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SO LONG GENE!
 Community says goodbye at Gene Austin's retirement reception **PAGE 4A**

LEADER & TIMES
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INSIDE

DOWNLOAD THE FREE LAMAR & WHEEL APP TO YOUR SMART PHONE **SEEKING THE BARK OF GREAT GARDENS, HAPPY MEMORIES**



Robert Davis, Extension Specialist, Horticulture, University of Missouri Extension, is shown here giving tips on how to plant for the spring.

Planting tips, when real spring arrives

As a gardener, you know that the best time to plant is when the soil is warm and the weather is mild. This is the time when plants can establish themselves and grow without the stress of extreme temperatures. Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your garden this year.

1. **Soil Temperature:** Most plants prefer soil temperatures between 60°F and 70°F. Use a soil thermometer to check the temperature in different areas of your garden.

2. **Watering:** Plants need consistent moisture, especially during the first few weeks after planting. Water deeply and regularly, but avoid overwatering.

3. **Shading:** Young plants are sensitive to direct sunlight. Use shade cloth or other methods to protect them from harsh rays.

4. **Soil Preparation:** Amend the soil with compost or fertilizer to provide essential nutrients for your plants.

5. **Planting Depth:** Make sure plants are planted at the correct depth to ensure their roots are in contact with the soil.

Garden City school district community approach differs from that of Liberal

Garden City school district officials say their approach to budgeting and community involvement differs significantly from that of Liberal. The district is focused on long-term sustainability and transparency in its financial decisions.

Superintendent [Name] stated that the district's approach is more collaborative, involving parents and community members in the decision-making process. This includes regular town hall meetings and open houses where residents can voice their concerns and suggestions.

In contrast, the Liberal school district has been criticized for a more top-down approach to budgeting. Recent cuts in funding have led to concerns about the quality of education and the impact on students.

The Garden City district is also investing in infrastructure and technology to improve the learning environment. This includes upgrading classrooms, purchasing new equipment, and providing professional development for teachers.

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