

# September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

See page 3  
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Cass County Public Library 75  
ALA American Library Association  
OverDrive  
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## LOCAL FUEL PRICES

TUESDAY..... \$3.15  
LAST WEEK..... \$3.32  
LAST MONTH..... \$3.49  
LAST YEAR..... \$2.84

# THE NORTH CASS HERALD

BELTON • RAYMORE • PECULIAR  
northcassherald.com

WEEKEND WEATHER: FRIDAY: 88 63 SATURDAY: 85 58 SUNDAY: 76 54 Vol. 11, No. 9

## Man shoots self after 5-plus hour standoff

By Allen Edmonds  
allen@northcassherald.com

A 37-year-old Belton man reportedly shot himself after a Thursday afternoon standoff that lasted more than five hours, closed streets and trapped nearby residents in their homes while keeping others from returning home throughout the afternoon.

Jason Taillon was pronounced dead at an area hospital following the incident, according to police.

According to Belton Police, officers were

dispatched to a residence in the 500 block of Hargis Lane at 12:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in connection with a disturbance report involving a firearm. Prior to officers' arrival, the release said, "a female subject female subject escaped the residence and was taken to a secure location by officers. A male subject was contacted in the street and he was armed with a gun."

That report was issued at 3:50 p.m., more than three hours after the original report.

However, area residents throughout the

community had grown more and more concerned in the hours leading up to that communication as they received word of school lockdowns and potential release delays, encountered closed streets being guarded by armed officers from multiple agencies and observed the Cass County Sheriff's Office's mobile command unit parked near the center of the city.

More than an hour after the incident be-

See **STANDOFF**, page 3

### DATEBOOK

- WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7**  
Peculiar Farmers Market, 4-7 pm, Peculiar Lions Club, 500 Schug Ave, Peculiar
- THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8**  
Belton Farmers Market, 4-7 pm, Assembly of God Church, 613 E North Ave  
...  
Peculiar Board of Aldermen, 6:30 pm, City Hall, 250 S Main  
...  
Belton School Board, 7 pm, Central Office, 110 W Walnut  
...  
Raymore-Peculiar School Board work session, 7 pm, Administrative Services Center, 21005 S School Rd, Peculiar
- FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9**  
Peculiar Farmers Market, 4-7 pm, Center St and St Rt C  
...  
**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL:** Fort Osage at Belton, Liberty at Ray-Pec, both 7 pm  
...  
BELTON FALL FESTIVAL, Main Street
- SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10**  
BELTON FALL FESTIVAL, Main Street
- SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11**  
HAPPY GRANDPARENTS' DAY!
- MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12**  
Peculiar Park Board, 6:30 pm, City Hall, 250 S Main  
...  
Raymore City Council, 7 pm, City Hall, 100 Municipal Circle
- TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13**  
Mount Pleasant Fire District, 11 am, New Hope Christian Church, 18809 S State Route Y  
...  
Raymore Farmers' Market, 4-7 pm, Municipal Circle  
...  
West Peculiar Fire Board, 7 pm, Station 1, 200 S Main
- WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 14**  
Peculiar Farmers Market, 4-7 pm, Peculiar Lions Club, 500 Schug Ave, Peculiar



## Stuff the Bus!

**Courtesy photos**  
More than 650 Raymore-Peculiar, Cass Midway and Harrisonville school students benefitted from this year's 14th Annual Stuff the Bus school supply drive, led by Community Bank. In addition to supplies that filled the bank lobbies in Raymore and Harrisonville, the drive collected more than \$7,000 in monetary donations. Numerous community organizations assisted Community Bank employees in pulling off the annual drive. For more details and photos, see page 2.



## Judge sets hearing on Western Cass restraining order

By Allen Edmonds  
allen@northcassherald.com

HARRISONVILLE – Cass County Circuit Judge Mike Wagner has set a hearing date regarding a request for a restraining order filed by Citizens for Transparency and Accountability against the Western Cass Fire Protection District after the district allegedly locked board members Kerry VanMeveren and Darvin Schildknecht out of district business.

VanMeveren is part of the "Citizens" group that recently sued the district seeking the appointment of a Special Master to investigate alleged misuse of taxpayer funds in operating the district.

In addition, the District last week filed its own suit in Cass County Circuit Court Division 1, before Presiding Circuit Judge William Collins, seeking the removal of VanMeveren from the elected board.

The restraining order motion will be heard at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, by Wagner in Division 2. No hearings have been set in either the original suit by the "Citizens" group or the countersuit by Western Cass.

"Citizens" is asking Wagner for a restraining order, "requiring that the District restore all directors with access to real time financial information so that they can fulfill a key obligation of their office: to monitor, and be able to react immediately to District expenditures."

The filing also alleges that "members, officers, and employees of the District have harassed and bullied two Board members – most recently at the end of an August 24, 2023 (sic) meeting. The Court should order that Defendants cease any such harassment."

The restraining order is necessary immediately, the

See **WESTERN CASS**, page 3

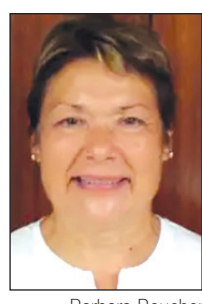
## Resignation creates Library Board opening

By Allen Edmonds  
allen@northcassherald.com

HARRISONVILLE – The Cass County Library Board of Trustees will have an unexpected opening following the sudden resignation of Barbara Boucher of Peculiar last week.

Presiding Cass County Commissioner Bob Huston said he had not been made aware of the reason for the resignation. Boucher had been reappointed in 2020 to serve another four-year term, scheduled to end in July 2024. She is also a former Raymore-Peculiar School Board member, and a former teacher in the Ray-Pec district.

The county commission will appoint a replacement for Boucher. Citizens can apply to serve on the board by downloading an application at casscounty.com.



Barbara Boucher

**NH**  
The North Cass Herald  
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# NEWS BYTES

## American Legion Auxiliary meets

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 488 will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the Belton Police Department, 7001 E. 163rd St.

Current and prospective new members including spouses, mothers, wives, daughters and granddaughters of all branches of the United States military, veterans and present-day service men and women are cordially invited to attend.

## Knights host Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night

A Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo Night, hosted by Knights of Columbus, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, at the St. Sabina Catholic Church gym, 700 Trevis Ave., Belton

Dinner will begin at 5 p.m. and bingo at 6 p.m. Bingo cards are \$5 each.

## MoDOT to host public hearing

RAYMORE – MoDOT Kansas City will be hosting a public hearing regarding an upcoming intersection improvement project at the south junction of M-291 and M-58/Hubach Hill from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14 at the Raymore Elementary School Gym located at 500 W. Madison Street, Raymore. This project will make improvements to the intersection with the addition of a roundabout.

Please note that this is an open house style meeting and NO formal presentations will be made. Those interested can attend the meeting anytime between the advertised hours to ask questions, learn more about the project, and leave comments. There will also be an option to leave comments online beginning Wednesday, Sept. 14, for 30 days by visiting the project webpage.

For those unable to attend the meeting or access the project information online, project materials are available by request at the MoDOT district office located at 600 NE Colbern Rd. in Lee's Summit, MO. Customers may contact Project Manager Christopher West by calling 816-607-2211 or e-mail at christopher.west@modot.mo.gov.

## OATS Transit open for regular service

OATS Transit is open for regular transportation service. Please call the OATS Transit office at 816-380-7433 or 800-480-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about service in your area.

You can also visit our website at [www.oatstransit.org](http://www.oatstransit.org) and click on your county under the tab "Bus Schedules" to view your local schedule. OATS Transit is available to the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. We also contract with a number of agencies to serve their clients.

We are hiring drivers statewide in case you know of someone who would make a great driver, so we can continue serving our riders.

OATS Transit offices will be closed and regular routes will not be running on Monday, Sept. 5, for Labor Day. Please keep this in mind as you schedule trips near this holiday.

## Sheriff's Rodeo planned for October

HARRISONVILLE – The Cass County Sheriff's Office Auxiliary is excited to host the Cass County Sheriff's Rodeo this Oct. 7 and 8 at the Harrisonville North Park Rodeo Grounds. The goal of the CCSO Auxiliary is to provide a premiere benefit rodeo that will support our commitment to public safety and children through the efforts of the Sheriff's Auxiliary.

"The Sheriff's Auxiliary is delighted to bring back this fun and family friendly Rodeo to the area. Our goal is to assist the Sheriff's office in helping keep the residents of Cass County safe" said Auxiliary President Darren Rew.

Proceeds benefit the Sheriff's Auxiliary, a volunteer 501(c)(3) public service organization. The CCSO Auxiliary provides support to the community through children programs and specialized team assistance.

For more information or questions about sponsorship email [rodeo@cassmosheriff.org](mailto:rodeo@cassmosheriff.org).

# AREA NEWS

## Cass County Public Library celebrates Library Card Sign-up Month

HARRISONVILLE – September is Library Card Sign-up Month, when libraries nationwide join together to remind parents, caregivers, and students that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Libraries play a crucial role in the education and development of children, offering a variety of programs to spark creativity and stimulate an interest in reading and learning.

Through access to technology, media resources, and educational

programs, a library card gives students the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams, explore new passions and interests, and find their voice.

At Cass County Public Library, patrons of all ages can find a variety of educational resources and activities, including book clubs, author visits, craft workshops, genealogy programs, and informative presentations for adults and families.

"The Library provides access to a variety of resources and so many opportunities for members of the

community to learn new skills," said Heather Emokpae, Youth Services Coordinator. "A library card is one of the most important tools a student can have."

Cass County Public Library, along with libraries everywhere, continues to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving community needs. Explore all the library has to offer, like new children's books, access to technology, and educational programming.

To sign up for a library card or to learn more about the library's resources and programs, visit [casscolibrary.org](http://casscolibrary.org) or your local branch.

## Molendorp disburses \$1.2 million in August collections

HARRISONVILLE – Cass County Collector of Revenue Chris Molendorp has released August 2022, property tax disbursement figures for Cass County's local political subdivisions.

Molendorp disbursed \$1,190,692.35 to 55 separate local political subdivisions and the State of Missouri.

Cass County's public-school districts were the largest recipients with total disbursements of \$451,961.81. Of those districts, Raymore-Peculiar R-2 received \$133,890.06; Belton #124 received

\$119,923.72; and Harrisonville R-9 received \$75,283.23.

The second largest recipients were Cass County's cities and villages. In total, Molendorp disbursed \$81,155.96 in this category to 20 cities and villages with Belton receiving the most at \$35,528.82. The City of Raymore received \$17,445.03 and the City of Pleasant Hill was third, receiving \$7,901.78.

Cass County's 14 fire and ambulance districts were the third largest recipients by category at \$56,126.94.

The South Metropolitan Fire

and Ambulance District were the largest recipients in this category, receiving \$26,117.36. West Peculiar Fire and Ambulance received \$6,936.20. Central Cass Fire and Ambulance received \$6,039.75 and Pleasant Hill Fire was fourth with \$8,244.81.

The full disbursement report may be viewed at:

<https://www.casscounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/2043/Collectors-Monthly-Disbursements>.

Collector Chris Molendorp may be reached at (816) 380-8377 or [collector@casscounty.com](mailto:collector@casscounty.com).

## Belton to host annual Fall Festival this weekend

On the heels of the hugely successful Belton 150 celebration, Main Street will be host to another get-together this weekend – this one a traditional event.

The Belton Fall Festival runs from 5-10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.

to 10 p.m. Saturday on Main Street.

Shop more than 75 vendors, enjoy live entertainment, grab a bite to eat at one of the food trucks and shop all the local businesses.

The event is an annual function of Downtown Belton Main Street,

Inc.

As always, the event will feature live entertainment both evenings, as well as strolling entertainers.

A Car-B-Que will also be sponsored by Belton Parks and Recreation at Memorial Park.

# WESTERN CASS:

Continued from page 1

plaintiff claims, because "in addition to extra-budget expenditures already approved, there are more proposals before the Board – one

that could, with the spending already approved, total as much as \$100,000 in spending during 2022 beyond the amount budgeted...to

spend that much could make the District insolvent," or at least, consume all or part of the District's reserve funds, according to the filing.

# STANDOFF:

Continued from page 1

gan, the following statement was posted to the Belton Police Facebook page: "The Belton Police Department is currently working a critical incident in the area of Hargis and Westover. Please stay indoors and stay clear of the area. We will inform you when it is safe to resume normal activities. Thank you." The next update didn't come until nearly 4 p.m.

At 6:39 p.m., police is-

sued a statement reporting that the suspect had "shot himself" and had been transported to a local hospital. The statement also said that officers were collapsing the perimeter and that residents would be able to return to the area shortly.

At 8:55 p.m., a new

statement was issued reporting the suspect had died, and that police would not release the man's identity pending notification of next of kin.

On Tuesday of this week, the department declined to provide the report on the incident, pending approval, but did

provide Taillon's identity. According to an obituary, Taillon had grown up in Independence and graduated from Truman High School.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

If payment is not received, Budget Self Storage will sell the contents of the following unit(s) to satisfy its lien for charges due:

Units:  
A150 and A126

The sale will be held at 128 E. Hargis, Belton, MO 64012 on Saturday, September 17, 2022, beginning at 10 a.m. Terms of sale are cash only, no checks. All goods are sold in "as-is" condition. All items or units may not be available on sale date.

PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2022



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**LEGAL NOTICE**

Storage units #21 G Hilliard, #39 G Labosky, #54 P Carbah, #27 M Lopez, #30 K Caddell will be sold after 9/14/22. Belton Self Storage-North, Belton, MO. Storage units #B15 K Robinson, #Y22 S Ulses, #A11 C Parker will be sold after 9/14/22. Belton Self Storage-South, Belton, MO.

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