

# MOCFOA

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024 | Issue 3



## Meet Your Executive Board

### **Brooke Atha Bell** President Elect

MPCC, MGI  
City of Savannah  
brookebell@savannahmo.net



### **Melissa Mattson** Secretary

MPCC, MMC, MGI  
City of Albany  
mmattson@albanymo.net



### **Beth Anne West** Treasurer

MPCC, CMC  
City of Battlefield  
cityclerk@battlefieldmo.gov



### **Amy Edwards** Immediate Past President

MPCC, MMC  
City of Platte City  
aedwards@plattecity.org



## WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DEANNA JONES



MPCC, MMC  
City of Berkley  
CityClerk@ci.berkeley.mo.us

*To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold.*

*-Aristotle*

I want to thank everyone for your understanding and patience for the workload the treasurer has to deal with.

Here are some reminders:

- Please make sure payments, for upcoming training, are sent to the current treasurer. Everyone wants proper and timely processing of payments. Help us help you by double checking where you are sending the payments. Credit Card payments are processed immediately through the website.

*(continued on next page)*

- Donations and donated items are needed for the 2025 IIMC conference. You can send donated items to Karen Goodwin, City of Florissant, 955 St. Francois St, Florissant MO 63031, or Deanna Jones, City of Berkeley, 8425 Airport Rd, Berkeley MO 63134.
- We need volunteers to sign up with Karen Goodwin, Chair for IIMC Committee, for the different committees. Further information about the conference will be provided by Leesa Ross, IIMC Director.
- The Bylaws Committee will present revised Bylaws and Rules and Regulations for Spring Institute. Look for them to be posted on the website sometime in January.

Please be careful during this Christmas Season. Be observant of suspicious looking people, where you park and your surroundings. Be safe and warm; and most of all, have a little fun.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
See you in 2025.*

*Deanna L. Jones, 2024/2025 President  
2024/25 President*



WEAR YOUR  
*Crown*

### **MOCCFOA Mission Statement**

Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MOCCFOA) is a professional organization, providing opportunities and resources for professional development and continuing education.

The Missouri CCFOA will provide its members on-going educational opportunities designed to assist members in the performance of their daily job responsibilities and equip them to face the future with confidence. The Missouri CCFOA will sponsor certification programs and provide support to its members to impart standards of quality and integrity to the profession and to improve the methods and procedures which meet the needs of the public as efficiently and effectively as possible.



**529**

*Renewals  
22-23 FY*

**71**

*Past Presidents*

**9**

*MOCCFOA  
Divisions*

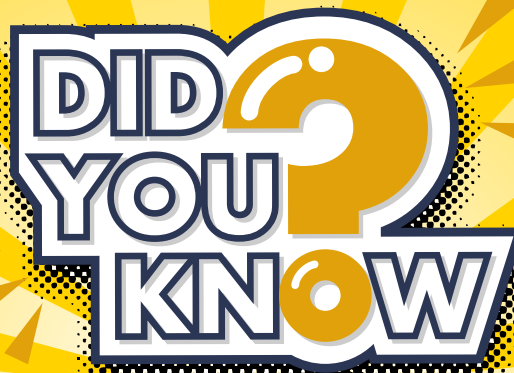


# MINIMUM WAGE

## Set to Increase on January 1, 2025

On November 5, Missouri voters approved Proposition A, amending Chapter 290 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri to provide an increase to the state's minimum wage. A minimum wage of **\$13.75** per hour will take effect on **January 1, 2025**, and a minimum wage of **\$15.00** per hour will take effect on **January 1, 2026**. Thereafter, all future annual adjustments to the minimum wage will be based on the Consumer Price Index.

Current state law provides for a minimum wage of \$12.30 per hour. Missouri's minimum wage has increased from \$7.65 in 2015 to \$12.30 in 2024, with adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index (this minimum wage was set as a result of Proposition B, approved by voters in 2018, and would have increased the minimum wage to \$12.65 in 2025).



MISSOURI IS THE TOP PRODUCER OF MINED LEAD IN THE UNITED STATES, AND IT'S MAINLY USED IN CAR BATTERIES. THE STATE ALSO PRODUCES THE MOST LIME IN THE NATION. (LIME IS A MINERAL USED FOR STEEL MANUFACTURING, AMONG OTHER THINGS.)



# Get to Know Our Secretary

**MELISSA MATTSON**  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK, CITY OF ALBANY



**Length of time in municipal government:**

17+ years

**Family:** I've been married to my husband, Michael, for 27 years. We have 4 beautiful daughters- Blythe, Sydney, Tarynn, & Kiley. On October 5th we welcome our first son, Samuel. (It was a beautiful wedding!)

**Hobbies:** I love to read, watch sports-ROCK CHALK, and cross stich.

**If you could have any job for a week what would it be and why:** I would be RETIRED, because.....retired!

**If you could go into any store and spend \$5,000, where would you go?**

I would take my kids to Home Goods, so they can get what they need for their first homes.

**What movie(s) could you watch everyday?**

The Wizard of Oz, and I did watch it everyday when my kids were little. I'll also watch Christmas Vacation, Elf, Napoleon Dynamite, Dirty Dancing, and Dumb & Dumber.

**If you could pick an unconventional animal for a pet, what would it be and why?**

A pet rock- it's not an animal, but that's the level I'm at with taking care of one more thing right now!

**What is your favorite drink order?**

Chocolate Ice Cream Shake with a shot of Mint Chocolate Chip Whiskey.

**You go to an airport and buy a ticket to any place you choose, where would it be?**

A one way ticket to Colorado.

**If you could erase one color from existence what would it be?** Most shades of brown- the Paneled Palace I work in would become so much prettier!

**If you could pick a super power, what would it be?** Patience- that's a super power, right?

**What size shoe do you wear?** 6.5

**If we see you singing in the car what song or artist is playing on radio?** 90's Hip Hop on Pandora-it's true, I clean to the music I used to party to!

**Share an item from your bucket list that others may not have on theirs:**

To win a few hundred million in the Powerball. (I'd better start playing)

**If you could be any celebrity's assistant for a day, who would you choose?** Michelle Obama

**How do you eat your oreos?** Like the sandwich they are!

**It's family game night. What is your first choice?** Card games- Pitch, 7, Uno, Phase 10- a lot of great conversations are had here.

**Can you play a musical instrument? If you can what is it?** I played the piano as a kid and the clarinet in the high school band. I'm not sure that I could play either of them now.



# Get to Know Our Secretary

**MELISSA MATTSON**  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK, CITY OF ALBANY



**(continued)**

**If you could pick one tv show to bring back on air, what would it be?** Schitt's Creek

**Your house is on fire. What is the most random thing you're taking with you?** My jewelry box, because it has family heirlooms, like a ring my grandmother gave me and my own mother's ring.

**What fictional character would you like to be for a week?** Lagertha- Viking Shield Maiden, Earl, & wife of Ragnar Lothbrok.

**Something we'd be surprised to know your knowledgeable about?** High School Basketball Rules- my husband is an official and MSHSAA Rules Interpreter, so I know a lot more than the average basketball fan.

**You're going to the movies. What snack/candy are you sneaking in?** Skittles or Milk Duds

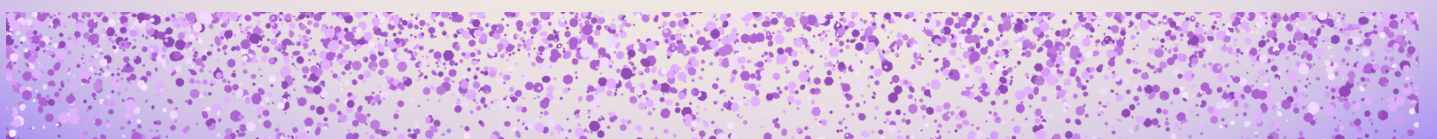
**Most famous person you've met?** Adam Sandler, he said I looked like Sarah Silverman.

**It's your last meal; what are you choosing?** Grilled ribeye steak (medium well), twice baked potato, green beans, corn on the cob from my garden, and strawberry pie.

**If you could have a never-ending candle that smelled like anything you wanted, what fragrance would you want it to be?** One that would smell like all different kinds of flowers.

**Reminder**

**Any documents, minutes, agendas, or other historical information should be emailed to [shance@cityofmoberly.com](mailto:shance@cityofmoberly.com) for inclusion into the permanent historical records!**





# Upcoming Events

Pencil in all these dates on your calendar and join us for these fun and education events! Remember, these events can be used for points towards your certification (in most cases)



## MOCFFOA Spring Institute

Holiday Inn  
Convention Center  
Columbia, MO

March 8-14, 2025



## 2025 IIMC Annual Conference

St. Louis, MO

May 18 - May 21, 2025



## 2025 MML Annual Conference

St. Charles, MO

September 14-17, 2025

## BREAKING NEWS

Births?

Have something for the next newsletter?

Good Recipe?

Send it now while you're thinking of it to:  
[brookebell@savannahmo.net](mailto:brookebell@savannahmo.net)

Graduate?



Marriage?

# Public Relations

## COMMITTEE

### MRCC

Congratulations to the following clerks who have received the following certifications:

#### MRCC

Cheyenne Wright, Neosho

### 2024-2025 COMMITTEE:

Megan Eldridge,  
City of Wildwood, Chair

Bridget Waters,  
City of Kirkwood

Suzanne Welsh,  
City of Ava

Heather Sponsler,  
City of Houston

Marilyn Dick,  
City of Centralia

Jessica Kendall,  
City of Warsaw

Sherri Klekamp,  
City of Washington

Jonita Copeland,  
City of Union

Lori Lemons,  
City of East Prairie

Rhonda Council,  
City of Sikeston

Melissa Bazert,  
City of Platte City

Patricia Fisher-Johnson,  
City of Maysville

Cindy Simpson,  
City of Trenton



# RECIPE CORNER



## CROCK POT PEANUT CLUSTERS

SUBMITTED BY BROOKE BELL

20 ounces white almond bark

04 ounces German chocolate bar

12 ounces semisweet chocolate chips

24 ounces dry roasted peanuts

- Add all ingredients to the slow cooker in the order listed above.
- Place a paper towel over the crockpot and place the lid on top of the paper towels
- Let cook on low for 1 hour (do not remove lid during this time)
- After an hour, stir to combine everything.
- Put the paper towel back on top of the crockpot and replace the lid.
- Allow to cook for 15 more minutes.
- Drop spoonfuls of the candy onto parchment paper and allow to cool completely.

*Yummy!*



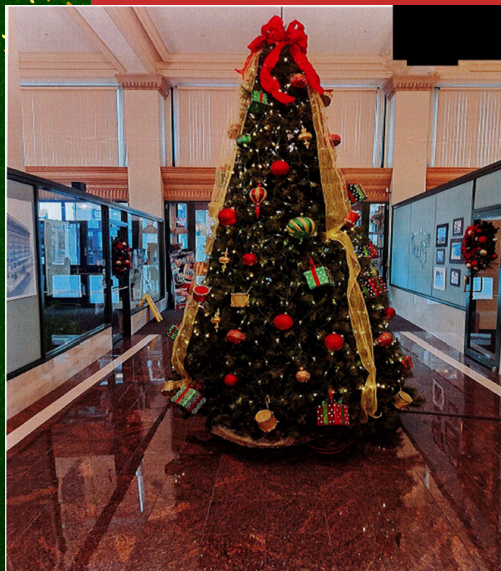
# Christmas Vibes!

*Clerks decorate around the state!*



The City of Hallsville knows how to decorate !

If you're ever close to Belton, make sure to take a drive down their beautiful strip!



The City of Joplin has a beautiful Christmas tree for all to see!



# CHRISTMAS VIBES!

## CLERKS DECORATE AROUND THE STATE!



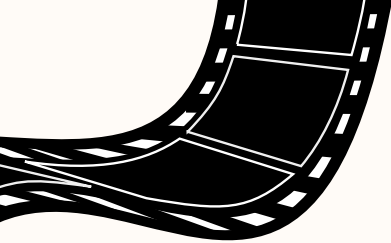
The City of Madison is ready for the holiday season!

The City of LaPlata has the cutest desks/presents!



Savannah City Hall all ready for the holidays!





# SAVANNAH

## The New Hollywood

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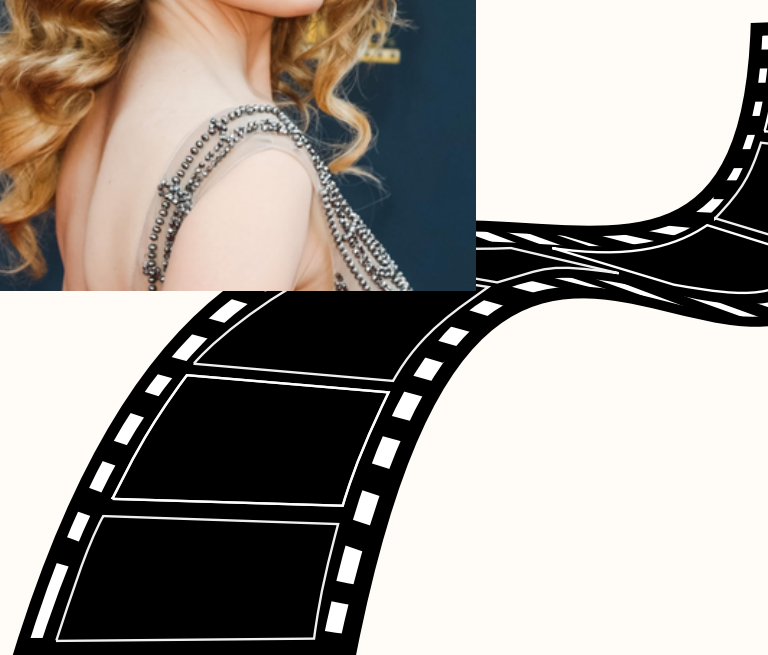
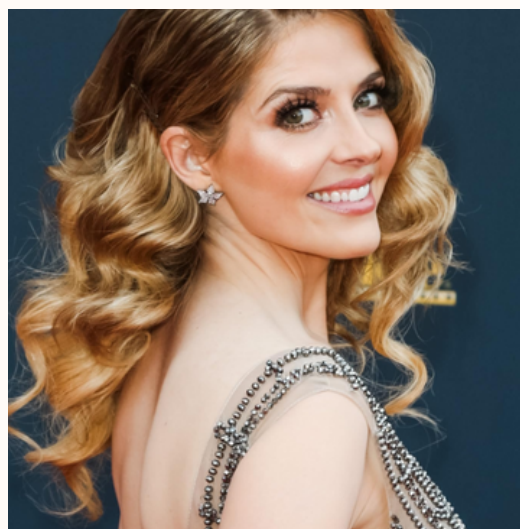
### Breaking News

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The Savannah community is so excited to announce that their small community has been selected by a Hollywood Production Company to shoot their next movie, "A Chrismystery". The production company has made 2 trips to Savannah to scope out different buildings and areas. Savannah City Hall has been selected to serve as the jail in the film!

"A Chrismystery" is a family-friendly movie about a small town that had their Christmas decorations stolen. The film is written by Sean Wathen and directed by Matthew Toronoto. Star, Jen Lilley, most known for playing Theresa Donovan in Days of Our Lives and Maxie Jones on General Hospital will be playing the lead.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS




## CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**  
cityofmadisonmo@gmail.com


**Phone:**  
(660) 291-5235



MELISSA O'BANNON



The Central Division was set to meet on Friday, November 15 at Camdenton City Hall. Due to scheduling conflicts and a potential lack of clerks being able to attend, the meeting was unfortunately cancelled. A division wide email was sent encouraging everyone to submit an application for the scholarship to attend IIMC in St. Louis and also reminding the division to “buddy up” and room with one another to help save on costs for their city. The next meeting is set for February 21, 2025, it will be hosted by City Clerk, Melissa O’Bannon with the City of Madison.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



MEGAN ELDRIDGE



## EASTERN DIVISION

**Email:**  
megan@cityofwildwood.com

**Phone:**  
636-405-2029



### Division Happenings:

The City of Kirkwood hosted the October division meeting at the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center, where MoCCOFA Education Coordinator Rebecca Lobina presented information on the MoCCFOA and IIMC certification process.

The City of Maryland Heights hosted an MoCCFOA Regional Conference on October 23rd.

The City of Berkeley hosted the November division meeting at the Berkeley City Hall, where Florissant City Clerk Karen Goodwin presented “Parliamentary Procedure.”

Rounding out 2024, the division will hold it’s annual holiday party in December at the Piazza Messina in Cottleville.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



## EAST CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**  
sklekamp@washmo.gov

**Phone:**  
636-390-1003



SHERRI KLEKAMP



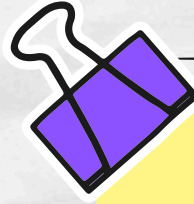
Check back in the next newsletter for East Central Division updates.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



CYNTHIA BOWMAN



## NORTHEAST DIVISION

**Email:**

cindyb@cityofclarence.com

**Phone:**

660-699-2270



The Northeast Division met November 13th in Canton. Stuart Haynes spoke about election filing processes. We welcomed brand new Shelbina City Clerk, Jordan Mahaffey. Our next meeting will be February 12th in Edina.




# DIVISION DIRECTORS



## NORTHWEST DIVISION

**Due to a resignation there is no Director for the NW Division. If you need anything please contact Melissa Mattson, President at [mmattson@albanymo.net](mailto:mmattson@albanymo.net)**



The Northwest Division met in Platte City on August 15, 2024, for their summer meeting. The meal was catered by Rapido's Mexican restaurant. Becky Carlson, SOS Local Records was an invited guest and spoke about retention schedules and grants available through the Secretary of State's office. The quarterly meeting business included the announcement of the resignation of Tiffany French, City of Oregon. This creates a vacancy as the NW Division Vice President as well as Division Director. President Melissa Mattson, Albany, encouraged members to consider volunteering to fulfill this office & term. The Audit committee reported a successful audit of the 23-24 financial records. The Scholarship committee announced that Regional scholarship applications are open. NW and Western division are hosting the hospitality room for SI 2025 and discussion was held regarding theme ideas. MoCCFOA President Elect Brooke Bell, Savannah, shared with the group that she would like to have a "Greatest Clerks on Earth" carnival/circus theme because it flows well with the IIMC 2025 theme of Meet me in St. Louis. Everyone agreed and a committee was formed to work with the Western division on all hospitality room planning. Amy Edwards, Platte City, gave the group a tour of the new City Hall building. It was very impressive!

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# NORTHWEST

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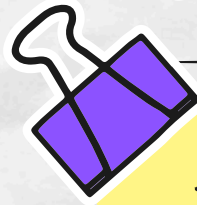
The fall meeting of the NW Division was held in Stanberry on November 21, 2024, at El Tequila Restaurant. The first order of business was the nomination of a new division director – Minde Dreher, current division Treasurer, will fulfill this term. It was decided that the division Vice President position will remain vacant until the next election of officers. The scholarship committee announced there were no applicants for the Regional scholarship, however there were 2 for New Clerks Institute. The SI Hospitality committee reported that they had met with the Western Division Hospitality committee. The Greatest Clerks on Earth will be the theme. Each member of the division is encouraged to make a gift basket to be used as a door prize. Planning is ongoing for a fun and successful 2025 hospitality room. Lyndsey Ernat, MO Department of Conservation was the guest speaker. Her topics included various grant opportunities and cost share programs available to public entities with the Department of Conservation. After the meeting, several members gathered at DW Studio for a painting social activity (photo above). The winter meeting will be held on February 20, 2025.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



SUZANNE WELSH



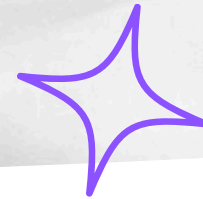
## SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**

swelsh@avamissouri.org

**Phone:**

417-683-5516  
ext. 204



Greetings,

from the South Central Division group. Rhonda Kirkwood, City of Liking, hosted our October meeting on the 16th. She and her sister made a wonderful lunch with white chicken chili, pasta fagioli, homemade French bread, and all the goodies that go with it! We also had the best chocolate cake and cheesecake made by Myrna. We had a good visit and played bingo and made crazy clerk seasoning salt. We missed the cities who were unable to come but Rhonda spoiled us pretty good while we were there!

We will hold one more meeting to finish this year. One will be Wednesday, December 11th at Mountain Grove. Next year's meeting dates will be: February 19th at SCOCOG in Pomona, April 16th at Mountain View, May 21st at Cabool, August 20th at Ava, October 15th at West Plains, and December 17th at Mountain Grove.

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# SOUTH CENTRAL

CONTINUED



We have been offering a division scholarship for members of our division who have not yet attended the MOCCFOA spring conference or a city who would not be able to attend otherwise. We understand how hard it is to get away from our job, especially when short staffed but attending the new clerk conference and the spring conference is worth making time for!

Please keep our District President, Heather Tooley, in your prayers as she goes through some medical issues. She has sure been a blessing to our division and we think a lot about her!

We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas with friends and family, as well as co-workers...



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



## SOUTHEAST DIVISION

**Email:**  
cityclerk@eastprairiemo.net

**Phone:**  
573-649-3057  
ext. 104



LORI LEMONS



The SEMO Division had their quarterly meeting with Malden City Clerk Many Lewis hosting and 23 in attendance, including several new and first time attendee clerks. Malden Public Safety Director Jeff Mitchell presented de-escalation training which was very informational and eye opening, he did a wonderful job. Committee reports were presented with old and new business being discussed afterwards. Prior to the close of the meeting, information was shared regarding the MoCCFOA annual March meeting as well as information regarding registration, volunteering, and attendance to the annual IIMC conference to be held in St. Louis in May.

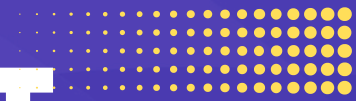
Lunch was enjoyed by several attendees at LaEstancia Restaurant before heading back to our offices.





# SOUTHEAST

## Spotlight



Our Southeast Spotlight member for this quarter is Pam Meyer, City Clerk for the City of Ste. Genevieve.

While attending college, Pam was hired part time to input utility information into the City's first utility billing program-little did she know that would be the beginning of her public service career. In June of 1988, Pam was hired full time with Ste. Genevieve as a Utility Clerk and began her dream career in an amazing city in 2003 as City Clerk. Her MRCC certification was received in March 2019, and has logged 400+ hours.

In the 36 years of employment with the City of Ste. Genevieve, Pam has had the privilege of working with individuals that are not only co-workers, but life-long friends, that make the work days very special and enjoyable. As we all know, working with the public every day can be challenging, and no situation is the same. Pam faces each day not knowing what to expect, listens to the citizens and tries to point them in the right direction on the issue that brought them in.

As far as regrets go, it's not working towards the certifications sooner and not being as involved as she should be in our wonderful MoCCFOA organization. Her advice to pass on is to get involved early, build a network of fellow clerks to learn and grow together.

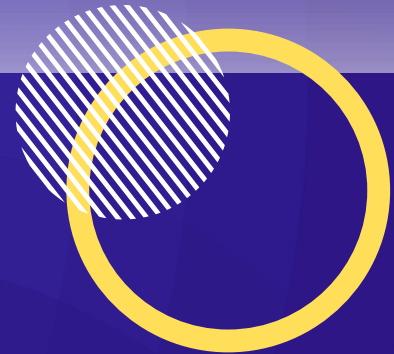
Pam has lived in Ste. Genevieve County her entire life, born and raised in Ste. Genevieve; has three wonderful children and four awesome grandchildren, and lives in Bloomsdale with her fiancé Shane. Her top priority is making lasting memories with her family.

In what spare time she has, Pam's second priority is traveling for competitive horseshoe throwing-didn't see that coming did you? Pam is ranked in the top 10 women throwers in the world and was recently honored to represent one of several Missouri teams at the Team World Tournament held in Wisconsin where their team placed first among 24 teams from all over the country. Congratulations Pam!

Thanks Pam for your hard work and dedication to the City of Ste. Genevieve and fellow clerks!



**PAM MEYER**



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



LAURA BURBRIDGE



## SOUTH WEST DIVISION

**Email:**

lburbridge@republicmo.com

**Phone:**

417-732-3101



We had a great fall, with engaging meetings. In August, we had a tour of Stronghold Data's space in the Springfield Underground while learning more about cyber security. Everyone enjoyed the presentation and tour. For our September meeting in Ash Grove, Ryan Allison from Ollis, Akers, and Arney presented about Health Insurance and Employee Benefits. Our October meeting was held in Branson West, hosted by Kimberling City. Training was on Economic Development and Housing in the Region. As usual, we take a break for the holidays and will meet again on January 29th at Carl Junction. Bolivar will be hosting the February meeting on the 26th and our April 30th meeting will be held in Aurora. We do plan to meet at Spring Institute, with date and time to be determined. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season!



# DIVISION DIRECTORS




## WESTERN DIVISION

**Email:**  
ehill@raymore.com

**Phone:**  
816-892-3012




ERICA HILL



The Western Division held a meeting in September at the MOCCFOA Regional training in Independence.

It's been quite on the western front. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





# Congrats!

Joplin City Clerk, Holly Nagy, along with her husband are expecting their 5th child in March!!

It's a girl!!!

Congratulations!!!



## WAY TO GO!

Congrats to Roschelle! She obtained this through the city WOW program with their Wellness Committee. There are 6 winners a quarter by receiving a high number of points for health and wellness.



## HIGH SCORE ACHIEVEMENT!

Congratulations to

*Roschelle Forsythe*

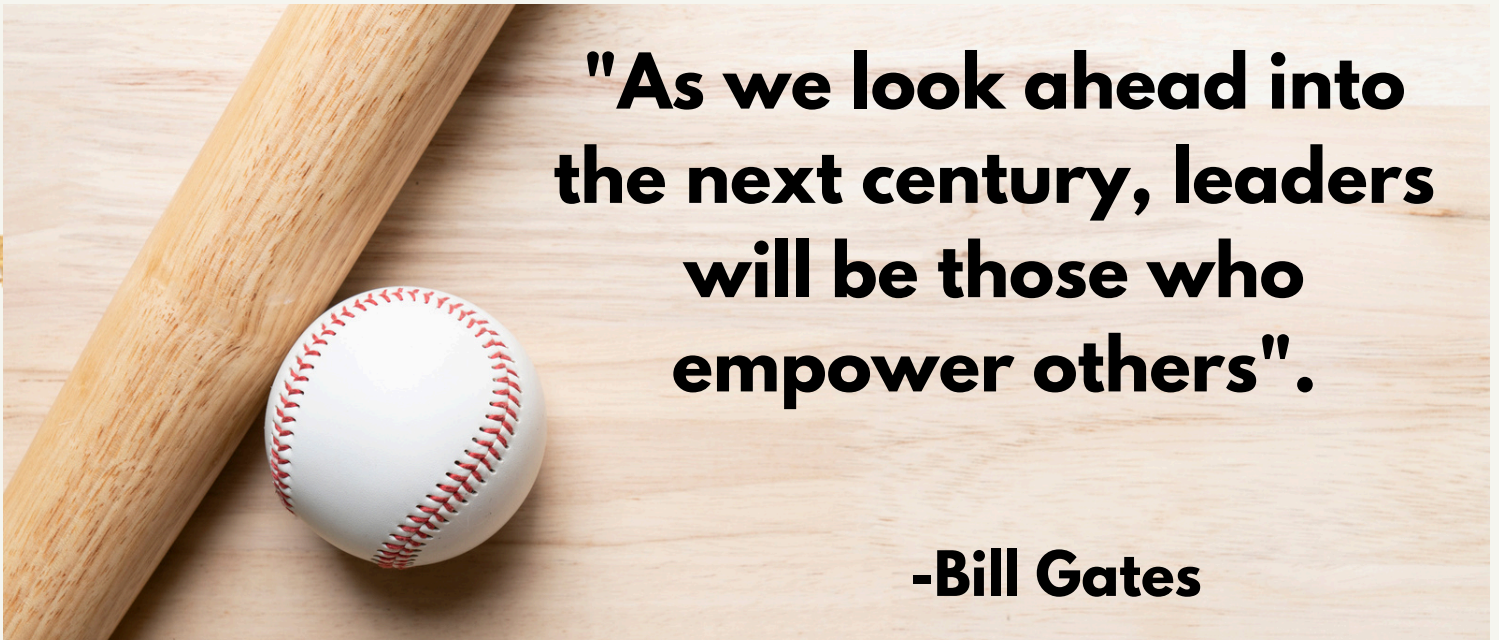
for achieving a position among the top 6 WOW points during

**2024 THIRD QUARTER**



**"As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others".**

**-Bill Gates**





# CONGRATS

## Dhani says I Do!



Dhani Madron, City Clerk of Tarkio and Secretary for NW Division, wed her longtime friend, Bobby on Saturday, November 23rd in a beautiful ceremony. Fellow Clerks, Brooke Bell & Minde Dreher, were in attendance. Congrats to Dhani & Bobby! We all wish you a long and happy marriage!

## Newsletter Committee

2024-2025

**Brooke Atha Bell**

City of Savannah, Newsletter Chair

**Stacey Leach**

CITY OF CAMDENTON

**Patrick Benwell**

CITY OF CRESTWOOD

**Megan Eldridge**

CITY OF WILDWOOD

**Kara Meyer**

CITY OF OWENSVILLE

**Laura Cather**

CITY OF KIMBERLING CITY

**Julie Greer**

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

**Roschelle Forsythe**

CITY OF JOPLIN

