

WELCOME GUIDE - 2024/2025

DESTINATION

Perry County, Missouri



Republic  MONITOR

11 West Saint Joseph Street, Perryville, MO 63775 | 573.5474567 | www.republicmonitor.com

Welcome to Perry County,

the place roughly 20,000 people call home, and anchored by the county seat of Perryville. We are proud to be a population full of opportunities for anyone who wants to join our thriving business economy, diversified industry or strong manufacturing base. We are also pleased to be home to a substantial agricultural foundation strongly boosted by our hardworking residents. We are the perfect blend of old and new, where industry, technology and agriculture meet.

Whether our visitors are seeking and celebrating their Saxon-German history, searching for unique personalized gifts or looking for something off the beaten path, Perry County offers a wide array of attractions.

Located in the heart of beautiful Southeast Missouri, our community and the surrounding region offer scenic views of the Mississippi River, a national forest, and abundant recreational opportunities uncommon for a community of our size, including multiple wineries, theater and plenty of activities for the outdoor enthusiast. Our rolling hills, and rich river bottoms serve as a backdrop to a lively mix of fine food, fun times, vibrant arts, rich history and a warm Midwest welcome.

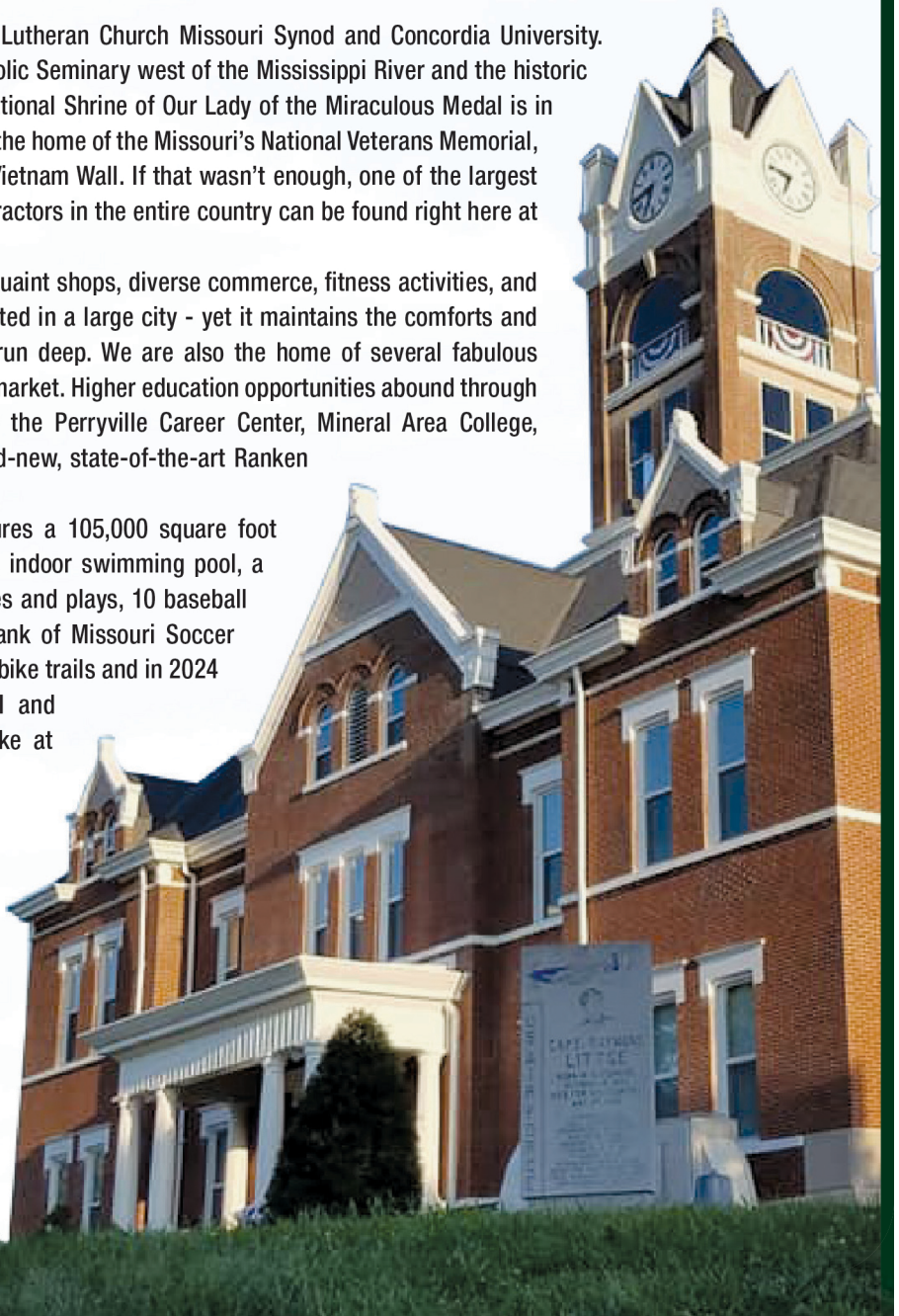
Perry County is the birthplace of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Concordia University. Perryville is also the site of the first Catholic Seminary west of the Mississippi River and the historic seat of the American Vincentians. The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is in Perryville and, Perryville is honored to be the home of the Missouri's National Veterans Memorial, featuring a full-size, exact model of the Vietnam Wall. If that wasn't enough, one of the largest and nicest collections of rare, orphaned tractors in the entire country can be found right here at the American Tractor Museum.

Perryville is a bustling community of quaint shops, diverse commerce, fitness activities, and many other luxuries that would be expected in a large city - yet it maintains the comforts and charm of a small town with roots that run deep. We are also the home of several fabulous restaurants and host to an eclectic retail market. Higher education opportunities abound through in-person learning programs offered by the Perryville Career Center, Mineral Area College, Missouri Baptist University and the brand-new, state-of-the-art Ranken Technical College campus.

Finally, Perryville's park system features a 105,000 square foot park center complete with Olympic-size, indoor swimming pool, a 417-seat theatre showing first-run movies and plays, 10 baseball fields, a splash pad, a dog park, The Bank of Missouri Soccer Complex, nearly 7 miles of concrete hike/bike trails and in 2024 will open a 4.5 mile NICA recreational and mountain biking trail around Legion Lake at Veterans Memorial Park.


Mike Sauer, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Riney, Mayor





2024/2025 WELCOME GUIDE...

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In Today's Chaos...



...the shrine offers a chance to de-stress. If looking for a quiet place to visit with a significant link to Perry County's past, drop by the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

"First, we're historic," said National Shrine president/CEO Don Fulford. "We were around 30 years before the Civil War. As a historical stop, people of all faiths come see us because we were the first institution of higher learning west of the Mississippi. This church was built to teach priests how to be priests. That was the whole purpose."

St. Mary's of the Barrens is a Roman Catholic Church and former seminary. It was where the American Vincentians came to settle.

Don had many points of connection to the past.

"It was a training church," Don says. "What makes it special is its historical value. Second, its educational value. Third - inspirational value. It is so ornate, so well kept. To have a 190-year-old church here in Perryville certainly draws attention."

What are the highlights of a trip to the National Shrine? Start at the church and go from there, Don says.

Visit the grotto, which was a quarry that provided rock to construct the church.

The grotto at the National Shrine was constructed by seminarians more than 100 years ago. Work began in 1917 and was completed in November 1920. The grotto was dedicated in a special ceremony Nov. 11, 1920 and the entire construction process is documented in an old seminary journal.

"What makes it special is it's tranquil, it's reflective, it's reverent," Don says. "It's quiet. It's a peaceful place. In today's chaos, your phone is always dinging, people are asking you (something), everyone's trying to get your attention. You come here and you can just de-stress for awhile. People come here just to get away."

No matter one's situation, it always provides an opportunity to relax, pray and reflect, according to Don. A must is a stop on the Rosary Walk.

Located: 1805 West St. Joseph Street, folks who haven't been there in several years may be surprised by the updates.



THINGS... *To do*



ENTERTAINMENT—MOVIE & PERFORMING ARTS THEATER -

Perry Park Center
 PERRY PARK CENTER
 800 City Park Dr.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 547-7225
www.cityofperryville.com/265/Parks-Recreation
 Facility Hours:
 Mon. – Thurs. 5:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 Fri. 5:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
 Sat. 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
 Sun. 11:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

THEATER (Movie) Hours:
 Mon. – Fri. 7:00 p.m.
 Sat. 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
 Sun. 2:00 p.m.
 Wed. 2:00 p.m. Matinee (summer only)

MUSEUMS & MEMORIALS -

American Tractor Museum
 508 N. Main St.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 547-1097
 Hours:
 Weekdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Catholic Heritage Center & Museum
 138 Saint Joseph Lane
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 788-2730
 Hours: By Appointment
 Admission Free

Faherty House
 11 S. Spring St.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 768-2470
 Hours: By Appointment
 Admission Free

Lutheran Heritage Center & Museum

75 Church St.
 Altenburg, MO 63732
 (573) 824-6070
lutheranmuseum.com
 Hours:
 Daily 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Admission Free

Missouri's National Veteran's Memorial

1172 Veterans Memorial Parkway
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 547-2035
www.mnvmfund.org
 Hours:
 Wall & outdoor areas open day/night year round
 Welcome Center —
 Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Admission & Parking Free

Perry County Military History Museum

108 S. Progress Dr.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 517-2463
 Hours:
 Tues., Thurs. 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Wed. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (mid-August – Summer)
 Admission Free

Perry County Museum

(At City Park)
 601 Freedom Park Dr.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 547-6383
www.cityofperryville.com/295/Perry-County-Museum
 Hours:
 Tues. & Thurs. 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 Call for Appointment (If Needed)
 Admission Free

Saxony Lutheran Memorial

296 Saxon Memorial Dr.
 Frohna, MO 63748
 (573) 824-5404
saxonlutheranmemorial.org
 Hours: Always Open

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

1811 W. Saint Joseph St.
 Perryville, MO 63775
 (573) 547-8343
 Hours:
 Open Daily M - F
 Call for guided tours.
www.amm.org

THINGS TO DO: Continues On Page 6



BATTING CAGES
 Arm Style - Slow to Fast Pitch
 35 to 60 miles per hour



DRIVING RANGE
 14 Hitting Stations
 5,000 sq. ft. Grass Tee Box



MINI GOLF
 18 Hole Course with Waterfall



BATTING CAGES • DRIVING RANGE • MINI GOLF

HOURS:

Sept. - Nov.: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. M-F 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat. & Sun.

May - Aug.: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily (WEATHER PERMITTING)

2874 W. St. Joseph St. Hwy T (Across overpass), Perryville
 573.768.9773 or 314.378.8550

Davis Farm Supplies, INC.

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THINGS... *To do* CONTINUED



ATTRACTIONS -

Barn Quilt Trail

(Self guided tour)
For more information:
Perry County Tourism
2 W. Sainte Marie St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 547-6062
www.visitperrycounty.com

RECREATION -

Perry Park Center

800 City Park Dr.
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 547-7225
www.cityofperryville.com
Times & Pricing Varies

Splash Pad

107 S. French Lane
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 547-7225
10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

BOWLING-

The Alley Cat Lanes & Lounge

304 W. South St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 900-2099
Hours Vary

GAMING -

The Gaming Center

18 N. Jackson St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 547-6260
Hours:
Sun. 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Mon. – Closed
Tues. – Thurs. 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Fri. 12:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.

FISHING -

Legion Lake

892 Veterans Dr.
Perryville, MO 63775

Perry County Community Lake

Perry County Road 700
Perryville, MO 63775

GOLFING -

Perryville Country Club

1111 Big Springs Blvd.
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 547-8036
<http://pccgolf.net/>
Hours:
Weekdays 8:00 a.m. – Dark
Weekends 7:00 a.m. – Dark

Tee Road Sports

2874 W. Saint Joseph St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(314) 378-8550
Hours: 10:00 a.m – 9:00 p.m.
(Summer Hours)

PERRYVILLE PARKS INCLUDING HIKE & BIKE TRAILS -

City Park & Trail

S. Highway 61
Perryville, MO 63775

Feltz St. Park & Trail

Feltz St. (off St. Joseph St.)
Perryville, MO 63775

Northdale Park

Northdale Lane &
Old Saint Mary's Rd.
Perryville, MO 63775

Perryville Dog Park

1111 S. Kingshighway
Perryville, MO 63775

Robert J. Miget Park

107 S. French Lane
Perryville, MO 63775

School St. Park

School St. & Star St.
Perryville, MO 63775

Viola Blechle Park

Star St.
Perryville, MO 63775

The Bank of Missouri Soccer Complex & Trail

1238 Star St.
Perryville, MO 63775
(Off Highway 51)

TG Missouri Trail

Parking at TG Missouri
Building 3
On TG Way

*For More information about
Perryville Parks go to:
[www.cityofperryville.com/
283/Parks-Facilities](http://www.cityofperryville.com/283/Parks-Facilities)*

OTHER PARKS IN PERRY COUNTY -

Hyde Park

Main St.,
Altenburg, MO 63732

NATURE/CONSERVATION AREAS -

Ball Mill Resurgence Natural Area

Ball Mill Resurgence
Natural Area
Perry County Road 916
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 290-5730
nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/ball-mill-resurgence

Blue Spring Branch Conservation Area

Perry County Road 916
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 290-5730
nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/blue-spring-branch-ca
Hours:
Daily 4:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Red Rock Landing Conservation Area

Perry County Road 916
Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 290-5730
nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/blue-spring-branch-ca
Hours:
Daily 4:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tower Rock Natural Area

Perry County Road 460
Frohna, MO 63748
(573) 290-5730
nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/tower-rock

Seventy-Six Conservation Area

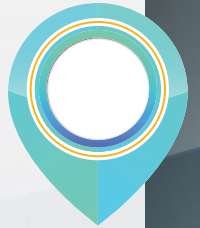
End of Route D
4 miles Northeast of Brazeau.
nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/seventy-six-ca
Hours:
Daily 4:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**FREEDOM
GUNS &
AMMO**

NEW LOCATION!

1105 N. Perryville Blvd • 573-605-1111

Exact replica in Perry County...



...can be found at Missouri's National Veterans Memorial.

Executive director Rae Lynn Munoz says the centerpiece of the MNVM site, a full-scale, exact replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, is a place for all veterans that helps bring healing and peace.

"Hearing the impact that it has on some people, loved ones, and other civilians is breathtaking," Munoz said. "There is a piece of someone here and they find that, and it creates a healing that many of them need."

One of the driving forces behind developing the ambitious project was Perryville resident and Vietnam veteran Jim Eddleman, who donated 47 acres of his family farm for the site. He praises the many volunteers and board members who made the memorial possible.

Dedicated in May 2019, it's become a popular destination for individual and group trips. The most recent additions to the site include the Old Guard Statue, unveiled in June 2024, and a Vietnam era Huey Helicopter to be dedicated on Veterans Day 2024.

"The memorial itself just isn't for Vietnam," Munoz said. "The hallmark of the wall is Vietnam, but there are different parts of the memorial that pay homage to all conflicts from WWII all the way to the war on terror that is still ongoing. There is something for all veterans on this campus."

Boy and Girl Scouts and other volunteers clean the 144 panels of the wall, sweep the sidewalks, and mow the grass.

Along with the actual wall itself, there are numerous other exhibits in the museum that change month by month. Many volunteers, some of which are retired military members, serve as guides to the wall.

Visitors come from all over the Midwest and the rest of the country to view the site.

Annually, MNVM recognizes or participates in: POW/MIA Recognition, Agent Orange Awareness, Independence Day, Wreaths Across America, and the Adopt-a-Veteran program.

A veterans' breakfast is held every Tuesday and the second Thursday of every month in the Welcome Center.

WHERE: 1172 Veterans Memorial Parkway
in Perryville. (Highway AC)

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily





PLACES... *To See*

Perry County is home to several natural and historical locations, from landmarks described by 17th century missionaries and 19th century explorers to the natural beauty of the Mississippi River and the rolling hills that make up much of the county. Opportunities to experience the great outdoors are numerous.



BALL MILL RESURGENCE NATURAL AREA

Designated as a natural area

in 1979, Ball Mill is one of the best examples of a Karst formation in the state.

A resurgence is a karst formation wherein a sinkhole that ordinarily drains water into an underground stream system will back up after a heavy rain – like a storm sewer will. In the case of Ball Mill Resurgence it is a basin 20 feet in diameter, which is five feet deep on the downstream end but has a 50 foot wall of limestone rock on the other side. During heavy rains water backs up in this sinkhole and will even overflow into nearby Blue Spring Branch. Inside the sinkhole, where the water is roiling rocks are tumbled around and somewhat polished, is where the “ball mill” gets its name. The karst features of this natural area are part of the larger karst network found in Perry County — the county in Missouri with the highest density of caves. The underground drainage system and calcareous bedrock of Perry County is akin to a block of Swiss cheese with water moving in very complex drainage patterns.

This natural area is owned by the L-A-D Foundation, which is dedicated to sustainable forest management and protection of

exemplary natural and cultural areas in Missouri. Leo Drey, one of Missouri’s outstanding conservationists, began the Foundation in 1962. The Foundation’s properties also include Pioneer Forest, where sustainable forestry is practiced on more than 150,000 acres in the Missouri Ozarks.



HADLER SHOE TREE

On the edge of a cornfield in rural Perry County stands a tree covered in strange decorations — hundreds of shoes flung into its branches, mostly members of the Hadler family, who started the tradition more than a decade ago.

It is hard to say how many shoes are in the tree, named after

Willard and Glenda Hadler. Strong winds and rotting strings have caused many shoes to fall, plus visitors can stop by at any time and add more.

“It was Willard’s idea to start this,” said Trish Erzfeld of Perry County Heritage Tourism. “He and his family had gone out west, and there’s another shoe tree out west. He came back home to Perry County, ... and he and the kids went out and started throwing old shoes up in this tree. Now people do it all the time.”

HORSE ISLAND

(Lewis & Clark Lookout Point)

“Set out this morning of 8 o’ clock from the lower point of the horse Island, which Island is Situated opposite the mouth of Kaskaskie River..”

- William Clark, November 28, 1803

On Nov. 27, 1803, Lewis and Clark camped near this point, which at that time was the lower portion of Horse Island. Horse Island was located just below the mouth of the Kaskaskia River at the beginning of a sharp bend

THINGS TO SEE: Continues on Page 11

Body Treats, Etc
 FACIALS • MASSAGE
 WAXING • REFLEXOLOGY
 IONIC FOOT DETOX • EAR CANDLING
 1516 EDMONT BLVD, SUITE 110 | PERRYVILLE MO 63775 | 573-547-6004

Elder's BARBER SHOP
BEST BARBER SHOP and BEST BARBERS:
 Wade Elder 1st and Jordan Buerck 2nd
 22 N. JACKSON ST.
 PERRYVILLE, MO 63775
573-547-6595
 OPEN 8 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. MONDAY-TUESDAY, THURSDAY-FRIDAY; 8 A.M. TILL ? SATURDAY



THE CITY OF PERRYVILLE, MISSOURI

PERRY PARK CENTER

The Perry Park Center is the place to be! This recreation center hosts multiple events and programs each year while housing a theater, aquatics center, gymnasium and fitness room. Enjoy Perryville's beautiful parks and walking trails while visiting. Stay up to date on what's happening at cityofperryville.com/recreation.



800 City Park Drive
(573) 547-7275
www.cityofperryville.com

- 250 ACRE PARK SYSTEM
- RECREATION CENTER
- INDOOR AQUATICS CENTER
- FITNESS CENTER
- INDOOR TRACK
- MOVIE THEATER/AUDITORIUM
- SOCCER COMPLEX WITH 10 FIELDS
- OVER FIVE MILES OF PAVED TRAILS
- SPLASH PAD



Voted #1 for Family Fun in Perryville!

The Country Club...



...If a person is looking for relaxing, or sometimes maddening (depending on how good they are) round of golf then, Perryville Country Club is the place to go. The club, which is located at 1111 Big Spring Blvd. offers a nine-hole golf course.

The Country Club offers many amenities including a beautiful, top-notch, and yet challenging course that caters to even a beginner in the sport of golf.

The facility is open seven days per week and people can begin teeing off as early as 8:30 a.m. Their business hours are 8:30 a.m. - Sunset, Monday-Friday and start at 8 a.m.-sunset and Sunday starting at 10 a.m.

It also offers several different leagues during the summer including a "couple's league, a men's league, and a seniors league for men 55+ years old. It also holds scramble tournaments throughout the summer as well.

The Country Club also caters to kids and young people with an adult/junior golf tournament that is a big hit with the community and kid's camp that has dozens of young people that are looking to improve their skills. Community businesses also host their tournaments throughout the year.

The Clubhouse offers indoor/outdoor seating and is a great place to eat for the entire family with the Sand Trap Grill that offers a quality menu. Perfect intimate setting for your event: bridal showers, rehearsal dinners, anniversary parties, corporate dinners, business luncheons and presentations. Members and non-members are welcome to rent the clubhouse for your next event. The clubhouse is open April-October at 8 a.m. until the last customer leaves.

The golf daily rate for Monday-Friday is \$20 for nine holes and \$23 for 18 holes and \$24 for nine holes and \$29 for 18 holes after 10 a.m. and that price is lessened after 3 p.m. on the weekends.

The Perryville Country Club is the place to go if you want to spend time with family and friends and be a little competitive as well.

On Sundays before 10 a.m., the course is reserved for Members & Their Guests Only.



in the Mississippi. As a result of changes in the course of the river, Horse Island has been absorbed into the Missouri shoreline in the vicinity of this marker, and the Mississippi River has shifted its course eastward, carrying away the original village of Kaskaskia.

When the party reached Horse Island, Capt. Meriwether Lewis left his co-commander, William Clark, in charge of the keelboat and pirogues, while he was put ashore to walk the six-mile distance to Fort Kaskaskia. The fort was now an American Army post situated on the high ground on the east side of the Kaskaskia River opposite the village of Kaskaskia.

Clark and the rest of the men, meanwhile, pushed their boats into the Mississippi and begin to work their way around a long and difficult bend, known as Coco Bend. Clark had wanted to make calculations of latitude with his sextant but a thick morning mist obscured the sun. The west side of Coco Bend hugged the Missouri shore and Clark observed a range of highlands next to the river. At 1 p.m., the party passed Joseph Donahoe's landing. Boats loaded salt from the salt works in Saline Creek at this place. Two hours later, Saline Creek itself was passed. In addition to the salt works on this creek, there was also a thriving settlement. The party rounded Coco Bend and pulled up to Kaskaskia Landing on the Illinois shore. On the opposite side of the river was the former west bank community of Old Ste. Genevieve, known locally as "misar" (phonetic for misère in French, or misery in English). This community was relocated after disastrous floods in the 1780s.



TOWER ROCK

Tower Rock, also known as Grand Tower, is a rock formation and landmark island in the Mississippi River, in Brazeau Township, Perry County, Missouri, south of Wittenberg, and across the river from Grand Tower, Ill. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

Tower Rock has also been dubbed with many names over the centuries: Cap de Roche, Cap St. Croix la Tour, La Roche de la Croix, Rock of St. Cosme, Castle Rock and Devil's Tower.

The earliest mention by Europeans of this island is by French missionary Jacques Marquette in 1673:

"... We found ourselves at a river called ouaboukigou, The mouth of which is at the 36th degree of latitude. Before reaching it, we passed by a Place that is dreaded by the Savages, because they believe that a manitou is there, — that is to say, a demon, — that devours travelers; and The savages, who wished to divert us from our undertaking, warned us against it. This is the demon: there is a small cove, surrounded by rocks 20 feet high, into which The whole Current of the river rushes; and, being pushed back against the waters following It, and checked by an Island near by, the Current is Compelled to pass through a narrow Channel. This is not done without a violent Struggle between all these waters, which force one another back, or without a great din, which inspires terror in the savages ..."



PLACES... To see

More than a century later, explorer Meriwether Lewis described the "immense and dangerous" whirlpool that formed below the rock in high water.

LEGION LAKE

Ready to reel in a lunker? Nearly 10 acres of fantastic winter rainbow trout fishing is available at this location. Summer fishing has bass, crappie, blue gill, catfish and sunfish. The lake has a boat ramp, fishing jetty, pavilions, picnic tables and bathrooms. Open daily sunrise to sunset.

Legion Lake is stocked each October with rainbow trout. Fishing for trout is catch-and-release from October until February, at which point length regulations apply.



LITHIUM SPRING

This natural lithium spring has been sought out for healing properties since the mid-1880s.

Lithium was first surveyed as a town in 1882. The first settlers were Dr. Henry Clay Fish, Richard P. Dobbs and James G. Christian, who all came to Missouri from Illinois. The town was incorporated in 1883 and the first mayor was Richard C. Lisenby. The location of the town was determined by two mineral springs, which were highly prized on account of their

medicinal qualities, which led to the construction of a bath house by Thomas King in 1883. A Baptist church, Lithium Baptist, was organized in 1885 and a Catholic church, St. John the Evangelist, was organized in 1896. By 1912 the town had two general stores, two mills, a brickyard and population of 98. Today, the village is considered inactive, and the population is not much different in size.



OLD APPLETON BRIDGE

The bridge crossing the Apple Creek was built in 1879 connecting Perry and Cape Girardeau Counties. It is the only iron bridge in Missouri still in its original location.

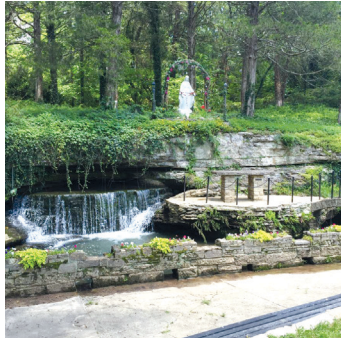
The bridge washed out in 1982 and reconstruction were completed in 2006.





PLACES... *To see*

PLACES TO SEE: Continues From Page 11



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

On the grounds of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Apple Creek is a unique sight.

Next to the church, which was constructed in 1884, is a shrine built into a Karst Window, known as the Schnurbusch Karst Window, allowing the view of an underground spring. This Karst Window is the result of the collapse of a cave roof, allowing the view of a small portion of a hidden underground stream. Karst topography is common in Perry County, which is known to have at least 650 caves.

In 1857, Rev. Joseph Becker installed stone steps to the cave spring so drinking water could be carried to the rectory via buckets and neck yoke. Later, a water line was laid so water could be pumped to the rectory. In 1883, Rev. Francis Krieger had a dam built and installed a hydraulic ram, which brought the water to the rectory by its own power. This provided the water supply until 1927 when the present deep well was drilled.

In the 1950s, Father Michell Deck began development of the Shrine, which was further expanded by Father George Schrammel. Most of the stonework was laid by local Parishioners who used the foundations of old farm homes and barns in the community. The outdoor "Way

of the Cross" or "Via Doloroso" along with a rosary laid out in the stepping stones were added in the late 1990s by Father Mark Bozada.

The "Via Doloroso" leads down a steep path to the bottom of the sinkhole containing the Schnurbusch Karst Window. The shrine features a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary as Our Lady of Grace, a small altar for Masses and an amphitheater. A small waterfall flows out of the cave, and its water flows before the altar, under the stone bridge, and back into the cave.



PERRY COUNTY COMMUNITY LAKE

The Missouri Department of Conservation, in cooperation with the citizens of Perry County, who approved a bond issue to purchase 310 acres from private landowners to create the public area, developed the site and constructed a 103-acre impoundment, which was opened to fishing in 1971. The area now includes two access roads, four parking lots, two boat launching ramps, a fishing access trail for bank anglers as well as two small picnic areas. The area also features a disabled-accessible fishing pier, where fish-cover structures have been placed to improve fish habitat. Disabled-accessible restrooms are located near the fishing pier. Shoreline Trail is a

four-mile hiking look around the lake's perimeter.

Visitors can experience fishing, hiking and bird watching.

Boundaries of the area are fenced and signed. For more information, including a map and a brochure, visit mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/perry-county-community-lake.



RED ROCK LANDING CONSERVATION AREA

This area consists of 554 acres and includes approximately one

mile of Mississippi River frontage and one-half-mile of Cinque Hommes Creek frontage.

The area contains seven ponds, totaling about five acres. The area has 419 acres of timber, 60 acres of unprotected bottomland fields and 70 acres of upland fields.

The Missouri Department of Conservation purchased this property in November 1994 primarily for use as a public fishing access. The area has some of the best remaining riparian habitat in this reach of the Mississippi River. The frontage has good water depth and instream cover that provides excellent bank fishing for catfish, and other big river species.

The area forest is managed to improve tree growth, quality and species composition.

Other management strategies in the area include wildlife food plots and native warm-season grass plantings.

Camping is permitted, as is

PLACES TO SEE: Continues On Page 15

FROM FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS TO FINANCIAL PARTNERS

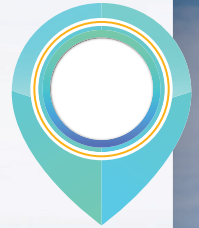
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Tower Rock...

...is a solitary destination. Missouri is known as the Show-Me State. There are many "show-me" attractions and places to see across the state. In Perry County, one of the featured landmarks is Tower Rock.



"A lot of it is the geologic formation of it, it's just a harder type of limestone," said Kevin Brunke, a natural history biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation. "It's been a notable feature of the river for quite some time."

From sitting in the car or at a picnic table watching the river, it's a unique place to view the Mississippi."

The structure rises an estimated 60 feet above the average river level because the rocks surrounding it have eroded away by the Mississippi River.

A recent addition is a scenic hiking trail, which offers an opportunity to view Tower Rock and the Mississippi River at a higher perspective.

The first European mention of Tower Rock is from Jacques Marquette, when he described it in 1673. He noted in his journal at the time that Native Americans thought a demon lived in the rock.

Francois de Montigny and Ambrose Davion traveled to the area on missions to the Native Americans in 1698-99 and the area became known as La Roche de la Croix (Rock of the Cross).

The location is significant as the spot where Father Jean Buisson de Saint Cosme planted a large wooden cross in 1699. The cross was erected as a symbol of Christianity and to dispel the belief that evil spirits inhabited the rock.

Later, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored the region in 1803 on the way up the Mississippi as they embarked on their historic trek out West via the Missouri River.

Tower Rock is south of where the Saxon immigrants arrived in the late 1830s, as they made their voyage from New Orleans. The immigrants made landfall by Wittenberg and named many of the places after where they came from in Germany.

"Some people say it's the Lutherans' Plymouth Rock," Kevin says.

The Tower Rock Natural Area is located approximately 1 1/2 miles south of Highway A on Perry County Road 460.



Perry County



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- WWI- WWII- Korea-Vietnam-Middle East Wars

MUSEUM HOURS:

- Tuesday 1 PM - 3 PM
- Wednesday 6 PM - 8 PM
- Thursday 1 PM - 3 PM
- May-Jun.-Jul.-Aug.
- Tuesday 1 PM - 3 PM
- Wednesday 1 PM - 3 PM
- Thursday 1 PM - 3 PM

Additional Tours Call for Appointment

- Curator, Carlene Rauh573 517-2463
- John Rauh573 517-1996
- Tom Nations.....573 547-5016
- Dennis Winkler573 547-8401

Please Visit the Veterans Wall of Honor at the Perryville City Park.



hunting, fishing and bird watching. Red Rock Landing Conservation Area is inaccessible by road when the Mississippi River level is above 20 feet on the Chester Power gauge. For additional information, including a map and a brochure, visit mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/red-rock-landing-conservation-area.



SEVENTY-SIX CONSERVATION AREA

The Missouri Department of Conservation created this area in 1990 with the purchase of an 818-acre farm from a private landowner. Steep, forested hills with narrow ridge fields and deep hollows characterize this area. Rock bluffs face some sections of the Mississippi River, which runs along the area for nearly two miles.

The area supports a mixed hardwood forest, with stands of trees, including oaks, tulip poplars and other species, ranging in size from saplings to majestic old growth.

Seventy-Six Conservation Area is being used as a demonstration area for forest and wildlife management techniques often recommended for implementation on similar or smaller tracts of land under private ownership. Timber harvests and forest stand improvement practices are an important part of wildlife habitat management. They produce forage and cover for many species of wildlife. In addition, the Conservation Department has planted food plots, native

warm-season grasses and legumes to provide additional food sources for wildlife. A trail is available to provide area users an opportunity to view these forest and wildlife management practices. Any physical disturbance is only temporary and normal aesthetic appearance will soon return.

Another trail along the river provides access to wing dikes for fishing.

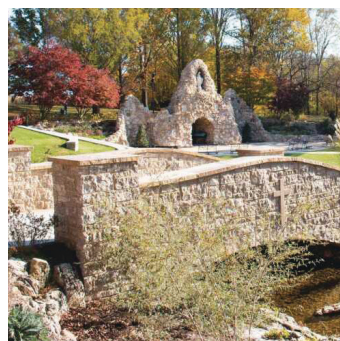


ST. MARY'S OF THE BARRENS CHURCH

St. Mary's of the Barrens Church is a Roman Catholic Church and former seminary in Perryville. St. Mary's is the historic seat of the American Vincentians, and since its establishment in 1818 has served as an educational institution, a Vincentian house of formation, and a Vincentian community residence. The complex of eight contributing buildings, one contributing site, and two contributing structures was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995 as St. Mary's of the Barrens Historic District.

Beginning in 1817, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish served the local English-speaking until its merger with the German-speaking St. Boniface Parish to form St. Vincent's Parish in 1965. The parish church was renamed St. Mary's Church in honor of St. Mary of the Barrens Seminary, which opened its doors the same year as the church.

The seminary closed its doors in 1985, but many of its buildings



PLACES... *To see*

are still in use by other community organizations including the Perryville Higher Education Center, which is housed in the seminary's former library.

Aside from the church itself, which has recently been remodeled, visitors to the grounds can view the Sacristy of Bishop Rosati, an old log cabin that is now the oldest original structure on the St. Mary's campus. The hewn log building, often referred to as Rosati's Cabin, was used as a sacristy to the first church. The cabin is a single log pen with V notched corners, and was built around 1825. In a move to preserve the cabin, it was set on a concrete foundation in 1932 and placed under a large arched stone pavilion to protect it from the elements.

Also located on the grounds is the Grotto of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, built during World War I by the seminarians on the site of the stone quarry used to construct St. Mary's Church. Construction began in June 1917 and was completed in November 1920.

A small outdoor chapel is recessed in the center of the grotto wall and contains a small altar made of fieldstone. In a small niche at the top of the grotto wall, above the small chapel, is a statue of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

Visitors to St. Mary's may also tour the grounds via the Rosary Walk, which features two new chapels memorializing St. Catherine Laboure's work in establishing the Miraculous Medal. They depict two of Catherine's visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the challenge Mary gave her to perform a special mission: designing the Miraculous Medal.

St. Mary's is also home of the Association of the Miraculous Medal, first established at the motherhouse of the Congregation

of the Mission in Paris.

In 1918, an Association was established by the Western Province of the Congregation of the Mission in the United States. Its headquarters were at Perryville. At first it was operated by the students at Saint Mary's Seminary under the direction of their religious superior. Soon the Association expanded and was given its own director, staff, and office space.

Today, the Association has approximately 1,000,000 members enrolled by approximately 65,000 promoters. There are about 350,000 contributors to the Association.



PERRY COUNTY MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM

Tucked away on the second floor of the Perry County Higher Education Center in Perryville is the Perry County Military History Museum.

Representing all Perry County service men and women who served in all wars, capturing their heroic stories of service, dedication and sacrifice paid by both the soldier and the families left behind, the museum opened on Veteran's Day in 2012 with a stated mission to honor and recognize Perry County veterans. It has been described as a "hidden



PLACES...*To see*

PLACES TO SEE: Continues From Page 15

gem in southeast Missouri" and features artifacts, uniforms, videos, pictures and more donated by Perry County soldiers and their families.



PERRY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH LIBRARY & ARCHIVES CENTER

This center opened in 2015 and has a vast amount of information about Perry County and its citizens.

The Perry County Genealogical Research Library & Archives Center is home to the Perry County Archives Center, which includes the repository of Perry County records and documents previously housed in the attic, vault, and basement of the courthouse, as well as Perry County newspapers on microfilm from 1862 to present.

It also houses the Perry County Historical Society Genealogical Research Library, which contains federal census records, marriage records, birth and death records, church records, cemetery tombstone listings, local newspaper clippings, and numerous family surname contributions.

In addition the Perry County Historical Society maintains a

working business office at center with regular hours to handle inquiries and assist researchers, both locally and long distance.

Researchers are invited to use the center to trace their family heritage and explore Perry County's vibrant history and rich culture.



PERRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Built in 1903, the Perry County Courthouse recently underwent a massive renovation project that saw much of the interior — and part of its exterior —restored to its original appearance.

Four structures have served as the home of Perry County's courts and administration since Perry County's creation. The first structure was a temporary home for the court, while the latter three structures were constructed solely to house the county courts and administration. The first structure was a two-story log building, which served as the site of the county court after the formation of Perry County in 1821, and housed the court until a courthouse building was built in 1826. The first building solely housed to serve as the county courthouse was constructed in 1826 at a cost of \$1,486.25. No known photos exist of this building. The first courthouse building of 1826 was replaced in 1861 with a new two-



story stone building at a cost of \$8,000. The second courthouse building constructed in 1861, however, had eventually fallen into disrepair and was replaced with the third and present brick courthouse in 1903 at a cost of \$31,819.

Renovation work on the courthouse, a local icon located in the heart of Perryville that became listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2016, began in 2017 and was completed a year later.

In 1904 it was said, "Everyone should now come to Perryville and visit the new Courthouse, no longer a picture on paper, but a reality."



MISSOURI'S NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL

The centerpiece of this 47-acre strip of former farmland in the heart of Perry County is a full-sized, exact replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The site also features a visitor's center and military museum, and regularly hosts veterans' events.

The project was made possible by a sizeable donation by local resident Jim Eddleman, who also donated part of his third-generation family farm to provide a home for the memorial.

Eddleman's gift grew from a promise he made while serving in Vietnam, a promise that, if he made it home, he'd find some way to honor his comrades who didn't.

"Promise made, promise kept," Eddleman said after the final black granite panel was installed in 2018.

MNVM celebrated its official grand opening on May 18, 2019, with a ceremony that drew thousands from all over the country.

The goal for MNVM is to provide a quiet place for reflection and remembrance right here in the Heartland, specifically for those who might find it difficult to travel to Washington to see the original memorial.



LUTHERAN HERITAGE CENTER & MUSEUM

The Lutheran Heritage Center of the Perry County Lutheran Historical Society has a state-of-the-art museum with a world-class family research library. The site interprets the 1839 German-Lutheran immigration to the area.

In 1838, approximately 700 German-Lutherans left their homes, farms, businesses and all they knew behind to embark on the dangerous

PLACES TO SEE: Continues On Page 16

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German - Lutheran heritage...



...has long played a part in the history of Southeast Missouri, and the Perry County Lutheran Historical Society is dedicated to preserving, promoting, and interpreting that heritage for the generations to come. That's why, in 2005, the society founded the Lutheran Heritage Center and Museum in Altenburg.

"We have three galleries: the original building, which served as the first church and now houses church, school and music artifacts; the modern museum, built in 2005; and the new gallery extension, which we added in 2021," Executive Board Treasurer Carol Wunderlich said. "It's all connected. We have exhibits relating to church history and educational history in the area, and the main gallery has exhibits on the history of the settlement."

Wunderlich noted that the newest gallery is home to several rotating exhibits on subjects relevant to the settlement, such as Mississippi River, Wittenberg, and Tower Rock history.

"We change exhibits every three to four months," Wunderlich said. "Our biggest event that we promote is our annual Christmas Tree Exhibit. It runs from Nov. 15 to Jan. 15, and we usually have 50-plus themed trees, along with numerous nativities, quilts, and all things Christmas."

The center, which is maintained by its Executive Board, director, archivist, and a team of approximately 40 volunteer docents, also hosts an immigration conference in the last week of October on odd years. The three-day event is packed with presentations, tours, and exhibits on a decided theme which focuses on part of the German-Lutheran immigration story.

To schedule a guided tour of the museum complex, which includes the exhibit galleries and research library as well as the Log Cabin College, Loeber Cabin, and Trinity Lutheran Church, visit lutheranmuseum.com/plan-a-visit or call 573-824-6070. Admission is free.

For updates on exhibits and events, visit Lutheran Heritage Center & Museum on Facebook.

The museum is located at 75 Church St. in Altenburg. The site is open to walk-ins from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, including weekends.



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PERRY COUNTY MUSEUM

Located at the entrance of the City Park, this two-story brick house was built in 1881 by Joseph and Mary Broeker Duerr, a local butcher and his wife. The Museum is home to the Perry County Historical Society.

The museum opened in May of 1990. The rooms include areas of children's toys/supplies, kitchen, schools, books, churches, medical and many other treasures from Perry County. Displays are also found in the hallways and stairways. The large amount of items on display are sure to bring

PLACES TO SEE: Continues From Page 16

sea voyage to America. Finding new homes in St. Louis and then Perry County, Missouri, they rebuilt their lives and formed communities that endure to this day. Discover their hardships, tragedies and triumphs and explore the families, churches, farms and businesses they established which make East Perry County a unique and truly authentic American landscape.



PLACES... *To see*



back memories for the older generations and to amaze and amuse the younger ones.

Admission to the museum, which is open from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, is free.

BRAZEAU SCHOOL MUSEUM

The Brazeau School, established in 1879, now serves as a museum, a time capsule for the community of Brazeau and the local area. From lace to ice skates and chalk boards to checker boards, the school displays artifacts that tell the history of this rural place and its people.



FAHERTY HOUSE

The house was originally constructed by Henry Burns in 1825 as a two-room stone house with a basement. It is thought to be the oldest remaining residence in the city of Perryville. A brick, two-room addition to the house was added in 1854. The house also stands on one of the original town lots of Perryville.

The four-room brick and stone house has been restored to two different time periods. The basement kitchen is restored to the 1828-1840 era while the stone room above it is set up as

a bedroom. The two brick rooms, a child's room and a parlor, are decorated in the 1870s and 1880s style. This latter time period reflects the time when William P. Faherty acquired the house.

Descendants of Mr. Faherty lived in the house for almost 100 years.

AMERICAN TRACTOR MUSEUM

Established in 2019, this collection offers the chance to view 65 machines and 90 pedal tractors. Each tractor has its own history, and there are stories behind each tractor on display. Manufacturers with tractors in the collection include Rumely, Waterloo Boy, Illinois, Indiana, Huber, Plymouth, Avery, Rock Island, Greyhound, Centaur and many more.

"It's an opportunity to see pieces of art, and pieces of history," said museum executive director Lori Heberlie. "We have such a rural background that it's worth seeing. These tractors aren't in the field anymore, they're in retirement."

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and younger are free. The museum is open Mondays through Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes a new, featured tractor each month.





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APRIL - OCTOBER

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APRIL

EAST PERRY FAIR FLEA MARKET
East Perry Community Fair Grounds
200 Church St.
Altenburg, MO 63732
(573) 824-5322
APRIL

MAYFEST
Downtown Square
(573) 547-6062
www.perryvilleMO.com
2ND WEEKEND IN MAY

OLD TIMER'S DAY
Seminary Fair Grounds
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MAY

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JULY

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Seminary Fair Grounds
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Perryville, MO
1ST WEEKEND IN AUGUST

LAID BACK ON I-55 TRUCK SHOW
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AUGUST

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Mary Jane Burgers & Brew
SEPTEMBER

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SEPTEMBER

BIKERS ON THE SQUARE
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SEPTEMBER

PERRYVILLE PUMPKIN FARM
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Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 513-2899
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

ROCKTOBERFEST
Downtown Plaza
OCTOBER

SAXON FALL FESTIVAL
Saxon Lutheran Memorial
573-824-5404
OCTOBER

MOONLIGHT MADNESS
Downtown Square
(573) 547-6062
OCTOBER

CHRISTMAS TREE EXHIBIT
Lutheran Heritage Center & Museum
Altenburg, MO
Free admission
(573) 824-6070
contact@lutheranmuseum.com
MID-NOVEMBER - MID-DECEMBER

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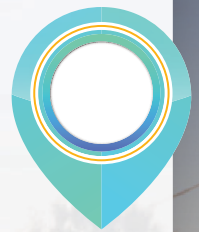
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The Best Little Fair in the Land...



...is a September tradition where residents and out-of-towners alike travel to Altenburg for the East Perry Community Fair. Festivities begin with a parade through Altenburg starting at 1:30 p.m., winding from Maple Street to the fairgrounds.

"That's kind of carried through all the years," said East Perry Community Fair publicity chairman Fred Eggers, who has held the position since 1981. "The parade has been a tradition since the beginning. The livestock shows, home economics and all of that has always been there since the beginning."

The event wouldn't be possible without the countless hours of volunteer support, noted Eggers.

"One thing is that it's totally a volunteer operation," Eggers said. "We have a board of nine people, 20-something department superintendents and roughly 300 volunteers that work for the fair."

The two-day event dates back to 1937.

The organizing and planning for the big annual event begins early.

Large family gatherings take over the lawns of houses all around the fairgrounds. It's a family reunion time, complete with the best grilled-cheese sandwiches anywhere, pork burgers, funnel cakes, and more.

"Many people that grew up here come back. They have family gatherings. It's their time to come back and visit," Eggers says.

Early on, the first day was referred to as "School Day", and the second day was "Livestock" or "Agricultural Day".

Judging of the poultry and small animals, as well as the judging of hall exhibits, occurs prior to the start of the parade. The judging for other animals occurs Saturday. Other regular festivities include a truck pull and tractor pull, as well as a mule jump competition. Various 4-H and FFA shows are held Friday and Saturday.

WHERE: 200 Church St., Altenburg

WHEN: Third Friday and Saturday
after Labor Day





WHERE TO STAY... *Lodging*

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SEVENTY-SIX CONSERVATION AREA

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nature.mdc.MOgov/discover-nature/places/seventy-six-ca

WHERE TO STAY - LODGING: Continues On Page 25

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Mayfest is the Chamber's Signature Event...



...In the mid-1980s, the Perryville Area Chamber of Commerce began a tradition. It was one of the first downtown events that got the community and businesses together. This annual event, called "Mayfest" after the month in which it is celebrated, is family friendly and provides something for everyone.

The Perryville Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2023, and Perryville hopes to see the Mayfest tradition continue for another century.

The carnival rides and activities, held down by the American Legion, predate the annual Mayfest celebration, which has always been on Mother's Day weekend.

The Mayfest Parade, starting at City Park and winding its way toward the Square, begins promptly at 6 p.m.

Friday festivities typically include concerts, carnival rides and a variety of food and drink options. In recent years, there has been a washer tournament organized by the Rotary Club.

Saturday begins with a 5K/walk at the Perry Park Center.

Other events and activities include the craft fair, a car show, tractor show, and other festivities.

School is still in session, but the event typically signifies one thing: high school graduations are right around the corner.

The Mayfest weekend typically has a theme that is part of the design for t-shirts and cups. The inaugural year of Mayfest was 1985, and the event has been a fixture on the second weekend of May since then. The first year there was music, a chicken dinner, a square dancing competition, and a presentation on the Perry County Cave System. A fish fry and German sausage sandwiches were the featured food that first year. Through the years, a few of the activities have changed. However, there are even more food and drink options now available.

WHERE: Perryville Historic
Downtown Square

WHEN: Second weekend of May



LOOKING TO... Stay



WHERE TO STAY - LODGING: Continues From Page 22

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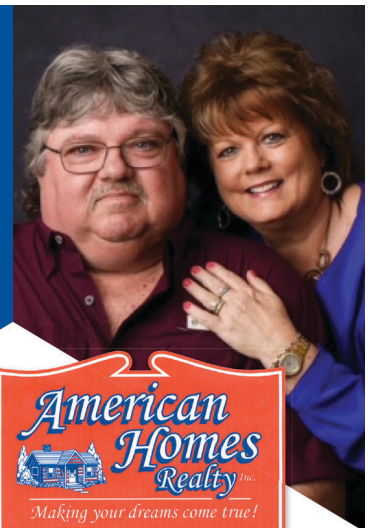


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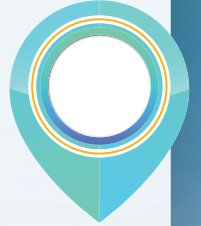
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"It's always about the customer, not the sale," said Broker/Owner Brandi Balsman.

Although the company has evolved since its beginnings as Meyer Realty in 1993, one of its claims to fame is that it has continued to be women-owned and operated throughout its 30-plus years of servicing Perry County clients. Today, Balsman carries on the legacy that her mother, Denise Ulrich, started as one of the original owners.

"When [Donna Meyer] decided to open her company, real estate wasn't a woman's type of industry," Balsman said. "She was one of the first [female] real estate company owners in the area, and now we are full of women."

Balsman and five sales agents make up the all-female team, which gives back to the community by sponsoring the City-Wide Annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsoring a field at The Bank of Missouri Soccer Complex, and by participating in Moonlight Madness in October, and many other things.

"We are constantly working to give back so we can earn that trust," Balsman said. "We have such a wonderful, safe community. Everyone knows everyone, and while that can sometimes be its own challenge, it's also the best thing to have neighbors looking out for you. We also have great schools, churches, and places of worship."

Balsman stated that the county's biggest challenge at the moment is, strangely, its growth and success. As Perry County becomes a destination for those seeking jobs in thriving industries, the housing market is struggling to keep up with the demand.

"We don't quite have enough housing to go around for those that want to live in our great little community," Balsman said, "but we try to reach out and create those opportunities for newcomers."

RE/MAX Realty Experts is located at 1407 Grand Ave. in Perryville.

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Where friends meet friends...



...that's what happens at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Seminary Picnic every year. For more than a century, it's been an event with food, fellowship, and fun times.

The picnic celebration is a long-held social gathering dating back to the early 1900s.

The area was settled by a group of Catholic settlers from Barren County, Kentucky. Saint Mary's of the Barrens Seminary was the first home of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and the source of the name "Seminary Picnic". The very first Seminary Picnic began as a social gathering at Klump's Grove west of the present city. The picnic moved to its present location in 1906.

In earlier years, beauty pageants, play performances, and bingo games entertained the guests, but what once began as a simple family picnic has blossomed into an enormous event that still has the small-town atmosphere of a family reunion —thanks in no small part to the delicious food.

The more than 15,000 visitors each year can partake of home-cooked chicken and dumplings, kettle-cooked beef, slaw, cakes, fruit salad, potato salad, and various refreshments as part of the yearly meal. It's not unusual to serve more than 3,000 people in the dining hall alone during the two days it's open.

The picnic's famed homemade vanilla ice cream is always a must-have.

Family members bond and old friends catch up. A ride on the century-old carousel is something kids will never forget. In addition to these picnic classics, the picnic hosts a carnival and family-friendly games, including a ring toss.

In keeping with tradition, the bingo stand is a major attraction. Well over 100 handcrafted quilts are sewn by the parish's quilting committee, which meets three times a week to accomplish the momentous task.

The picnic, which has become a Perry County Homecoming for those unable to attend class reunions in the fall, often sees classes from St. Vincent's and Perryville High School holding impromptu reunions.

WHERE: 1816 W. St. Joseph St., Perryville

WHEN: Second weekend in August



One of a kind...



...If you want to see some of the most innovative tractors made in America, you need to visit the American Tractor Museum in the heart of downtown Perryville, conveniently located on Main Street.

Travel back in time and see one-of-a-kind machines, such as the 1896 threshing machine made by the Cape Mfg. Co. and the 1911 steam engine tractor manufactured by the Avery Company.

The Illinois 18-30 Super Drive Model C is one of only three in the United States that has survived. They may not have the first tractor ever made, but they come very close to it.

The American Tractor Museum was started by Kenny Buchheit and Arley Berkbuegler to celebrate the iconic machine and the backbone of America. Tour this amazing collection walking you through the evolution of the machine that plowed, planted, and harvested the American dream for centuries. See one of the largest and most unique collections of its kind - featuring rare manufacturers, such as Rumely, Waterloo Boy, Illinois, Indiana, Huber, Plymouth, Avery, Rock Island, Greyhound, Centar and many more.

As you walk up and down the aisles looking around at all the wondrous sights and artistic dioramas. There are barcodes at each of the exhibits to scan with your phone for all the information and history on each piece. That way you can keep your eyes on the machine as the virtual tour guide gives you the dirt on the tractor.

As you walk through the museum, you'll see over 65 beautifully restored tractors, more than 20 of which are over a century old, along with many other gems preserved inside the 11,000 sq. ft. space. You'll find models, pedal tractors, community history and photographs, and even a section dedicated to a featured tractor. The American Tractor Museum rotates a different, locally owned tractor regularly, so there is always something new to see.



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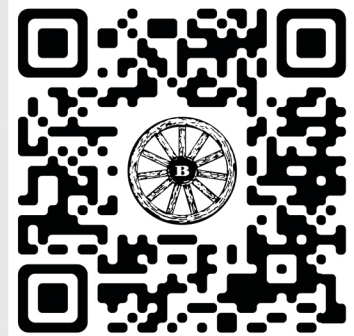
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PLACES TO...*Shop*

PLACES TO SHOP: Continues From Page 31

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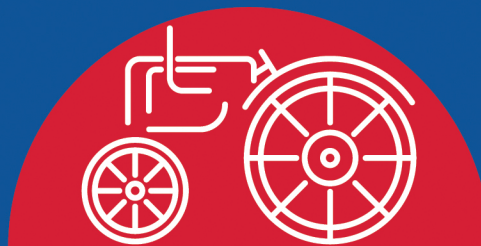
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Tucked Away...

...in a cool upper room of the Perryville Higher Education Center lies a hidden gem. For those looking to check out some interesting artifacts, conduct personal or scholarly research, or simply reflect on days gone by, the Perry County Military History Museum is a must-see.



Founded in 2011, the handicapped-accessible museum is run by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring Perry County veterans and displaying their memorabilia. Exhibits span the time from the Revolutionary War through the Middle Eastern conflicts.

"As items become available, exhibits are changed," said Carlene Rauh, museum curator.

According to Rauh, there are over 2,200 local veterans' photos on display, listed alphabetically, as well as various memorabilia, uniforms, and documents from each era of conflict.

Other highlights of the museum include an M1917 Enfield Rifle, an original Nazi flag, an original Viet Cong uniform, and a POW bracelet of John McCain, as well as a captured Iraqi journal in Arabic.

A board of directors and a number of volunteers maintain the museum as well as a Wall of Honor located at the Perryville City Park. The wall honors Perry County veterans, both living and deceased. To enquire about adding a family member to the wall, please contact John Rauh at 573-517-1996.

Annually, the organization sponsors a Veteran's Picnic in the City Park; hosts a breakfast at Missouri's National Veterans Memorial; purchases Christmas gifts for local veterans; and makes a donation to the USO for service men and women traveling over the holidays. For updates on events and exhibits, visit Friends of the Perry County Military Museum on Facebook, or see their website at <https://perrycountymilitarymuseum.yolasite.com>.

The museum, located at 108 S. Progress Drive in Perryville, is open in the summer on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. Winter hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.

To schedule a private tour, contact Carlene Rauh at 573-517-2463. Admission is free. Donations are appreciated.





DESTINATION

DOWNTOWN PERRYVILLE

Annual Calendar Of Events

APRIL

- Cruise In
- The Warehouse Market Days

MAY

- Mayfest
- Cruise In

JUNE

- Cruise In

JULY

- Cruise In

AUGUST

- Cruise In
- Laid Back on I-55 Truck Show

SEPTEMBER

- Cruise In
- Farm To Table Dinner
- Bikers on the Square

OCTOBER

- Cruise In & Rocktoberfest
- Moonlight Madness

DECEMBER

- Christmas on the Square



For specific event dates, visit facebook.com/downtownperryvillemo

Perry County is located 75 minutes South of St. Louis, Missouri on Interstate 55. Perryville gives business access to 70 percent of all North American manufacturing and 30 percent of the U.S. population. The City's convenient location offers access to St. Louis International Airport, just over an hour away and access to all St. Louis counties. 2.6 million population is accessible within 45 minutes.

Our industrial parks have approximately 100 acres of immediately developable industrial property, fully served by utilities and transportation. Our goal is to encourage bustling economic development while maintaining and building upon the strength of our community and families. The combination of Perryville's strategic location and excellent business environment offers a unique opportunity to profit from technological support/developments with the Greater St. Louis area while maintaining the rural quality of life.

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- Good schools, low crime and quality of life amenities.
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Passion for Education...

...People in Perryville have a passion for education, and because of this the city has a wide array of elementary and high schools in the area.

PERRY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 32 offers a great public school education for grades K-12. It is a 116-acre campus that includes six schools, including the Perryville Primary Schools (K-2), Perryville Elementary (grades 3-5), Middle School (grades 6-8), and High School for grades 9-12. It also is associated with the Perryville Area Career and Technology Center, which provides college level courses for upperclassmen and adult students. Along with education, Perryville has many varsity sports. Their successes include the 2014 Class 2 Boys Soccer State Championship, and several final four appearances since then. The campus itself has undergone some changes as it opened the Primary School in 2019 and a brand new Middle School in 2023, as part of a grant to help create more room on campus.

ST. VINCENT SCHOOLS, located at 1000 Rosati Court in Perryville, has been recognized as a Catholic Education Honor Roll school system with a commitment to quality education. St. Vincent is ranked in the top five percent of Catholic schools by the program. Along with serving grades K-12, St. Vincent also offers successful varsity sports, including back-to-back Class 1 state championships for the girls' soccer team, along with multiple clubs and other extracurricular activities.

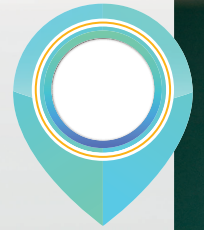
SAXONY LUTHERAN is a faith-based secondary school located in Jackson. They are affiliated with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and accredited by multiple state organizations. According to their website, the school's mission is to center students on Christ and God's Word, to strive for excellence in all phases of education, and to prepare students for a life of Christian discipleship using God's Word as their guide. The school has about 260 students and also has many varsity sports that are already rich in history.

THE PERRYVILLE CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER serves students from six area schools, including Perryville, St. Vincent, Saxony Lutheran, Valle Catholic, and Ste. Genevieve, with 12 two-year classes from Computer Maintenance to Agriculture Technology and Auto Service Technology. Each class is in a three-hour block during the school day and even gives students the ability to earn hours of college credit. The center is SkillsUSA accredited and participates in multiple competitions as well, along with completing projects out in the community.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL, located at 453 N. West Street in Perryville, is a Lutheran-based school that teaches grades preschool-grade 8. ILS offers a variety of athletic and extracurricular activities for students in grades 4-8 that meet eligibility requirements, including volleyball and basketball programs along with multiple clubs. Each activity is offered based on student interest. The school's mission is to bring students to a better relationship with Jesus and provide a quality education.

ALTENBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #48, located at 8432 Main Street in Altenburg, is a Pre-K through eighth grade Public School located in Altenburg. The school features a fully accredited preschool program and its K-8 elementary program has received Distinction in Performance for 12 consecutive years.

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL, located at 10158 Highway C in Frohna, is committed to uniting the community with a quality education based on a solid Lutheran foundation. The school is accredited through the National Lutheran School Accreditation and has about 100 students through grades pre-K-8. The school was founded in 2011 as a merge between Concordia-Trinity Lutheran School and Salem Lutheran School in Farrar.





Perryville's Higher Learning...

...Perryville has multiple options for those who would wish to further their education or learn a trade and skill. One of those options is Ranken Technical College, which recently finished construction in the summer of 2023.

The campus, called Ranken-Southeast, is 25,000 square feet and offers accredited programs in industrial engineering technology, welding, diesel technology, information technology, and HVAC.

"We've continued to expand," Ranken President Don Pohl said. "We listen to [local] industry, find out what industry wants, and then find a program that meets its needs. It's worked for us since 1907."

Pohl hopes Ranken can provide opportunities for its students and those who graduate from the college. Since the branch's beginnings in 2017 at TG Missouri, the number of students serviced through Ranken-Southeast has grown from a mere 12 to over 120.

"There are a lot of opportunities out there," Pohl said. "I'd even say there are more opportunities than there are people to fill them. Ultimately, the more students we can get, the better. Right now we have about 60 job opportunities per graduate. In fact we can't even have a job fair because many of the students already have jobs when they graduate."

To learn more about financial aid opportunities, visit www.ranken.edu.

On the other side of town, Mineral Area College has a presence at the Perryville Higher Education Center, where students can complete a two-year associate degree through a combination of in-person and online classes.

"Many of our students earn an associate degree before entering the workforce or transferring to a four-year school," Perryville Higher Education Center Director Michelle Hadler said.

Approximately 60 MAC students are enrolled in general education courses at Perryville, including Earth Science, Chemistry, English Composition, Public Speaking, American History, and Humanities.

"We accept A+ benefits and offer numerous scholarship opportunities, state and federal financial aid," Hadler said. "These incentives and tuition rates that are a fraction of a university's combine to make MAC an affordable choice for local students."


MAC also serves the Perryville community by partnering with Mercy Hospital Perry in an LPN to RN bridge program and Central Methodist University for bachelor's degree completion.





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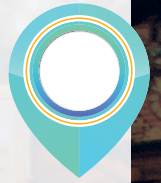


City Tavern

Perryville ★

Your Next Stop!

For those looking for hometown flavor...



...City Tavern on the Perryville Historic Downtown Square has a lot to offer. Since 1934, the tavern has drawn a steady crowd of regulars. From the time that doors open at 6 a.m. until the bar closes at 1 a.m., patrons can expect to be met with a friendly crowd and a comfortable atmosphere. According to owner-operator Gary Welch, the tavern's display of five cuckoo clocks is a testament to their investment in long-term customers.

"Everyone seems to be intrigued by our cuckoo clocks," Welch said. "There was a fellow that was a WWII veteran, Kenny Stirnamann, and when he retired [from] the military he married a lady from Germany.

"When she passed away, he started coming in here, and when he would go back to Germany, he would buy cuckoo clocks and ship them back to Perryville. I finally had to tell him we were running out of room. I put the story on the back of my menus because people would ask me all the time."

Long known for their breakfast menu, the tavern has recently expanded to include a dinner menu as well.

"For many, many years we just had our kids helping from 6 a.m.-2 p.m.," said Gary Welch, owner-operator of City Tavern. "We draw a big breakfast crowd; that's what we're known for. Two years ago, we expanded to [the kitchen] staying open until 9 p.m."

Now, more than ever, City Tavern continues to be a hot spot on the downtown square.

"It's still just like wings, burgers, sandwiches, appetizers, a daily special," Welch said. "Our most popular items are still our omelets. We're also known as [the place where], when everyone gets married, they come here and take pictures of the bride and groom on the bar. It's a tradition."

The tavern is a destination for visitors to Perry County's local attractions and on-the-square events, such as Mayfest and the Laid Back on I-55 Truck Show.

"We're just lucky that we're in this location," Welch said.

City Tavern is located at 24 N. Jackson St. in Perryville.

Play. Eat. Drink...



...these three words encompass the essence of J Street EATS!, formerly Jackson Street Brew Co.

The restaurant, opened in 2016 by owner and proprietor Carisa Stark as part of Perryville's Entertainment District, is well known for its local brews, good eats, and family-friendly atmosphere.

"In December of last year, we closed down around New Year's Eve and we did a complete remodel," Stark said. "We opened up a second, underground bar, did a fresh paint job, and added new decor for a 1980s dive bar feel."

Although the nanobrewery used to make their local brews on site, Stark shared that they have now outsourced the production process in order to meet the demand for larger capacities, contracting another brewer to produce their signature beer recipes.

"We do have our own J Street beer on tap," Stark said. "Red Beer'd is our most popular beer for sure."

Stark noted that customers also return to the Typhoon, a "tropical fruity cousin to the Hurricane with all the rum and a blue twist." Their most popular food item is the Ricky Bobby, a mouth-watering pizza with an alfredo base, mozzarella, smoked chicken, jalapenos, crispy fried onions, and an in-house take on a caesar drizzle.

The restaurant boasts classic games such as pool, air hockey, Skee Ball, Golden Tee, Ms. Pacman, darts, and more, making the restaurant not just a lunch and dinner stop, but an any-time entertainment destination.

"We have live music in the tasting room throughout the month," Stark said. "We also do trivia the first week of every month, and then we have other events that we host down at The Warehouse."

For updates on monthly events, visit JStreet Eats on Facebook.

The restaurant is located at 106 N. Jackson St in Perryville. Doors open at 11 a.m.



PLACES TO EAT: Continues From Page 41

PLACES TO... *Eat*



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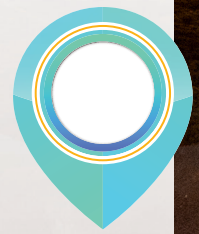
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EAST PERRY PUB

Good Burgers, Good Beer, and Good Company...



...this is what patrons can expect to find at East Perry Pub in Frohna. Signs reading "Veteran Owned" and "Bikers Welcome" hint at the All-American vibes inside: red-white-and-blue decor, paraphernalia from local military veterans, and St. Louis Blues mementos fill the warm, wood-paneled walls. A pool table offers entertainment for guests who aren't quite ready to go home yet.

East Perry Pub offers traditional, home-cooked meals and American fare. The pub has served residents of and visitors to East Perry County for over a century, according to Kari Boettcher, who co-owns the family-friendly restaurant with her husband, Tim Boettcher.

"I'm retired military, and he's the commander of the VFW," Kari Boettcher said. "Our daughter is getting ready to go overseas, so we have a mannequin of her in uniform, holding a sign that says, 'Until I Return.'"

Boettcher noted that the most popular menu item is the Pub Burger, a 1-pound burger on Texas toast with queso, chipotle, jalapeno cheese, bacon, and onion rings. The restaurant also offers flatbread pizzas, drink specials and lunch specials throughout the week, and has held "Taco Thursdays" since the family gained ownership of the restaurant 18 years ago.

"We have a non-smoking area, which we just added on about a year ago, and it has just exploded," Boettcher said. "We're getting a lot of the older people that would never walk in, and we added on a handicap ramp up a little breezeway."

Open 365 days a year, East Perry Pub has a commitment to providing a place for its patrons to feel like they belong.

"We always give away Thanksgiving dinner free for whoever wants it," Boettcher said. "If somebody doesn't have anywhere to go on Thanksgiving or Christmas, they can come here. We never close."

Annually, the pub also celebrates Armed Forces Day, holds a fish fry, and hosts a Lowcountry boil on occasion.

For updates on specials, karaoke nights, and more, visit East Perry Pub on Facebook.

The restaurant is located at 6442 Main St. in Frohna. The pub is open from 9 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Sundays. For catering inquiries, call 573-824-9998.





PERRYVILLE/PERRY COUNTY... *Government*

PERRY COUNTY -

The governing body for Perry County is the Perry County Commission. The three commissioners are elected for four-year terms. The Commissioners directly supervise department heads for all county services, which are not under the authority of the other elected officials. Their areas of responsibility include facility maintenance, health services, landfills, planning and roads and bridges.

In addition, the commissioners are responsible for adopting the annual budget and tax levy; approving and adopting all county contracts, agreements, and policies; and appointing members of various county boards.

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**MEGHAN ELLIS ASSUMES
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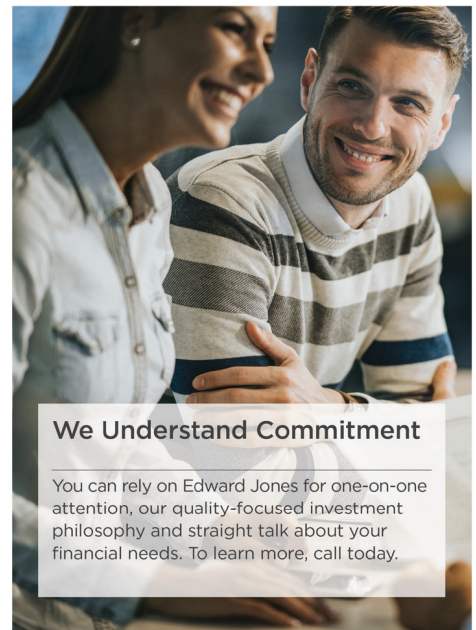
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GOVERNMENT (PERRYVILLE): Continues to Page 51



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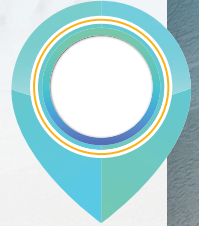
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It's a family thing...



...at Hoeckele's, and it always has been. Since 1937, the biggest bakery from St. Louis to Memphis has been lovingly handed down through the Hoeckele family, with its youngest contributors, aged 17, marking the 5th generation.

"It was my husband's grandfather and uncle that started it, and their names were Paul and Joe," said Angie Hoeckele, who co-owns the restaurant with her husband and in-laws. "My husband is Paul the third, and his brother is Joe, so it's Paul and Joe again."

Although Hoeckele's has a constantly changing menu to introduce new products seasonally, it's their commitment to tradition and their friendly atmosphere that keeps bringing customers back.

"I think that we are known for consistently quality products, and we are known for our friendliness," Hoeckele said. "Our employees know us well, and people always comment on how kind our sales help is."

"A lot of our recipes were original recipes from Grandpa and Uncle Joe, but at the same time we try to stay modern and on the trends without taking away from our roots."

Although the bakery produces between 300 to 500 dozen donuts each day — not to mention freshly made rolls, brownies, cookies, cakes, bread, and pies — Hoeckele notes that customers can never go wrong with the tried-and-true classics.

"We make over 150 different products [in the] bakery, but our peanut coffee cake is one of those that everybody loves," Hoeckele said. "It's a huge seller. People love a classic, good old glazed donut, and we have a Christmas cookie that is a family recipe — we sell thousands and thousands of them in December, and we are getting ready to have them available for Christmas in July."

The restaurant also specializes in wedding cakes and offers a spread of traditional deli items such as soups, salads, sandwiches, and more.

"It's a hometown feel," Hoeckele said. "If you've been here more than a couple of times, we know your name."

Annually, the restaurant celebrates National Donut Day, Retail Bakery Day, and Christmas, and participates in regional pop-up sales.

"When you come to Perryville, you've gotta hit Hoeckele's, Stonies and Ewalds," Hoeckele said.

The restaurant is located at 1516 Edgemont Blvd, Ste. 10, in Perryville. Doors open at 5 a.m. on Monday-Saturday, and at 5:30 a.m. on Sunday.

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PERRYVILLE/PERRY COUNTY... *Government*



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The governing body for the City of Perryville is its Board of Aldermen. The six-member board, along with the mayor, enact and approve all city ordinances and expenditures, set tax rates and oversee all functions of the city government. They are aided in their efforts by the city administrator, who is in charge of the day-to-day operations of the City. He reports directly to the City Council and carries out all policies established by the council. All department superintendents report directly to the City Administrator. He is also responsible for preparing and managing the Operating Budget and assists in preparing the City Council agendas.

MAYOR

LARRY RINEY

City Hall

215 North West St.

Perryville, MO 63775

Phone 573-547-2594

Fax 573-547-6474

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

BRENT BUERCK

215 North West St.

Perryville, MO 63775

Phone 573-547-2594

Fax 573-547-6474

brentbuerck@cityofperryville.com

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Perryville, MO 63775

Phone 573-768-9493

DEANNA KLINE

9 E. Ste. Marie St.

Perryville, MO 63775

Phone 573-547-5022

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907 Elliot Court

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CURT P. BUERCK

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Perryville, MO 63775

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ALDERMEN WARD 3

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Perryville, MO 63775

Phone 573-768-9758

CLINT RICE

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Phone 573-513-2947

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Fax 573-547-2261

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The City of Frohna, founded in 1839, is governed by a board of aldermen.

CITY OF FROHNA

P.O. Box 99

Frohna, MO 63748

573-547-4533

CITY CLERK

JESSICA PONDER

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And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send Me!" - ISAIAH 6:8*

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PLACES TO PARTICIPATE: Continues to Page 59

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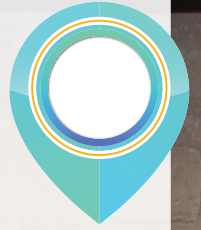
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Camaraderie, patriotism, and Service...



...these are the priorities of the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization in Perryville, Post 4282.

Founded in 1951, the VFW is composed of members that have served in a combat theater.

"So, Iraq, the Gulf guys, guys that are just returning from the Middle East, and of course [veterans of] WWII, Vietnam, and Korea," VFW Quartermaster Dean Myers said. "The auxiliary is for family members of a regular member."

According to Myers, Post 4282 is home to 200 regular members and 300 auxiliary members whose mission is to serve veterans in any way that they can.

"It's a club that supports veterans in a lot of different ways," Myers said. "We give donations to people going through town; just recently, a [veteran] was going through town and we gave him money for gas. When the local National Guard guys returned home, we had a steak dinner for them."

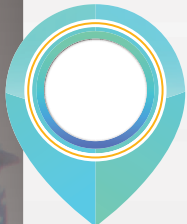
Annually, the VFW participates in parades for the East Perry Community Fair, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and the Fourth of July, as well as military honors for funerals of local veterans. The organization extends their services to other groups and entities as well, including Camp Hope in Farmington and several local schools.

"We do scholarships for St. Vincent's and for Perryville High School," Myers said. "Once a year, we have applications that people fill out and send in. A committee goes through them here and picks one, and we give them a check for \$1000."

Post 4282, led by Commander Tim Boettcher, is located at 610 Thomas St. in Perryville. Members are permitted access to a members-only club room. Meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Other veterans organizations in Perry County include the VFW Auxiliary, American Legion Post 133, Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, AMVETS Post 94, and the AMVETS 94 Ladies Auxiliary.

Food, Fellowship and fun...



...is what's on the menu at the Perry County Senior Center. Designed for those aged 60 and older, the center offers a good meal and a good time.

"It is not just a place to feed your body, but your mind and soul," said Jennifer Freeman, administrator.

Whether for the menu that is prepared by a registered dietician nutritionist or the planned activity for the day, the center is a place to make lifelong friends.

The meal is the most popular aspect of the Senior Center, and provides seniors with daily recommended vitamins and nutrients. Seniors age 60 and older simply pay a small, suggested donation. Annually, the center hosts a variety of parties, including Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's Day, Cardinal Season Opening Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Bingo is held several times per month, and the center hosts a Bake Sale Raffle as a Meals on Wheels fundraiser every Friday. According to Freeman, baked goods donations are needed and welcome.

Bake & Take Treats with Andrea is the Senior Center's fastest growing monthly activity. The Bank of Missouri Birthday Lunch is a jam-packed day with live music and complimentary birthday cake and ice cream provided by The Bank of Missouri. The Bank of Missouri also makes a donation for any senior that day for their lunch.

Other monthly services offered include complimentary blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, and S.M.A.R.T. Senior Services (helps with applications, personal, legal and environmental paperwork).

Monthly foot clinics are conducted for a nominal donation, and Crown Hospice offers complimentary manicures every month. Participants in the foot clinic must be 60 or older and will need to make an appointment.

The Senior Center also provides home-delivered meals through the Meals on Wheels program. To ask about eligibility, call the center for details at 573-547-2188.

"We provide volunteer opportunities for all ages, and volunteers are meal eligible," Freeman said.

For updates on events, visit Perry County Senior Center on Facebook, or stop by the center at 4 N. Spring St. Lunch is served Monday-Friday from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.



PLACES TO... *Participate*



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Perry County Creative Arts...



...It's no secret that Perryville was named the 2024 Creative Community by the Missouri Arts Council — and for good reason. From the murals, Barn Quilt Trail, Sculpture Trail, and performance spaces, there's something for everyone in Perry County. And, since Perry County Creative Arts (PCCA) was formed in 2023, the spectrum of artistic opportunities in the area has exploded.

According to the organization's website, PCCA's mission is to “[ignite] the community through artistic transformation” by fostering “a vibrant and inclusive community through the transformative power of visual and performing arts.”

The group is composed of several officers, a board of directors, and members that are all committed to helping each other and the community grow in their pursuit of the arts.

Annually, PCCA participates in a juried art show during Mayfest, as well as a Chalk Art Festival in September. As the group continues to gain ground, Perry County residents can expect to see a growing presence at local events. Additionally, PCCA hosts a year-round rotating exhibit at the Perry Park Center.

“It showcases local artists who live in Perry County,” PCCA President and Co-Founder Raymond Scott said. “It changes about every six months, and there's a submission process. You don't have to be an annual supporter, so [the exhibit] is for everybody.”

Scott stated that the organization's 5-year plan includes offering evening classes in the visual and performing arts.

“Once or twice a year, we would be bringing in a professional to teach their skill or technique as well,” Scott said.

Meetings take place at 6 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month at the Catalyst Center for Business, 508 N. Main St. in Perryville.

To learn more about PCCA or to support their mission, visit Perry County Creative Arts on Facebook , or see their website at perrycountycreativearts.org.



PERRY COUNTY
creative arts



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PLACES FOR AUTOMOTIVE CARE: Continues to Page 61

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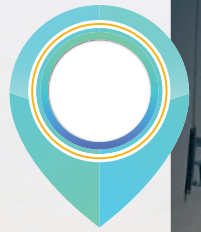
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Once known as the Knights of the Blind...



...members of the Lions Clubs International are uniquely dedicated to providing eye care to those in need. The Perryville Lions Club works with a network of more than 40,000 clubs worldwide to fight blindness and to meet other community needs.

"Helen Keller approached the Lions initially, and that's what got that started," said Scott Sattler, secretary of the Perryville Lions Club and past district governor. "We provide eye care screening in preschools at Perry County School District registration, and we also assist families that are in need of getting glasses for kids."

According to Sattler, the club, chartered in 1930, uses funds to pay for eye exams and sometimes glasses for students that are referred to the program.

The club also contributes to national and international needs by collecting used eyeglasses through local optometrists and through various drop boxes. In Perryville, a yellow mailbox for glasses collections can be found at the corner of North Main Street and East North Street.

"We have a central point in Jefferson City that we take them to, and then we provide those glasses to eye missions overseas and in the United States," Sattler said. "We probably collect over 1,000 to 1,500 glasses over the year."

Once glasses are delivered, the Jefferson City location cleans them, reads prescriptions, catalogs them, and then sponsors several missions trips to bring donated glasses to those in need. According to Sattler, Haiti, Mexico, and several South American countries are just a few destinations that have benefited from the Lions Clubs' outreach.

Locally, the Perryville Lions Club has also assisted with disaster response, such as in the aftermath of the 2017 tornado, and provides two \$1,000 scholarships to students graduating from Perryville and St. Vincent high schools each year.

"We'd love to have anybody join us who wants to help serve the community," Sattler said.

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month at the Elks Lodge, 921 N. Perryville Blvd., Perryville.

Located at 227 Hwy M in Perryville



From Humble Beginnings...



...growth plus a commitment to the community still remains.

From its beginnings 76 years ago to now, Robinson Construction has been focused on growth, and continues to find ways to give back to the community.

"We are primarily an industrial contractor," said president Paul Findlay. "We work for places like Nestle, Conagra, Kellogg's Foods. We do a lot of stuff in the food industry, but we also work for places like Mississippi Lime right up the road in Ste. Genevieve. We do a lot of material handling. We work all over the United States."

Robinson Construction's corporate office is in Perryville (2411 Walters Lane).

While many of the assignments Robinson Construction handles occur in the Midwest, it has also worked projects in Florida, Texas and California.

When a client that you've been working with for 10 years asks you if you'll go to New York or California and build a job for them, your answer is 'Yes, sir.'"

This approach has helped with the company's growth.

"That's how we ended up growing the business," Paul says. "Our philosophy is get hooked up with a client who values what we bring to the table - safety, quality, concern about their needs - and then stay with that client forever."

Paul says the company's connection to the community runs deep.

Robinson Construction did \$3.5 million in new construction in 1986. The total will top over \$100 million in 2022, according to Findlay.

"We want to grow because we need to grow, if you're not growing you're dying," Paul says.

That growth approach leads to additional opportunity for employees, Findlay says.

"I've got a lot of good people that work here and they want opportunity. They want to advance they want more in their career than what I have today, and the only way I can offer that is if I grow," Paul says.

The controlled growth philosophy keeps Robinson Construction committed to Perry County now and in the future.

"It's a philosophy of caring about our employees, of always keeping the best interests of our clients in mind, and we feel committed to the community," Paul says. "We try to do the best we can to give back to the community. I think that makes people proud of where they work."



ROBINSON CONSTRUCTION



PERRY COUNTY... *Industries*



Perry County is home to many different industries, from manufacturing to agriculture, from aviation to construction. Local leaders have long worked to make the area an attractive place for corporations to consider, and those efforts have led to an abundance of opportunities for both employers and prospective employees.

According to 2019 data, the largest industries in Perry County are manufacturing (3,350 people), health care and social assistance (675 people), and retail trade (348 people).

TG MISSOURI

Topping the list of local industry is TG Missouri, an auto parts manufacturer and easily the largest employer in Perry County.

TG Missouri is a subsidiary of TG North America, a division of Toyoda Gosei of Japan. It is considered the mother company for TG's operations in the United States.

Established in 1986, TG Missouri employs nearly 2,000 workers, manufacturing Steering wheels, Airbags, Side Molding, Interior & Exterior plastic trim components for automobiles. TG Missouri's customer base extends across the United States and into Canada, Japan, Australia, Mexico and Taiwan.

The Perryville-based business also manages three other plants.

In 2017, TG Missouri celebrated its 30th anniversary with a company focused celebration recognizing its first plant built in the Americas,

which began operation in 1987, followed by a public ceremony and open house for the Perryville community.

Since opening its doors in 1987, TG Missouri has been heavily involved in the community it calls home, supporting many local causes and even constructing a 5K running trail around its facility and donating it to the city.

"We're part of the Perryville community," said TG Missouri president Dean Link. "We do a lot of work for the community. We like to be a good corporate citizen. We still have a large, large stake in the community. We're making an investment this year and in the future."

GILSTER-MARY LEE

Another of Perry County's largest employers is Gilster-

Mary Lee.

With its corporate headquarters located just across the river in Chester, Gilster has long had a stake in the local industrial scene.

Founded in 1895, the Gilster Milling Company started out purchasing and milling local soft wheat and marketing its "family flour" under several brands. In 1957, Don Welge, a great-nephew of the original Gilsters, joined the company and began an expansion that

INDUSTRIES: Continues to Page 66

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PERRY COUNTY... *Industries*

INDUSTRIES: Continues from Page 65

led to mergers with other companies in Illinois and New Jersey. The days of the small, independent mills were numbered due to the advent of large automated facilities and the decline of scratch baking. Diversification was the only path to survival. At this time the company first moved into private label cake mix, drink mix, and potato products and expanded its operation to the nearby town of Chester, Illinois. In 1969, some Gilster executives left the company and founded a competing company, Mary Lee Packaging, in Perryville. The two companies merged in 1971, creating the Gilster-Mary Lee Corporation, specializing in private label, contract and food service manufacturing.

After 100 years, the modern Gilster-Mary Lee has changed greatly from its flour milling roots. The company now produces thousands of products in hundreds of different private label brands, as well as its own label. The Gilster truck fleet delivers products throughout the United States and Canada, and shipments destined for markets throughout the world leave the Gilster distribution center on a daily basis.

ROLLET BROTHERS TRUCKING

Rollet Brothers started out as a one truck and trailer garage operation hauling wood from the Brewer region of Perryville to St. Louis when Elvis and Shirley Rollet founded it in 1956.

Since then, Elvis and Shirley's sons, David and Michael, have joined the business and

helped transform it into a major regional industry with a trucking fleet of more than 200 tractors and trailers.

"We haul mainly bulk, but we have different kinds of trailers that we pull, so we have a pneumatic tank," said Rollet Brothers HR Manager Sarah Martin. "We pull a lot of lime and things like that for pneumatics. We also have hopper trailers, and then we also have van trailers that haul car parts for us."

These different types of trailers have allowed for a significant growth in the variety of products Rollet Brothers is able to transport, opening the doors to many more markets, both distant and local.

"Our truck routes span over 20 major cities in the Midwestern and Southern parts of the country from Munising, Mich. to Los Indios, Tex," Martin said.

Rollet Brothers, still family-owned after more than 60 years, employs about 150 workers in its shop, wash bay and offices.

ATLAS EPS

Atlas EPS in Perryville is part of Atlas Molded Products, a division of Atlas Roofing Corporation, headquartered in Byron Center, Mich.

With plants across the United States, Atlas Molded Products provides product solutions coast-to-coast, playing a significant role in the growth of technology and product applications in the Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) insulation industry.

The Perryville facility manufactures foam insulation suitable for interior and exterior construction applications, various packaging uses and as a part manufactured systems such as RV's (recreational vehicles), garage doors, and pickup truck hard tonneau covers, to name a few. In addition, Atlas Molded products' shape molding department

produces coolers for consumer and the pharmaceutical industry.

Employing a staff of 78 and growing, Atlas Molded Products is proud to be a part of Perry County's industry.

ROBINSON CONSTRUCTION

Robinson Construction is an award-winning general contracting firm based in Perryville, turned a plumbing, heating and air conditioning business started in 1946 as a one-man plumbing and heating business.

Today, it's a multi-million dollar firm providing construction management, EPC, design-build, and general contracting services to a variety of specialized markets all across the United States.

For Frank Robinson, the firm

has been a lifelong endeavor, beginning when he was 11 and his father gave him his first job sweeping floors. Robinson took over the family business in 1971 when he returned from the Army.

"I think we had four guys working for the plumbing business," Robinson said.

Now, Robinson Construction employs more than 400 people in two locations.

"It's almost all industrial," said president Paul Findlay. "The majority of our work is for places like Nestle, Conagra Foods, we do some in the mining industry — we do a lot for Mississippi Lime — so heavy industrial work is really the key, and the food grade stuff seems to be kind of a good spot for us."

BUCHHEIT AGRICULTURE

Buchheit Agriculture is an independent regional feed and fertilizer manufacturer, serving

INDUSTRIES: Continues to Page 69

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...hauling from place to place. Elvis and Shirley Rollet began hauling wood to St. Louis and other surrounding areas in 1956. Back then, the small company was just a one truck and trailer operation out of a small garage that was hauling mainly wood.

Since then, it has expanded quite a bit into what is known today as Rollet Brothers Trucking. What started humbly has grown into a major, regional presence with a focus on our customers' needs.

Elvis and Shirley's sons, David and Michael have joined into the family business and helped transform it into a major regional industry with a trucking fleet of more than 200 tractors and trailers that hauls mainly bulk materials.

These different types of trailers have allowed for a significant growth in the variety of products Rollet Brothers is able to transport, opening the doors to many more markets, both distant and local, spanning 20 major cities from Michigan to Texas.

The business has grown even more as David and Michael's sons have entered the business and carried the family tradition.

Exceptional service and the highest level of professional integrity Rollet Bros. philosophy in a nutshell. As a leading Midwest transportation and logistics company, employees, individually and collectively, provide excellent, honest and helpful service to customers.

Another aspect that Rollet Brothers is proud of is that it provides its own service to its fleet of trucks with its own team of mechanics and wash bays.

Aside from the trucking business, Rollet Brothers also provides other services. E&R Lime, a subsidiary of Rollet Bros., sells and delivers rock dust to coal mines. It provides both the product the customers need and the logistics to transport that product on time. This highly regulated industry relies on E&R Lime to deliver rock dust, an essential product in safe mining operations.

Rollet Brothers is still family owned after 60 years. Rollet Brothers employs about 150 workers in its shop, wash bays and offices.

Located at 227 Hwy M in Perryville



135 Years of Hometown News...



...The Perry County Republic-Monitor name not only reflects the historic marriage of its two mastheads, but also the mission and role of its staff: to keep a record — monitor — of the concerns of the people — republic.

In 2024, the Republic-Monitor will celebrate 135 years of continuous coverage, sharing in the triumphs, tragedies, and the everyday stories of those who live and work in Perry County.

Although the roots of The Monitor extend back to Perry County's earliest newspaper, The Weekly Perryville Union, the first Perry County Republican masthead dates to 1889. Since that time, the two newspapers in their various forms participated in a healthy rivalry that drove the news industry in the county for nearly a century. Their pages documented every concern imaginable, from local perspectives on world wars to coverage of Sunday picnics.

In 1979, Paul Pautler of The Monitor bought the Republic from Harry Guth, Jr., and in 1985, both papers were purchased by Smith Newspapers, Inc., an Alabama-based, multi-generational family newspaper chain. It wasn't until Jan. 5, 1993, that former publisher Randy Pribble printed the first edition of the Perry County Republic-Monitor.

In January 2023, the paper moved across the square to 11 W. St. Joseph St. The building once housed a Western Auto retailer, a printing company, an ad agency and an insurance office, making it a somewhat familiar destination for many local residents.

In recent years, the Republic-Monitor has covered ground-breaking moments in county history, including the Great Flood of 1993 and the February 2017 tornado. Other major markers for the city that have been documented by the newspaper include expanding educational opportunities, the establishment and growth of TG Missouri and the expansion of Perry County Memorial Hospital, as well as the evolution of Missouri's National Veterans Memorial and its Vietnam Wall replica from the moment of its inception to its grand opening on May 19, 2019.

The Republic-Monitor's award winning staff is proud and excited to help usher the community's newspaper — its voice — into the future.

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PERRY COUNTY... *Industries*

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Buchheit Agriculture is an independent regional feed and fertilizer manufacturer, serving southeast Missouri and southern Illinois.

A division of the larger Buchheit brand which includes a retail division and a logistics division, Buchheit Agri provides

agricultural products for its customers as well as support, advice and information intended to help them become more profitable as producers.

Based in Biehle, Buchheit Agri offers a full-service feed mill, seed cleaning operation, fertilizer blending facility and grain elevator.

In addition, Buchheit offers premium feeds for a variety of animals including: beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, equine, rabbits and poultry and can mix custom feeds for its customers. All feeds are available at the mill, for pick up at one of the company's eight retail locations — four in Missouri and four in Illinois — or by delivery for large orders.

Founded in 1934 by Rudy Bucheit, Buchheit, which employs nearly 700 people, is still family owned and an active member of the Perry County community. Buchheit Logistics, based in Scott City, was recently recognized by the American Legion's Missouri Department as Veterans Employer of the Year for its involvement with the Wreaths Across America event.

EAST PERRY LUMBER COMPANY

East Perry Lumber Company, founded by Marvin F. Petzoldt in 1945, is located in the town of Frohna. The company started as a small portable mill making railroad ties and barn lumber. Today, it manufactures approximately 15 million board feet of lumber annually and has a kiln-drying capacity of about 650,000 board feet.

East Perry Lumber continues to be a family business, owned and operated by the second and third generations of the Petzoldt family, and employs approximately 85 people who, according to the company, "work hard and are committed to doing their part in providing a well-manufactured and consistent product that has built East Perry Lumber's quality reputation."



STARK TRUSS

Stark Truss, founded in 1963, is a manufacturer and supplier of wood components for the construction industry.

At its Perryville facility, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2017, the company builds roof trusses, prefab wall panels and wood-web floor trusses for wholesale construction supply consumers.

Stark Truss' Perryville facility, one of 10 locations serving over 20 states from the Midwest to the East Coast, employs approximately 40 workers.

WEST STAR AVIATION

West Star Aviation is located at the Perryville Regional Airport, located just north of the city on Hwy. N. This location offers access to the company's award-winning maintenance, repair and operations services for the Midwest region, specializing in aircraft maintenance, modifications, and refurbishment for most business aircraft.

The Perryville facility consists of four hangars totaling over 120,000 square feet in hangar and office space, including a 28,000 square foot, state-of-the-art paint facility with a downdraft filtration system.

West Star employs approximately 60 people with plans to add employees and capabilities as they continue to ramp up and develop this location into the company's fourth full-service MRO.

The Perryville facility is an FAA authorized repair station and service center for select corporate airframes.

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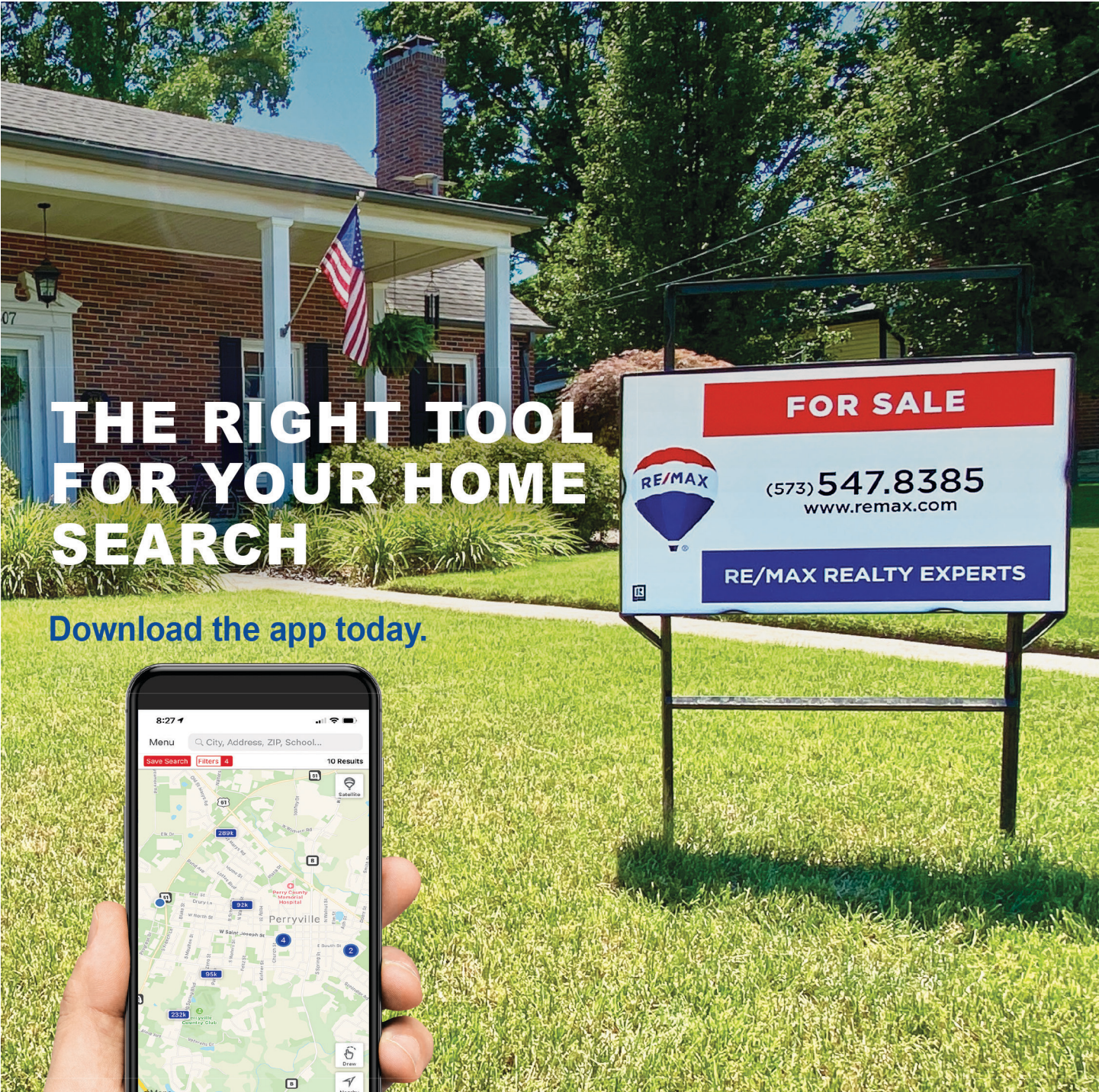
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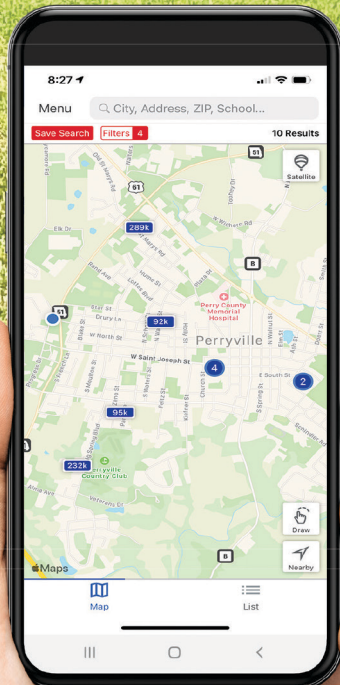
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