The Happy Apple Bicycle Bunkhouse is officially open for its second year of operation. Located at 201 S. Three Street in Marshville, the bunkhouse is a short-term vacation rental available May through August.

The house, built in 1890, was purchased by Joette Reidy in 1995. Reidy is the owner of Happy Apples, a second-generation family-owned apple orchard and caramel apple company. In previous years, only migrant workers who are hired during the company’s fall harvest were housed here, but Reidy said as area tourist attractions grow along the Katy Trail, more overnight accommodations are needed in the area.

The company decided to remove sheets were removed and layers of flooring were removed. Accent walls are now covered with salvaged wood from a demolished shed and old license plates ring the ceiling in the family room. A huge map is hung in the entry where visitors can leave a post-it note on their home state.

“In 2016, I did a 500-mile hike across Spain and stayed in bunkhouses,” said Reidy. “We’ve had this house for 30 years and I thought it could be a perfect place for people traveling the Katy Trail or visiting the area.”

The bunkhouse will sleep 23 and can be rented out.

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Supreme Court overturns 10-year DWI sentence

By Adam Rollins
STAFF WRITER

The Missouri State Supreme Court has overturned the 10-year prison sentence of a man who was convicted of driving while intoxicated (DWI) in Warren County.

Timothy A. Shepherd, 53, was sentenced in 2019 as a “habitual offender,” meaning he has at least five prior DWI convictions (prosecutors told the court he actually has seven such convictions). Missouri law has a system of escalating penalties for each prior DWI offense, reaching more than 10 years for the worst repeat offenders.

In a ruling issued last week, the Supreme Court found that Shepherd’s 10-year sentence was too long, because Warren County prosecutors failed to present sufficient evidence to prove that he is a habitual offender.

The key fact of the ruling: All seven of Shepherd’s prior convictions happened in Colorado, not Missouri.

The DWI conviction

In March 2017, Shepherd was the driver of a Ford truck that crashed on Highway 47 in Warren County,

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Two more business developments at paintball park

By Adam Rollins
STAFF WRITER

A paintball and airsoft sports park currently under development in Truesdale is shaping up to pull double duty as a small business park after the land owner received licenses for two more entertainment businesses last week.

A bounce house company and a seasonal fireworks stand are the latest addition to owner Dustin Loeffler’s roster of commercial services that will eventually be housed at the site of Good Game Sports Park, a recreational facility that Loeffler is developing on Veterans Memorial Parkway, just east of Spoeide Lane. The Truesdale Board of Aldermen unanimously approved permits for both businesses.

The bounce house business will share some of the same facilities and