

## Discoloring of water may occur

Residents in Mound City may experience discoloring of water this month. Employees of the Mound City Water Department are flushing water mains and hydrants between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday during October. Residents in areas near lines being flushed may have discolored water for awhile, but this should not last very long. Simply run water briefly until it becomes clear for usage.

## Graham Lions to host fish and chicken fry

The Lions Club in Graham, MO, will be hosting a "Fish and Chicken Fry with Mountain Oysters" on Saturday, November 3. The meal will be served from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the Graham Community Building. It is an "All You Can Eat" dinner with adults eating for \$10; youth three to 12 eating for \$5; and children under the age of three dining for free.

## Customer appreciation at Rogers Pharmacy

Rogers Pharmacy in Mound City will be hosting its annual Customer Appreciation Day on Tuesday, November 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Staff members at the local pharmacy will be serving refreshments and there will be drawings for prizes during the event. This is a way for Rogers Pharmacy to celebrate its loyal customers, so mark those calendars to stop by on November 6.

## Suicide awareness walk on Saturday

Holt County will observe a suicide awareness walk this Saturday, October 27, at the ballpark in Forest City, MO. The walk will begin at 6 p.m. and lanterns will be available to send off in memory of loved ones. Refreshments of cocoa, coffee and cookies will be available during the walk.

## Waterfowlers' Hall of Fame to make inductions

The Waterfowlers' Hall of Fame in Holt County will be inducting new members at its Sportsman's Dinner on Saturday, November 3. The annual event will be held at The Klub on the north end of Nebraska Street in Mound City. The social hour begins at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Honorees this year are William T. (Terry) Tholen, Dan Guyer, Pete Ramsel and Dr. William H. Hervey II.

Dinner reservations may be made by calling 660-491-5436 (leave a message); or tickets will also be available at the door that evening. A Waterfowlers' Hall of Fame Special Edition WHOF00010 Henry Golden Boy will be given away at the event. Gun raffle tickets may be purchased from Joe Laukemper, Chris Waegle, Randy Patterson or Jayson Johnson.

## Cole County judge throws potential wrench into election night

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A year ago Missouri Secretary of State John "Jay" Ashcroft was promoting a new Missouri voter ID law. This year he's defending it just weeks before an election because of a lawsuit.

Last October Ashcroft paid a visit to Holt County and met with several people in the courthouse to talk about the new law. Last Wednesday, Oct. 17, he popped into the courthouse briefly to speak with Holt County Clerk Angie Gamache about the lawsuit and the potential problems his office sees heading into the midterm election next month.

According to a report by the Associated Press, Cole County circuit court judge Richard Callahan has ruled that Missouri election officials can no longer tell voters that a photo ID is required to cast a ballot or advertise it. His ruling also has election officials from enforcing a requirement voters sign a sworn statement if they lack a photo ID.

In his ruling Callahan described the law as "misleading." In his decision Callahan also wrote, "As desirable as a Missouri-issued photo ID might be, unlike an American Express card, you may leave home without it; at least on election day."

The law allows someone to vote if they sign an affidavit that says they say who they are; and another acceptable form of ID is presented as a registration card or utility bill. The law also calls for election officials to tell voters they will not be permitted to vote in future elections without an ID. In those cases voters would cast provisional ballots; but a voter would have to return to the polling place at a later time with ID for the vote to count; or election officials can match the signature to voter registration.

Ashcroft told Gamache he appealed the decision and noted he was hoping a stay on the judge's order would be granted soon. Gamache told Ashcroft she is happy he's appealing the decision.

"We're doing everything we can to stop that," Ashcroft told Gamache. "But I took an oath even if I disagree with the ruling."

The decision was left in place last week when the Missouri Supreme Court denied the request to put a stay on the injunction. The court did not explain its reasoning.

Gamache said not only will voters be confused; so will poll workers. Ashcroft agreed.

"It will confuse poll workers; it will confuse voters and it will ruin your night," Ashcroft said.

Ashcroft told Gamache he believed the

move by the judge was marred in politics. He told the *Mound City News* the timing of the lawsuit and the judge's decision are inappropriate.

"They could have done something about it a year ago," Ashcroft told the *Mound City News*. "Or even before the August primary. There was plenty of time; we could of gotten the word out."

Ashcroft said he is frustrated with opponents of voter ID laws saying they are partisan, especially Missouri's law. Ashcroft has maintained for over a year that people who would not have been able to vote under Missouri's old laws are actually able to vote now.

"If we're trying to disenfranchise people it's a terrible way to do it because we're making more people vote," Ashcroft said. "Which is what we want."

Ashcroft told Gamache his office staff is moving fast to stop any potential problems. He said they are currently looking for a way to print more provisional ballots. If a statewide race or question is close, Ashcroft says those provisional ballots will have to be counted which



Dennis Sharkey Photo

**Missouri's top election official** - Secretary of State John "Jay" Ashcroft stopped in last Wednesday, Oct. 17, to visit with Holt County Clerk Angie Gamache at the courthouse in Oregon, MO, to discuss potential problems ahead of next month's midterm elections.

could delay things even more.

"I'm really hoping it doesn't come to that because it will confuse the voters," Ashcroft said.

Ashcroft also pointed out the judge found nothing wrong with the actual law itself.

"He said they didn't find a single person who was stopped from voting," Ashcroft said. "Even the plaintiffs were allowed to vote."

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## Holt County prepares for state's bicentennial

### Quilt will feature blocks from every part of the state

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The state of Missouri will celebrate its bicentennial in 2021 with a quilt made up of blocks from each county.

Members of the Holt County Historical Society met with commissioners on Monday, Oct. 22, at the courthouse in Oregon, MO, to announce the plan by state organizers to make the quilt.

Helen Morris-Smith is the chairwoman of the Holt County Bicentennial Celebration Committee. She said the state is asking for each county to submit a block that will be part of a 116 block quilt. There are 115 counties in the state plus the city of St. Louis.

Once formally announced, the committee will begin soliciting entries from quilters to be the block that represents Holt County. The idea will be to have Holt County residents vote on the block to be chosen. The winning block will be sent off to the state historical society next fall.

"Something that represents everyone," Morris-Smith said. "We really want this to be a county-wide endeavor and we want it to be for everyone in the county; not just the historical society." Morris-Smith said originally they thought of having the vote during the annual Fall Festival in Oregon, MO.

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## Holt County bicentennial committee forming

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The Holt County Historical Society has been asked by the State Historical Society to form a committee for the purpose of celebrating the state's bicentennial on Aug. 10, 2021.

Helen Morris-Smith and Elizabeth Burnisides of the Holt County Historical Society met with commissioners on Monday, Oct. 22, at the courthouse in Oregon, MO, to tell commissioners about the state's plans.

The state has asked Holt County to form a bicentennial committee to help with the celebration. Morris-Smith is the chairwoman of the committee.

"We're not asking for financial support but we would like to get you guys

behind us in our endeavors to celebrate," Morris-Smith told commissioners.

Morris-Smith said the committee is currently looking for more members including folks from the southern portion of the county.

"We're trying to get people from every area of the county," Morris-Smith

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**A new license plate** - To celebrate the state's bicentennial will replace the current design. The state is beginning to distribute the plates as renewals come in.

## State Theater's 80th Anniversary Show presents the past

The State Theater Arts Council celebrated the State Theater's 80th Anniversary Show on Sunday, October 21. A free will donation lunch with pulled pork, potatoes, green beans, and dinner roll was held from 11:30-1:30 p.m. in the neighboring Paul F. Shuts American Legion building. Mark Kunkel prepared the delicious food. The luncheon saw a small crowd but it was much enjoyed by those who attended.

At 2 p.m., the current board members of the State Theater Arts Council, led by board member Susan Miller, put together an 80th Anniversary Show, including early movie theater history and State Theater history. Early movie trailers were played via a projector, along with newspaper advertisements from the early days of the State Theater. State Theater Arts Council president, Mari Ferguson, recognized a long list of past and present board members and volunteers that have made the State Theater what it is today.

"The State Theater anniversary show is a wonderful tribute to the 80 year history," stated

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**Wava Duncan Cunningham spoke to those gathered** - At the State Theater's 80th Anniversary Show on Sunday, October 21, she was on the initial committee in the 1980s to research the restoration of the State Theater. Cunningham was also on the board of the State Theater Arts Council for many years.

## Big Muddy signals start of waterfowl season



Dennis Sharkey Photos

The annual Big Muddy Duck Hunt event was held on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Bigelow, MO. The community based event is designed to enhance waterfowl hunting in Holt County and Northwest Missouri through the recruitment of new hunters and retention of those who already enjoy the sport. Participants go through learning stations where things such as firearms safety, shooting skills, strategy, regulations and how to use a duck call are featured. The event is put on by Missouri Department of Conservation agents with the help of a collaborative effort from private clubs and sponsorships along with government. The event culminated with an evening banquet at Extreme Fireworks in Mound City.

**Above:** Conservation agent Anthony Maupin discussed decoy strategy with participants.

**Right top:** Anna Green tries a duck call learned from Maupin.

**Right bottom:** Calvin Knowles gives the call a try.