BRANDON L. CAMPBELL, 44, Bland, was arrested by the Missouri State Highway Patrol last week in Maries County on allegations of failing to register as a sex offender. He was held for 24 hours in the Maries County Jail.

THE OWENSVILLE SENIOR Center is a recipient of a $1,000 grant for operational support awarded by the Meramec Regional Community Foundation. MRCF has awarded grants of $10,000 shared between five nonprofit agencies in the region for recovery needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The grants are made possible by the Louis L. and Julia Dorothy Cooper Charitable Foundation, managed by Commerce Trust Company in partnership with the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. “One of the benefits of the CFO’s affiliate network is the ability of local leaders to make decisions in the best interests of their own communities,” said Jill Reynolds, senior vice president at Commerce Trust.

CORRECTIONS:
• In last week’s OHS Class of 2021 graduation special section, the amount for the Owensville Chamber Commerce scholarship was erroneously listed as $500. Graduating senior, Paige Bossaller, is the recipient of a $1,000 Owensville Chamber of Commerce Scholarship. Information supplied for the publication was incorrect.
• The Class of 2021 at Owensville High School was the school’s 100th graduating class in school history. An item added to a story last week incorrectly identified the class as the 99th to graduate.
• Dr. Scott Davidson, principal at Owensville Elementary School, has accepted the assistant superintendent’s position in the Crawford County R-2 School District in Cuba. His new title was listed incorrectly due to an editing error.

Richard Jones of the Springfield, Mo., Relic Club will also have a short presentation about artifacts he has found near the cemetery, which was the location of both Union and Confederate army encampments.

The Adams-Georgetown Cemetery is located just off Old State Road. From Drake take Route ZZ to Old State Road. Stay on Old State Road for 3.3 miles to the cemetery. There will be direction signs posted where needed. The cemetery is a few yards off the road. Trucks and all-wheel drive vehicles can drive right up to the meeting location.

If you are driving a car, shuttle service will be provided from Old State Road. Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. In case of rain, the alternative date will be Sunday, June 6.

Library makes major changes on COVID-related restrictions

At their May 18 meeting, the Scenic Regional Library Board made several major changes to ease or eliminate their COVID-related restrictions. Those changes include:
• Patrons will no longer be required to wear face masks, effective May 19. Unvaccinated patrons are still encouraged to wear face masks.
• The children’s play areas will reopen June 1, coinciding with the beginning of the library’s Summer Reading Program.
• The library will also resume passport and notary services on June 1. Due to the close proximity to staff that these services involve, patrons will be required to wear a face mask to receive these services. Patrons who want assistance from library staff at the public computers will also be required to wear a face mask.
• The library will resume in-person programming for all ages beginning Aug. 1. There will be attendance registration limits.
• Outdoor, in-person storytimes will resume beginning July 1; indoor, in-person storytimes will resume beginning August 1.
• Groups will be able to begin reserving the library’s public meeting rooms in the coming weeks for dates beginning Aug. 1.

The changes are due in part to the CDC new recommendations related to face masks, which were released on May 13.

The library’s temporary service hours will remain in place. The continued reduced hours will not be due to COVID restrictions, but the library’s ongoing RFID project. The library staff have been placing RFID tags in the library’s 260,000 items since mid-March. The library hopes to complete their RFID project in early- to mid-July, at which time the branches will return to their normal service hours.

Once launched in September, RFID will give the library greater inventory control, more efficient workflow and improved security.

Route D resurfacing begins today

Route D between Highway 89 and Route A is scheduled for surface improvements starting today (May 26) in both Osage and Gasconade counties.

A seal-coat treatment will be used to create a smoother driving surface on Route D. Crews will close one lane between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day. Flaggers and a pilot car will be in place to guide traffic through the work area. Seal coats are a pavement repair process that is used by MoDOT on roads with lower traffic volumes to maximize available resources and extend the life of a roadway. Hot emulsion oil is sprayed onto the surface of the road, followed by finely ground rocks which are then compacted to adhere to the roadway. Excess material is swept off the surface, leaving an improved roadway that will hold up longer against the elements.

The method costs about one third the amount of a traditional asphalt overlay, keeps water from penetrating the surface, extends the life of the roadway up to seven years, and provides improved traction.