

EAST OSAGE

CONTINUED FROM 1P

after voters approved new special sales taxes for roads, stormwater and parks.

AD DEADLINES

Wednesday Missouriian: Real Estate Ads - 2 p.m. Thursday; Display Ads - 2 p.m. Friday; Auction, Farm, Garage Sales, Classified Line and Classified Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday; Preprinted Supplements 8 a.m. Wednesday; Ads with proof required - 2 p.m. Thursday; Legals - 4 p.m. Monday.

Weekend Missouriian: All Ads, Classified Line, Classified Display, Garage Sales, Real Estate - 4 p.m. Thursday. Special Sections - 10 a.m. Tuesday; Preprinted Supplements - 8 a.m. Wednesday; Legals - 4 p.m. Thursday.

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The city used the taxes collected by retailers in the CID district to fund the East Osage improvement project that included streets, sidewalks, gutters, vintage street lights and decorative trees from McDonald's to the former Red Cedar Inn.

"Agreeing to close this out allows us to help the

city," Sauvage said. "It's being a good neighbor."

In the same meeting, the board agreed to convey a 5-foot strip of land beside the sidewalks that borders the Pacific Intermediate School on West Osage to allow MoDOT to improve the sidewalks in its 2020 Highway 66 improvement project.

'Missouri's Murderous Matrons' Author to Speak at Library

By Pauline Masson
Pacific Missouriian Editor

On Nov. 28, 1928, a jury found Bertha Gifford not guilty of the crime of first-degree murder on the sole ground that she was insane at the time of the commission of the offense and had not recovered from such insanity.

For months residents of Franklin and Jefferson County had been mesmerized as stories unfolded that as many as 10 people were dead after this Catawissa women volunteered to care for them as a nurse.

For her trial she was charged only with murdering three people, Edward Brimley and two little boys, brothers Lloyd and Elmer Schamel.

She used arsenic that she claimed had medicinal qualities, which she bought at Powers Drug Store in Pacific.

Gifford said she had been administering arsenic to different people for years with the hope of helping them. She also took arsenic to help her heart and make herself look younger.

She told the court that she had cared for the sick with no hope of reward and had always been kind to those she treated.

A string of doctors said a person would have to be insane to say such things and Gifford was found not guilty by reason of insan-

ity. She was confined to a mental facility for the remainder of her life where she was assigned the duties of cook.

Gifford has fascinated Franklin County residents for 90 years. Those who continue to wonder about what she did and what happened to her will have a chance to hear an expert on the life and acts of Bertha Gifford.

Victoria Cosner, who co-authored the book "Missouri's Murderous Matrons," has studied the case of Gifford. She will speak at the Pacific library on Thursday, July 25, at 6 p.m.

The book also covers the murderous acts of Emma Heppermann, of St. Charles who also poisoned people with arsenic.

Barb Schweissguth, Pacific Scenic Regional Library adult programmer, arranged the talk, which will be held in the meeting room of the new library at 111 Lamar Parkway. There is no cost to attend.



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Mayor Steve My
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Pacific

By Pauline Masson
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Between April at
Pacific Eagles Aerie
nated \$13,550 to are
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The source of the
funds is the popula
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707 W. Congress St.

Children's needs
high in the list of r
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American Legion Bo
Boy Scouts, CASA
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MVR-III Project Gra
school lunch progra
dress room and Safet
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