

Tim Pyles To Retire As Elementary School Custodian After 38 Years

At Midland Elementary School's Morning Meeting on May 5th, the students and staff had a special reason to celebrate. After 38 years with the elementary school, custodian Tim Pyles will be retiring on May

31st. To thank him for his years of service to the district a special celebration was held, with current and former staff members, administrators, teachers and family in attendance.

Principal Joe Mintus thanked him for his years of service and said "He is a staple at this school. That is for sure." Congratulations to Tim on his retirement and thank you for your years of service to the district.



Pictured left to right: Lynn Jason, Julie Albers, Mindy Pyles, Dave Marshall, Carol Dubois, Gwen Balensiefen, Tim Pyles, Lee Ann Coble, Vicki Mannon, Steph Oltman, Jackie Smith, Rhonda Bosch, Jessica Gauwitz, Principal Joe Mintus and Superintendent Jeremy Gauwitz



Pictured above from left to right: Dave Marshall, Julie Albers, Tim Pyles, Joe Mintus and Jeremy Gauwitz.



MES Principal Joe Mintus and Tim Pyles

Three Sheets in The Wind . . . by Mary

This past Sunday evening, May 10, was a beautiful night. At 10:30 p.m. the weather seemed calm, cool, with no storms in the immediate area, so it was a big surprise when the lights went out. On the southside of Lacon, the lights flickered and again, and again till finally they didn't come back on. The instinct, of course, is to wonder, "are we the only ones without lights?" In a quiet neighborhood after 10 p.m., it's hard to tell, are the lights off for the night as people get ready for bed or is the power out. It was time to make the call. After all, why just speculate when there's an 800 number at the ready and a recording to answer any and all questions.

This reporter phoned Ameren. They apparently knew all about the outage and said there was a crew

working. Although, at that time the recording said they were not clear on what caused the outage, there were 213 customers without lights.

Hitting all the switches as I walked around room to room, the only thing left to do in the dark was go to bed. At 11:55 p.m., the house lit up like a big party happening. The power was restored. A text message made its way across the airways to my phone. Ameren said "power restored. Cause: damage from tree."

Good news! Except, I'm now wide awake and it seems a shame to waste all this wonderful electricity. Might as well read, catch the TV news, listen to the radio, see what's in the fridge, charge my laptop computer and so forth and so on.

"Never follow anyone else's path. Unless you're in the woods and you're lost and you see a path. Then by all means follow that path." - Ellen DeGeneres

Fun Fact

The average person visits the toilet 2,500 times a year.

The plastic toilet brush was invented in 1932 by William C. Schopp and later patented by the Addis Brush Company in 1933.

In 1890, Scott Paper Company introduced toilet paper in a roll.

Source: www.conwayservices.net

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DALLAS MOORE 8PM

215 5TH STREET, LACON, IL 61540

PETS OF THE WEEK

For more information call The A.R.K. 477 State Route 26, Lacon, at 309-246-4275, or email us at arkanimalshelter@yahoo.com.



Lola

Lola is a two-year old Beagle girl who is perfect in so many ways. She is sweet and friendly and wonderful, easy going and affectionate. She will be the perfect companion for some Beagle-loving person or family out there! Lola is spayed, micro-chipped and current on all her shots.



Evie

Evie is a beautiful and oh-so-soft young calico girl. She is loving and affectionate with people but would probably prefer to be an only kitty. She is used to being in a home environment so she knows all the ropes of home life. She is spayed, micro-chipped and current on all her shots.

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LET ME SELL YOUR HOME!



Washington: 912 Bayberry Drive

Welcome home! Check out this well-maintained 3-bedroom, 2.5 bath spacious ranch. Located in Firethorn subdivision. The great room is open and airy, has hardwood floors and a custom built entertainment center. The main floor features a convenient laundry area and a bright, open layout ideal for both everyday living and entertaining. The kitchen provides ample cabinetry and workspace, flowing easily into the dining and living areas filled with natural light. The primary suite offers a shared bath, while two additional bedrooms provide flexibility for family, guest or home office. The finished basement adds exceptional versatility with a second kitchen-perfect for entertaining or extended living-along with a spacious family room and additional room for recreation or storage. The basement carpet was installed in April 2026. Car enthusiasts and hobbyists will appreciate the oversized garage, complete with a sink and a work area with lots of storage cabinets. Step outside to a beautifully maintained backyard featuring mature trees and a large deck with a gazebo. There is a shed for additional storage. This home offers the perfect setting for relaxing or hosting gatherings. **\$329,000**



Wyoming: 100 Kennedy Court

Welcome to this charming 3-bedroom 2-bathroom home situated on a desirable corner lot. Highlights include an attached garage, a cozy fireplace in the family room and a whole house generator. New furnace in 2021, roof is approximately 6 to 7 years old. 3-bedroom has laundry hook-ups and shower. Schedule a private showing today. **\$159,900**



1726 W. Grandview Dr. Dunlap

Welcome to this spacious split-level home in the heart of Dunlap. Featuring four generous sized bedrooms and two full bathrooms. This home offers both comfort and versatility. Updates include: Furnace (2024), Roof (2025), Slider (2025) & some replacement windows. The inviting layout is perfect for entertaining, with multiple living spaces and an abundance of natural light. Don't miss the chance to make this your dream home. **\$269,000**