

**AIRESERV**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
23011  
Thank you for making us the best! **READERS' CHOICE**  
\$49 pre season tune & clean  
Schedule Your Appointment NOW! 417-386-0505

# BRANSON NEWS

TRI-LAKES

VOL 110 • ISSUE 82

www.bransontrilakesnews.com

75¢

## Three TCAD staff earn statewide honors

By Jason Wert  
jwert@bransontrilakesnews.com

Three staff members of the Taney County Ambulance District won statewide honors from the Missouri Emergency Medical Services Association.

MEMSA board member Jason White gave the honors to the three at a special private ceremony at TCAD's offices in Hollister on Thursday, Oct. 7, in lieu of a normal statewide ceremony, which was called off over fears surrounding COVID-19.

The first award was given to Tosha Burns, who was named MEMSA Dispatcher/Communications Specialist of the Year.

White said Burns has a high stress position. "They don't get to see the results of their work," White said.

"They get stuck on the phone with people who are having the worst moment of their life and they get to walk them through that, and then guide the crews, but they never get closure. Talk about a high stress job and yet you have one of the best at TCAD in Tasha."

Burns began her career as a 911 Telecommunicator with the Hollister Police Department in 2017 and joined TCAD in 2019 as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher. She was named the Communications Training Officer in 2020, and conducts quality control by conducting calls and peer reviews.

"It feels pretty amazing [to win]," Burns told reporters after the ceremony. "I worked really hard and this is the last thing I ever expected. I just work really hard to improve everything I do and this is the result of the work."

Rebecca Murphy was given the MEMSA Paramedic of the Year award. Murphy was cited by White for pushing for new equipment in emergency vehicles which has allowed EMTs to make faster and more accurate assessments in the field.

"She pushed the conversation about ultrasound technology," White said. "The concept of field paramedics saying 'that's a product which can enhance our service to our community' and then you take it through the process and convince a medical director to do it? If you have a paramedic with that kind of drive it's someone you want to hold on to."

Murphy began her career in 2013 with TCAD as an EMT. She completed paramedic school at North Arkansas College

in 2015, going on to earn her Bachelor's Degree and Flight Paramedic Certification.

Murphy was also cited by MEMSA for her work after a bridge in Taney County experienced an emergency closure in 2019 due to bridge damage. The detour the bridge's closure required was 20 miles, and Mur-

phy was the only ALS responder on the eastern side of the bridge. She took it upon herself to have emergency equipment available in her personal vehicle, so she could respond to calls alone within her area before her teammates could arrive due to the extended travel times.

See **TCAD** on Page 2A



Jason Wert • jwert@bransontrilakesnews.com

Three TCAD staffers have been given statewide honors for excellence in their field.

## Hollister Mayor retires after two decades in office



AJ Meakins • ajmeakins@bransontrilakesnews.com  
Hollister Mayor David Tate retired on Oct. 7 after serving over 31 years in political offices in Hollister.

By AJ Meakins  
ajmeakins@bransontrilakesnews.com

On Oct. 7, during a regularly scheduled city of Hollister Board of Aldermen meeting, Mayor David G. Tate announced his retirement, effective immediately.

Tate stated he was leaving political office, after serving his community for 31

years, to focus on his health and spend time with his family, including his new grandson. While he had planned to finish his current term, he said he felt now is the time to pass the gavel to his board to finish the many projects he has helped set in motion, according to a press release from the city of Hollister.

City Administrator Rick Ziegenfuss stated on the city's website, "Tate has utilized his strong management expertise by creating a pro-active and progressive environment in the leadership of Hollister."

"Mayor Tate has served the citizens of Hollister, since he was first appointed as an alderman in 1989. He was elected as Mayor of Hollister in 1998," Zeigenfuss told Branson Tri-Lakes News. "During the years he has served in the city government offering his expertise to the many accomplishments the citizens of Hollister can be proud of including the completion of the wastewater treatment plant, the development of the area of Southtown Center,

Hollister City Hall completed in that time, the completion of the highway 65 interchange, OTC, Mernards, the Police and Public Works facility and most recently, the work (which has) started on Imagined Resort Waterpark."

According to Branson Tri-Lakes News archives, Tate has served as the Mayor of Hollister for 23 years. He served as an alderman for seven and a half years before that. He has been married for 41 years to Carol, and they have three boys. Tate has lived in the Hollister area since 1973, when he began attending School of the Ozarks (now College of the Ozarks). He graduated with a bachelor's degree of Science in Industrial Technology and Criminal Justice Law Enforcement.

Tate told the Branson Tri-Lakes News in 2020, when he was running for reelection for the office of Mayor, he enjoyed being mayor and he was looking forward to Hollister continuing on its track of growth.

See **TATE** on Page 2A

## Arkansas man dies in fatal boating accident

By AJ Meakins  
ajmeakins@bransontrilakesnews.com

An Arkansas man died from injuries following a boating accident in Stone County.

According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol accident report, the accident occurred on Oct. 9 at 6:22 a.m.

when the boat driven by Ronald Rose, 75, of Gravette, Arkansas, grounded the shore, struck a tree and grav-

el embankment when traveling eastbound near point west of nine on Table Rock Lake.

See **BOAT** on Page 3A

## Gettin' Basted wins 'The Jack'

By Jason Wert  
jwert@bransontrilakesnews.com

It took four tries, but a Branson competitive barbecue team picked up the title at the 32nd Annual Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue.

Gettin' Basted won the Grand Championship at the competition in Lynchburg, Tennessee, which returned after a year off because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The team beat out 76 other competitors, including the defending champions.

"Best feeling in the world right now - on top of the world, and we're so glad that The Jack is back in 2021," Gettin' Basted Pitmaster Brad Leighninger said in a press release. "We've won at some other prestigious events, but this one has always been on the bucket list. You never know when you're going to be able to qualify for this event or when you're going to be able to come back. This is certainly a big one to win!"

Teams qualified for "The Jack" by winning a state competition with at least 25 competitors, a competition of 50 or more teams, or one of the top competitions in the United States: Memphis in May, American Royal Open, or Houston World's Championship Bar-B-Que. Teams compete in seven categories: pork ribs, pork shoulder/butts, beef brisket, chicken, dessert, cook's choice, and Jack Daniel's sauce.

The Gettin' Basted team



Courtesy of Jack Daniel's

Gettin' Basted has won one of the top barbecue competitions in the United States.

of Leighninger, Jason Roberts, and Derrick Melugin have been competing since 2012 when they first entered the Rock N' Ribs competition in Springfield, MO. They have earned the Reserve Grand Champion

title at the 2019 American Royal, first place in the pork category at the 2018 Jack, and were the Kansas City Barbecue Society Team of the Year in 2018 and 2020.

See **BASTED** on Page 2A

**f**  
Facebook  
@bransontrilakesnews

**t**  
Twitter  
@bransonTLN

**i**  
Instagram  
@bransonTLN

**INDEX**

Weather.....2A  
Opinion.....4A  
Calendar of Events.....6A  
Death Notices.....8A  
Entertainment.....10A  
Sports.....IB  
Puzzle Page.....2B  
Looking Back.....4B  
Business Directory.....6B  
Classifieds.....6B  
Legals.....7B-10C

**DEATHS**

**Gertrude Krueger**  
**Harrison Dalton**  
**Margaret Sassali**  
**Margaret Denney**

**BECOME A DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER**  
ONLY per month  
**99¢**

Your Paper brought to life on your tablet or phone

Experience each edition of the paper whenever you want, wherever you want. Now available at no extra cost to print subscribers.

**Call 417-334-3161**

**SUBMIT NEWS**

Contact our news staff  
**417-334-3161**  
editor@bransontrilakesnews  
or  
Branson Tri-Lakes News  
P.O. Box 1900  
Branson, MO 65615

