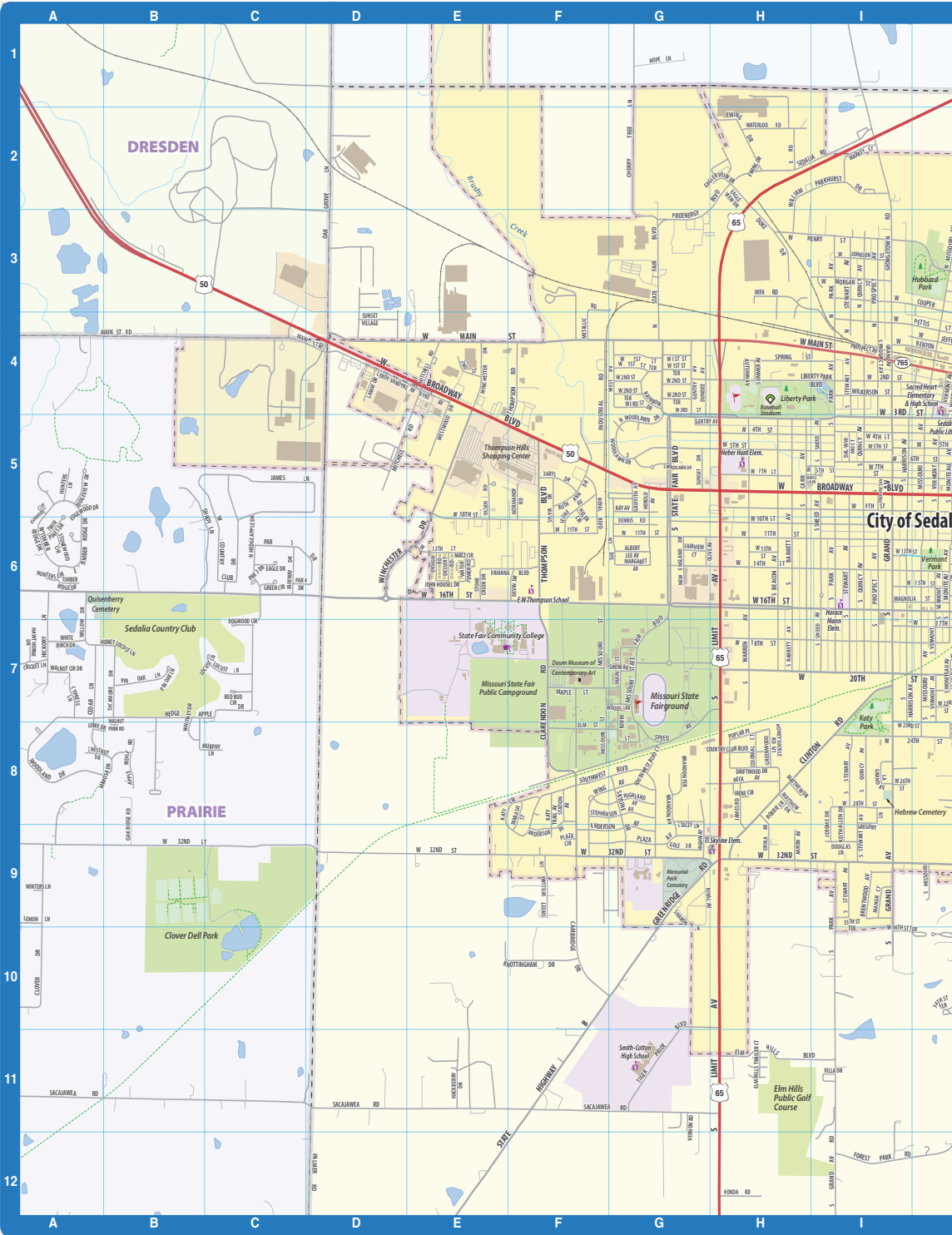
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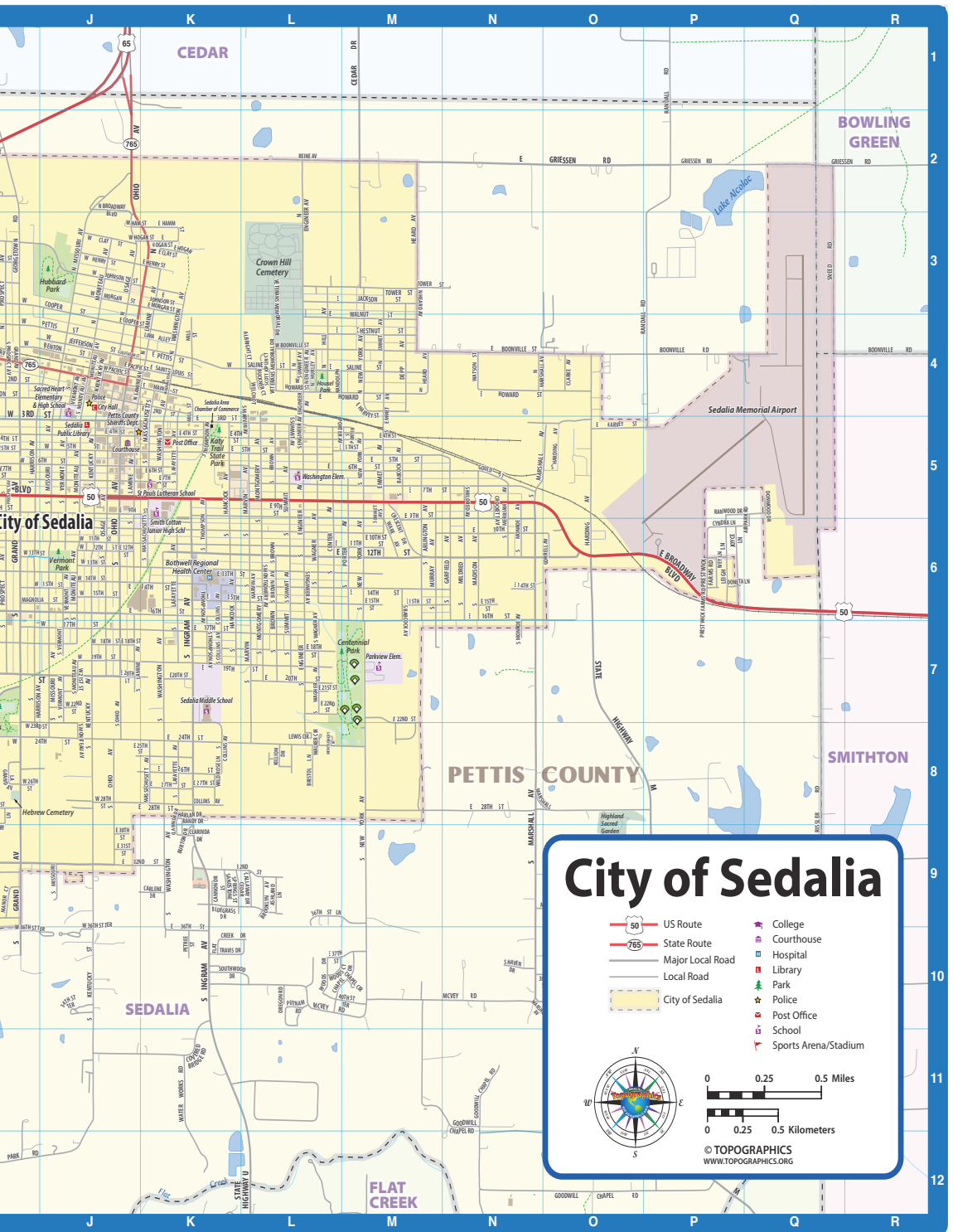
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Attractions

Centrally located, Sedalia is an easy-drive destination with a pleasant hometown feel. It sits on the crossroads of U.S. Highways 50 and 65 en route to Truman Lake, Whiteman Air Force Base, Lake Ozark, Springfield and Branson, and is only 18 miles from Interstate 70. Sedalia is home to the Missouri State Fair, hosted annually in August, and the fairgrounds host off-season events year-round.

Whatever your interests, you are sure to find plenty to do in Sedalia. From arts to sports, catching a movie or volunteering in the community, there is an organization or activity to fill your leisure time.

Contact the Sedalia Convention and Visitors Bureau at 660-827-5295 or visit www.visitsedaliamo.com for up-to-date information about attractions, events, accommodations and recreation in the Sedalia area.

Missouri State Fair

The Missouri State Fair is proud to call beautiful and historic Sedalia its home since the first Fair in 1901.

The annual celebration hosted in August has become renowned in the U.S. and globally for its premier agriculture program. Hundreds of thousands of visitors make the trek to the 597-acre fairgrounds each year.

Approximately 27,000 entries in livestock and competitive exhibits are shown and youth from Missouri 4-H and Missouri FFA participate, making the Fair a notable

platform for cultivating future agriculture leaders.

In addition to being the state's largest agricultural expo, the 11-day Fair also presents world-class family entertainment, including multiple stages of professional entertainment, a grandstand that provides big-name concerts and motorsport events and a magnificent midway with thrilling carnival rides.

Of course, the Fair is also popular for its food – corn dogs, funnel cakes, cotton candy and Missouri pork and beef, among other tasty choices!

With almost 600 acres, there is plenty to explore on the Fairgrounds. From the oldest buildings on the grounds, built in 1903, to newer structures built in recent years, there is beauty in the eclectic mix of new and old.

The Fairgrounds is on the National Historic Register with buildings that are beautifully kept and maintained. The nationally recognized architecture is unduplicated, making the accommodations and amenities the perfect choice for hosting a variety of events throughout the year. It is home to approximately 2,000 camping sites and excellent convention and agricultural facilities available for rental.

Call 800-422-FAIR (3247) or visit mostatefair.com and mostatefairgrounds.com for more information about the Missouri State Fair and to learn about year-round facility rental opportunities. You can also follow the Fair on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

2024 Missouri State Fair – Aug. 8-18

2025 Missouri State Fair – Aug. 7-17

Leisure Park

Spend a summer afternoon at Leisure Park, which features two 18-hole miniature golf courses and an arcade that includes six pool tables, two air hockey tables, a variety of pinball and video games and a snack bar.

The Go-Kart track is built with competition in mind. You'll find a short track with



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tight corners and straightaways just long enough for cars to reach maximum speed. You're able to race with your friends with cars of equal speed and power.

We welcome buses and bookings for birthday parties, church groups, school or daycare functions, and family reunions. The park is wheelchair/handicapped accessible and a smoke-free/alcohol-free environment where no profanity, loitering or roughhousing is allowed.

Stop by 3208 S. Ingram Ave. from spring through October. Call for hours at 660-826-0999.

Katy Depot

The historic Katy Depot landmark is located five blocks east of the historic Downtown Business District at 600 E. Third St.

Serving since its rededication in 2001 as the official Sedalia Welcome Center, the Katy Depot has been designated by the Missouri Division of Tourism as an Affiliate State Welcome Center. Information supporting the needs of regional residents, newcomers and visitors are available, including maps, brochures about area and state-wide attractions, and newcomer packets.

The Katy Depot, built in 1896 and beautifully restored, is a year-round visitor destination and interpretive center. The unique exhibit tells the story of Sedalia and how it came to be due to the coming of the railroad. Replica buildings serve as exhibit cases that put a face on Sedalia's heart and history. Each building contains graphic panels telling the story of how the railroads impacted Sedalia's growth and development. Included in the exhibit area are a

working telegraph and youth activity room. Annual feature exhibits occupy the artifact windows. Special exhibits, events and kids' activities support interpretation. The exhibits are designed as a self-guided experience, however, guided tours are available at a nominal fee with advance notice.

Located at mile marker 277 on Missouri's Katy Trail State Park, the Katy Depot is a major trailhead with long-term parking, restrooms, refreshments, directions and referrals, trail souvenirs and apparel.

The Depot Store also includes items by local artists and artisans, history books written by local authors, items to please railroad and ragtime fans, as well as food products made in Missouri. Shop on-site or online.

The former Women's Waiting Room is available as an event rental space for receptions, small parties, gatherings or meetings.

Offices for the Sedalia Heritage Foundation, Sedalia Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce are also located within the Katy Depot.

The Katy Depot is managed by the Sedalia Heritage Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation, maintenance, interpretation, promotion and operation of the historic site. The Katy Depot is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday from April through December and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday from January through March.

Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival

Ragtime, the first original music genre America can call its own, is characterized

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by its jaunty rhythms and whimsical mood. Americans first heard ragtime in 1893 at the World's Fair in Chicago.

At the same time the music was first receiving public notice, the future King of Ragtime, Scott Joplin, moved to Sedalia, where he lived for approximately 10 years. In 1899, while working at the Maple Leaf Club on Main Street, Joplin wrote one of his first compositions, "The Maple Leaf Rag." It was the first sheet music to sell more than 1 million copies.

The annual Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival is organized by the Scott Joplin International Ragtime Foundation, whose mission is to promote an understanding and appreciation of ragtime music and to preserve Joplin's contribution to that genre and the important role Sedalia, the Cradle of Ragtime, played in the development of both. For four days in June every year, Sedalia comes alive with ragtime music and educational symposiums. The only pure classical Ragtime festival in the world, Sedalia's event draws musicians and visitors from around the globe.

In May 1994, Kansas muralist Stan Herd completed a mural of Scott Joplin on the north wall of the Wilken Music Company at 207 S. Ohio Ave. in downtown Sedalia. The pastel mural features Scott Joplin at the piano, probably playing his famous "Maple Leaf Rag," composed and published in Sedalia.

For more information, call the Ragtime Foundation at 660-826-2271 or visit www.scottjoplin.org.

Missouri State Fair Foundation

The Missouri State Fair Foundation is a nonprofit organization comprised of individuals who are passionate about cultivating the future of agriculture through preservation, education, and improvement initiatives designed to sustain and grow the Missouri State Fair.

Learn how you can join our efforts, purchase official state fair souvenirs, and/or schedule a tour of the historic Fairgrounds by calling our office at 660-951-4053, visiting our year-round office located on the Fairgrounds, and visiting www.mostate-fairfoundation.net.

Sedalia Main Streets

Downtown Sedalia is a critical component of the City of Sedalia's economic and cultural landscape.

The City is dedicated to enriching the public experience in this National Historic district by preserving cultural resources, encouraging artistic expression and investing in the economic landscape. We believe that building a healthy, interconnected downtown environment is the key to building a strong community at large.

By implementing the National Trust Main Street Center Four-Point Approach, Downtown Sedalia strives to solidify partnerships, promote appropriate building rehabilitation, instill the availability of tax incentives, educate on historic preservation and facilitate volunteerism to support historic Downtown Sedalia's continuing success.

For more information or to learn how you can join the movement, contact City of Sedalia Downtown Specialist Joleigh Cornine at 660-851-7609 or jcornine@sedalia.com.

Sedalia Parks and Recreation Department's mission is to offer an optimum number of recreation and leisure programs to our citizens. Our goal is to provide facilities for the enjoyment of recreation and leisure through programs which are made available to the public.



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Thanksgiving Lighting & Fireworks

Enjoy traditional Christmas music in downtown Sedalia prior to the fireworks display synchronized to music on the top of Hotel Bothwell. For more information, call 660-826-5588.

Stauffacher Center for the Fine Arts

State Fair Community College's fine art, music and theatre programs provide students and the community with excellent arts and entertainment.

The Stauffacher Center for the Fine Arts on campus features several theatre and musical productions throughout the year, and an annual artist and lecture series. For more information, visit www.sfccmo.edu/thearts or call 660-530-5814.

Hayden Liberty Center

The Liberty Center Association for the Arts is committed to providing quality arts programming to the community and is dedicated to the preservation of its historic theatre, the Hayden Liberty Center in downtown Sedalia.

LCAA's mission is to enrich our community culturally. The more than 100-year-old facility provides art gallery exhibits, professional, civic and junior theatre productions, concerts and art classes for both children and adults. The facility is also available for private rentals.

For more information, visit www.LibertyCenterSedalia.com.

Daum Museum of Contemporary Art

The Daum opened in 2002 on the State Fair Community College campus and it collects, preserves, interprets, and exhibits

modern and contemporary works of art.

It houses nine exhibition galleries on three levels with a combined area of 9,300 square feet. Through its collections, exhibitions, programs, and publications, the Daum sheds light on the stunning complexity of contemporary art. The museum offers a temporary exhibition series that changes three times a year. Exhibitions range from monographic surveys of nationally recognized artists to group shows that explore a shared theme to the recognition of regional artists who merit wider appreciation.

The museum also exhibits selections from its permanent collection, which includes diverse paintings, drawings, prints, works in clay, and sculptures created since the mid-20th century. It features works by Andy Warhol, Dale Chihuly, Helen Frankenthaler, Robert Motherwell, Peter Voulkos, Louise Bourgeois, and Betty Woodman.

For more information, visit www.daum-museum.org or www.facebook.com/daum-museum.

Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site

Sitting high atop a scenic bluff 8 miles north on U.S. Highway 65, the massive stone Bothwell Lodge was built between 1897 and 1928 by one of Sedalia's greatest benefactors, John Homer Bothwell. It was, in fact, Bothwell's efforts that eventually landed the Missouri State Fair and the Missouri Pacific Shops in Sedalia. Bothwell Regional Health Center and the Hotel Bothwell also owe their existence to the visionary philanthropist.

Tours of the Lodge are offered by appointment at least 24 hours in advance for small groups. The State Park surrounding the Lodge, formerly Mr. Bothwell's Stonyridge, is open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset and features picnic areas, a playground, two hiking trails, and recreational equipment.

For more information on Bothwell Lodge, 19349 Bothwell Park Road, or to schedule a tour, call 660-827-0510. Information can also be found at www.mostateparks.com/park/bothwell-lodge-state-historic-site or visit Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site on Facebook.



Katy Trail State Park

Hike it or bike it, but don't miss the Katy Trail. The lineal state park stretches 240 miles across the state from St. Charles in the east, through Sedalia, and to Clinton in the west. The Rock Island Spur adds 47.5 miles on the Katy Trail. Sections of the trail, including almost all of the Rock Island Spur, allow horseback riding.

One of the local Katy Trail trailheads is located just off the heart of downtown Sedalia at the restored Katy Depot, 600 E. Third St. A second trailhead is located on the Missouri State Fairgrounds. The hiking and biking trail showcases beautiful views of rural Missouri at its best.

For more information, visit mostate-parks.com/park/katy-trail-state-park.

Sedalia Parks and Recreation

The Sedalia Parks & Recreation Department oversees more than 300 acres of park land and maintains seven parks: Liberty, Centennial, Clover Dell, Hubbard, Housel, Katy, and Vermont Parks.

The three largest parks, Clover Dell,

Centennial and Liberty, feature tennis courts, softball and soccer fields, sand volleyball courts, shelter houses, playgrounds, two lakes for fishing, basketball courts, and plenty of picnic areas. Liberty Park also contains an outdoor pool for all ages.

If you're a walking or jogging enthusiast, Centennial, Hubbard, and Katy parks have trails you will enjoy. Additionally, the Liberty Park track at Third Street and U.S. Highway 65 is open to the public year-round.

In 2022, Parks and Rec opened the Heckart Community Center at 1800 W. Third St. This multi-purpose 92,000-square-foot facility includes an indoor aquatic facility, rooms for rent that are great for birthday parties, bridal showers, baby showers, and business meetings, three full-sized basketball courts ideal for basketball, volleyball, or pickleball, a fitness area, child watch area, an indoor playground, and is the home of the Sedalia Senior Center.

For more information, call 660-826-4930 or visit www.sedaliaparks.com.



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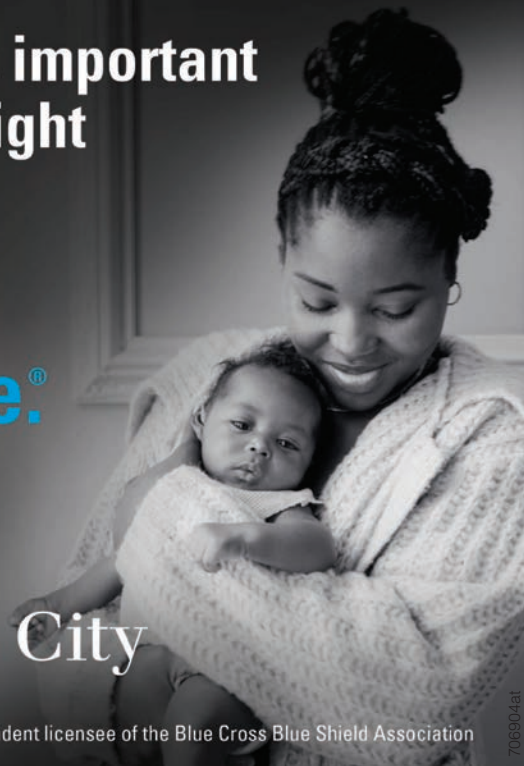
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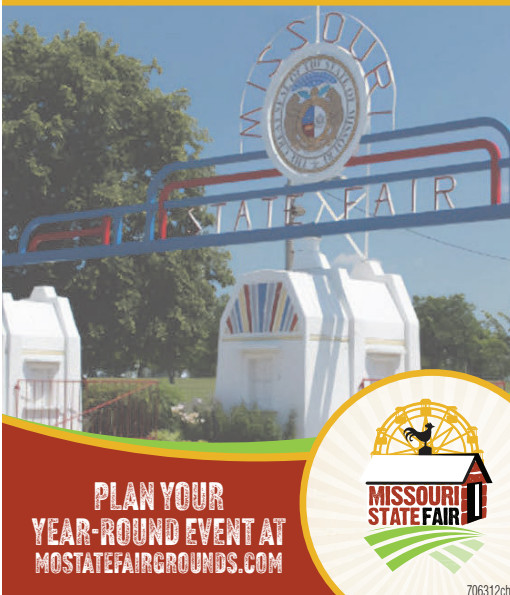
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