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Volume 11 • Number 13

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

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by Tom Tock

The Steven F. Udvar-Hazy annex of the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum, Chantilly, Virginia, now hangs the very special airplane belonging to John Damgard, formerly of Dwight, now of Washington, D.C.

Damgard used to leisurely fly his World War II PT-22 trainer up and down the Potomac River while he exchanged waves with golfers who looked up at the distinctive sound of the five-cylinder radial engine, but he tired of dealing with the Washington area ADIZ (Air Defense Identification Zone) regulations that were instituted after 9-11.

His PT-22 did not have a radio or transponder, and to fly it was "a bureaucratic nightmare." A friend suggested he donate the airplane to a museum.

The museum turned out to be the Smithsonian annex, attesting to the fact this PT-22 is, indeed, a very special airplane. It hangs in the WWII part of the annex, not far from such historic craft as the *Enola Gay*, the B29 that dropped the first atomic bomb on Japan.

The Ryan PT-22 was the first low-wing monoplane used for primary pilot train-

ing in WWII. It allowed its pilots to make a smoother transition to the high-performance fighters that were rapidly being developed for service against Germany and Japan.

(One of these fighters, the inverted gull-wing Corsair, was flown from WWII aircraft carriers by Damgard's uncle, the late Richard Oughton of Dwight.)

There were some 1,300 PT-22s that were built to different specifications during World War II. Damgard's PT-22A was the third of 25 ordered by the Netherlands East Indies for service as floatplanes in 1942, but the sale fell through when the NEI surrendered to the Japanese. The planes instead went to the U.S. Army Air Force, with regular landing gear, for use as trainers.

John Damgard is the son of Ted and Dorothy Oughton Damgard. His father owned Illinois Valley Ice Cream Co. in Streator, which distributed its products over a four-state area.

John was born in Ottawa, where he learned to fly as a young man. He moved to Dwight in 1965, living at 315 N. Prairie Avenue until 1970, during which time he worked for the ice cream company and also had interests in the



JOHN DAMGARD stands alongside his vintage PT-22 Recruit which was recently accepted for display in the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy annex of the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum.

First National Bank of Dwight and in area farmland.

During this period, he owned a Ryan Navion private plane that was hangared at Dave and Jeanne Constantine's Dwight Aero.

In 1970 John moved to Washington, D.C., becoming a part of the Nixon White House. He was in charge of campaign logistics when Nixon made his successful run for re-election in 1972.

Damgard also served as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture under Earl Butz.

In 1982 he became president of the Futures Industry Association in Washington. He recently testified before a congressional committee on stimulus legislation.

Damgard resides in Kalorama, Washington, D.C., a neighbor of Ted Kennedy, but, "I still consider myself a native Illinoisan and local

resident," he told *The Paper*.

He will never sever ties with Washington, of course, or with the distinctive sound of the PT-22's radial and the aerial views he witnessed from above the Potomac.

(Damgard and his PT-22 were featured on the inside back page of the March 2009 edition of *Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association* magazine.)

No User Fee Increases for Dwight Residents; Loan Extension Being Considered

by Madelyn Fogarty
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

Village of Dwight residents will not see any increase in user fees for the coming fiscal year—that was a key message as the Dwight Village Board approved the 2009 – 2010 fiscal year budget during its March 23 session.

Village Administrator Kevin McNamara presented the \$9,046,155 balanced spending plan. According to McNamara, the budget reflects the Village's financial condition and its slow rate of economic growth along with the continued turnaround in the National and State economies. Sales tax revenues, the largest revenue source for the Village, are

projected to be 12 percent lower than the past year.

Despite the sagging economy, residential garbage rates will remain frozen and no increases are planned for water rates, sewer rates, ambulance rates, property taxes, permit fees, swimming pool and recreation fees.

Also reflective of the tight economic picture, and in an effort to keep village finances stable, full-time village employees will not receive any pay increases this year.

Two new funds totaling \$55,000 are included in the General Fund budget for programs intended to stimulate small business retail growth. The funds are designated for a rent subsidy pro-

gram to encourage new retail businesses to occupy vacant buildings and a commercial rehab loan program intended for the redevelopment and revitalization of the Village's central business district. The programs have not yet received board approval.

Prior to budget approval, a public hearing took place to consider borrowing \$2 million at the same time the current 1994 Water Bonds are refinanced. Refinancing of the remaining \$1.8 million water improvement loan balance could reduce the interest rate by more than 3%. The proposal to add an additional \$2 million to the loan would not increase the current yearly loan payment, but would add eight more years (continued on page 3)



VILLAGE OF ESSEX CANDIDATES and Essex residents mingle during an informal meet-and-greet held Sunday, March 29, at Essex Lions Community Hall.

Hakey, Kirchner for Essex Village President

In Essex, incumbent Village President Gerald Hakey will be challenged by Glen A. Kirchner Jr.

- **Jerry Hakey, Essex**
- **Candidate for Essex Village President**
- **Place of Employment: Hakey Builders (owner)**
- **Has lived in the voting district 44 years**
- **Family includes Susan, wife of 44 years; two children, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild**

Hakey says he has three basic concerns: safety, family and community. He says he plans to "continue to improve the living conditions for the residents of the Village of Essex" and to "control the type of village growth to maintain a small-town atmosphere."

Hakey said he wants to "accelerate our village drainage program to clean all ditches, culverts and catch basins this coming year" and "acquire monies to fund a village drinking water system." He also plans to "expand our village website that is now up and running" and has an interest in "support of our 'It Takes a Village' program to benefit our children."

- **Glenn Kirchner, Essex**
- **Candidate for Essex Village President**
- **Place of Employment: Retired Laborer with Local 75, retired Vietnam Veteran, local farmer, Village of Essex maintenance worker**
- **Lifelong resident of Essex**

• **Married 27 years to Carolyn; son, Michael Kirchner; daughter, Tracy (Jason) Selock; and grandsons Drake and Austin Selock**

"I am running for office to bring new ideas and programs into the village. The people of Essex deserve positive changes.

"I would like to improve the village parks and volunteer fire department by searching for funding and creating opportunities for open communication. I anticipate being able to improve the city drainage system, which would reduce the amount of water backup. I would also like to reduce costs for waste removal for residents of the village by investigating recycling programs."

INSIDE *The Paper* TODAY!

Paper Circulation Area Candidates Bios
PAGES 12 - 17

CONSOLIDATED ELECTION APRIL 7, 2009!

Some Didn't Return Surveys or Won't Hold Elections

Several candidates who received a questionnaire from *The Paper* for the upcoming April 7 election did not respond.

Candidates in specific towns who did not respond are listed in stories about another race in that town.

However, none of the candidates in the following towns or school districts turned in questionnaires, or the town had special circumstances:

stances:

Gardner: The village operates under commission form, in which the mayor and four trustees are all elected at once every four years. They won't be up for election for another two years.

Braceville: The village also isn't holding elections this year.

Cabery: No one is running for mayor of Cabery.

Current Mayor Ron Shank chose not to run for re-election. Four trustee incumbents will seek re-election: Joe Richie, Cindy Clapp, Valerie Wright and Jean Foltz. Those trustees will appoint a mayor after the election.

South Wilmington School Board: In South Wilmington Grade School District 74, three incumbents are running for the board's (continued on page 14)

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

Mar. 19: Damion E. Swoke, 19, Dwight, speeding (radar), 50/30; Jodi L. Kapper, 32, Dwight, no valid driver's license; Christopher S. Mascolo, 25, Dwight, in-state warrant.

Mar. 21: Stephen E. King, 59, Chicago, suspended, revoked driver's license; Nicholas M. Schmitz, 20, Downers Grove, speeding (radar), 72/55; Cole D. Libby, 17, Dwight, no valid driver's license; Damion E. Swoke, 19, Dwight, criminal damage to property.

Mar. 22: Carl J. Vanderpohl, 31, Dwight, suspended, revoked driver's license.

Mar. 23: Heather J. Brune, 27, Naperville, speeding (radar), 50/30.

Mar. 24: Gary W. Bevills, 63, Manteno, speeding (radar), 71/55; Harvey C. Riley, 28, Dwight, in-state warrant (2), out-of-state warrant.

Mar. 25: Christopher S. Watters, 26, Dwight, in-state warrant.

Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

Mar. 19: 3000 N. Rd., fire.

Mar. 20: Chippewa, trauma, St. James; 3200 N. Rd., medical, Morris.

Mar. 22: Prairie-Mazon, medical, Morris, mutual aid to Mazon; Stonewall, trauma, refusal.

Mar. 23: Delaware, citizen assist; Mazon, medical, Riverside; Mazon, medical, Streater; South, trauma, Morris; Seminole, citizen assist.

Mar. 24: Fox Center, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Pontiac; Clinton, medical, Pontiac; I-55, trauma, Gardner.

Mar. 25: Heritage Manor, medical, Morris.

Mar. 26: 3200 N., medical, Morris; Seminole, medical, Morris.

11 Warnings Issued by Dwight Police

Speeding (radar), 6; improper lighting - one headlamp, 2; disobeying traffic control device, 2; failure to wear seatbelt, 1.

Temps - 2009

Mar. 18 - high 61°, low 29°
Mar. 19 - high 52°, low 20°
Mar. 20 - high 47°, low 22°
Mar. 21 - high 62°, low 29°
Mar. 22 - high 64°, low 30°
Mar. 23 - high 60°, low 41°
Mar. 24 - high 71°, low 38°
.13" rain

One Year Ago - Apr. 1, 2008
high 41°, low 29°

No User Fee Increases for Dwight Residents; - - -

(continued from page 1)
to the life of the loan moving the end date to 2022. Currently the bond can be paid with water proceeds. Additionally, the village plans to refinance the 1997 General Obligation Bonds for debt incurred through construction of Dwight's Public Services Complex. \$772,585 remains from the original \$1,275,000 debt. Interest rate on the original loan was 5.35%. By refinancing, an estimated \$37,000 will be saved in interest. The loan is currently scheduled to expire in 2016.

The added \$2 million in water improvement monies would be earmarked for water related projects including replacement of 17,500 lineal foot of water line at an estimated cost of \$1,575,000; painting of the north and south water towers at \$200,000; Generators for Wells 8 and 9 at \$90,000; and replacement of 25

hydrants at \$50,000.

Sighting current low interest rates and the possibility of lower bids given the struggling job market, McNamara recommended adding the \$2 million additional debt now so as not to incur even more cost at a later date when interest rates return to a higher rate. As an alternative, McNamara explained that the village could wait until 2014 when the current loan is closed, to do any type of water project. However, with eight water line breaks last year, moving forward with replacement of the aging lines now would be most cost effective.

Three residents offered public comment at the hearing and questioned the timing of borrowing additional money and expressed concern about the need for fiscal responsibility. One resident questioned what benefits would be received from replacement of the water lines. The Village water

operator was on hand and explained that new lines would improve water quality and fire flow while reducing the need for continued repairs.

The board will make a decision on the water bond and additional loan recommendation at a later date.

In other business, the board

• learned that, following the April 7 election, swearing in of newly-elected village officials will take place at the May 11 meeting

• amended the 2008-09 budget to reflect using savings to bring the sewer and water funds into balance so as not to levy a tax increase

• passed an ordinance increasing Village parking violation fines from \$5 to \$25 effective April 1. However, fines will be reduced to \$10 if paid within

ten days

• approved paying ordinary bills totaling \$23,578.07

The next meeting of the Dwight Village Board of Trustees will take place April 13 in the Dwight Public Services Complex.



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Easter Passion Cantata to be Offered April 5 at Dwight UMC

The Dwight United Methodist Music Ministry's Cantata Choir, under the direction of Corilyn Hensel-McCullough, will feature *Worthy is the Lamb: A Passion Musical* Sunday, April 5, at 10:15 a.m. in the Dwight United Methodist Church's sanctuary.

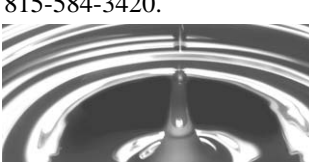
"After weeks and months of preparation, we are excited to offer this musical message of love and hope," said Hensel-McCullough, director of youth and music ministries at D-UMC. "*Worthy is the Lamb* is a scripturally-sound offering of Jesus' last days and features 11 beautiful songs, which include choral singing, solos, duets and sectional portions of music put to a wide range of rhythms, scores and tempos."


Worthy is the Lamb covers the time in Jesus' life from Palm Sunday until Easter morning at the resurrection. Costumed children, youth and adults will come together, blessing others and offering all glory to God as they journey from the marketplace in Jerusalem, to the temple, to the Upper Room where Jesus offered the last supper, to the garden where he was arrested and to the tomb where he was laid and from which he rose again.

Ellie Bossert, D-UMC organist, serves as accompanist to the group of more than 30 singers and actors. The presentation itself is a combination of live performance and media support. There are portions of live action, songs scripted for the story of Jesus' passion, the spoken words of his disciples and video clips; together, they offer a variety of sensory mediums as the choir sings songs of joy, turmoil, pain, hope, death and ultimately life.

"It is absolutely amazing to see everyone putting forth so much of themselves for this musical," Hensel-McCullough added.

All are invited to *Worthy is the Lamb*. For more information, call the church at 815-584-3420.





DWIGHT'S CADETTE AND SENIOR TROOP 1231 and one troop member from Junior troop 1438 went to a quilter's group at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Dwight. The girls learned about quilting and sewing. The lap quilts that will be made will be donated to nursing homes in the area. The quilters at St. Peter's are a not-for-profit group who generously gave their time and talent to show the girls basic quilting and sewing skills.

Vacancy on Livingston County Board


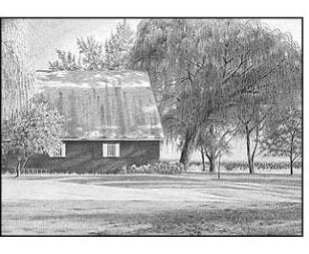
At the March 12 Livingston County Board meeting, County Board Chairman William Fairfield announced that there was a vacancy in District #1 due to the death of Frank Deninger. This district consists of Pontiac and Rooks Creek townships. By statute, this vacancy shall be filled within 60 days by appointment of the chair of the county board, with the advice and consent of the county board.

The appointed individual shall be someone from the same political party, shall

reside in District #1 and shall serve through November 30, 2010. The vacated position shall be filled by election in the November 2, 2010 General Election.

The chair has appointed an ad hoc/advisory committee consisting of the board members and the Republican precinct committeepersons from District #1, which has the vacancy. This committee will have no binding decisional authority and will solely act as an advisory committee for the purpose of advising the board chairman. A meeting of the advisory committee has been tentatively set for Thursday, April 2, at 6 p.m. in the County Board Room.

After having received the advice of the ad/hoc advisory committee, the chairman will announce the appointment at the April 16 meeting of the county board. Anyone interested in applying for this appointment shall be a registered Republican, shall reside in District #1 (Pontiac and Rooks Creek townships) and was asked to send a letter of intent and a brief biography prior to Monday, March 30, to Bill Fairfield, County Board Office, or Kristy Masching, County Clerk; 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

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How to Invest During a Recession

We are now finishing the 16th month of the recession, which began in December 2007, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. Not only is this a long recession, but it's also a severe one, marked by painfully high levels of job losses, a sharply reduced credit flow and a drop in the value of many investments. Still, despite all the bad news, there are valid reasons to believe that brighter days lie ahead. But you don't have to wait for things to turn around before taking steps to help your own financial future.

Here are some actions to consider:

- Don't cut back on your 401(k). During difficult economic times, it's hard for many people to assume their jobs are safe. But if you are fairly confident your employment situation is secure, continue investing in your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. The tax advantages of these types of plans – not to mention the employer's match, if one is offered – make them ideal savings vehicles for retirement. Of course, your plan probably has taken a hit over the past year, but that's the case for many investments. If you've chosen a good mix of investments, your plan should recover at some point.
- Diversify, diversify, diversify. Generally speaking, it's not a good idea to tie up more than 5 percent of your portfolio in a single investment. Spread your investment dollars among a wide range of stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit and other securities. For a rough idea on how well you've diversified, ask yourself: "If the value of a few of my stocks and bonds declined and didn't recover, would it be extremely painful for me financially?" If the answer is "yes," you probably need more diversification. Of course, diversification by itself cannot guarantee a profit or protect against loss, but it can give you more chances for success and reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio.
- Think long term. Your investments may have lost 30 percent to 40 percent of their value from October 2007 to the present – which may seem like a long time. Yet quality investments often need much longer periods to show significant growth. So while it can be painful to endure short-term losses, you need to develop the discipline to hold your investments for many years.
- Don't reach for high yields. When the stock market is down, many investors turn to bonds that offer high yields, reasoning that bonds are always safer than stocks. Don't be fooled into this line of thinking; high-yield bonds mean high-risk bonds. If the issuer defaults, you could lose your principal. Stick with investment-grade bonds.
- Look for opportunities. Instead of avoiding the financial markets, look for good investment opportunities. Because investment prices have fallen so much, your dollars can now buy more shares. Historically, buying shares at lower prices has often led to higher returns over the long term. If you're receiving dividends, now is an especially good time to reinvest them.

You probably can't avoid all the negative effects of the recession. But by following the above suggestions, you can help avoid getting thrown off track on your journey toward your financial goals.



THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY held its annual induction ceremony Tuesday, March 17, at Dwight Township High School. Dr. Pat Halloran, DTHS alumnus, was the guest speaker. New 2009 inductees include, left to right, front row: Doug Black, Kaitlynn Muller, Stephany Small, Nicole Rosales, Mary Kallas; second row, Mallorie Rosales, Nolan Hoffman, Jason Karstens, Brianna Vigna, Karly Feddersen. Current National Honor Society members include, third row, Kristen Sanders, Cameron Anderson, Beth Launius, Marissa Olsen, Gerry Holmes, Jared Perry, Paige Nelson, Kirbie Gereaux, Christina Zavala; back row, Kate Tock, Ryan Kaiser, Michael Halloran, Jamie Frazier, Joe Briner, Dillon Harris, Kolby Hoffman, Chaney Tambling.

Permits Issued in Dwight

The following permits were issued at the March 23 Dwight Village Board meeting:

Jan. 11: Walt Watchinski, 109 W. Delaware St., fence; Tracie Wargo and Todd Bean, 211 N. Franklin St., fence.

Jan. 15: Cris Lehman, 326 W. William St., demo of garage; DeLong Ford Mercury, 210 E. Delaware St., demo of building.

Mar. 16: Thomas Christenson, 604 S. Chicago St., shed.

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Children's Easter Activities in Dwight

Dwight Main Street will sponsor children's Easter activities Saturday, April 11, beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Children and parents are invited to come downtown to the depot for games and visits with the Easter Bunny. Food will also be available.

For more information, call the Dwight Main Street office at 815-584-1830.

Elect Jerry Curtis Mayor of Dwight

Join us for our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt** at **HERITAGE MANOR DWIGHT**

Good Friday at 2 p.m.

Age Groups: 0-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
300 E. Mazon Ave., Dwight
815-584-1240

The Easter Bunny will be here, too.

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NCUA

Re-Elect JERRY HAKEY

Your Essex Village President, April 7

Polls Open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Essex Village Hall

paid for by candidate

Re-Elect VINCE BOLATTO

Your Essex Township Road Commissioner, April 7

Polls Open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Essex Village Hall

paid for by candidate



Easter Egg Hunt April 11 in Dwight

The Dwight Lions' annual Easter egg hunt will be held Saturday, April 11, at 10 a.m. at the east pavilion of Renfrew Park.

The age categories will be toddlers through three years old; four years old through kindergarten; first and second grades; and third and fourth grades. There will be cash prizes awarded in each age group to those finding the "golden eggs," and every egg hunter will go home with eggs and a bag of candy provided by the Dwight Lions Club.

In case of inclement weather, the eggs and candy will be distributed at Dwight Township High School.

Cabery Easter Egg Hunt to be Held April 4

Cabery's United Methodist Ladies will sponsor an Easter egg hunt Saturday, April 4, at 1:30 p.m. in the west yard of the church.

All children in Cabery and surrounding areas are invited to attend. There will be cupcakes for the children.

Age categories will be one to four years, five to eight years and nine to 12 years. Prizes will be awarded in each category, and money will be awarded to the child who finds the golden egg.

The Easter egg hunt is "BYOB" – bring your own baskets.

Dwight Seniors Duplicate Bridge Results

The results of the duplicate bridge game played on March 26 at the Dwight Senior Citizens Center are as follows:

North-South: first, D. Christenson/M. Carter; second, L. Fuerstenberg/D. Slatery; third, L. Houck/M. Mueller.

East-West: first, E. Andrews/L. Patchett; second, S. Spandet/J. Gross and N. Houck/C. Bush; third, P. Harding/L. O'Connell.

The next game will be played at the senior center on Thursday, April 9.

Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt, Herscher

Herscher United Methodist Church invites all Pre-K through sixth graders to a flashlight easter egg hunt on Tuesday, April 7, at 7 p.m. at the church.

Prizes, candy, snacks and fun will be provided. Bring your flashlight and a friend! No registration required.



John Hartzell and Amy Morell

John Hartzell, Amy Morell to Wed June 27

Steve and Holly Hartzell of Dwight are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, John Hartzell of Bryant, AR, to Miss Amy Morell of North Little Rock, AR. Amy is the daughter of Joe and Jessie Morell of Mountain View, AR.

Amy is an R.N. at the Pulaski Surgical Center. John is a senior design engineer at Parker Mobile.

The wedding will take place June 27, 2009, at Flatwoods Missionary Baptist Church in Mountain View, AR.



Dode and Don Humbert

Don Humberts to Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Don Humbert will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on April 4.

Their children will hold an open house for them Sunday, April 5, at the Dwight Country Club, from 1 to 4 p.m. Some invitations have been sent, but all friends and relatives are invited.

Don and Dode were married in Kankakee on April 4, 1959. Their attendants were Joe and Bev Campbell.

They are the parents of seven children: Mike (Gail) Humbert, Peg (Mike) Graham, Bill Humbert, and Dan Humbert, all of Dwight; Donna (Mark) Potaczek of Genoa; Mary (Tom) Knight of Westville, IN; and Sharon (Jim) Peterson of Morris.

They are the grandparents of Kelli and Stephanie Humbert of Dwight and Emma Peterson of Morris. They also have four step-grandchildren, Mike and David Graham of Dwight and Danny and Kelly Knight of Indiana.

There are also two step-great-grandchildren, Blake and Logan Graham of Dwight.

Humane Society to Host Events

The Livingston County Humane Society will hold an Easter bake sale at Kmart in Pontiac on Saturday, April 11, beginning at 9 a.m.

The society will also hold a "Super Adoptathon" at Pontiac Family Video from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the same day.

Health & Happiness AT HERITAGE MANOR

If you are looking for a place to call home, whether for you or a loved one, look no further than Heritage Manor-Dwight.

We offer a variety of skilled nursing services, including therapy and short-stay rehabilitation services.

Call us today: (815) 584-1240.

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Elect

Mike Haberkorn

for Broughton Township Road Commissioner

April 7 PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

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The Paper

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Conklin's
Barn II Dinner Theatre
Bob Lane Jr. & Pat Galk starring in the priceless comedy hit

CASH or DELIVERY
Thu-Sat eve & Sun brunch thru April 26
309-965-2545
Goodfield www.barn2.com



MIXEN SUPPORTS NIELSEN FOR MAYOR

We have a choice to make in the upcoming election. There are three candidates for Mayor, but there is only ONE right man for the job. Gibbs Nielsen has been an active member of the Dwight Village Board for several years. I have had the pleasure of working with Gibbs for the last six years: two years as Dwight Village Trustee and the last four years as Mayor. Although we have had our differences, I can guarantee Gibbs will keep fighting for Dwight. When questions arise, the first thing Gibbs considers is what expense will be made to the people of Dwight and how the community members will be affected. As a businessman, Gibbs has first hand knowledge of what it takes to keep this community running. He knows how to keep spending to a minimum, while also giving the residents of Dwight the services they have come to enjoy. The other two candidates have been saying what they will do, but have NOT said anything about where the funds will come from. Four years ago you elected me as your mayor because you were tired of the way the former mayor ran our town. If you wrongly choose to elect Jerry Curtis as your next mayor you may as well have the previous mayor back, because they are all one and the same. Another wrong choice is Bill Wilkey; from what I have read on his website, he does not know the difference between fact and fiction. Please join me in supporting Gibbs Nielsen as our next mayor of Dwight. You have given me four years of great support, and I am now asking you to give that same to our next mayor, GIBS NIELSEN. I love Dwight and so does Gibbs. I ask everyone else who loves Dwight to elect Gibbs Nielsen for Mayor, April 7.

Jim Mixen, Mayor

ELECT GIBS NIELSEN MAYOR

PAID FOR BY JIM MIXEN AND CITIZENS TO ELECT GIBS NIELSEN



Kennedy Rose Coffey

A girl!

Kurt and Kristin Noonan Coffey welcomed a daughter, Kennedy Rose Coffey, on March 17, 2009.

Kennedy was born at 12:01 p.m. at Morris Hospital. She weighed six pounds, four ounces and was 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Mike and Kathy Noonan of Dwight and Gary and Marylee Coffey of Ashmore.

Great-grandparents are Carol Mixen of Dwight, Daah Franey of Chatsworth, Kenneth and Wanda Coffey of Ashmore and Leland and Patricia Hawkins of Kansas, Illinois.



Peyton Maxwell Clark

A boy!

Maxx and Ashley Clark of Braceville welcomed their first child, a son, Peyton Maxwell Clark, on February 4, 2009.

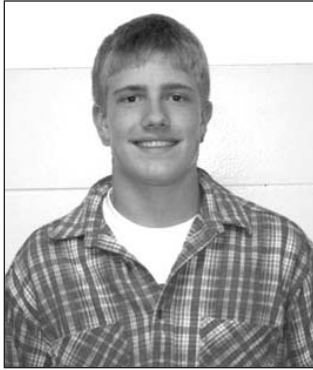
Peyton weighed in at five pounds, 15 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Mark and Melba Clark of Reddick and Mark and Michelle Opyd of Gardner, and the late Debra Opyd, who is with us in spirit.

Peyton's great grandparents are Marcus Clark of Piper City, Elizabeth Opyd of Gardner, Mildred Turner of Custer Park and Barbara Bryant of South Wilmington.

Peyton is named for his father.

DTHS Student of the Month



Ben Trainor

Dwight Township High School would like to congratulate Ben Trainor on being named DTHS Freshman student of the month for March.

Ben is active in FCCLA, band, golf, basketball and baseball.

He is the son of Chuck and Kim Trainor of Dwight.

Wind Farm Suit Dismissed

The lawsuit filed to block the Cayuga Ridge South Wind Farm has been dismissed, allowing work to continue.

Ford County Circuit Judge Stephen Pacey dismissed with prejudice the People Protecting Cayuga Ridge lawsuit against the wind farm developer. That means the lawsuit cannot be filed again.

Iberdrola Renewables Inc.'s \$1.5 billion plan is to build 150 turbines across 15,000 acres between Odell and Emington.



Ben Montalbano

Montalbano Awarded 'Best Performance'

At the IHSA State Solo and Ensemble Contest held Saturday, March 7, at Clifton Central High School, Dwight Township High School student Ben Montalbano's piano solo was selected "Best Performance of the Day."

The judge in each of the contest rooms is asked to choose one performance they consider the best of the day. Congratulations, Ben!

Dwight All-town Garage Sales May 1-3

Dwight's all-town garage sales will be held the weekend of May 1 through 3 (Friday through Sunday).

You may stop in the Dwight Public Services Complex to sign up a sale, pay for a listing and pick up a garage sale sign. The deadline for sign-ups is Monday, April 27.

E-mail us at:
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@sbcglobal.net

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Food, Fun & Entertainment

Team Trivia Night
at Slammer's Bar & Grill
HAS BEEN CHANGED to...
FRIDAY, APRIL 10
at 6:30 p.m. → Mark Your Calendar!

GREAT Meatless Specials for Good Friday!
Call ahead to reserve your table!

410 E. Mazon Ave., Dwight
(Located on Route 17)
815-584-2724

FRIDAYS

April 3

- JT's Saloon: MaD DJ
- Vivid Spirit: Junkyard Dogs

April 10

- Slammer's Lounge: Team Trivia
- Vivid Spirit: Curtis & the Mayfield

April 17

- Vivid Spirit: Band T.B.A.
- The Garage: Table Tennis Tourney

April 24

- Vivid Spirit: Cattle Bandits

JT's Saloon
The Bar with Lots of Character

Come and Help Celebrate Our 2nd Anniversary!

Giveaways and Drink Specials

Thanks to all of our great customers!

Friday, April 3
MaD DJ

Saturday, April 4
Soccer Mom

For more information on all of your entertainment needs, Visit us at www.JTsSaloon.com or call at 1-888-584-9510 or 815-584-9510
118 East Main Street, Dwight

NOW Serving Food!
11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Daily

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Public Always Welcome

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Now Serving -
Blue Gill, Alaskan Cod, Lake Perch, Whole Catfish, Catfish Filet, Jumbo Shrimp, Italian Beef Sandwiches, Chicken Tenders

FULL SERVICE BAR with Daily Drink Specials

\$1 OFF ANY Dinner
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Phone: 815-476-9210

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SATURDAYS

April 4

- JT's Saloon: Soccer Mom
- Vivid Spirit: Old Brat Bastards

April 11

- The Garage: Headwall
- Vivid Spirit: Lock Force

April 18

- Vivid Spirit: Kilbourne Alley
- The Garage: The Clients

April 25

- Vivid Spirit: For Cryin' Out Loud

Don't Forget to Get Your Food, Fun and Entertainment in June! Call The Paper Today, for more information. 815-584-1901!

COUPON

That 50's Place Restaurant

Any 16" Large Pizza \$4.00 OFF with coupon

Friday, April 3 and Saturday, April 4
Dine In Only

50's PLACE

1-55 & Route 17, Dwight
(Just off Old Route 66)
815-584-1065

COUPON

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Breakfast - 7 days a week
Monday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.;
Sunday 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday Specials:
April 1 - 1/4 Chicken & Spaghetti with garlic bread or Chicken Dinner
April 8 - BBQ Rib Dinner or Chicken Dinner
April 15 - 1/4 Chicken & Spaghetti with garlic bread or Chicken Dinner
April 22 - Steak Fry Dinner or Chicken Dinner

Lunch Specials Daily

Carryout Available

Bar & Grill THE GARAGE

- Open Every Day - All Day
Bar: 815-237-0000
Grill: 815-237-2762
Sun-Thurs 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri & Sat 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Delivery Hours 4:30 - Close

SCORE A 'TRIPLE PLAY' AFTER YOUR BALL GAME!
Large Cheese Pizza, One Appetizer, and Pitcher of Pop
ONLY \$20

NEW SPECIALS COMING SOON!
wraps, salads, and more...

Grill OPEN Easter Sunday 4-8 p.m.
dine-in, carryout and delivery
BAR OPEN ALL DAY!

Saturday, April 11
Headwall 9 p.m.- 1 a.m.

Friday, April 17
Table Tennis Tourney "Hardbat" presented by Budweiser
if you win at The Garage, you will advance to "Hero's" for a chance at a Las Vegas Getaway!

Saturday, April 18
The Clients 9 p.m.- 1 a.m.

70 RICE ST., SOUTH WILMINGTON

Happy Easter from all at The Garage!

COUPON

DQ Cakes

How About an Ice Cream Cake for Easter?

Mom Would Love One on Mother's Day, Too!

\$3.00 OFF w/coupon Any 8", 10" or Sheet Cake

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11 A.M. - 1 A.M. DAILY • NOON - 1 A.M. SUNDAY
USE THE NORTH ENTRANCE • CARRY OUT AVAILABLE
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ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, April 3:
Junkyard Dawgs 9pm-1am

Friday, April 10:
Curtis & the Mayfield 9pm-1am

Friday, April 17:
Band T.B.A. 9pm-1am

Friday, April 24:
Cattle Bandits 9pm-1am

Saturday, April 4:
Old Brat Bastards 9pm-1am

Saturday, April 11:
Lock Force 9pm-1am

Saturday, April 18:
Kilbourne Alley 9pm-1am

Saturday, April 25:
For Cryin' Out Loud 8pm-Midnight

www.vividspirit.net

HIGH POINT Golf Club

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- Open for Lunch -
Daily Specials
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309 High Point Drive • Essex, IL 60935
815-365-4000

Book Tee Times: www.golflighthouse.com & 815-365-GOLF

Dwight Peace Meals

Wed., April 1: Sweet and sour chicken, baked rice, lime gelatin with pears, wheat bread, cookie or brownie.

Thurs., April 2: Meatloaf with gravy, mashed potatoes, orange glazed beets, wheat bread, cherry salad.

Fri., April 3: Trout melt, baked beans, creamy cole slaw, wheat bread, cinnamon roll.

Mon., April 6: BBQ beef, scalloped corn, peas and carrots, bun, fresh fruit.

Tues., April 7: Brunswick stew, green beans with pimiento and onion, roll, gelatin fruit salad.

Wed., April 8: Settlers beef and beans, warm cinnamon roll, applesauce, wheat bread, pumpkin bars.

Thurs., April 9: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, Capri blend vegetables, wheat bread, cake.

Milk is served each day.
Call 584-2007 to make a reservation.

Small Talk

by Anne Shaw Heinrich



A young couple allowed me to hold their baby a few weeks ago. It was good of them. I was a stranger to them, to this baby. But I have to admit, the experience was a little piece of heaven.

I'm a seasoned baby holder. I think this particular baby, and most babies, can tell right away that I know what I'm doing. I've got the whole thing down pat. Instinctively, I know just how to support little wobbly heads. I know when to start swaying back and forth, and when to stop. I'm totally on top of when to shift an infant from one hip onto the other. And, I'm pretty proud of the fact that I'm nonplussed about spit-up and drool, and all of those other secretions that come out of babies. What can I say? I'm a mother.

I don't get to hold babies as much as I'd like to these days. My own have moved way beyond the infant stage. Two of them are physically bigger than I am, and the third, well, she's just pretty offended to be called a baby.

When I do get my hands on a baby, I find myself remembering all of the things I like about them. They're just so cool. I love the way their little arms are still in sections. I love their chubby little hands that always feel kind of damp on the inside. I love their rounded, perfect feet and the way their chubby tummies pooch out there without any shame. They've got no qualms about putting any and everything into their perfect, pink little mouths. They look people over with wide open eyes, without apology, until they've figured out if they like you or not.

My own babies had enormous cheeks, almost from birth. I nursed all of them by moonlight and in broad daylight, in just about every possible position imaginable. I spent at least six years of my life with a child attached to my chest. I've nursed babies at the mall, in restaurants, at family gatherings, in my van, in my backyard, while working on the computer, in an art museum, while watching an Omnimax, 3-D movie, even while we toured a cave several hundred feet below the Earth's surface.

The first night we came home with our firstborn, Bret and I were nervous, exhausted wrecks. The poor little baby we'd brought home had to know that she got stuck with two of the biggest bumbleres imaginable. We were bleary-eyed newbies, truly not equipped to handle a newborn,

not even between the two of us.

But we got better. Just like any parents, we caught on fast. By the time our third and youngest daughter arrived, we were diaper-changing, drool-wiping, binky-wielding mavericks. We were parenting machines. Nothing spooked us. We could handle teething, fevers, raisins smashed into the carpet, gummy, gomme-up graham crackers, temper tantrums, projectile vomit and some diapers that could have been classified as hazardous waste. Our son liked to eat rocks and throw whatever he could find in the toilet. One of the girls' favorite pastimes was to pull all of the books from the shelves, over and over and over.

All of that part is a blur, and unfortunately, so are many of the warm and perfect moments as well. Our babies smiled at us with gummy, juicy grins. All three of them liked to pat my face as I rocked and nursed them for one last time before tucking them into their cribs. They reached their chubby arms up toward their daddy, so he'd pick them up. Occasionally, they fell asleep on Bret's chest. They all had deep, belly laughs and liked sitting on our laps. Sometimes, they cried when we left the room and they looked like sweet angel babies when they slept.

When I get the chance to hold a baby, all of that comes rushing back at me, and I get a lump in my throat because it all went by too fast. I realize that part of life for me is over, and I hope I held my babies enough. Did we savor it all like we should have? Did we realize as we tiptoed out of their rooms after tucking them into their cribs that it would all be a blur one day?

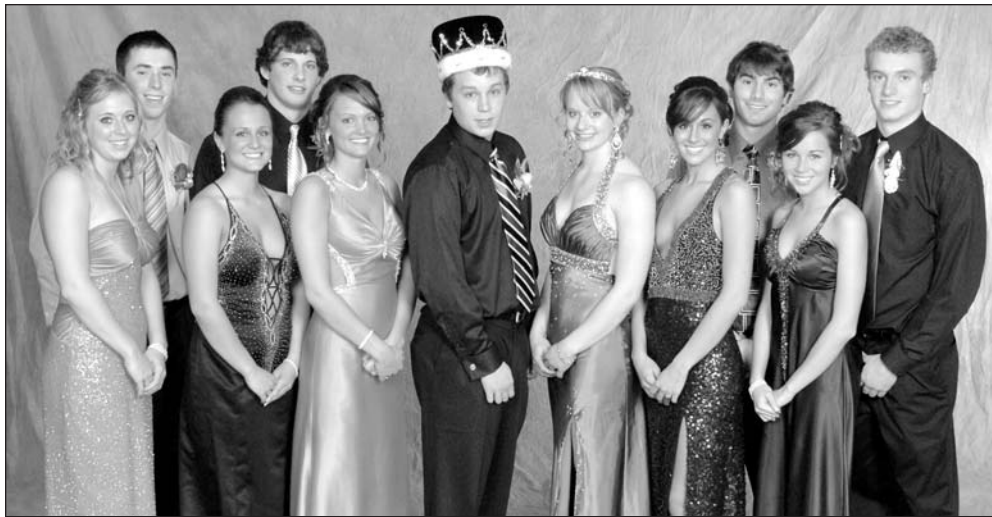
Maybe not.

Anne Shaw Heinrich is a freelance writer living in Dwight. Every time Small Talk is published, The Paper donates \$100 to an area non-profit organization or effort. Proceeds from this month's Small Talk will benefit Dwight Community Chest. To read past Small Talk columns, visit The Paper's website at www.thepaper1901.com. For more information about Heinrich and her writing, visit www.anneshawheinrich.com.

Conservation Grant Offered by USDA

For 2009, Illinois' USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will offer a new state component under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). It's called the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) program.

All application proposals must be submitted by May 1, 2009. Visit www.il.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig to learn more.

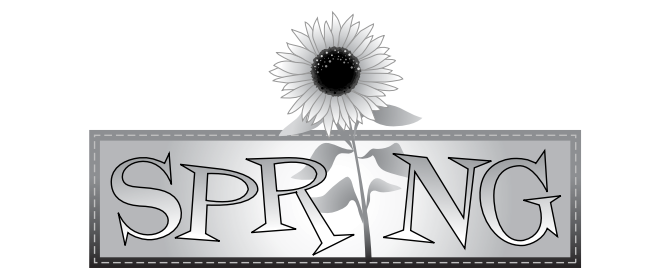


HERSCHER HIGH SCHOOL'S Winterball Court included seniors – Brea Ferris, Erik Tobey, Haley Michael, Nick Bond, Brittany Baker, King Alex Geistwhite, Queen Jordan Orr, Gwen Long, Matt Highland, Breanna Loving and Tom Kates. The dance, held February 14 at the school, was sponsored by NHS. The theme was *Shanghai Moon*.

Allen-Otter Creek C.C.S.D. #65 3rd Quarter Honor Roll - 2008-09

HIGH HONOR ROLL
5th grade: Diana Dobrzynski, Lauren Widman
6th grade: Dylan Emm, Dalton Hagi, Amy Ruder, Ashton Sennott
7th grade: Kimber Daly, Mason Kling, Jose Zamores
8th grade: Brian Bergeson, Abbey Boren, Regina Dawson, Shea Gabehart, Brendon Nichols, Kailey Rankin

HONOR ROLL
5th grade: Kevin Bergeson, Dylan DePaz, Alessandra Johnson, Dylan Kling, Paige Talty, Drew Travers
6th grade: Hallee Rothrock, Zachary Wheeler, Brenda Zamores
7th grade: Nick Hardgrove, Kylie Murphy, Brittany Shannon, Elizabeth Trowbridge
8th grade: Adam Armstrong, Ralph Lindsay,



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT – LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ANNELLISE COOKE, A Minor. NO.09-AD-2

ADOPTION NOTICE
 TO: All Whom It May Concern, Address Unknown
 TAKE NOTICE that a Petition was filed in the Circuit Court of Livingston County, Illinois, for the adoption of a minor child namely, ANNELLISE COOKE, A Minor. Now, therefore, unless you, ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, file your answer to the Petition in this cause of action or otherwise file your appearance herein, in said Circuit Court of Livingston County, in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, within 30 days after the first date of this Notice appears, default may be entered against you any time after that day and a Judgment entered in accordance with the Prayer of said Petition.

Dated at Pontiac, Illinois this 6th day of January, 2009
 Judith K. Cremer
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Livingston County, Illinois

Stop in & See Our Easter Basket Goodies

Something for Everyone on Your List.

Affordable Fashion Sunglasses for all ages

• TRACKSTERS- The NEW Virtual Reality Toy •
 -- www.tracksters.com --

Monogrammed Wine Glasses & Stoppers
 Wallets, Frames, Bags,
 Decanters & Serviceware

• New Spring Vera Bradley Prints •
 • Crocs in Great Spring Colors •
 • Prom Garters •

309 N. Liberty St.
 Morris
 815-941-4658

Thank You Mayor Jim for endorsing Grandpa Gibbs for Mayor

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS TO ELECT GIBS NIELSEN

HCCA Traveling to Krannert Center in Urbana-Champaign

On Wednesday, April 22, the Heritage Corridor Community Associates (HCCA) will sponsor a bus trip to the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

There will be a guided tour of Krannert Art Museum, which is the second-largest fine arts museum in Illinois. Lunch will be at Silver Creek. After lunch, there will be a guided tour of Krannert Center for Performing Arts.

The Krannert Center has served as one of the nation's premier educational and professional performing arts complexes.

Bus pickups will be in Morris, Ottawa and Peru. This event is open to HCCA members only, but prospective members may contact the membership chair, Susie Meehan, at 815-524-3396. Reservations are due April 13 to Vicki Henson at 815-223-1346.

Mazon-Verona-Kinsman Senior Citizens Hold Meeting

The Mazon-Verona-Kinsman senior citizens met Tuesday, March 17, at the Mazon Legion hall.

President Rita Mills gave a table grace, followed by a corned beef dinner prepared and served by Weits Cafe at a reduced cost for those 60 and over through CNN. Reservations or cancellations must be made by calling 815-634-8903 or 815-941-1590 by April 18.

President Mills started the business meeting by thanking CNN for providing the meals for seniors and the Morris group for their decorations. The pledge to the flag was given, followed by a silent prayer for sick members and our military and our political leaders.

A reading was given by Rita Mills. She also announced that on March 21, there would be a ham dinner at the Park Street Congregational Church in Mazon, a pork roast dinner at the Verona Methodist Church on March 28 and on March 24 there would be an informational meeting about the windmills at the Kinsman hall.

President Mills also noted there will be a pork chop dinner on April 24 put on by friends of 4-H, and members of the MVK seniors should make an auction basket for it. Bring any cooking item to do with baking to the first CNN dinner on April 7 and she will make up the basket.

Helen Griffiths suggested numbering the tables for all CNN dinners by rotating them.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were given and approved.

A "thank you" was read from the MVK food pantry for items donated by the club.

It was announced that Bruce Burkhart is at Heritage Manor in Dwight for therapy after hip surgery, and Lucille Good has been in the hospital.

The club celebrated the birthdays of Frank Hanley, Lou Witt and Bill Robinson, a new member. Paul and Sherry MacIntosh celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Door prizes went to Sherry MacIntosh, Jean Wooden and Barry Haralson.

The next CNN dinner will be April 7, and the next CNN dinner meeting will be April 21 in Mazon at the Legion, and the Seneca group will be hosts.

The meeting was adjourned by Ruth Metille and Shirley Kiss.

Bingo followed.

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The Paper SPORTS

The Paper

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

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2009 DTHS TROJAN JUNIOR VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM members are, front row, left to right: Nick Arrigo, Wes Lehman, Tyler Hogan, Jeremy Fracaro, Jake Thomas, Troy Hogan, Patrick Gliwa; back row: Coach

Andrew Pittenger, Ben Trainor, Alec Frazier, Dan Hansen, Matt Hooker, Quinn Trewartha and CJ Grzincic. Not pictured are Aaron Murphy and Cal Vigna.



DTHS TROJANS BASEBALL

March 26 Trojans vs. Pontiac Varsity-

The Trojan varsity baseball team took its first loss of the season when Pontiac defeated Dwight, 4-2.

Dan Grubbs took the loss, pitching five innings, giving up three runs, six hits and striking out two; Joe Briner, relief, pitched two innings, giving up one run and striking out one.

"Grubbs doubled to open the Trojan half of the first and came around to score on a Kirk Telford sacrifice fly, which tied the game at 1-1. Briner singled in the second inning and scored on a walk to Grubbs, which tied the game at 2-2. Telford later contributed a double, while Trent Wiles added a single," stated Coach Kaiser.

March 25 Trojans vs. Mومence Varsity-

The varsity Trojans chalked

up a victory over Mومence, 10-0, in a five-inning game.

Kyle Cahill picked up the win, striking out seven hitters and scattering six hits.

Hitting for the Trojans were: Cahill, triple, single; Dan Grubbs and Travis Roeder, single each; Blake Becker and Dan Hansen, single, two RBI each; Noah Trainor, single, RBI; Joe Briner, home run; Kirk Telford, RBI.

"Cahill showed me quite a bit tonight. He has gotten himself into great shape and has really improved the control over his fastball. He showed great hustle, as well, legging out a triple and an infield hit. Briner's homer in the second gave every one of our hitters the confidence they needed to step up to the plate and deliver," stated Coach Dan Kaiser.

March 23 Trojans vs. Clifton Central

Varsity-

The Trojan baseball team started its season with an impressive 5-3 victory over Clifton Central.

Noah Trainor picked up the win, throwing a complete game with eight strikeouts.

Hitting for the Trojans were: Dan Grubbs and Travis Roeder, 2-3 with a double each; Joe Briner, double; Dan Hansen, single, RBI; Kirk Telford, home run.

"Noah pitched like it was the middle of the season already. He mixed up his pitches well and fooled many Clifton hitters. Kirk's homer in the fifth was a huge lift for our confidence at that moment in the game," commented Coach Kaiser.

Send us
your team stats!
815-584-2196 fax;
thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

Dwight Youth Baseball Board Meeting

A Dwight Youth Baseball Board meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 5.

The meeting will be held at the Dwight VFW, and everyone is welcome to attend.



TRI-POINT LADY CHARGERS SOFTBALL

March 26 Lady Chargers vs. Fisher

The Tri-Point Lady Chargers defeated Fisher, 1-0, in a 10-inning game.

Hope Webster picked up the win, pitching 10 innings, 23 strikeouts and four walks.

Veronica Mogged had two hits and one RBI.

The Lady Chargers record is 1-0 overall.



CLASS Soccer Registration Fee Reduced

CLASS soccer registration forms are being sent home with Dwight Grade School students this week. The fee, used to help defray the cost of the T-shirt, will be reduced per player due to the economy.

All pre-K through eighth graders are welcome. The deadline to register is Wednesday, April 15.

After the regular games, there will be a "pick-up" game for any junior high students through adults who would like to play.

With any questions, call Julie, 815-584-9051, or Jane, 815-715-2598.

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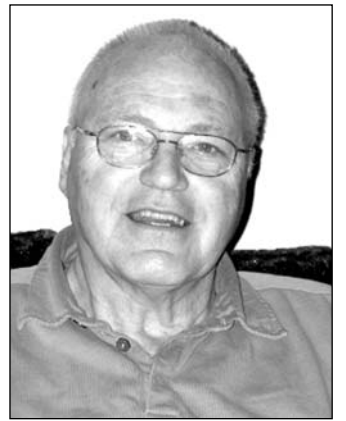
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I, Gibs Nielsen, have a love, vision, and strong passion for Dwight.

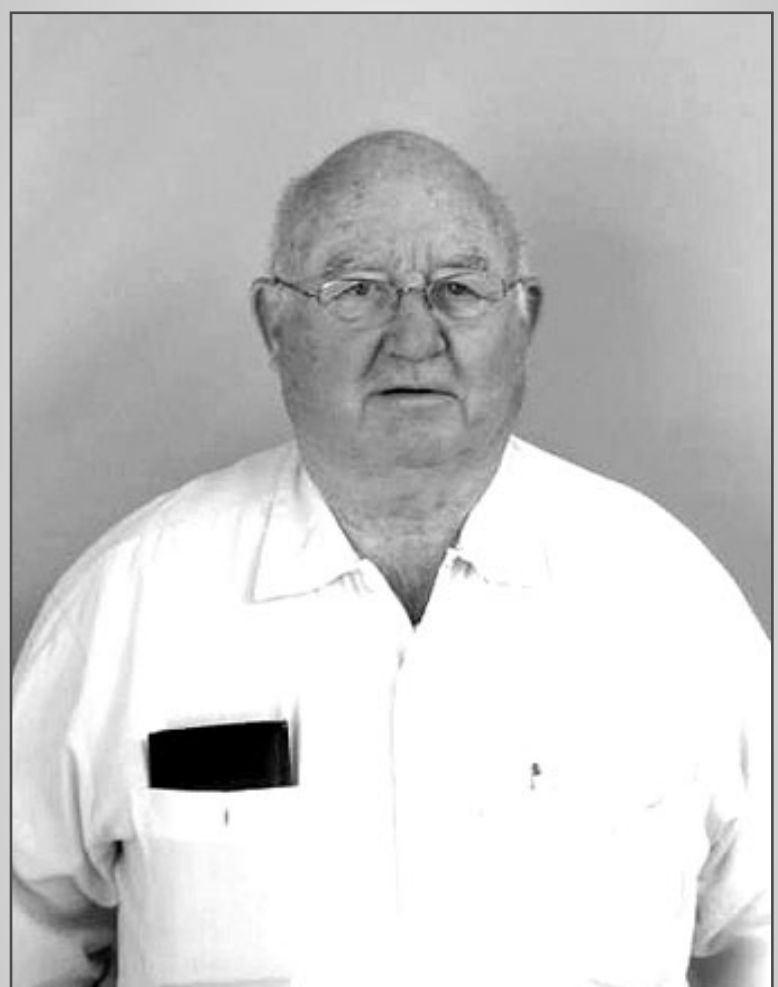


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DTHS LADY TROJAN CHANEY TAMBLING stretches at first for the out March 23. The Lady Trojans tied with Clifton Central, 2-2, after the game was called due to darkness.
Photo courtesy of Dan Elsey



DTHS LADY TROJANS SOFTBALL

March 25 Lady Trojans vs. Momence

The Lady Trojans softball team fell to Momence, 10-2, in eight innings.

Erin Gaston took the loss, giving up three walks and striking out seven Momence batters.

Hitting for the Lady Trojans were: Gaston, Kate Pfeifer, Claire Elsey and Sarah Butterfield, 1-3 each; Tori Grzincic, 1-4.

March 23 Lady Trojans vs. Clifton Central

After a 13-inning softball game, the Lady Trojans tied with Clifton Central, 2-2. The game was called due to darkness.

Erin Gaston pitched 23 strikeouts, seven hits, and three walks.

Chaney Tambling went 2-5 on offense.



GSW PANTHERS BASEBALL

March 26 Panthers vs. Flanagan/Woodland Varsity-

The varsity Panthers knocked out Flanagan/Woodland, 14-7.

Ben Crater picked up the win, pitching seven innings, giving up seven runs, six earned runs, six hits, two walks and two strikeouts.

Swinging the bats for the Panthers were: Josh Hall, 3-5, three runs, RBI; Zach Sorensen, 2-4, three runs, three RBI, one home run; Crater, 1-5, three RBI, one home run; Mark Opyd, 2-4, one run, four RBI.

"This was a nice win for us. We pounded the ball as a team. It was nice to see the bats working! Ben struggled a little with control but got the job done," stated Coach Posing.

March 24 Panthers vs. Prairie Central Varsity-

The varsity boys' baseball team fell to Prairie Central, 5-4, in the season opener.

Josh Hall, starter, 5IP, 4H, 4R, 4ER, 4K, 4BB; Chris Irvin, relief 0-1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ IP, 0H, 1R, 0ER, 1K, 3BB.

Hitting for the Panthers were: Mark Opyd, 1-4, double, two RBI; Tyler Posing, 2-4, one run, one stolen base; Hall, 2-4, double, one run, two stolen bases.

"I thought Josh pitched real well. He just ran out of gas in the fifth. Overall, for the first game I was encouraged. We need to continue to apply pressure on offense. The last three innings, we didn't do that," stated Coach Jon Posing.



Victory Lanes Dwight

Wednesday Aft. Bowlers

HG, 186, Evelyn Lydigsen; HS, 525, Gary Spaulding; HTG, 661, Foxy Ladies; HTS, 1877, Foxy Ladies

League Standings	W	L
William J. Hooker	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	43 $\frac{1}{2}$
Splitters	65	51
Morris Drapery	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	51 $\frac{1}{2}$
Becker's	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tag-A-Longs	61	55
LPL Financial/Tock	55	61
Vigna's	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
Curves	51	65
Foxy Ladies	50	66
The Hen House	48	68

Commercial League

HG, 268, Mike King; HS, 689, Terry Wilkey; HTG, 1153, Meier Bros. Tire; HTS, 2877, Meier Bros. Tire

League Standings	W	L
JT's Saloon	36	12
Jensen's	28	20
FJ Metals	28	20
Dwight Printing	27	21
Schultz Media	24	24
Victory Lanes	24	24
Meier Bros. Tire	21	27
Dairy Queen	18	30
Turtle's Tap	17	31
TBI	17	31

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Ladies Night Out

HG, 212, Sarah DeLong; 194, Colleen Sassenger; 187, Sheila Woodcock; HS, 535, Sarah DeLong; 492, Jackie Oelschlager; 478, Sheila Woodcock

League Standings	W	L
Victory Lanes	29	19
Bank of Dwight	29	19
JT's Saloon	23	25
The Paper	23	25
Dairy Queen	22	26
Dwight Dental	18	30

Sportsman's League

HG, 267, Doug Gassman; HS, 723, Doug Gassman; HHG, 289, Donnie Crouch; HHS, 723, Doug Gassman

League Standings	W	L
JF Recycling	35	17
Jensen's BP	33	19
McArdle Grain	32	20
DeLong Ford	30	22
Victory Lanes	28	24
K & D Detailing	28	24
Willy's Pub	24	28
Dairy Queen	20	32
Dwight Trucking	18	34
Starr Trucking	12	40



Sunday Nite Bowling League Forming

A new league is starting at Victory Lanes in Dwight.

The Sunday Nite once-a-month mixed league will begin bowling June 1 at 6 p.m. The 12-month league will consist of four-person teams of any mix.

Averages will be established the first night of bowling. Handicap is based on 90 percent of 200.

The top three teams from each league will qualify for a one-night tournament with a \$2,400 prize fund.

To register a team or for more information, call Victory Lanes at 815-584-2724.

Dwight Youth Football/ Cheerleading Sign-Ups

It's that time of year to get ready for the 2009 football and cheerleading season. New athletes entering grades 3-8 next year are invited to sign up.

Sign-ups will be held at the Dwight Public Services Complex on Saturday, April 18, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. and again on Saturday, April 25,

from 9 - 10:30 a.m. Discontinued jerseys will be available for purchase and cheerleaders are asked to wear swimsuits under clothing for sizing purposes.

For any questions, please call Sean Wardell, 815-584-9705 or Tracey Bolte, 815-584-2691.



GSW LADY PANTHERS SOFTBALL

March 26 Lady Panthers vs. Streator Woodland

The Lady Panthers chalked up another victory for the season with a win over Streator Woodland, 3-1.

Amber Eisha picked up her third win, pitching 10 strikeouts, allowing four hits and no walks.

Knocking around the ball were: Alison Serena, 2-3, single, double, RBI, one run; Ashley Sorensen, home run in the third, two RBI.

"Defense is continuing to help us win our games. We need to get our bats going and hit consistently throughout the entire game," stated Coach Michelle Lardi.

March 25 Lady Panthers vs. Herscher

The GSW Lady Panther softball team preyed on Herscher, 5-0.

Amber Eisha picked up the win, 2-0, with six strikeouts, two walks and two hits. Hitting for the Lady

Panthers were: Kristen Bexson, double, three RBI; Missy Gretz, one hit, one sacrifice bunt, one run.

"Our defense remained strong behind our pitcher, and our hits were timely," commented Coach Michelle Lardi.

March 24 Lady Panthers vs. Prairie Central

The Lady Panther softball team defeated Prairie Central, 4-0.

Amber Eisha picked up the win with four strikeouts, one allowed hit and no walks.

Swinging the bats for the Lady Panthers were: Eisha, 2-4, two RBI, one run; Alison Serena, 2-3, two singles, one run; Kristen Bexson, double, RBI, one run.

"This was a very good way to start off the season. We maintained strong defense throughout the game, and two-out hits were key for us tonight," stated Coach Lardi.



TRI-POINT CHARGERS TRACK & FIELD

March 14 Lady Chargers Track & Field

The Lady Chargers track and field team participated in the Charleston Invitational held at Eastern Illinois University, March 14.

Results: Lauren Bertrand, long jump, 13'7.5", 21st; 55m high hurdles, :10.39, 12th; Taylor English, 400m, 1:10.64, 20th; Whitney English, 800m, 2:52.93, 32nd; Katie Kurtenback, 800m, 3:43.73, 65th; 4x400m relay, 5:22.44, 36th.



TRI-POINT CHARGERS BASEBALL

March 27 Chargers vs. Lexington

The Tri-Point Chargers were defeated by Lexington, 13-3.

Jake Thompson, 0-1, took the loss, pitching seven hits, two walks, three strikeouts, two hit by pitch, 10 runs and six earned runs; Jeremy Fagan, relief, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ innings, one hit, two walks, one earned run.

Hitting for the Chargers were: Thompson, 1-2; Fagan, 2-3, two RBI.

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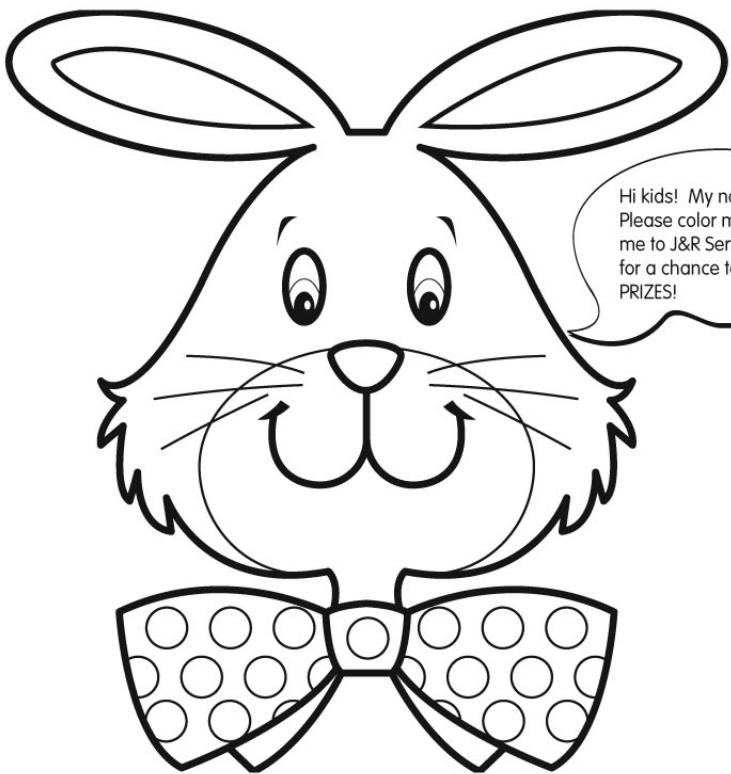
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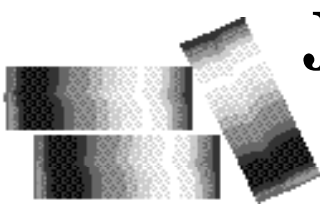
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Obituaries

Marguerite Marie Residori

SOUTH WILMINGTON – Marguerite Marie Glasgow Residori, 82, of South Wilmington passed away Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Dwight.

Visitation was Thursday, March 19, from 5 to 8 p.m. Funeral services were from the R.W. Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd., South Wilmington chapel, Friday, March 20, at 9:30 a.m. to the St. Lawrence Catholic Church in South Wilmington for Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. with Rev. John Hornick officiating.

Interment was in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood.

Born August 1, 1926 in Braceville, the daughter of Nellie Vigna Glasgow, Marguerite was a bus driver, ceramics instructor, and homemaker. Her favorite pastime was visiting with her friends.

Surviving are her loving husband, Martin Residori, of South Wilmington, whom

she married February 8, 1948, at Assumption Church in Coal City; one son, Peter (Michele) Residori of South Wilmington; two daughters, Pamela (Peter) Smith of Guilford, CT, and Patricia (James) Dinelli of Dwight; 10 grandchildren: Patsy (Eric) Bell, David (Nurys) Smith, Michael (Tami) Dinelli, Katie Dinelli, Anne Dinelli, Melissa (Brad) Wagner, Megan (Will Martin) Turner, Kelly Stevens, Dylan Turner and Haley Residori; five great-grandchildren: Adam, Anthony and Isabella Dinelli and Grace and Vivian Bell; and son-in-law, Dennis (Sue) Turner of Cleveland, TN.

Preceding her in death was one daughter, Martina Turner; and an infant sister.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the South Wilmington Volunteer Fire Department and Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation would be appreciated.

Charlene Marguerite Smith

EMINGTON – Charlene Marguerite Smith, 69, of Rural Emington, passed away Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 6:14 p.m. at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington.

Cremation Rites followed a private memorial service for family and friends. Martin-Burke Funeral Home in Pontiac handled the arrangements.

Charlene was born January 27, 1940, in Springfield, the second youngest of eight children born to Clyde Earl and Louise Elanore Beck Drury. She married Lloyd Ellsworth Smith on September 18, 1977. They shared 32 years together living in Dwight and rural Emington.

She is survived by her husband, Lloyd Smith of rural Emington; three daughters: Bettylee (Darrell) Cohen of Vanceboro, NC; Karyn Smith of Rhinelander, WI; and Savilla Smith of Chatsworth; one son: Joel (Julie) Smith of Chatsworth; seven grandchildren: Otis (Amy) Adams of Vanceboro, NC; Donald (Gina) Adams of Wenona; Lance Domrowski, serving in the

National Guard in North Carolina; Anthony Alsteen of Rhinelander, WI; Becca Alsteen of Rhinelander, WI; Caleb Smith of Chatsworth; and Cassandra Smith of Chatsworth; and four great-grandchildren: Taylor, Ashton, Allysa and Madison. Also surviving are two brothers: Clyde (Mila) Drury Jr., of Tacoma, WA, and David (Claretta) Drury of Girard; two sisters: Barbara Nugent of Hillsboro, OR, and Billie (Bill) Stack of San Diego, CA; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Betty Lee Williams; and two brothers, Donald Drury and Richard Drury.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She was an avid reader and loved doing crafts. She was and always will be Lloyd's "Angel," but now she is God's Angel in heaven and our Guardian Angel too.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes memorials in Charlene's name be left to the American Diabetes Association.

This obituary may be viewed and private condolences left at www.martin-burkefuneralhome.com

David William Walker

BRACEVILLE – David William Walker, 51, of Braceville passed away Monday, March 23, 2009 at Morris Hospital.

The visitation was Thursday, March 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Coal City. Funeral services were Friday, March 27, at 10 a.m. at the church.

Interment was in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood.

Born November 22, 1957 in Joliet to James L. and Elvida Rende Walker, David was the beloved husband of Jan Armour Walker. He was the father of Ian R. Walker and Aislinn (Derek) Jones, brother of James Jr. (Dinah) Walker, Ann Marie (Randy) Fleck, Russell (Michele) Walker, Mark (Kelly) Walker and Ron (Terry) Walker. He is also survived by his father-in-law, Fred and Faye Armour, and one sister-in-law, Lisa Armour and numerous nieces and nephews.

David was preceded in death by his parents and an

infant grandson, Caleb David Jones.

David retired from 25 years of service at United Parcel Service in May 2008. He retired from the Army National Guard after 20 years of service in February 2003, which included four years of Naval Service. He was employed at Illinois Central Bus in Coal City, where he performed numerous tasks as well as entertainments.

David was a talented artist and fine scale military modeler. He also enjoyed car restoration. David's favorite and best pursuit was the study of God's Word. He had a servant's heart, which he poured liberally into the lives of others. He will be missed by the little flock he tended faithfully until we meet him again.

Memorials in his name to the donor's choice would be appreciated.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd., Braidwood Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Family members of the deceased: Please instruct the Funeral Home to send information to: **The Paper** (815) 584-2196 fax or thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank You, Jim Mixen

My name is Gene Mortensen, 64, and lifetime resident of Dwight. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Mayor Jim Mixen and trustees Gibs Nielsen, Mike Woods and Jerry Harris for their tenures running the business of Dwight.

Jim did not seek re-election as Dwight's mayor. For four years, he has devoted time and energy away from his family to serve Dwight. A most unselfish feat.

I guess I have always taken local government for granted. Just recently, I started going to the village board meetings on Monday evenings. From the number of residents who attend these open meetings, it seems that there are many other people just taking things for granted. Serving as mayor and

trustees are thankless jobs. No one ever says anything until something goes wrong, and mainly only when that "something wrong" pertains to them. I would suggest that more people take an interest in Dwight and attend these meetings. Mayor Mixen always asks the people who attend if they have anything to offer. It is a perfect opportunity to voice your concerns.

As a business owner here in Dwight, times are very difficult – business closures, people out of work and possibly losing their homes, not to mention just the high cost of day-to-day expenses. We, as citizens of Dwight, need to take part in trying to solve these problematic issues. I just want to say, "don't get mad; get involved."

Gene Mortensen

Recent Memorials to Prairie Creek Public Library

The following memorials have recently been made to Prairie Creek Public Library in Dwight:

In memory of John Kresl: "The Wisdom of Father Dowling" by Ralph McNery from *Keith and Pat Neville*; "Technology," "Human Body Vol. 1," "Human Body Vol. 2," "Mammals," and "Space Exploration," part of the Britannica Illustrated Science Library, from *Keith Von Qualen*; "Energy and Movement," "Invertebrates," "Fish and Amphibians," "Reptiles and Dinosaurs" and "Birds," part of the Britannica Illustrated

Science Library, from *David A. Schlaich*;

Fifteen books in the World Book Library of Natural Disasters from *friends at the Dwight Grade School*; "Earth's Changing Environment" by Britannica from *the Picco family*; "Atlas of the Universe" by Dr. Mark A. Garlick from *Rick, Linda, Megan and Brian Anderson*; "Long Lost" by Harlen Coban from *Raymond and Mary Ann Demko*.

In memory of Adam Gross: "Hitler's Great Panzer Heist" by Anthony Tucker-Jones from *Marianne Hall*.

Letters to the Editor

in *The Paper* should be limited to 250 words. Letters must be signed when submitted and received by Friday noon prior to Wednesday publication. Letters are limited to one every 60 days per household. Political letters will not run the week prior to an election.

We welcome your thoughts.

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**Electing
Gibs Nielsen,
MayorPRICELESS!**



PAID FOR BY CITIZENS TO ELECT GIBS NIELSEN

**VOTE
FOR
NIELSEN**

April 7



CULLOM UNIT #122 JUNIOR American Legion Auxiliary Members helping at bingo Saturday, March 21, at the Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno were, left to right: front, Alexis Waller and Ella Read; back, Lauren Ehlers, Gracie Metz and Bailee Osborn.

17th District American Legion Auxiliary Bingo Party Held

Twenty-one members, including five junior members, hosted the 17th District American Legion Auxiliary Bingo Party for the veterans at the Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno on Saturday, March 21. They helped push wheelchair residents to the bingo hall, helped those in need with their bingo cards, served refreshments, visited and helped return residents to their rooms. These units supplied 117 dozen cookies for refreshments and to the home.

There were seven units represented: Chatsworth Unit #613: Luci Haberkorn (VA & R Chariman); Cullom Unit

#122: Lorena Metz, Judy Ehlers (17th District President), Pat Fagan, Kim Harms, Marcia Stalter, Marsha Haag and five juniors: Gracie Metz, Lauren Ehlers, Bailee Osborn, Ella Read and Alexis Waller; Pontiac Unit #78: Ann Legner, Ruby Lloyd; Sibley Unit #244: Janet and Carl Cains, Camilla Lottmeyer, Delmar Winters; Roberts Unit #641: Judie Sali; Piper City Unit #588: Betty Kennetz; Kempton #737: Bea Hanson.

**Elect
Jerry Curtis
Mayor of
Dwight**

CPR Course at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Hospital in Streator will offer a free Friends and Family CPR course. Participants can select from two sessions, 10 a.m. to noon or 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 4. Classes will meet in the St. Francis Hall chapel.

Registration by Thursday, April 2, is required. To reserve a space in the class, call 815-673-4570.

Notice of Public Hearing on Township Budget

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Town of Norton Township, in the County of Kankakee, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1st, 2009, and ending March 31, 2010, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Norton Township Shed from and after 9 o'clock A.M., 1st day, April, 2009.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 8 o'clock P.M., Monday, April 14, 2009, at Norton Township Building in this Town and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the meeting to be held at 8 o'clock P.M., on the 27 day of April, 2009.

Dated this 23 day of March, 2009.

Jacqueline Bisailon,
Supervisor
Christine M. O'Brien,
Clerk

Reeves

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Tuesday	9 am - Noon & 1 - 5 pm
Wednesday	9 am - Noon
Thursday	11 am - 5:30 pm
Friday	9 am - Noon & 1 - 4 pm

Phone 815/584-3343 to schedule an appointment

Three Candidates Seek Office of Dwight Village President

Three people seek the seat of Dwight village president: Jerry Curtis, Gibs Nielsen and Bill Wilkey.

Name: Jerry L. Curtis
Age: 62
Office Sought: Village President
Prior Political Experience: Village Trustee, 10 years; Village Plan Commission, 12 years; Village Services Chairman, six years; Village Ordinance Chairman, four years.

"My priority has been and continues to be economic development and downtown revitalization. I have chaired the Dwight Economic Development Commission for three years, and our EDC has worked on many projects including developing a proposed TIF district. The TIF district will provide economic incentives to attract business and industry and provide a source of funding for downtown revitalization incentives and projects. The resulting growth and revitalized downtown would broaden our tax base and provide relief on our current property tax structure.

"As a result of an Action Committee recommendation, I worked with the First National Bank president, school superintendent and Main Street director to formulate a financial package to provide incentives for interior/exterior building renovation and business start-ups. This awaits Village Board approval.

"The Village Board will continue to prioritize infrastructure improvements and work on these as funds become available. With flat Village revenues for many years and increased construction costs combined with inflation, we keep falling behind on needed infrastructure improvements. Another reason why economic development is a top priority.

"I feel our public services are excellent. The various vil-

lage departments do an outstanding job on tight budgets and I plan no changes.

"What separates me from the other candidates for Village President is that I have a vision for Dwight, which is a thriving community with planned growth and a vital downtown so that all may prosper and have pride in our community. I have goals and action plans to make this vision a reality. I will work with and need support from the Village Board, community leaders and volunteer groups to make this happen."

Name: Gilbert "Gibs" Nielsen
Age: 70
Office Sought: Village President

Family/Education: Wife Karene, three daughters, one granddaughter and one grandson. I am a product of Dwight Schools, graduating from Dwight Township High School and have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Business Education both from Northern Illinois University.

Prior Political Experience: I have served for a combined twenty years on the Dwight Grade School Board of Education and the Dwight Township High School Board of Education. I've been a member and Chairman of the Dwight Planning Commission. I am the current chair of the Livingston County Zoning Board, and serve as a Dwight Village Trustee.

"Given today's economic downturn and the dire economic condition of the State of Illinois, I believe the most important issue facing the Village today is to continue to live within our means. Over the past four years we have cut the budget by eliminating positions and allowing other positions to remain vacant. Unlike most of the communities surrounding us, Dwight remains on firm

financial footing. We've made do with less and resisted raising property taxes or sales taxes. I pledge to not only donate the salary of the Village President (\$6,000) back to the Village, but to continue the conservative free spending ways of past administrations.

"My entire life has been spent operating a small business. That is what the Village of Dwight is, a small business. Over the past five years my business has grown from a small local grain elevator to going global, selling and shipping grain and its by-products to all the corners of the world. I feel my business experience is an asset for our next Mayor. I also feel I have a positive, upbeat attitude about Dwight and the necessary leadership qualities it takes to be a good mayor. One of my opponents does nothing but criticize the Village. It makes me wonder why he even moved to Dwight if nothing is good enough.

"Without economic development and jobs, the Village will die. TIF districts are one of the few options that communities in Illinois have for economic development. The Dwight TIF is backed by the other local taxing districts. All taxing bodies that were present at the meeting, including School Districts, the Fire District, Dwight Township and Grundy County, unanimously voted to approve adoption of the TIF to the Village Board. The local economic development council comprised of banker, educators, business men and women, are all in support of the creation of a TIF in Dwight.

"Every resident of the Village wants a better road in front of their house or a better alley on which to drive. Everyone wants new and improved water lines and sewer lines. The question is where will the money come from to pay for these projects? It sounds good to say we're going to get money from the government or get stimulus money, but we've already been told we are too small to get any stimulus money from the Department of Transportation. Dwight's share of that money went to the county. One of my opponents says he is going to spend \$2 million repairing roads and another \$2 million fixing water lines. Sounds good, but where's the money coming from? The roads in Odell (where he was Mayor for 14 years) aren't anything to write home about, and 'You can't rob from Peter to pay Paul' with the Village budget.

"In January, as chairman of the Dwight Economic Development Council, I called a meeting of the EDC, the Dwight Chamber and Dwight Main Street to address the eco-

nomie condition of our business community, including the 17 empty store fronts downtown. That group is currently working on suggestions and has given a proposal to the Village Board that works on improving and promoting Dwight to keep our downtown alive.

"For a community our size, I feel Dwight offers many fine services to its residents. We have small town values and a charm that is an envy of communities far and wide. Our Police Department, our Public Works Department, our EMS and ESDA Departments have been operating the past few years with less people and less operating funds, but they continue to provide us with fine services. We have good people in charge of our departments in the Village and I plan to keep these people. I love Dwight and want to make it the best small town in Illinois. I feel I have the leadership qualities, the educational background and the business experience to guide Dwight in the future."

Name: Bill Wilkey
Age: 66
Office Sought: Village President

Prior Political Experience: Odell School Board, six years; Odell Village President, 14 years; Attorney General's Office, four years.

Wilkey believes the single most important issue facing the village is "leadership to bring fiscal responsibilities to the Village of Dwight."

As mayor, Wilkey says he would "freeze spending and borrowing, set up a street program to repair streets yearly" and "improve the quality of the water."

In regards to the proposed TIF district, Wilkey stated, "I oppose the forming of a TIF district; we have a tax abatement program, and I feel that's a very good program. With the annexing in anticipation of a TIF district, we've already added the expense of maintaining a mile of County Line Road. We did not need that at this time."

Regarding plans for dealing with infrastructure problems within the community, Wilkey responded, "I think these problems need to be evaluated and worked on as needed."

In response to a question about plans to address the deteriorating economic and physical situation downtown, Wilkey said, "This is another problem that needs to be evaluated and see what would be the best way to improve the downtown area."

Wilkey stated that he believes "our public services are doing a good job, and we need to continue to serve the Dwight residents."

Five Seek Four Seats on Dwight Grade School Board

Five people seek four open seats on the Dwight Grade School District 232 school board. They are incumbents Ron Colebank, Stacey Connolly, Tim Harris and Steve Tock and challenger Marc Ellis.

Name: Ron Colebank
Age: 41
Office Sought: Dwight Grade School District 232 board member

Prior relevant experience: I have served one four-year term on the Grade School Board and three years on the Dwight Youth Softball Board.

"The most important issue facing the district is doing what is right for the students including having a balanced budget.

"It takes two years to learn the school board system. I have had to make hard decisions in the interest of maintaining a balanced budget - not always following the recommendation of administration. A community without a sound school system will not improve or grow.

"We need to maintain and improve our current assets, improve textbook rotation, and take it slow. These changes are needed and doing them without raising taxes is a priority.

"We cannot start spending the money from the wind farm irresponsibly. We need to keep a close eye on the budget and maintain enough working cash so that delayed or missed state payments don't put us in the red.

"This year we implemented a part-time social worker to help deal with many needs of the school. A current member of the board has brought up a program of educating new parents on the needs of their child's education that has worked in other districts. This program will only be available if we have the proper resources.

"I feel that the board must use the money from the upcoming wind farm project to improve the longevity of the district. This money can be put towards many useful upgrades that will reduce utilities and improve facilities. A new field house would be a nice addition to Dwight if the timing is right. At this time I don't feel the timing is right. There are too many unknowns in the current economic environment.

Name: Stacey Connolly
Age: 40
Office sought: School Board Member

Prior relevant experience: Current school board member, early childhood education Degree, kindergarten teacher, mother of five

"The single most important issue facing our school district is addressing the economic concerns of the families of our community. Students are affected by extra stresses that can be added to their families and this stress is reflected in their performance at school on educational, behavioral and social levels. Our challenge is to address student issues while being conservative within our budget and by using the resources we already have that maximize benefits to the families and students of our district.

"We need to focus on keeping class sizes small. Educators would then be better able to serve the needs of the individual student. That may mean providing more challenging work for a child who is thriving academically or referring a child to a social worker to gain skills needed to deal with issues they might be experiencing outside of school. As a school board, we must be fiscally responsible so as to ensure that we have the resources to send our kids out into the world with the best possible education available.

"Our first investment should be in the education of our children. New wind farm revenues could be used to help further that goal. Additional teacher education and the use of current technological based curriculums are two avenues that should be explored when considering how to best utilize these wind farm revenues. Teachers and students alike would benefit from updated curriculums, textbooks, online resources, teaching methods and technology that we can provide through wise spending of current revenues. Also, we should explore full day kindergarten. This has been on the agenda of the school board for quite some time and new revenue, such as the wind farm money, may be an excellent way to see that goal through to fruition without needing even more tax dollars.

"As a board, we need to carefully prioritize our needs by keeping a focus on the quality of education for all of our students. The board must be fiscally conservative and financially accountable in handling taxpayer dollars while keeping the focus on our students' education and welfare."

Name: Marc Ellis
Age: 42
Office Sought: Dwight Grade School Board
Prior Relevant Experience: Life



"The single most important issue facing the school district is the potential deficit in the education fund.

My wife and I have four children in this school district ranging in age from 17 to 4 years old. Some of them love school and want to get there early. Some of them can't stand school and don't want to be there any longer than they have to be. For some of them, good grades come easy, for some, they have to study very hard to keep their grades up. We have some I think the teachers enjoy having in class and some not so much. We have athletes that are starters and athletes that have been bench warmers. With this diversity in attitudes and experiences with the school, I feel I can see the whole picture and can see the needs of a wide variety of parents' concerns when it comes to issues with the school.

"I think 80 percent of it should be put towards the education fund. If we can't keep the education fund in the black, we can't educate. The other 20 percent should be used for something fun for the students. I don't have any ideas about what that is, but I feel the students should have fun at school in addition to getting an education.

"I think Dale Adams does a great job of trying to keep the budget in order. Like most people, I feel the school must remain diligent in its efforts to prevent wasteful spending and to get the most out of every penny it spends.

"Every student, no matter what their financial situation, deserves the same educational opportunities. Everyone deserves a chance to succeed. We need to do whatever we can to help them with their educational needs. I would have to investigate this further to understand the differences a lower-income student has with their educational needs as opposed to middle-income and upper-income students.

"During the last board meeting, there was discussion of reducing the number of classes in the lower grades from four to three. I believe the class sizes in the lower grades, first through third or fourth, should be under 18 students. Here are my thoughts behind this.

"First, think about the chaos of 19 to 25 first, second, and third graders in a classroom. I realize the teachers in these grades have training for dealing with smaller children's issues, but there seems to be an increase in ADD, ADHD, and Autism diagnosis lately which is adding to the chaos of the classroom. I think if the class size is smaller, the teachers can address the needs of the students that need more attention and get them to understand their behavior to help them learn at an early age to recognize and control it.

"Second, I believe it would be easier for the students to learn the basic fundamentals of reading, writing, and arithmetic. This will give them a strong base for the rest of their educational career. The teacher would be able to give more help to children having difficulty grasping the basic concepts if there are fewer students in the classroom.

"Finally, the teachers should be able to instill good study habits earlier in the students' educational career with fewer students in the classroom. They would be able to determine if their students are studying in the correct manner. This will ensure success throughout the students' time in school. I chose the number of under 18 students from current enrollment numbers and comments I heard from teachers during the school board meeting. My impression was their classrooms were more manageable with the current numbers than with more. The four to seven more students, although doesn't seem like many, would lessen the educational opportunities for all of the students because they wouldn't get as much individual attention as needed. I know these teachers have had the bigger classes, and they are on the front lines so they know first hand what works well and what doesn't. They know they need the smaller classes to be effective."

Name: Stephen J. Tock
Age: 53
Office sought: Board member, Dwight C o m m o n School District 232 (Dwight Grade School)



Prior relevant experience: Incumbent school board member (continued on page 13)

Re-Elect

Gerald Earing

for

Dwight Township High School

Dist. 230 School Board

I appreciate your vote.

Paid for by Candidate.

Vote April 7

Norton Township

Road Commissioner

J. Wayne Forneris

Paid for by Candidate

UNION TOWNSHIP

Vote in the April 7

Consolidated Election

For Supervisor:

Lena Oldfather

For Clerk:

Richard Boundy

For Highway Commissioner:

Kenneth Schroeder

For Township Trustees:

Charles Ehrhardt

John Larkin

Steve Masching

Robert Orr

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TRUCKS

'07 F150 S/C XLT, 37K, 2WD.....

\$14,900

'07 Ram 1500, Reg. Cab, 63K, 2WD.....

\$ 8,900

'06 F150 Crew XLT, 19K, 4WD.....

\$20,900

'06 F150 S/C XLT, 24K, 4WD.....

\$18,900

'05 F250 Crew Lariat, 41K, 2WD, Diesel, Heated Seats.....

\$19,900

'05 Ranger Reg. Cab XL, 74K, 2WD.....

JUST IN!

'04 F350 Reg. Cab XL, 29K, 2WD.....

\$ 9,900

'93 GMC Sonoma, 75K, 2WD.....

JUST IN!

SUVs

'06 Expedition Eddie Bauer, 4WD, 22K, Sunroof, DVD.....

\$23,900

'06 Commander, 4WD, 36K, Leather, Dual Sunroofs, Side Air Bags

\$14,900

'06 Kia Sorento LX, 4WD, 28K, Cloth.....

\$11,900

'06 Explorer XLT, 20K, 4WD, Pwr Group, 2 in stock.....

\$15,900

'05 Escape XLT, 57K, 4WD, Sunroof.....

\$ 11,900

'03 Explorer Eddie Bauer, 98K, 4WD, Leather.....

\$ 8,900

'02 Excursion LTD, 103K, 4WD, Leather.....

\$ 9,900

'02 Liberty LTD, 39K, 4WD.....

\$ 9,900

'01 Explorer Sport, 127K, Sunroof, 4WD.....

\$ 4,900

'98 Expedition Eddie Bauer, 109K, Leather, 4WD.....

\$ 6,900

VANS

'08 E350 XLT, 20K, 12 Passenger.....

\$13,900

'06 E350 Ext. Cargo Van, 158K, DIESEL!.....

\$ 9,900

'06 Town & Country Touring, 21K, Power Doors.....

\$13,900

'03 Caravan SXT, 56K, Power Group.....

\$ 5,900

'00 E250 Ext. Cargo Van, 68K Very Clean.....

\$ 7,900

MOTORCYCLES

'08 Harley Davidson XL 1200L, 2K.....

\$7,900

'07 Kawasaki Ninja EX650R, 2.....

\$4,900

'06 Suzuki GSXR 600, 1 K.....

\$5,900

Fraher

CHRYSLER

Jeep

CROSSOVERS

'07 Compass Sport, 13K, 4WD, Side Air Bags.....

\$14,900

'07 PT Cruiser, 30K Pwr. Group.....

\$10,900

'06 Freestyle LTD, 22K, FWD, Leather, Sunroof, DVD.....

\$16,900

'05 Freestyle LTD, 26K, AWD, Sunroof, DVD, Side Air Bags.....

\$16,900

'05 Pacifica Touring, 36K, Pwr Liftgate.....

\$10,900

'02 Taurus Wagon SE, 96K, Third Row Seat.....

\$ 5,900

CARS

'08 Taurus SEL, 24K, Leather, Sunroof.....

\$16,900

'08 Grand Marquis LS, 8K, Leather.....

\$15,900

'08 Fusion SEL, 28K.....

\$16,900

'08 Grand Prix, 33K, Sharp Car.....

\$12,900

'07 Kia Optima LX, 30K, Power Group.....

\$ 9,900

'07 Focus ZX4, 26K.....

\$11,900

'07 Taurus, 40K, 2 In Stock.....

\$ 9,900

'06 Fusion SEL, 36K, V6, Leather.....

\$12,900

'05 Stratus SXT, 43K, Power Group.....

\$ 8,900

'05 Grand Am SE, 55K, Power Group.....

\$ 8,900

'04 Mustang Conv., 48K, V6, Leather.....

\$10,900

'04 Town Car Signature, 54K, Leather.....

\$13,900

'02 Intrepid SE, 106K.....

\$ 1,900

'02 Sebring LXI, Convertible, 78K.....

\$ 6,900

'00 Town Car, 157K.....

\$ 4,900

'79 Corvette L-48, 38K, Leather, T-tops.....

\$ 9,900

'08 Grand Prix

33K, Sharp Car!

\$12,900

'07 Ram 1500

Reg. Cab, 63K, 2WD

\$8,900

'04 F350 Reg. Cab XL

29K, 2WD

\$9,900

Five Running for Four Seats on DTHS Board

Five people are running for four open seats on the Dwight Township High School board. They are incumbents Amy Hansen, Paul Ferrari, Kathy Perry, Gerald Earing and challenger Brian Perschnick.

School board members will vote to fill a fifth open seat, vacated by the recent passing of A. John Kresl, sometime after the election.

Name: Gerald Earing
Age: 54
Office sought: Dwight Township High School Board Member
Prior relevant experience: Six years as a school board member.

"The single most important issue facing the school district is state and federal funding."

"The things that I can offer that differ from the other candi-

dates are past board experience, 35-plus years of repair and maintenance background, fiscally responsible, as well as common sense.

"The wind farm's funds, I believe, should not be used until we receive them. Then and only then, we should use it to offset any money not received from state and federal funding, if needed. If not needed for that, then the money should be used to continue educational updates and buildings and grounds updates."

"My ideas for managing the school's financial situation are by long term forecasting which has kept the high school in good financial standing in the past."

"The growing low-income student population should not affect a student's education due to the fact that we offer the same educational experience to

all students no matter what their financial situation is."

"At this point I don't feel there are any issues facing the board that I am in favor of or against. I like to keep an open mind on all issues as I have in the past."

Name: Brian Perschnick
Age: 40
Family: Amy, my wife, and I have three boys, Sam (15), Owen (12), and Seth (8)
Office sought: High School Board member
Prior relevant experience: Present board member of Livingston Co. Corn Growers and former board member of the Dwight Danish Brotherhood.

"The single most important issue facing the school district now is managing the anticipated funds that the wind farm will bring to the district. The main focus of the wind farm funds should be used for funding the district so to relieve, not eliminate, the tax burden of the citizens. If the wind farm funds do materialize to the extent that is expected, another focus of funds should go toward building maintenance and asset preservation."

"My idea for managing the school's financial situation is simple: Make sure the district lives within its means. Every family has to live within a budget, and we expect it from our government entities as well."

"I don't believe that 'low-income' students have different educational needs than other students. All students need to have a learning environment that allows them to have an understanding of how the real world works. All students need to be taught that they can achieve anything. They need to be taught a work ethic. They need to be taught that they are responsible for their actions. Low-income students have different financial needs though. Low-income students need to feel that college and a better life is possible. These students need to be encouraged to further their education. As a school district we need to make sure students

know all the avenues for grants, scholarships, and aid so low income students have the opportunity to pursue their educational goals after high school."

"As for other issues facing the district, I believe the school should stay in the Interstate 8 Conference. Although we struggle within this conference in football, all other sports programs hold their own. The Interstate 8 offers other options that some conferences don't, for example Scholastic Bowl and Mathletes. I also think it's important to keep our co-op with GSW as a different conference may put that in jeopardy."

Name: Kathy Perry
Age: 50
Family: Keith Perry, husband (Owner - Route 66 Service Center; Co-Owner - Route 66 Tire Center); Ashley Perry, daughter (2007 graduate of Dwight Township High School and sophomore at Illinois State University); Jared Perry, son (senior at Dwight Township High School).

Candidate for: Dwight Township High School District #230 board member

Prior relevant experience: 2005 - 2009 School Board Member (current Vice President) - Dwight Township High School District #230; 2001 - 2005 School Board Member (Vice President) - Dwight Common School District #232;

"Funding concerns based on the economy and state of Illinois' financial situation is the single dominating issue facing our school districts. Though the high school district is currently in a favorable financial situation, it can change quickly should spending not be kept in check, budgets not be reviewed closely or state payments not come in as committed to by our state legislature. Working to keep both school districts strong financially is critical to the educational future of our children and the well being of our community."

"I believe that my past experience on school board (8 years split between the Dwight High

School and Grade School boards), my college education (Masters in Business Administration, Bachelors in Teaching Education - Math and Physical Education), coaching experiences at multiple levels (college, high school and private club) and 23 years of work experience in manufacturing (past 12 years in supervision) gives me a stronger and broader background allowing me to understand the financial, technical and educational aspects of school board membership. As a leader and member of successful teams in both the business world and community, I understand the importance of good communication, goal setting, sound budgeting, ongoing process improvement, recognition and team work to accomplish the work that needs to be done by our school boards and school administration to ensure success for our students."

"With schedule delays and decreases in the number of turbines in both the business project had planned initially announced in the last four months and the current economic climate, committing any of this money to a large scale project (fieldhouse) at this time would be foolish and fiscally irresponsible. My belief is that the wind farm money should be devoted to the current school facilities in each district to enhance and improve the educational environment of each district's student body. Once the money is actually available, each district would review and prioritize the critical building needs identified by school administration and board members."

"At the high school, building needs such as cafeteria and kitchen upgrades and expansion so that all students can eat in the cafeteria during the lunch period; band/chorus room soundproofing and improvements; upgrades and expansion of the outdated locker rooms used by all students; gym updating and increased space for student physical fitness areas; continued ongoing improvements to the auditorium; technology

upgrades; building security improvements and upgrades. To clarify for some in the community that are confused, phase one of the high school roof project scheduled for this summer is the only portion of this four phase project that has been approved by the board. This particular phase had been planned for in the budget the last four years and will be covered by money already in the district funds - no additional cost to taxpayers. With the leaks in the current roof, this phase cannot wait any longer with further damage to the second story of the building. The remaining three phases of the roof project are proposals subject to change since they have not yet been approved or committed to by the board."

"For the past four years, I have been a strong voice on the high school board regarding budgeting and planning for large projects in smaller portions over multiple years. By doing this, the impact is less to the taxpayers as it is spread out over more time rather than all in one year. This philosophy also allows for money to be built up over time allowing the money to be moved to other more pressing projects should needs change at the school or state funding changes happen. Through my years on the board, I have been conservative with regards to tax levies and have focused on ensuring that our students were getting the best education they could for the money that we had available."

"Ensuring that the district is offering programs (free and reduced meals, student fee/activity fee assistance and scholarships, computer check out, after hours internet availability, credit recovery courses, student assistance classes) are keys to making sure that students in this population have access to the same things as other more fortunate students. Having processes in place that help identify these students quickly and without calling them out in front of their peers is critical to ensuring that they

Five Seek Four Seats on Dwight Grade School Board

(continued from page 12)

(Stephen J. Tock)

ber, Dwight Common School District 232 (Dwight Grade School)

Prior relevant experience: Incumbent school board member for District 232 (4 years); Dwight Township Trustee (6 years)

"I think the district's financial situation is the most important issue we now face, and I suspect that situation will challenge us for the foreseeable future. The State of Illinois has its own fiscal issues, and they are the second-largest provider of 'income' for the district. Our concern at present is whether the state will even meet its funding commitments to the district for this school year. At our last meeting, Superintendent Adams stated that he believes we may end the year (June 30) with only \$2,000 in our largest operating fund, the Education Fund. Yet, while we're trying to make the district fiscally sound, we also have to be cognizant that the single-largest source of revenue for the district - those folks owning real estate within the district - are facing their own difficult financial times."

"I bring experience to the position. I've attended school board meetings for more than 30 years, since I was a newspaper editor here. I attended meetings for years before I decided to seek a position on the board - but I've learned more in the past four years on the board than all of the 'experience' I gained sitting in the public seats. I've learned that school boards have the unenviable task of setting policy and making decisions while under the weight of federal and state mandates - yet the district must meet these requirements without funding from the federal or state agency that mandated the requirements. I've learned that the business of education isn't simply learning to add, or learning to read; it's balancing a budget, making difficult decisions about class sizes and whether to spend tax money on new technology and books, and trying to create an environment that is positive and rewarding for students, staff and the public."

"I think we should first use any funds we receive from wind farms (or any other economic development within the district) to solidify the district's finances. Our auditor pointed out in our last audit that the district had only 69 days of funds on hand at the end of its last fiscal year. We need to make the district financially viable before we can hope to provide any relief to taxpayers. If the wind turbines are built and we do realize the sizable amount of 'extra' funds our administration has shown us in its projections, I think we need to look seriously at reducing the burden on taxpayers if we can. It's a tough

balancing act, though. We have to ensure the viability of the school on the one hand, while on the other hand we have a huge responsibility to taxpayers to use their funds prudently and efficiently."

"I think we need to consider three areas. First, we need to build our reserves so we can give taxpayers some relief - even if the relief is to keep their real estate tax bills stable (at least for the district's share of that bill). Second, we need to stand ready to address any educational shortfalls in our quest to continue to meet the federal government's No Child Left Behind rules (the requirements will become much more stringent during the next few years). Third, we need to constantly improve our technology offerings and workplace environment so we can continue to attract highly-qualified staff and administration. Managing our financial situation so the district achieves objectives in all three areas is the challenge. We will need to smartly manage any 'found' monies such as from the proposed wind turbine development, and we'll have to constantly look at ways to efficiently use our existing resources."

"I think our present board has made a significant commitment to improving performance by our students, especially our students in the early grades, and we know from school data that we'll be reaching a significant low-income population in this area. We're early in that task, but I think we've seen progress. Our most valuable resource at the school is our teachers, and that's not just paying them lip-service. The teachers are on the front line with students every day. They are role models and empathetic friends for the students, yet they have to convince students that learning is important every day for the rest of their lives, not just for a few moments in class. A solid education transcends economic and social barriers, and we have to impart that to our students."

"If students, parents or our administration believe a topic is important, I'm willing to listen to their presentations. I'm greatly impressed with the quality of individuals on our present board. I think we do a very good job of listening and discussing on a professional level. I read a story recently in an area daily newspaper about the state superintendent of education visiting several area schools and patting them on the back for the educational achievements of the district's students. I want Dwight Elementary and Middle schools to be among those esteemed school districts, and I know we can reach that goal. I just don't want the state superintendent spending tax dollars to come here, though; we'll privately raise money for an Amtrak ticket."

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Five Running for Four Seats on DTHS Board

(continued from page 13)
(Kathy Perry)
will accept the assistance. Providing ways for these students to have positive experiences in and out of the classroom that allow them to see their future possibilities rather than their current situation is important. These experiences may come in a wide selection of activities or student organizations, as well as a wide range of class offerings – college prep, dual credit college classes, on site vocational classes or at a tech center. Also, ensuring that student absence and attendance is also being watched closely for trends that may signal current or future issues is important.

“As a current member of the high school board, there are no outstanding issues that I feel strongly in favor of or against other than ensuring that we are fiscally responsible while still meeting the educational needs of our student body. Maintaining and improving the school facilities is a never-ending project that will require ongoing focus and financial commitment by the board. Ensuring that curriculum is consistently reviewed and updated to ensure that our students meet state standards, as well as leave DTHS with the skills necessary to be successful in life.”

Name: Amy Hansen
Age: 47
Candidate for: Dwight High School Board of Education
Prior relevant experience: Served one term of same.
“The priority of my position must be the best, all-around possible education that a student at DTHS can receive. Whatever the destination, after leaving this school, our students need to be prepared to succeed and excel in higher education, the work force, their community and society. Providing an environment and the means for this must be our goal.

“As one of seven very qualified members of the school board, I believe I bring an objective, reasonable approach to issues. Having two older children (Ryan and Lauren) graduate from the Dwight School system and another currently in school (Dan), I am familiar with many issues facing our schools.
“I would like the opportunity to build on what I have learned during my first term. I

know there is much more to learn to better represent our school.

“I would like to be at a more comfortable level with maintenance and upkeep issues concerning our school where big issues are not looming and threatening to be a financial drain. If the monies and community support exist, I would like to see a practice facility/gym/community building. Scheduling issues and gym usage has negatively impacted many aspects of our students’ school experience. For many years the need for this has been discussed and the benefits will be far-reaching for DTHS students, parents, staff/teachers/coaches, and all community members.

“There is no single or simple solution to the school finance and funding dilemma. These are extremely tough economic times. The flow of state aid is an issue for school districts. The Board of Education relies on the superintendent and administration to identify emerging issues. After determining anticipated revenues and expenditures, he provides us with the information we need to make operational and financial decisions. I believe we need to work closely and cooperatively to stay “ahead” of budgetary debt while also remembering fiscal responsibility to the citizens and taxpayers of our district.”

To meet the educational needs of the growing low-income student population “is an issue that needs to be researched thoroughly on an ongoing basis, but some of my thoughts are: I feel we need to have high expectations and accountability for all students, they must know we believe that they can achieve and be successful. We must focus on and reinforce core subjects to strengthen student knowledge and confidence. Early prevention and intervention need to be available for students when necessary. Monitoring and accountability of student progress is important. Recruiting and retaining teachers, strong in both curriculum and instruction must be considered. Also, opportunities for staff interaction, professional development and, for newer teachers, peer coaching/mentoring. Lastly, parents must realize how important they are in their child’s education. We need to clarify expectations for parents and involve them so students are encouraged at home as well as at school.”



Three Running for Three Village of Cullom Trustee Seats

Mayor Marge Kross is running unopposed for a third term. Three people will seek three open trustee positions: incumbent Steven Whitman, and newcomers Barbara Hahn and Ronald Nettleingham. Village clerk Nancy Flessner will retain her seat unopposed.

- **Barbara Hahn, Cullom**
- **Candidate for Cullom Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment:** Hahn Industries, a family-owned business located in Cullom
- **Grew up in Cullom and lived here until 1983; lived in Colorado and Jamaica before returning in 2000**

Braceville Elementary School District Board to Seat Four

The Braceville Elementary District 75 has four seats open and four people running for election. They are incumbents Jennifer Williams and Chuck Ozeo and challengers Beth Fatlan and Trisha Gaspar.

- **Beth Fatlan, Braceville**
- **Candidate for Braceville Elementary District 75**
- **Has lived in the voting district eight years**
- **Married to Bruce Fatlan Jr.; sons Baily, Benjamin and Brody and daughter Britney**
- **“I was appointed and filled a vacancy so I have been serving on the school board for the past**

Two Running for Campus Trustee; Three Seats Open

- Two people filed petitions for the village’s three open trustee seats in Campus. They are incumbents John Hillock and Dan Turner. Village President Butch Galeaz’s seat isn’t up this election.
- **John Hillock, Campus**
- **Candidate for Campus Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment:** Retired from the construction industry
- **Has lived in the voting district three years**

- **Single mother of two children, Kady and Jordan**

“I want to do my part to keep Cullom a viable place to live and do business. Cullom has a long history as a community in coming together and doing what is right for the people who live here. I want to help keep this tradition going. Like every other community facing tough economic times, hard decisions will have to be made to keep spending under control.

“I would like to see more participation by the community in village matters. I would encourage people to attend village meetings and learn for themselves what issues are being discussed.”

year and a half. Even with our limited budget, I would like to do all that I can to ensure that my children and all of the students at Braceville Elementary receive an education to prepare them for high school, college, and the rest of their lives.

“We have been working to improve the technology program, and I would like that to continue growing. In this day and age each student needs to have a foundation in computers. I would like to promote parent involvement at our school. I think it is important to have parents involved in their children’s education and activities.”

- **Married for 50 years to Mary; has two adult daughters, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild**

Hillock says he is running for village trustee because he is “hoping to contribute something of benefit to the Village of Campus.”

He plans to do “whatever we, the mayor and the village board, can do to improve and maintain the Village of Campus and the lifestyle of its residents.”

Five Vie for Three Dwight Trustee Seats; Drechsel Runs for Clerk

Five people seek three open village trustee seats: incumbents Jerry Harris and Mike Woods, and challengers Justin Eggenberger, Nick Kester and Jared Anderson.

Patricia Drechsel is running for village clerk uncontested.

Name: Jerry Harris
Age: 57
Office Sought: Village Trustee

Prior Political Experience: Village Board, Chairman of Parks, Streets and Alleys, 12 years; Ordinance Chairman, two years.

“I think the most important issue (facing Dwight) is to keep down spending and maintain the budget.

“I believe the best thing I can bring to the Village that the other candidates cannot is my 12 years as trustee on the board, including maximal knowledge of parks and Lions Lake.

“The TIF is a great plan. With today’s economy, we need to reevaluate it again as the economy improves.

“The best way to deal with the infrastructure is to keep the water lines, streets and creeks on a maintained program every year. By keeping these on a maintained program, it will help benefit to keep the erosion and flooding down and the streets/alleys up-to-date. The budget allowance will determine the Village’s improvements.

“The downtown area needs businesses to come in to fill the storefronts, but if I said I had a faultless plan for our downtown, I would be kidding myself and you. Yes, I do support economic growth.

“I believe we have great public services such as the police department, EMS and public works. At this time, I do not foresee any changes I would like to make, although I believe there is always an opportunity for change and growth.

Harris said he is running for the Village Board again because “I feel there is still a lot I have to offer to Dwight. I would like to see new business and improve the business environment, especially downtown. I would like to see the Dwight Correctional Center annexed into the village (and) continue working on village streets and alleys as the budget allows. I want to continue work on (getting a) community center when the timing is right.

“I’ll continue to work hard for the citizens of Dwight. I will continue to do whatever I can to make a difference for everyone. I will listen to what people need and want. I have always been proud to call Dwight my home.”

He has been a member of the Dwight Lions Club for 17 years, serving as president of the club in 1999-2000 and coordinating the Dwight Lions Club Fishing Derby and the Fish-O-Rama Contest.

Harris has lived in the voting district all his life. He is married to Marilyn and has three stepchildren: Brian Zehr of Hilton Head Island, SC; Jason Zehr of Dwight; Tanya Zehr of Dwight; and three grandchildren.

Name: Justin Eggenberger
Age: 27
Office sought: Village trustee

Prior political experience: Member of Dwight Economic Development Commission, Member of Dwight Action Committee

“I feel the biggest problem in Dwight is the rapid deterioration of the local economy. Currently, there are several empty commercial buildings, and there have been conversations of more possible closings.

And, if you don’t have money coming in from these businesses, it is very difficult to find money to spend on various improvements throughout the community.

“I have no personal agenda whatsoever, nor do I have any business interests in Dwight. Every decision I make, I will use my best judgment to make the best decision for all of the residents of Dwight. Also, I deal with a wide variety of people. I am a teacher and coach, so I deal with kids, their parents, and sometimes their grandparents. This job allows me to hear the needs and desires of a wide range of the community.

“If the TIF district is used in the correct way, it can be a very powerful tool to boost the local economy. Having said this, I do have concerns with the proposed TIF district. The two concerns I have with the proposed TIF are the area included in the district and where the revenue will be directed.

“Some streets in Dwight are a problem. Soon, whether supported or not, money will need to be directed toward the improvement of our infrastructure.

“Both committees I am on are addressing the improvement of the existing commercial buildings downtown, and attracting and retaining local business. The Economic Development Commission will be holding meetings open to the residents of Dwight. At these meetings, we will be developing plans to improve the community. For those that have not seen the information in *The Paper*, or heard about it, the first meeting is April 2. The meetings will begin at 6 p.m., in the high school cafeteria.

“I think our public services do a fine job. For the amount of taxes that get directed to our village we are very lucky to get the safe community and attractive parks we already have.”

Name: Nick Kester
Age: 46
Office Sought: Dwight Village Trustee

Family/education: Married, wife Lisa; three sons: Douglas, 19, Derek 17, and Nicholas 8.

US Navy Veteran, Submarines; Bachelors Science in Management, Olivet Nazarene University; Masters Science in Management, University of St. Francis; Member of Dwight Lions (currently Zone Chairman and past president), American Legion, VFW

Prior Political Experience: None

“I think the single most important issue facing the Village of Dwight is paying down our debt and controlling spending. Like running a household, the more money spent on paying down credit card bills and purchasing frivolous and unnecessary items, the less money you have to save, invest, and use on necessary items. This is where I feel we are in Dwight, we have borrowed and spent on things we could have waited on and used that money on street improvements and other more important projects in town. I am also concerned with why we haven’t refinanced our high interest loans at the low current rates. This delay is costing us almost a thousand dollars each month in savings.

“I think I offer a few things. First, I am not in the old boys club. I am not working for the interests of a few, but for the citizens of Dwight. I am very open and approachable to the concerns and ideas of ordinary citizens of Dwight, because I am one of them. I also understand the frustrations of not being lis-

(continued on page 15)

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Tock

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Some Didn’t Return Surveys or Won’t Hold Elections

(continued from page 1)
three open seats. They are Mike Lardi, Katy Wepprecht and Eric Conger.

Seneca School Board: In Seneca Grade School District 170, four people seek four open spots on the board. They are incumbents Dan Bedeker and Gerry Baker, and challengers Ken Sangston and Anthony Quigley.

In Seneca Township High School District 160, four people will seek the four open four-year terms. They are incumbents Richard J. Applebee,

Joseph A. Johnson and Robert Lee, and challenger Ron Webb. One person will seek the district’s open two-year term: Robert J. Maierhofer.

Herscher School Board: In Herscher Community Unit District 2, seven people seek four open seats. They are incumbents Marcie Meents-Kolberg, Patrick Daly and Daniel Peters, and challengers Norma Christenson-Applegate, Mitchell Larkins, David Ruder and Rhonda Berns.

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Five Vie for Three Dwight Trustee Seats; Drechsel Runs for Clerk

(continued from page 14)
tened by the Village board. I fully understand that I work for you, not them. I have a vested interest in the success of Dwight, not because of personal gain, but because I have a son who lives here, and goes to school here, and I don't want an uncertain future for him.

"I will not be a bobble-head on the board, quietly nodding assent to everything that comes across. Anything that smells of waste, I will strongly challenge and oppose.

"I believe those who strongly favor the TIF want to brand those who have strong reservations against it as 'anti-growth.' I am one of those in the concerned group, and I assure the citizens of Dwight, I am not anti-growth. I believe we need growth in order to ease the burden of property tax from our weary shoulders. I fear that this TIF may increase property taxes to help pay for the off-set going into the TIF fund. In today's economy, I realistically do not see any businesses just waiting at our door for the TIF to be announced in order to relocate and build. I do agree something should be done to attract good paying industry jobs, but I want to be sure it's the right thing for everyone.

"It's a big order. Anyone who is able to say that they can solve this problem in two years or even four years is not only a magician, but probably needs medical attention. We supposedly had somewhat of a solution for the flooding of Brewster Creek issue. Eleven years ago, after a particularly bad flood, it was agreed that the railroad culvert was too small and needed replacement. Twenty thousand dollars was supposed to be saved each year to cover the cost. That fund today would be \$220,000. How much is actually in that fund? Probably nothing. So here we are 11 years later and nothing to show for it.

"Another failure is that we should have been making calls upon calls to get something from President Barack Obama's stimulus plan for infrastructure. Over \$1 billion was given to the state of Illinois. How much did we get? I think they matched what's in the Brewster Creek fund. So what will it take? Decrease frivolous spending, paying off our debt, and saving. We need to be patient and make smart repairs in as big of bites as we can realistically afford. We need to start planning for the future, and this means saving for the future. We also need to start being proactive in looking for grants, not reactively looking for them. We need to focus on attacking the problem, not on attacking the people.

"One way to improve the deteriorating economic and physical situation downtown is to improve the economic situation in Village Hall. We need money to improve the physical situation. Some ways I think we can help solve that problem is the answer to the second question: improve the emphasis on economic development. One way that can be improved is benchmarking. Benchmarking

is a tool used to visit like-sized communities that are working and take back ideas and plans that work for them and modify them to use here in Dwight. The key word here is like-sized. We have to compare apples to apples, not apples to oranges. What works in a town of 50,000 may not work well with a town of 4,000. We also need to think outside of the box to help develop tourism. Tourism not only helps retail, but can help in developing real estate and potentially, industry.

"I have no plans and will strongly oppose any plan to increase village revenue through any increase in any form of taxation or fees.

I rate our public services as good. Police Department, Fire and EMS, as far as I know are performing well. Public works, such as water and sewer, need some attention. I don't think any expansion of the water and sewage is needed at this point and pursuing that is money not well spent. I would like to find ways to decrease the water and sewage bills we pay each month. I believe what we currently pay is bordering on outrageous."

Name: Michael (Woody) Woods Sr.
Age: 52
Office sought: Village trustee

Prior political experience: Four years as an elected trustee and two years as an appointed trustee

"I have lived in Dwight all my life. I love Dwight and I am running to give back to the town. I am very outgoing in the community. I love talking to people and listening to their opinions. If elected I will continue to do the same as I always have done in the past. I consider myself the people's choice. If elected, I will do my best."

The most important issue facing the village is for all of us to try and make it through these tough times. My idea is for all of us to pull together as a community and support your local businesses to keep your tax dollars in town.

"I can bring experience to the position with my business background. My position on the TIF district is we need to do whatever it takes to bring new businesses to town and to help the ones that are still here to survive.

My plans to improve the infrastructure problems are to improve whatever is possible. We would take a look at what funds are available and address what issues that we can. I think the Dwight Action Committee is a step in the right direction. Also, I think a good way to increase revenue is to have everybody pull together to keep our business in town.

"I think all the services that we offer to our community do a fantastic job."

Name: Jared Anderson
Age: 36
Office sought: Dwight village trustee
Family: I am a lifelong resident of Dwight, and I have been

married to my wife, Kristie, (also a lifelong Dwight resident) for almost eight years. We have two daughters and another child on the way.

Prior political experience: I have served eight years on the Dwight Planning Commission. I have served three years on Livingston County Planning Commission, and I have spent two years as the Chairman of the Zoning Board. I also have sixteen years experience in all phases of infrastructure: road building, storm water retention, water main, storm and sanitary sewer work. I have experience in site development. I have experience with developers, and engineering companies all phases of day to day operations on great variety of infrastructure projects.

"I believe we have several issues of importance at this election, first and foremost is the economy and the financial well being of the village of Dwight. We need to review the effects of what has happened and what may happen to the village in these challenging economic times. We certainly need to address the downtown area and try to establish some sort of retail businesses, though I acknowledge that the reality of businesses being successful in our small town is dependent upon the support of the community. We have to shop in town and buy in town. Over the past 20 years society has changed. The small downtown businesses are challenged, but we do need to do a better job of supporting our retail businesses and services offered in the community. Regardless of any stimulus that the village or local banks have to offer, if we continue to shop elsewhere with complete disregard to the downtown, it will not flourish.

"The second issue to be addressed with almost the same initiative is our failing infrastructure. We have roads that are failing, our water mains are failing, and we have serious problems with our aging sanitary sewers. Every part of our infrastructure has been ignored and is in serious decay. We have not addressed or taken proper preventive maintenance for many years. I hope to lead a serious and aggressive approach to remedy these situations.

"I have concerns with the proposed TIF district. My primary concern is that the proposed north end of the TIF district happens to fall into a flood plain. I absolutely cannot and will not approve the proposed TIF district as it is currently drawn up. Eleven years ago the residences on the north end of town, in Milbauer subdivision, experienced terrible flooding. Flooding has happened several times since then. The proposed TIF is connected to Brewster run creek. When flooding happens the overflowing creek bed finds release in the acreages the proposed TIF is located. If we go on to develop this area all residences and land downstream could potentially have a catastrophic event the first time it would flood.

"My priority is to help them fix the existing problem and not create a potentially catastrophic event by blocking the creek flow, or altering the landscape. I would have to offer a guess that some of the proponents of the TIF do not understand the events that could happen if this TIF district in the current state is accepted. The notion that I am against the concept of the TIF and TIF districts, in general, is absolutely false. I am for a TIF district, but not in the way the current proposal is written. The facts are that just because we create a TIF, it does not change the demographics of the

village. What we have to offer is the same now and the same as it has been: we possess a very strategic location for businesses to locate and create a presence. If we already have the property to attract businesses and the proper personnel marketing these areas, we haven't changed a thing to it except said it is now a TIF district. I find a concern that there is a general thought that the mere creation of a TIF district, let alone a flawed one, will automatically create business to come.

"I have stated above that our infrastructure is in decay, but the question is why? For too long we have not done the proper upkeep and the necessary preventive maintenance. Now instead of each year spending a little bit to keep things up, our past leaders and board members have put us in the situation to spend millions to replace.

"If we want to plan for the future then we actually need to plan, not say the words. The Village of Dwight needs to have elected officials that are proactive, because the reactive approach you have seen is going to cost the town millions of dollars now. We may need to borrow money, we may have to operate some bonds or perhaps we may have to cut spending somewhere.

"The bottom line is the continued neglect for improvements and preventative maintenance by our past elected officials has put this town in decay. The board members need to either understand that they are accountable for these actions or decide where the accountability lies. For too long, we have as a whole allowed this to happen and now is the time for the people of Dwight to voice their displeasure. I will work with the other board members and the new Mayor to establish a one-year, five-year, 10-year up to a 20-year systematic infrastructure plan.

"The economic development of Dwight is a priority also. We have many resources at hand looking into different processes of attracting new business. The village has two railroads through town, two very busy road routes, Interstate 55 and proximity to Chicago. We should have been and need to manipulate these structure

resources. It is imperative that we advertise or create a brochure to deliver to prospective builders and developers to the potential Dwight has to offer.

"I also feel it is an absolute need for the Mayor and the board to work hand in hand with some of the following organizations. Dwight is blessed to have individuals taking their own time to try to find options for different business interests in Dwight. The newly formed Mapping council is working hard to help present some business and strategic ideas to the board. It is equally important for the board to present some of their ideas to the Mapping council so we can work together with them. The Grundy County Economic Committee has been very proactive for Dwight and we need to maintain our positive working relationship with them. The Livingston county economic board appointed a new CEO, it would be in high hopes that Mr. Vaupel the new CEO will be in attendance at some of our meetings on economic development so we can harness his experience and working knowledge. The resources are at hand and with my help, we will deliver new businesses to Dwight.

"Dwight is very fortunate to have the public services that we have. I would find it hard to go to any other town similar in size and yet find the similar quality services we offer. Unfortunately these services do come at a great cost, so my only concern would be to make sure there is no waste at any ends of the services. I think it is quite necessary and important to take a thorough review of all services to satisfy ourselves as the village and as taxpayers to monitor there is no waste of monies. If the scenarios do present themselves in the current economic conditions, we may have to make unfortunate, but maybe necessary cuts. The current economic state is going to dictate the way we will have to govern. The Village of Dwight is a business and just as all business, situations present themselves, and we are forced to adapt to those conditions. In general though we are again very fortunate to have the serv-

ices offered to Dwight, and I will work hard and diligent to ensure our services are not sacrificed.

"I hope I have been understanding and precise in my views and thoughts on the current conditions and situations facing the Village of Dwight. We have a wonderful town with wonderful people; our town is in need of a little face lift and I hope I am one of the new faces for Dwight. I am Jared Anderson and I will appreciate your Vote on April 7."

N a m e :
Patti Drechsel
Age: 54
Office sought:
Village Clerk
Previous political experience:



Served as Deputy Clerk with the Village of Dwight from 1991 to 2007; appointed Village Clerk in 2007; appointed Village Comptroller in 2000.

"Having served as your Clerk by appointment for the past two years, I thought I should earn the position by running for election. Although I'm running unopposed, I still ask for your support on Election Day and every day throughout my term. The office of Village Clerk, as well as every elected official and Village employee, is here to serve the public. We do our best to address the concerns and needs of the citizens of Dwight – after all, we live here too, and want to see things done for the betterment of our community. The decisions that are made and the policies that are put into place are meant to be fair and equitable to everyone. Finding ways to help keep our businesses open, our infrastructure up to date, and our residents safe and secure, without putting a burden on our tax payers, takes a lot of time, effort, and innovation on the part of your Village officials. I hope I can continue to serve you well, with honesty and integrity."

Elect
Jerry Curtis
Mayor of
Dwight



Gibs Nielsen and his grandchildren, Ava and Graham Meister.

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sweet and playful.



Four Essex Men on Ballot for Three Trustee Seats

Four people will seek the Village of Essex's three open trustee seats. They are: incumbents Kenneth Sorensen and John Lord, and challengers Joe Silvey and Michael "Stickman" Masulis.

- **John Lord, Essex**
- **Candidate for Essex Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Pipe Fitters Local 597**
- **Has lived in the voting district 10 years**
- **Married 20 years to Theresa; son, Zack, 16, and daughter, Megan, 12**

Lord says he is running for village trustee "to keep our village moving forward, and to carry out on projects in the making."

He plans to "continue with ditch cleaning and try to install more handicapped parking and ramps in our downtown area."

- **Joe Silvey, Essex**
- **Candidate for Essex Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Retired factory scheduler, Caterpillar Joliet**

Two on Ballot for Allen-Otter Creek CCSD #65 School Board

In Ransom Elementary District 65, only two people seek the district's four open seats. They are incumbents Sheri Bergeson and Diane Rzana.

- **Diane E. Rzana, Ransom**
- **Candidate for two offices: Allen-Otter Creek CCSD #65 School Board and Allen Township Clerk**
- **Place of Employment: Semi-retired; works part-time at Grainco FS in Ransom**
- **Has lived in the voting district 28 years**
- **Married to John for 41 years; three children, John**

Trustees, Mayor run unopposed in Emington

Daniel J. Delaney retains his position as the village president for a sixth term. Three incumbent trustees will run unopposed: Annelise Fiedler, Kathryn Crouch and Cynthia Ann Shelton.

- **Annelise Fiedler, Emington**
- **Candidate for Emington Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Retired from pre-school teaching and food service industry**
- **Has lived in the voting district three years**
- **Family includes three children and six grandchildren**

Fiedler says she is running for village trustee based on "simply a desire to serve and be useful."

She plans to "keep Emington viable and in touch with 21st-

- **Has lived in the voting district 36 years**
- **Married 47 years to Pam; three children: Robin, Todd and Brock; six grandchildren**

"My wife and I have made Essex our home for 36 years and raised our three children here. I have always taken an active part in the community, including past service on the fire department as both a fireman and EMT, as well as on the village board as a councilman. Currently, our village is experiencing challenges due to a healthy growth, and I would like to have a voice in the goals and direction of that growth."

"Water drainage is an ongoing problem that needs to be addressed. Alleys are in need of maintenance. Our parks need updated for our children. As the village grows, decisions will need to be made about water, security and maintenance necessary to keep up with that growth."

(Jennifer), Lisa (Nick) Libby and Mark (Ashley); four grandsons, Cole, Nicholas, Blake and Parker

Rzana says she is running for school board and Allen Township Clerk because "I believe in paying back to the community. I love our small community and our school."

She said her plans are "to remain fiscally responsible to the taxpayers in our school district. We are at a crossroads with the wind farms being able to keep our taxes at a reasonable rate and looking to a bright future for our small school."

- **Cynthia Ann Shelton, Emington**
- **Candidate for Emington Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Mosaic**
- **Has lived in the voting district three years**
- **Family includes Kathy Cramer**

Shelton says she is running for village trustee in place of her husband, Robert Shelton, who passed away February 5, 2008, and "to carry on the things he wanted for Emington. He loved this place."

Shelton plans "to keep our village going, because it's so nice here." Her anticipated improvements include some work on roads and water improvements.

- **Ken Sorensen, Essex**
- **Candidate for Essex Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Secretary of State**
- **Has lived in the voting district 26 years**
- **Family includes parents David and Veronica Sorensen, grandparents Don and Mary Ann Watchinski and a sister, Brandi Sorensen, all of Essex.**

Sorensen said he is running for village trustee "to help improve our community and to finish projects that have already been started."

He stated that he would like to see improvements on parks and roads.

Four in Race for Three Seats as Mazon Village Trustee

Don R. Plott will run unopposed for village president after Mayor Tom Sereno Sr. chose not to seek reelection.

In Mazon, four people will compete for three open seats on the six-seat board. They are: incumbents Kristen Webster and Robert Breisch and challengers Timothy Harty and Daniel Mehochko.

- **Robert W. Breisch, Mazon**
- **Candidate for Mazon Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: First Mazon Bancorp (chairman) and self-employed**
- **Education: Doctorate degree in Law from Creighton University**
- **Has lived in the voting district 36 years**
- **Married to Phyllis; four children: Bob, Mikey, Chris and Tim; and 10 grandchildren**

Breisch said he is running for Village Trustee because "I'm interested in promoting the Village of Mazon industrial and commercial development. We need help with our tax base and need to create job opportunities."

Regarding his plans for improvements, Breisch said, "Our sewer system needs to be updated. Our ambulance service needs EMTs. The storm sewer system needs to be improved. We have sidewalks that need to be repaired. Our Main Street needs to be revitalized. There is grant funding available for several projects, and as a team working together, the village can achieve goals little by little to make these improvements."

- **Dan Mehochko, Mazon**
- **Candidate for Mazon Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Louis Dreyfus Corp.**

Four MVK School Board Members Seek to Retain Seats

In Mazon Verona Kinsman Elementary District 2c, four incumbents seek the district's four open seats. They are: Dan Mehochko, Doreen Harlow, Susan Warning and Ken Bunker.

- **Dan Mehochko, 400 Jonquil Lane, Mazon**
- **Candidate for Mazon-Verona-Kinsman School Board**
- **Place of Employment: Louis Dreyfus Corp.**
- **Has lived in the voting district 15 years**
- **Married to Julie for 20**

Four Run for Three Seats as South Wilmington Trustee

Four people will run for three open trustee seats in South Wilmington. They are incumbents Charles Harvey Sr., Ralph Countryman and Norman Lardi Jr., and challenger Steve Claypool. Clerk Barbara McGurk will retain her position. The village president isn't up for reelection.

- **Norman L. Lardi Jr., South Wilmington**
- **Candidate for South Wilmington Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Stepan Co.**
- **Has lived in the voting district 49 years**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the legal residents of the Town of Dwight in the County of Livingston and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, being the second Tuesday of said month.

The Town Meeting for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:00 o'clock p.m. on said day at the Dwight Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuant of law, come before the meeting.

Dated at Dwight, Illinois, this 25th day of March, 2009.

Anthony Thorsen
Dwight Township Supervisor

Patricia S. Rosenbaum
Dwight Township Clerk

Patricia S. Rosenbaum
Dwight Township Clerk



Noonan is Lone Odell Mayoral Candidate; Three Seek Trustee

Incumbent Odell Mayor Tony Noonan was the only person to file for mayor.

Three people filed for three open trustee seats on the town's six-member board. They are: incumbents Jamie McPeck Johnson and Brian "Bubba" Mills and newcomer Joan Bullard.

- **Tony Noonan, Odell**
- **Candidate for Mayor of Odell**
- **Employment: Building and Grounds Supervisor, Dwight Public School Districts 230 and 232**
- **Lifelong resident of Odell**
- **Married to Patty; chil-**

- **Has lived in the voting district 15 years**
- **Married to Julie for 20 years; daughters, Molly, 17, and Hannah, 14, and son, Mark, 8**

Mehochko said he is running for Village Trustee because "I believe everyone should serve where they can, and I think I would be an asset to the community."

In regards to anticipated improvements, Mehochko said, "While it's a tough economy to lure business, that along with improving our infrastructure should be top priorities. Also, I believe that more and more, people will be looking to their community for aid and assistance."

- **Kristen K. Webster, Mazon**
- **Candidate for Mazon Village Trustee**
- **Place of Employment: Caterpillar Inc. in Human Resources**
- **Has lived in Mazon for more than 25 years. "I most recently moved back to Mazon in 2005 after living out of the area for about 10 years."**
- **Married with one daughter; extended family includes two sisters, a brother, nieces and nephews, many of whom live in Mazon.**

"I would like to continue to be the voice of the people for the Village of Mazon. I want to be able to help prepare our village for the progress that is headed our way. Creating an environment that attracts businesses and residents is an important issue to me."

"I think that working on the storm water drains and improving our water mains are important to Mazon's progress. I also would like to see some improvements to our downtown area."

- **daughters, Molly, 17, and Hannah, 14, and son, Mark, 8**

"As a current board member, I enjoy serving the district and working to make the schools a positive learning environment for our children and a positive working environment for our staff," Mehochko said.

"I will continue to work to make the district financially viable. We are beginning a project that will prolong the life of the buildings. We need to complete that project on time and under budget."

Four Run for Three Seats as South Wilmington Trustee

- **Married to Donna; daughters Michelle, 25, Natalie, 23, Tessa, 18, and Paige, 13**

Lardi said he is running for Village Trustee "to keep the small-town atmosphere, to keep the tax levy low and to responsibly manage the village's finances." He said he plans to "be open and up-front with the citizens" and "always be accessible."

In regards to village improvements, Lardi said he plans to "hopefully oversee us getting a new water tower and storm sewer that is badly needed."

dren Jack and Josie

"My reasons for running are the same as they were when I first decided to run for office in 2005. I feel the mayor of the Village of Odell needs to be someone who unequivocally has the best interest of the residents of Odell in mind – someone who cherishes its history but prepares for its future. Someone who is fiscally responsible while at the same time providing the best services and living environment possible. Someone whose primary goal is to preserve the quality of life we live in our small but vibrant community that makes it so wonderful to live in and makes it so attractive to others. I feel that I have fulfilled that commitment in my first four years in office and I look forward to continuing in that capacity in the future."

"One of my goals is to con-

tinue to make positive strides in our village's infrastructure: continuing to provide safe, high quality drinking water at the lowest possible cost to the community; completing upgrades and improvements at our wastewater treatment facility; continuing to make necessary repairs and improvements to our streets, alleys and particularly our sidewalks; working with our local utility companies in order to ensure quality, uninterrupted services to our residents and businesses.

"Another primary goal is to continue to support our local businesses while promoting establishment of additional quality developments in order to maintain and hopefully expand our economic base. In a nutshell, I want to continue to make Odell a great place to live, work and raise our families for generations to come."

Six Vie for Four Seats on Odell School Board

In Odell Community Consolidated School District 435, six people seek four open board seats. They are incumbents Jeff Laborence, Mark K. Johnson and Shari Hoegger, and challengers Mark A. Hilleary, Lana Hoegger and Kevin Olson.

- **Lana Hoegger, Odell**
- **Candidate for Odell School Board**
- **Place of Employment: Stay-at-home mom and volunteer**
- **Has lived in the voting district 11 years**
- **Married to Kevin; children Whitney, 19, EIU student; Ryan, 17; Hilary, 14; and Lauryn, 6**

Lana Hoegger says she is running for the Odell Grade School Board "to ensure the community, teachers and staff of Odell are heard and their opinions and concerns validated. I've worked in the school system for four years and feel I have a lot to offer our school."

Addressing school improvements, Hoegger said, "I would like for every parent to feel their child is receiving the very best education." Her plans include "extended time for lunch and recess, equality for all sports, a better understanding of special education and the need for enrichment" and "to provide a budget that is beneficial to all aspects."

- **Shari Hoegger, Odell**
- **Candidate for Odell School Board**
- **Place of Employment: Farmer**
- **Has lived in the voting district 21 years**
- **Married to Jim; children Lindsey, 17, Hailey, 15, and Nicholas, 11**

Six People Seek Four Seats on Tri-Point School Board

In Tri-Point Community Unit District 6j, six people seek four open board seats. They are incumbent Lloyd Vaughn and challengers Carl Smicker, Amy Fecht, Jeff Roach, Dewaine Haag and Cherie Smolkovich.

- **Dewaine Haag, Emington**
- **Candidate for Tri-Point School Board**
- **Place of employment: Farm near Emington raising corn, soybeans and hogs.**
- **Has lived in the voting district entire life**
- **Married, two children, five grandchildren**

"I'm running for this office to work with the Tri-Point School District to help give students the best education possible."

- **Amy Fecht, Cullom**
- **Candidate for Tri-Point CUSD 6j Board Member**
- **Single; "My three sisters, brother and I have all graduated from Tri-Point High School."**
- **Place of employment: Owner of Amy's Dream Petals**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Dwight Township, in the County of Livingston, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2009, and ending March 31, 2010, is on file and conveniently available for public inspection at the Dwight Township Hall from and after 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:45 p.m., Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois, in this Dwight Township, and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at a meeting to be held at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois at 7:00 o'clock, Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

Anthony Thorsen
Dwight Township Supervisor

Patricia S. Rosenbaum
Dwight Township Clerk



Four Seek Three Gardner GS Board Seats

Four people seek three open spots on the Gardner Grade School District 72-C school board. They are incumbents Denny Christensen, Brian Hansen and Nick Morris, and challenger Patricia Adelman.

- Patricia Ann Adelman, Gardner
- Candidate for Gardner Grade School Board
- Place of Employment: G & P Painting (co-owner)
- Has lived in the voting district eight years
- Family includes a husband of 18 years, four children (two attending GGS) and four grandchildren (one attending GGS)

Adelman says she is running for the Gardner Grade School Board because “I have a genuine interest in any way I can help to enrich the academic qualities that our school can and will offer to all students.”

- Denny Christensen, Gardner
- Date of Birth: 04/12/55
- Candidate for: Gardner Grade School Board of Education Member
- Place of Employment: Illinois Department of Transportation/Highway Maintenance
- Has lived in the voting district 34 years

- Married to Cindy Christensen – Principal of Mazon-Verona-Kinsman Elementary School; children Tawnya (John) Mack, Tiffany (Matt) Staab, Dean (Christina) Christensen, Christopher Christensen; four grandchildren

Christensen has served 20 years on the Gardner Grade School Board of Education and has served as Maine Township Trustee.

“During the time that I have been on the Board of Education at Gardner Grade School our grade school has received the Bright Star Award from the State of Illinois multiple times. This award is based on districts with high student performance at low cost. By being fiscally responsible to our tax payers the district has been able to build classrooms, a library, and a full size gymnasium without raising the tax rate.

“I held an instrumental role in writing intergovernmental agreements with local elementary districts to co-op for sports at the junior high levels. This has allowed our teams to be competitive with neighboring schools while giving our younger students the opportunities to develop skills at their age levels. These partnerships have also allowed our students to participate in a wider variety of

sports.

“As a board member I believe that I listen to the needs of the students, parents, and the community. I have always, and will remain to be open to discussions with parents, staff, administrators, and board members to keep abreast of the concerns and needs of our district.

“GGS needs to stay at the top with academic success while remaining fiscally responsible to the taxpayers of our community. As our district is small, we must try to get the most educational value that we can for the monies that we generate. In the past we have worked as a learning community to bring many learning opportunities to our students. Working with parents, faculty and fellow board members I would like to see this continue while providing a rich educational background for our students.”

- Nick Morris
- Candidate for Gardner Grade School District 72C
- How long have you resided in the district: 44 years
- Place of Employment: Owner of Nick’s Hair Studio
- Married to Paula; son, Jedd, and daughter, Jillyan

Morris is a current school board member, 1994-2007 and

2008-present, and served as GGS Board president from 1997-2007.

“I am running for the Gardner Grade School Board of Education because I believe in our school. I have been a member for a number of years and still have more to offer the district. We are in the middle of a new superintendent search and we need experience in selecting a new person for this position. We also need to make sure we have a smooth transition between the current superintendent and the new superintendent. The board will also begin teacher contract negotiations next year. It will be important to have knowledgeable people at this time.

“I believe we offer a great education in our building. Since I have been a member of this board, we have seen a new computer lab, full time physical education everyday for every student, and full day kindergarten. I was board president when we broke ground for the building addition, which includes more classrooms, a library, and a gymnasium.

“As for what is in the future at Gardner Grade School, I will continue to work hard for this district in every aspect as a school board member.”

Five Seek Four GSW High School Board Seats

Five people are seeking four open seats on the Gardner South Wilmington High School District 73 school board. They are incumbents David Doglio, Craig Male, Rita Wright, and challengers Joseph Gretz and Cindy Harrop-Gerber.

- David R. Doglio, South Wilmington
- Candidate for Gardner South Wilmington High School Board
- Place of Employment: “D” Construction, Inc.
- Has lived in the voting district his entire life
- Married to Pam; two children, Katie (Jacob) Olson and Kara Doglio

Doglio said he is running for the GSW High School Board “to continue providing a quality education for all students attending GSW, no matter what their career path may be.”

Doglio said his plans are to “maintain a balanced budget without increasing the property tax rate” and to “try to take advantage of any stimulus money that may become available.”

- Cindy Harrop-Gerber, Gardner
- Candidate for Gardner South Wilmington High School Board of Education
- Place of Employment: English Teacher at Coal City High School
- Has lived in the voting district 26 years.

“I decided to run for the GSW high school board because I am very proud of my school,

and I want to help make it the best school it can be. Also, as a home owner and taxpayer, I hope to help use our tax dollars in the most effective way possible for our staff and students. As I am an English teacher myself, I hope to use my expertise in the classroom to help make decisions that will benefit the staff and students to the fullest.

“I do not plan on pushing a certain agenda if I become a board member, but I would like to help improve the school in certain areas that I have some background on due to my profession. I hope to review the recent curriculum in place and help make any suggestions I can to improve our students’ learning experience. I hope to be an asset and leader in making GSW the best school it can be!”

- Craig Male, Gardner
- Candidate for Gardner South Wilmington High School Board
- Place of Employment: Local 75 laborer/farmer
- Has lived in the voting district 51 years
- Married to Valerie; son Brad (Nicole) and three daughters: Lauren (Rob); Lindsey, a senior at ISU; and Lisa, a sophomore at IWU

Male says he is running for GSW High School Board because “I have an ongoing interest in the education of the children in the district. Having spent 16 years on the South Wilmington Grade School Board and now four years on the GSW HS board, I feel that I

have shown my dedication and interest to children. At the same time, we must keep a watchful eye on finances for our taxpayers who get strapped with the job of paying for what we do. Hopefully, we can try and make the right decisions not only for our children but also for our taxpayers in this very trying economy.”

In regards to improvements in the district, Male said, “The good taxpayers of this district have already provided us with the funds to purchase land for the future of GSW. Hopefully, someday progress can be made, unifying us and providing us with the opportunity to possibly build a new building. In the meantime, we must continue to try to watch our spending but still try to maintain an old building.

“Also, trying to strive to continue improving our curriculum not only for college-bound students but also for the ones who are entering trades, construction, farming, etc., as they will be future taxpayers as well.”

- Rita Wright, Braceville
- Candidate for Gardner South Wilmington High School Board
- Place of Employment: Gardner Post Office
- Has lived in the voting district more than 40 years
- Married for 27 years to David; two daughters, Lindsey and Allison

Wright is running for a second term on the GSW HS board. “I look forward to working with

the administration and staff to be fiscally responsible and be able to share our resources more with our feeder grade schools,” she said.

“I would like to see more ways we can improve our school. We have an excellent administration and staff that work well together. We have a good working relationship with our three feeder grade schools. I would like to see us expand more with band, music and technology with the grade schools.”

Annual Town Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal residents of the Township of Union in the County of Livingston and State of Illinois, that the ANNUAL MEETING of said Town will take place on

Tuesday, April 14, 2009 being the second Tuesday of said month.

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:30 o’clock P.M. on said day at Township Clerk’s home and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following: All of Township business.

Dated at 7 o’clock this 1st day of April, 2009.

Richard Boundy
Town Clerk

The Paper
815.584.1901

Two Incumbents on the Ballot for Herscher Village Trustee

Ray Schneider will take over as Herscher village president. Schneider is the only person to file for village president after the current, two-term president, Bill Carnahan, chose not to seek re-election.

Of the three positions open on the village’s six-member board of trustees, only two people filed petitions: incumbents Michael Krygowski and Joseph Buono.

- Joseph Buono, Herscher
- Candidate for Herscher Village Trustee
- Place of Employment: Mario’s Market, Herscher
- Has lived in the voting

district seven years

- Family includes a daughter, Teresa Johnson of Port Charlotte, Fla., and a son, Joey, a student at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor

Buono says he has decided to run for Village Trustee again because “The first four years were fun.” He quipped, “I am willing to do another term before running for President in 2012 but would take V.P. if offered to me by Jeb Bush.”

He says his anticipated improvements include “shorter and maybe less meetings,” and he would like to continue with park improvements.

Election Results will be in The Paper April 15!



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE DWIGHT PLAN COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Public Hearings will be held before the Dwight Plan Commission on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, commencing at the hour of 6:00 P.M. at the Public Services Complex Bldg., 209 South Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois, in the Board Room, with respect to the following matters, to-wit:

Public Hearing #1

A Petition for Subdivision by Heritage Development of certain premises more specifically described as follows, to-wit:

THAT PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 , AND RUNNING SOUTH 88°-43’-00” WEST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 , 264.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 01°22’-16” EAST, 60 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ILLINOIS ROUTE 17, WHICH POINT IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 01°-22-16” EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4, 600.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 88°-43’-00” WEST, PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTH LINE, 698.47 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 IN NEVILLES FOURTH SUBDIVISION; THENCE NORTH 01°-17’-00” WEST, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NEVILLES FOURTH SUBDIVISION AND THE EAST LINE OF NEVILLES SECOND SUBDIVISION, 600.00 FEET TO SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE; AND THENCE NORTH 88°-43’-00” EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 697.61 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 9.62 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. Permanent Real Estate Index No: 05-101-26-025

The proposed subdivision is to divide the above described premises into four separate lots, with the subdivision to be known as “Heritage Woods of Dwight”. The proposed subdivision is to be zoned as a B-1 zoning classification under the Comprehensive Plan to the Dwight Zoning Ordinance. Copies of the proposed Plat of Subdivision for Heritage Woods of Dwight are available for public inspection at the Village Clerk’s Office at the Public Services Complex Building, 209 S. Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois 60420 during regular business hours.

Public Hearing #2

To consider an amendment to the Comprehensive Amendment to the Dwight Zoning Ordinance, Section 9.03 – Cargo Containers, so the aforementioned reads as follows:

SECTION 9.03 – CARGO CONTAINERS

Article 1

“Cargo Container” means a standardized reusable vessel that was originally or formerly designed for or used in connection with the packing, shipping, transportation or freight industry.

Article 2

Cargo containers shall not be allowed as a principal structure within any zoning district.

Article 3

Cargo containers shall not be allowed as an accessory structure within any residential zoning district.

Article 4

Cargo containers may be allowed as an accessory structure within any industrial district, subject to the criteria of Article 5, subparagraphs A through I below.

Article 5

Cargo containers as an accessory structure may be permitted as a special use under Section 15.11 – Special Uses within zoning districts other than a residential zoning district or an industrial district, and further subject to the following criteria:

- A No more than one (1) Cargo container shall be allowed for each 10,000 square feet of lot area.
- B No more than ten (10) Cargo containers shall be allowed on any one (1) lot.
- C No Cargo containers shall exceed thirty (30) feet in length or ten (10) feet in height.
- D All Cargo containers shall be located behind adequate screening, including fencing, landscaping, or appropriate means, in order to minimize visual impact.
- E All Cargo containers located on a single lot (or adjoining lots owned or controlled by the same person) shall be painted a uniform color. All Cargo containers located adjacent to a building shall be painted to match the color of the building.
- F All Cargo containers shall be placed so as to conform to applicable set back requirements for accessory structures.
- G Cargo containers may not be refrigerated.
- H All Cargo containers shall be placed on a hard level surface, such as gravel, concrete, asphalt or such other surface as may be approved by the Village Board of Trustees.
- I Cargo containers may not be stacked or otherwise located above ground level.”

At the time and place of the Public Hearings, all interested parties are invited to attend and make their views known, either orally, in writing, or by a representative.

After the close of the Public Hearings, the Plan Commission shall vote as to whether or not to recommend to the Village Board of Trustees the requested/proposed action with respect to each Public Hearing.

For further details, contact the following:

Kevin McNamara, Village Administrator
Public Services Complex Building
209 South Prairie Avenue
Dwight, IL 60420
815-584-3083

PATRICIA E. DRECHSEL
Village Clerk
Dwight Public Services Complex Building
209 South Prairie Avenue
Dwight, Illinois 60420
815/584-3077





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103A Susan, Dwight\$ 94,000
321 Van Horn, Braceville\$179,900
104 Karen, Dwight\$214,000

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1-story frame, 2 BR, partial basement, new windows, roof one year old. Gas forced air furnace last year. 208 E. Chippewa. Reduced to \$55,000

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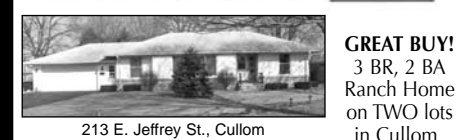
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Facility DirectorThe Paper
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Welcome to Dwight
Committee.

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FOR SALE - '07 Arctic Cat 4x4, 500cc, 70 mi. winch, snowplow, trailer, \$5,000. 50cc Yamaha dirt bike, \$500. 815-998-2095. 12-2wp

FOR SALE - John Deere 116 Hydro with 38" deck. Good Condition. \$550.00 815-584-2651. 13-1wp

FOR SALE - 2 solid maple twin beds. Best offer. 815-584-1330. 13-1wp

DWIGHT - Newer, large 2-bedroom apartment on John Street with off-street parking. Appliances provided, A/C, private deck or patio, coin laundry in building. No pets. Deposit required. \$575/month. Water, sewer included. 815-584-1324, leave message. 6-1f

CULLOM - Nice upstairs 3-bedroom apartment. Also in Cullom, 3-4 bedroom apartment. Security deposit, first month rent and references required. No pets. 815-689-2653. 12-2w

DWIGHT - Spacious 2 bdrm, 1 bath in quiet area. Looking for conscientious renter. Appliances are included, \$650 per month plus security. \$35 application fee. 815-545-3887 or 815-634-8500. release@cbcast.com 4-1f

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WANTED - Looking to purchase old snowmobile items from 1968-1983. Interested in helmets, snowmobile suits, oil or gas cans, old parts, literature and miscellaneous paraphernalia. Also old snowmobiles and old outboard motors, don't need to run, will pick up. 815-791-3130. 12-8wp

WANTED - Unwanted cars, trucks, trailers. No title? OK! Free farm clean-up of junk metal and farm equipment. 815-258-6449. 12-5wp

T-I-M-E O-U-T
2009
Apr. 9 Men's Ecumenical Breakfast, Dwight Methodist Church, 7a
Apr. 9 Dwight VFW Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Apr. 9 Livingston Zoning Bd. of Appls. Mtg., Courthouse, 7 p.m.
Apr. 10 A.A. meeting, 8 p.m., Dwight Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Apr. 11 Blood Drive, Fossil Ridge Library, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Apr. 11 Humane Society Bake Sale, Pontiac Kmart, 9 a.m.
Apr. 11 Dwight Lions Easter Egg Hunt, Renfrew Park, 10 a.m.
Apr. 11 Humane Society Adoptathon, Pontiac Family Video, 11-2p
Apr. 14 Dwight Seniors Catered Dinner/Mtg., senior center, noon
Apr. 18 Community Choir Musical, Reed-Custer HS, 1 p.m.
Apr. 18 Dwight American Legion Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Apr. 16 Internet Part I Class, Fossil Ridge, 1 or 6 p.m., Reg. req.
Apr. 17 Wing Ding Supper, Dwight VFW Hall
Apr. 17 Community Choir Musical, Reed-Custer HS, 8p
Apr. 18 South Wilmington All-town Garage Sales, 8 a.m. - ?
Apr. 18 Senior Coffee, Fossil Ridge Lib., Braidwood, 1 p.m.
Apr. 18 Book Sale begins, Fossil Ridge Library, Braidwood
Apr. 18 Community Choir Musical, Reed-Custer HS, 5p
Apr. 19 Gardner Lions Pancake Brkfst, 7 a.m.-noon, Am. Legion
Apr. 19 Community Choir Musical, Reed-Custer HS, 5p
Apr. 21 Dwight Sons of American Legion Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Apr. 22 Last Day of Fossil Ridge Library Book Sale
Apr. 24-25 Cullom-Kempton Garage Sales, 9-6 Fri. & 8-2 Sat.
Apr. 27 Book Club, Fossil Ridge Library, Braidwood, 6:30 p.m.
Apr. 29 "Go to 2040," Fossil Ridge Lib., 2-3 p.m. & 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Apr. 30 Internet Part II Class, Fossil Ridge, 1 or 6 p.m., Reg. req.

FOR RENT

DWIGHT - 2-bedroom upstairs apartment. \$360/month plus deposit. 815-252-9595. 12-2wp

FOR RENT - Available June 1. Office or store building. 122 S. Franklin St., Dwight. \$375/month. 815-584-9441 13-4wp

FOR RENT - Taking Applications for 2-bedroom home for rent, heated att. garage. 815-401-5418. 13-2wp

FOR RENT - Gardner. 1-bedroom. \$525 plus security deposit. 815-941-9409 or 815-546-4074. 13-4w

FOR RENT - Apartment in Dwight. 2 bedroom, no pets, available April 1. 815-584-2415 or 815-584-3485. 10-1f

FOR RENT - 140 E. Mazon, Dwight. 1 bedroom efficiency. \$370-\$405/month. Storage and laundry. 815-343-3522. 9-26wp

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GARAGE SALE - Chatsworth Town-wide garage sales. Friday, April 10, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 13-2w

CHURCH GROUP SALE - Friday, April 3, 2:30-7 p.m. and Saturday, April 4, 8 a.m. - ? On the tennis courts, Rt. 116, Saunemin. 13-1w

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS F0801051

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
v.
JOHN R. LUND; et al.
Defendants,
08CH 13

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on February 9, 2009, I, Sheriff Robert McCarty, of LIVINGSTON COUNTY, Illinois, will on May 6, 2009, commencing at 10:00 a.m. of the Livingston County Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, IL 61764-0320, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to-wit:

Commonly known as: 401 South West Street, Odell IL 60460

P.L.N.: 10-10-10-154-004

First Lien; Single family residence; Judgment amount \$ 84,278.49

Terms of Sale: CASH - 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of LIVINGSTON COUNTY.

The property will not be open for inspection.

The person to contact for information regarding this property is:
FREDMAN ANSELMO LINDBERG & RAPPE LLC F/K/A FREDMAN ANSELMO LINDBERG AND RAPPE, 1807 West Diehl Road, Naperville, IL (866)402-8661.

This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

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Naperville, IL 60563-1890
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