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# The Paper

Volume 11 • Number 51

Wednesday, December 23, 2009

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## 300 New Jobs in Dwight To Depend on Grants/Loans

by Tom Tock  
The long-dormant Coils Inc. building on West Waupansie Street in Dwight could spring to life if \$10 million in grants and loans are made available for Coils Inc. to proceed with plans to manufacture chargers for plug-in hybrid automobiles at that location. Coils Inc. left the Dwight manufacturing scene a number of years ago after a fire seriously damaged their building. The building has since been rebuilt, though Coils Inc. moved its operations in Dwight to other plants in Huntley, IL and Kentland, IN.

The Livingston County board voted unanimously last Thursday to consider offering a \$3 million grant to the Greater Livingston County Economic Development Council, which would in turn make the grant available as a loan to Coils Inc. for developing the charger operation in Dwight.

Coils Inc. has applied for

a \$5 million grant from the State of Illinois through the Green Industry Business Development Program, a part of the federal government's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The results of that grant application will not be known until mid-January.

The ARRA Green Industry Business Development Program makes grants from \$250,000 to \$5,000,000, up to 50 percent of an eligible project's cost.

The Village of Dwight is also expected to make a financial commitment to the Coils Inc. plan, though it has not been determined what the amount of the commitment will be.

At full production, the Dwight plant could employ 300 people. That would equate to an annual payroll of some \$9 million.

Coils Inc. would be producing chargers for the next generation of electric cars, the plug-in hybrids. Plug-in hybrids offer greater utilization of the car's batteries for propelling the vehicle, thereby increasing the miles per gallon and decreasing the use of fossil fuels.

Battery technology has improved significantly in the last several years, with the result that auto manufacturers will be offering several plug-in hybrid models to the public in 2010 and 2011. These models and their new battery systems have been undergoing tests for a number of years.

EnerDel, an Indiana company, is the first and only domestic manufacturer of commercial-scale lithium-ion battery systems for automobiles. They reportedly issued a letter of intent to Coils Inc. to produce the charging system for those batteries. Properly charging the batteries in these new vehicles will be an important function, one that Coils Inc. has the technical expertise to embrace in a new plant.

In Dwight.

HAVEN AND PAIGE SCIACCA and Kelly and Kyle Deterding (left to right) sell snacks at the Dwight Christmas Parade to raise funds for the new Dwight Teen Center.

## Teen Center Finds Home; New Year's Eve Party Planned

by Meta Machulis

Walls have been painted, furniture and games are in place and security features are currently being installed at the new home of the Dwight Teen Center, 120 E. Chippewa St.

Over the past several months, organizers of the Dwight Teen Center, including the teens themselves, have been holding fund-raising events and trying to find a location for the center. Teen center President Dawn Sutton said she wanted to find a centrally located building and was grateful when Donna Vegter offered to give them the first month's rent free on the two-story building, which is located near the water tower. The location once served as Dwight Village Hall and was most recently a hair studio. It now has neon walls and is awaiting a disco ball that has been ordered for the center's first big event, a New Year's Eve party.

The party will be open to all high school-aged residents of Dwight. Doors open at 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 31, and the party starts at 9 p.m. Teens will not be allowed in or out of the

building after 9 p.m. To allow teens to be home by the midnight curfew, clocks at the center will be turned ahead one hour, so the party will end at 11 p.m. To allow all teens to participate, they do not need to be members of the Dwight Teen Center to attend the New Year's Eve party. Eight chaperones will oversee the event.

The Dwight Teen Center is now legally a not-for-profit corporation, Sutton said. The center's bylaws have been completed and submitted to the state, which she said is the last step in the center's legal organization.

According to its mission statement, "The Dwight Teen Center is a community facility dedicated solely for teens living in Dwight, aged 13 to 18 years." The center "offers a variety of organized teen activities in a structured and relaxed environment." Sutton said the center aims to strengthen teens as members of the Dwight community and bridge the gap between teenagers and adults.

"I have listened a lot to what people do NOT want the teen center to be," Sutton said, noting that some were

(continued on page 3)

## Merry Christmas to All from The Paper!!

### Historic Dwight Business William J. Hooker Agency, Inc.

by Meta Machulis

The Paper is running a series on currently operating Dwight businesses that have a long Dwight history and a legacy within the community. This week features the William J. Hooker Agency, Inc., 206 E. Mazon Ave.

In Bill Hooker's own words, he became an insurance agent "quite by accident."

Hooker's family moved to Dwight in 1958 when his father got a job at the Dwight prison. After graduating from Dwight Township High School in 1964, Hooker began working at a factory, but when the factory workers went on strike, Hooker found himself sitting at home. A Prudential Insurance salesman came to his door, asked why he was home, and suggested he become an agent.

"The next thing I know, I'm selling insurance!" Hooker said.

His business began on March 11, 1968. He was an agent for Prudential Insurance and worked out of his home, selling mostly life and health insurance. After 16 years with Prudential, "I decided I would go out on my own," Hooker said. He became an independent agent and shared an office with Gary Neville's law firm in the now vacant building on Chippewa Street formerly occupied by Jams. In 1989, the two moved their businesses to 146 E. Main St. Hooker also became business partners with a Chatsworth agent around that time but decided to maintain his own business again in 1992, when he bought out the Jury Insurance Agency and those of Ralph Helton and Alan Mortensen. In 1994, the

WILLIAM J. HOOKER shows off some of the sports memorabilia that lines the walls of his insurance agency on Mazon Avenue in Dwight.

William J. Hooker Agency, Inc. moved to its current location, 206 E. Mazon Ave.

For a time, Hooker also had sub-agencies in Bloomington and Braidwood; one is still operating in Odell.

Hooker said many aspects

of the insurance business have changed since 1968.

"For one thing, there's a lot less of us," he said of insurance agents. Nationwide, "everything's consolidated."

(continued on page 20)

## GSW High School Board Talks Transportation

The Gardner South Wilmington High School District #73 Board of Education held a regular meeting on December 16.

Dr. Richard Decman asked the BOE to reschedule the June 2010 meeting due to his attending the National Model Schools Conference in Orlando, Florida during the currently scheduled meeting time. This conference

is paid for by TREES. The board discussed and agreed to move the meeting up by one week and hold it June 9.

Dr. Decman discussed the latest, revised bid from Illinois Central School Bus. He believes all the questions that were asked have been answered. The BOE discussed whether to approve this bid or open bidding to

other transportation providers.

Dr. Decman told the BOE that he has been working on getting bids for a 14-passenger bus and a 71-passenger bus. He recommended purchasing the 14-passenger bus, and if the BOE desires, leasing a 71-passenger bus. The BOE is interested in finding out the cost associated with buying the lease out

on the existing Panther bus.

Each of the board members briefly discussed one or two highlights from the seminars they attended at the IASB Convention.

A summary of the board policies were given to the board members for a second reading. There are only grammatical changes to various policies.

(continued on page 2)

THE DWIGHT TEEN CENTER will open soon at 120 E. Chippewa St., Dwight.

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### For The Record

**Tickets Issued by Dwight Police**  
Dec. 11: Felicia Griego, 21, Dwight, retail theft.  
Dec. 15: Sean M. Jardine, 18, Dwight, traffic sign violation; improper use of registration.  
Dec. 16: Calvin D. Massengill, 24, Kankakee, speeding (radar) 76/55; Jonathon E. Starbuck, 19, Dwight, squealing tires.

**1 Warning Issued**  
Other equipment violation, 1.

**Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS**  
Dec. 10: S. Columbia, trauma, refusal; 3200 N. Rd., medical, St. James, Pontiac.  
Dec. 11: E. Mazon Ave., medical, Morris.

Dec. 12: Taylor, trauma, Streator; Chicago, medical, Pontiac.  
Dec. 13: Mazon Ave., medical, Streator; Washington, trauma, refusal; Bannon, CO detector.  
Dec. 15: Main, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Streator.  
Dec. 16: Seminole, trauma, Morris; 3200 N. Rd., medical, Morris.

**Accident Investigated by Dwight Police**  
Dec. 10, 2009, 4:45 p.m., 1 Aldi Drive, Dwight – Officer Watson McKee: A collision occurred between a 2005 International driven by John Clark of Bensenville and a non-moving 2004 GMC 2500 – Bret A. Sipla of Joliet.

### GSW High School Board Talks — — —

(continued from page 1)

Dr. Decman discussed the proposed policies for Freedom of Information Act policies. These policies are in response to the recent legislation passed by the state.

The original eighth grade algebra agreement has been revised due to a new clause added by the request of the Gardner Grade School.

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and the State of Illinois are proposing a grant to Illinois schools, “Race to the Top,” that GSW may be interested in pursuing. Dr. Decman reviewed the grant application with the BOE. The major hurdle in getting this grant will be having the teachers’ union sign off on an agreement to pursue performance-based contracts for all teachers. Dr. Decman has been trying to find as much information as possible about this grant.

Action taken by the board included: approval of the Illinois Central transportation bid for the school years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012; approval of the revised Freedom of Information Act policies; approval of the July and August board policy revisions; approval of the June board meeting date change – changed to the first Wednesday of the month, June 9; cancellation of the second board of education meeting for the month of December; approval to pursue the Race to the Top Grant; approval of the 2010 tax levy as presented; and approval of the eighth grade algebra revised agreement.

Superintendent information items included legislative updates; a “thank you” letter from the American Cancer Society; a letter from Robbins, Schwartz, etc. (the school attorneys); and board and administrator notes.

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### Tickets Now Being Sold for Gettinger Benefit Dinner

Tickets are now on sale for a pork chop dinner to benefit the Gettinger family of Dwight.

Taylor Gettinger, a senior at Dwight Township High School, was diagnosed with a brain tumor in the spring of 2007. Taylor has endured radiation and chemotherapy and continues treatment at least every other week with a team of doctors in Chicago.

The dinner will be Friday, January 8, from 4 to 9 p.m. in the DTHS cafeteria. The meal will include a pork chop sandwich or hot dog, choice of two side dishes, a drink and dessert. Carryout will be available.

So that the organizers can get an estimate of how many will attend, people are asked to buy their dinner tickets as soon as possible. Tickets are available at the Dwight high school and grade school offices and at Bank of Dwight. Each ticketholder will also get free admission to the January 8 basketball games at DTHS versus Wilmington.

The dinner is in conjunc-

tion with several other benefits for the Gettinger family. Raffle tickets for gift baskets and various other items donated by local businesses, organizations and individuals are on sale now. Several winners have already been chosen, and the final winners will be drawn at the home JV and varsity DTHS boys' basketball games January 9.

The final fund-raiser will be an auction at Turtle's Tap, downtown Dwight, on Friday, January 22. So far, items to be auctioned include vacations and tickets to professional sporting events.

The Gettinger family consists of father Stinnett, a fourth grade teacher at Dwight Grade School; mother Kathleen, a frequent substitute teacher at DGS; two sons, Jackson and Stinnett; and of course, Taylor.

For any information, to volunteer at any of the events or to donate an item or funds, contact Debbie Conroy, 815-584-6217 or 815-674-1427; Laura Vigna, 815-584-3890; or Paula DeLong, 815-584-3624.

### Testing to be Held in Pontiac for 2010 U.S. Census Jobs

Testing is being held for jobs related to the 2010 United States Census.

According to Mack Hodges, assistant manager of recruiting, the test includes questions about items such as filing and math. People who pass the test and meet other requirements are qualified to work for the U.S. Census Bureau and may be hired at a later date to participate in taking the 2010 census.

Testing will be held at the

Pontiac City Hall Council Chamber, 115 W. Howard St., Pontiac, at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, December 23 and 30, and Friday, January 8; testing will also be at Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight, at 1:30 p.m. on Mondays, January 11 and 25.

A practice test and more information are available at [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov)

You may also call the toll-free jobs line at 1-866-861-2010 or TTY number 1-800-877-8339.

### Gardner Fire Department and EMS Calls

Mon., Dec. 14: Medical, E. Main; medical, S. Gorman; medical, Morgan.  
Tues., Dec. 15: Medical, E. Braceville Road.

Wed., Dec. 16: Medical, N. Cedar.  
Sat., Dec. 19: Medical, Canterbury.



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**SHARING IS CARING! Bill Hemenover of Livingston Masonic Lodge #371 in Dwight rings the Salvation Army bell on Saturday, December 12, at Pamida in Dwight as Pamida employee Joan Shadwick makes a donation. The Masons rang the bell from noon to 4 p.m. that day.**

### 3rd Quarter Sales Tax Lowest in Decade

by Tom Tock

One has to go back to the third quarter of 1999 to find a July, August and September with lower sales tax receipts for Dwight than the third quarter of 2009.

According to figures recently released by the Illinois Department of Revenue, Dwight received only \$168,702 in municipal sales tax receipts for the third quarter of 2009. The comparable figure in 1999 was \$168,569.

A year ago the third quarter sales tax receipts for Dwight were \$212,611.

Dwight was not alone in its precipitous decrease in revenue. Morris' third quarter sales tax receipts slid from \$1,222,164 a year ago to \$998,951 this year.

Sales tax receipts for Pontiac in the third quarter dropped from \$555,565 in '08 to \$512,879 in '09, and Fairbury slipped slightly from \$152,011 to \$147,286.

The smaller communities around Dwight also showed decreases.

If there is positive news to report for Dwight from the third quarter sales tax report, it would have to be in the category of *Drinking & Eating Places*. That category in both the Grundy County and Livingston County parts of

Dwight generated an increase in revenue.

Dwight, Grundy County, showed an increase of more than \$2,000 in sales tax revenue from *Drinking & Eating Places*, third quarter 2008 to 2009. (\$14,054 '08, \$16,073 '09)

The Livingston County portion of Dwight had an increase of \$7,500 from *Drinking & Eating Places* in the same period. (\$12,604 '08, \$20,104 '09)


The category showing the largest decrease in sales tax revenue for Dwight was *Automotive & Filling Stations*, which fell from \$69,109 in the third quarter of 2008 to \$39,460 in 2009. Those figures are for the Livingston County part of Dwight. Grundy County figures for that category are not available due to data censoring when less than four taxpayers are reporting.

**Total sales tax revenue** for Dwight and other communities for the third quarter of 2008 and 2009 are:

	2008	2009
Dwight	212,611	168,702
Odell	12,689	11,201
Saunemin	9,754	6,381
Fairbury	152,011	147,286
Pontiac	555,565	512,879
Gardner	54,821	43,555
Mazon	11,961	11,188
Morris	1,222,164	998,951

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# Teen Center Finds Home; New Year's Eve Party Planned – –

(continued from page 1)  
worried it would become a "drug hangout" or a place to loiter. She emphasized that the center is substance-free, and no teens who are under the influence will be allowed in the building.

Instead, the center will focus on "the teen being responsible for the teen," she said, with an emphasis on their responsibilities as members of the community. The center will encourage teens to be their personal best, be accountable for their actions and be responsible and respectful.

"This is for Dwight's tomorrow," Sutton said. "This is for our future. It's very possible that we can get a child who's on the brink of going down the wrong path and turn their life around." She noted that many teens have been through traumatic experiences, such as seeing their parents divorce, or might just have more unsupervised free time lately if a parent has gone back to work due to the poor economy.

"I want to give them safety and security," she said.

In order to attend the center, teens (and their parents) must sign a contract agreeing with items such as "I realize that the easiest way is not necessarily the best" and "For a successful future, I need to be a good representative of my community." Teens must follow rules, such as wearing appropriate attire and staying in the building for the duration of the activity once they have entered. Teens must have a Teen Center ID card to participate and are charged a fee of \$15 per month to attend. Sutton said no teen who meets the center's criteria will be turned away.

"I worked almost a year on this, just looking up statistics on what works and what doesn't work, and charging a fee was the best option I could find," Sutton said. "We wanted to have some control over it, and we thought this would

be the best way to make everyone happy and keep the kids safe." She said the membership money will be used to pay for teen center expenses, such as the cost of field trips or supplies.

At all times, the teen center will be under the supervision of adult volunteers, all of whom have passed a background check.

Although teens must follow rules, they are encouraged to be themselves. For example, Sutton cited a recent clean-up day at the new building. After the six teens present finished cleaning, they made up an impromptu dance routine to the music that was playing on the boom box. Sutton even joined in the dance herself.

"It was really touching that the kids felt so comfortable," she said. "It was really neat to see the diversity of all the kids and how they were together."

Sutton said she wants her own teenaged children to be a part of the community, and noted, "Some of these kids (in Dwight) have been going to school together since kindergarten, and they don't even talk to each other." She hopes the teen center can break down the walls of cliques and show all teens their importance in the Dwight community.

"If we all work together, we can really do a lot," she said.

The teen center will have structured but fun activities, such as game nights – there are already pool, ping-pong, foosball and air hockey tables in place. There are plans for a professional makeup artist to visit and teach the teens proper makeup application. Sunnyside Tanning and Video

has donated movies to the center. There will be monthly dances for teens who also perform a monthly community service. The center also hopes to provide tutoring for students. Most of the center's activities are brainstormed by the teens themselves, approved by a Teen Board.

"This is their teen center," Sutton said.

Even the center's concession stand will serve as learning experience. Teens will take turns working at the concession stand; when it is their turn, they shop (under a leader's supervision) to compare prices and items in order to decide which items might be most profitable. Whoever earns the highest profits from their turn at the concession stand over a given period of time will win a prize.

Sutton and the Teen Center's Adult Board, as well as the Teen Board, are still seeking community ideas and are hoping to steadily add to the number of children involved in the teen center, which is currently about 20.

"I want people to talk to me, I want their input," Sutton said. "It takes a village to raise a child" – well, we're a village!"

The Dwight Teen Center will have a grand opening in January. After that, hours during the school year will be from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; and from 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday. The center is closed on Wednesday and Sunday to allow teens to attend church activities.

Any questions or comments about the teen center may be directed to Dawn Sutton, 815-584-6948.

# Are You a Qualified Voter for the Upcoming General Primary Election?

## ATTENTION: LIVINGSTON COUNTY VOTERS

Are you a qualified voter for the upcoming GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION?

This election will be on FEBRUARY 2, 2010.

If you are not registered and correctly registered as to name, address, precinct, etc., you are NOT eligible to vote a full ballot at this upcoming election.

**REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON JANUARY 5, 2010.**

**YOU MUST REGISTER IF:** You have changed your name by marriage or otherwise; you become 18 years of age on or before the date of the General Primary Election FEBRUARY 2, 2010, and if you are a new resident of the County, provided you will have lived in the precinct 30 days before the date of the upcoming election as stated above.

**JANUARY 5, 2010**, is the last day for new registrations and transfer of registrations. **YOU MUST TRANSFER** if you have moved from one residence to another (even if it is within the same precinct) 30 days before the stated election date. If you were registered in another county, you must

re-register in Livingston County.

**REGISTRATION** can be done in person in the County Clerk's Election Office, at the Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday thru Friday. When registering, please bring two forms of identification, one showing where you live in Livingston County.

**GRACE REGISTRATION AND VOTING** will begin January 6 through January 26. This will be for unregistered qualified voters, who wish to vote this election. The voter will register or change their registration and vote at that time, as long as they have resided at the address for 30 days prior to the upcoming election.

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AT THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED A VOTER ID CARD, IT IS**

**IMPORTANT THAT YOU CONTACT THIS OFFICE TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED.** There are many locations in Livingston County that in-person registration can be done. For more information on these locations or any questions pertaining to any present registration or new registration, please contact the County Clerk's office at 842-9318, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**EARLY VOTING** will begin January 11 through January 28, and will be done in the County Clerk's Office. The clerk's office will be open every Wednesday evening from 4:30 P.M. to 6:00 PM starting January 13 and every Saturday starting January 9, 2010, 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon until the election. The office will offer two methods of voting, the Accu vote optical scan and TSX electronic voting system.

Kristy A. Masching  
Livingston County Clerk

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## Temps - 2009

Dec. 9 – high 33°, low 2°  
.06" precip., 1/2" snow  
Dec. 10 – high 15°, low 2°  
Dec. 11 – high 31°, low 11°  
Dec. 12 – high 38°, low 17°  
Dec. 13 – high 37°, low 33°  
.05" precip.  
Dec. 14 – high 42°, low 18°  
Dec. 15 – high 19°, low 5°  
**One Year Ago - Dec. 23, 2008**  
high 33°, low 19°  
.26" precip., 1" snow

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# DGS Budget Deficit Prompts Discussion of Workforce Reduction

by Madelyn Fogarty  
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

With State of Illinois payments over \$4.3 billion behind, many school districts are being forced to make difficult decisions. The Dwight Grade School District is among them.

Auditors from Lindgren Callihan Van Osdol presented the 2008-09 audit results to the board at its December 16 session. District #232 received a 3.1 financial profile rating and is designated at Review Status.

An Education Fund deficit will push the District to abolish the working cash fund as early as next month in an effort to shore up balances and pay operating expenses.

"State payments coming in late have affected fund balances," said the auditor.

And less state funding is available. In 2005, approximately 47 percent of the district's funds were from state sources. This year, state funds accounted for only 40 percent of the school's revenues.

"The district is becoming more reliant on property taxes to fund the education of your elementary students," stated the auditor. "We are seeing this across the board.

Taxpayers are taking on more of the burden until they solve funding issues."

Decreased enrollment also contributes to less opportunity for state funds. A DGS enrollment of 556 students reflects a 12 percent decrease over a five-year period. According to the auditor, this is not unique to Dwight Grade School, and the population decline is common right now among many smaller school districts.

The board moved on to approve the 2009 Tax Levy as proposed by Superintendent Dale Adams last month. The levy request includes a 4.99 percent increase for a total increase of \$133,158. This levy will result in an estimated total tax rate of \$2.48 and generates \$2,802,400. In preparing budget projections, Adams reduced anticipated state revenues for 2010-11 and 2011-12 by 10 percent for each of these years.

"I am not sure 10 percent is enough," Adams told the board. "It is going to take the state a while to come out of this."

With 85 percent of Education Fund expenditures coming from salaries and benefits, the poor financial picture prompted the board to

discuss the probability of implementing a reduction in workforce. Positions first on the cutting block could be those associated with programs funded by state grants such as Pre-K for All and Title One.

"We have maintained a lot of our programs to provide the best that we can for our students," said Adams. "Looking at our scores, this was working. This is going to set us back, but we don't have many choices."

Another Reduction in Workforce option that may be considered could see the District going back to one K-8 principal rather than the current two-principal structure.

Adams did point out that wind farm revenues are in the District's future, and anticipates any reductions could be a temporary situation to "bridge the gap" until that money is available.

In other business, the board:

- accepted the 2010 liability insurance proposal from Indiana Insurance at a 3.1 percent increase over last year.

- approved a resolution authorizing the Streator Area Enterprise Zone Property Tax Abatement.

- discussed the benefits and possibility of moving to a geothermal system for the District.

The next meeting of the DGS Board of Education will be on Wednesday, January 13, at 7 p.m. in the school's library.

# Dwight Appoints Kester as Trustee

by Madelyn Fogarty  
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

At a rescheduled meeting of the Dwight Village Board on December 17, Nick Kester of Dwight was appointed to serve as trustee. Kester fills a vacancy created last month by the sudden passing of former trustee Ron Skinner. Kester will fill out the remainder of Skinner's term, which expires April 2011. Kester had been a candidate for trustee in last April's election.

"Nick Kester is a family man, a Lions Club member and is community oriented," said Mayor Bill Wilkey when he made the appointment. "I think he will be dedicated to serving the board and I think he will make a very good trustee."

In other business matters, members of the Dwight Plan Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and all village employees will receive a \$50 Christmas bonus in the form of a Chamber of Commerce gift certificate. Mayor Wilkey had recommended allowing the certificates only for members of the Plan Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals because they are not paid for their service to the village. However, all board members present at the meeting felt village employees also deserved the \$50 gift. After discussion, Mayor Wilkey reversed his vote to allow the bonus for village employees, but stressed that he was not in favor of spending the money. Due to economic constraints, a Christmas gift

bonus was not given to paid village employees in 2008, and no salary increases were given to village employees this year.

A question raised during the public comment portion of the meeting shed light on a contractual water agreement with the Dwight Correctional Center. Earlier actions by the village were intended to raise water rates for all large-volume users. However, unlike other large-volume water users, the village has a contractual agreement with DCC regarding water rates.

"They have challenged us because (the village) did not include raising all users' rates. Our position was that it included all rates in that class," explained Village Attorney Gary Neville. "But the language of the agreement says 'all users,' and we will probably have to go along with their interpretation."

The annual Tax Levy Ordinance was passed, accepting the 2009-10 fiscal year budgeted numbers with the board also approving a \$1,275,000 Public Service Complex Abatement Ordinance; \$3,500,000 Waterworks Abatement Ordinance; and a \$1,000,000 Waupansie Street Abatement Ordinance. The ordinances are required for abating the tax levied for the year 2009.

A Route 66 Scenic Byway wayside exhibit project has received more than \$300,000 in grants and funding from the Federal Highway Administration. As part of the project, the Village of Dwight has been awarded four roadside exhibit panels that interpret community interests along Route 66. The four exhibits will highlight the Ambler/Becker Texaco Station; Paulsen Court/Arrow Strufe Motel; Dwight Lions Lake; and Dwight's historic designation as the "First Stoplight from Chicago." The exhibits are expected to be delivered in summer of 2010.

Mayor Wilkey announced that he is sponsoring a "Mayor's Award" for the best



**NICK KESTER of Dwight has been appointed to the Dwight Village Board of Trustees.**

Christmas decorations displayed in the village. Three winners will be chosen and will receive \$100, \$50 and \$25 respectively for their efforts. The contest is funded privately by the mayor, with no village monies being used.

Village Administrator Kevin McNamara announced that jobs will become available as part of the upcoming census. Testing dates will be December 22, 23, 30, and January 8 at Pontiac City Hall and January 4, 9, and 12 at the Forrest Public Library. Contact the testing site location to confirm dates and test times.

The Village of Dwight received \$1,500 for the Windmill Park Fund as a result of the Christmas Under the Windmill event that took place at the Country Mansion on December 6. Additional proceeds from the event also helped to support Dwight Christmas for Kids and Love Boxes.

Citizens are reminded that the last date to register for the February primary is January 5. Residents may register at the Dwight Village Clerk's Office.

The next meeting of the Dwight Village Board will be Monday, January 11, at 6 p.m. in the Public Services Complex.

*Editor's note: Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight, has been added as a U.S. Census job testing site. Testing will be at 1:30 p.m. on January 11 and 25.*

We would like to thank all our friends and relatives who remembered us with cards, gifts and calls for our 50th Anniversary. A special thank you to our wonderful family for the trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee in June and for all they did for us. We love you all.

Harv and Edith Grieff

I'd like to thank everyone who helped make my 80th birthday so special. Thanks for all the cards, gifts and good wishes. A special thanks to my family for hosting the party and for all who attended. It made me feel like a Queen for a day!

Ellen Galeaz

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## Upcoming Meetings

2010

- Jan. 5 VFW Women's Auxiliary, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 7 VFW Men's Auxiliary, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 8 Dwight Senior Citizen's catered dinner, 12 p.m., call 815-584-2442 for reservations
- Jan. 12 American Legion Meeting, 6:30 p.m., VFW, Old Rt. 66
- Jan. 14 VFW Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 19 Sons of the American Legion Meeting, 6:30 p.m., VFW, Old Rt. 66

**It's FREE to List Your Meetings in The Paper!**  
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May the spirit of Christmas be alive in our hearts now and throughout the year.

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# Dwight High School Approves Tax Levy Increase

DTHS Ranked 44th in State

by Madelyn Fogarty  
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

A tax levy increase of 4.98 percent was approved by the Dwight Township High School Board of Education when it met in regular session on December 14.

The levy, as proposed by Superintendent Dale Adams last month, is based on an estimated EAV of \$118,000,000. The levy will result in an estimated total tax rate of \$2.9229 and generate \$3,449,000.

With a healthy financial picture for the DTHS District, reducing the levy was discussed. However, the uncertainty of state revenues is a factor causing financial issues among school districts across the state. In his budget projections, Superintendent Adams reduced state revenues for 2010-11 and 2011-12 by ten percent each of these two years. Most board members felt it is best to stay "ahead of the curve" and the recommendation for a 4.98 percent increase passed by a five to one vote with board member Amy Hansen casting the lone "no" vote.

In other business, phase two of the roof replacement project received much focus during the meeting. The project, which includes replacing a portion of the existing flat roof, a cafeteria expansion, the addition of a small classroom and enclosing the back entry, will operate under tight timeline in order to complete before school resumes next fall. Present at the meeting were BLDD engineers hammering out details with the board in order to get the project, estimated at over \$1 million, out for bid by early January.

A decision last month to hold money from the final payment to PSI for completion of last summer's phase one of the roof replacement project was reversed. The

board had agreed to hold back money after discovering two reoccurring leaks in the new roof. However, at the recommendation of the architect and after review of the warranty coverage, the board agreed to pay the remaining \$58,844.01 balance. Board President Irv Masching opposed the move to make the final payment before there was assurance that all problems had been resolved.

The many improvement projects at the school coupled with added responsibilities by the building and maintenance staff prompted the board to approve a request for the addition of an Assistant Building and Grounds person. Seven applications were received with Jack Connor being awarded the position. Connor will move up from the district's custodial staff to the new assignment and the open custodial position will be filled.

Principal Bob Richardson presented information regarding the distinction recently received by DTHS when the school was ranked 44th in the state on the Chicago Sun-Times annual list of top 100 Illinois High Schools. There are 629 high schools in Illinois. DTHS was the only school in Livingston County that made the top 100 list.

The ranking is based on 11th grade State assessment results. Richardson's report to the board stated "this was made possible by the work of parents, students and educators doing what they do to the best of their ability."

"This award is for the community of Dwight and what we do here," said Richardson.

A new course proposal brought to the board by Principal Richardson on behalf of the Curriculum Advisory Committee received approval. Energy, Power and Transportation

Technology will be offered to students as a one semester elective course. The course will provide a comprehensive study of the basic elements of energy, power and transportation and how they affect the world we live in. One aspect of the course will include understanding renewable wind energy technology. Other curriculum items were discussed including the continued focus on reading improvement needs.

Other employment recommendations were received and approved by the board.

English teacher, Christie Jones, was granted a Family Medical Leave which will begin February 16 with an expected return mid-May.

Two co-curricular employment proposals were given a thumbs-up by the board.

Korey Rodrick will step in as assistant wrestling coach. Rodrick was a four-year wrestler at DTHS and has completed the ASEP course for coaches.

PE teacher Julie Jensen will take on the role of assistant softball coach with the understanding there will be enough girls to field both a varsity and junior varsity team. Currently, 12 girls have expressed interest for each team.

The board also:

- approved a wind farm resolution Authorizing the Streator Area Enterprise Zone Property Tax Abatement.

- discussed the possibility and potential advantages of moving to a geothermal energy system.

- learned a student teacher will be at DTHS from March 8 through May 6. The first half of the student teacher's semester-long assignment will be spent at DGS.

The next regular session of the DTHS Board of Education will be Monday, January 18, at 7 p.m. in the DTHS Board Room.



MRS. McMILLAN'S TRI-POINT kindergarten class in Piper City enjoyed putting faces on the snowman ornaments that Carroll Statler of Kempton made for the class. McMillan taught Statler's granddaughter several years ago and enjoyed his gifts then. It was a pleasant surprise when the snowmen were delivered to the school this year. The children enjoyed decorating them and hanging them on the classroom tree.

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The Pamida Foundation contributions toward gift-tree programs in its communities will assist with the purchase of holiday trees for those who are less fortunate.

Overall, the Pamida Foundation supports more than 800 charitable organizations that focus on education, health and social services.

## Richard Thomas Wins Voyageurs Fishing Contest

Richard Thomas of Dwight is the 2009 winner of the Voyageurs National Park Pro Angler Catch and Release for Lake Sturgeon.

The 55-inch Lake Sturgeon was boated after an 80-minute fight on a Zebco 33 reel with two-year-old, 10-

Voyageurs National Park is a vast, remote water world on the Minnesota-Canada border. It is a quarter-million-acre water park of islands that is only accessible by boat.

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# Mrs. Vigna's Students Send Wishes to Santa

First-graders in Mrs. Vigna's class at Dwight Grade School wrote the following letters to Santa.

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer doing? I will leave a carrot for the reindeer. I do not have a chimney. Do you have a magic key? Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Kyerra

Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolph ready to guide the sleigh? Do you have a lot of Barbies? Merry Christmas!  
Love, Emma

Dear Santa,  
How are Dasher and Dancer? Do you have a magic key? I do not know what I want for Christmas so please surprise me. Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Mary

Dear Santa,  
Do you have any Pokemon

guys in the toy shop? Thank you for putting me on the nice list. Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Caden

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? How are you Santa? I would like a DS. Thank you, Santa!  
Love, Eileen

Dear Santa,  
How many elves do you have? Bring your magic key to open my front door! Merry Christmas!  
Love, Dakota

Dear Santa,  
Am I on the good list or the bad list? All the trains are at the top of my tree. I'll wrap a present for you. Look for a present with To: Santa, From: Lucas. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Lucas

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for a new game

and a D-Rex. Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Joseph

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for Christmas! And I think I know what is in that big present under my tree. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Jack

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the Transformers you gave me last year. How is Rudolph? I will leave you milk and cookies by the tree.  
Love, Cayden

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for all the toys you gave me last year. Which one is your favorite reindeer? Don't get sick, Santa!  
Love, Kyle

Dear Santa,  
Do you like chocolate chip cookies? I will leave you some.

Do you have any remote control 4-wheelers? I would like one. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Dylan

Dear Santa,  
Do your reindeer like carrots? Do you like flying? Are you afraid the sleigh will crash? I would like a 4-wheeler, a private jet, and a hot tub. Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,  
May I have a Play Station 3, please? If you don't have it, that is OK. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Carter

Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolph real? I don't have a chimney so bring your magic key. Can you bring me a Wii for my Nana's house? Merry Christmas!  
Love, Brody

Dear Santa,  
Do you have any X Box 360s and wrestling mats in the toy shop? I love you, Santa Claus.  
Love, Jake

Dear Santa,  
If you have a red skirt and a purple and blue sweater, please bring them to my house. I would like some toys, too. Thank you, Santa!  
Love, Kierra

Dear Santa,  
Do you have some gold? Mrs. Vigna and I would like some. You can put it in my stocking. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Destiny

Dear Santa,  
How do your reindeer fly? I saw you at the Dwight Christmas parade. Do you have a Nintendo DS for me? Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love, Madison

Dear Santa,  
I hope you don't have to fly in a blizzard on Christmas Eve. Have a Merry Christmas!  
Love, Riley

Dear Santa,  
Will Rudolph be in the front of all the reindeer? How do you go to the North Pole? Is it chilly at the North Pole? Do reindeer really fly? I will leave milk and chocolate chip cookies for you and the reindeer get corn and carrots.  
Love, Tyler-Levi



## Braceville Second Graders Write to Santa

Kristin Steidinger's second grade class at Braceville Elementary School wrote the following letters to Santa.

Dear Santa,  
My name is David. I am in second grade. Is Rudolph real and does his nose really glow red? How many days does it take for you to go all around the world? Can you give me an MP3 player because I love music? Can you give my little brother a Pokémon game? Have a safe trip around the world.  
Love, David Krob

Dear Santa,  
My name is Matthew and I feed my fish and play with him too. I would like a DS for Christmas and could you get a gift for my friend. Savanna would like a stuffed dragon.  
Your friend, Matthew Jones

Dear Santa,  
My name is Andreanna. I like to play with my kitten "KK" and my dog "Magnum." Santa how many letters do you get each year? I would like a Wii for Christmas please. I want a Wii because it is a fun toy. I would also like a kitty bed for "KK."  
Love, Andreanna LaFaire

Dear Santa,  
My name is Taylor. I am seven years old. I like playing video games. How many years ago did you get Rudolph? This Christmas I want a Nintendo DS. I want a DS because I want to play games on them. This Christmas please give Ms. Myers a dog bed for her dog. Please give it to her because her old one is worn out.  
Love, Taylor Bartels

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cheyenne. I am seven years old. I like to play with my dog Mason and my rabbit named Cody. How do you go all around the world in one night and is Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer real? I would like the Password Journal because my brother Cody always goes into my stuff and I think it would be a good thing. I would like to get a gift for my cousin because there is this iPod that I want to get her but I don't have that much money and I don't know if someone is getting it for her. Thank you Santa if you help me.  
Your friend: Cheyenne Fields

Dear Santa,  
My name is Tyler. I like to play with games. I want a Nintendo DS like the one my friend Paul has. It is so fun and you get these little dice with it. Please bring my friend Paul a model car so he can play with it if he wants to. I hope you have a good day.  
Your friend, Tyler Sage

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jared. I like to do math and I like to play with my cats. I have wondered what kind of cookies you like best? I would like it if you could get me some cat bowls. The black cat keeps laying on the food. I want a gift for my mom. Could you get her a coffee cup?  
From, Jared Gallup

Dear Mr. Claus,  
My name is Luke. I like to play video games. I like to play video games because they're fun! Mr. Claus, is Rudolph real? I would like an X-Box because there are some X-Box games that I have. I would like the game Left for Dead for X-Box 360 for my brother.  
For Mr. Claus, Luke Johnson

Dear Santa Claus,  
I like you Santa Claus a lot more than you like me. I am sick today see the date (12-07-09) that's the date when I was sick. Could you give my cousin an action figure, a different one than the same one. Any kind like the kind you gave to me last year.  
Love, Elliot Benner

Dear Santa,  
My name is Savannah. I play with stuffed animals. Rudolph, do you ever get sick? I really want a real puppy because I like puppies so much. Will you bring Cheyenne something too because she is my friend.  
Your friend, Savannah Soto

Dear Santa,  
My name is Lilly. I like to play with my dog Harley and my dog Lefty. I would like a DS game for Christmas. My dog Lefty needs a bed because she doesn't have a bed. Please bring those presents.  
Your friend, Lilly Bement

Dear Santa,  
My name is Katie Jones. I want a Nintendo DS for Christmas. I play with my dog sometimes and feed my dog sometimes. For Christmas I want a snugly also.  
Your friend, Katie Jones

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We look forward to  
Serving you in 2010.

Craig King  
Cell: 815-573-2989

**JT's Saloon**

The Bar with Lots of Character

Wishing you a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a fabulous  
New Year!  
from everybody at JT's

Open Christmas Day  
11 a.m. - 1 a.m.

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118 East Main Street, Dwight

Looking to Enjoy  
A Laid-back  
New Year's Eve?

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**Surf 'N Turf Dinner Special**  
**Colored Pin Bowling**  
**Hourly Giveaways**  
**50/50 Drawing**

FREE Champagne  
and Party Favors  
at Midnight!

Lane Reservations  
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(Located on Route 17)  
815-584-2724

We hope your Christmas  
is filled with family,  
friends and good times.

May joy surround you  
this holiday season.

**Lovell Excavating, Inc. • Dwight • 815-584-1184**

**K&D Detailing**

Thanks to all of our customers in 2009.  
We wish you a very  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Give the gift of clean!  
**Gift Certificates Available**  
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In Honor Of

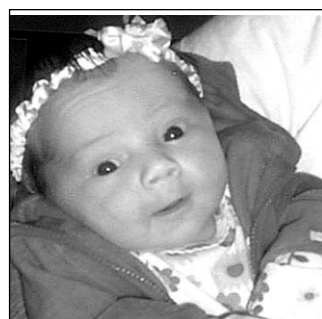
**DR. RAJENDRA SHRIVASTAV**

Tuesday  
December 29  
3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

OSF Saint James  
Medical Center  
Conference Rooms

Stop in and wish  
Dr. & Mrs. Shrivastav well as he  
retires from active practice. They  
look forward to traveling and  
spending time with their  
grandchildren.





Alexis Nicole Donovan

### A girl!

Ryne and Maggie Odum-Donovan of Charleston are proud to announce the birth of their first child and daughter, Alexis Nicole.

Alexis was born November 9, 2009, at 4:46 p.m. at Carle Foundation Hospital, Champaign. She weighed seven pounds, four ounces and was 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Ellen and George Odum of Strawn and Karen and Larry Donovan of Dwight.

Maternal great-grandparents are MaryLou Meitzner of Forrest and Henrietta Odum of Bloomington. Paternal great-grandparents are Evan and Marge Clark of Braceville and Betty and Jim Donovan of Dwight.



Brooke Sassenger

### DTHS Names Sophomore of the Month

Dwight Township High School would like to congratulate Brooke Sassenger on being named DTHS sophomore student of the month of December.

She is involved in student government, serving as sophomore class secretary. She is active in volleyball, basketball and softball.

Brooke is the daughter of Kevin and Julie Sassenger of Dwight.

### Open House for Donna Hampson

An open house will be held in honor of Donna Hampson's retirement from Standard Bank & Trust on Sunday, January 3, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Gardner American Legion Hall, 426 Industry Ave., Gardner.

All are invited to join in and wish Donna well.

### County Offices to Close for Holidays

All Livingston County offices will be closed on Friday, December 25, and Friday, January 1, in observance of the Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays.



### Foley Wins DAR Good Citizen, Principal's Leadership Awards

Gardner South Wilmington High School senior Samantha Foley has been named the school's Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen winner. She has also been honored with the Principal's Leadership Award.

Foley was selected for DAR honor based on DAR Good Citizen qualities, which include dependability (truthfulness, loyalty and punctuality); service (cooperation, courtesy and consideration of others); leadership (personality, self-control and ability to assume responsibility); and patriotism (unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation) to an outstanding degree.

Foley has completed an essay on citizenship and submitted documentation of her manifestation of the above qualities. If her essay is chosen, she may be eligible to compete at the state and even national levels for scholarship funds.

She has also been honored with the Principal's Leadership Award, which is



Samantha Foley

sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Herff Jones, Inc.

To be eligible for this award, a student must be in the top 20 percent of his or her class and demonstrate leadership. This scholarship award gives high school principals the opportunity to recognize a student leader by nominating him or her for a national scholarship. Based on this nomination, Foley has been entered in a scholarship contest with awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$12,000.

Samantha Foley is the daughter of Nick and Mary Foley of Gardner.



Jimmy Riely and Tiffany Potempa (Alyssa not pictured)

### GSW HS Student Spotlight

This week's Gardner South Wilmington High School Student Spotlight fits right into the holiday spirit.

Jimmy Riely, Alyssa Potempa and Tiffany Potempa came in early one morning, before school started, to help Ms. Wzorek decorate a

nine-foot Christmas tree in the cafeteria so everyone at GSW High School could enjoy it.

Thanks, Jimmy, Alyssa and Tiffany, for your help in spreading the Christmas spirit at GSW. Happy holidays from GSW HS.

### Wayne Taylor Retires as CEO at Bank of Pontiac

Wayne Taylor, chairman and CEO of the Bank of Pontiac, will retire on December 31 as CEO after 37 years with Bank of Pontiac.

Taylor joined the bank in 1972 as agricultural representative and farm manager. During his career, Wayne worked as ag loan officer, senior lender, trust officer and was named president in 1990. Taylor will continue to serve as chairman of the Boards of Bank of Pontiac, Pontiac Bancorp, Inc. and Bank of Dwight.

The public is invited by the officers and employees of Bank of Pontiac to celebrate Taylor's 37-year contribution to banking. An open house will be held in his honor on Wednesday, December 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the lobby at Bank of Pontiac's main bank, 300 W. Washington St., Pontiac.

Taylor grew up on a farm in Cullom. He graduated from Cullom High School and earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Illinois. He served five years on active duty as a navigator with the U.S. Air Force, including service in Southeast Asia.



Wayne Taylor

Past chairman and current treasurer of Evenglow Lodge Board of Trustees, he is a member and past president of the Pontiac Rotary Club. Taylor is past chairman of OSF St. James Hospital Foundation, past regional vice chairman of Community Bankers Association and currently serves on the Livingston County Farm Bureau Foundation Board. He is an active member of Pontiac First United Methodist Church. In 2001, he was named Pontiac Chamber Business Person of the Year. He and his wife, Lynn, reside in Pontiac. They have six children and eight grandchildren.

**News and Advertising Early Deadline is Thursday, December 24 by noon for The Paper of December 30.**

*Happy New Year*

We will be open until Noon on  
New Year's Eve,  
Thursday, December 31.

We will not be open  
on New Year's Day,  
Friday, January 1, 2010.

**Bank of Dwight**  
Main Bank & Drive-Up • 815-584-1855  
Member FDIC

*Merry Christmas in Gaelic is Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ùr!*

### TIME OUT

2009

Dec. 25 Free Christmas Dinners, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Dwight (Dinners delivered 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Dinner at church to follow)  
Jan. 10 Gardner Lions Pancake Breakfast, Gardner Legion, 7 a.m.-Noon

**It's FREE to List Your Event in Time Out!**  
Call *The Paper* at 815-584-1901.

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays*

*Peace and Happiness are the true gifts of Christmas. Wishing you plenty of both this holiday season and throughout the New Year!*

**POPEJOY inc.**  
plumbing • heating • electric  
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502 W. Mazon, Dwight  
815-584-9680  
203 S. 10th St., Fairbury  
815-692-4471

**Merry Christmas! From All of Us at FRAHER**

Stop By and Pick Up Your 2010 Calendars!

**Featured New Vehicles**

**'10 Mustang**  
\$1,500 Rebate or 1.9% for 60 Mo.\*

**'10 Escape**  
\$2,000 Rebate or 0% for 60 Mo.\*

\*Requires Financing with FMCC and Credit Approval!

**Ready For Delivery - Great Incentives Available**

- '10 F150 - 2 In Stock
- '10 SuperDuties - 8 In Stock
- '10 Escape XLT
- '10 Expedition EL XLT
- '10 Ranger S/C XLT

- '10 Transit Connect
- '10 Focus - 2 In Stock
- '10 Fusion SEL
- '10 Mustang V6
- '10 Taurus SHO AWD

**Holiday Hours:**  
Closed at Noon, Dec. 24  
Closed Dec. 25 and 26  
Closed at 3 p.m., Dec. 31  
Closed Jan. 1 and 2

**Featured Used Vehicles**

**'07 Taurus SEL**  
2 In Stock  
**\$8,900**

**'07 Compass Sport**  
13K, 4WD, Side Air Bags  
**\$14,900**

'09 Flex SEL, 30K, AWD, 7-Pass. \$26,900	'07 Edge SE, 26K, FWD ... ..\$17,900
'08 Taurus LTD, 17K, FWD, Leather \$19,900	'06 Crown Victoria LX, 27K, Leather \$12,900
'08 Grand Prix, 33K, Pwr Group ...\$11,900	'06 F150 S/C XL, 49K, 4WD ... ..\$16,900
'08 Mariner Luxury, 31K, Sunroof \$16,900	'05 Malibu Maxx, 41K, FWD ... ..\$9,900
'07 Fusion SE, 44K, FWD ... ..\$11,900	'03 Grand Marquis LS, 34K, Ultimate ED \$9,900
'07 Focus ZX4, 2 in stock! Starting at \$8,900	'98 Ranger XL, 139K, 2WD ... ..\$2,900
'07 F150 S/C STX, 31K, Pwr Group. \$17,900	'96 Ranger S/C XLT, 61K, 2WD ...\$4,900

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**WWW.FRAHERAUTOS.COM**





DWIGHT JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT TROOP #1483 placed their handmade decorations on the downtown Dwight Christmas tree on December 3. The scouts used found and donated items, such as pipe cleaners and beads, to make their ornaments. Pictured left to right, front row, are: Kali Hoegger, Meghan Hodge, Anna Gilchrist and Morgyn Moyemont; back row: Rachael Sorensen, Tori Hayner and troop leaders Maureen Gilchrist and Karen Hodge.

**THE NEW YEAR**

Thank you to all my clients for your greetings, gifts and generosity throughout the holiday season and year. Have a Happy New Year!

**Lisa Koehler**  
Total Image Hair Salon, Inc.  
301 E. Main St., Reddick • 815-365-4547

**5 Dinners for \$5**  
Dine Early and Choose One of these Dinners For One Great Value!

Baked Chicken Rollup

Stuffed Green Pepper

Grilled Pork Medallion

Lasagna Rollup

Fried Shrimp

Sorry, No Substitutions.

**I-55 and Route 17, Dwight**  
**815-584-1065**

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

MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR WMC MORTGAGE CORPORATION,

Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
BRYAN ALBRECHT, TRACEY ALBRECHT, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., UNDER MORTGAGE RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NUMBER

00573082,  
Defendant(s),  
09CH 55

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Livingston County, Illinois, will on January 20, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Livingston County Courthouse, 112 West Madison Street, Pontiac, Illinois 61764, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Livingston, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:

LOTS 10 AND 11 IN BLOCK 6 IN THE SECOND EXTENSION TO THE SOUTH ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF FLANAGAN, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Common Address: 301 South Jackson Street, Flanagan, Illinois 61740  
P.I.N. 13-13-22-412-007  
The Judgment amount is \$ 105,077.36.

Contact the Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information. The terms of the sale are cash. The property is improved by a single family residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.

Attorney No. 06185808  
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC  
175 North Franklin Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
1223167



THE WEBELOS from troop 462 in Gardner went to Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie on Saturday, December 5. The Webelos worked with Horticulturalist Eric Vlaszek to sort and clean the seeds of wild flowers. The seeds will be planted in the spring with other wild flower seeds to help restore the natural prairie at Midewin. Pictured are, left to right, front row: Webelos Spencer McDaniels, Graham Perrott and Logan Gouwens; back row: Scout Master Tom McDaniels, Midewin Horticulturalist Eric Vlaszek, and Boy Scout First Class Trevor Waddell.

**New DVD Gives a Glance into Herscher's Past**

A rare look into the past is available on DVD from the Herscher Area Historical Society.

The DVD features the best of the home movies made by the late Howard Wilcox (1881-1975). It is for sale at State Bank of Herscher, Tiger's Den and Hardware Hank's in Herscher, or by calling Carol Desch at 815-426-2292 or Jim Ridings at 815-426-2905. Proceeds from the sale will help renovate the new site of the Herscher Museum on the corner of Myrtle and Main streets.

The movie shows downtown Herscher in 1939, with each merchant coming outside to greet the camera man. A few of those identified on the film are Earl Bechtel, Bert Smith, Walter Geiger, Elmer Berger, Dr. Wisner, Kenneth Geiger, Lambert Hines, Gladys Peterson, Maurice and Mandel Leiser, Rudy Keefner, Lucille Clodi, Elwood Peterson, Amos Westphal, Walter Schumaker, Fred Bossert, Jim Amidon, Howard Wilcox, Bailey Johnson, Eleanor Feller, Levi Jensen, Roy Johnson, Ward Tobey, Ray Ramsey, Ellsworth Warmbir and Dale Golding.

There also is footage of various Kankakee County fairs in the 1940s and 1950s and of the 1953 Kankakee Centennial parade and festivities at Gov. Small Memorial Park.

The home movies were professionally enhanced and digitalized by Richard Wilcox Burow, the grandson of Roy Wilcox. He generously donated his time and expenses in providing the finished DVDs to the historical society.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

**Vigna Real Estate**  
815-584-3637  
vignarealestate.com

Thanks to our customers from all of us at Van Duzer Jewelers. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**VanDuzer Jewelers** 411 Liberty Street Morris 815-941-1915

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,  
Plaintiff  
vs.  
VINCENT J. CURULEWSKI, III, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants  
09CH 120

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, VINCENT J. CURULEWSKI, III, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s) in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Livingston County, Illinois, by the Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

LOT 4 IN BLOCK 1 OF THE WEST 644 FEET OF MCCONNELL'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF DWIGHT, SITUATED IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 211 E. PHILMARE ST., DWIGHT, IL 60420  
Permanent Index No. 05-05-09-426-002.

and which said Mortgage was made by VINCENT J. CURULEWSKI, III, Mortgageor(s), to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE OF LASALLE BANK, N.A. ASSIGNED TO CITIMORTGAGE, INC., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 00582407;

And for such other relief prayed; that summons was duly issued out of the said Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU, the said above defendant(s), file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court, at the Courthouse, in the City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois, on or before January 8, 2010, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint.

Judith K. Cremer,  
Clerk of the 11th Judicial Circuit Court Livingston County, Illinois.

HAUSELMAN & RAPPIN, LTD.  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
39 South La Salle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60603  
312 372 2020  
1226397



DAISY GIRL SCOUT TROOP #1224 of Dwight recently learned about the military from Dwight Police Officer Watson McKee.

**Dwight Daisy Girl Scout Troop Busy with Many Activities**

Daisy Girl Scout Troop #1224 of Dwight has been very busy. Troop members Nora Anderson, Kayla Walkup, Emily Scott, Taylor Peck, Alayna Airgood, Natalie Webb, Kaitlynn Bovellev and Madison Lauterbur are learning the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law. They are also working toward completing the daisy petal patches.

On December 3, they placed handmade ornaments on the community Christmas tree. The tree is decorated by all the Dwight area Girl Scout troops.

The Daisies also earned the December patch – "The Armed Forces and Me." A few of the requirements needed to earn this patch included coloring pictures to send to the troops overseas through Operation SOS; learning about three of the places the military is deployed from veteran and Dwight Police Officer Watson McKee; and learning a patriotic song.

On December 6, the Daisies traveled to Braden Auditorium in Normal to watch a performance of The Nutcracker Ballet. The girls participated in fall product sales to earn the money for the tickets.

January will bring a Girl Scout Cookie Rally in Bloomington; Girl Scout cookie sales start January 15. With the help of State Farm Insurance, the Operation Cookie Share program will allow customers to share Girl Scout cookies with military troops. Customers will be asked if they would like to purchase cookies and if they would like to purchase some for the military troops. After the cookie sales are completed, State Farm's "Adopt a Soldier" program will pay all the shipping costs to deliver this taste of home to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. In the past, more than 1,000 boxes of cookies have been sent. This year, the goal is 1,000 cases. Troop #1224 encourages the community to help meet this goal.

**Pontiac to Host 21st Annual First Night Celebration**

The City of Pontiac will hold its 21st annual First Night, a family oriented, substance-free New Year's Eve celebration on Thursday, December 31, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

More than 20 forms of entertainment will include a Game Show, Magic and Illusions, classic rock, country band, gospel, Broadway-style show, a ventriloquist, Dance Party, children's interactive band, Kids Fun Factory, Comity Buzz Coffee House grand opening featuring live music acts, the Route 66 Museum, Livingston County War Museum, 18 WALLDOG murals, ice sculpture, horse and carriage rides and more. There will be fireworks at midnight.

Kids in fifth grade or under will receive a free admission button.

For more information, call 815-844-6692 or visit pontiacproud.org

*Season's Greetings*

May your home be filled with good tidings this holiday season and may your life be enriched by the joy and warmth of Christmas.

*Village of Dwight*  
Mayor Bill Wilkey  
Village Trustees and Administration

Sending You Best Wishes For A Very Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year

**ZEKE'S FURNITURE MART**  
"SINCE 1959"  
318 W. WAUPANSIE STREET, DWIGHT  
**584-3625**





**SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS** at Trinity “Goodfarm” Lutheran Church, rural Dwight, performed a pageant December 13 based on the gospel hymn “I Love to Tell the Story of Jesus and His Love.” Children read parts of the Bible about the first Christmas and used Bible character hand puppets to tell the story. At the end of the service, they performed the first verse of “Silent Night,” signing the lyrics in American Sign Language. Pictured below the puppets, left to right, are Alysha Basel, Austen Tankersley, Bailey Tankersley, Wilton Jackman, Madison Jackman, Felicia Nelson, Ashton Burkhardt and Michael Nelson.

### ‘Five Languages of Love’ is Christmas Theme at St. Peter’s

St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Dwight, is holding several special Christmas services and activities, including services based on Gary Chapman’s “The Five Languages of Love.”

In the book, Chapman says that everyone speaks a primary love language. He says that everyone has a “love tank” within that needs to be filled with love. If he or she does not receive this love, his or her “love tank” stays empty, and a feeling of being unloved and insecure in a relationship begins to grow. Jesus meets us on these levels and equips us with all the tools to be able to do the same for others.

Previous Advent services at St. Peter’s discussed three of the “love languages” – words of affirmation, quality time and acts of service. At the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve candlelight service, Thursday, December 24, the community is invited to learn about a fourth love language: touch. The fifth language, gift giving, will be the topic of the Christmas Day service at 10 a.m. Friday, December 25.

“The church will take a closer look at how Jesus is the personification of God’s perfect love for us and how we get to be the representation of God’s love in this world,” said Pastor Heidi Punt.

She explained that although it is often a joyous

occasion when families come together for the holidays, it can often be stressful if relationships are strained. The series attempts to explain that a difference in love languages may be the cause of the strain and that all love languages are representations of God’s love.

Another Christmas service at St. Peter’s includes a carol service at 5 p.m. December 24, when stories from the book of Luke will be told.

The church’s Sunday School students will perform the Christmas program, “A Traditional Christmas Pageant” by Nancy Seale, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 27. Cookies will be served in the fellowship hall following the program.

All in the community are invited to attend any or all of the events. The church is located at 326 W. Chippewa St., Dwight.



### Christmas Eve Service at ‘Goodfarm’ Lutheran

Trinity “Goodfarm” Lutheran Church, rural Dwight, will have a special Christmas Eve candlelight worship service on Thursday, December 24, at 6 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend, and the church is handicap accessible. The church is located a half mile east of Route 47 on Stonewall Road. Rev. W. E. Duey is the pastor.

### Free H1N1 Vaccine Clinics in Morris

The Grundy County Health Department will hold a free, walk-in H1N1 vaccine clinic Wednesday, December 30, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. The clinic will be at the Grundy County Administration Building, 1320 Union St., Morris.

Numbers will be passed out at 8 a.m. both days.

The H1N1 vaccine is available for all Illinois residents. There has been little to no waiting at the Grundy County clinics.

For further information, contact the health department at 815-941-6125.

## Bagpiper Visits God-With-Us Preschool for Celebration

by Meta Machulis

When Noah Kelleher’s classmates and teachers at God-With-Us Preschool sang “Happy Birthday” to Noah on December 15, they were joined by a special guest who played the traditional tune on the bagpipe.

In honor of Noah’s fourth birthday, his parents, Andy and Tracy Kelleher of Dwight, arranged for bagpiper Sean Freeman of DeKalb to visit the preschool at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Dwight, and give a demonstration to the three- and four-year-olds.

Freeman said he started playing the bagpipe 11 years ago as a member of a northern Illinois network of fire department bagpipers. He is now a member of a not-for-profit bagpipe demonstration group and pays many visits to schools and organizations. Along with “Happy Birthday,” he played many Christmas and Celtic songs for the

children at God-With-Us Preschool and taught them how the bagpipe works.

Tracy Kelleher said she had an Irish Catholic upbringing on the south side of Chicago, where many in her family are members of the police department. Andy heard about bagpipe demonstrations and thought it would be a good way for Noah and his class to celebrate his birthday. A bag-

piper also played for Noah’s first birthday, Andy said.

“It’s kind of original, and it’s also a learning experience,” Andy said. He explained that having a special event in honor of Noah’s December birthday helps to “blend Christmas with it, yet separate it a little bit so it doesn’t get absorbed into the holiday.”



**EVAN, WILLIAM, LOLA AND NOAH** listen intently as Sean Freeman of DeKalb plays the bagpipe at God-With-Us Preschool, Dwight, on December 15. The event was in honor of Noah’s fourth birthday.



**SEAN FREEMAN** of DeKalb visited God-With-Us Preschool at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Dwight, on December 15 to give a bagpipe demonstration in honor of student Noah Kelleher’s fourth birthday.

We will be open until Noon on

*Christmas Eve*

Thursday, December 24.

We will not be open on

*Christmas Day*

Friday, December 25.

**Bank of Dwight**

Main Bank & Drive-Up • 815-584-1855

Member FDIC

Merry Christmas

Wishing you a beautiful holiday and a year filled with peace and harmony.

**Emling Florist**

Downtown Dwight

584-3122

**Why Sit at Home on New Year’s Eve When You Can Play B-I-N-G-O at the Gardner American Legion?**

**Thursday, December 31**

**New Year’s Eve**

**First Game Begins at 6:30 p.m.**

**Snacks and Refreshments Provided**

**426 Industry Ave., Gardner**

**815-237-2747**

*Merry Christmas and Peace on Earth from*

**BIG KAHUNA DJ**

Taking reservations for your 2010 Event!

**815-343-7303**

**Thank You for the wonderful turnout at our Open House!**

We enjoyed sharing with you our mission, services and what makes Heritage Woods of Dwight a warm and special place for seniors who want to remain independent, while receiving caring support for daily living in their own residential style apartment. We wish to offer additional opportunities for personal tours to be conducted at your convenience and would be glad to show you or a loved one how they too can benefit and enjoy the affordable, assisted lifestyle in your brand new apartment home.

Call today for your personal tour, including a coupon for a complimentary lunch as our gift at this holiday time, 815-584-9280, Jodi Jensen for additional information.

**Welcome Home to Heritage Woods of Dwight an Affordable Assisted Lifestyle Community!**

**Heritage Woods of Dwight**

**815-584-9280**

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Anniversary & Retirement Open House**

Honoring **Wayne Taylor**

Wed., December 30<sup>th</sup>

2 - 5:00 p.m.

Main Bank Lobby

300 W. Washington St., Pontiac

**Bank of Pontiac**

(815) 844-6155

Member FDIC



## Letters to Santa from Mrs. Williams' Students

Mrs. Williams' second grade class at Dwight Grade School wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Dear Santa,  
Does one of your reindeer really have a red nose? Could you please bring me a red, white and blue remote control car like the color of the flag? I hope you have a very nice Christmas.

Love, Connor  
Dear Santa,  
How do you survive up there in the cold? Please bring me a pair of red, blue and green skates with instructions. I hope you have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your friend, Ben  
Dear Santa,  
I wonder how hard it is to make all the toys. This year I would really like to have you bring me a doll, please. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love, Lexi  
Dear Santa,  
What do you feed the reindeer to make them fly? Please, Santa, bring me a G.I. Joe Night Raven. I hope you make it to everyone's house in time this Christmas Eve!

Love, Sevin  
Dear Santa,  
Why do you have to live so far away? Will you please give me a Furr Real Friend dog? I wish you a Merry Christmas.

Love, Lilianna  
Dear Santa,  
I have always wondered how you get all of the elves to build all the toys. I hope that

you will bring me a white DSI. Happy Holidays to all of you.  
Love, Brenden  
Dear Santa,  
I have always wondered what you feed all of your reindeer up there. I have been a very good girl this year. Will you please bring me a shiny, red sled this Christmas? Have a good Christmas Eve.

Love, Brookelyn  
Dear Santa,  
I am wondering where you keep all of those elves who work for you. Can you please bring me an Ariel doll that swims for Christmas? I hope you have a good holiday up there.

Love, Christina  
Dear Santa,  
How do your elves make all of those toys? This year I would like to have you please bring me a DSI? I wish all of you a Merry Christmas at the North Pole.

Love, Tyler  
Dear Santa,  
I have always wondered why you drive a sleigh. For this Christmas, I hope you can bring me a real parrot. I will name him Stitch.

Love, Aiden  
Dear Santa,  
How do you get those elves to make all the toys for you? This year would you please bring me an Indiana Jones and the Staff of Kings for my Wii game? I hope you have a great Christmas.

Love, Elijah  
Dear Santa,  
How do you get all of those elves to work for you? Do you

have to pay them? I hope you will bring my favorite toy to me this year. It is G.I. Joe Headquarters. Have a good Christmas Eve.

Love, Joey  
Dear Santa,  
Which reindeer is your favorite? It really doesn't matter if you bring me anything off of my list, but I would really like a bell from your sleigh.

Love, Westley  
Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer doing up there? I really hope you will bring me a real live puppy. If you do I will name her Rosie. Have a Merry Christmas.

Love, Haley  
Dear Santa,  
Is it true that you are magical? This year I hope you can bring me a Furr Real Friend. I hope it is a duck. Have a nice Christmas.

Love, Felicia  
Dear Santa,  
Is it really true that all of your reindeer know how to fly? I have been good this year and hope that you can bring me a green light saber. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, too.

Love, Katy  
Dear Santa,  
I am hoping you will have time to come to my house this year. For this Christmas I would like a Lady GaGa CD. Also, do you have to teach the reindeer to fly or are they just born that way?

Love, Madison

## Mrs. Oelschlager's Class Writes Letters to Santa

Mrs. Oelschlager's second grade class at Dwight Grade School wrote the following letters to Santa.

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is my dog Lucky, a DSI and all the Star Wars action figures. I hope I'm not on the naughty list. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Your friend, Jacob  
Dear Kris Kringle,  
XOXOXOXOXO! For Christmas I would like some Pokémon cards, toys and Pokémon books. I hope Rudolph is being good. I hope you have a safe ride!

Your friend, Moe  
Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you feeling? I've been good this year. For Christmas I would like games for my Nintendo DS and a clean house for my mom. Have a happy flight.

Your friend, Cully  
Dear Mr. Claus,  
I really want Jesus, Angel and God action figures. Bunches and bunches of LOVE, from my parents Kerry and Greg. I'm getting the chill, how about you? I hope Comet doesn't have fear of flying!!

Your friend, Kyrsten  
Dear Santa,  
Sometimes I have good days and bad days. But the rest of the days are good. I want an iPod and a wrestling movie for Christmas. I hope the reindeer are not sick.

Your friend, Daniel

Dear Santa,  
Hello, I hope you put me on the good list. I hope you can give me a PSP for Christmas. My brother wants an iPod. Have a good day.

Your friend, Anthony  
Dear Santa,  
My name is MacKenna. I really want a DS. If you can't find a pink DS you can get a blue one. I hope Rudolph is not sick.

Your friend, MacKenna  
Dear Santa,  
I want a new house with a new Christmas tree and table for Christmas. I would like a reindeer by the tree too.

Your friend, Mason  
Dear Santa,  
I hope I'm on your behaved list. What I want for Christmas is an Xbox 360. Stay warm on Christmas Eve.

Your friend, Nick  
Dear Kris Kringle,  
I only have two things on my list; they are a Titanic book and a Bumblebee Transformer. I hope Comet is feeling well. Have a safe trip on Christmas Eve.

Your friend, Bryson  
Dear Kris Kringle,  
The two things I want for Christmas are another tree for my mom and I would like a Nintendo DSI XLS. I want to know how you're feeling? I have been kind of good this year.

Your friend, Alex

Dear Santa,  
Hello, I really want a DS for Christmas. How are you feeling? Are you OK or not? Well, I hope you are OK. Bye!

Your friend, Cheyanne  
Dear Santa Claus,  
Hello, my name is Tory. I have been a really good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a Nintendo DS with the game called Clue. I would also like to have a good Christmas.

Your friend, Tory  
Dear Kris Kringle,  
Hello, I really want a pink iPod for Christmas. I hope that you can deliver all the presents on Christmas Eve. I hope you have a very good Christmas.

Your friend, Josie  
Dear Santa,  
I want to tell you some of the things I want for Christmas. A ping pong table, a dog, a PSP and a power strip to use with my brother's PSP and my DS. I hope that Dasher is not sick so he can help fly the sled.

Your friend, Justin  
Dear Kris Kringle,  
I hope I am not on your naughty list. Will you please give me a BB gun and a lot of Xbox 360 games and cars for my brother, Zander. Have a Merry Christmas.

Your friend, Jaxson  
Dear Santa,  
Hi, I'm Amanda in Dwight. I've been sick with an ear infection, how are you? I would like a Nintendo DS for Christmas. I hope you have a nice Christmas.

Your friend, Amanda

**Wishing Everyone  
A Safe and Happy  
Holiday Season!**

from all of us at  
**Boucher Farms**  
• Dwight •  
**815-258-1503**



**Merry Christmas**

*Dr. Cichon and his Staff  
wish you and yours a  
safe, warm and happy  
Holiday Season!*

**Community Medical Center**  
103 John St., Dwight • 815-584-3051



**Dale Coughlin**  
107 E. Chippewa St., Dwight, IL  
60420  
815-584-1414  
www.edwardjones.com

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



## FINANCIAL FOCUS Put Unused Vacation Days to Work - in Your 401 (k)

Now that the year is almost over, you may want to explore some last-minute steps you can take to potentially boost your financial fortunes and improve your tax returns for 2010. And one good place to look is your 401(k).

Your 401(k) is a great retirement savings vehicle. You typically fund your plan with pretax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. Plus, your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis, which means your money can grow faster than if it were placed in an investment on which you paid taxes every year. Also, you can spread your 401(k) dollars among a range of investments to match your risk tolerance, time horizon and retirement goals. Clearly, then, it would be nice to "max out" on your plan each year. But during difficult economic times, it may not be easy for you to defer more of your salary into your 401(k).

Fortunately, there may be a way in which you can boost your 401(k) contributions — without cutting into your take-home pay.

Specifically, you may be able to convert any unused vacation and sick time to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 457(b) or 403(b). Many employers have offered this conversion option for years, but relatively few employees have taken advantage of it. Now, however, the Obama administration has asked the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS to issue new rulings on the topic in the hope of getting more people to increase their retirement savings. And this is an important goal, because many of us still need to put away much more money on a regular basis if we're going to enjoy the type of retirement lifestyle we've envisioned.

The ability to convert vacation or sick time to your 401(k), 403(b) or 457(b) plan can help you make progress toward that lifestyle. While the conversion feature won't enable you to exceed the contribution limit for your plan — which for 2009 is \$16,500, or \$22,000 if you're 50 or older — it may make it easier for you to beef up your contributions for this year, particularly if you have unused vacation or sick time you can't carry over.

Not all employers are willing or able to turn vacation or sick hours into retirement plan contributions, so check with your human resources or benefits office to see if you can make this move. If it is allowed, though, consider taking action. Once you know how many retirement plan dollars can result from your unused vacation or sick days, go over your 401(k) or other plan, perhaps with the help of your financial advisor, to determine an appropriate allocation of your money. For example, you may have accounts within your plan that are currently under-funded. Or you might benefit from "rebalancing" your plan by adding some new money into different accounts. Keep in mind, however, that diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against loss.

In any case, consider this opportunity to add to your retirement plan. The more you save today, the brighter your outlook could be for tomorrow goals.

Students in Mrs. Brummel's second grade class at Dwight Grade School wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Dear Santa,  
I like your reindeer, Rudolph. I want an electric

scooter that is pink. My cousin, Rita, needs a cell phone. Thank you Santa!  
Your friend, Lindita

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? I want a desk and a computer. I want a

*Gardner American Legion*

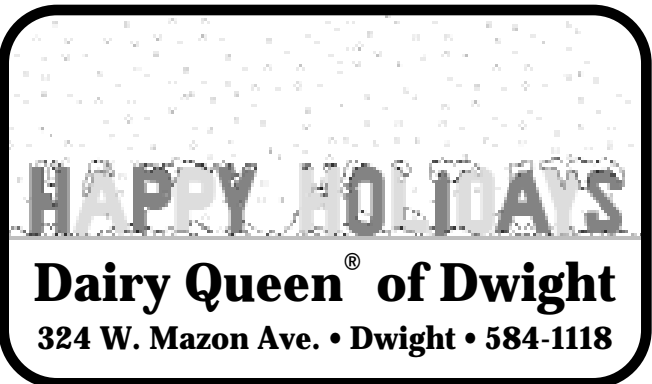
Wishes you  
Happy Holidays  
and a Joyous New Year.

426 Industry Avenue, Gardner  
**815-237-2747**



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

**Dairy Queen® of Dwight**  
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**Happy Holidays**



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www.coachhousegarages.com

**A  
LOAD  
OF THANKS**  
... and a Pile of  
BEST WISHES  
to all  
our customers.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

**GARDNER  
LAUNDROMAT  
and  
CAR WASH**

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6 AM to 9 PM



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**Celebrate the  
New Year with Us!**

**Let us Entertain You!**

**Thursday, December 31**  
**New Year's Eve**  
**The Clients**  
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
\$5 Cover Charge  
Champagne at Midnight  
Food and Drink Specials  
Hats, Noisemakers & Loads of Fun!

**Friday, January 1**  
**New Year's Day** The Cattle Bandits

*Serving food 'til midnight!*





## Obituaries

### Wadsworth ‘Buddy’ Smith

GARDNER – Wadsworth “Buddy” Phillip Smith, 67, of Gardner passed away Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at his home.

Visitation and video tribute were Sunday, December 20, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Reeves Funeral Home, Gardner. Funeral service was Monday, December 21, at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home with Rev. Nate Ferguson officiating.

Burial with full military honors was in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood. Pallbearers were Duane Francois, Donald Francois, Ben Zimmerman, Andrew Zimmerman, Tyson Kline and Heath Whittingham.

Born September 26, 1942 in Ottawa, Buddy was a son of William Haywood and Glenna Julia Rentz-Smith. He was raised and educated in Coal City and was a 1961 graduate of Coal City High School. Buddy retired from Amoco Chemical Company as a chemical operator in January 1998 and was a member of ORCA (Old Reel Collectors Association) and



NFLCC (National Fishing Lure Collectors Club). He was known for collecting antique fishing reels, old tools and antique tractors, especially John Deere.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy J. Cook Smith; two sons, Phillip Smith of Braceville and Jeffrey (Missy) Smith of Gardner; a step-daughter, Jasmine Rein (also known as Jenny Bishop) of Las Vegas, Nevada; brothers and sisters: Linda (Russ) Mading of Wisconsin; Larry (Diane) Smith of Gardner; Rita (the late Harry) Kline of Marseilles; Dennis (Lucille) Smith of Goose Lake; and William (Peggy) Smith of Florida; his beloved aunt, Naomi Francois of Coal City; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Buddy was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Jerry, in infancy; and a step-son, Michael Wilson.

Memorials may be made to the Gardner Emergency Squad or Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Memorial Squad.

Friends may sign the online guestbook or send private condolences online at [www.ReevesFuneral.com](http://www.ReevesFuneral.com)

### Arlene Drew

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. – Arlene Ada Drew, 82, died Friday, December 11, at Pasco-Hernando Hospice in New Port Richey, Florida.

A private family viewing was held Saturday, December 19, at 9 a.m. with public visitation from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at North-Meadowlawn Funeral Home, New Port Richey, Fla. Her funeral service was at 3 p.m. at the funeral home.

Entombment was at Meadowlawn Memorial Gardens, New Port Richey, Fla.

Arlene was born January 31, 1927 in Chicago to Arthur and Dolly Lockwood. She grew up on the north side of Chicago and later moved with her family to the suburb of Franklin Park, where she graduated from Glen Leyden High School. She briefly moved to Los Angeles, Calif. after high school and later moved to the Dwight area, where she met and married Robert Drew in 1950. They lived in and around the Chicago metro area and had seven children before moving to New Port Richey, Fla.,

where they retired among family and friends.

Arlene is survived by her husband, Robert Drew; two daughters, Mary (Larry) Dodd and Cheryl (Robert) Brown; four sons: Robert (Beth) Drew, Thomas (Robin) Drew, William (Amy) Drew and Phillip (Shannon) Drew; grandchildren: Adam Dodd, Rachel Dodd, Ryan Dodd, Amy Smith, Pamela Smith, Steven Brown, Trevor Drew, Owen Drew, Evan Drew, Alex Drew, Kelly Drew, Collin Drew, Eric Drew, Wesley Drew, Mitchell Drew, Ashley Drew and Levi Drew; and great-grandchildren: Tera Smith, Cole Smith, Mylie Barrickman, Nia Smyth, Mya Brown and David Owen Dodd.

She was preceded in death by a son, David Drew, and a brother, Fred Rudy.

*“Let my name be ever the household word that it always was, Let it be spoken without effect, Without the trace of a shadow on it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was; It is the unbroken continuity.” – Henry Scott Holland*

### John M. Alexander

KANKAKEE – John M. Alexander, 95, of Kankakee passed away Saturday, December 19, 2009 at St. Mary’s Hospital, Kankakee.

Funeral services are today, Wednesday, December 23, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Kankakee.

Visitation will be today from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Church. From 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, visitation was in the Kankakee Chapel of the Schreffler Funeral Home.

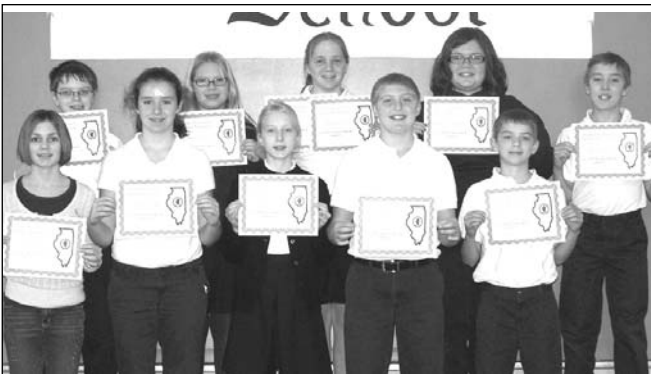
Burial will be in Kankakee Memorial Gardens.

Mr. Alexander was a former realtor, having owned and operated the John M. Alexander Real Estate Agency; was a member of the Piper City

Masonic Lodge; enjoyed bowling and golf, which he continued up until two years ago; and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Kankakee.

John is survived by his wife, Elva Ruth Alexander, of Kankakee; one brother; one sister-in-law; nieces and nephews, including Mary (Harry) Johnson of Dwight; many great-nieces and great-nephews; great-great-nieces and great-great-nephews; some special friends; and a loving family and friends.

You may send a private condolence: [www.schrefflerfuneralhome.com](http://www.schrefflerfuneralhome.com)



**JUDGE’S CHOICE AWARDS** at the IESA State Speech Competition were presented to several members of the Speech Team from St. Paul School, Odell. Recipients were, left to right, front row: Molly Verdun, Lauren Cassady, Emily Carroll, Justin Fox and Mike Doran; back row: Brandon Huffman, Maggie McCoy, Amy Wyant, Madison Grundler and Dan Dwyer.



**ST. PAUL SCHOOL’S SPEECH TEAM** members proudly display their first-place medals from the IESA State Competition held at Prairie Central Junior High School, Forrest, on November 14. Pictured left to right are, front row: Brandon Huffman, Jonnmichael Bryant, Maddy Erickson, Kelly Pagel, Molly Verdun, Mike Doran, Mary Wiemken, Dori Cooling, Cheyenne Tulley, Rachel Carroll, Kinzie Horsley; middle row: Dan Dwyer, Michael Raddatz, Emily Carroll, Maggie McCoy, Anna Stevenson, Samantha Carlson, Chance Carlson, Kelsey Grieff, Francesca Raddatz; back row: Amy Wyant, Justin Fox, Madison Grundler, Julie Hogan, Alyson Wiemken, Jorden Grieff, Emily Leonard, Ashton Farris, Rachel O’Lone, Ashley Fox, Lauren Cassady.

### DTHS Varsity Scholastic Bowl Team Remains Undefeated

Dwight hosted a non-conference Scholastic Bowl meet with Momence, Morris, and Prairie Central on December 15.

The varsity squad beat Morris 188-122 in the opening match. Donnie McClarey answered three toss-ups, and Joel Kelleher and Mike Halloran each had two toss-ups.

In the second match, Dwight defeated Prairie Central, 125-25. Michael Muzyka led the team with three toss-ups, McClarey added two, and Halloran and Ryan Kaiser each had one.

In the final match against Momence, the Trojans jumped out to a 125-5 lead at halftime and

finished the match with a score of 195-40. McClarey posted five toss-ups in the match, Mike Halloran scored three times and Michael Muzyka had two toss-ups.

“The team played very well against teams from across the area and with different styles of questions,” said coach Clark Reamer. “It is nice to go into the holiday break with a night like this.”

The team now has a record of seven wins with zero losses.

The freshman-sophomore squad finished the evening with a win over Momence 140-35, a one-point loss to Morris 180-181, and a loss to Prairie Central 104-119.

Boma was the leader in toss-

ups for the evening with nine, followed by Hooker with six; Thomas, two; and Stephanie Goley, one.

The JV team is now 7-7 on the season.

The Dwight Junior Varsity Scholastic Bowl team competed in a tournament at Prairie Central on December 12. The team finished the day 3-4 with wins against Ottawa, Tri-Valley, and Blue Ridge. Losses were to Prairie Central, Pontiac, Central Catholic and Rantoul.

Matt Hooker was the toss-up leader for the day with 10, followed by Aaron Boma, seven; David Reamer, six; Jake Thomas, four; Steven Mann, two; Gabby Davis, one; and Brady Foose, one.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE DWIGHT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing shall be held before the Dwight Zoning Board of Appeals on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room at the Dwight Public Services Building, 209 S. Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois. The public hearing will be for the purpose of considering the application for a zoning variance filed by Nila Giles. The request for variance is to allow the reduction of the rear yard setback requirement from 30 feet to 21 feet to allow for the construction of a three-season room addition to an existing residence. The real estate on which the variance is requested is commonly known as 307 N. Washington St., Dwight, Illinois and is more particularly described as follows, to wit:

The South 85 feet of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 4 of the Original Town, now Village of Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois.

At the time and place of the public hearing, all interested parties are invited to attend and make their views known, either orally, in writing, or by representative. A copy of the Application for Zoning Variance is available for public inspection at the Office of the Village Clerk, 209 S. Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois, during regular business hours.

For further information contact: Kevin McNamara, Village Administrator, Public Services Complex Building, 209 S. Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois 60420, 815-584-3083.

Patricia E. Drechsel, Village Clerk  
Dwight Public Services Complex Building  
209 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight, IL 60420  
(815) 584-3077

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,	)	
	)	Plaintiff,
vs.	)	No.09-CH-154
	)	
DANIEL L. CURLEY, and unknown owners and non-record claimants,	)	
	)	Defendants.

#### NOTICE

Notice is given you Defendants, unknown owners and non record claimants, that this action has been commenced in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, praying that a Judgment of Foreclosure be entered against real estate legally described as follows:

Lot 6 and the North Half of Lot 5 in Block 6 in the original town, now Village of Flanagan, Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 13-22-254-012

Commonly known as: 109 S. Main St., Flanagan, IL 61740.

The title holder of record to the above described real estate are DANIEL L. CURLEY. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on March 1, 2005. This mortgage was recorded on April 4, 2005, at the office of the Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 00562450. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendant in Case No. 09-CH-154 is currently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, of the law firm of Strufe & McClarey, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, unknown owners and non record claimants, file your answer to the complaint in this action or otherwise enter your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, held in the Courthouse in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before January 18, 2010, a default may be entered against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint.

Dated this 8 day of December, 2009.

Judith K. Cremer, Circuit Clerk  
Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial  
Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,	)	
	)	Plaintiff,
vs.	)	No.09-CH-155
	)	
DANIEL L. CURLEY, CALE E. CURLEY, and unknown owners and non-record claimants,	)	
	)	Defendants.

#### NOTICE

Notice is given you Defendants, unknown owners and non record claimants, that this action has been commenced in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, praying that a Judgment of Foreclosure be entered against real estate legally described as follows:

Lot 1 in Block 5 in North Addition to Flanagan, Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 13-22-253-013

Commonly known as: 201 N. Main St., Flanagan, IL 61740.

The title holder of record to the above described real estate are DANIEL L. CURLEY and CALE E. CURLEY. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on March 24, 2006. This mortgage was recorded on March 31, 2006, at the office of the Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 00570421. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendant in Case No. 09-CH-155 is currently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, of the law firm of Strufe & McClarey, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, unknown owners and non record claimants, file your answer to the complaint in this action or otherwise enter your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, held in the Courthouse in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before January 18, 2010, a default may be entered against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint.

Dated this 8 day of December, 2009.

Judith K. Cremer, Circuit Clerk  
Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial  
Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois

Family members of the deceased:  
Please instruct the  
Funeral Home to fax information to:  
**The Paper** (815) 584-2196.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE	)	
	)	
OF	)	
	)	No. 09-P-132
MARGARET D. PFEIFER,	)	
	)	
Deceased.	)	

#### CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given of the death of Margaret D. Pfeifer of Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 9, 2009 to Betty J. Close, 415 Meadow Brook Lane, Morris, Illinois 60450, whose attorney is Gary M. Neville, 146 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 8, Dwight, Illinois, 60420.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the following address: Livingston County Circuit Clerk, Livingston County Courthouse, P.O. Box 320, Pontiac, Illinois 61764, or with the representative, or both, by not later than June 22, 2010, and any claims not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Betty J. Close  
Independent Executor  
415 Meadow Brook Ln.  
Morris, IL 60450

Gary M. Neville  
Attorney for Executor  
146 E. Main St., Box 8  
Dwight, IL 60420  
Phone: (815) 584-3006



# Martha is Merry



Martha Schneider

Buckingham's Martha Schneider has made her Christmas a little merrier after a tiebreaker victory over Pontiac's "Post" Mark Mackinson. Both swamis were 13-1 for the week. The total for all the NFL games points combined was 597. Schneider guessed 603 (+6). Mackinson guessed 611 (+14). Schneider has collected the fourth of *The Paper's* \$50 sponsor gift certificates. The prize will max out starting with our next winner. *The Paper* has \$100 sponsor gift certificates ready for our winners for the rest of the season and postseason. This will all lead into the greatest game of the year, Big Paper Bowl.

One hundred forty entries were collected in week 14. The results show that you are all getting tuned in as the season moves along. Ninety percent of all the entries were .500 or better. Fourteen were 12-2. They included Dwight's Keith "Cub #2" Lauritzen (2x), Gary Olson, Carson Banks, Dee Banks, Mark German, Daniel Housman and Dana Taylor; Herscher's Gerald Schneider, Cameron Webster and Tony Webster; Wilmington's Vickie Dagen; Odell's Chris Campbell; and Buckingham's Jerome Schneider. Thirty-one entries were 11-3; 34 were 10-4; 24 were 9-5; 21 were 8-6 and the remaining entries were .500 or below.

*The Paper* is going to make it a great start to 2010 for somebody out there. It might as well be you. Just fill out those entry forms and drop them off at one of our designated sponsors. This week you can enter a season-high five times. Enter once at each drop location. The drop locations are Victory Lanes, Bank of Dwight, Old World Liquors, Route 66 Tire & Auto and Streator Onized Credit Union. Due to the holiday, we will extend our entry cut off to Saturday noon. Play them all, and take home some extra holiday cheer. Merry Christmas.

**News and Advertising  
Early Deadline  
is Thursday  
NOON,  
December 24,  
for *The Paper*  
of December 30.**

## Week 14 Paper Bowl VIII

### Paper Bowl VIII Sponsor Results • Week 14

Victory Lanes 14-0 over Dairy Queen 12-2  
LPL Stephen Tock 13-1 over Danko's State Farm 11-3  
Streator Onized C. U. 11-3 over Jensen's BP 10-4  
Bank of Dwight 12-2 over DeLong Ford 7-7  
Route 66 Tire & Auto 10-4 over Old World Liquors 0-14  
Turtle's Tap 10-4 over First National Bank 8-6  
Big Boyz Toyz 11-3 (+4) over Berkot's 11-3 (-135)

#### SPONSOR STANDINGS

NORTH	W-L	SOUTH	W-L
Dairy Queen	8-6	S. Tock LPL Financial	10-4
OWL	8-6	Danko's State Farm	10-4
Route 66 T&A	7-7	First National Bank	9-5
Victory Lanes	7-7	Bank of Dwight	8-6
Jensen's BP	6-8	Streator Onized C. U.	7-7
✕Big Boyz Toyz	4-10	✕Turtle's Tap	6-8
✕Berkot's	2-12	✕DeLong Ford	4-10
✕ Eliminated			

Two weeks are left. Still not one sponsor has clinched a spot in the post-season. The NFL's week 17 will be used to determine any and all tiebreakers. The sponsor playoffs begin with the NFL playoffs. This might be the best finish ever.

## HAIR EFFECTS Happy Holidays!

Thank you for a great year and wishing you happiness in the new year.  
161 S. Main Street, Herscher  
**815-426-2685**



## Holiday Gift Certificates The Perfect Stocking Stuffer!

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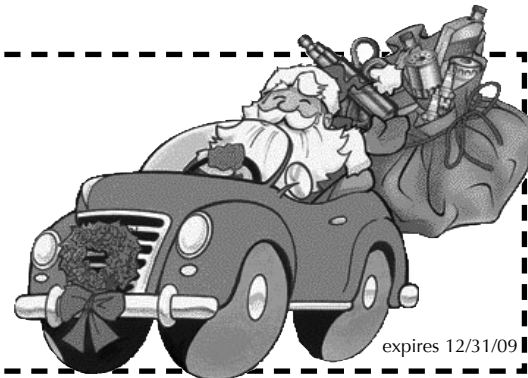
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As the year 2009 comes to a close we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business and confidence in our services. During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn to those who have made our progress possible.

There have been a lot of changes in the Automotive Repair Industry but our commitment to you remains the same, to provide the finest quality automotive repair and the best possible service available anywhere.

The year 2010 marks the beginning of our 15th year in business and we know it is customers like you who have helped us to continue to grow. This December we will be opening a second location in Diamond. Same great service with 2 locations to serve you. The address is 1100 E. Division in Diamond, Illinois. Come in and see us!

In celebration of the Holiday and the New Year, we would like to offer you this Gift Certificate as our way of saying Thank You.

P.S. If you have any friends or family who might benefit from this special, have them call us at 815-237-2355 or 815-634-2353 by December 31st, and mention your name and we will extend this offer to them as an additional courtesy to you!

Jeff Lee

J&R Service Center

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## J&R Service Center

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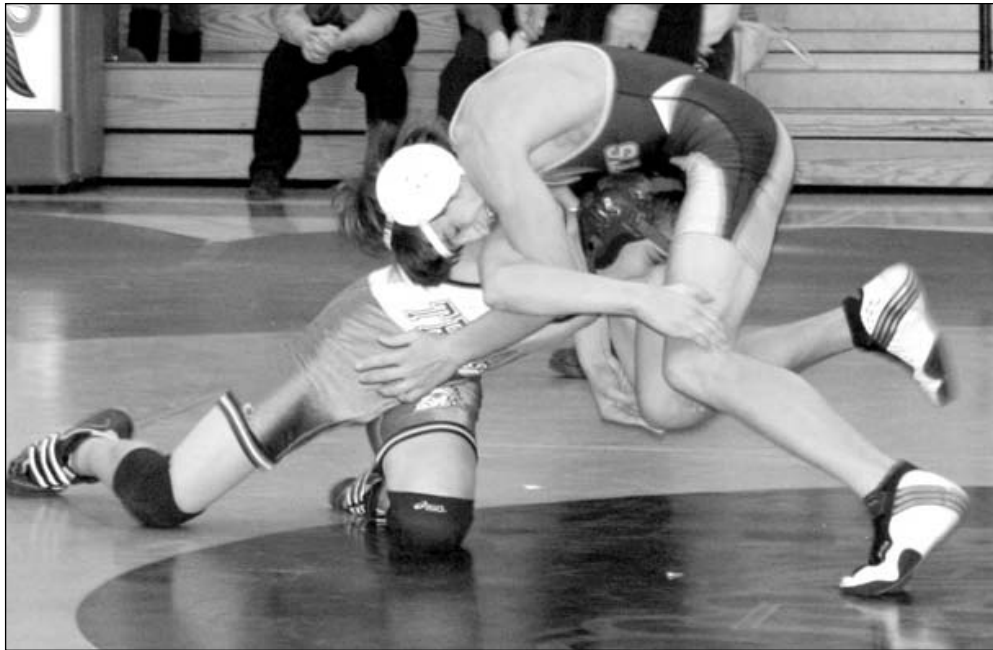
Expires December 31, 2009. Not valid with any other offer.





# The Paper SPORTS

The Paper Wednesday, December 23, 2009 Page 13



DTHS TROJAN WRESTLER Patrick Gliwa, left, begins his take down technique on an opponent.



## GSW LADY PANTHERS BASKETBALL

**December 12  
Lady Panthers  
vs. Hoopeston  
Game One-**

The GSW Lady Panthers varsity girls' basketball team defeated Hoopeston, 70-54.

Helping with the victory were: Amber Eisha, 19 points; Rachel Mack, 17 points and five assists; Kelsey Lutz, 11 points; Katie Gretz, six steals.

**Lady Panthers  
vs. Kankakee  
Game Two-**

The Lady Panthers varsity inched out a victory over Kankakee, 47-40.

Making the stat sheet were: Amber Eisha, 13 points, nine rebounds; Rachel Mack and Kelsey Lutz, 12 points each.

**SPORT**  
a positive attitude.

**December 14  
Lady Panthers  
vs. Iroquois West**

The GSW girls' varsity basketball team pounced on Iroquois West, 61-35.

Leading the team to a vic-

tory were: Kelsey Lutz, 20 points, Rachel Mack, 16 points, seven steals, six assists; Kellie Tyler, 12 points, nine rebounds; Amber Eisha, 11 points.

**Our Lobby and Drive-Thru  
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## DTHS TROJAN BASKETBALL

**November 30  
Trojans vs. Lisle  
Freshman-**

The DTHS freshman Trojans 'A' team defeated Lisle, 49-34.

Scoring for the Trojans were: Blake Huseman, 13 (one three-pointer); Winston Watkins, 12; Carson Banks, 10; Ryley Christoff, six; Lane Hoffman, four; Kiefer Kiou and Ryan Kodat, two each.

"Nice to win the first game of their high school career against Lisle on their home court," stated Coach Kevin Hoffman.

The Trojans' freshman 'B' team marched over Lisle, 26-14.

Scoring for DTHS were: Kiefer Kiou and Tim Henson, six each; Jake Wardell, five; Cody Gibson, four; Lane Hoffman, three; Kevin Meints, two.

**December 5  
Trojans vs. Plano  
Freshman-**

The Trojans' freshman 'A' team was defeated by Plano, 54-29.

Scoring for DTHS were: Carson Banks, eight; Wintson Watkins, six; Blake Huseman, five (one three-pointer); Ryley Christoff, four; Lane Hoffman, Cody Gibson and Jake Wardell, two each.

The DTHS freshman boys' 'B' basketball team was defeated by Plano, 38-18.

Scoring for the Trojans were: Jake Wardell and Tim Henson, five each; Lane Hoffman and Kevin Meints, four each; Cody Gibson, two.

**December 12  
Trojans vs. Clifton Central  
Junior Varsity-**

The DTHS junior varsity Trojans were defeated by

Clifton Central, 50-30.

Scoring for the Trojans were: Matt Ferrari, 11; Jack Steichen, 10 (two three-pointers); Matt Hooker, six; Troy Hogan, three (one three-pointer).

"Couldn't get untracked offensively tonight," stated Coach Trewartha.

**Varsity-**

The DTHS Trojans varsity marched over Clifton Central, 63-47.

Scoring for DTHS were: Travis Roeder, 16 (one three-pointer); Dillon Harris, 15 (one three-pointer); Jason Karstens, 10 (one three-pointer); Jens Kennedy, eight; Cal Vigna, five; Nolan Hoffman and Brad Gschwendtner, four each; Casey Wyllie, one.

"Another nice defensive effort with balanced scoring. Travis Roeder gave us a lift tonight," stated Coach Gibson.

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## PAPER BOWL

**IT'S EASY TO PLAY!**

Just pick the winners of this week's games featured in each ad and drop off your entry form at each of the designated drop box locations.\*

**THERE WILL BE 3 GRAND PRIZEWINNERS,** the entry with the most correct picks,

(tie breaker determined by your guess on total number of points scored in all listed matches)

**EACH WINNING A The Paper \$100 SPONSOR GIFT CERTIFICATE,\*** during the final three weeks (15-17)

of the regular season of *The Paper Bowl VIII*. Have Fun! Good Luck! This week's entry is due Saturday, December 26, by 12 noon.

Winner announced Wednesday, January 6.

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Name: .....

Address: .....

City:..... State: ..... Zip Code:.....

Home Phone: .....

*Fill in the number with the letter matching the name of the team you think will win.*

1..... 5..... 9..... 13.....

2..... 6..... 10..... 14.....

3..... 7..... 11..... **Tie Breaker**

4..... 8..... 12..... (total points)

\* Official Paper Bowl rules: One entry per drop box location per person every week. Entries only accepted at drop box locations and will not be accepted at The Paper office, unless otherwise noted. All entries must be on an official entry blank. No photocopies. Entries must be completely filled out, legible and to the drop off points by Friday at 5 p.m. each week. Judges' decisions are final. Winners will be announced each Wednesday in The Paper. Employees of The Paper and their family members are not eligible for The Paper Bowl VIII.





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**December 14  
Lady Trojans vs. Peotone  
Junior Varsity-**

The DTSH Lady Trojans junior varsity basketball team was defeated by Peotone, 40-17. Topping the stat sheet were:

**DTSH LADY TROJAN Hailey Hoegger looks for an opening.****DTSH LADY TROJANS BASKETBALL**

Claire Elsey, seven points, two rebounds; Aly Ferrari, two points, four rebounds; Lisa Bruner, two points, three rebounds; Brooke Sassenger, two points, two rebounds; Hailey Hoegger, two points, one rebound; Kiley Colebank, one point, two rebounds; Erin Gaston, one point, four rebounds; Skylar Krople, two rebounds; Maddie Rodosky and Tiffany Mascolo, one rebound each.

**Varsity-**

The Lady Trojans varsity fell to Peotone, 45-44.

Topping the stat sheet were: Kolby Hoffman, 16 points; Chaney Tambling, eight points, five rebounds; Lindie McCarthy, eight points.

"The Lady Trojans were down 40-26 at the end of three quarters and came back to lead by one with 6.3 seconds to go, only to have Peotone's Caitlin Cann hit a running jumper at the buzzer, giving Peotone the victory," stated Coach Froelich. "We had a great comeback. I'm

proud of how we played that fourth quarter; we could have folded the tents, but our girls dug in and did a great job; with an effort like that, I'll take it for the rest of the season."

**December 17  
Lady Trojans vs. Manteno  
Junior Varsity-**

The DTSH Lady Trojans junior varsity marched over Manteno, 38-19.

Helping with the victory were: Hailey Hoegger, nine points, six steals, two rebounds; Skylar Krople, nine points, four rebounds, four steals; Aly Ferrari, six points, five rebounds, six steals; Claire Elsey, four points, three rebounds, three steals; Erin Gaston, three points, three rebounds, one steal; Lisa Bruner, three points, two rebounds, two steals; Brooke Sassenger, two points, three rebounds; Kiley Colebank, two points; Maddie Rodosky, seven rebounds, four steals; Tiffany Mascolo, one steal.

**Varsity-**

The DTSH Lady Trojan varsity basketball team defeated Manteno, 48-35.

Helping with the victory were: Kolby Hoffman, 18 points; Chaney Tambling, nine points, 11 rebounds, five assists, four steals; Haley Gaston, nine points; Kate Pfeifer, seven steals.

"Defense dominated the game as the Lady Trojans led 28-6 at halftime. With the win, the Lady Trojans stand at 7-3 and 3-3," stated Coach Froelich.

**TRI-POINT  
LADY CHARGERS  
BASKETBALL****December 14  
Lady Chargers  
vs. Momence**

The Tri-Point Lady Chargers were defeated by Momence, 68-29.

Scoring for the Lady Chargers were: Nikki Nichols, seven; Taylor Roach, six (one three-pointer); Jana Meister, five; Sabrina Wallrich, four; Brooke Shelby, three; Lauren Bertrand and Veronica Mogged, two each.

**DEALS OF THE MONTH****NEW!**  
NEW 2006 Featherlite 8946 Aluminum Gooseneck 2Horse Weekender with 5' Shortwall LQ.**NEW!**  
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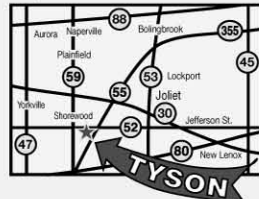
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# GSW PANTHERS BASKETBALL

## Panthers vs. St. Anne Varsity-

The GSW Panthers varsity basketball team defeated St. Anne, 57-43.

Scoring for the Panthers were: Kyle Mack, 25; Chris Irvin, 20 (one three-pointer); Brian Scoggin, nine; Nate Florey, two; Mike Ruffatti, one.

“Great game played by the GSW Panthers. We were able to execute our game plan exactly how we wanted to. Tyler Posing and Matt Grimler combined for an outstanding defensive effort on St. Anne’s best player, holding him to eight points. Our guards handled the pressure well and were able to get the ball inside to Kyle. Going into St. Anne and coming away with a conference win is huge for our kids and what we are trying to accomplish,” stated Coach Tucker.

## Panthers vs. St. Thomas More Varsity-

The Panthers varsity defeated St. Thomas More, 56-48.

Scoring for the Panthers were: Kyle Mack, 19; Chris Irvin, 19 (two three-pointers); Brian Scoggin, nine; Nate Florey, six; Matt Grimler, three.

## December 15 Panthers vs. Wilmington Junior Varsity-

The GSW Panthers junior varsity was defeated by Wilmington, 52-51.

Top scorers for the Panthers were: Brandon Riggi, 15; Dalton Wright, 10; Kwynn Rury, eight.

“The junior varsity Panthers started out slow in the first quarter, getting outscored 17-2. Then they got back into the lead at half, 22-20. At the end of the third quarter, Wilmington led, 32-29. Then, at the end of the fourth quarter Brandon Riggi made two last-second free throws that would tie the game at 43-43, sending it into overtime,” stated Coach Hunt.

## Varsity-

The Panthers varsity was defeated by Wilmington, 57-46.

Making the stat book for GSW were: Kyle Mack, 18 points, six rebounds, one block; Chris Irvin, 12 points, 10 rebounds, two steals, three assists; Brian Scoggin, seven points (one three-pointer), five assists, one steal; Matt Grimler, one three-pointer, eight rebounds, three assists; Jake Schultz, two points, one rebound, two steals; Hector Ruiz, two points, one steal;

Nate Florey, two points, two rebounds, two assists.

## December 17 Panthers vs. Grant Park Junior Varsity-

The boys’ junior varsity basketball team pounced on Grant Park, 56-20.

Scoring for the Panthers were: Brandon Riggi, 14; Dalton Wright, 12; Ryan Vigna, Shane Harty and Mike Goodwin, five each.



# ODELL RAMS BASKETBALL

## December 12 Rams vs. Ransom 7th Grade-

The Odell Rams seventh grade basketball team defeated Ransom, 36-30.

Scoring for Odell were: Bryan Worby and Justin Fox, nine each; Chance Carlson, eight; Noah Worby, five; Sam Barrett, four; Zack Aiken, one.

## 8th Grade-

The Odell eighth grade boys’ basketball team was defeated by Ransom, 49-42.

Scoring for the Rams were: Tyler Schmoeger and Garrett Howard, 13 each; Kyle Tucker, 10; Matt Hilleary, four; Zach Brockman, two.



# MVK MAVERICKS BASKETBALL

## December 15 Mavericks vs. Gardner 7th Grade-

The MVK Mavericks seventh grade basketball team defeated Gardner, 28-18.

Leading the stat book were: Justin Ralls, 16 points, nine rebounds; Mathew Houchin,

six points; Brandon Viken, three points.

“Justin’s been our best player all season and again he got the team going in the second quarter tonight with his eight points,” stated Coach Walker.

## 8th Grade-

The eighth grade boys’ basketball team galloped over Gardner, 51-20.

Helping with the victory were: Devin Leo, 14 points, 10 rebounds; James Miller, 12 points (two three-pointers); Teddy McCormack and Brad Wyss, nine points each.

“It was nice to end conference play with a win, the kids are really looking forward to the IVC tournament in January,” stated Coach Walker.



# TRI-POINT CHARGERS BASKETBALL

## December 12 Chargers vs. Flanagan-Cornell

The Tri-Point Chargers were defeated by Flanagan-Cornell, 53-45.

Scoring for the Chargers were: Danny Olson, 12 (two three pointers); Jordon Tharp, 11 (two three-pointers); Josh Nichols 10 (one three-pointer); Shawn Kinkade, six (one three-pointer); Dylan Juergens, four; Jeff Meister and Drew Wilkerson, one each.

“Now 3-5. Fifth loss in a row. Playing hard, but not there yet,” stated Coach Justin Cox.

# Bowling at Victory Lanes, Dwight

## Howard’s League

HSG, 256, John Hudson and Larry Woodcock (tie); HSG, 170, Jennifer Hudson and Sheila Woodcock (tie); HTG, 737, Gassman’s

League Standings	W	L
Victory Lanes	38½	17½
JT’s Saloon	35	21
Gassman’s	29	27
Perkins Wood/Glass	29	27
Serv Pro	26½	29½
Ron De Voo	26	30
Schultz Media	21	35
2 plus 2	19	37

## Sportsman’s League

HG, 261, Moti Wheatley; HS, 688, Kevin Oelschlager; HHG, 281, Moti Wheatley; HHS, 714, Moti Wheatley; JF Recycling wins first half

League Standings	W	L
J.F. Recycling	39	25
DeLong Ford	38	26
Victory Lanes	37	27
K & D Detailing	36	28
Jensen’s BP	34	30
Willy’s Pub	31	33
McArdle Grain	30	34
Smoke Wrench	29	35
Dwight Trucking	27	37
Starr Trucking	19	45

## Wednesday Aft. Bowlers

HG, 204, Scot Banks; HS, 531, Scot Banks; HTG, 636, Kelly Electric Shockers; HTS, 1840, Splitters

League Standings	W	L
Vigna’s	46½	21½
Splitters	43½	24½
Kelly Electric	39	29
William J. Hooker	37½	30½
Tag-A-Longs	35	33
Curves	33½	34½
Foxy Ladies	33	35
Becker’s	31	37
The Hen House	31	37

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## PTHS INDIANS SWIM TEAM

### December 11

The PTHS Indians swim team defeated Ottawa, 94-68.

Top finishers for Pontiac were: 200 medley relay, Nick Surma, Zach Ahrends, Nic Snow and Kyle Battle, second; Jake Dixon, Jesse King, Trevor Marek and Ryan Battle, third; 200 freestyle, Nick Surma, 2:30.65, first; Jaron Scheid, 2:32.99, second; 200 I.M., Trevor Marek, 2:53.80, second; Jake Dixon, 3:21.41, third; 50 freestyle, Kyle Battle, :26.54, first; Ryan Battle, :33.22, third; diving, Nic Snow, 181.25 points, first; Zach Ahrends, 125.65 points, second;

Kyle Battle, 105.0 points, third; 100 butterfly, Nic Snow, 1:11.27, second; 100 freestyle, Jaron Scheid, 1:04.24, first; Jake Dixon, 1:13.76, third; 500 freestyle, Trevor Marek, 8:43.12, second; Ryan Battle, 8:17.25, third; 200 free relay, Nick Surma, Zach Ahrends, Kyle Battle and Nic Snow, first; Jesse King, Jaron Scheid, Ryan Battle and John Morse, third; 100 backstroke, Nick Surma, 1:20.57, second; 100 breaststroke, Zach Ahrends, 1:17.16, first; 400 free relay, Jaron Scheid, Jake Dixon, John Morse and Trevor Marek, second.



## DGS REDBIRDS BASKETBALL

### December 11

#### Redbirds vs. Prairie Central 6th Grade-

The DGS Redbirds sixth grade 'A' team fell to Prairie Central, 26-15.

Making the stat sheet were: Jace Kennedy, eight points, five rebounds; Pete Hansen, four points; Conor Livingston, two points; Austin Adamchak, one.

The DGS Redbirds 'B' team fell to Prairie Central, 23-2.

Conor Livingston was the lone scorer with two points and Nathan Hodge led the team with five rebounds.

#### Redbirds vs. Rockdale 7th Grade-

The seventh grade boys' basketball team defeated Rockdale, 41-19.

Helping with the victory were: Caleb Boma, 17 points, four steals, one rebound; Colton Fieldman, six points, seven rebounds; Collin Irvin, four points, seven rebounds, one steal;

Jayson Powell, four points, two rebounds, two steals; Devin Connolly, three points, one steal; Ryan Gaston, two points, two rebounds, one steal; Chris Peck, two points, two rebounds; Austin Gutierrez, two points, seven rebounds, one steal; Seth Galloway, one point, two steals.

#### December 12 Redbirds vs. Gardner 6th Grade Game One-

The sixth grade boys' basketball team was defeated by Gardner, 29-26, during Gardner Tournament play.

Making the stat book were: Jace Kennedy, 10 points, 11 rebounds; Connor Gantzert, six points, six rebounds; Conor Livingston, four points, four rebounds; Peter Hansen and Jake Sanders, two points each.

#### Redbirds vs. Odell Game Two-

The DGS Redbirds sixth graders defeated Odell, 24-8, in

the consolation game of tournament play.

Helping with the victory were: Connor Gantzert, seven points; Jace Kennedy, six points; Peter Hansen, four points; Blaine Livingston, three points; Kyle Deterding and Nathan Zabel, two points each; Josh Krischel, four rebounds.

#### December 14 Redbirds vs. Wilmington 6th Grade-

The DGS Redbirds sixth grade 'A' team flew over Wilmington, 29-6.

Leading the team to a victory were: Jace Kennedy, 14 points, 10 rebounds; Blaine Livingston, four points; Pierson Ellis, two points, seven rebounds; Connor Gantzert, Pete Hansen and Trimi Asllani, two points each.

The sixth grade boys' 'B' team shut out Wilmington, 10-0.

Topping the stat book were: Drew Hansen, four points; Connor Gantzert, Nick Pampenella and Nick Schultz, two points each.

#### 7th Grade-

The seventh grade boys' basketball team flew over Wilmington, 44-25.

Helping with the victory were: Collin Irvin, 14 points, three rebounds, three steals; Caleb Boma, 12 points, four rebounds, one steal; Ryan Gaston, five points, three rebounds, two steals; Devin Connolly, five points, three rebounds; Colton Fieldman, four points; Drew Jensen, two points, three rebounds, one steal; Dylan Cain, two points, one rebound,

one steal; Chris Peck, three rebounds, three steals.

#### December 15 Redbirds vs. Seneca 6th Grade-

The sixth grade Redbirds 'A' team was defeated by Seneca, 28-21.

Making the stat sheet were: Jace Kennedy, 11 points, six rebounds; Kyle Deterding, four points; Connor Gantzert, Blaine Livingston and Conor Livingston, two points each; Pierson Ellis, seven rebounds; Jake Sanders, four rebounds.

The DGS Redbirds 'B' team was defeated by Seneca, 12-7.

Top scorers for Dwight were: Josh Krischel, Austin Adamchak and Kurt Waldron, two points each; Nathan Zabel, one point.

#### 7th Grade-

The DGS Redbirds seventh grade basketball team flew over Seneca, 29-5.

Helping with the victory were: Caleb Boma, seven points, five steals; Ryan Gaston, six points, three rebounds, one steal; Collin Irvin, six points, two rebounds; Colton Fieldman, four points, two rebounds, two steals; Chris Peck, two points, one rebound, one steal; Dylan Cain, two points, one steal; Drew Jensen, one point, three rebounds, three steals; Owen Pulver, one point, two steals; Austin Gutierrez, four rebounds, three steals.

"This win clinches the conference at 5-0 with one conference game left. We have won eight in a row and are looking to keep it rolling through Christmas break," stated Coach Connor.



## DGS REDBIRDS WRESTLING

### December 12

The DGS Redbirds participated in the five-team tournament hosted by Lisle Junior High. Dwight competed against Brooks Middle School of Bolingbrook, Hubert H. Humphrey Middle School of Bolingbrook, Sandwich Junior High and Lisle Junior High.

Wrestlers picking up wins were: Chad Magers, Austin

Gordon, John Carter, Shawn DeLong, Chance Larsen, Brandon Allen, Triston Dircks, Cody Mahoney, Jon Gallentine, Anthony Bauer and Adam Fase.

"The competition was very cutthroat, but the Redbirds were not intimidated at all. Some Redbirds had very successful days," stated Coaches Joe and Justin Eggenberger.



## GSW TIGERS BASKETBALL

### December 12

#### Tigers vs. Elwood 7th Grade-

The GSW Tigers seventh graders defeated Elwood, 45-10.

Scoring for the Tigers were: Brendan Elens, 12; Kyle Robison, 11; Blake Marks, 10; Jack Davidson, six; Seth Patterson, four; Trevor McDaniel, two.

"The boys had a great game. As a team, they shot 83% from the free throw line and had everyone involved in this win," stated Coach Sistek.

### December 17

#### Tigers vs. Rockdale 7th Grade-

The Tigers seventh grade basketball team defeated Rockdale, 38-18.

Scoring for GSW were: Kyle Robison, 11; Jack Davidson, 10; Brendan Elens, six; Blake Marks, four; Trevor McDaniel, Scott Horrie and Collin Cash, two each.

**Go, Tigers, Go!**  
**Fight, Tigers, Fight!**  
**Win, Tigers, Win!**  
**Go, Fight, Win!**

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to **Dr. Rajendra Shrivastav** and his wife Madhu for a fun, fulfilling and well-deserved retirement. Thank you, Dr. Shrivastav, for your leadership and years of dedication to providing excellent surgical care to our community.

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### SAUNEMIN EAGLES BASKETBALL

**December 14  
Eagles vs.  
Ransom/St. Anthony  
4/5/6th Grade-**

The Saunemin Eagles 4/5/6th grade basketball team was defeated by Ransom/St. Anthony, 22-19.

Scoring for Saunemin were: Alex Blaetz, seven; Noah Nelson and Robert Shelby, four each; Tanner Walls and Andrew Lee, two each.

**7th Grade-**

The Saunemin seventh grade boys' basketball team flew over Ransom/St. Anthony, 32-14.

Helping score the victory were: Tyler Carley, nine; Trevor Fox and Austin Graves, six each; Kyle Eggenberger

and Jon Dronenberg, three each; Tyler Lowe and Micheil Shelby, two each; Ashton Mays, one.

**8th Grade-**

The Eagles eighth graders were defeated by Ransom/St. Anthony, 39-21.

Scoring for Saunemin were: Garrison Green, 10; Zak Holtz-Robisky, eight; Ashton Mays, two; Logan Henady, one.

**December 15  
Eagles vs. Cissna Park  
7th Grade-**

The seventh grade boys' basketball team flew over Cissna Park, 34-33.

Helping score the victory were: Trevor Fox and Kyle Eggenberger, 10 each; Micheil

Shelby, four; Ashton Mays and Tyler Carley, three each; Austin Graves and Tyler Lowe, two each.

**8th Grade-**

The Saunemin Eagles eighth graders fell to Cissna Park, 55-14.

Scoring for the Eagles were: Zak Holtz-Robisky, six; Garrison Green, four; Logan Henady and Michael Walker, two each.

**December 17  
Eagles vs. Odell  
4/5/6th Grade-**

The 4/5/6th grade boys' basketball team defeated Odell, 15-14.

Scoring for Saunemin were:

Kyle Walker, 10; Robert Shelby and Andrew Lee, two each; Alex Blaetz, one.

**7th Grade-**

The Eagles seventh graders were defeated by Odell, 32-29, despite fighting back from a 12-point deficit in the third quarter and taking the lead.

Scoring for Saunemin were: Tyler Carley, nine; Trevor Fox, eight; Kyle Eggenberger, six; Tyler Lowe, Eric Zega and Jon Dronenberg, two each.

**8th Grade-**

The eighth grade boys' basketball team fell to Odell, 29-16.

Scoring for the Eagles were: Garrison Green and Zak Holtz-Robisky, eight each.



### ODELL RAMGALS BASKETBALL

**December 12  
Ramgals  
vs. Effingham St. Anthony  
8th Grade-**

The Odell Ramgals eighth grade basketball team fell to Effingham St. Anthony, 29-

25, in State first round play.

Scoring for Odell were: Julie Hogan and Rachael Fearman, seven each; Alyson Wiemken and Kaela Hodges, six each.



### DTHS LADY TROJANS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

**November 23  
Lady Trojans  
vs. Coal City**

The DTHS Lady Trojans freshman basketball team was defeated by Coal City, 28-27.

Scoring for the Lady Trojans were: Lisa Bruner, nine; Jamie Stanton and Hayley Sparrow, six; Haley Hansen, Skylar Krople and Regina Dawson, two each.

**November 24  
Lady Trojans vs. Plano**

The Lady Trojans freshman team marched over Plano, 33-7.

Scoring for DTHS were: Hayley Sparrow, nine; Lisa Bruner, eight; Alyssa Brownlee, seven; Megan Jensen, Lindsay Kaiser, Skylar Krople and Lizzie McKinsey, two each; Haley Hansen, one.

**December 1  
Lady Trojans vs. Seneca  
Freshman-**

"Down 10-2 in the first quarter, Dwight put on a press that gained momentum and brought the score to a 13-13 tie at halftime. The girls were able to pull ahead by one at the end of the third quarter and sank important free throws in the fourth quarter to take home a 23-19 victory," stated Coach Kaiser.

Scoring for DTHS were: Lisa Bruner, 11; Jamie Stanton and Lindsay Kaiser, five each; Alyssa Brownlee, two.

**December 5  
Lady Trojans vs. Peotone**

The DTHS Lady Trojans were defeated by Peotone, 44-

30. Scoring for the Lady Trojans were: Skylar Krople, 12; Jamie Stanton and Lisa Bruner, six each; Hayley Sparrow, four; Alyssa Brownlee and Regina Dawson, two each.

**December 8  
Lady Trojans vs. Streator**

The DTHS girls' basketball team fell to Streator, 26-16.

Scoring for the Lady Trojans were: Jamie Stanton, six; Lindsay Kaiser, Alyssa Brownlee, Hayley Sparrow, Megan Jensen and Haley Hansen, two each.

**December 10  
Lady Trojans  
vs. Prairie Central**

The DTHS Lady Trojans were defeated by Prairie Central, 50-24.

Scoring for DTHS were: Hayley Sparrow, six; Alyssa Brownlee, four; Skylar Krople, three; Megan Jensen, Lindsay Kaiser, Jamie Stanton, Regina Dawson and Haley Hansen, two each; Lauren Seanard, one.

**December 15  
Lady Trojans vs. Tri-Point**

The Lady Trojans freshman basketball team marched over Tri-Point, 40-28.

Scoring the victory were: Jamie Stanton, 11; Lisa Bruner, 10; Skylar Krople, eight; Lindsay Kaiser, four;

Alyssa Brownlee, Hayley Sparrow and Lauren Seanard, two each; Regina Dawson, one.

"This was the best defensive effort the team has shown thus far and the offense clicked well, too," stated Coach Kaiser.

*Joyeux Noel is Merry Christmas in French!*



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Christmas  
and all the best  
this holiday season!**

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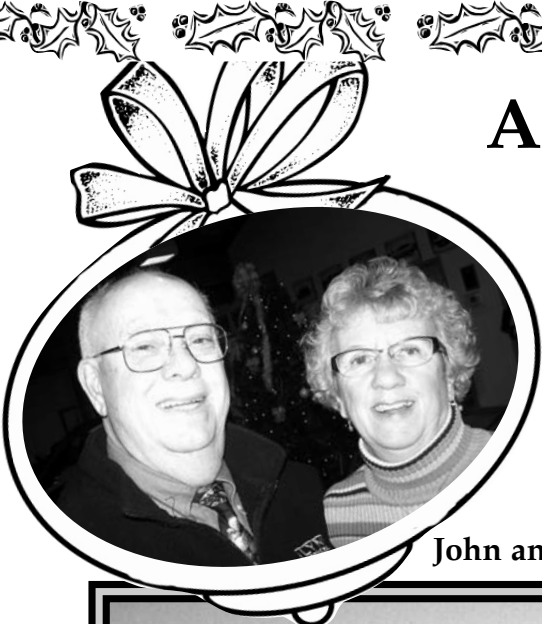
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## Featured Property of the Week

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401 E. South St., Dwight, 2 Unit Rental ..... Asking \$ 75,000  
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224 E. Seminole, Dwight: 3 bedrooms ..... Asking \$179,900  
602 N. Deerfield Dr., Pontiac: Condo ..... Asking \$217,500

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315 N. Ladd, Pontiac ..... Asking \$117,500  
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2388. 51-2w

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51-tf

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584-3126. 34-tf

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2588. 51-2w

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Dwight Township High School has an immediate  
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Dwight, Illinois 60420 by Thursday, December  
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Candidates will need to be available for an inter-  
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## Dwight Peace Meals

Wed., Dec. 23: Pork loin w/gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli salad, bread dressing, wheat bread, peaches w/bananas.

Thurs., Dec. 24: Closed for Christmas.

Fri., Dec. 25: Closed for Christmas.

Mon., Dec. 28: Mostaccioli w/tomato/meat sauce, seasoned bean medley, lettuce salad, apricots, wh. wheat bread.

Tues., Dec. 29: Baked chicken, seasoned roasted potatoes, winter blend vegetables, Waldorf salad, wh. wheat bread.

Wed., Dec. 30: Ham and beans, copper carrots, chunky apple-sauce, cornbread.

Thurs., Dec. 31: Closed for New Year's holiday.

Milk is served each day.

Call 584-2007 to make a reservation.

## Fossil Ridge January Events

Jan 7: 1-3 p.m. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program personnel will be available for assistance. Call the Center for Community Concerns, 815-722-0722, for more information.

Jan 21: Senior coffee, 10 a.m. Senior citizens and retirees have a cup of coffee, glance at library materials and socialize.

Jan 25: Book Club, 6:30 p.m. "The Thirteenth Tale" by Diane Setterfield will be discussed.



HERITAGE MANOR DONATED ten boxes of food to the St. Peter's Lutheran Church food pantry following a food drive at the Dwight nursing home. Pictured left to right are food pantry volunteers John Monferdini and George Elsey; Heritage Manor Director Randy Provence; Pastor Heidi Punt; and Heritage Manor Activities Director Brenda Burton.

## AREA CHURCHES

### First Congregational United Church of Christ

200 W. Delaware St., Dwight  
Phone 584-1260, church  
Pastor Patricia Morton  
December mission: *Christmas Fund, Love Boxes/Christmas for Kids, Hat & Mitten Tree*  
Dec. 24: 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Communion Service.  
Dec. 27: 10:15 a.m., Worship Service; 2 p.m., Heritage Manor Worship Service.  
Dec. 28: 6:15 p.m., Choir.

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

325 E. Mason Ave., Dwight  
584-3433, church  
584-1291 fax  
584-1023, parsonage  
Rev. Daniel Ognoskie, Sr. Pastor  
Rev. Jacob Ehrhard, Assoc. Pastor  
Dec. 23: 5:45 p.m., Bells; 6:30 p.m., Choir.  
Dec. 24: 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Service with Communion.  
Dec. 25: 9 a.m., Christmas Worship Service with Communion.  
Dec. 26: No worship service.  
Dec. 27: 9 a.m., Bible Study/Sunday School; 10 a.m., Fellowship/Coffee; 10:30 a.m., Worship.  
Dec. 28: 7 p.m., Dart practice.  
Dec. 29: No Adult Instruction Class.  
Dec. 30: No activities.

### St. Peter's Lutheran Church

326 W. Chippewa, Dwight  
Pastor Heidi Punt  
www.stpeterselca.com  
584-1199  
Dec. 23: 9 a.m., HC at Heritage Manor.

### St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Mazon and Prairie Avenues, Dwight  
Rev. James Rickey, Pastor  
584-3522, Rectory  
Dec. 24: 5 and 8 p.m., Christmas Eve.  
Dec. 25: 10:30 a.m., Christmas.  
Dec. 26: 4-4:45 p.m., Reconciliation; 5 p.m., Mass.  
Dec. 27: 8 a.m., Mass; 10:30 a.m., Mass.  
Dec. 28: 8-9 a.m., Exercise; 9 a.m.-noon, Quilting; 8 p.m., AA Meeting.  
Dec. 29: 9 a.m.-noon, Quilting.  
Dec. 30: 8-9 a.m., Exercise; 8:30 a.m., Mail "Epistle."

### Dwight United Methodist Church

701 S. Columbia, Dwight  
584-3420, church  
584-3425, fax  
584-1554, parsonage  
Pastor: Rev. William Leppin  
Dec. 23: 7 p.m., Bible Warriors; No Youth Activities.  
Dec. 24: 5:45 p.m., Handbell Rehearsal; 6:30 p.m., Children's Choir Rehearsal; 6:45 p.m., Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.  
Dec. 25: Christmas Day - Office Closed.  
Dec. 27: 7:15-8:15 a.m., Set up for UMYF Coffee Shop; 7:45 a.m., Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; 8 a.m., Traditional Worship Service; 9:15 a.m., Sunday School, Praise and Worship Team Rehearsal; 10:30 a.m., Praise and Worship Service; 5:30 p.m., Prayer Group.  
Dec. 30: No Youth Activities; 5-9 p.m., Movie Night; 7 p.m., Bible Warriors.

### St. John's Lutheran Church

511 W. Jackson, Cullom  
Rev. Trudy Foote, Pastor  
689-2120, church  
stjohns@frontiernet.net  
Dec. 23: 9:15-9:30 p.m., Prayer Service; Advent Bible Study follows PS.  
Dec. 24: 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship w/Holy Communion.  
Dec. 26: 5 p.m., Worship/HC.  
Dec. 27: 9 a.m., Sunday School; 10 a.m., Worship.  
Dec. 30: 9:15-9:30 p.m., Prayer Service.

### The Church of Hope Presbyterian Church (USA)

Monroe & Jefferson P.O. Box 248  
Gardner  
815-237-8312  
Dec. 24: 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., Christmas Eve Worship Service.  
Dec. 27: 10:15 a.m., Session/Deacons Meeting.

### Braceville United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 46  
106 W. Gould St. Braceville  
815-237-8512, church  
Pastor Andrea Boggs  
Dec. 23: 6 p.m., Longest Night Service.  
Dec. 24: 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.  
Dec. 27: 8:15 and 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service; fellowship following.  
Dec. 31: 7-9:30 p.m., New Year's Eve Game Night; 9:30 p.m., Worship Service.

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Dec. 23: 7 p.m., Worship Practice.  
Dec. 24: 6 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; NO Youth Group.  
Dec. 27: 9 a.m., Sunday School for all ages; 10 a.m., Church Service, Pre-K Church (age 3-5), Kids Church (1st-5th grade); 6 p.m., Sunday Night Prayer Group.  
Dec. 29: 6 p.m., Truthseekers Bible Study.

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MEMBERS OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF REALTORS presented a donation to the St. Peter's Lutheran Church Food Pantry on December 11. Left to right, receiving the check for the St. Peter's food pantry were John Monferdini and George Elsey; presenting the check is Joan Bullard, owner of Joan Bullard Realty, president of the Livingston County Board of Realtors; Bert Kennedy of Panno Realty, vice-president; Pam Atchison, executive assistant of Sancken-Sole Realty; Bill Sole, owner of Sancken-Sole Realty; and Frank Panno of Panno Realty.

## Tri-Point Superintendent's News for December

by Steve Fink  
Tri-Point Superintendent

First, congratulations to the following upper elementary school and junior high school students who were winners in the recent art contest.

The upper elementary school art contest winners are Spencer Steidinger and Michael LeClair, Jimmy Haag, Leanne Hoover, Nick Thorson and Jacob Bruner. The Student Choice Awards went to Stephanie Keir and Nick Kelley. Stephanie and Nick received art supplies as their prizes.

The junior high school art contest winners are Katy Haag, Brad Mosier, Jazmyn Morrison, Jared Haeme, Emmalie Davidson, Ben Sievert, Wade Stephens and Josh Thorson. Breann Waterpough and Josh Harstick were the

Choice Award winners. These students earned a trip to the Art Institute in Chicago.

Congratulations to each of the students on their awards and achievements as artists.

Second, congratulations to Bryant Movern, a junior at Tri-Point High School. Bryant was named the student of the month at the Livingston Area Vocational Center for the month of November. Bryant was honored for his outstanding attitude, interest in the vocational program, superior class participation and excellent work traits. Way to go, Bryant.

Third, congratulations to Danny Olson. Danny, a junior on the Tri-Point High School boys' basketball team, set a

new record for most points scored at the recent Gibson City/Melvin-Sibley Thanksgiving basketball tournament. Danny tallied 106 points during the four-game set. The previous tournament record for most points had stood for more than 30 years. In addition, the Tri-Point boys' basketball team finished second in the tournament. Congratulations to Danny and the members of the Tri-Point High School boys' basketball team on their accomplishments.

Fourth, please note that the school board meeting for January 2010 will be held at the fire station in Cabery. The meeting date and time are Monday, January 11, at 7 p.m. The school board is holding its meetings in satellite locations over the next four months in

order to be more accessible to school district residents. The February school board meeting will be at the high school in Cullom.

Fifth, here are some upcoming dates of importance for the school district:

- Saturday, December 19, through Sunday, January 3: Christmas Break
- Monday, January 4: Teacher In-service day. No student attendance.
- Tuesday, January 5: Students return to school.
- Monday, January 11: school board meeting, 7 p.m., Cabery Fire Station
- Monday, January 18: No school, Martin Luther King's birthday
- On behalf of everyone from Tri-Point, I wish you and your family a joyous and safe holiday season.



# William J. Hooker Agency, Inc. –

(continued from page 1)  
He said the consolidation of large insurance companies has also put pressure on agencies to not only maintain their business but to grow.

Hooker said that around the time he became an agent, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dwight was experiencing some economic growth, but many businesses have gone under since then. “It works the same with insurance,” Hooker said. Although he said he has enough business, “Less business (in the area) hurts me, because we need more people coming in.”

Another major change in the industry, Hooker said, is the automation that has allowed less people to do more work in a shorter amount of time. In the past, he said, insurance agents only had time to finish a few quotes per day; but since the advent of e-mail, Hooker can quote many policies a day over the computer.

“We’re able to do things quicker now,” he said.

He said automation has also helped to lower his costs, such as money saved on postage by sending e-mails.

“When I started, postage was three cents,” he said.

Hooker said a downfall of the electronic age is that more people are going online for insurance quotes and to conduct their business rather than talking with a local insurance agent in person.

The Hooker Agency conducts business in about a 25-mile radius of Dwight, covering *The Paper’s* circulation area, and offers a full line of insurance services, including auto, home, farm, life, health, annuities, financial products, crop, RV and boat insurance. Hooker works with several major insurance companies as well as a few specialty companies.

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## WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

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ees include 17-year employee Barbara Kramer and 10-year employee Becky Heinrich in Dwight, as well as Vicki Allen in Odell.

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## The Paper

deadline

for the

December 30

edition will be

**Thursday, Dec. 24  
at Noon.**

## Tri-Point Board of Education Holds December 14 Meeting

The Board of Education of Tri-Point CUSD #6J held a regular meeting on December 14 at 7 p.m. in the Tri-Point Board Room, Kempton. Board members Ted Conkling, Amy Fecht, Dewaine Haag, Kris Haag, Cherie Smolkovich and Lloyd Vaughn were present. Action taken by the board included: Approved Consent

Agenda; approved the purchase of a yearbook ad; approved the 2009 Tax Levy; approved SIT Conference – enrichment students; and approved updated policies.

The next regular board meeting will be January 11 at 7 p.m. in the Tri-Point Board of Education Room, Kempton.

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