



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 3, 2018

Greene County Recorder's Office Recognized for Preservation Efforts After 2017 Current River Flood

The Greene County Recorder of Deeds Office is pleased to be among those recognized with the 2018 Jonas Viles Award for their work preserving records after severe weather impacted important public documents in southeast Missouri.

Last spring, multiple days of heavy rains caused the Current River to flow over its banks and flood the Carter County Courthouse in Van Buren, Mo. Recorders from across the state responded to help restore vital computer systems as well as dry permanent paper records. Due to this response, The Friends of the Missouri State Archives recognized the Recorders' Association of Missouri, of which the Greene County Recorder's Office is a part, with the Jonas Viles Award.

"Recorders understand the value and importance of the documents we are entrusted with, that's why in a disaster situation like the one in Carter County we didn't hesitate to respond," said Greene County Recorder of Deeds Cheryl Dawson-Spaulding. "People were going to need copies of their land records in order to file insurance claims and begin the process of rebuilding, so we were happy to do what we could to help - even if that was only putting dry sheets in between book pages."

The Jonas Viles Award is named after the University of Missouri professor who rescued thousands of documents from the capitol after a fire in 1911. The namesake award is given each year to a person or institution that has made a significant contribution to the preservation of Missouri's heritage.

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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

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