

**The best kept  
secrets are in...**

*Area ripe for Small  
Business Ventures*  
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at Historic  
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*19th Century  
Treasures*  
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**Tipton, MO**

Published by The Tipton Times, May 2023

# Railroad promise leads to Tipton's founding

The first sale of lots in this community was conducted March 1, 1858 by William Tipton Seely who, after establishing himself a few miles north at Round Hill, sold the right of way here to the railroad as part of the westward expansion. He also dedicated acreage to the development of a new town along the railroad. In his honor this new town was named Tipton, and the original incorporating charter adopted in 1860. John Burke Dritt, who was Seely's land agent, was named mayor.

On Sept. 16, 1858, John Butterfield made the first transcontinental mail delivery west to San Francisco from Tipton, terminus of his operation for the first year and a half. The Butterfield Overland Mail continued until March 1861 when the Civil War broke out and closed the southern route west.

The fledgling prairie town survived the Civil War, and by 1882 had grown to the point that a proposal to incorporate as a city of the fourth class was put before

voters.

Editor Abel Marcy wrote in The Tipton Times of May 10, 1882, "Let us have Tipton run into the repair shop and rebuilt into a city of the fourth class, with two wards and four aldermen. There are several good reasons for it. It would give localities a better chance and furnish us with a solid charter on which to base a sound system of local self government. Our present city foundations are daubed with untempered mortar, and our existing ordinances are inoperative, because they cannot be enforced."

On July 5, 1882, Tipton's voters elected to become a fourth class city, 83 to 67, and on Aug. 8, 1882 elected Dritt as mayor. Elected to the first board of aldermen were John A. Kelley, J. M. Boyd, W. Schwanz and Gus Dueber. W. E. McCarty was marshal, and J. F. Taylor was appointed city attorney, recorder and city clerk.

Through ups and downs, the City of Tipton continues to thrive.

The city council establishes the policies which guide all city services and activities, adopts the budget and levies taxes which are collected by the county collector. The council makes commissioned appointments and aldermen serve on several standing committees that are often called upon to do research on projects between monthly meetings. The council meets at 6 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Tipton City Hall located at 101 E. Moniteau. The meetings are open to the public.

To contact city hall, call 660-433-2323.

## 8-ball is landmark

Many people, on their first visit to Tipton, want to know why a water tower standing over the west side is painted like an 8-Ball.

Tipton was home to Fischer Manufacturing Company, founded by the late Ewald Fischer, a Tipton native who got his start selling pool tables for another company while also selling insurance in Kansas City. Reaching his goal of selling 1,000 coin-operated pool tables a

month, Fischer decided he could manufacture the tables himself and moved his family back to Tipton where he started his company in the basement of their home in 1949 with two employees. The company made coin-operated pool tables in a couple other locations before Fischer built a new plant at the west edge of Tipton in 1967, expanding his work force to nearly 200 employees. The water tower was erected then to provide fire protection for the plant.

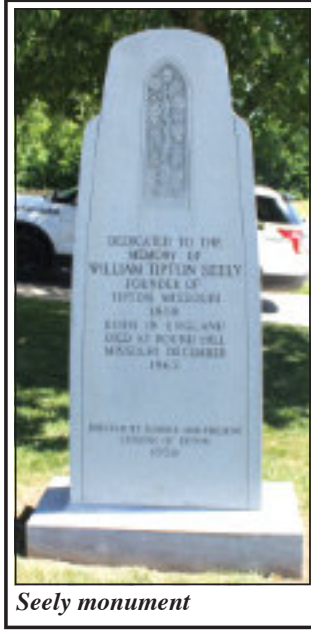
Fischer Sales & Mfg. Co. put its name on several game tables, three or four different models under the trade names Cue-Star Bumper Pool and Cue-Ette, and Town & Country.

In December 1968, Fischer Manufacturing, the country's largest builder of pool tables at that time, was sold to Spalding Company, a division of Questor. The plant here was closed years later and has housed several manufacturers since then. The building is now owned by Ozark Brands, the home of McCall's Candles which makes specialty jar candles and melts at the site.

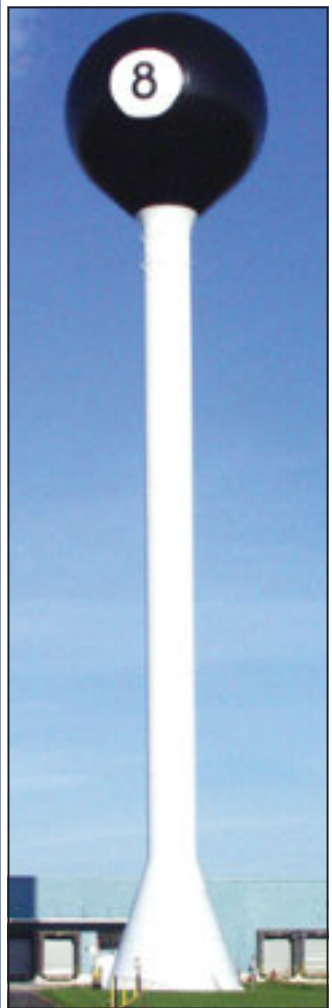
After all these years, by maintaining the 8-Ball, the community remembers Ewald Fischer, coming from humble beginnings as a farm boy to building a company known world wide and the recognition his success continues to bring to Tipton.

The 8-Ball has been featured in publications highlighting unusual facts across the United States, including those about "the largest....," and an Internet search turns up dozens of sites with its photo.

For more on the history of Tipton, see "The Illustrated History of Tipton, Missouri: 1858-2008," by Gloria Knipp, published for the community's sesquicentennial celebration in 2008. A copy can be found at Price James Memorial Library.



Seely monument



Tipton's 8-Ball



## Tipton, Missouri

est. 1858

- Beautiful City Parks
- Excellent Schools
- Youth Organizations & Sports
- Yearly fair & events
- Active Chamber of Commerce
- Price James Memorial Library



Growing Forward





**Members of the Tipton City Council** as of April 2023 are, from the left: Front, Mayor Mark Hampton; back, legal counsel Cydney Mayfield, East Ward Councilpersons Chris Allee and Mike Kelley, and West Ward Councilpersons Lora

Dicus and Bob Wolf. The council and mayor are elected to two-year staggered terms and are paid a small monthly stipend.

## Tipton offers best location for quiet life Big amenities available in all direction with short drive

**by Mayor Mark Hampton**

Welcome to Tipton, a place where citizens thrive together. Whether you're an individual or a family, we offer a fantastic environment to live and grow with urban amenities without the hassle of a big city life.

Due to our central location, no resident is far from the very best our state has to offer from lake life, the University of Missouri, the State Fair, or our State Capital, a short drive and you're there and can still be back in time to sleep in your own home under quiet stars.

The city of Tipton has flourished with small town values, while holding onto its history-rich past since its founding in 1858. We were an original terminus for the railroad and Butterfield Stage and have incorporated that past into our town motto, "Where the stage met the rail."

The city operates as a fourth class municipality with an elected mayor and city council. Our meetings are held monthly on the first Monday at 6 p.m. at city hall and are always open to the public.

Tipton is a member of the Moniteau County Regional Economic Development Council and the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission to offer assistance in recruiting new industry and to retain current businesses.

Of course, the city itself offers the basic services of water, trash, and sewer, but we are also home to one of the fastest broadband internet providers in Co-Mo Connect.

Our fully staffed police and fire departments will keep you and your family in a safe environment and our fully equipped public library will have the information to grow at your fingertips.

Emergency services are also provided by Mid MO ambulance which is headquartered inside our city limits.

All city services are accessible online at [tiptonmo.us](http://tiptonmo.us), and we also maintain a social media presence to keep our citizens informed of useful information such as trash pick up changes or lost pets. Yes, we care for every member of your family just like our own.

The city of Tipton offers dual avenues for education in the form of both a parochial and public school system. They both are staffed with fantastic educators that take the time to know your student and help them grow to their best ability. Award winning activities and state championship athletics await each student enrolled in our district and we would be honored to have them call Cardinal nation home.

No matter whether you choose to reside on the east, west, north or south, public and private recreation is available to all our citizens. We offer a great 9-hole golf course with a pool at our membership-based country club. Our fairgrounds are host to multiple events throughout the year from rodeos to tractor pulls, and include limited RV hookups for the traveler. Our wi-fi enabled city park is a fantastic attraction with a fully stocked lake and walking trails.

The outdoor activity does not stop there though. Our park also contains baseball and softball fields that host both recreation and high school sports, and a sprawling playground is paired

with a 9-hole disc golf course that is free to play. And if you just want to rest or host an outdoor party, multiple shelter houses are available to reserve complete with electric outlets and lighting. All inquiries and reservations should be made at city hall.

Memorials and historic locations are also located inside our city. We are a designated Purple Heart City with a beautiful Veterans Memorial located at our City Park. We are also home to a Blue Star memorial that welcomes visitors to the Grow and Glow Garden Club Park alongside Highway 50 West. The Maclay Home is a Civil War landmark that housed union soldiers during an encampment near Tipton in 1862, and it is preserved along with the accompanying Old Presbyterian Church by private citizens. They are two of our oldest structures and are open for tours from May to December.

Lastly, our towering 8 Ball water tower is an echo of long past Fischer pool table manufacturing in Tipton.



**Small flower farmers**, the Keene family, operates Flowers on Phoenix with mom Amanda Keene in charge. With her husband, Jordan, Amanda's children and helpers are Ingrid, 16, Cyrus, 13, and Gunther, 4. The "U-pick" farm is located at their home east of Tipton on Phoenix Road. (Photo from Summer 2022)

# Local flower farmer offers unique experience

by **Becky Holloway, editor**  
**The Tipton Times**  
 A small seed was planted during a visit to a flower farm near the Trappist monks' Mepkin Abbey north of Charleston, S.C., and blossomed into a U-pick flower farm near Tipton, Mo., where Amanda Keene, her husband, Jordan, and three children relocated themselves in the middle of the COVID pandemic.

The Keene family picked that bouquet of yellow Dutch daffodils from two long rows at the South Carolina farm one afternoon after school. "I thought they were really pretty and it was such a good concept, to pick your own flowers and bring people outside," said Amanda.

Getting outside grew important as the pandemic itself was growing, prompting Amanda and Jordan to want to move back to Missouri.

"We looked for a place in the country, and needed something with a lake because our daughter, Ingrid, gathered eggs for the family from the pet ducks she was raising," said Amanda. Jordan

landed a job at Co-Mo Connect headquartered at Tipton, and they purchased a small farm on Phoenix Road east of town.

A stay-at-home mom who homeschools their children, Amanda's thoughts soon turned to ways to make connections in the community and offer a service. She was drawn to those flowers that can be an outlet, something so small but with a large potential to be a bridge. A U-pick operation, similar to the one they had visited in South Carolina, would provide her the chance to connect with her creative self, and as a homeschooling mother she looked at her dream farm of also working into education.

Jordan encouraged her to take the 2022 LaunchU class for entrepreneurs offered by the Moniteau County Regional Economic Development Council. As a member of the class, she settled on agri-tourism as the basis for her business plan, and her dream of a U-pick flowers farm began to take shape.

Each LaunchU class ends with

a pitch competition that awards cash prizes to those who present the best plans. In her presentation, Amanda helped the judges visualize her ideas for a unique operation providing homegrown flowers to several outlets, a tourist and recreation destination, and an educational experience for visitors. She said future plans may include workshops and educational programs.

She stressed to the judges the benefits flowers have on our

health. Studies have shown that a gift of flowers improves happiness and feelings of well-being, releasing dopamine, the reward expectation chemical. They have a long term affect on mood, producing serotonin, an anti-depressant; and and they open intimate connections between family and friends, releasing oxytocin, the bonding hormone.

"Your overall mental health

continued on next page



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# • Flower farm growing into agri tourism

continued from previous page

improves by enjoying flowers,” said Amanda. “So take time to enjoy flowers!”

She also wants people to use their senses when picking flowers.

Amanda won second place in the pitch competition, and with the prize money she purchased seeds and a second-hand high tunnel that has served her well into this second season. She uses organic growing practices with compost and cover crops for weed management, compost for fertilizer. She has incorporated her background in entomology from her 4-H days and natural resource management, and hopes to utilize natural solutions like beneficial insects and deterrent plants to eliminate the need for pesticides and herbicides and get the most out of her 5,000-square-foot garden space.

“I think that is the way God intended it,” said Amanda, who has brought a considerable amount of faith into her operation.

vertical space so she can expand the garden’s offerings to sweet peas and climbing vegetables.

“Flowers don’t last forever but the memories do,” Amanda said as she saw generations within families coming out to cut bouquets of her flowers. “Spending time with your kids is so important.”

She is also delving into some wedding design on a small scale, with hopes of growing flowers for larger-scale designers. “I’d like to even give the bride the experience of cutting and designing her own wedding flowers,” Amanda said.

In addition to the annual flowers, Flowers on Phoenix will also be the home of more perennials, laid out in color blocks much like a quilt.

“I’ve always loved quilting and will try to incorporate color blocking as the new perennial garden takes shape,” Amanda said.

“We are all creative, it’s just where to tap into it and help it flourish,” she commented.

While a lot of people prefer the fresh flowers the garden offers seasonally, others may find themselves digging into their creative side that her dried flowers offer, or even paper and faux flowers used in some of her designs. Amanda said this year she planned more efficiently and planted more flowers that can be dried and used, such as statice. Some of her own designs and dried bouquets are sold at the Silver-smiths, another local small business.

Future plans include expanding the space, buying a tractor and disc, and having a better sign.

As she grows conservatively, Amanda said she wants to keep her business as a Micro flower farm.

“I’m not really interested in getting huge. A tiny seed can make a big impact,” she said. “There is a lot you can pack into a small space - that keeps it



**Helping cut flowers** - Gunther helps his mother, Amanda Keene, cut zinnias in the garden at Flowers on Phoenix, a u-pick farm east of Tipton. Amanda was the second place winner of the Moniteau County Regional Economic Development’s LaunchU class for local entrepreneurs. The cash prize helped her start the flower farm.

unique in itself.”

For more information about U-pick, including hours of operation

and to get ahold of Amanda, check out the Flowers on Phoenix Facebook page and Instagram.



**A monarch butterfly** perches on a cockscomb in the garden at Flowers on Phoenix.

Amanda and Jordan also bring years of experience in agriculture and education into their plan for success, finally getting to use their agriculture/CAFNR degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

As the season for daffodils and tulips came and went, Amanda said she plans to add archways to incorporate



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# Need to know

•**Water main or sewer leaks**, call City Hall, 660-433-2323; after hours call 660-433-2620 and the Moniteau County Dispatch Center will notify the city maintenance crew.

•**Dog nuisance**, call City Hall, 660-433-2323.

•**Tree limbs downed by a storm** should be taken to the maintenance yard at 210 North Pacific.

•**Recycling?** Use the bins at the maintenance yard (a list of recyclables is available at City Hall).

•**Household Hazardous Waste** collection is held the second Wednesday in June and October. Appointments are required, and a brochure with details about what is accepted is available at City Hall.



Deputy Clerk Marna Williams and City Clerk Jennifer Schmidt serve residents and visitors to the community at Tipton City Hall.

## City maintains full-time office

Tipton City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The two full-time employees, Deputy Clerk Marna Williams, who staff the business office take a staggered lunch hour so the office is rarely closed.

Deputy Clerk Marna Williams, who staff the business office take a staggered lunch hour so the office is rarely closed.



## On the cover

The giant statue of Bigfoot or Sasquatch, or whatever you choose to call him, stands at Ted's Statuary on the northwest corner of the Intersection of Highways 50 and Moreau Avenue (Highway B). He is frequently dressed for the season or holiday, and has become a favorite place in Tipton for travellers to take a selfie or family group picture, rivalling the 8-Ball as a local landmark.

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# Who to call for utility service hookups, problems

The following utility services are provided to residents of the City of Tipton.

•**Water and sewer:** The City of Tipton provides water and sewer services to all city residents, businesses and industries. To have service hooked up, call or go to City Hall at 101 Moniteau Street in downtown Tipton, or call 660-433-2323. A deposit is required before service is connected.

•**Trash:** Trash disposal, mandatory for all city residents, is provided by Republic Services of Jefferson City and is obtained at the time of signing up for water and sewer service at City Hall. Disposal carts are provided by the company. The service is billed monthly on the water/sewer statements. Republic Services also cooperates with the city in providing one free citywide cleanup for residential customers each June. For large dumpster service, call Republic Services at 1-800-455-2597.

•**Natural Gas:** Natural gas service is provided by Spire Missouri. To have service connected, call 1-800-582-1234. If you suspect a problem or notice a strange

odor inside or outside your home, call 1-800-582-0000 from a phone outside your residence.

•**Electricity:** Electric service in the city limits and in some locations outside the city is provided by Ameren Missouri. Call 1-800-552-7583 to have service connected.

In rural areas surrounding Tipton, electricity is provided by Co-Mo Electric Cooperative. For service call 1-800-781-0157.

•**Telephone/Internet/Television:** Local land line telephone and internet service is provided by CenturyLink. To establish residential service, call 833-692-7773.

Co-Mo Electric Cooperative has built a broadband network on its rural system, and high speed Internet, unlimited local and long-distance residential telephone and TV service are also available to Tipton residents. To have Co-Mo Connect installed at your home call 844-99-FIBER or visit the website [www.co-mo.net](http://www.co-mo.net).

Cellular phone service, Internet service and satellite TV are also available through various providers.



Tipton Public Works Department employees are, from the left, John Bestgen, Randy Williams, Aaron Fassler, Jeff Koechner and Darren Miller. The city's maintenance crew operates out of offices and sheds at 210 North Pacific.

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# 911 using innovative methods to serve residents

by Kevin Wieberg

## Moniteau 911 Administrator

Moniteau County Emergency Dispatch (MCED) is the 911 communications center for Moniteau County. Operation of the center is funded through a ¼¢ sales tax and it is governed by a seven-member elected board of directors. The board typically meets on the second Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the 911 center which is located at 604 N. Oak St., California.

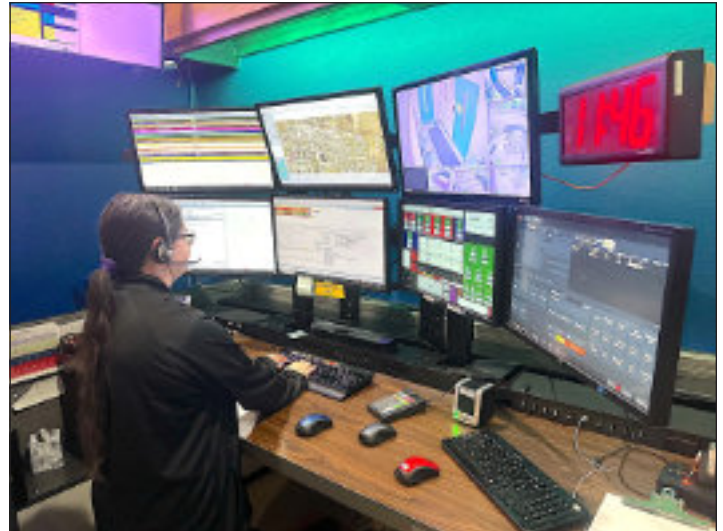
There is always a minimum of two telecommunicators on duty who are responsible for answering 911 calls, non-emergency requests and coordinating emergency responders throughout the county. The center serves four law enforcement agencies, seven fire districts and one ambulance service in Moniteau County.

On average, MCED Telecommunicators process 12,000-16,000 calls for service each year. These calls range from anything from an animal complaint, fires, domestic disputes to medical requests and everything in between.

Telecommunicators at MCED go through on-going training that exceeds industry standards. All telecommunicators complete a minimum of three months of on-the-job training in addition to 100 hours of certification courses prior to being released from their training period. There are 10 full-time and five part-time telecommunicators, as well as three administrative staff.

Among all the technology utilized at Moniteau County Emergency Dispatch, there are two topics we like to share with everyone any chance we get – those are **Text2-911** and **Smart911**.

**Text2-911** is exactly what it says – our 911 center has the capability to receive and communicate via text message. While that may seem like a simple concept, it is actually quite complex and not available in all 911 centers across the country. **Text2-911** is beneficial in cases where the caller has disabilities that prevent them from speaking or hearing the 911 telecommunicator, the caller is in a dangerous situation where they cannot



**Moniteau County 911** telecommunicator Jessica Burleski watches computer screens while receiving and transmitting information from a caller. The center dispatches help from at least 12 agencies serving county residents.

safely speak, or in cases of poor cellular coverage.

Voice is still the preferred method to contact 911 however in cases in which you can't, simply enter 911 in the "to" field of your text message and send the

location along with a brief description of the emergency and the telecommunicator will work with you to get the help you need.

The other piece of technology continued on next page

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# • 911 serves residents

continued from previous page

we offer citizens of Moniteau County is known as **Smart911**. **Smart911** is a service that allows people to register a safety profile that will be made available to emergency services when you call 911. You are able to enter medical information, key location or garage codes, information about your pets and family members, just about anything you would want emergency responders to know when you have an emergency. This information is secure and only accessible to the telecommunicators when you call 911 and for 15 minutes after the call is disconnected.

Along with the Safety Profile that you can create, **Smart911** also offers the ability for citizens to receive notifications from the 911 center and from local government entities. Notifications can include weather warnings, boil orders, road closures etc.

Additional information on these can be found on our website [www.moniteau911.com](http://www.moniteau911.com).

One challenge that is observed from 911 callers is their anxiety and frustration with the telecommunicators' questions. It is a common misconception that help isn't being sent to you until the phone conversation is complete. This is not true – most of the time when a call for service is received it is being entered into a computer system and another telecommunicator is

speaking with responders who are enroute to the emergency. Most of the questions that are being asked are to update the responders with additional information prior to them arriving on the scene.

The best advice when calling 911 is to speak clearly and answer the questions that the 911 telecommunicator is asking. This allows pertinent information to be gathered quickly which results in help arriving sooner.

Many times, the caller wants to try telling a complete story of what is transpiring when the reality is we only need the “cliffs notes.” The telecommunicator has an order they need to enter information into the system for responders and when information is just thrown at them, they must ask that information again which adds time to the process. By simply answering the questions that are asked is the fastest method to get help to you. We understand that frustration you may get from having to answer questions, but just know that help is most likely already on their way to you.

For additional questions and information, feel free to contact us anytime through our website or by emailing [administrator@moniteau911.com](mailto:administrator@moniteau911.com).

**For an emergency please call 911. Our non-emergency line is 573-796-8416.**



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# Tipton police provide law enforcement presence

The Tipton Police Department has three full-time officers, City Marshal Edward Wiecken Deputy Bruce Crider who also serves as the city's code enforcement officer, and Deputy Michael Parting, and primary reserve officer Mitch Davis.

The Tipton Police Department provides coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and fully cooperates with county and state law enforcement agencies.

Officers are available to provide programs for the Tipton community on personal safety and property protection, and often participate in programs in Tipton schools.

## Protocols

**Car Accidents:** TPD will respond to the accident if it is in the city limits. After hours they will check on an accident occurring within a three-mile radius of the city for the Highway Patrol.

**Basic Call:** The officer on duty will respond.

**Domestic, Robbery, Homicide, Fight, Suicide/Attempted Suicide or Hostage Situation:** A second officer will be called immediately to assist the primary officer.



**Protecting and serving** the citizens of Tipton are police officers, from the left, Deputy Bruce Crider, Deputy Michael Parting and City Marshal Edward Wiecken. Mitch Davis is the primary reserve officer.

**Cows on the Road:** Because Tipton is situated in a rural setting, there are occasionally problems with livestock interfering with traffic on area roads. An officer will respond within a three-

mile radius of the city limits.

**Animal Control:** The city picks up stray and runaway dogs and cats when possible, and houses them temporarily at the city pound while the owner is being sought or the dog is adopted.

During business hours you may call City Hall, 660-433-2323, or the police department at 660-433-2620 to have a problem animal picked up for holding.



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**Volunteer firefighters** answer calls in the City of Tipton and outside the city limits for residents of the Tipton Rural Fire Protection District. From the left are: Front, Jessee Brown, Darla Fassler, Kendra Kelly, Billie Schuster and Dwight Schuster;

back, Bruce Crider, David Byrd, Derek Fassler, Tate Kirchner, Kevin Morse, Fire Chief Aaron Fassler and Edward Wiecken. Not shown are Jeff Koerkenmeier, Wayne Cleveland and Jordan Moore.

# Firefighters answer calls in city, rural area

The Tipton Fire Station is located at the corner of Moreau Avenue and Walnut Street north of the stop light.

Aaron Fassler is the city fire chief and David Byrd is assistant city fire chief. Fassler also serves as fire chief for the Tipton Rural Fire Protection District while David Byrd is assistant rural fire chief. Darla Fassler is the city and rural captain and Kevin Morse is the city and rural lieutenant.

The department is comprised of 17 volunteer personnel trained in fire, rescue and first responder duties. Within its ranks the department has one certified fire investigator.

The firehouse is home to both city-owned and Tipton Rural Fire Protection District-owned equipment, and firefighters respond to calls for both entities.

The Tipton Fire Department maintains an Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating of Five. The rating is determined by the quality of the fire department, the city water department and the county emergency dispatch.

The City of Tipton has three water towers that serve the needs of the city, providing total above-ground storage capacity of 550,000 gallons of water. One of the city's two wells is capable

of producing 535 gallons of water per minute over a 24-hour pumping period, while the other can produce 600 gallons per minute on a continuous basis.

The city fire department has four trucks, including a 1979 GMC pumper, a 1997 Freightliner pumper, a 2021 Freightliner pumper, a 2016 Ford F550 rescue truck, and a mobile cascade and scene command trailer.

The TRFPD maintains two 2003 Ford brush trucks, a 2006 International 1,800 gallon tanker, a 2009 Peterbilt 2,000 gallon tanker, and a 1988 Pierce.

Volunteers continually add to their training through in-house classes, workshops and attend fire school at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Among the volunteers are 12 trained first responders and one emergency medical technician. Three have 51 hours of advanced first aid training and emergency care certified by the American Red Cross. The department also provides training opportunities for the city's law enforcement officers.

Firefighters are paged for response by the Moniteau County Emergency Dispatch Center (9-1-1), and routinely provide mutual aid to surrounding emergency fire and medical departments.

For information about becoming a volunteer firefighter in Tipton,

call City Hall at 660-433-2323.

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# Mid-Mo Ambulance headquarters here

The Mid-Mo Ambulance District, which serves both Moniteau and Morgan counties, has its home office centrally located in Tipton. Covering approximately 967 square miles, it is the largest ambulance district geographically in the state of Missouri.

Mid-Mo has full-time bases in Tipton, California and Versailles, providing service 24 hours a day, seven days a week year-round.

Mid-Mo built a new base at California closer to the relocated Highway 50 for quicker response to emergencies on the busy highway. Staff moved into that new location in May 2017.

On June 28, 1977, the voters of Moniteau and a large portion of Morgan counties voted to organize an ambulance district. Three directors to the board are elected from each county, representing Mid-Mo's six geographic subdistricts.

The district office bills for services to private insurance, Medicare and Medicaid. In addition to fees charged, Mid-Mo obtains revenue from a one-half cent sales tax approved by voters in August 2006. As promised at that

time, the original property tax levy rolled off in 2010.

The district's 2018-19 operating budget is based on projected revenues of \$3,302,078.69. Expenditures are estimated at \$3,112,500.

The district employs four administrative personnel, 24 emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and 13 paramedics (EMT-Ps).

Earl Reuter, Versailles, is the president of the board of directors. Cody

Worthley, Stover, is vice president, and Becky Holloway, Tipton, is treasurer. Also serving on the board are Brad Stuedle, California, Mitchell Saunders, Jamestown, and Brenda Lapp, Barnett. District administrator is Lee Kempf and Brenda West is the office manager and secretary to the board. Tasha



**Mid-Mo Ambulance District** has its home office at Tipton and also maintains bases in California, Versailles and Barnett, and a quick response seasonal base at Ivy Bend. The district has a total of 41 employees as of July 2019.

Knapheide is the office clerk, and Jason Elliott and Russ Lumpkin are the district supervisors.

The district's fleet is comprised of eight emergency response ambulances.

In Moniteau and Morgan counties, residents needing emergency ambulance service dial 9-1-1. The district business office phone number is 660-433-6466.

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*Harrison School, artist's vision*

# Future museum will preserve local Black history

## Opportunity 1888 sees vision for Harrison School

Harrison School on East Howard Street is an artifact of a segregated era, a local treasure, and a national historic place.

In 1888, the white citizens of Tipton wanted to build their third public school for white students. By promising to build a new school for black students (their first paid for with public funds), black voters supported the school bond levy. The levy raised \$12,000 [\$10,000 for the white school, and the remaining \$2,000 for the black school (Harrison School)].

Harrison School, a two-room schoolhouse, was constructed between 1888 and 1890, with the help of formerly enslaved area residents, who quarried, transported and laid the stones for the school's foundation.

From 1890 to 1957, Harrison School served the area's black students. Before the 1930s, Harrison School only went to the eighth grade, and students that wanted to attend high school had to enroll in schools in other towns or cities. Between 1936 and 1942, Tipton's School Board allowed Harrison School to have a two-year high school program. However, no additional allotment of money was allocated for Harrison's new high school program.

In 1954, Tipton integrated its high school, the elementary school was integrated in the fall of 1957, and Harrison School was closed. Harrison School remains Moniteau County's last standing 19th-century school building used exclusively for the education of blacks.

In 2020, Opportunity 1888 Foundation, Inc., a Missouri

501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization started by descendants of Harrison School alumni, acquired the Harrison School building. The Foundation has begun its preservation efforts, but the building requires extensive renovation before it can be reopened to the public.

In 2021, the U.S. Park Service placed the building on the National Register of Historic Places.

The building is the centerpiece of the Foundation's vision: "to inspire and empower people to value and preserve their historic journey." Harrison School was previously the center of Tipton's black community; however, the Foundation seeks to expand the role of Harrison School into a place for everyone's benefit in learning, communication and reconciliation.

Opportunity 1888 seeks to open the building to the public by the fall of 2024, to celebrate its 134th anniversary.

After its renovation, Harrison School will be the home of the James Shipley Museum of African American History (JSMAAH). James Shipley was a life-long Tipton resident, a Harrison School alumnus, and a decorated WWII veteran. Shipley served with the Tuskegee Airmen (the "Red Tails"). The National Museum of the Tuskegee Airmen (Detroit, Michigan) has agreed to loan some of its Red Tail artifacts for display in the JSMAAH.

Additionally, the JSMAAH will feature a replica 1900s classroom to demonstrate the type of learning environment in which Harrison School students sought education. The museum will celebrate and give voice to

place to serve the needs of the local community, while preserving its history for future generations.

On Saturday, May 6, 2023, Prairie Grove Baptist Church, Tipton, was the site of a Harrison School Alumni Reunion. The reunion was a community celebration and gathering of former Harrison School students, who throughout the years became pioneers in their endeavors. The reunion was a collaborative effort between Opportunity 1888, Ozark Vitality, and the State Historical Society of Missouri.

The day's events included a history presentation regarding the school (underwritten by the Missouri Speakers Bureau), Ozark Vitality's premiere of a new video featuring a Harrison School alumna, and a meet and greet with the attending alumni.

To capture and preserve the lived experiences of attending Harrison School alumni, the

National Trust Preservation Fund and the Missouri Humanities Council awarded grants to Opportunity 1888, and Ozark Vitality, respectively. Co-Mo Connect was also one of the sponsors for the event.

Donations for Harrison School's renovation are tax deductible and can be made on Opportunity 1888 Foundation, Inc.'s website, <https://opportunity1888.org>.



*James Shipley*

the lives and accomplishments of area blacks, through audio recordings, newspaper accounts, and digital displays of hundreds of turn-of-the-century images. The renovated school's design includes a conference room, a gift shop, a dedicated community meeting space, and a library designed for the preservation and research of local black genealogical interests and regional historical significance. The Foundation's concept is to return Harrison School to a gathering



National Park Service graphic

## Town's part in expansion west detailed on roadside marker

The first trip of the Butterfield Overland Mail originated in Tipton on Sept. 16, 1858, from what is now the corner of Moniteau Street and Osage Avenue in downtown Tipton. The trail that began here was designated a part of the National Historic Trail and part of the National Park Service in January 2023.

Legislation authored by U.S. Senator John Boozman (R-Ark.) to designate the entire route of the Butterfield Overland Trail as a National Historic Trail passed the U.S. House of Representatives in late December and was signed by President Joe Biden on Jan. 5. Former Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) was a co-sponsor of the bill.

In early 1857, the Post Office Department had put up for bid a contract which called for an overland mail route to California which would not exceed a time of 25 days and would run twice a week. John Butterfield was awarded the contract for \$600,000. By September 1858, he had 250 coaches, 1,800 of the best horses and mules, and 1,200 skilled superintendents, road bosses, drivers, guards, conductors, keepers, blacksmiths, harness makers, hostlers and clerks.

The Union Pacific Railroad had reached Tipton by the time

of Butterfield's first mail run which was made from Tipton. Mail was offloaded from the train and put into the hands of John Butterfield for transport to San Francisco, Calif.

Each driver had a 60-mile



An image of a Butterfield stage from the Butterfield (Overland Mail) National Historic Trail Friends Facebook page

route, and armed conductors had 120-mile routes. The conductors had absolute charge of passengers and mail, and guarded both with their lives.

Passenger fare from St. Louis to San Francisco was \$200, and 15 cents a mile for shorter distances.

The last trip from Tipton was made on March 21, 1861. Attacks by Indians forced the closing of the Gila Trail. Other trails were in operation and the railroad lines had been extended beyond Tipton.

A roadside marker recognizes Tipton as the first eastern stagecoach terminus of the Butterfield Overland Mail.



Butterfield Roadside Marker

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• **58th Dist. Rep. Willard Haley**  
Missouri House of Representatives  
201 W. Capitol Ave.  
Room 234  
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101  
Ph. 573-751-2077  
Willard.Haley@house.mo.gov



Bernskoetter

• **6th Dist. Sen. Mike Bernskoetter**  
201 W. Capitol Ave., Room 416  
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101  
Ph. 573-751-2076



Hawley

• **U.S. Sen. Josh Hawley**  
115 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C., 20510  
Ph. 202-224-6154



Schmitt

• **U.S. Sen. Eric Schmitt**  
B-11 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Ph. 202-224-5721



Leutkemeyer

• **3rd Dist. U.S. Rep. Blaine Leutkemeyer**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2230 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Ph. 202-225-2956

## Who's who in Moniteau County government?



• **County Commission**  
573-796-2213

**Presiding Commissioner**  
Joe Lutz

**District 1 Commissioner**  
Clint Hoellering

**District 2 Commissioner**  
Rick Messerli

• **County Clerk**  
573-796-4661  
Roberta Elliott

• **County Treasurer**  
573-796-4608  
Sarah Jones

• **County Assessor**  
573-796-4637  
Marcy Oerly

• **County Collector**  
573-796-4521  
Ellen Ash

• **Sheriff**  
573-796-2525  
Tony Wheatley

• **Coroner**  
573-796-3855  
Marty Ramsdell

• **Prosecuting Attorney**  
573-796-3220  
Derik Kinde

• **Associate Circuit Court**  
573-796-2814 or 796-4671  
Judge Aaron Martin

• **Circuit Court**  
573-796-2071  
Judge Matt Hamner  
Judge Kenneth M. Hayden  
Judge Aaron Koeppen

**Clerk/Recorder of Deeds**  
Mandy Burger

• **Public Administrator**  
573-796-4704  
Cher Caudel



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# Visit the clerk's office to register to vote

In order to vote, you must be registered with the Moniteau County Clerk.

The clerk's office is located on the first floor of the Moniteau County Courthouse at 200 East Main, California.

Those 18 years of age and older must present a signature identification to register. Registration must be done by the third Wednesday prior to the upcoming election.

Missouri's new Photo Voter ID law went into effect June 1, 2017. While the law makes changes to Missouri's election day voter ID requirements, it is important to remember that if a voter is an eligible, registered voter, they can vote.

With the law change, there are a few things to note:

While a photo ID is not the only form of acceptable identification, it helps ensure the identity of the voter.

Under Missouri's new law, there are three ways a voter can cast a ballot at the polls on Election Day:

Option 1 - Provide a Missouri issued Driver or Non-driver license, U.S. Passport, or Military ID.

Option 2 - Provide a secondary form of identification, such as a paycheck or bank statement and sign a statement confirming their identity. Without a picture I.D., this still will allow the voter to vote a provisional ballot.

Option 3 - If the voter has no form of identification, but is a registered voter, they can cast a provisional ballot. There are two ways the vote counts:

- If the voter comes back to their polling location before the close of polls on Election Day; or,
- If the signature matches the signature on file on the voter registration record.

There are two voting precincts in Tipton, the East and West Wards, and voting is conducted at the Knights of Columbus Hall located between St. Andrew School and Tipton R-VI Schools. Polling places and sample ballots are published in the newspaper prior




**Civic duty** - Brian Huhmann signs in to vote during the municipal election Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at the Knights of Columbus Hall.


to each election.

For more information, contact

the Moniteau County Clerk's office at 573-796-4661.



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Municipal Court officials are Aaron Martin, left, municipal judge, and Ann Perry, city prosecutor. City court cases are processed through the Moniteau County Associate Circuit Court.

## Updating driving status

Driver's licenses may be renewed and vehicle registration can be obtained at the California License Bureau.

Driver's licenses may be renewed any day at the License Bureau located at 1021 West Buchanan, Suite 15, Village Green, California. The office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

New drivers who must take a road test with the Highway Patrol may do so the first and third Friday of each month at California City Hall, 500 S. Oak. The written test is given from 9 a.m. to 3:50 p.m., and the driving test is given from 9 to 3:45 p.m. The motorcycle skills test is given between 9 a.m. 10 a.m.

Anyone between 16 and 18 years of age wanting to take a driver's test must present a birth certificate or similar document for proof of age. A learner's permit may be obtained at 15 years of age.

For information about driver's license testing, call 573-418-3269.

Vehicle licenses and registrations may be obtained any weekday.

To renew a driver's license you

must present proof of residency with your name and physical address (such as a utility bill, voter registration card or bank statement). If you are older than 65 you must present your Social Security number and proof of residency.

If you are a new resident to Missouri, you must make application within 30 days of residency for a Missouri driver's license even if you still have a valid license from another state. Regardless of your age, you must present your birth certificate with state seal or a U.S. passport, Social Security number and proof of residency. Renewal is required every six years.

You also have 30 days to obtain Missouri license plates. To license a vehicle, you must present an inspection certificate, a state of origin for a new vehicle or the title to a used vehicle, a paid personal property tax receipt and proof of insurance coverage.

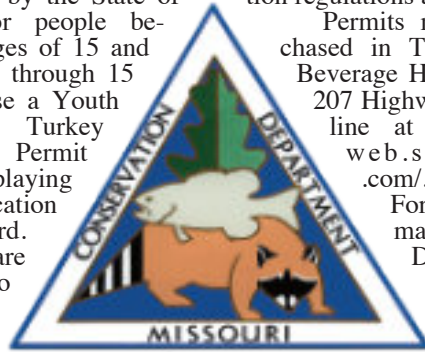
For more information on obtaining or renewing a driver's license or vehicle registration, call the California License Bureau at 573-796-4871.

## Hunting, fishing licenses required

Hunting and fishing licenses All Department of Conservation regulations apply.

are required by the State of Missouri for people between the ages of 15 and 65. Youth 6 through 15 may purchase a Youth Deer and Turkey Hunting Permit without displaying a hunter education certificate card.

Licenses are required to fish at the Tipton City Park Lake.



Permits may be purchased in Tipton at the Beverage Hut located at 207 Highway 50 or online at <https://mdcweb.s3licensing.com/>.

For more information call the Department of Conservation at 573-522-4115.

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# Rules for pet owners

The city regulates the keeping of dogs and cats within the city limits.

According to City Ordinances 19-15, it is unlawful to keep a dog or cat that has not been vaccinated and properly registered with the City of Tipton. The vaccination tag must be attached to the dog or cat by means of a secure harness or collar. Tags shall not be transferred from the dog or cat to which it was issued to any other dog or cat.

The veterinarian's certificate showing the dog or cat has been immunized from rabies must be presented before a dog license will be issued. The current costs for licenses are: Males and spayed females, \$10; and intact males and unspayed females, \$25. Licenses are valid from Jan. 1

through Dec. 31 of each year. No more than three animals will be permitted per residence.

It is unlawful for the owner of any dog or cat to allow the animal to run at large within the city.

Dogs or cats found to be a nuisance or strays are subject to being impounded. The humane officer and caretaker, Bruce Crider, will attempt to identify the dog or cat and notify the owner who must redeem the pet within 5 days by paying the boarding fees at Tipton City Hall.

The city pound is located at the maintenance yard on North Pacific.

Violation of the city's animal control ordinance is punishable by a fine of no more than \$500 or up to 90 days in jail, or both.



**Memorial to those who served** - Completed over several phases, the Tipton Veterans' Memorial in the City Park is a tribute to all those from Tipton and area school districts who served our country in the various branches of the military.

# City regulates farm animals

In 2023 the City of Tipton enacted an ordinance regulating farm animals and livestock within the city limits.

Ordinance 23-02 pertains to the keeping of such farm animals as cattle, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, swine, goats, sheep, rabbits, chickens, turkeys, geese, peacocks and ducks.

It is unlawful to keep a number of exotic animals, any animal with a poisonous bite and reptiles over three feet long.

Owners of more than five contiguous acres of land are allowed to keep livestock or farm animals, other than chickens which are allowed but must be cooped.

Commercial feed lots or CAFOs are not allowed.

Farm animals, livestock or other permitted animals of any kind are allowed to run at large. Such animals being allowed to run at large will be handled in the same way as dogs and cats running at large.

Buildings, pens, cages or yards where the above mentioned animals are kept must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition to prevent offensive or noxious odors.

Violation of Ordinance 23-02 is punishable by a fine of no more than \$500 or up to 90 days in jail, or both.

# Honoring those who serve with Veterans' Memorial

Six ballards on either side of the walkway to the Tipton Area Veterans' Memorial invite visitors to come, sit a spell, and reflect on the service of those remembered here. The memorial was made possible by the generosity of the Benny and Glenda Hainen family.

Phase I, containing the original eight walls, dedicated to the various branches of the military, was dedicated July 4, 2015 and the second phase was completed in early 2019 and dedicated on Memorial Day, May 24.

In addition to the ballards, the

second phase includes the addition of six flag poles, one for each of the five branches of the armed forces and missing in action, seven light columns to illuminate the entire memorial, and four benches where visitors can contemplate the freedom to live in this country and honor those that protect that with their service, past, present and future.

The walls now pay tribute to 2,595 veterans who lived in Tipton or surrounding school districts. Those names are listed at [www.tiptonmo.org/veterans](http://www.tiptonmo.org/veterans).

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# Home, church preserved as 19<sup>th</sup> century treasures

The Friends of the Maclay Home was organized in 1982 to manage restoration and preservation of the historic home dating back to Tipton's founding. In 2021, it took possession of the Presbyterian Church and is returning it to its former glory as one of the first houses of worship in the community.

## **The Maclay Home** 209 W Howard Street

The Maclay Home is a time capsule holding treasures from the past. The three-story 17-room structure contains the original furnishings of the Gleim and Maclay families. Some of the treasures include Civil War letters and artifacts, Indian beadwork from the camp of Sitting Bull, a letter from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and part of the James Brown art collection. Items from Tipton's history rest alongside furniture, clothes and household goods from the 1800s.

Built on the first four lots sold for the town of Tipton in 1858, Wallace and Mariah Williams ran a girls' seminary which operated until Mr. Williams left in 1861 to fight for the South. General John

Fremont used the Home briefly in October 1861 with Union troops headquartered there throughout the Civil War. Following the War, it became a family home to several generations of the Gleim and Maclay

family. Family members lived there until the 1930s. After that, it was maintained intact as a summer home and family gathering place for the holidays.

In 1979, the house was added to the National Register of Historic Places and in 1983 the remaining family members deeded the house and its contents to the Friends of the Maclay Home. Today, the Home is open to the public for tours on the second and fourth Sundays of May through October or by appoint-



**Maclay Home, Old Presbyterian Church**

ment. Special events include an annual 4th of July Ice Cream Social and a fall Chili Supper followed by candlelight tours.

Tours may be scheduled by calling 660-433-2068.

## **The Old Presbyterian Church**

131 North Moreau

On May 6, 2021, ownership of the Old Presbyterian Church

across the street from the Maclay Home passed to The Friends of the Maclay Home. The Gleims and Maclays were prominent members of the church.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1867 with 12 members. The first church was built on the west end of Howard Street. When the congregation grew to over 400, that church became the manse and a new church was built at the opposite end of the block on the southwest corner of Howard and Moreau streets. That church was dedicated Jan. 1, 1898. Little has changed inside, making it an important example of a prairie church.

After World War II, member-

ship dwindled until only a few members were served by a visiting pastor. The Presbytery intended to demolish the structure in 1992, but four local women formed Historic Tipton to save the building. The interior of the church was repaired and repainted in 2010 using profits from the book, "The Illustrated History of Tipton, Missouri." Metal siding was placed on the outside during the summer of 2014.

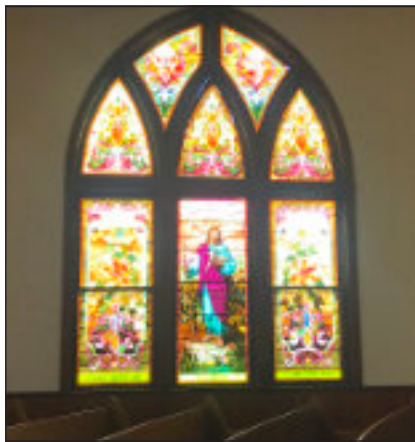
The beautiful stained glass windows in the church have been restored, including the large Christ the Shepherd window donated by members of the

Gleim family.

Several area churches met there until building their own churches. A few weddings and funerals were held there as well.

Since passing to The Friends of the Maclay Home, the church is open when the Maclay Home is open for tours and has hosted various special events. Community gospel sings with musical jam sessions, an art show, a Mother's Day tea luncheon and a night of Christmas caroling have been popular events.

The Church is available for rent for special occasions by calling 660-433-2068.



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# R-VI living mission and meeting challenges

by Dr. Terry Robinson  
Superintendent

The Tipton R-VI School District remains committed to our mission: To prepare all students for their futures by designing and sustaining a learning culture of excellence.



Preparation can look different for every student. Generally, we have a relatively even distribution of students choosing to pursue a four-year degree, a two-year degree, a technical degree, or enter the workforce. Designing our school around those pursuits has been an ongoing challenge. Each year we find ourselves looking at student interests, needs, and our personnel available to meet those needs. Sustaining a learning culture of excellence requires resources and personnel committed to our

continued on next page



Tipton R-VI School Board members as of May 2023 are, from the left: Front, Stephanie Oldham, Ashley Kliethermes, Amanda Pettigrew; back, Kelly Kohler, Aaron Diggs, Bo Helms and Craig Wolf.



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# • Living the mission in new challenges

continued from previous page

kids. Unfortunately, the state of Missouri continues to place a significant tax burden on local taxpayers of rural schools.

Further, budgeting at the state level needs to prioritize keeping and retaining bright candidates in the teaching profession. Missouri ranks dead last regarding average teacher salaries. The state has not kept pace with inflation or the consumer price index regarding the state adequacy target to educate students for over a decade. Only this year has the state met its commitment to fund transportation at 75 percent of allowable costs. In the past, this percentage dipped to nearly 20 percent of permissible costs - the local community has almost entirely borne the burden of bringing students to school safely.

While our district has taken advantage of grants and other short-term measures offered by the state to keep and retain our teachers, rising inflation, the lack of qualified teachers, and the lack of support at the state level have led some of our teaching staff to be in transition toward full certification. Essentially, they're working on the job and completing course requirements toward full teaching certification. This is now very common in districts throughout our state.

## ***Support for our Students***

We prioritize literacy, STEM, and vocational programs on-site and at CTC in Sedalia. We're building good relationships with our students through positive behavior intervention and support in grades K-12. Our elementary school will earn its second Gold PBiS designation this year. We have developed a partnership with Burrell Behavioral Health to offer on-site mental health support for students and facility funds to provide a private office and working area for Burrell personnel and our students.

We continue to offer several AP and dual credit courses for college preparation. Additionally, our high school students have access to meaningful vocational programs on-site and in collaboration with State Fair Community College in Sedalia, Missouri. Our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Future Farmers of America (FFA), and Distributive Education Clubs



## ***Greeting travellers***

of America (DECA) all engage students in the area, regional, state and national competition opportunities. Tipton school district has had several area and state student officers.

We doubled our academic school counseling support by adding a "RootED" counselor. We took advantage of a state grant through a program called "RootED" to support students' pursuits beyond high school. This program provides focused guidance and counseling to students. Hence, they develop a fully-fledged plan after graduation, apply for financial aid (FAFSA), and regularly interact with our counselors, planning their successful transition into college, technical school, and the workforce.

## ***A School In Balance***

Our school isn't all about sports and activities. However, our school is balanced regarding sports and academics; these pursuits work together to prepare students for their futures.

Our school district also has year-round opportunities in sports and co-curricular activities. Band, Choir, Football, Basketball, Cross-Country, Cheerleading, Baseball, Softball, Archery, Wrestling, and Track and Field allow our students to build determination and teamwork.

We were proud to have winning records in football, boys and girls basketball, and state-level competitors in wrestling, along with wins in contests by our bands and individual accomplishments in Speech and Debate and other contests. Most prominently, our Lady Cardinal basketball team won the class two state championship this year and posted a 30-1 record, giving our

community a statewide spotlight on our school district.

Finally, we added Special Olympics as a competitive activity. Our students competed at the state level, and our three-on-three basketball team earned a gold medal. The team was also honored with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Sportsmanship Award.

## ***Why Rural Schools are Important***

Rural schools in America are vital in developing and growing small towns nationwide. Our school is the heart of the community, providing a place where students can learn, families can gather, and local culture can be preserved. We face several challenges, including declining enrollment, funding shortages, and difficulty attracting and retaining quality teachers. Arguably we are the backbone of Tipton, providing education, a sense of community and identity.

We also realize we play a critical role in the economic development of Tipton. We are a significant employer, providing jobs not only for teachers but also for support staff. Moreover, we can attract families to Tipton, as parents often prioritize the quality of education when choosing where to live. This influx of families can help to boost the local economy, supporting local businesses and creating new growth opportunities.

Investments in our school regarding quality personnel and facilities are essential. We are stable now with no growth in enrollment, but we could quickly begin to face declining enrollment.

Families in our state continue to move to urban areas for better job opportunities and quality of life or districts larger than ours with more opportunities and bet-

ter facilities. In that case, this trend will result in shrinking budgets and difficulty attracting and retaining quality teachers, as all rural schools need help to compete with urban and suburban districts.

Another challenge we face as a rural school is funding shortages. Because many rural communities have lower property values and fewer tax dollars to draw on, our schools will receive less funding than our urban and suburban counterparts. This can make it difficult for rural schools to provide the same level of resources and programs, leading to lower student achievement and reduced opportunities for growth.

To address these challenges, policymakers and educators must work together to find creative solutions that support the unique needs of rural schools. Fortunately, our state legislature has some proposed bills to solve this problem. However, how or if their work will help rural schools is still being determined. Proposals should include increasing funding for rural schools, providing incentives for teachers to work in rural areas, and developing new programs and resources that meet the needs of rural students.

In conclusion, our school district is critical in developing and growing Tipton. We serve as the backbone of the community, providing education, culture, and identity. However, our school could face several challenges threatening our viability, including declining enrollment and funding shortages. Add to this idea the push at the legislative level to open enrollment and allow students to enroll in schools outside our district. If passed, this could represent a loss of more state funding to our district.



*St. Andrew School*

# Education at St. Andrew School rooted in faith

**Contributed by  
St. Andrew School**

You know you are in Tipton, when you can hear the church bells ring and you see the steeple of St. Andrew Catholic Church positioned alongside Highway 50. Next to the beautifully maintained church sits St. Andrew School, founded by Reverend Father Francis Kueper.

When St. Andrew School first opened its doors in 1890 there were two classrooms, with four grades in each room. The 40 enrolled students were taught by Catholic Nuns whose living quarters were attached to the south end of the building - where the present day rectory is located.

Nearly 50 years later, in 1939,

Father H.J. Breit was transferred to Tipton from Mary's Home with the objective to modify the existing program and build a new school. While the \$60,000 cost to complete the new construction was a staggering amount to the parishioners, they continued to prove themselves as one of the most generous in the Jefferson City Diocese. The new school opened in 1941 and the new construction debt was eliminated within eight years, allowing St. Andrew Parish to continue its rich heritage that has since spanned over 150 years.

Over the past 80 years, St. Andrew School has changed remarkably. In 2008, the first kindergarten class enrolled at St. Andrew's. Not long after the ad-

dition of a new grade, a new gymnasium, cafeteria and kitchen complex were built in 2009. The new addition has allowed our staff, students, and community access to a spacious place for sporting events, family functions, and other activities.

In the Fall of 2023, St. Andrew School is establishing the first preschool program. Preschool will build an educational base that will continue to develop as students enter kindergarten.

The school is fortunate to stay up to date on technology with projectors in every classroom and 1-to-1 with student Chromebooks. The current enrollment holds between 90-100 students, with each grade placed in their

own individual classroom, taught by full-time and part-time teachers. Our staff of lay teachers come with exceptional credentials and rich backgrounds that continue the tradition of academic excellence for which St. Andrew School is known.

Our school community is a collective group of invested and dedicated parish members from both St. Andrew Parish and Annunciation Parish in California, Mo. Additional stakeholders include parents, extended families, alumni, students, faculty and staff. We are a partnership of families and community, reaching for both excellence and equality.

*continued on next page*




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# • Education rooted in faith

continued from previous page

Our collective goal and spiritual mission is to focus on the heart of each child – that he and she knows and understands God’s love for us and the teachings of the Catholic Church. As children grow and mature, they have many questions - about the world, their own identities, powers greater than themselves, and their personal relationship with God. As important as it is to be able to read, write and understand math and science, many of the ultimate questions - about life, death and the splendor and diversity of the world we live in - require a different sort of learning and a fundamental dependence on faith and belief.

St. Andrew’s, like all Catholic schools, is a faith-based community where belief in God is embedded in the everyday environment and school curriculum. These beliefs extend beyond the religion classes that are a fundamental component of our Catholic education and culture. There are Christian prayers, attendance at Mass, monthly adoration and benediction, inspirational words, and religious icons and images that foster our Catholic identity in evidence throughout the school, and the faculty, staff and families of our students provide frequent reminders of the message of Jesus Christ for all the children of the world.

Even though the Catholic message serves as the foundation of our Catholic schools, children who attend St. Andrew School are from both Catholic and non-Catholic families. The parents of these children value the rigorous demands and academic excellence of a Catholic school education and they appreciate the respect that is taught for beliefs, values and a higher sense of purpose. Our stakeholders are convinced it is important and enriching for children to receive and experience religion and faith-driven educational values integrated into the school environment. Stakeholders understand that these experiences give the children a chance to understand the beliefs, purposes, is-

suess and practices of the Catholic faith without prejudice or preconceived notions. As a result of the foundational values and faith that are nurtured and developed, children can boldly go forth and forge lives that make a difference in the world.

Regardless of one’s beliefs,



whether a practicing Catholic or a believer in another faith tradition, we believe that a Catholic school education gives every child the opportunity to grow intellectually, spiritually, physically and aesthetically. Catholic schools build character and integrity through the attention given to educating the whole child, including the mind, the heart and the spirit.

At St. Andrew’s we believe and maintain an environment that is strict, nurturing and caring. Students are required to wear school uniforms. We are recognized for the rigorous academic standards and challenging curriculum we provide. There are strong and deep extra-curricular and co-curricular programs that are supported by athletic traditions that feature and encompass girls’ volleyball, boys’ and girls’ basketball and archery. St. Andrew School and the Tipton public school also work as partners to provide opportunities for a seventh and eighth grade football, cross country and track program and a sixth through eighth grade band program.

We are also proud to report that we continue to meet and exceed yearly state learning and accreditation standards and that St. Andrew School is accredited through the Missouri Non-Public School Accrediting Association and the National Catholic Education Association.

Through additional partnerships and in cooperation with Tipton R-VI Public School District, we offer Title I services, speech support classes, and other supplemental and special education services. The St. Andrew’s

curriculum includes academic instruction that helps to prepare college-bound students with a well-rounded exposure to music, art, speech, technology and physical education. Many of our students participate in activities such as the Bellarmine Speech Meets, Sketch Day, Diocesan Spelling Bee, Writing Contest, Art Contest, Music Festivals, and the Science Fair. These activities supplement and augment the educational, competitive and social experiences our students enjoy outside of the conventional classroom are offered annually.

Financial obligations of the school are provided through parishioner tithing, sustaining fees, resource fees and donations from generous benefactors. However, tuition rates do apply for all non-Catholic families who desire a Christian education for their children and non-Catholics are welcome. Supplemental resources needed to fund school related operations are generated by members of several church and school support organizations. Yearly events through

the school and parish are both very beneficial and enjoyable ways to support our students’ education. The PTO hosts Shakespeare’s pizza sales, scrip card drive, and family events, the annual School Council raffle, the Parish Thanksgiving Auction and the Knights of Columbus Big Bucks Dinner are just a few of the events that allow us to provide our students with a quality education and a strong foundation in the Catholic Faith.

If you are new to the area or are looking at local school options for your family and would like to set up an appointment to speak with our School Principal, Mrs. Kara Higgins, about the opportunities, services and quality education St. Andrew School provides, please contact the school office at 660-433-2232, and the school secretary, Mrs. Lisa Knipp, will happily assist you. If you would like to set up an appointment to speak with our pastor, Father Anthony Viviano, please contact the parish office at 660-433-2162, and the parish secretary, Mrs. Diane Knipp, will assist you.

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# Library provides services to area residents

The Price James Memorial Library, operated with a local property tax and serving Tipton residents as well as the immediate area, was established in 1981 after the daughters of Nana and Price James bequeathed the house to the City of Tipton in 1979. One of the daughters, Olive Ashurst, also left her estate to the city for the library's operation. The condition of this generous donation was that the library be named after their father, Price James.

For 23 years the library operated out of the original house with a library board appointed by the Tipton City Council. The local tax was approved by voters in

Beginning with around 2,000 books that had mostly been donated or were part of the James collection, the library has seen much growth since it opened on March 22, 1981. That growth was thanks to frugal spending of the investments and a property tax to support library services approved by voters of the western half of Moniteau County in 1997. The tight budget, at that time overseen by the city of Tipton, was relaxed somewhat, allowing the library to hire an assistant to the head library director.

In 2004, the library was expanded with a 1,725 square feet addition on the south side of the original building. This allowed better service to residents of Moniteau County's Western District. The children's books, audio/video and office were moved to the new addition and a new public restroom was added, all freeing up much needed space in the original building for the adult books and public use computers. Handicapped accessibility and a parking lot were also added.

The library also automated in 2004. In addition to the public use computers, four computers run the office, the front desk and a search engine.

With a couple of nice donations in 2015, the library added ebooks to its collection and WiFi internet service was installed.

The library's collection now totals 15,500.

After a lengthy court battle with the Moniteau County Library District, the district was dissolved by a judge's order in February 2017. Tipton voters approved establishment of the Tipton Municipal Library District at the polls that August, and also approved a property tax solely for operation of the Price



**Classroom extension** - Price James Library provides an extended classroom for students from local schools. Marsha Nelson, library director, shares books with students who also find selections available for use in their reading challenge programs.

James Library. The first library board, appointed by the city council, organized in October 2017.

Storytime is held during the school year and a summer reading program is offered in June. A book club meets at the library monthly, book signings for local authors are encouraged, and in 2015 the

Friends of Price James Memorial Library was organized.

The library is located at 104 E. Morgan St., Tipton. The phone number is 660-433-5622. The library is open Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday an Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.


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# Nutrition Center serves seniors with hot meals, activities

The Tipton Nutrition Center, located at 421 Independence Avenue, provides a nutritious variety of hot meals to senior citizens at affordable prices.

The Nutrition Center is open regularly from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday to senior citizens age 60 and over and their spouse regardless of age.

The suggested donation for a meal is \$5 and senior citizens can bring occasional guests who are under 60 years old. Guests must pay the full price of \$7 for the meal.

Approximately 60 meals are served every day, including home delivered meals. Annually, this translates into more than 15,000 meals. The center also provides health education and has several activities and holiday events. Fundraisers are also held to help pay local expenses.

Without assistance from the Central Missouri Area Agency on Aging and occasional grants, the Nutrition Center would certainly struggle to meet the local needs of

its senior citizens. CMAAA currently pays the salaries of an administrator/cook and dishwasher. The Center received and is very appreciative of grants in recent years from the United Way and donations from the local community. It has also received gifts made by the State of Missouri Employees' Charitable Giving Campaign.

The Nutrition Center relies heavily on the efforts of volunteers. Much of the help comes from the Nutrition Center Board members, but the center welcomes any help they receive and encourages others to become involved. Local citizens volunteer their time to deliver meals to the homebound participants each week.

Current board members are



A group of crafters works on one of several projects made as part of group activities offered at the Tipton Nutrition Center. The center maintains a Facebook page where activities are announced.

Steve Brauer, president, Sandy Koechner, vice president, Linda Sudduth, secretary, Mary Williamson, treasurer, Jan Wassman, Helen Hill, Mark Hampton

and Linda Rogers.

For more information on the Tipton Nutrition Center, contact site administrator Patti Shope at 660-433-2715.



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# Partners in Ministerial Alliance provide for needs

The Tipton Ministerial Alliance is a combined ministry of participating churches in the Tipton community. Six congregations currently participate in the Alliance. The Alliance works together to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the Tipton community, meeting monthly to plan religious events, coordinate community service and assist the needy.

The Tipton Ministerial Alliance hosts inter-faith worship services at Thanksgiving and on Good Friday, collecting donations to care for the needy in Tipton and adjoining areas. The Alliance also assists graduating seniors to plan an annual Baccalaureate Service that is led and conducted by the senior class. At this service, the Tipton community worships together, honoring those graduating, with the Alliance providing scholarships to the top performing students. These worship services allow the various denominations in the area to come together to share common beliefs and values, increasing respective faith and goodwill in Tipton.

During the Christmas season, the Ministerial Alliance partners with Commerce Bank and Co-Mo Electric to sponsor an annual Tree of Giving Program. This program anonymously matches donors in the community with children who might otherwise not receive Christmas gifts. During the 2022 project, the Alliance cared for 45 children and 35 families, collecting Christmas presents and Christmas dinner items for these families to enjoy.

The Ministerial Alliance benevolence program assists persons in the community with short-term needs for food, shel-



**Secret elves** - Mike Kelley and Tammy Knipp load the back of his jeep with Giving Tree Christmas presents Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022. The presents were dropped off by local individuals and organizations that had chosen to shop for a child on the Angel Tree. Gifts were picked up at the First Christian Church on Saturday, Dec. 17.

ter, utility assistance, fuel, and travel assistance for medical treatment. Any participating congregation through its pastor or designated representative, can authorize assistance for persons in need.

The Alliance represents all persons of faith to share their love of God and their neighbor. Current participating congregations of the Alliance include: Cornerstone Christian Church; First Christian Church; Fortuna

United Methodist Church; St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church; The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; and Tipton United Methodist Church.

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# About Tipton area churches

## Tipton

### Community Baptist

413 Gregory Blvd., Tipton  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Nursery Provided  
Rides Available

### Cornerstone Christian

546 Hwy. 50 E., Tipton  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship 10:45 a.m.

### First Assembly of God

555 Hwy. 50 E., Tipton  
Shawn Miner, pastor  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Church & Youth  
(ages 3-18) 5-7 p.m.  
Evening Worship 6 p.m.  
Third Monday  
Women's Ministry 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays-Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Fourth Sunday  
Men's Prayer Breakfast 8 a.m.

### First Baptist

303 S. Gravois, Tipton  
Jared Rivera, pastor  
Fellowship & Worship 10 a.m.  
with Nursery & Kids Connect  
In-Home Bible Study Groups  
throughout the week

### First Christian

(an Independent Christian Church)

323 S. Osage, Tipton  
Rev. Frank Eastman, pastor  
Sunday School (all ages) 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
Holy Communion shared with all believers

### The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

31469 Hwy. 5 S., Tipton  
Landry Williams, Branch President  
Missionaries, 660-287-9110  
Sunday Sacrament Meeting 10 a.m.  
Sunday School (1st & 3rd) 11 a.m.  
Priesthood Relief Society &  
Young Women (2nd & 4th) 11 a.m.  
Primary (weekly) 11 a.m.

Children & Youth Activities  
Last Wednesdays 7 p.m.  
Family History Center  
by appointment 573-434-9039

### Prairie Grove

### Missionary Baptist

216 E. Howard, Tipton  
Rev. Walter Foster, Pastor  
Joyce Foster, Minister  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
1st & 3rd Wednesday 6 p.m.  
Golden Leaf WMU Mission  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2 p.m.

### St. Andrew Catholic

106 W. Cooper St., Tipton  
Fr. Anthony Viviano, pastor  
Bob Reinkemeyer, deacon  
Masses  
Saturday 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Wednesday & Friday 8 a.m.  
Confessions 7:15-7:45 a.m. Sun-  
day or by appointment

### Tipton Seventh-Day Adventist

110 E. Howard St., Tipton  
Jeffrey Fender, pastor  
Saturday Service 2:30-4:30 p.m.

### Tipton United Methodist

204 Hwy. 50 E., Tipton  
Lynn Facemyer, pastor  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Sarah Circle - 4th Tuesday 1:30 p.m.

### Fortuna Baptist

72233 Hwy. W, Fortuna  
Brad Homan, pastor  
Worship 9 & 10:30 a.m.  
Small Group Wednesdays 6 p.m.

### Fortuna United Methodist

E. Weber St., Fortuna  
Mike Kelley, pastor  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

### Syracuse First Baptist

S. Washington St., Syracuse  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Regular Service 11 a.m.



# First Baptist

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Pastor Jared Rivera

**For more information:**

**Church Address:**

303 S. Gravois Ave. Tipton, MO 65081

**Phone:** 660-433-5663

**Facebook:** First Baptist Church-Tipton, MO



# Business people, community connect in Chamber

The Tipton Chamber of Commerce has been going strong for nearly 85 years while serving the needs of local businesses and the community as a whole. The chamber helps members network and also serves as a source of information for others interested in our unique community.

As it was once stated, "A list of chamber members reads like a 'who's who' of the community." The idea that the chamber of commerce is for businesses only is not a true representation of this group. The chamber is for anyone interested in the promotion of the community and everyone is welcome and encouraged to join. Dues at the business investment levels are \$75, \$150 and \$250 with various advantages to each level. Churches, civic groups and friends (non-business) may join for \$25.

The chamber sponsors a number of community events each year, including the annual Christmas parade, a scholarship fundraiser, and gives scholarships to Tipton High School graduating seniors. The chamber also organizes social gatherings for members, the community and families, and welcomes guest speakers at monthly meetings.

The chamber maintains a website, [www.tiptonmo.com](http://www.tiptonmo.com), which serves as a resource for persons interested in finding out more about our town, provides some historical information, and gives updates on community activities.

The chamber's 2023 officers



**It's yours!** Shelley Higgins hands off a wooden witch door hanger to Jolene Garber who won the bid on the item during the Tipton Chamber of Commerce Piccadilly Auction in October 2022. More than 100 items were donated and bid on by 120 buyers to help raise just over \$4,600 for the chamber's scholarship fund.

are: President Dayley Elliott of Commerce Bank; Vice President Patrick Wood of Co-Mo Connect Powered by Co-Mo Electric Co-

operative; Secretary Becky Holloway, The Tipton Times; and Treasurer Calen Bestgen of The Tipton Latham Bank.

Amanda Pettigrew (2023-2025). Shelley Higgins is the immediate past president. lunch every third Thursday of the month at noon at local restaurants.

Chamber members meets for



administrative board also includes Directors Sheila Moon, Scott Backes (2021-2023), Stephanie Knipp, Mark Koechner (2022-2024), and Shelley Hig-

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# Amenities at Tipton City Park keep growing

The Tipton City Park offers four large shelter houses with barbecue grills, two smaller shelters and concession stands, two gazebos, two ball fields, a basketball court, restrooms, a playground that includes slides and swings, a couple of large mounds for sledding and playing, a caboose and horseshoe pits.

During the spring the Tipton High School boys play baseball on Lloyd Carter Field and the THS girls play fastpitch softball. The Tipton Recreation Association also uses the facilities for summer play. They are available for use by private groups by arrangement with the city's activities director.

The fishing lake at the City Park has a handicapped accessible dock and a trail around the lake is used by walkers year-round. Fishing rules at the lake follow the Missouri Department of Conservation code.

The city actively pursues grants and is always appreciative of donations to expand and improve features of the park.

There are several benches in place that have been donated in memory of Tipton residents, the 8-Ball Shelterhouse at the west entrance remembers Ewald and Margaret Fischer and funding for the Gerbes Shelterhouse was donated by the family of Frank and Min Gerbes. The American Legion Edgar Cole Post 304 and Lions Club are remembered on the north shelterhouse, and the family of Gene and Ollie Mae Knipp and their daughter Anna Marie made the new Lake Shelterhouse possible, with



**A Co-Mo Electric** bucket truck offered the opportunity for an overhead snapshot of the Missouri Bicentennial celebration at the Tipton City Park in August 2021. An ice cream social was sponsored by the Friends of Price James Library with generous donations from the community, and the new Lake Shelterhouse was dedicated.

funding for the barbecue grill and service islands from the family of Pat and Blanche Franken. The shelter was dedicated during the summer of 2021 with the community's celebration of the Missouri Bicentennial

Local disc golf enthusiasts and private donors installed the disc golf course that was opened in June 2021.

Located on the south end of Ferguson Avenue or accessible on the west by Wade Boulevard, the park is open all year. During the Christmas season, Tipton businesses and organizations decorate the park with lights in a project sponsored by the Tipton Chamber of Commerce.

The Tipton City Council appoints a park board which oversees development at the park and an activities director is employed part time during the

busy season to manage league play on the ballfields.

For shelter house reservations or information on using the park, call City Hall at 660-433-2323.



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# MDC manages areas for public use nearby

Two Missouri Department of Conservation hunting and fishing areas for use by the public are located within just a few miles of Tipton.

## *Manito Lake*

Manito Lake and Wildlife Area is located west of Highway 5 about five miles south of Tipton. The MDC website, [nature.mdc.mo.gov](http://nature.mdc.mo.gov), describes the area as follows.

“Manito Lake Conservation Area is in western Moniteau County, located 5 miles south of Tipton on Highway 5, then 1/2 mile west on East Manito Road. The Conservation Department purchased this 871 acre area in 1981, and a 77 acre lake was built shortly thereafter. Manito is an American Indian word that means ‘great spirit.’ It is also a variation on Moniteau, the county name.

“The area is predominantly rolling uplands, with a mix of old fields, native warm season grass plantings, crop fields, shrubby draws, and small timbered blocks. The area is managed to provide year-round food and cover for wildlife. The general management focus is on rabbits, quail, open and grassland songbirds like dickcissels, the sometimes more elusive grasshopper sparrow, or less common Henslow’s sparrow. Birders can find a seasonal variety of songbirds associated with the openlands, woodlands and lake. Waterfowlers, likewise would appreciate the seasonal waterfowl attraction to the lake.

“Public use facilities include disabled-accessible fishing, parking and toilets. A boat ramp provides access to the lake, and perimeter parking areas give area users reasonable parking and



**Manito Lake and Wildlife Area** just off Highway 5 south of Tipton was built after the Department of Conservation purchased the property in 1981. It and the Lamine River Conservation Area west of Tipton offer fishing, hunting and wildlife watching opportunities for area residents and visitors.

walk-in access to the area.”

## *Lamine River*

The 5,980-acre Lamine River Conservation Area is located about 10 miles west of Tipton on Highway 50, or one mile east of Otterville on Route A. The following is taken from the Missouri Department of Conservation website, [nature.mdc.mo.gov](http://nature.mdc.mo.gov).

“Lamine River Conservation Area is in Cooper and Morgan counties, east of Otterville and easily accessed by Highway 50 and Route A, which bisect the

continued on next page



## Services Available:

- Immunizations for All Ages
- Lead Testing for Children 1-6 years
- WIC (Supplemental food program for Women, Infants, Children)
- Car Seat Installation/Education
- Well Woman Exams
- Daycare/Work Physicals
- Sports Physicals
- STD/Pregnancy Testing
- Blood Pressure Screenings/Wellness Labs
- Child Care Facility Consultation/Training
- School Health Screenings/Consultation
- Environmental Health Services
- Communicable Disease Follow-up & Surveillance
- Birth and Death Certificates

## Moniteau County Health Center

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# • MDC areas nearby offer outdoor fun

continued from previous page area.

“The Lamine River, formed by the confluence of Richland and Flat creeks, at the south end of the area, was first named Riviere a la Mine, or River of the Mine; by a prospecting party under Phillip Renault, Director-General of the French colonies in America, as early as 1723.

“During the Civil War, La Mine crossing was a location where the railroad bridge crossed the river just east of Otterville. The railroad and bridge was of strategic importance for Union Supplies and in 1861 Union

Troops dug entrenchments to protect the bridge crossing. A Department of Natural Resources kiosk located on the area immediately west of the Lamine River bridge displays the historical account of the Civil War events and Union entrenchments.

“The Lamine River Area is located where an interesting combination of land types merge. The rolling farm ground east and west of the area were historically prairies separated by the Lamine River valley. A more rugged Ozark, savanna woodland land type is found on the south end of the area, while a forest hills land type occurs as one moves to the

north end of the area. The Lamine River is a transition stream displaying characteristics of both a prairie/farmland stream (Flat Creek) and an Ozark type gravel bottom pool/riffle stream (Richland Creek).

“The landscape variety lends variety in management. Area users can expect to see prescribed burning, discing, chainsaw edge-feathering, brushpile construction, fescue conversion, and control of undesirable and invasive plants as part of the area management. Agricultural practices of rowcrop farming, planting food-plots, haying, overseeding legumes, and planting warmsea-

son grasses, native wildflowers or forbs are used to create and manipulate desirable habitat and wildlife food during the year.

“The Lamine River area offers great opportunity for seasonal viewing of migrating birds. The rivers, streams and ponds offer the leisure of bank fishing and wildlife viewing, or wade fishing, float fishing, or canoeing for the more ambitious. Hunting of rabbits, squirrels, quail, woodcock, waterfowl, turkey and deer is a popular pastime. But just spending time outdoors is as good excuse as any to visit the Lamine River Conservation Area.”

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# Community Improvement

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