

Hollister grad receives scholarship from national nonprofit

By Chris Carlson
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A Hollister High School graduate recently received some financial support for his college endeavors. Class of 2024 grad-



Courtesy of Hollister School District

Richardson is the recipient of a rootEd Alliance Undergraduate Scholarship.

uate Noah Richardson earned a rootEd Alliance Undergraduate Scholarship of up to \$12,000 in support of his pursuit of a bache-

lor's degree. The scholarship is renewable for up to five years. The rootEd Alliance organization is a national nonprofit which partners with states and rural-serving organizations in order to support students by helping them plan their futures following high school graduation. The organization recently announced 31 high school graduates across Missouri received the scholarships to attend four year colleges or universities this year.

In May, Richardson signed his letter of intent to continue his education and athletic career in track and field at Columbia College.



Branson Tri-Lakes News File Photo

Forsyth high school.

Threat causes lockdown at Forsyth schools

By Jason Wert
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The Forsyth Missouri police department confirmed a lockdown of Forsyth schools after a threat the morning of Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024.

The department posted on their Facebook page after the lockdown that their officers were joined by officers from Branson, deputies from the Taney County Sheriff's Office, staff of the Taney County Juvenile Office, and others to investigate the threat.

Officers were able to identify the source of the threat and they were taken into custody.

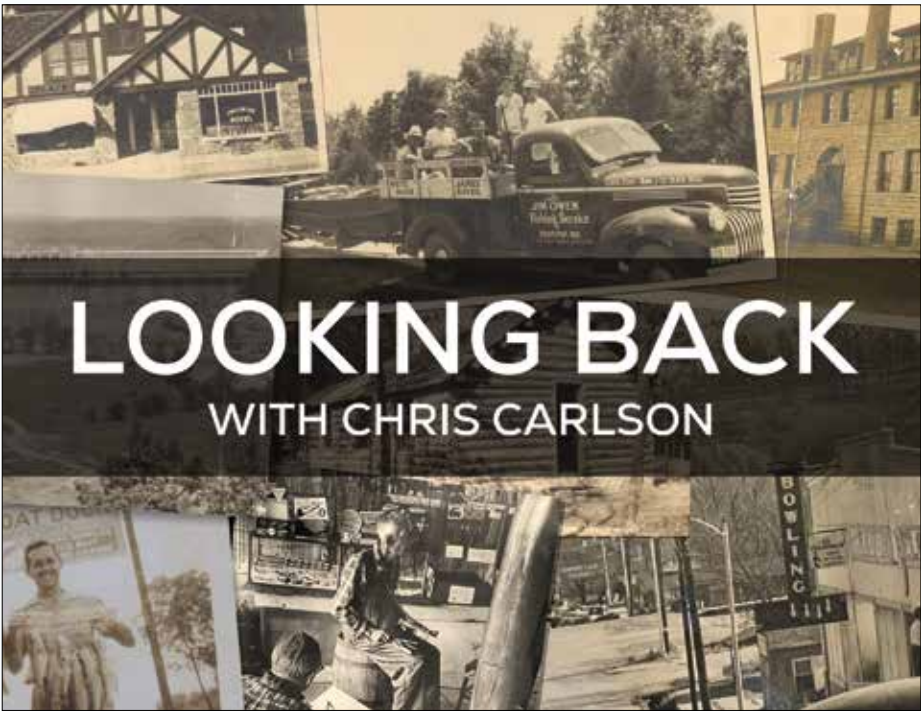
The threat was found to not have merit and the lockdown was lifted after confirmation.

Forsyth Police Chief Pat Gray said his department and all area law enforcement will take every single threat against a school seriously and will act in every way necessary to protect students, teachers, and staff.

LOOKING BACK WITH CHRIS CARLSON

Looking Back: The Ozarks is a gem which can't be hidden

When it comes to the Ozarks, I am unashamedly biased in my opinion of its beauty and culture. While my family moved around ever so often when I was a child, I was born in Springfield and have lived in the Branson/Hollister area since 1992. My mother's family came to the region in the 1930's. I have otherwise experienced the humidity of northern Louisiana, the clay-red soil of Oklahoma, the hills and hollers of Arkansas and the flat, unending soy and corn fields of Iowa, if only for a short time. To me though, there's no place like the hidden gem of the Ozarks, nestled in the heartland of the United States. The natural wonders of this region alone are awe inspiring; from the rugged landscapes and rolling hills, to the dense forests and streams. There is never a shortage of outdoor activities,



whether it be hiking, camping or fishing. Our Ozarks region is made up of numerous rivers and lakes, and if you're feeling adventurous, cave exploration is always an option. Afterall, Missouri is the Cave State. The more time you spend in

our wonderful Ozarks region, the more you will catch yourself tuning into the culture of those who've lived here for generations. Our region is a hub for traditional folk music; something which comes naturally to many families who adopt-

ed these lands as home many years ago and the traditions don't stop there. From cooking to learning the law of the land, to folk art, it isn't difficult to find a friendly face to visit with about what makes up our culture. Throughout the years, the image of a lazy hillbilly resting under a tree has been a part of marketing for tourism, but rest assured, the folks in these parts are known for quite the opposite. Our Ozarks region was founded on hard work and a necessity to survive. The Ozarks offer a unique experience for all who visit. Many have a wonderful enough experience, it convinces them to pack up and relocate...and while I'd rather keep its beauty and wonder a secret to be enjoyed by us locals, it's difficult to keep such a unique and shiny gem hidden from the rest of the world.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Administrative Record Available

Taneycomo Abandoned Drums Superfund Site

Branson, Taney County, Missouri

September 2024

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has compiled the Administrative Record (AR) for the emergency removal action at the Taneycomo Abandoned Drums Superfund Site in Branson, Missouri.

The AR is the official site file that contains the technical documents relied upon by EPA to determine that a response action at the site was necessary. EPA developed this document collection to form a clear understanding of the site.

EPA's on-site activities include removal of an abandoned drum containing a hazardous material and coordinating transportation for off-site disposal. Site project information is available to the public at web repositories. To view the AR documents, please visit EPA's webpage at: www.epa.gov/superfund/taneycomoabandoneddrums.

If you do not have internet access, you can view these documents online at this location: **Library Center of the Ozarks**, 200 South Fourth Street, Branson, MO 65616; 417-334-1418.

If you have questions about the site, please contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator **Tanya Young** at young.tanya@epa.gov or 913-551-7803.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard, Lenexa, KS 66219
Toll-free: 1-800-223-0425

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