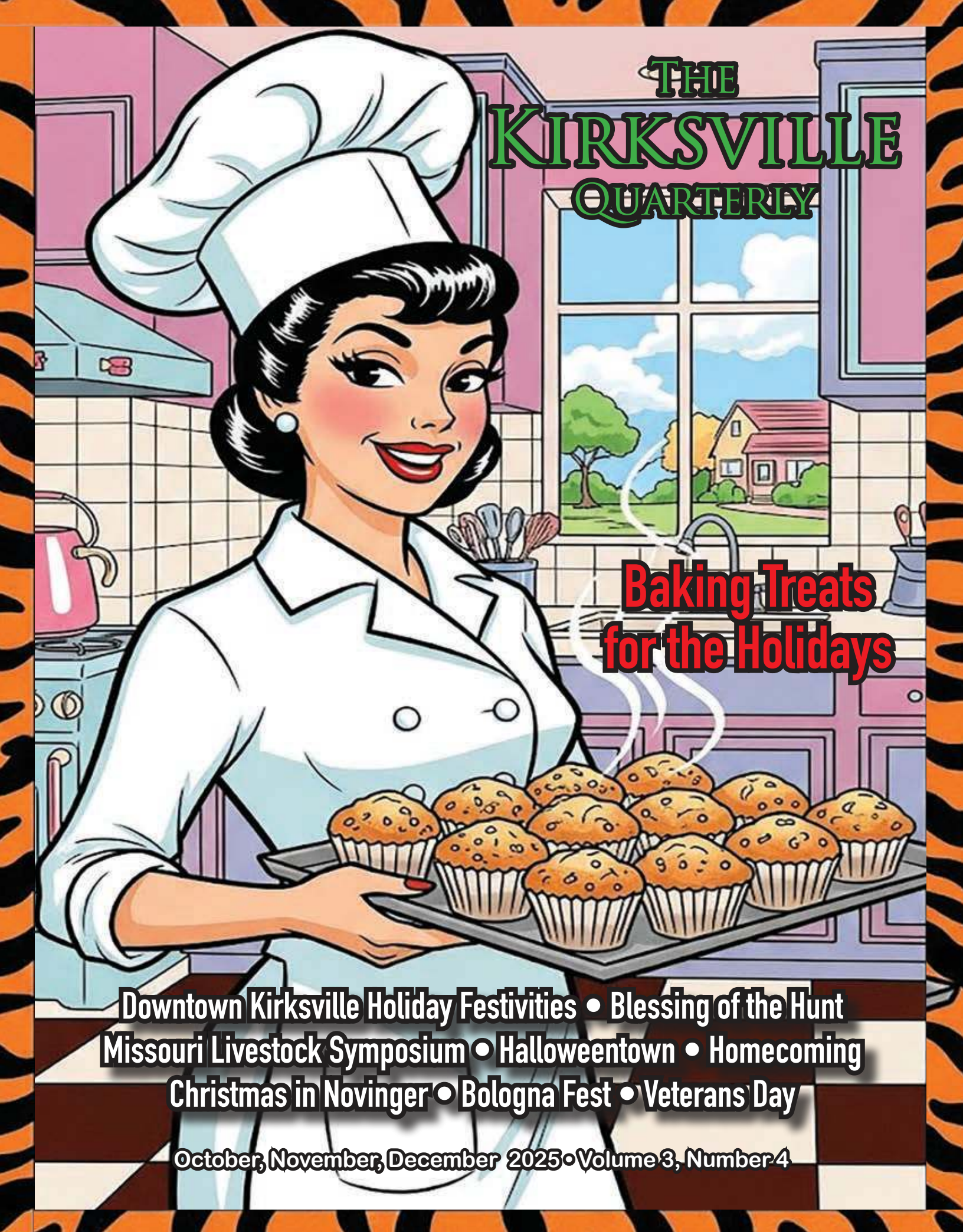




THE KIRKSVILLE QUARTERLY

**Baking Treats
for the Holidays**

**Downtown Kirksville Holiday Festivities • Blessing of the Hunt
Missouri Livestock Symposium • Halloweentown • Homecoming
Christmas in Novinger • Bologna Fest • Veterans' Day**

October, November, December 2025 • Volume 3, Number 4



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THE
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QUARTERLY

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Favorite Holiday Treats for the Entire Family

For many families, baking cookies, cakes, muffins and candies are a long-standing tradition during the holiday season. Nothing beats the warm smell that comes from the oven as a sheet of baked goods is readied for the table.

When Covid hit a few years back, Tiffany Ellis, a homeschool mom, told her daughter that they needed to figure out something to do during the long days of lockdown.

“We were watching some cake decorating shows and decided we wanted to try,” she said. “So that was it, okay, we just started trying.”

They began to make cakes, cinnamon rolls, cupcakes, breads and other kinds of desserts. They made so much, they began giving it away to family, friends and neighbors — and their treats were so delicious, people started ordering their sweets and a small business was born and began to thrive.

“People seemed to really like them but it got to the point where I actually couldn’t keep up with the demand that I had, so we kind of backed off a lot,”

Ellis said, noting that skyrocketing prices for ingredients also played a role in their decision. “When my son was old enough that he was in homeschool, we just didn’t have the time.”

Now, as the holiday season is fast approaching, Ellis and her family are limiting their output of baked goods to just family and close friends, focusing on the favorites that have received the most commentary and praise. Following are five of her family’s favorite holiday recipes, the base of which she got from Pinterest recipes posted by others and then adapted to her style and standards:

- Oreo Balls, a no-bake recipe that combines crushed Oreo cookies, cream cheese and chocolate. “People love Oreo balls, she said, noting that you can make a lot for a little bit of money. “They’re not an expensive thing to make or sell, and they’re bite sized. You just kind of pop them in your mouth and people just really like them.”



Tiffany Ellis

- Cinnamon Rolls, a recipe that includes ground cinnamon and a cream cheese frosting. “People like to have those on Christmas morning,” she said. “It’s an easy breakfast for them and they can just pull it out of the fridge, warm it up and have it before they open gifts.”

- Divinity candy — “but it is super, super, super hard to make and the weather has to be almost perfect for it to turn out really good,” she said. “You have to heat it to a certain temperature and you have to know when to pull it off and stop mixing it — it is just a very finicky recipe. And I’ve talked to many bakers and that’s one thing that everybody struggles with.”

She said that while variants can be found in the bakery section of Walmart; sometimes with cherries on them, sometimes pecans, in order for it to taste like old-fashioned Divinity it has to be made at home “to get that old fashioned flavor where it almost melts in your mouth.

- Carrot Cake — “That one is pretty popular,” she said. “A lot of people want it and that was year ‘round my biggest seller. Everybody always wanted the carrot cake and the recipe I use has coconut and also pineapple in it, which maybe makes it softer. Everybody always loved it because it tasted quite different.”

- Either pumpkin bread or Dutch apple pie — “both



Oreo Balls

of those are actually really popular during those seasons, too.”

While Ellis and her family enjoy cookies, she has yet to consistently perfect a recipe. “I have made some really, really good batches, but I’ve also made some really, really bad batches,” she said. “Sometimes it’s chocolate chips, sometimes it’s oatmeal chocolate. I can make the same recipe five times and it’ll turn out different every time. The key? I know it has to do with the butter and making sure you soften it enough but then chill the dough.”

Peanut brittle is also a recipe she struggles with; “sometimes it turns out,

sometimes it doesn’t,” she said, and fudge she’s only made once or twice.

“Those are very popular,” she said, noting that they’re mass produced so they’re more available and can be bought at more places.

“People aren’t requesting them as much, I guess, because they’re so easily accessible during the holidays,” she said.

Ellis and her kids like to make a variety of things and every year includes a new recipe, depending on what might attract them.

“Usually I’m like, ‘Oh, I just want to make this and I want to make this and I want to make this’ — so I change it up a lot.”



Cinnamon Rolls

Seventh Annual Blessing of the Hunt

Cornerstone Church of Kirksville is hosting the Seventh Annual Blessing of the Hunt to be held on Thursday, Nov. 13, at the NEMO Fairgrounds in Kirksville. Doors will open at 5 p.m. and the speakers will start around 5:30. People from Kirksville, the surrounding area, and folks from out of state have come to enjoy this yearly event to help kick off the start of the local firearms deer season.

Hunting season is one of the biggest draws of people into the local area each year. People have signed cards from five or six different states each year they've held the event. The Blessing of the Hunt allows hunters to come and relax, socialize with fellow hunters, learn a few things about hunting safety, and hopefully take home some really nice prizes! This year's grand prize includes a deer blind built on a trailer, and a nice deer rifle with scope. (Must be present to win) There will also be many door prizes from area businesses and vendors at the event.

The cost to put on the event continues to grow each year as well. One main fundraiser that Cornerstone Church does each month is serve a full breakfast before church service. Donations are taken for the meal and the members have really helped this event become a success. Another loyal source of financial support has come from the City of Kirksville Tourism Center.



Speakers this year include the Missouri Conservation Department, Adair County Ambulance District, Kelvin Curtis, from the NRA-ILA Grassroots Programs, and Aaron Scheer, from Center Shot Ministries. This is an organization from Wisconsin that helps schools and other organizations set up archery lessons and classes. If you ever participated in archery while in school, chances are your school received equipment and instruction from Center Shot Ministries.

Another part of the event that has become so important is the chance to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the keynote speaker. The 500+ guests in attendance will get the opportunity to fill out a card at the end of the event to indicate if they made a decision of faith, rededicated their life to Christ, or just need prayer or a church to belong to. These cards are used to draw for the grand prize at the end of the event.

By Frank
Miller

Missouri Hunter Education Skills Session

Join the Missouri Department of Conservation's Hunter Education skills session on Oct. 3 from 5:30-9 p.m. and Oct. 25 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Participants must be 11 years old and have first completed the knowledge portion of the course prior to attending the skills session. This is done either by completing the online version (for a fee) and showing a screenshot or copy of the certificate, or filling out the student manual chapter review questions and bringing the booklet to class for instructor review (no charge).

Free student manuals are available at the Northeast Regional Office (3500 S. Baltimore Street in Kirksville) or from the MDC website. At the end of the skills session, participants will take a 35-question test over the information covered in both the knowledge and skills portions of the Missouri Hunter Education course.

Registration is required but only participants seeking certification should register; parents or guardians are welcome to attend but should not register. Please do not bring young children who are not attending the class itself as they are in a very focused group.



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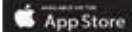
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**20th Annual
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The annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner is held at Hamilton Street Baptist Church in Kirksville in November (Check kirksvilledailyexpress.com for date and time). The event is a dine-in only meal of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, noodles, dressing, green beans, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pumpkin pie with whipped topping., coffee and soft drinks.

Past dinners were made possible through a partnership with Adair County SB40, Brashear Schools, Chariton Valley Association, Colton's, Hightower Supply, Hope's Kitchen, Hy-Vee, and Walmart.



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7th annual Halloween Town set for Oct. 31

Halloween Town brings hundreds of kids and families together to celebrate Halloween. The event is made possible by the Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department and more than 100 community partners. This year will be the 7th Halloween Town, a safe, fun and interactive trick-or-treat experience all in one location. Changes may be coming to the event this year, so visit kirksvilledailyexpress.com in October for all the details.



Halloween Flashlight EGGstravaganza

The Flashlight Eggstavaganza will be held on Saturday, October 25th at the North Park Sports Complex. Prepare for an egg-hunting adventure like no other as 11,000 eggs filled with candy and toys are scattered across the ballfields. Don't forget to bring your flashlight and a bag because the egg hunt begins promptly at 7 p.m.!



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DONATE: We are entirely dependent on donations for saving dogs and cats. Spay/neuter fees, vaccinations, food and much more quickly add up. We are a tax exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization. All donations stay local!

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The Magic of Christmas

Christmas time is always an exciting time of the year for Kirksville residents and visitors alike, beginning with the annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade on Saturday, Nov. 29 at 5:30 p.m. in downtown Kirksville. The Grand Marshall this year will be Brad Hudson.

The annual tree lighting ceremony and live music will be held following the parade. Main Street Kirksville will offer S'mores and horse drawn carriage rides.

Other activities include the Main Street Merry Market, Toasty Trail Fire Pit area by Lemmon Landscaping; Window Wonderland, Santa and the Chamber of Commerce Shop Local activities.



Truman State Homecoming

Truman State University Homecoming parade and football game will be held on Oct. 18, with the parade starting at 9 a.m. followed by a tailgate party and the game at 1:30 p.m.

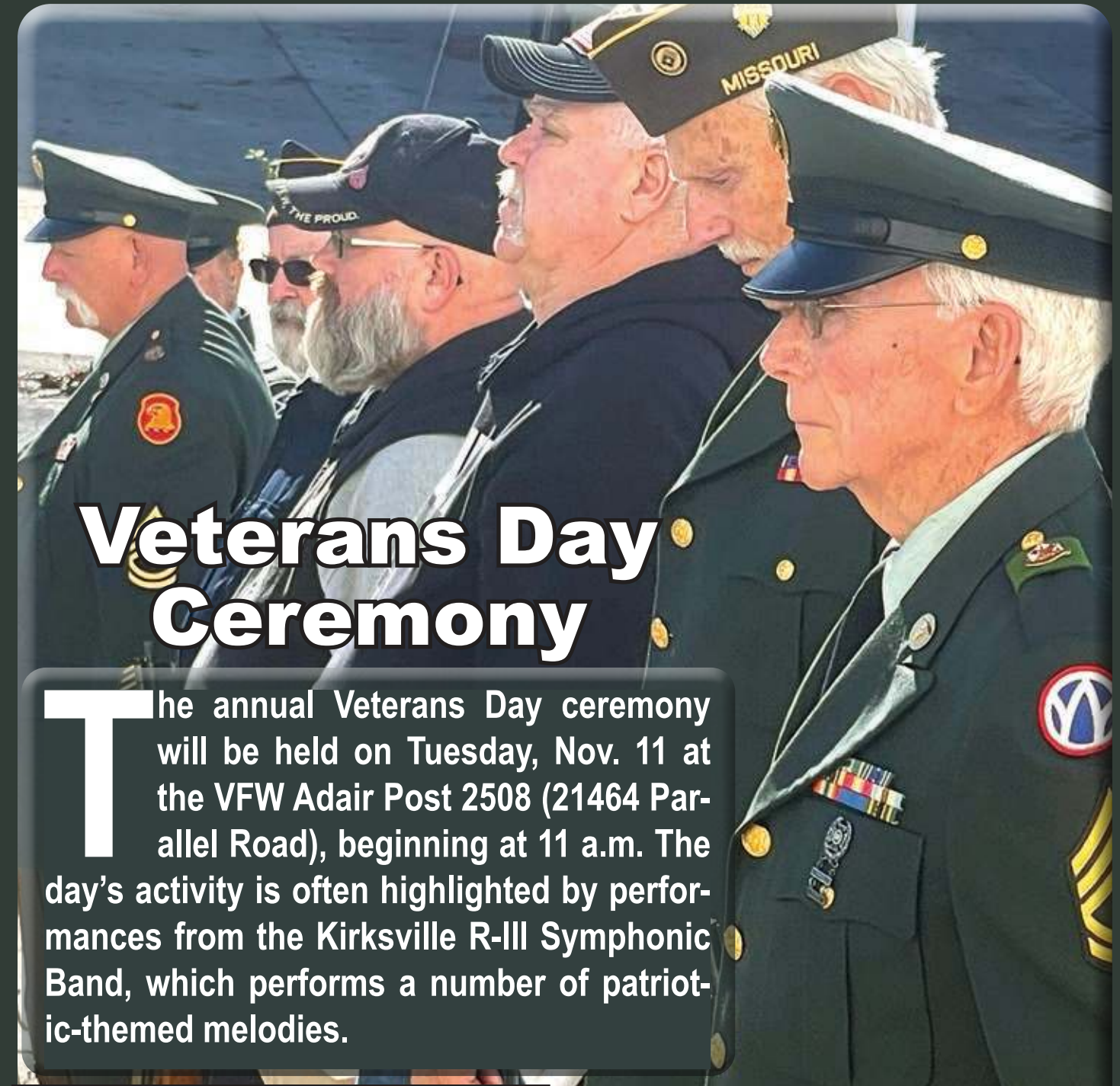
The Bulldog tradition began in 1939, and has been celebrated every year except the WWII years of 1942-45.



Kirksville HS Homecoming



Kirksville High School will hold their homecoming on Friday, Oct. 10, with the homecoming Parade held in downtown Kirksville at 4 p.m. and the football game being played at Spainhower Field at 7 p.m.



Veterans Day Ceremony

The annual Veterans Day ceremony will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at the VFW Adair Post 2508 (21464 Parallel Road), beginning at 11 a.m. The day's activity is often highlighted by performances from the Kirksville R-III Symphonic Band, which performs a number of patriotic-themed melodies.



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Thousand Hills State Park Calendar of Events

Petroglyph Tour

Thousand Hills State Park Petroglyph Tour will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 10 a.m. Thousand Hills State Park is home to a collection of petroglyphs or rock carvings made by ancestors of today's American Indians. Explore the petroglyphs with park staff to learn more about this unique piece of history. Meet at the petroglyph shelter located next to the beach.



Something About a Snake

Something About a Snake will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. Something about a snake make them sssuper important. Join park staff to learn what that reason is and why snakes are unique. Meet at the Campground 1 amphitheater.

Spooktacular Stargazing

Spooktacular Stargazing will be held on Friday, Oct. 24 from 7-9 p.m. Come out to Thousand Hills State

Park for a night of spooktacular stargazing. Learn about constellation myths and explore the stars in the night sky. Meet at the Point Shelter.

Winter Painting

Winter Painting will be held on Saturday, Oct. 25, from noon-2 p.m. Art is a wonderful way to connect ourselves to nature. Learn how to paint a winter nature scene with staff and volunteers. Supplies will be provided but you may bring your own if you prefer. Seating is limited. To

ensure a spot, call the park office 660-665-6995. Meet at the Special Use Area.

Night Sky Exploration

Night Sky Exploration will be held on Friday, Nov. 7 from 5-7 p.m. Celebrate the night sky at Thousand Hills State Park. Explore the night sky and learn about some of the stories in the sky. There will be telescopes but everybody is welcome to bring their own telescopes, chairs, and binoculars. Meet at the Point



Daily Express Fundraiser helps feed families

Kirksville's Hope's Kitchen will continue into its 26th year of operation with the help of The Daily Express' annual fundraiser, which traditionally begins in November and runs through early December. Since the Daily Express began organizing the fundraiser in 2001, it has raised more than \$141,000 for the kitchen. The fundraiser is the main source of donations that Hope's Kitchen, which is run by ATSU medical students, receives. All of the money is used toward buying food and supplies.

In 1999, Kirksville High School students Rachel Higgins and Megan Lesczynski started the volunteer effort. Students now make the free meals two Saturdays a month during the school year, August through May. About 150 meals are made and can be picked up or delivered. More than 100 ATSU students volunteer to cook, answer phones, take orders and deliver the meals.

Donations can be mailed to the Daily Express office (705 E. LaHarpe Street, Suite F), or hand delivered. A minimum donation of \$1 will allow the donor to have their name published in each week's Daily Express fundraising summary, as well as in a giant Christmas card that appears in The Daily Express. Visit kirksvilledailyexpress.com for upcoming details.



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Truman State University Activity Calendar

Art Gallery Exhibitions

“New Works” by Aaron Fine and “Popol Vuh: The Sacred Book of the Quiche Through Illustration” runs through Oct. 20 at the University Art Gallery in Ophelia Parrish 1114.

‘The 39 Steps’

Theatre performance on Oct. 2, 3, 4, 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the James G. Severns Theatre in Ophelia Parrish

Food Trucks on Campus

Oct. 3, 4-7 p.m.

Truman Experience Weekend

Oct. 3-4.

North Star Music Festival

Opening Concert on Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

North Star Music Festival

Guest Artist Concert on Oct. 25 at 4 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

North Star Music Festival

Closing Concert on Oct. 25

at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Art Gallery Exhibitions

“New Work” by Danielle Yakle and “If You Build It (Til Kingdom Come)” by Jared Peterson. Oct. 27-Nov. 21 at the University Art Gallery in Ophelia Parrish 1114

Piano Festival

Guest Artist Recital
Oct. 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Piano Festival

Winners’ Recital
Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Fall Choral Concert

Nov. 2 at 3 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Food Trucks on Campus

Nov. 4 at 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

‘Cabaret’

Theatre performance on Nov. 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the James

G. Severns Theatre in Ophelia Parrish.

Truman Clarinet Choir Fall Concert

Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

Faculty Trio Recital

Nov. 16 at 4 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

Wind Symphony I and Honor Band

Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Baldwin Hall Auditorium

Jazz Bands Concert

Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

Wind Symphony II Concert

Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

Saxophone Studio Recital

Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

BA/BFA Capstone Art Exhibition

Dec. 1-5 at the University Art Gallery in Ophelia Parrish 1114.

Concert Band Performance

Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Wind Symphony I Concert

Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

Holiday Choral Concert

Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall

Piano Studio Recital

Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. at Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

‘La Bohème’ by Ozarks Lyric Opera

Kohlenberg Lyceum Series, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

Local Bands Playing Nearby

No Apology

Oct. 18 — Avalon Bar and Grill 8-12 p.m.

BootCut

Oct. 8 — WWII Veterans send off at Kirksville Airport
Oct. 25 — Club One Kirksville
Nov. 21 — OutSkirts Loraine, Ill.
Dec. 31 — Club One Kirksville

Fully Loaded

October 25 — A-Town Bar & Grill, Tina Avalon 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.
Nov. 8 — IC Billiards, Centralia, 8 p.m.-12 a.m. with Zach Long on Guitar
Dec. 6 — C Billiards, Centralia, 8 p.m.-12 a.m.

Aaron Russell Band

Oct. 4 — VFW-Kirksville 7-10 p.m.
Oct. 11 — VFW-Kirksville 7-10 p.m.
Oct. 25 — VFW-Kirksville 7-10 p.m.
Nov. 1 — VFW-Kirksville 7-10 p.m.
Nov. 8 — Black Diamond Jubilee-Macon
Nov. 22 — Black Diamond Jubilee-Macon
Dec. 6 — VFW-Kirksville 7-10 p.m.
Dec. 13 — Black Diamond Jubilee-Macon
Dec. 27 — Black Diamond Jubilee-Macon

Maple Repertory Theatre

Church Basement Ladies: A Second Helping

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2 p.m. – MRTea Talk Back
Sunday, Oct. 5, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner
Sunday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner

The Glass Menagerie

Friday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. – Afterglow
Sunday, Oct. 19, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner & Library Day
Sunday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. – Library Day
Friday, Oct. 24, 2 p.m. – MRTea Talk Back
Sunday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner

Elvis Has Left The Building

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m. – Ladies Night Out Event
Friday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m. – Afterglow
Sunday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner
Friday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m. – MRTea Talk Back
Sunday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m. – Sunday Dinner

The Maples Repertory Theatre is located at 102 N. Rubey Street in Macon.

Curtain Call Theatre

Prescription: Murder

Oct. 17-18 (Friday - Saturday); Oct. 23-25 (Thursday - Saturday) all at 7 p.m. at the Curtain Call Theatre, 512 W. Elizabeth Street in Kirksville. \$15 General Admission. Tickets available at HyVee Service Desk beginning Oct. 6 — or at the door.



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Sue Ross Arts Center Events

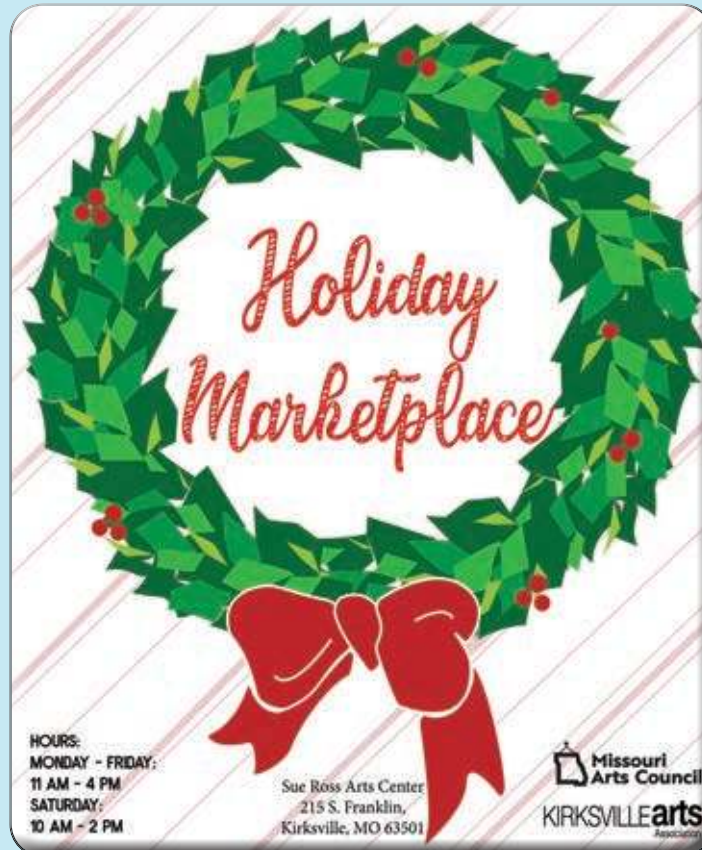


Holiday Marketplace Nov. 14-Dec. 14 Sue Ross Arts Center

- Hands of Friendship Quilt Guild Exhibit through Oct. 26
- Art Auction and Soup Luncheon with bowls made by Jeanne Scott celebrating 50 years of Red Barn, Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Art will be on exhibit at the Sue Ross Arts Center from Nov. 2-10.

*Sue Ross Arts Center is open Mon-Fri, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.*



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Christmas in Novinger



Christmas in Novinger will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 120 booths in three locations:

- 39th Country Christmas Craft Festival at Novinger School

- Holiday Bazaar – Novinger Community Center and
- Shopper's Delight – Novinger Fire House

The events benefits Novinger Renewal. Call 660-342-6455 for more information.

Celebrating Christmas Thru Music



Celebrating Christmas Thru Music will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. at the former Novinger Methodist Church, 606 Davis Street. Join them for vocals, instrumentals, community singing and tours of the historic building. Free admission and refreshments. Handicap accessible thru north door. Call 660-342-6455.

Fall into Place Puzzle Party



Fall into Place Puzzle Party will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. at the Novinger Community Center. One to four-person teams, \$5 per person entry fee. Pre-registration requested by Oct. 12 by calling 660-342-6455. Teams will draw for puzzles, first team to assemble their puzzle wins. 50% payback of total entry fees collected! Refreshments available by donation. Call 660-342-6455.





Sojourner's Club to be Featured in October's Adair County Historian

It was a "Sojourner," the wife of a U.S. Senator from Ohio who is the reason for the Sojourner's Club in Kirksville today.

Julia Foraker, whose 4-year-old son Arthur was diagnosed with an incurable condition, came to Kirksville to have him treated by Dr. A.T. Still, the founder of osteopathic medicine. Dr. Still was able to cure the boy after a period of time, during which his mother organized the club and its beginning members.

The building that once housed the Sojourner's Club is now home to the Adair County Historical Society and its museum.

A story about the roots of the organization titled "A Boy Named Arthur," will be one of many that appear in the October issue of The Adair County Historian magazine, due out in October.

To subscribe to the quarterly, contact the museum at adaircohistorical@gmail.com. Past issues are available at the museum. The museum, which has three floors of displays, is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 1-4 p.m.

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26th Annual Missouri Livestock Symposium



The 26th Annual Missouri Livestock Symposium, the premier educational event and trade show for livestock producers, will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11 and Friday, Dec. 12, at the Truman State University Student Union Building (901 S. Franklin Street) in Kirksville. Don't miss their lineup of nationally-known speakers covering timely topics, and their large

agricultural trade show. There's no cost to attend and no pre-registration is required. Just show up and enjoy the educational programs and trade show. The trade show opens at 3 p.m. on Thursday with the evening reception at 6 p.m., where the Livestock Achievement Award winner will be announced. Morning educational sessions are offered at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. on Friday.



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Fall 2025 NEMO Job Fair

The Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce and Missouri Job Center will hold the Fall 2025 NEMO Job Fair on Friday, Oct. 17 from 11 a.m. -3 p.m. at Moberly Area Community College, 2105 E. Normal Avenue in Kirksville.



3rd Annual Bologna Fest

In recognition of National Bologna Day, the 3rd Annual Bologna Fest will be happening on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 3 – 5:30 p.m. in the Downtown Kirksville Square. Bolognafest features free bologna products as well as games and activities for attendees. The Oscar Mayer Frankmobile, will be displayed downtown during the event.

Kraft Heinz, Truman State University, the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce and the city of Kirksville are sponsoring Bolognafest, an entirely free event.



est, an entirely free event.

The Kirksville plant produces all more than 1,000 people in northeast Missouri.

aged and sold in the world.

In addition to free bologna and fried bologna sandwiches, there will be booths featuring games, prizes, balloons and face painting.

Kirksville's Oscar Mayer plant has been part of the community for nearly 40 years. A \$250 million expansion of the facility was completed in 2017, and the plant now employs

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