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**Tax Day Extended**  
May 17, 2021

## The Stages of Life



Life is a series of stages, each of which builds on the previous stages: birth, infancy, youth, adolescence, adulthood, etc. One of the great ironies of life is that when we have finally figured out or mastered each stage, it is usually over and we are onto the next stage, with its own challenges which we must figure out once again. Children must learn to walk before they can run, and adults must learn to navigate the many challenges of living well before they can handle the challenges of senescence or declining health that comes with advanced age. In our youth we are growing and developing, but once we get to a certain point it is more accurate to say that we are aging. This does not mean that we cannot continue to grow in other ways. We may begin to decline physically in our thirties and for ties and yet still be learning new skills and developing abilities into our seventies and eighties. There is more to life than physical development. We should develop our mental, emotional, and spiritual selves as well as our physical selves. And even as our physical selves decline, we often find that we continue to grow spiritually, trusting in God and developing the spiritual tools to meet our next stage of life, and even preparing for the afterlife. -Christopher Simon

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good."  
- 1 Peter 2:2-3 NIV

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# The Crocker Journal

By Donna Morgan

**Library News and From the Crocker Mayor's Desk**

**LIBRARY:** The Pulaski County Library Summer Reading Program will begin June 1, 2021 and be completed with our traditional party and gift give-away on July 24, 2021. We have many fun things planned for the children, teens and adults of our community. The theme for our children's and teens SRP will be Tails and Tales with a focus on the environment and the animals. In addition, the theme for our Adult Summer Reading Program will be The Missouri Bicentennial! Past Present and Future. Missouri will celebrate 200 years! August 10, 1821 Missouri was the 24th State to join the Union. Each week the three library branches of the PCLD will reach out to our patrons for opportunities to engage in the program. Stop by your local library and get the details. This is going to be fun! More on this in the weeks to come.

**From the Mayor's Desk:**  
**Crocker Mayor Glen Smith**  
Currently, our State Representative Don Mayhew is filing a bill

with the Missouri House to name the railroad bridge located on State Highway 17 crossing over the BSNF Railroad south of Crocker, after the late U.S. Navy Fireman Apprentice Paul Akers, Jr. On January 14, 1969, an explosion and fire aboard the USS Enterprise, the United States' first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier killed 27 sailors and wounded another 314, while off the coast of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. After the bill is approved to name the bridge, a fundraiser will be held to raise the \$2,800.00 to pay for the bridge's signs.

We need your help to identify other service members from Crocker that have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. If you know the names of additional service members we could honor, please email us at crockercitymayor@yahoo.com or leave a message for Glen Smith at Crocker City Hall 573 736 5327 The City will be putting up flags before Memorial Day to be displayed throughout the summer. Our supply of flags is low. Therefore, if anyone would like to donate a flag, please drop them by the City Hall before May 14th.

- Our sewer treatment facility will be getting a new revolutionary treatment. This technology is DNR approved and will be a positive step into the future.
- The Crocker City council is considering various options to accomplish a large -scale paving project throughout the city of Crocker.
- The city is currently working with a local website developer to launch a website. In addition, to the website, we are pursuing the ability for customers to view and pay bills online.
- We are working with Central Ozarks Medical Center to bring medical and dental care to Crocker.
- The CDBG Demolition Grant is moving forward. Reese Equipment Company has been given the green light to begin demolition. This project will take a month to complete. There are 29 remaining structures that will be removed as a part of this grant project.
- Opportunity Zone: If you have capital gains tax that you would like to defer, then look at investing in Crocker. The City of Crocker is in an IRS-designated Opportunity Zone. Contact a Qualified Accountant and inquire how to use this tool to your benefit. The next Crocker City Council Meeting will be held on May 10,

2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Crocker City Hall

**Police Department:** The Crocker Police Department enhances its service to our community by pursuing grants to offset expenses that would otherwise not be affordable for the city. The below list reflects the name and amount of all the grants received this fiscal year: Missouri Safety Center Overtime Grants: \$3,500.00 MODOT Traffic Enforcement: \$7,200.00 Missouri Police Chief's Association (MPCA) Mobile Data Terminal Grant: \$11,175.30 MPCA Training Grant: \$1,020.00 Law Enforcement Block Grant: \$9,734.20 Total for this fiscal year is: \$32,629.50. The Crocker Police Department is currently in the planning process to host a Kids Fishing Derby in June.

(Above city news submitted by Mayor Glen Smith)

**PARK Board:** It's time to hear the crack of that bat! Baseball season is here! The Crocker Park Board is looking to hire umpires. The Annual Crocker Railroad Days Celebration is scheduled for September 4, 2021

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**Dixon Community Scholarship FUNDRAISER**

# BBQ

Friday, May 7, 2021  
10:30-2:00 & 4:00-8:00

**Pulled Pork and Jumbo Hot Dog Plates - \$10.00**  
**Sandwich only - \$5.00**

Location: Across from MPC (Old Delano's)  
Pre-order forms will be delivered to local businesses.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



**Lyle Francis (left)** is featured in the DHS "Senior Spotlight." He is the son of James Francis. His school activities were simply attending High School. Lyle plans to attend OTC after graduation and get a degree in Computer Networking Technology. Then his plans are to be successful in his career. Lyle's advice to his underclassmen is simply don't put things off and procrastinate! He feels that if you can focus on that problem

then everything else works its way out. Lyle states that the only thing he will miss about high school is the simple cycle of doing school work and then going home. If he is being honest, this is an extremely easy cycle.



**Shucoby Scott (right)** is featured in the DHS "Senior Spotlight." She is the daughter of Brandie Jones and Coby Sutton. Shucoby plans on returning to Texas after graduation. Her advice to her underclassmen is to take it one day at a time.

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