

AREA NEWS

Bed donated to family in need

(Editor's Note: This is a combination of the Economic Security Corporation of Southwest Area's press release and Autumn Shelton's work).

On January 25, four year old Penney Neher smiled and giggled as she jumped on her brand new bed, a gift from the Barton County Chamber of Commerce and Lamar Westco Home Furnishings. Rusty Lamb, manager of Lamar Westco Home Furnishings, said the whole donation was possible due to the "buy a mattress, give a mattress" cam-

paign and the Economic Security Corporation was contacted about the bed and who to give it to.

The family chosen was the Nehers. Iona Neher, Penney's mother, mentioned how "Penney was outgrowing her toddler bed, but with four kids under the age of six she couldn't financially afford to replace it, but then she heard about this opportunity from the Early Head Start Family Visitor Program". Early Head Start (EHS), in which the Nehers participate in, offers a Home Visiting Program

for pregnant women and children under the age of three years. Families receive bi-weekly or weekly visits in their home with child development specialists.

The Nehers' specialist, Susan Robinson, showed them how the EHS received a donation of a bed to give to an EHS family and that they could be the ones to receive it. "For the past two months we have been so excited to receive this bed", Iona Neher concluded, smiling at her daughter's joy.



Lamar Democrat/Autumn Shelton
(First) Iona Neher with her daughter Penney. In front of them is the bed the Barton County Chamber of Commerce and Lamar Westco Home Furnishings donated. (Second) Pictured are, left to right, Rusty Lamb (manager of Lamar Westco), Penney Neher, Iona Neher, Kym O'Sullivan (Barton County Chamber of Commerce), Susan Robinson (EHS Home Visitor) and Stephanie Massey (EHS Home Visitor Program supervisor).

Puckett awarded Physician of the Year

INDEPENDENCE- Justin Puckett, D.O., FACP, a family physician at Complete Family Medicine in Kirksville, was recently awarded the 2019 Osteopathic Family Physician of the Year Award by the Missouri Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (MSACFP).

Dr. Puckett was honored at a ceremony on January 25, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence, during the 2019 MSACFP Winter Family Medicine Update. The prestigious award is given to an osteopathic family physician who exemplifies the principles of osteopathic family medicine via outstanding accomplishments and service for the betterment of the osteopathic profession. Dr. Puckett is a graduate of A.T.



Justin Puckett, D.O., FACP, right, was recently awarded the 2019 Osteopathic Family Physician of the Year Award by the Missouri Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (MSACFP).

Still University - College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville and completed residency in family medicine see PUCKETT, page 5B

Search is on for Century Farms in southwest Missouri

SPRINGFIELD- If your farm has been in your family since December 31, 1919, you can apply to have it recognized as a Missouri Century Farm.

To qualify, farms must meet the following guidelines. The same family must have owned the farm for 100 consecutive years. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, grandchildren, siblings and nephews or nieces, including through marriage or adoption. The farm must be at least 40 acres of the original land acquisition and make a financial contribution to the overall farm

income. "Family farms have been among our most vital partners since the founding of extension more than 100 years ago. The century farm program is one way we express our gratitude to those who have contributed so much to Missouri agriculture," said David Burton, county engagement specialist with University of Missouri Extension. In 2008, the Missouri Farm Bureau joined MU Extension and the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources as a program sponsor. Applicants certified as owners of a 2019 Missouri

Century Farm will be recognized by the local MU Extension center in the county where the farm is located. Applicants are presented with a sign and a certificate. Since Missouri began the program in 1976, more than 8,300 century farms have been recognized. All applications must be postmarked by May 15, 2019, to be considered. The Missouri Century Farm program is currently taking applications. All applications must be postmarked by May 15. Details and a downloadable application form are available at extension.missouri.edu/centuryfarm.

Ordinance Committee completes recommendations for council consideration

The Ordinance Committee of the Lamar City Council completed its list of recommendations and revisions during its second meeting on traffic flow and street usage in general, January 23. Its first meeting on the lengthy subjects was on January 9.

Committee Chairman Brian Griffith turned the meeting over to Police Chief Rusty Rives who conducted the one hour meeting.

The ordinance banning loitering on closed parking lots was amended to say no person except the owner or tenant and their invitees shall loiter upon any public or private parking lot provided for customers or employees at any time when such lot shall be closed.

Regarding operation

equipment, an added recommendation was made to add UTVs (golf carts) to the section.

On speed limits, added was setting the speed limit on 1st Street at 40 mph from the Muddy Creek bridge to the west city limits.

On abatement notices, use of the same calendar year will be replaced by "previous 365 days."

The number of dogs and cats, any combination thereof, that may possessed is established at four.

The pesky problem of animal droppings was addressed. No person in control of a pet or livestock shall allow the pet or livestock to defecate on public property. If on private property, permission from the owner is required. It's a nonissue if

the animal owner takes adequate measures to remove the droppings.

Following much discussion, it was decided to set open and closed hours for use of the city park. Recommended was closing the park at midnight and reopening it at 5 a.m. The restrictions would apply to everyone, seven days a week.

Numerous other possible recommendations were discussed, but the above seven are among the ones to be presented to the full council for consideration. They will accompany the recommendations made at the Ordinance Committee's first meeting on January 9. The next regular meeting of the city council will be February 18.

A Big Thank You!

Chris Elswick
Manager

1301 Parry St
Lamar, MO 64759
417-682-5396

The Good Samaritan Shop reached the \$3000 we needed to match a \$6,000 grant from Ozarks Food Harvest and the Walmart Foundation.

We now have a \$6,000 credit at Ozarks Food Harvest for the purchase of food to supplement the USDA Commodities!

We extend our utmost gratitude to the organizations, businesses and people of Barton County and Lamar in particular for this jump start to a new year and the continued growth of the Good Samaritan Shop.

PROGRESS 2019

You are invited to complete the questions below along with any additional information about your business or organization. Feel free to use additional paper. The LAMAR DEMOCRAT staff will prepare a story from the notes provided or you may write the story yourself. Publication for the 2019 Progress Edition is scheduled for March 27, 2019.

Mail, email or fax your information to:

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Name of business or organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Number of employees _____

Types of products & services _____

Business or organization history _____

What improvements or expansions occurred during the past year? What new products, lines or services did you introduce? _____

What kind of a business year was 2018 for you? _____

What do you forecast for 2019 and beyond? _____

What improvements or expansions do you plan for 2019? _____

Why do you consider your city to be a good place to be in business? _____

Office or company titles _____

Please feel free to tell us about your employees; the role they play in the company, their unique talents and their community oriented activities. _____

DEADLINE: Friday, February 22, 2019

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