



THE WHITE PAGES

CAPITOL REPORT

Senator Bill White's Capitol Report for July 17, 2020

Senate District 32 "Go-To" Now Available

My team has diligently worked to put together a comprehensive <u>Community Services</u> <u>Directory</u> for the residents of the 32nd Senatorial District. This helpful guide contains contact information for national and state elected officials and departments, local branches of government, county offices, municipalities and area schools. It also contains dedicated sections for veterans, senior citizens, agriculture and public health services. If you have a resource that would benefit our communities to include in the directory, please email me.

DHSS Offers another Round of Free COVID-19 Testing in Southwest Missouri

Our residents are going to have another opportunity to get tested for the virus next week.

Southwest Missouri Community COVID-19 Testing Events

Barry	Jasper	McDonald	Newton
July 18	July 19 10:00am – 6:00pm	July 18	July 21
7:00am – 3:00pm	July 20, 2020 7:00am – 3:00pm	7:00am – 3:00pm	7:00am –7:00pm
Cassville Cassville High School	Joplin Ozark Christian College Carthage Carthage Memorial Hall	Anderson McDonald County High School	Neosho Rocketdyne Church of Christ

Click <u>here</u> for more information or to register.

New Funding Available for Farms and Small Businesses

The Missouri Department of Economic Development recently announced a new grant program to help provide relief to farmers and other small business owners who continue to struggle with COVID-19 related interruptions in production and earnings. The department's assistance will focus on industries that have felt the greatest impact: retail trade, accommodations, food service, health care and agriculture, but all businesses that employ less than 50 may qualify. To learn more about the grant program and other recovery funding, visit ShowMeStrong.mo.gov.

Riches of Southwest Missouri Adorn State Capitol

The walls of the second floor in our State Capitol are lined with beautiful half-moon shaped works of art, or lunettes, which depict Missouri's vast heritage, landscapes and resources. One of these beautiful renditions, "Riches of the Mines," portrays a mine in the once thriving Tri-State Mining District comprised of southwest Missouri, southeast Kansas and northeast Oklahoma. According to the secretary of state's website, the discovery of lead ore near Joplin in 1848 catapulted the construction of smelting plants and the production of lead and zinc that helped make Missouri an industry-wide world leader. Lasting from 1850 through 1958, the era ended in our region when the demand and price for these two commodities plummeted in the 50s.



Thomas P. Barnett's representation of a zinc mine in southwest Missouri may be seen in the State Capitol's second floor.

Conservation Department Accepting Applications for Agent Training Academy

If you love protecting nature and educating people, consider applying to be a conservation agent. Throughout the month of July, interested college graduates may apply for the training academy scheduled to begin April 1, 2021. The 16 selected candidates will attend an intense 26-week course in law enforcement and resource management to prepare them for a future county assignment to help the public and uphold Missouri's Wildlife Code.

Swift Response Saves Local Young Man's Life

Our southwestern communities are blessed to have numerous emergency responders looking out for their safety and well-being. On June 27, Webb City Police Department's Officer Jacob Williams put his expertise into action while responding to an emergency call from agonized bystanders who witnessed a recent high school graduate sustain life threatening injuries from a fall through a window. My heartfelt thanks goes out to this hero for his valiant actions, and I was honored to present him a Senate resolution on July 8.



Senator White presents a Senate resolution to Officer Jacob Williams for his heroic, lifesaving actions

Legislators Tour Local Dairy Farm



Mark and Leesa Robinson educate legislators about raw milk.

During the 2020 legislative session, Rep. Ann Kelley, District 127 and I sponsored companion bills to allow local merchants to sell raw milk and cream, but the shortened session stalled the bills' progress. On June 13, approximately ten legislators visited one of our local dairy farms in Carthage, Marlee's Creamery, to learn more about this product from farm to shelf. The owners, Dr. Mark and Leesa Robinson, testified in support of Senate Bill 861 at the Senate Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources public hearing on March 2. Rep. Kelley and I both plan to file similar legislation in 2021.

Missouri Southern State University Welcomes New President



Last week, I joined several lawmakers from southwest Missouri to have coffee and discuss higher education with Dr. Dean Van Galen, the new president of Missouri Southern State University. On July 1, he officially took the reins as the university's sixth president, and I believe his academic background and track record of success will fare well with our MSSU

culture and family. Welcome to Lion Country, Dr. Van Galen!

Congregation Congratulates Retiring Pastor

On Sunday, July 12, members of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lockwood bid their final farewells to Pastor Gary Griffin after 27 years of faithful and devoted service. During his tenure, he founded Restored Hope Against Addiction, worked with local law enforcement and medical professionals, opened an early child care center and conducted a great deal of outreach ministry. My chief of staff, Mike Kelley, presented him with a Senate resolution for his contributions to the community.



A resolution and marquis honor retiring Pastor Griffin.

It is an honor to serve the great people of Dade, Jasper and Newton counties, and I welcome your opinions and ideas for improving our district. Please call (573) 751-2173 or email bill.white@senate.mo.gov to schedule an appointment.

Nothing is politically right that is morally wrong



Free and fair discussion is the firmest friend of truth

MISSOURI SENATE

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