



# Caldwell, Davies & DeKalb County

**Visitors & Newcomers  
Guide 2022**

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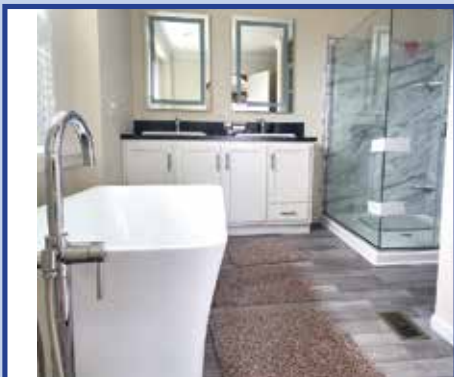
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# *Caldwell County*



The history of Caldwell County actually begins on a sad note with a large group of people looking for a place to escape religious persecution and somewhere they could call home. The Mormon Saints under the direction of their leader Joseph Smith, Jr. had been exiled from Independence, Mo.

They had fled to Clay County for safety and were at first treated with kindness and respect. However, Clay County citizens offered their county only as a temporary refuge for the Latter-Day Saints. They were anxious for them to move on. When vigilantes began gathering in large numbers and a county war seemed imminent, Clay's leading citizens met with Mormon leaders and asked them to leave the county.

One of the influential residents in Liberty was Alexander W. Doniphan, a representative elect of Clay County. He saw a need to protect the innocent women and children so he prepared and introduced a bill to organize a county designated specifically for the Mormon saints. (It was named after Captain Matthew Caldwell, a respected commander in the Revolution.)

Some of the settlers in the area argued Mormon settlements would "retard the prosperity of the county, check future emigration of any other class except the Mormons and disturb the peace of our community". As a result of this opposition, the proposed boundaries for Caldwell County were reduced by more than half forming a second county to the north called Daviess. Most of the non-Mormon settlers in Caldwell, about twenty in number, sold their farms and moved out.

On December 26, 1836, Caldwell County was born. A location between Goose Creek and Shoal Creek was selected for the future county seat. They would call it "Far West" as it lay in the western part of the county.

Cooperation and trust replaced the suspicions of the past as relations between the Mormons and Missourians improved remarkably throughout 1837 and early 1838. The Mormon population in Missouri eventually reached 10,000 and Caldwell County became the largest county in Western Missouri. By the fall of 1838, Far West was the hub of community activity



extending throughout Caldwell, encompassing nearly 2,000 farms over approximately 250,000 acres purchased from the Federal Government. The rapid influx of Mormons, however, alarmed the older settlers, especially those who had purchased land or town lots in areas they hoped to develop. As 1838 wore on, relations between church members and Missouri citizens began a downward spiral.

Battles ensued, leaving many Mormons dead and wounded eventually leading to Governor Lilburn Boggs issuing an extermination order "to exterminate the Mormons, not excepting the women and children, and burn their houses and otherwise destroy their property". The Mormons left peacefully in the bitter cold and winter of 1838 and early 1839, leaving Far West a virtual ghost town.

Caldwell County has had five courthouses, the first being in Far West. In 1843, the county seat was moved to Kingston, which was nearer the center of the population. Thanks to the generosity of two men, James Ramsey and William Hill, who donated 160 acres between them for county purposes.

Today, Caldwell County remains a small, tight-knit, agricultural community. The rural setting, and peaceful, quiet landscape are what keep many generations of families around calling it home.



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# Braymer

Braymer began its existence in 1887 as a result of the construction of the railroad through southern Caldwell County. The first passenger train went through Braymer in the winter of 1887, amid great rejoicing. The typical "Braymer Crowd" present for the speeches and firing of anvils. Braymer became known as the "Biggest Little Town in Missouri". Today, Braymer is still served by the Soo Railroad line, and they have worked to restore the roadbed to first class condition. Braymer has an AA school, four churches, and many stores serving the daily needs of the community.



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# Breckenridge

Breckenridge was laid out in the fall of 1856. The town was named after John C. Breckenridge who was a leading Democrat of Kentucky at the time and later became the Vice President of the United States under President James Buchanan.

The northeastern part of the township a little south of town became known as "New Kentucky" from its fancied or real resemblance to certain portions of the blue grass region of Kentucky. One of the tourist attractions in the city is the Haun's Millstone Monument in honor of the early Mormon saints, located in Breckenridge City Park.



## Breckenridge R-I School District

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# Cowgill

"A Town with memories of the past, problems of the present, hopes for the future... In a nutshell this is COWGILL."

The town was named for Judge James Cowgill, once of Hamilton, who later became the Mayor of Kansas City. Cowgill is a 4th class city. Cowgill has three Churches, a Lions Club, an American Legion and Auxiliary, the Cowgill Community Association, a Public School K-8, a PTA, and Girl Scout Troops. They are part of the "BIG HEART" of Caldwell County and the welcome mat is always out.

## Hamilton R-2 School District

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Please follow this link for any district contact information:

<https://sites.google.com/a/hamilton.k12.mo.us/hamilton-r-2-school-district/>

# Far West

Far West is the Old Mormon settlement in Missouri. In August 1836, counselors in the Missouri Church Presidency (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints), selected the one square mile of land overlooking native prairie, as the site for a new town. Far West became the county seat of Caldwell county, a region set apart especially for the Mormons. The saints built homes, dry good stores and groceries, black smith shops, two hotels, a printing office, a school building, and the foundation for a temple. The city quickly expanded to two miles square, eventually becoming the home of as many as 5,000 inhabitants. By the fall of 1838, Far West was the hub of community activity extending throughout Caldwell. All that physically remains of Far West today are four cornerstones of the envisioned Lords House or Temple at the heart of the former community. Visitor amenities on the Far West temple site include interpretive monuments, markers and public restrooms. The Community of Christ congregation building, later erected on part of the old Public Square, also stands in honor of the experience of early church members.



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# Hamilton

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Hamilton has the distinction of being the birthplace and boyhood home of James Cash Penney (J.C. Penney). He always maintained a close relationship with his hometown. Today Hamilton has a beautiful museum that houses a public library and a well-used community room, as well as his boyhood home.



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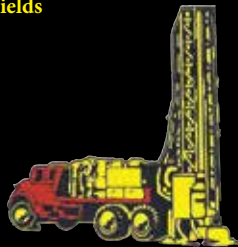
# Kidder

The little town of Kidder was called the “Athens of Caldwell County” in its early days, being considered the most scholarly town in the community. Kidder was laid out August 3, 1860, by George Harris, a representative of the Kidder Land Co. of Boston, Massachusetts. Kidder was located on the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, the only railroad running entirely across the state. Those who settled in and around Kidder were mostly New Englanders, who had been raised in an educational atmosphere and others from different parts of the country who had been attracted by its good school privileges.



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# Kingston

Kingston was established in 1843 and is the oldest town now in existence in the county. It was named for Judge, James King, a popular judge of Richmond, Missouri. He later became Governor of the State. The present courthouse was constructed in 1898. Bonds for an indebtedness of \$18,000 were passed on March 5, 1898. The court selected the proposal of Kansas City architect L. Grant Middaugh and awarded the building contract to Stanberry Pressed Brick Company for \$24,827 in May of 1898. J. W. Harper, presiding judge acted as superintendent of construction. It is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A railroad linked Kingston to Hamilton. Kingston was also the home of a school “for the colored” which drew from all over the area and that building still stands today in Kingston. Now only a few hundred people live in Kingston, though it remains the county seat.



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## Mirabile

Nestled in the rolling hill of western Caldwell County sits Mirabile, Missouri. The township of Mirabile covers more than 35 square miles with 362 residents. Within that township is the unincorporated community of Mirabile.

The name of both the township and unincorporated community comes from the Latin word for wonderful. Although unincorporated, Mirabile is not without its charm. The Mirabile Community Church and Mirabile C-1 School are the community's primary features.

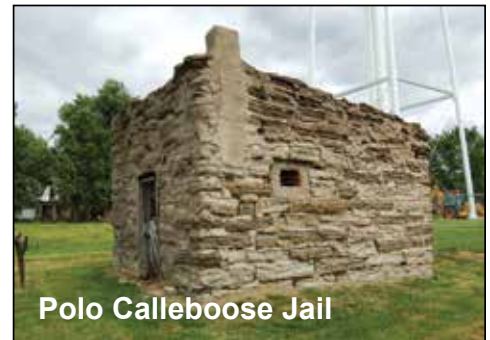
In 2016, Mirabile C-1 School District celebrated its 100th anniversary. Until the 1950s, the school served children kindergarten through 12th grade. Today, Mirabile School serves 46 students. Once students complete eighth grade, with its centralized location, many have the option of attending high school in nearby Cameron, Polo, Kingston or Hamilton.



## Polo

Polo came to be in 1871 when J. M. Stone sold to Oliver Farabee an acre of land on which Farabee built the first store. Polo was built as a station for the railroad and as the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co. changed their plans for routing, Polo was forced to re-plot their community. Polo was platted six times before it was finally built. When the Hannibal and St. Joseph and Rock Island railroads had been built through this country earlier, they had both asked for financial assistance for their construction. In fact the U.S. Government gave the Hannibal and St. Joseph thousands of acres of land on both sides of their right-of-way. When the local people learned that the St. Paul Road asked nothing, they were overjoyed and anxious for the railroad to be built.

Polo was named for a small town in Illinois. Today, Polo is one of the most active communities in the county. It has a beautiful park with a 100-year-old bridge, and a community center.



Polo Calleboose Jail



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# *Daviess County*



Daviess County was established in 1836 and in the same year Gallatin was established as its county seat. Settlers were in the region as early as 1830. Mormon settlers soon followed in the late 1830's. Their founder, Joseph Smith, Jr., said that the area was the location Adam and Eve went to after their banishment from the Garden of Eden. According to the Mormons, the spot is also to be the gathering place for the second coming of Jesus Christ. This area, the Adam-ondi-Ahman, is now a tourist site for the county.

Soon after the Mormons arrival, there were hostilities between the religious group and non-Mormons, leading to the Mormon War in which the Mormons were evicted from Missouri.

In 1869, a bank in Gallatin was the location of the first confirmed bank robbery involving Jesse James. Daviess County was also where Jesse's elder brother, Frank James, was tried in 1883 for his involvement in a train robbery and murder.

The county was named after Major Joseph Hamilton Daviess, a lawyer and district attorney from Kentucky. Daviess is said to be the first lawyer west of the Appalachian Mountains to argue a case before the Supreme Court. He served at the Battle of Tippecanoe in the War of 1812 and it was during this battle that he was mortally wounded in 1811.

The county covers 569 square miles, of which roughly 567 square miles is land and 2 square miles is water. Daviess County's neighbors are Harrison County to the north, Caldwell to the south, Livingston and Grundy on the eastern side, and DeKalb and Gentry on the western side.

Major highways in the county include Interstate 35, U.S. Route 69, Route 6, Route 13, and Route 190.

Over 8,000 people call Daviess County home, nearly 1,800 living in Gallatin. Residents of the county are also in the communities and rural areas of Jamesport, Altamont, Lake Viking, Pattonsburg, Winston, Coffey, Jameson, Gilman City, and Lock Springs.

Some of these residents work at and attend the five school districts in the county: Gallatin, Pattonsburg, Winston, North Daviess in Jameson, and Tri-County in Jamesport. There are also several private schools in Jamesport including County View, Hickory Hill, Meadow View, Oak Grove, Spring Hill, and Walnut Creek which are

all Amish schools and one Mennonite school, Jamesport Mennonite School.

Enchanting places to visit in the county include the town of Jamesport, the privately owned Lake Viking, the Gallatin Squirrel Cage Jail, and many other attractions, some of which you can view in this magazine.

## Altamont

The rural farming community of Altamont has a population of 200 residents. Altamont's claim to fame is producing a 3,000 pound full cream cheese for the 1904 St. Louis Exposition. The cheese was seven feet in diameter and took 35,000 gallons of whole milk, produced by 150 dedicated dairymen, to make the cheese. A team of four horses had the displeasure of hauling the cheese from the rail yard to the exhibition hall.

## Jameson

Jameson is a village located about eight miles north of Gallatin on Highway 13. Jameson has a population of 130 residents. North Daviess R-III School District is a small school located in Jameson. Around 90 students, grades K-12, all occupy the same building. When school is out in the summer, the town's park is the place to be for the annual Jameson Picnic.

## Adam-ondi-Ahman

Adam-ondi-Ahman is a historic site about five miles south of Jameson. It is located along the east bluffs above the Grand River. According to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, it is the site where Adam and Eve lived after being expelled from the Garden of Eden.

Today, 3000 acres of Adam-ondi-Ahman is owned and maintained as a historic site by the LDS Church and remains largely undeveloped farmland.



# Welcome to Daviess County

Daviess County was established in 1836 and in the same year Gallatin was established as its county seat. Settlers were in the region as early as 1830. The county was named after Major Joseph Hamilton Daviess, a lawyer and district attorney from Kentucky.

## Gallatin's Timeless Timepiece

History buffs across America would take great delight in the antique Seth Thomas Clock, which sits atop the Daviess County Courthouse in Gallatin, Missouri.

The Gallatin Courthouse Dome houses one of only two of this type of Seth Thomas tower clock. The second is located and displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. and has since been motorized.

The Gallatin Commercial Club purchased the Seth Thomas Clock in 1908 for \$1,500.

The impeccable craftsmanship of the clock is a tribute

to it being one of the country's oldest functional mounted clocks. The hand-wound clock works as it did when it was originally installed in 1908.

Inside the courthouse dome is a wooden shed that measures 6'7" tall, 7'4" wide, and 7'2" long. The clock is encased in the structure to protect it from dust and other elements. The inside top of the dome, floor, and surrounding structures boasts the original wood, which was cut by hand by the best craftsmen in the world.

The clock has four faces, three of which still contain the original smoky glass from 1908. The center of the south clock face was destroyed by strong wind and was replaced with a clear glass because the smoky was no longer manufactured. Written on the surface of the glass faces are names of people who have had the privilege to make the trek of 98 steps up to the top of the dome. The view from the top is quite impressive and displays the beautiful and quaint city of Gallatin.

The four faces of the clock are operated from a mechanism of spider gears, pulleys, and cables, which operate in perfect union. In two shafts are sets of weights that, when combined weigh 1,200 pounds, and power the clock's mechanism.

However, winding the clock to keep the mechanism moving is an act of love and dedication by a small line of clock keepers. Bill and Ted Walker, Buster Gordon, and currently Eric

Corwin, have faithfully performed the task of cranking the weights. To wind the clock for its seven day period, Corwin is required to hand crank a total of 244 revolutions, lifting the weights up nearly 250 feet through the enclosed shafts. A devoted resident of Gallatin, Corwin has consistently wound the clock once a week for the last thirty years.

The magnificent 1200-pound bell that accompanies the clock is a McShane all-brass bell. It hangs from the heavy wooden beams below the wooden shed, which houses the clock works. The grand bell

measures 38 inches in diameter and 32 inches in height, and was purchased by the Gallatin's Men's Club in the amount of \$1,429.69.

The history of the clock has not been without drama. In April of 1921, one of the cables snapped, sending hundreds of pounds of weight to crash through two floors of the courthouse. According to witnesses, it was a terrible noise, and many thought it might have been a bomb or the furnace blowing up. The damage included a clean-cut hole in the six-inch concrete third floor that was large enough for a person to fit through. Fortunately, no one was injured, as the weights hung close to a corner.

Maintaining the clock consists of resolving common problems that Mother Nature does out. Strong winds and ice accumulation can wreak havoc with the hands. Pigeons are another challenge, and chicken wire has been applied to the windows to prevent roosting of the pesky bird. Just three to five pigeons sitting on the clock's hands have the ability to stop the entire clock.

The brilliant Seth Thomas clock in Gallatin is a symbol of value and excellence of craft by a masterful clock maker. However, more importantly, it stands for the pride of the American heritage and those who came before us. It is a sign of the honorable and progressive spirit of a small Midwest community.



One of the four original clock faces.



This courthouse was constructed 1908. It houses one of only two Seth Thomas Clock. Gallatin has the only one that is still hand wound every 7 days. The other one is in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC has been made mechanical.



Inset: Daviess County Courthouse, 1840-1886. Architects: Jacob Stollings and W.C. Lincy

## Squirrel Cage Jail



Built in 1888-89 and used until 1975, the unusual rotary jail in Gallatin, Mo., is one of only three known to yet exist. It was built for \$11,261.15 according to a design patented in 1881 by William H. Brown and Benjamin F. Haugh of Indiana. Construction was done by the Pauley Jail Building & Manufacturing Co. of St. Louis. An authentic plaque confirms the patent rights, located on the jail entrance door.

### Octagon brick building houses 8 pie-shaped cells

Inside a stationary cage was an inner rotary deck divided into 8 pie-shaped cells. Two prisoners were allowed in each cell roughly measuring 8' high by 7 1/2' deep to the center. Each cell featured a semi-circular niche nearest the center axle of the squirrel cage. This was the toilet, ventilated to the axle shaft and up through the roof – one of the first indoor plumbing systems in town! A water closet located above was tripped by each revolution of the squirrel cage, flushing the collection trough to pipes below.

### Hand cranked rotating "squirrel cage"

This jail featured only one doorway. Prisoners were constantly behind iron bars even while the jailer used a hand crank to align each cell, one at a time, to the jail's single entry-exit. Power from the hand

crank was transmitted by gears to a huge ring gear around the base of the squirrel cage. An original patent idea was to keep the squirrel cage in continual motion during the night or whenever prisoners could not be conveniently watched. This could have been accomplished by the use of heavy weights or a spring regulated clockwork. But this idea, however, was seldom if ever used. When new, a small child could power the squirrel cage by turning the crank. Balance adjustments were to be made manually, using a wrench on 4 arms underneath the squirrel cage. Jailers usually balked at such maintenance due to the tight crawl space and area often raw with sewage.

### Original squirrel cage dismantled for safety

The rotation mechanisms were removed in 1964 due to condemnation of the jail by the state as a fire hazard. The inner circle of bars and other ironworks were cut or sold for scrap. The jail was modified, partitioned in half with male inmates on the east side and women on the west. Eventually, the jail was closed in 1975 although the sheriff's residence was still used for local radio dispatching for several more years.

### Only 3 squirrel cage jails survive

The very first rotary jail by this design was built and still rotates at Crawfordsville, IN (1882). Another squirrel cage – built three stories tall – still exists at Council Bluffs, and our jail still remains.

Tours given by appointment - 660.663.7342



# Gallatin



Gallatin is the county seat of Daviess County. The city has a population of 1,762 residents. Its location is in the middle of the county, near the intersection of Highway 13 and Highway 6.

The town was named in honor of Abraham Alfonse Albert

Gallatin, an ethnologist, linguist, diplomat, and congressman who was born in Switzerland, but immigrated to America in the 1780's. He was also the longest-serving United States Secretary of the Treasury, serving from 1801 to 1813.

Taking pride in its heritage, Gallatin has three buildings

**(660) 663-2031 • 102 N Main St.**

**Gallatin, MO 64640**

**<https://www.daviesscountysheriffmo.com>**



**Sheriff Larry Adams, Jr. #847**



**Sgt. Jared Hogan #841**



**Dep. Kyle Cornett #845**



**Dep. Dalton Youtsey #851**



**Dep. Jason Melton #848**



**Dep. Loreanna Parker #843**



**Dep. Riley Christensen #849**



**Part of our mission statement is to see that Daviess County residents and visitors feel safe and welcomed.**



**Patti Long,  
Office Administrator**



**Norma Griffin,  
Admin. Assistant**

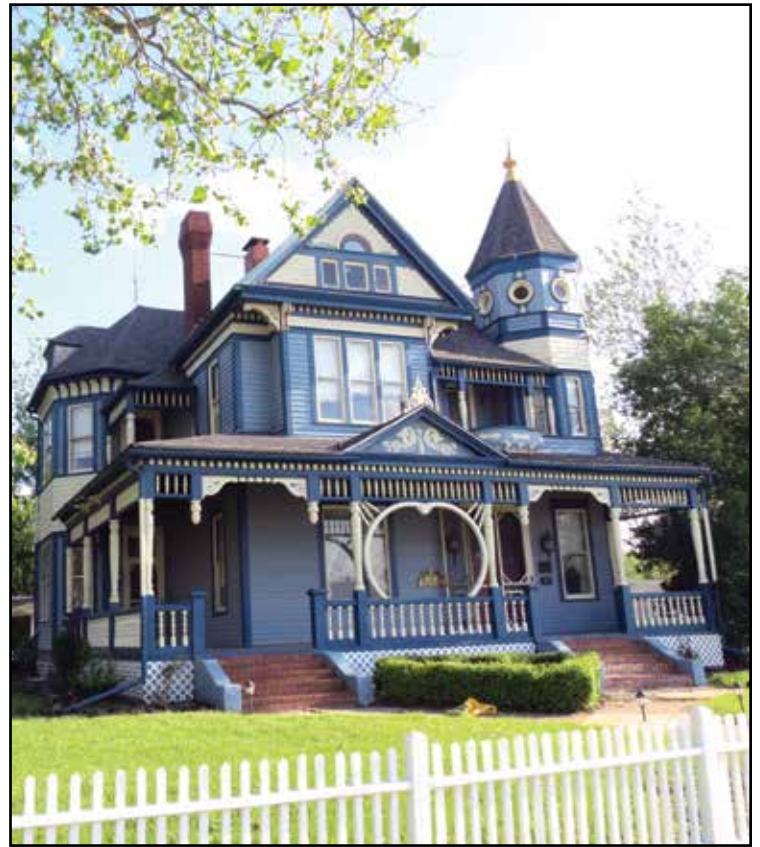


**Maria Bickford,  
Admin. Assistant**

on the National Register of Historical Places. These are the Daviess County Courthouse, the Daviess County Rotary Jail, and Sheriff's Residence, and the Ray A. Taylor House, located at 212 W. Van Buren Street.

The community has a lovely full-service library. The Daviess County Library is a quiet place to do some research in one of their study rooms or read a novel while sitting in one of their cozy chairs.

There are many famous people who hail from Gallatin. One such person is William Thornton Kemper, Sr. who was born in Gallatin. He became the patriarch of the Kemper family and developed both Commerce Bancshares and United Missouri Bank. Among the many famous politicians is Conrad Burns who was born in Gallatin and served as a U.S. Senator from Montana from 1989-2007. Another politician, Joshua Willis Alexander, called Gallatin home. He served as Speaker of the Missouri State House, U.S. Representative from Missouri, and the U.S. Secretary of Commerce from 1919 to 1921. Webster Davis once lived in Gallatin and was mayor of Kansas City from 1894 to 1895. He also served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior during the administration of President William McKinley. The mayor of Gallatin from 1881 to 1883, Alexander Monroe Dockery went on to be the Missouri Representative to the U.S. House from 1883 to 1899 and was Governor of Missouri from 1901 to 1905.



**The historic Ray A. Taylor House, located at 212 W. Van Buren Street, Gallatin.**

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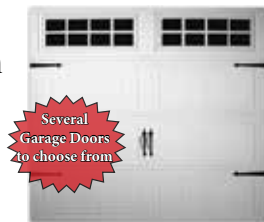
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**Phone # 660-663-2414**

**Website: [Daviesshealthonline.com](http://Daviesshealthonline.com)**  
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Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Lake Viking

Lake Viking is a private community located alongside a lake, west of Gallatin, just an hour northeast of Kansas City. The lake is a 630 acre man-made lake that has 19 miles of shoreline. The community includes an administration building, clubhouse, a 3,600-foot airstrip, a pool, several lake swimming areas, a privately owned and operated marina, 25 miles of hard surface roads, a large camp area for lot owners, and several access areas.



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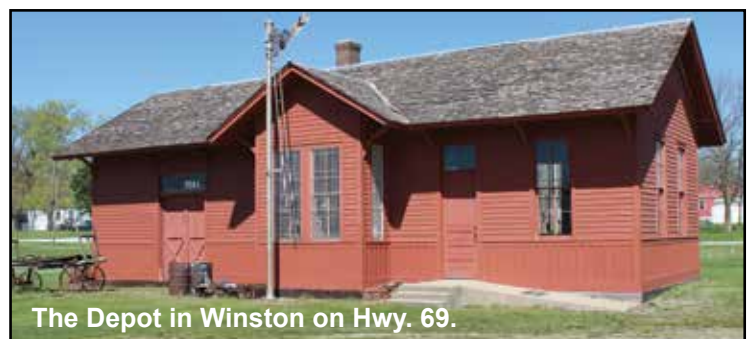
912 W Grand | Gallatin, Mo



# Winston

In the southwest corner of Daviess County, along Highway 6, is the community of Winston, incorporated in 1878. The village has a population of 253 residents and was named after Major General Joseph W. Winston, who served in the War of 1812. He came to Missouri in 1838, where he and his wife settled seven miles southeast of Platte City.

Near Winston was where the James Gang robbed the Rock Island Railroad and killed the conductor, William Westfall, and a passenger, Frank McMillan. Surprisingly, at a trial in nearby Gallatin, Frank James, Jesse's brother, was found not guilty for both crimes. The Winston Depot lives on in James Gang legend and lore as the site where the 1881 train robbery commenced.



# Jamesport



As you are driving along in Daviess County and happen to see large signs asking you to share the road with a horse and buggy, you might be entering the community of Jamesport.

Located in the northeast corner of Daviess County, Jamesport is at the intersection of Highway 6 and Highway 190. The Jamesport area's green rolling hills are between the East Fork and West Fork of the Grand River.

Jesse Harris was the first settler in the area in 1830. The log cabin that he built in 1836, now restored, sits in the Jamesport City Park.

The town has had many names. It was first known as Auberry Grove after Thomas M. Auberry. It later was changed to Grant. When the town was incorporated as a city in 1872, its name was changed again to Jamesport.

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(660) 684-6118

<http://www.trico.k12.mo.us>

### Tri-County R-VII School District Mission/Philosophy

The mission of the Tri-County R-VII School District is to assure that students acquire basic academic and decision-making skills necessary to be productive and responsible citizens in an ever-changing society. Students are challenged to achieve individual success, work to their fullest potential, and become life-long learners. The school will guide and assist students to identify and accomplish personal, academic, and career goals. Students, teachers, and parents/guardians will share the responsibility in the district stated goals.



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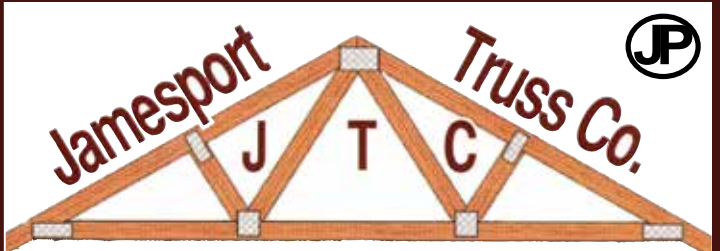
The town is known for its many shops, tourist attractions, and the large Amish influence in the area. It was in the 1950's that the Amish came to Jamesport and it has grown into the largest Amish settlement in the state. Around 175 families live on the rich farmland of the area.

Today, Jamesport has a population of 509 people who live in the tourist destination spot.

Visitors love Jamesport for its various festivals including the May Days Festival, the Farmers Market and Heritage Days.

Born in Jamesport, Forrest "Phog" Allen had a successful career as a college basketball coach at the University of Kansas. Another famous person born in Jamesport, Martha Scott was an actress in numerous films, on television, and in several plays. She received an Academy Award nomination for Best Actress for her performance as Emily Webb in the movie "Our Town" in 1940.











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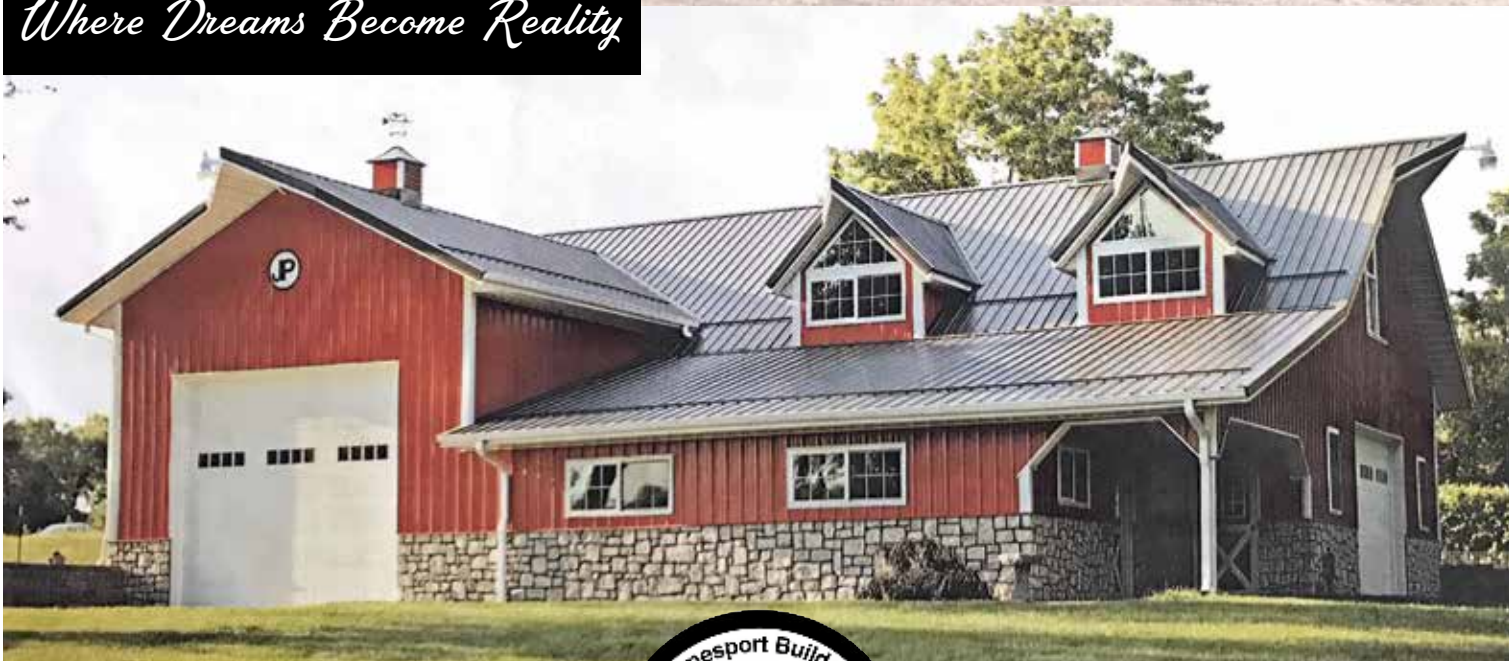
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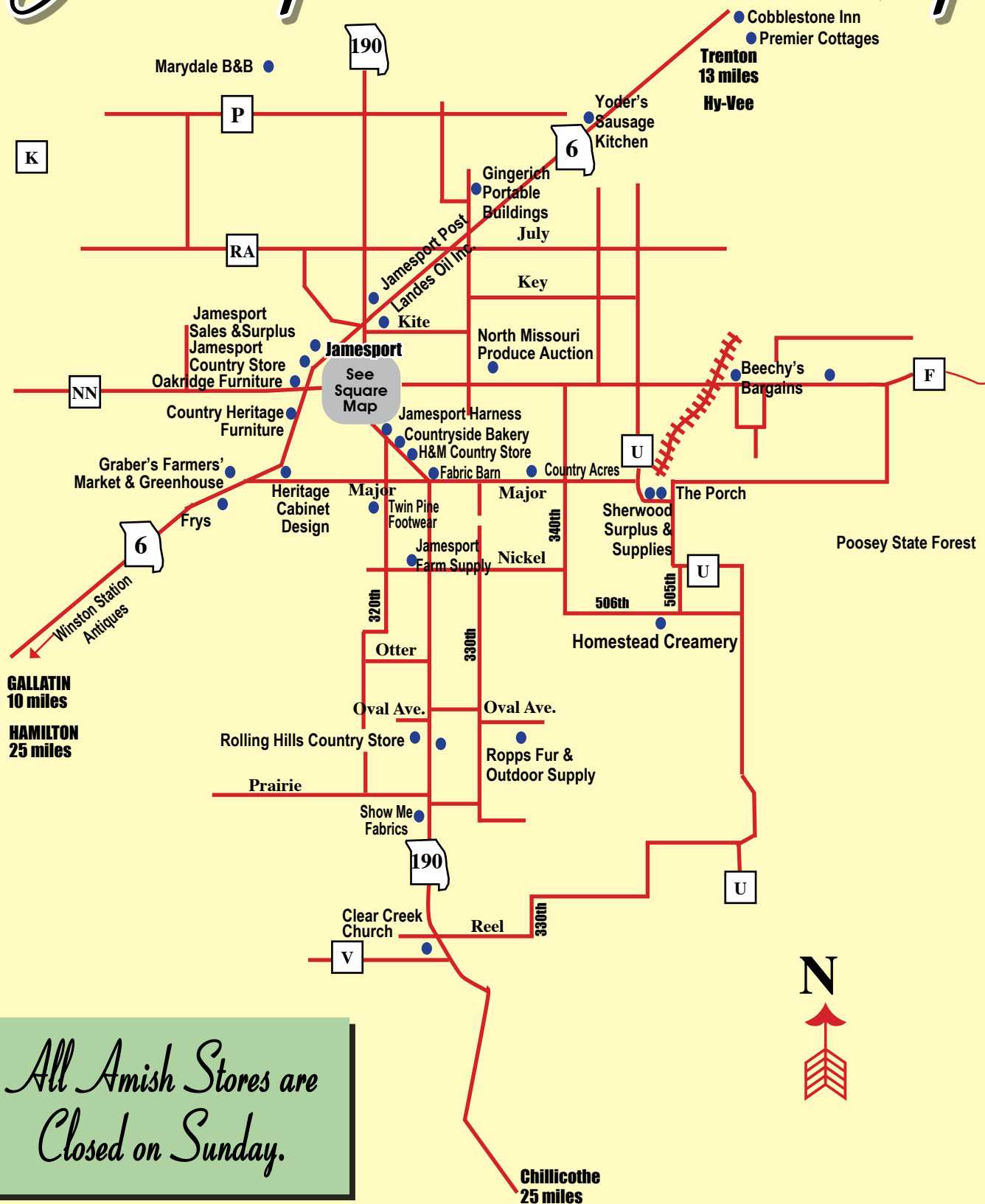
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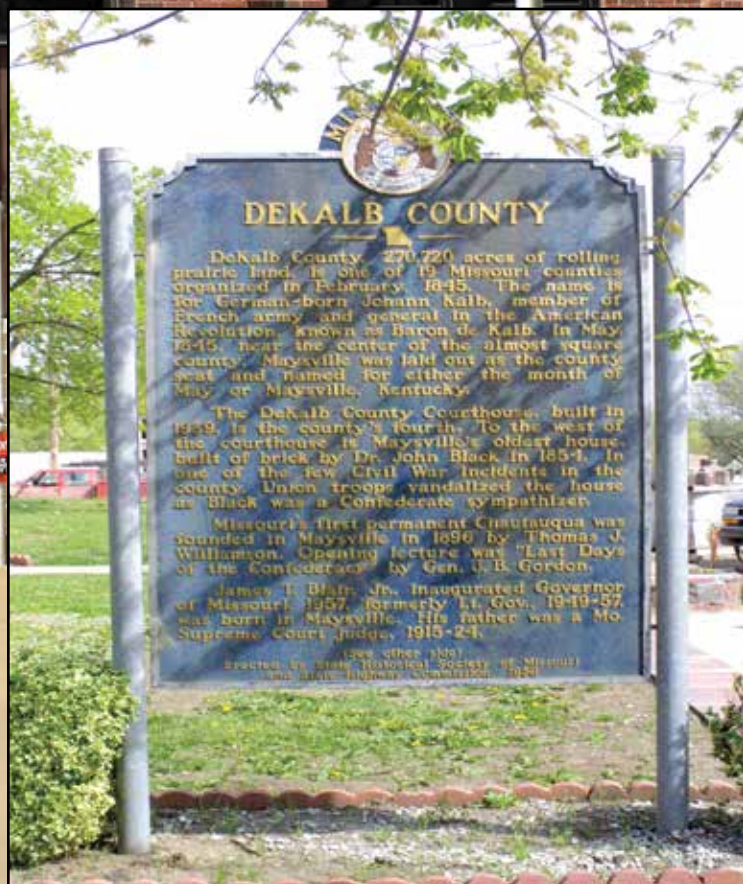
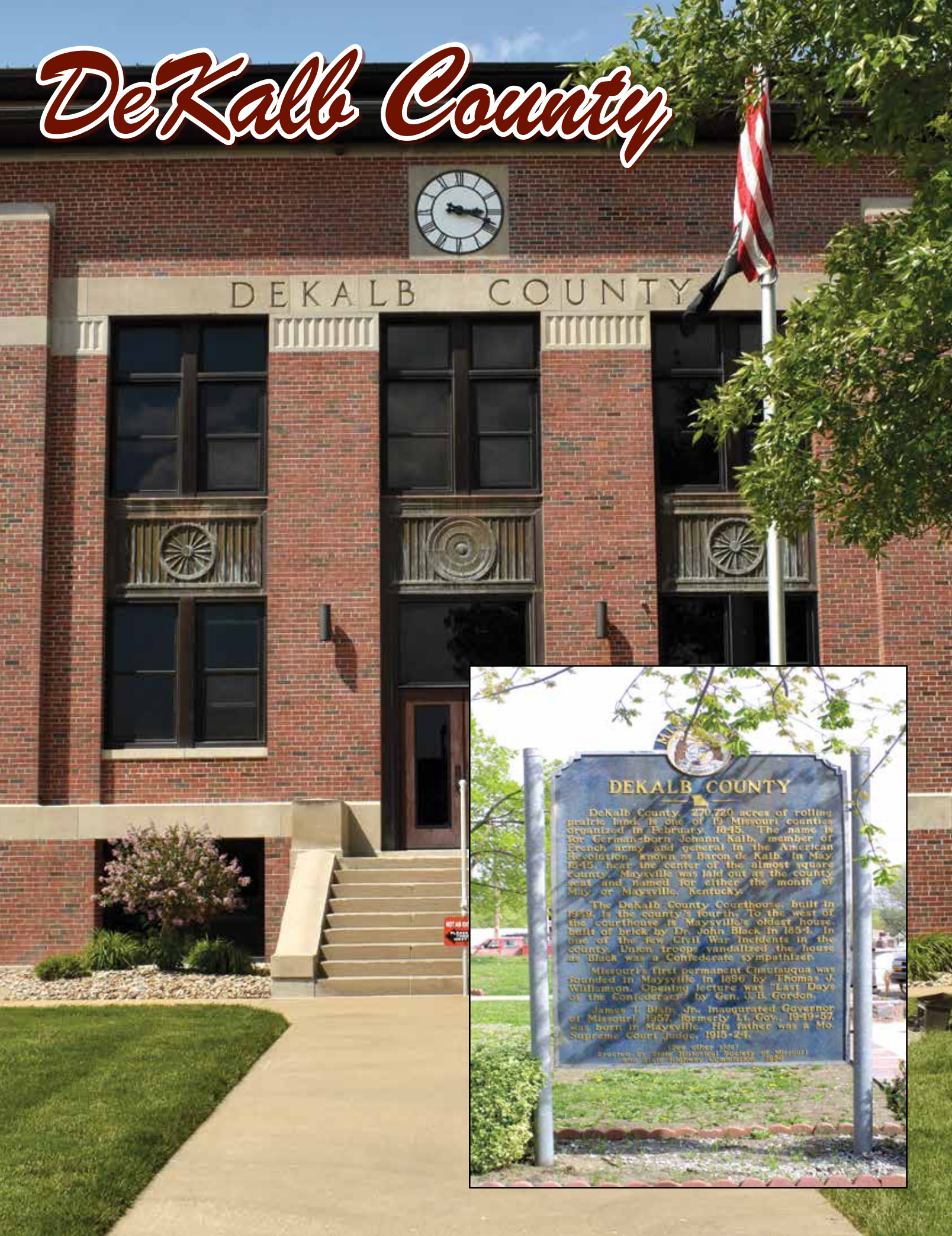
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# Jamesport Area Map



# DeKalb County



Located in the northwest area of Missouri, DeKalb County was organized in February of 1845. The county is named after Major General Johann de Kalb, who fought in the Revolutionary War. Before dying he is quoted as saying that he was to die the death he had prayed for, "the death of a soldier fighting for the rights of man."

The county covers 426 square miles, which roughly 424 square miles is land and 2 square miles is water. DeKalb County's neighbors are Gentry County to the north, Daviess to the east, Caldwell to the southeast, Clinton on the south side, Buchanan to Located in the northwest area of Missouri, DeKalb County was organized in February of 1845. The county is named after Major General Johann de Kalb, who fought in the Revolutionary War. Before dying he is quoted as saying that he was to die the death he had prayed for, "the death of a soldier fighting for the rights of man."

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Major highways in the county include Interstate 35, U.S. Route 36, U.S. Route 69, U.S. Route 169, Route 6, Route 31, and Route 33.

The county has 12,692 residents who live in the nine townships of Polk, Grant, Dallas, Sherman, Camden, Adams, Washington, Colfax, and Grand River. Eight towns are in the county including Maysville, Clarksdale, Amity, Union Star, Weatherby and major portions of Stewartsville, Osborn, and Cameron.

The county is known for its excellent school systems including the Maysville R-I, Osborn R-0, Union Star R-II, and Stewartsville C-2 School Districts.

DeKalb County has three county commissioners. The presiding commissioner is Kyle L. Carroll. Garry McFee is the Eastern District Commissioner and Kyle H. White is the Western District Commissioner.

Places to visit in the county include the DeKalb County Historical Society Museum and Genealogy Library where you can find out about the history of DeKalb County, the 16-foot fallen soldiers monument in Osborn that was erected in 1920, the Pony Express Lake, located south of Maysville, which is loaded with crappie, catfish, muskie, and largemouth bass, and many other attractions. Some of these attractions you can view in this magazine.

## Cameron

Once known as the "Crossroads of the Nation" because of the intersection of U.S. Route 36 and U.S. Route 69, Cameron is located in the southeast corner of DeKalb County. The city is partially in DeKalb County and partially in Clinton County.

Cameron was founded in 1855 after a group of settlers moved the town of Somerville 1.5 miles southwest from its location at what is now Interstate 35 and the Clinton-DeKalb County border. The town was moved in order to be along the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad line. To honor Malinda Cameron, the wife of the leader of the settlers, Samuel McCorkle, the town was named Cameron. A park by the name of McCorkle Park was named in honor of him.

Cameron was once a college town, being home to Missouri



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 the Left.

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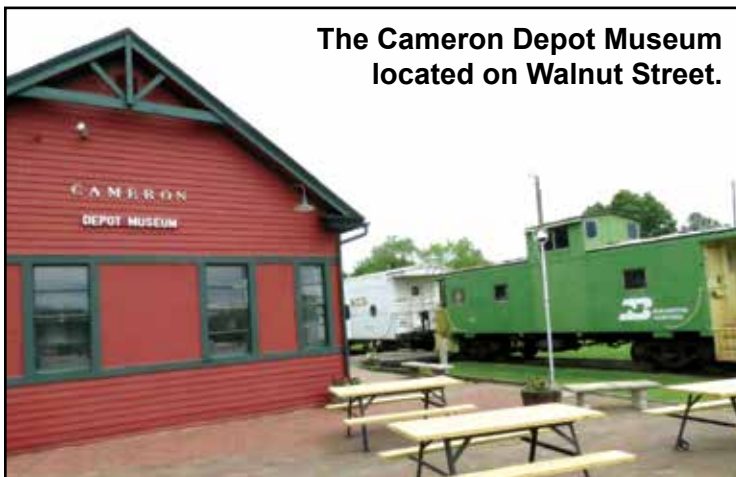


Wesleyan College from its conception in 1887 to when it closed in 1930.

Today, Cameron has a population of 9,868 residents and serves as a center of economic activity for the four-county region.

The community offers several recreational opportunities including an Olympic-sized swimming pool with a 121-foot serpentine water slide, an 18-hole golf course, a disc golf course, six lighted tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball and softball fields, a skateboard park, picnic shelters, and large playgrounds for kids and kids at heart.

Cameron holds a variety of both public and private locations



**The Cameron Depot Museum  
located on Walnut Street.**

with historic significance. The public venues include the Tuggle Monuments, Depot Museum, Veteran's Memorial, and The Old School.

Notable private properties include the old Musser Mansion located at the corner of Chestnut and Fourth Streets. This was the home of Cameron's first and very colorful mayor, Solomon Musser.

Ted Sanders was a close friend of Harry S. Truman and the former president is said to have visited Sanders on many occasions at his home located on South Chestnut Street.



**The Veterans Memorial located next to the DeKalb  
County Courthouse in Maysville on the square.**

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# Maysville



Located in the center of the county, Maysville is the county seat of DeKalb County with a population of 1,108 residents. It was founded in 1848, shortly after the county's founding in 1845.

The county's first courthouse was opened on April 7, 1851. Today, the fourth courthouse, opened on October 20, 1939, is a proud center of activity for the city.

A piece of history in Maysville is the

house a little to the west of the courthouse. It is the oldest house in the town and was built by Dr. John Black in 1854. It was the site of a Civil War incident in which Union troops vandalized the house because Black was a confederate sympathizer.

Today you can divulge more of the secrets of the county's past by visiting the DeKalb County Historical Society located 116 West Main in Maysville. The community also offers

an assortment of shopping and entertainment, centered around the square surrounding the DeKalb County Courthouse.

If you enjoy being outdoors you might want to check out Lakeside Country Club in Maysville or the nearby Willow Brooks Lake which offers fishing and boating opportunities.

During September, visit Maysville for the Country Harvest Days which provide great old-fashioned fun for the whole family.



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# MAYSVILLE

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## Pony Express Lake

Pony Express Lake is located on RA Highway, just off of Highway 33 south of Maysville. The Lake and the surrounding area gives visitors and residents of DeKalb County a great place to fish, boat and enjoy the outdoors.



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## Clarksdale

Clarksdale is located in the southwest corner of DeKalb County. It was founded in 1885 because of the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad route which passed through the town. It is named after John F. Clark, the original owner of the town site. Clarksdale rests beside the Little Third Fork of the Platte River. There are 271 people who reside in the area.

## Osborn

Osborn received its name complimenting Col. William Osborn of Waterville, New York, whose company received the contract to build the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad. The plat of the original town consisted of 84 blocks, of which 36 blocks were located in Clinton County. The town is located along Highway M a mile south of the Highway 36 junction, with a population of 423 residents.

Osborn became a prominent trading and shipping place from the start. There was a regular line of Concord Stage Coaches operated from 1859 to 1861 that carried passengers, express and mail.

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## Stewartsville

The town of Stewartsville is located in the southwest area of DeKalb County. It is 16 miles from Cameron along Highway 36. The population of the town is 752 residents. Stewartsville is named after Robert Marcellus Stewart. He was the 14th governor of Missouri from 1857 to 1861. As governor, Stewart championed the founding of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. This led to the creation of the Pony Express.

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## Union Star

Straddling the Platte River sits the small town of Union Star, unique because it's the only Union Star on the national registry. With its routes dating back to the founding of its first post office in 1863, Union Star's name comes from its founders' strong support of the Union in the Civil War despite the Show Me State being largely Confederate at the time.

Despite a recent trend of flight to major metropolises, Union Star's population holds steady at an estimated 417 residents. It is served by Union Star Elementary School for grades kindergarten through sixth and high school for seventh through 12th-grade.



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