

Meats celebrates opening of 'Spill the Tee'

LeROY — Growing up in LeRoy, Bryson Meats never thought he'd get the opportunity to open a business in his hometown. Graduating from Southern Coffey County High School in 2015, Meats recently returned to LeRoy and is now an entrepreneur in his hometown.

"I've always wanted a building in downtown LeRoy and when this one became available, I had to have it," Meats said. "I wasn't going to purchase the business in the beginning, but when I was told someone might want to move it out of town, that really made me stop and think. LeRoy needs businesses to stay alive, so I decided to purchase both."

On Aug. 7, Meats purchased the former Gunlock and Gleue Designs. The business does vinyl windows and transfers, customized embroidery for clothing/apparel and "coming soon" a brand new addition of a coffee shop.

"The people of Coffey County make owning a business worth it," Meats said. "We have a very supportive community who only want your business to grow. Coffey County also has a great Chamber of Commerce."

Meats explained the name "Spill the Tee" came up while discussing this journey with

a friend from Los Angeles. They discussed the mix of the T-shirt shop with a coffee shop as they will eventually be at one location. "Spill the Tee" fit perfectly.

Meats hired a staff to "take charge" in the new business, including Traci Yeager, de-

sign/store manager, and Jordan Fleming, design assistant and soon-to-be coffee shop barista. Lacy Brite has also been hired part-time to help out where needed.

Meats is a member of the LeRoy Pride Committee and LeRoy Homecoming Associ-

ation. Spill the Tee is located at 609 N. Main St. LeRoy. The business is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meats said the Facebook page "Spill the Tee" will have information on shopping and store updates.



Christina Stohs/The Republican

Bryson Meats purchased Gunlock and Gleue Designs and renamed the business Spill the Tee. He plans to add a coffee shop to the customized embroidery business that also does vinyl windows and transfers.

60TH ANNIVERSARY



Photo submitted

Virginia and Bob Mitchell on their wedding day.

Mitchells to celebrate 60th

NEW STRAWN — Bob and Virginia "Ginny" Mitchell, New Strawn, will observe their 60th wedding anniversary Friday, Aug. 28.

Bob and Virginia were married Aug. 28, 1960, in Westpha-

lia. Their family requests a card shower to celebrate the occasion.

Cards will reach them at 330 N. Third St., New Strawn, KS 66839.

BRI'S DANCE STUDIO



Photo submitted

Twelve dancers were recognized for being students of Bri's Dance Studio all 10 years it has been in business. They are, from left, front row, Kiana Wight, Sage Kuhlmann, Makena Klubek, Emma Garland and Allie Harris; back row, Harley Alford, Teagan Harris, Madaline Turner, Miranda Meats, Bri Birk (owner), Maddie Womelsdorf, Carrigan Presley and Madison Cormode. Harley and Miranda had the special distinction of having perfect attendance for all 10 years.

Local studio celebrates decade of dance

BURLINGTON — Bri Birk, owner and instructor at Bri's Dance Studio, Burlington, celebrated the culmination of her 10th year in business last month in a big way with six action-packed recitals held July 22 to 25 at the Burlington High School auditorium. Dancers ages 3 through high school performed to songs chosen as fan favorites from the past nine years' recitals.

"Due to COVID, instead of having two big performances featuring all of our students, we split it into three separate age groups and held six recitals with limited capacity," Birk said. The recital theme was "Celebrate 10n - Celebrating a Decade of Dance at BDS."

"We recreated routines and brought them back to life for a wonderful show," she said, noting that throughout the studio's 10-year history, she has held 23 sold out performances at BHS, with all performances being themed originals choreographed by her dance studio staff.

Birk said she has traveled with her students where they performed in front of the castle at Walt Disney World, Orlando, Fla., as well as on Broadway and in Times

Square, New York City. A second trip to Walt Disney World is scheduled for December 2021.

"We have hosted many summer camps and choreographed multiple routines for surrounding dance and cheer teams," Birk said. Her students come from 22 surrounding towns (nine different counties) for classes in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, pom, afro, musical theatre, pointe, twirling as well as an award-winning competition dance program.

"Our competition dancers have brought home numerous high score awards and placements at dance competitions in the states of Kansas and Missouri," she said.

Birk said enrollment is under way for the new dance season which begins in September.

Recital songs that were performed to and the dance groups and individuals involved were: "Great Balls of Fire" - 3-4 year olds and K-1 acro; "Wake Up" - solo by Caitlin Patterson; "Leave a Light On" - solo by Maddie Turner; "Lion Sleeps Tonight" - 3-4 year old ballet; "You Are My Sunshine" - K-1 ballet; "Someone You Loved"

- duet by Makena Klubek and Miranda Meats; "I Am Me" - duet by Harley Alford and Maddie Turner; "Hey, Good Looking" - 3-4 year olds and K-1 tap; "Knock Out" - high school competition team; "Lip Gloss" - K-1 pom; "Carwash" - 2nd-5th acro; "I Feel Good" - 2nd-5th ballet; "True Colors" - 2nd-5th ballet; "Why You Mad" - 2nd-3rd hip hop; "Salute" - 4th-5th hip hop; "Leave A Light On" - solo by Maddie Turner;

"Space Jam" - 2nd-5th pom; "Someone You Loved" - duet by Makena Klubek and Miranda Meats; "New York, New York" - 2nd-5th musical theatre; "Pink Panther" - 4th-5th jazz; "Get Fit" - mini competition team; "Single Ladies" - jr. high/high school acro; "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" - senior solo by Lacy Brite; "Married Life" - jr. high/high school pointe;

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Photo submitted

Museum seeks stories, photographs, recipes

BURLINGTON — The year 2020 has been a historic year. The coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) has affected communities, the state, nation and the entire world. For a period of time, the state was shut down, businesses were closed, employees were laid off, and schooling went online. Restrictions were set on gatherings and travel, vacations and events were cancelled, and graduations postponed. Businesses changed protocols for the safety of their patrons and employees. Within a short period of time, our world was changed.

The Coffey County Historical Society and Museum is dedicated to preserving the history of Coffey County and its people. The museum staff wants to record this historic time for future generations and they ask Coffey Countians to share stories about how COVID-19 has affected you. How did you feel once the virus hit the state and the community? How did it affect your job? How did it affect your daily activities? How did it affect your shopping trips? They are also searching for photographs, i.e. playgrounds

being taped off, lines in front of Hoover's Thriftway, closed signs, etc. Send your stories and photographs to the museum at 1101 Neosho St, Burlington, KS 66839 or email to erin@coffeymuseum.org or shirley@coffeymuseum.org.

Due to COVID-19, the museum will not hold its annual fundraiser, Pioneer Days. To raise funds during these uncertain times, the museum is creating a Coffey County 2020 COVID-19 Cookbook. Museum staff are collecting recipes you used during home quarantine. All recipes are welcomed, including recipes created due to not being able to get ingredients.

Please send recipes to the museum, 1101 Neosho St, Burlington, KS 66839 or email with the subject line "Cookbook" to erin@coffeymuseum.org or shirley@coffeymuseum.org. Deadline to send in recipes is Aug. 31.

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