

MEMBER  
*News*  
08.04.23



*Bear Creek Wine Company*



BACK THE TAX THE  
**BLUE GREEN**

**CITY**  **COUNTY**

PAID FOR BY: TANEY COUNTY BACKS THE BLUE  
BOB HUELS, TREASURER

## BACK THE BLUE IN TANEY COUNTY

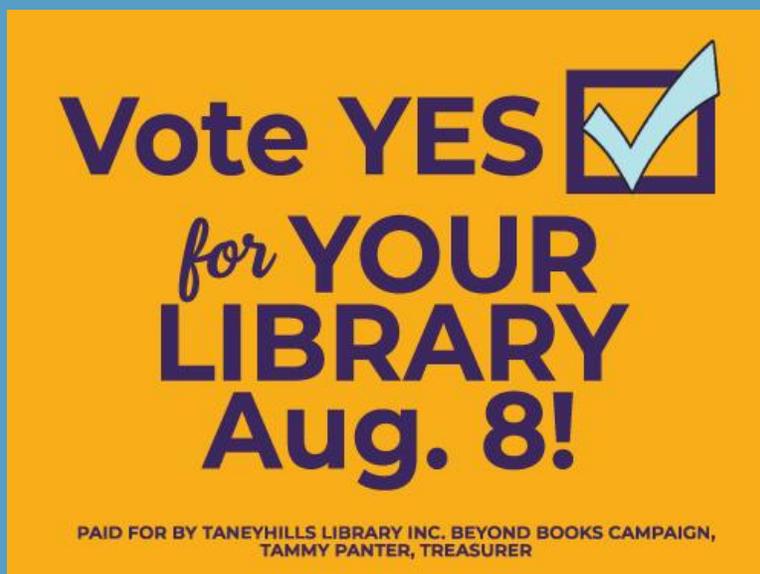
In August 2023, voters in Taney County will have the opportunity to vote YES for a 3% sales tax on recreational marijuana that will be used by the local municipalities of Branson, Hollister, Forsyth, and Rockaway Beach to support public safety. Additionally, Taney County is seeking a 3% sales tax to support the general revenue.

#### What You Should Know:

- This is not a property tax.
- Some voters will see TWO recreational marijuana sales tax proposals on their ballot: 3% in their city and 3% in the county.
- The sale tax initiatives DO NOT APPLY to medical marijuana.
- In April of 2023, dozens of governmental entities in Missouri approved a tax on recreational marijuana including Kansas City, St. Louis, and Columbia.

If you don't buy recreational marijuana, you don't pay anything. Taxing recreational marijuana will help support public safety by working on additional efforts to protect the health of children through resource officer education programs. There will also be increased officer patrol and traffic enforcement to maintain safety on roadways, as well as additional officers to combat the illegal selling, purchasing, and trafficking of marijuana. New dispensaries will require efforts by law enforcement to ensure compliance with local and state laws. If you would like to learn more about the recreational marijuana tax, click the link below.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## PUBLICLY-FUNDED LIBRARY CENTER FOR TANEY COUNTY

On Tuesday, August 8, voters will be asked to vote YES for a PUBLICLY-FUNDED Library Center for Taney County. The Taneyhills Library has been serving Taney County since 1933, and as a privately-funded, not-for-profit library that survives on private donations, used book sales, and a thrift store. Those funding sources are not adequate to keep the Taneyhills Library open past the end of 2023.

Library centers are a community asset, providing digital resources, online access, enrichment programs and continuing education for all. Libraries offer space for study, meeting, and collaboration, as well as essential business tools and services. Public Library Centers provide a welcoming common

as essential business to... and connect... Library Centers provide a welcoming common space where residents gather to improve our community and enhance our connections to one another and the world.

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## THE LIFE & TIMES OF OLD MATT AND AUNT MOLLIE

Harold Bell Wright had a special connection with J.K. and Anna Ross who would become the inspiration for Old Matt and Aunt Mollie Matthews, key roles in *The Shepherd of the Hills* novel. The novel, published in 1907, was the first to sell one million copies in the United States. It changed the Ross's lives and this region forever.

The public is invited to enjoy "The Life and Times of Old Matt and Aunt Mollie" at the next Tuesday Talk, on August 15, at 12:30 p.m. at the Branson Centennial Museum, 120 South Commercial Street in Historic Downtown Branson. John Fullerton, an esteemed area historian and author, has an upcoming book on life in Garber, Missouri, where the Ross's relocated after their famous homestead became known worldwide.

**Tuesday, August 15 | 12:30 PM**  
**Branson Centennial Museum**  
**120 South Commercial Street**  
**Branson, MO 65616**





## MISSOURI'S SALES TAX-FREE WEEKEND IN BRANSON

Missouri's annual Back-to-School State Tax-Free Weekend happens every year on the first full weekend in August. The 2023 tax holiday is slated August 4-6. During this three-day period, you can purchase items such as school supplies, clothing and computers without paying the local and state sales tax. To learn more about Tax-Free Weekend, click the link below.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## GENERATIVE AI USE CASES IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Chris Adams, Head of Research and Insights at Miles Partnership, wrote an article describing the foundations of generative AI and some core principles in thinking about its use in travel and tourism. In the second blog of its series, he looks at five broad areas where generative AI can be implemented in tourism and hospitality organizations. This includes content, marketing, advertising, trip planning, and more. Click the link below to read more about how you can implement AI in the Travel and Tourism industry.

[READ MORE](#)

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(417) 324-7600

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