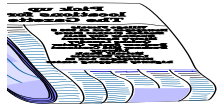


THE GAZETTE



"Your Hometown Newspaper"



"2012 special recap Edition of The Gazette"

"Serving the Buckner, Levasy and Sibley, Napoleon and Wellington Communities"

Volume 18 Number 10

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Reflections of 2012

It is hard to believe that another year has passed and we are getting ready to celebrate 2013.

We have welcomed new babies into our community, and said a sad farewell to many friends and loved ones.

The FOSD has provided the children of our communities with a great education and students have excelled not only in their scholastic achievements but in sports as well.

The Gazette has welcomed Napoleon and Wellington to our reading area and proud to bring news from their communities. The students are very active in the school both in sports and academics.

Buckner has seen several businesses close and several new ones open. Misty's Restaurant located on 24 highway and BB was struck by lightning and now has re opened for business with the same great food and

atmosphere.

The building formerly known as Maxwell's is now owned and operated by the James family. It serves a variety of food and has fantastic milk shakes.

Some of the businesses in the downtown business district have given their buildings a face lift, but there are still vacant buildings in the downtown area.

Levasy had a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on December 1, 2012, the first one in many years. Approximately 150 plus individuals attended the event complete with Santa Claus, songs, fun and fellowship.



Buckner Elementary School principal Patrick Farnan was injured in a motorcycle accident in October. We are pleased to report that he is now home and doing well. He still is doing daytime rehab and the district is not sure when he will return to Buckner School. Mr. Robbie Shepard will be at Buckner Elementary second semester. He is the assistant principal at Osage Trail.



Mr. Farnan

Buckner held their tree lighting on December 7, 2012 with a nice crowd in attendance, complete with Santa and refreshments.



This is just a recap of some of things that has happened in our communities in 2012. We look forward to celebrating our 19th year in business on April 5, 2013.

Wellington/Napoleon R-IX

JH girls basketball team. They just finished their season undefeated!

Front row: Shelby Potter, Taylor Shaw, Kelsi Southard, Valerie Barnett, Macie Ward

Middle Row: Kaitlyn Niendick, Mikayla Ryun, Abbie Soendker, Jaymie White, Monica Thornburg, Kelsi Gray

Back row: Kayla Caton, Ashton Markley, Tessa Bushell, Kim Hopkins, Sammie Blystone, Allison Russell, Kiera Paige



First Place Honors!



The Fort Osage Competition Cheerleading Squad took 1st at the UCA Show Me Regionals held at Staley High School last Sunday. Members of the squad include: Randy Hall, Brittany Rosemeier, Katie Sloan, Brittney Baldwin, Cassidy Bishop, Kaitlyn Boatright, Kayla Carpenter, Kristen Cooper, Sam Jeffries, Meagan Kelly, Bekka Ramirez, Candra Camerlynck, Alec Kolman, Sam Larsen, SkyLa O'Neal, Allison Stevens, Sydney VanFleet, Maddy Monday, Madison Rawson, and Kendall Smith.

Happy Holidays!



from

The Gazette

and

all



Our Advertisers

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with out the advertisers there would not be a newspaper

Sandy Hook Elementary Mourning Poem

(received via email)

Twass' 11 days before Christmas, around 9:38
when 20 beautiful children stormed through heaven's gate.
Their smiles were contagious, their laughter filled the air.
They could hardly believe all the beauty they saw there.

They were filled with such joy, they didn't know what to say.
They remembered nothing of what had happened earlier that day.

"Where are we?" asked a little girl, as quiet as a mouse.
"This is heaven." declared a small boy. "We're spending Christmas at
God's house."

When what to their wondering eyes did appear,
But Jesus, their savior, the children gathered near.
He looked at them and smiled, and they smiled just the same.
Then He opened His arms and He called them by name.

And in that moment was joy, that only heaven can bring:
Those children all flew into the arms of their King,
And as they lingered in the warmth of His embrace,
One small girl turned and looked at Jesus' face.

And as if He could read all the questions she had,
He gently whispered to her, "I'll take care of mom and dad."
Then He looked down on earth, the world far below,
He saw all of the hurt, the sorrow, and woe,

Then He closed His eyes and He outstretched His hand,
"Let My power and presence re-enter this land!
May this country be delivered from the hands of fools
I'm taking back my nation. I'm taking back my schools!"

Then He and the children stood up without a sound.
"Come now my children, let me show you around."
Excitement filled the space, some skipped and some ran.
All displaying enthusiasm that only a small child can.

And I heard Him proclaim as He walked out of sight,
"In the midst of this darkness, I AM STILL THE LIGHT."

Written by Cameo Smith, Mt. Wolf, PA

Connecticut School Tragedy (Submitted by the FOSD)

In light of the school shooting at an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut this morning, we know you may have questions or concerns with regards to student safety at your child's school. The District has been in contact with our local law enforcement officials from Buckner, Independence, and Jackson County. These officials have agreed to increase patrols in our school neighborhoods for the rest of the day.

At Fort Osage, student safety is our top priority. Each school has a team of staff who work to ensure that plans are in place to manage all types of emergency situations. While no amount of planning can guarantee that a tragic situation such as this won't occur, we are doing everything in our power to keep every student safe while at school.

We would ask for your thoughts and prayers to be with the families affected by the Newtown, Connecticut shooting today.

Napoleon United Methodist Church

The Napoleon United Methodist Church will have their Christmas Program on December 23, 2012 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.





HOLIDAY GREETINGS



from

ECHO REALTY

*WISHING EVERYONE MORE HAPPINESS
THAN ALL OUR WORDS CAN TELL,
NOT JUST ALONE FOR CHRISTMAS
BUT FOR ALL THE YEAR AS WELL.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A JOYOUS NEW YEAR

ECHO REALTY
304 MONROE
BUCKNER, MO 64016
www.echorealty.net



Winter/Holiday safety

The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.

Holiday decorating and lighting

Use caution with holiday decorations and whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.

Keep candles away from decoration and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees

Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of and independent testing lab, and follow the manufacture's instructions for installation and maintenance.

Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. do not overload extension cords.

Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three stands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.

Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.

Don't mount lights in any way that can damage the cord's wire insulation

Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations

Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

Holiday entertaining

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.

If you smoke, please do it outside

Wherever you smoke, provide plenty of large, deep ashtrays and check them frequently. Cigarette butts can smolder in the trash and cause a fire, so completely douse cigarette butts with water before discarding.

After a party, always check on, between and under upholstery and cushions and inside trash cans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.

Keep matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children.(preferably in a locked cabinet). When smokers visit your home, ask them to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.

Test your smoke alarms, and let guest know what your fire escape plan is.

Source: NFPA

Drumm Farm-Center for Children

(received via email)

Independence, MO – Drumm Farm Center for Children is shining bright and spreading cheer this holiday season. On December 6, Drumm welcomed nearly 1,250 visitors on campus as they toured the historic Swinney Hall and the iconic Director's Residence before making a stop at Gardner Hall where the Independence Young Matrons hosted their Sweet Shop. Drumm was the first stop on IYM's annual Holly & Mistletoe Homes Tour.

Visitors were shuttled to Swinney Hall, where Drumm staff shared historic facts and the beauty of the newly restored building that houses many of the original 1881 features, including the mantels and other intricate details that make Swinney a unique piece of Drumm and Independence history. From Swinney, the shuttle stopped at the Director's Residence. The home on the hill has long been a landmark of Drumm's campus for passersby on Lee's Summit Road. The tour gave admirers the opportunity to visit the home and view the collection of Nativity sets on display.

The tour was open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those visiting after sunset received an extra dose of holiday spirit, the holiday lights decorating many of Drumm's buildings. Generous volunteers and a local business, HolidayFX, helped make the season shine at Drumm. They donated time and expertise to put up the lights. Drumm celebrated with a private lighting ceremony over Thanksgiving weekend.

Drumm hopes to make the lighting celebration an annual event for their families and staff. This is the first

time in recent history that Drumm was able to fully "deck the halls" of their campus – all thanks to kind community partners.

Looking for a way to share in Drumm's holiday?

- Drumm invites the community to drive by and enjoy the lights and decorations.

- Drumm continues to expand their resources to help their children grow and learn. They are collecting books, computers, furniture and funds to create a welcoming learning environment in the newly dedicated Ray Morrison Library located in a room of Swinney Hall. If you would like to help, please contact Laura Vernon at 816.373.3434.

Drumm Farm Center for Children would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to HolidayFX, www.holidayfx.net, for helping with the purchase of the lights and for decorating the campus.

Founded in 1919, Drumm Farm Center for Children has been providing a safe, stable long-term home for children whose parents are not able to care for them. In the State of Missouri alone, there are over 12,000 children in the Foster Care System. Although the system works well for some children, many experience frequent moves from one foster home to another and are often separated from their biological siblings. For children in foster care, Drumm Farm Center for Children offers a permanent home where children can enjoy their childhood, grow up with their siblings and receive the support they need to become successful adults. www.DrummForKids.org



Pictured above is Drumm Farm all lit up for Christmas!
(Submitted photo)

Fort Osage School District Winter Sports Pictures



2012 FOSD Wrestling Team



Boys V JV Basketball FOSD



Basketball V JV Girls FOSD



Boys Freshman Basketball



FOSD Basketball C Team



Boys Sophomore Basketball

Go

Indians!

Thank you for all the great pics and news!

***Happy Holidays
from
The Gazette Newspaper***

**EMERGENCY 9 1 1
Communications
(Jackson County)
816-524-4300
Police Department
(Business Only)
816-650-3939**

**Buckner Chamber of Commerce
December 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes
Agenda- Approved
Minutes- None from November
Financial Report –
November 2012**

Income
\$ 0.17 (interest)
Expenses
\$ 0.00
Fees \$0.00
Savings balance \$2,052.19
Checking balance \$427.09
Balance
\$2,479.28

Guests

Jessica Leeds- Doing a 5K walk to benefit Patrick Farnan, principal at Buckner Elementary on April 20. This will be a family friendly event. Gold is \$500; Silver is \$250; Bronze \$125; Other opportunities will be offered for door prizes, sponsor tables, and such. Seeking donations and support from the local business community. There is also a website for the walk that was launched. There will be multi-level opportunities to meet the needs of local businesses. Once opportunities are finalized then information will be sent out. If you are interested in having the sponsorships sent to you, please email Stephanie Smith and she will make sure to send it to you. John moved to sponsor \$500 from the Chamber; Larry Seconded. The vote passed.

New Members

Wise Choices Financial- Mark Squires

Old Business-

Jack's Computer Software
Buckner Elementary Site Committee-Connie was unable to be here so this will be moved to the January agenda.

Annual Dinner

Karli Ritter has been invited
Looking at the last 2 weeks of February or the first 2 weeks of March

Christmas Lights Contest-The group will judge lights on December 23 at 6:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to help will meet at City Hall to carpool.
Mayor's Christmas Lighting- Went great. Nice crowd. The committee had 42 families sign up for assistance. Gifts will be handed out December 22 at the First Baptist Church. They are hoping to set up a Mayor's Toy Shop December 19 to help with some families. People who need more information can contact the committee.

New Business-

Lights in the Park- The lights are up and look great. The Blue Springs Old Chicago is shutting down and Ed is working to try and get those displays donated to Buckner for our park display.

Member Updates-

Fort Osage School District- an update was given on the condition of Mr. Patrick Farnan. He is doing good and got to go home yesterday. He is doing well physically and is still doing therapy for the learning. Mr. Robbie Shepherd will serve as interim principal for second semester.

Metcalf Bank- New software allows you to take a photo of your check and send the photo to deposit money. You can contact the bank for more details.

Skeeter Antiques- Should be opening soon as soon as the red tape is all done. Would ask that chamber members come out and at least take a look at the location and let them know what you think.

City- Jerry ShROUT is now at the Waste Water Treatment plant and Larry Neidel is now the City Clerk. Come on by if you need anything.

Senior Center- The City did not support the request for funds based on what Pat learned from Darrell Box. There was nothing else to report at this time.

Upcoming events/Volunteer Opportunities

**Advertising Pays! Please email us at
editor@gazetteweekly.com
for your FREE rate sheet!**

2013



**V.F.W. Post 8101 chain of events for remodeling
(submitted by Chet Denton)**

On June 28th 2012 I received a phone call from Alderman Litton. She told me that Rhonda V. From Home Depot who is also a Buckner resident wanted me to contact her about available grants from the Home Depot Foundation. On August 3rd 2012 I received the grant application from Courtney Smith at the Home Depot Foundation. Myself and Mr. Dennis Young prepared and submitted the application to Home Depot.

On August 9th 2012 we received this letter from the Home Depot Foundation:

Dear Chester Denton,

Congratulations! On behalf of The Home Depot, I am pleased to inform you that a grant for \$18,100 was approved for your Celebration of Service project with Team Depot Store #3024 District #196 and VFW Post 8101 on November 1, 2012.

Attached is our standard grant agreement that I need you to review, sign and fax back to my attention at 877-981-2554 for disbursement of grant funds within 5 business days. This grant is non-renewable and your grant report will be due upon completion of your project. Be sure to contact our Foundation office if you need further instructions regarding reporting. We must have a final grant report on file prior to consideration of your organization for future grant monies. The grant will be provided in the form of a gift card(s) that will be sent to your organization. Gift Cards are treated as cash and will not be replaced if lost. The gift card(s) will arrive at your physical address, to your attention, via UPS.

Please contact your local Home Depot Team Depot Captain Justin Moore at 816-229-2902 to confirm your project date and time. We appreciate the services your organization is providing in the community. We hope this grant helped you to achieve your goals as set forth in your proposal. Any recognition regarding this grant award should be made in the name of The Home Depot Foundation.

Dennis Young met with the contractors and Home Depot teams. Jean Stockton and Alderman Litton worked with the City on permits. Carylton and Cindy arranged food and worked on preparations prior to the projects start date of 1 Nov. Rhonda was with us all the way through and was involved in every aspect. Also, we received donations from AAA Disposal Service, Casey's and Buckner Thriftway.

Happy New Year

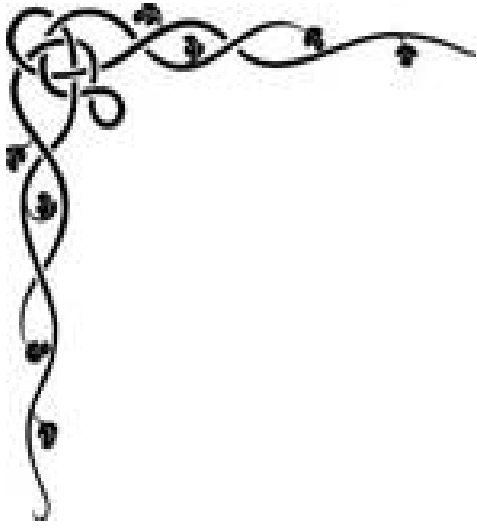
**May God Bless You,
Your Home and
Your Family!**

**AAA Disposal Service
650-3180**

Serving the community since 1963

Have a wonderful New Year!

A 3D rendering of the year '2013' in a bold, serif font. The numbers are primarily a deep red color with a gold outline and a slight shadow effect, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The '2' and '3' are slightly larger than the '0' and '1'.



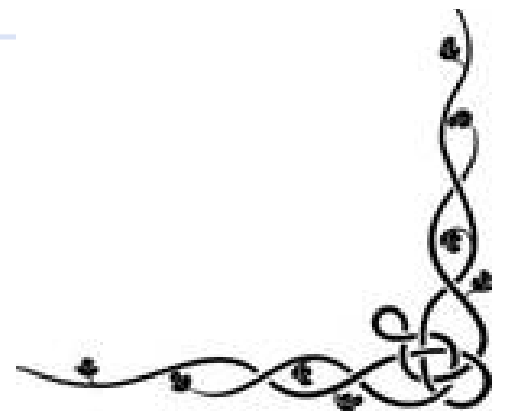
“Happy New Year!”

From Our Family to Yours



SPEAKS SUBURBAN CHAPEL	CARSON-SPEAKS MIDTOWN CHAPEL	SPEAKS BUCKNER CHAPEL
39th Street at 291 Hwy Independence, MO 64055 816.373.3600	1501 W. Lexington Independence, MO 64052 816.252.7900	300 Adams Buckner, MO 64016 816.650.5555
speakschapel.com • info@speakschapel.com		

“**Speaks Family Legacy™ Chapels**”
Funeral & Cremation Services



Drop-off locations for The Gazette

- *Newspaper box in downtown Buckner
- *Newspaper box in 24 highway shopping center
 - *Butterflies and Grasshoppers
 - *Metcalf Bank
 - *Misty’s
- *Laundramat in 24 highway shopping center
 - *Napoleon Bank/Napoleon, Mo.
- *Wellington School-children can bring paper home to parents
 - *Buckner Elementary School
- *Fort Osage Administration Offices
 - *AAA Disposal Service
 - *Levasy City Hall
- *Thrift Store-downtown Buckner
- *Senior Center-Buckner, Mo.
- *Library, Buckner, Mo.





Butterflies & Grasshoppers

BIG SALE

20 per cent off all resale clothing
Not valid on new clothing or crafters items
Valid Tuesday thru Saturday
12-18 thru 12-22
located in the 24 highway shopping center

NOTICE OF FILING CITY OF LEVASY

Persons wishing to have their name on the ballot in the General Election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 2013 for the following offices:

Two Alderman Seats 2 year term

Are to file with the City Clerk at City Hall from December 11, 2012 until January 15, 2013 close at 2:00 P.M. Must be a resident of Levasy, MO for one year and not be in arrears for any taxes or any fees owed the City of Levasy.

Carla K. Gilbert
City Clerk of Levasy, MO

Saw Sharpening

Call Weldon at 816-529-8299

Great Service!

Advertising Pays!

Happy Holidays!

from

The Gazette and all our advertisers!!

Handy man Services
Junk hauled off, yard work and other jobs done. Senior Citizen discounts. Please call Weldon Woodward at 529-8299

Please remember those less fortunate than yourselves!



Happy New Year!

The Gazette & all our

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Happy Holidays

from

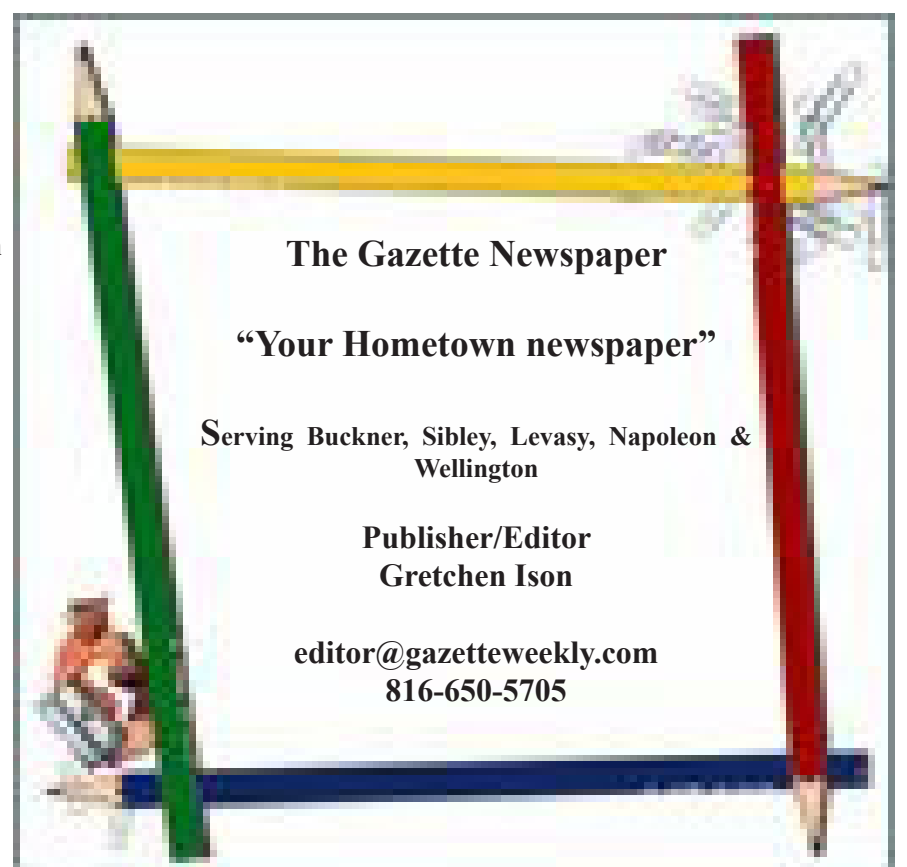
Misty's

open
6a.m. to 8 p.m.
M-F
6a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday
Closed Sunday

Advertising Pays!
email us at
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Public Service Announcements

The Gazette's policy on PSA's is we print them on a first come, first serve basis as space allows and they need to be submitted 2-3 weeks before the scheduled publication date. Some examples of PSA's are engagements, birth announcements and church and community events.



The Gazette Newspaper

"Your Hometown newspaper"

Serving Buckner, Sibley, Levasy, Napoleon & Wellington

Publisher/Editor
Gretchen Ison

editor@gazetteweekly.com
816-650-5705

Happy New Year

from



*Fort Osage
School District Staff*

Board of Education



Happy New Year

From

Misty's Restaurant

M-Sat.

Dine in or Carry Out

650-5797

*Misty's will close at 1 p.m. on Christmass Eve
and reopen on Wednesday morning, December 26
at 6 a.m.*

*The Gazette's offices will be closed from
December 23, 2012 through January 4, 2013.
Thank you for your support over the years
and have a very Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*



Happy New Year

from

Village Florals

*Please call
650-5705
to place your order*

Your

“Hometown Florist”

“Customer Satisfaction is our #1 Goal”



**All-District Football Players:
Napoleon/Wellington R-IX School District**

- Jacob Beckemeyer – QB
- Christian Bryant – WR
- Brett Schaberg – O-Line
- Jake Ruskey – WR
- Nick Gibbs – O-Line
- Jason Hilden – LB
- Justin Willard – DE
- Blaine Beissenherz – DB
- Dustin Seitz – DB
- Quinton Hammond – D-Line

MFCA All-State Team:

- Jacob Beckemeyer – 1st Team QB
- Brett Schaberg – 1st Team O-Line
- Christian Bryant – 1st Team WR
- Justin Willard – 3rd Team DE
- Jason Hilden – 3rd Team LB



**November students of the month for
Wellington/Napoleon R-IX School District**

**L-R: Taylor West, Nick Bross, Kelsey Gray, &
Andrew Ballew**

**Elementary Students of the Month
Wellington-Napoleon R-IX
School District**

**Mrs. Niendick’s kindergarten class-Brilynn Zykan
Ms. Waterworth’s first grade- Devin Cox
Ms. Mitchell’s third grade class- Brady Hughes
Ms. Sloan’s fourth grade class-Asia Crownover**

Congratulations

Wellington-Napoleon R-IX

School District!

*Thank you
for
all the great pics and news!*

Happy New Year!

from

The Gazette

and all our

Advertisers!



***May 2013 bring you and yours a happy,
healthy and prosperous year!***

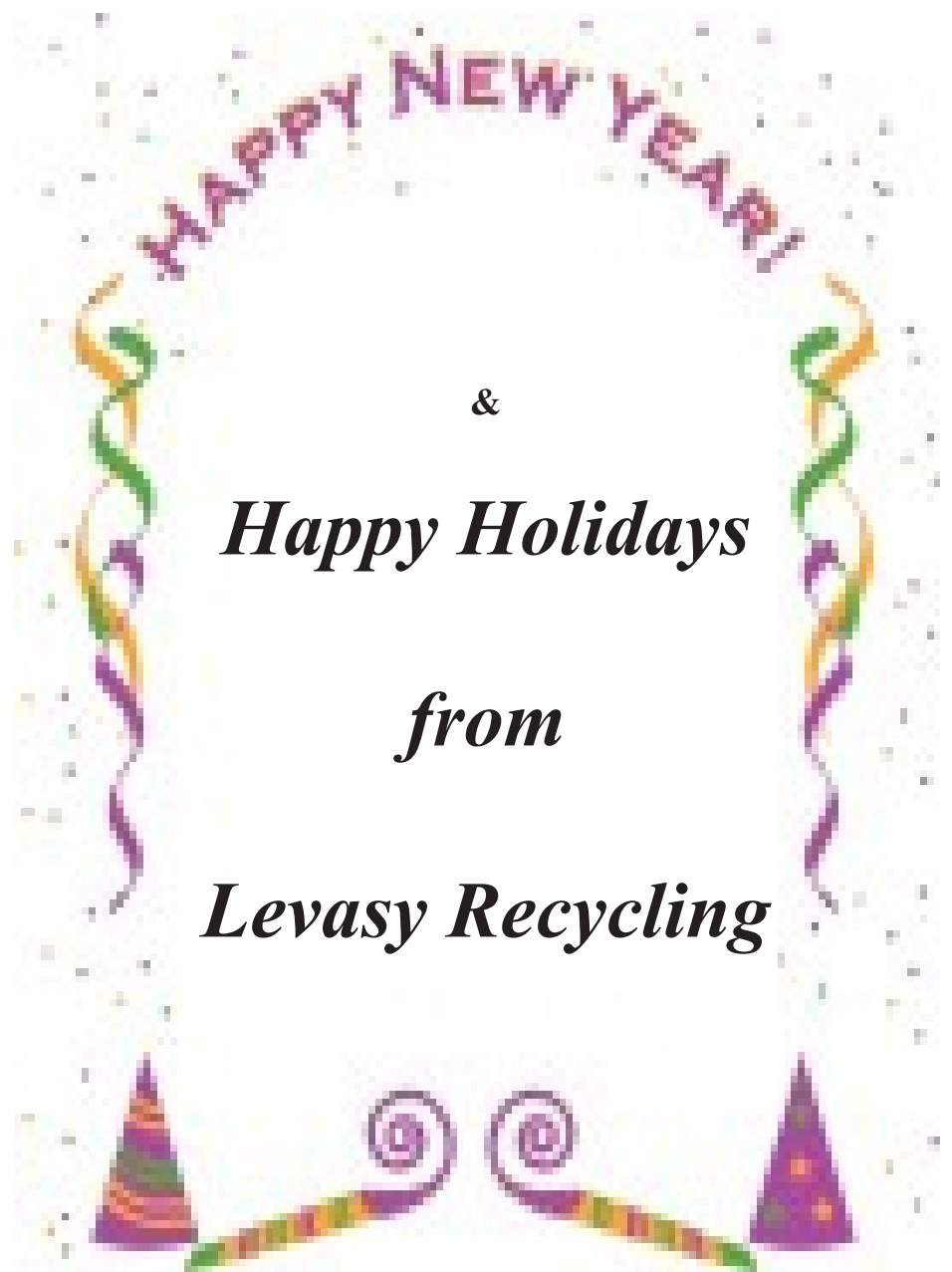
**Jackson County SWCD
Changes Policies on
Cost-Share**

The drought of 2012 continues and continues to bring changes. In Jackson County, the Soil and Water Conservation District assisted ten Jackson County Landowners get water to their livestock. Three wells were drilled for a total of \$47,292.96 and all ten landowners were assisted in getting their water from their newly drilled wells or their rural or city water to their livestock, totaling \$25,592.34. Bringing the Drought Assistance total in Jackson County to \$72,885.30. Governor Nixon gave executive order 12-8, July 23, 2012 to help landowners get water to their livestock. \$2 million dollars were allocated for this project. As of date of this printing \$21,214,471.11 has been spent, much of these funds coming from unallocated funds from the State Soil and Water Districts Commission and additional state funding.

Because Regular Cost Share funds were used to help fund the Drought Assistance, there won't be as much regular cost share dollars this year. The initial allocation for FY13 cannot be exceeded. The result is, Jackson County SWCD was allocated \$128,693.00 for regular cost share with little or no possibility of receiving any more funds for Fiscal year 2013. Fiscal year 2012 Jackson County landowners put \$160,000.00 cost share dollars on the land.

At the District's November board meeting, a new cost share policy was put in place stating the Landowner will be required to come in to the office and sign up for any conservation practices requested on their own farm, and at that time fill out the Vendor Information and Landowner Authorization form or take it with them to return at a later date. Because there is a long list of landowners waiting to receive funds for conservation work and less funding for cost share, it was voted that a landowner will be allowed \$15,000.00 in cost share dollars per year. The Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District Board reserves the right to vary or exceed the maximum cost share dollars with special circumstances. At the time your name comes up on the list, you will be contacted to see if you are still interested in the practice. At that time you will have two weeks to inform the office of your decision. If a decision has not been made at that time, your name will be placed at the bottom of the list. The policy remains the same as before, you have ninety days to complete your conservation practice. Your contractor not getting there is not taken in consideration, you have the option to hire another contractor. Your practice must be started in sixty days or the contract will be cancelled.

For any questions or appointments call Linda at 816-228-1836 x 3 or email: linda.struwe@swcd.mo.gov



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**Buckner Chamber of Commerce 2013 Membership
Application**

Please fill out the following information and mail with your annual dues (minimum of \$25.00) to:

Buckner Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 287
Buckner, MO 64016

Company Name: _____

Chamber Representative (s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Email (if applicable): _____

Physical Location (if different then mailing address): _____



**May the Beauty
of Nature
Bring you Peace
and Hope
this Holiday Season,
and May the Importance
of its Conservation
Help Guide your plans
in the New Year**

**The Board of Supervisors
and Staff of the Jackson County
Soil and Water Conservation District**





A big thank you to everyone who made this a huge success!



***A special thanks to the Runyon Family for the blow-ups, tree decorations and their help.
* All the men and women who donated canned food-collected over 200 cans, also who baked goodies for everyone to enjoy, cleaned the grass out of the sidewalks, trimmed the tree, put up the decorations, etc.
*To Santa Claus-we know you are very busy.
*To everyone who attended and brought the children.
THANK YOU EVERYONE-SEE YA NEXT YEAR!!**