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Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Overdose Treatment Administered by Dwight EMS Spikes in 2016

by Myke Feinman
Managing Editor

When the Dwight Emergency Medical Services Department began administering Narcan 20 years ago, there were virtually no calls made where the drug had to be administered to prevent someone dying from an opiate drug overdose.

About five years ago, that started to change with an ever growing number of cases administered in the area each year.

In 2016, the number was 20 for opiate overdoses, the most it has ever been, said Al Metzke, Dwight EMS director.

“Narcan is for overdoses from opiates — pain killers, morphine, heroin,” said Metzke.

“Heroin is cheap now and so you’re going to have more of it around,” he continued. “It seems to be the drug of choice.”

Narcan costs about \$45 a dose, but the patient is usually transported via ambulance to a hospital after the drug is administered.

And the majority of those transported are “indigent” with no insurance or means to pay for the \$900 ambulance trip. So the taxpayers of Dwight are paying to transport those patients.

That is a cost of \$18,000 if all 20 patients transported did not pay for those services.

“That’s an expense to taxpayers,” Metzke said. “The majority of people do not have insurance.”

He said most are on government aid, and don’t pay for the hospital stay either.

He said when the first of the month rolls round, the calls for Narcan go up because the government aid checks arrive and “they go

buy drugs,” Metzke said.

But the issue is not just the monetary expense to society.

“The ambulance calls take us away from other people,” Metzke said. “So if my ambulance is out on an overdose call, they are not there for the heart attack or baby delivery or whatever.”

He said Dwight would call in mutual aid in such a case, that involves a time-

(continued on page 3)



NARCAN, A DRUG administered by Dwight EMS in the case of an opiate overdose, is being used more and more by the department at an alarming rate, indicating an epidemic of heroin use in the area, according to Dwight EMS Director Al Metzke.

The Paper photo



LIVCOM 911 DIRECTOR Randy Wittenberg sits at one of the dispatch computer complexes in Pontiac, the center for the entire Livingston County emergency services. The dispatch center has expanded to include the city of Streator, and as of Feb. 1, will be known as the Vermillion Valley Communications Authority.

The Paper photo

LivCom 911 To Change Name, Already Includes Streator

by Myke Feinman
Managing Editor

The Livingston County 911 Dispatch Center has expanded its territory and is changing its name.

As of Feb. 1, LivCom 911 Dispatch will be known as the Vermillion Valley Regional Communications Authority.

“The reason is because we consolidated and brought Streator into our group,” said Randy Wittenberg, LivCom 911 director.

In order to become a regional communications center, LivCom 911 had to comply with new state mandates.

As LivCom 911, the dispatch center was in compliance, Wittenberg explained.

“We were correct under the law,” he said.

But Streator had to go somewhere.

With the new law, La Salle County, where much of Streator is situated, can have no more than three 911 dispatch centers going forward. Streator had no choice but to join another system. Previously, the county had nine different dispatch centers.

“Streator had to find somebody,” for dispatch services, Wittenberg said.

“This will save the city of Streator up to \$200,000 a year,” Wittenberg added.

He said the state is encouraging consolidation of smaller dispatch centers to cut costs and enhance efficiency.

As of last May, the Pontiac dispatch center has been handling all dispatching of emergency units for the city of Streator, including fire, ambulance and police.

They even handle calls for public works, such as flooding situations, Wittenberg said.

The change will have no impact on Livingston County dispatch. It serves Pontiac city police fire and ambulance; Livingston County police and animal control; Dwight village police, fire, and ambulance; and fire and ambulance for villages across Livingston County and the city of Streator.

There are no tax dollars directly supporting the system operations. It is funded through fees on phone bills and fees charged to various emergency departments it serves.

“There will be no change in the [Livingston County dispatch] system, no change in fees,” Wittenberg said.

He added that the Livingston County Board awarded LivCom a \$3 million grant in 2016 to upgrade its computer system.

LivCom, soon to become Vermillion Valley Regional Communications Authority, has 12 full time and 3 part-time dispatchers, utilizing a \$1.4 million annual budget.

As of Feb. 1, under the new name and organization, the Livingston County Board will have no authority

over choosing 911 board members.

The nine member board will consist of two members from Streator, two from Pontiac, two from Livingston County, two from Dwight, and one from Fairbury. Those municipalities will nominate board members but the Livingston County Board will no longer approve the appointments.

In Illinois, there are still some areas not served by 911 dispatch. This is one of the reasons for the consolidation, Wittenberg said. There may be other small dispatch centers or territory joining the Vermillion Valley Communications Authority.

No firm consolidations with other territories or dispatch units have been finalized, he added.

“We have had some conversations with Ford County,” Wittenberg said. “We are also seeking other opportunities.”

The LivCom 911 has also been experimenting with Motorola with a new dispatch system at Dwight Grade School, allowing them to push a box button in emergencies.

“We do more than just 911 calls,” Wittenberg said.

To call 911 for an emergency, dial 911.

For non-emergencies, LivCom 911, soon to be Vermillion Valley Communications Authority, can be reached by calling (815) 844-0911.

Herscher’s Hoffman Devotes More Than Six Decades As Volunteer Fireman

Note: The Paper’s fifth feature on volunteers, focuses on Herscher’s longtime firefighter, Dan Hoffman.

by Myke Feinman
Managing Editor

Dan Hoffman, 81, has been a Pilot Township Fire Department volunteer in Herscher since August of 1956, and is still offering his services to the agency.

“Dan’s always willing to help,” said Herscher Fire Chief Al Ramsey. “He no longer wears a pack at fires, but he outdoes the younger crowd.”

“I’m by far the oldest firefighter,” Hoffman joked.

Hoffman’s chief duty at fires is to drive the department’s 3,000 gallon water tanker truck.

He was fire chief at one point during his tenure as a volunteer.

He was fearful that when he reached 80 years old the insurance would not cover him as a firefighter. But Ramsey told him he will continue to be covered, so Hoffman continues to serve.

But Hoffman’s volunteerism is not confined to the fire department. In the community, he has been chairman of the American Legion; helps with the parade during Herscher’s Labor Day celebration; took care of the grounds at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church and served on its board; was chairman of the Herscher Retirement Apartments.

“That was all volunteer,” Hoffman said. “No money.”

He said others tend to “burn out” on volunteerism



DAN HOFFMAN’S VOLUNTEER career with the Pilot Township Fire Department spans six decades, and he remains an active volunteer, driving this 3,000 gallon tanker to fires. He has no plans to discontinue volunteering.

The Paper photo

because they don’t get enough other support.

“They get tired of not getting any help,” he said.

In Hoffman’s case, he continues to volunteer to stay active.

“I can sit and watch television all day,” he said. “Some can. I can’t.”

Hoffman worked for many years at the Natural Gas Pipeline of America, south of Herscher, now owned by Kinder Morgan.

He retired more than 20 years ago in 1996.

And there are less volunteers than there were when he began 60 years ago, when the average roster was about 50 firefighters.

Today, there are 27 volunteers for Pilot Township’s Fire Department.

“People are busier,” Hoffman explained.

The department stretches 99 square miles, and

includes the villages of Herscher, Irwin, Buckingham, and Union Hill, and all the farmland between. The boundaries are the Cabery road on the west, 3½ miles south of the Kankakee County line; past Irwin to the East, and north to Route 17.

He said that today a large part of volunteer fire department calls are for mutual aid.

As a senior firefighter, he is looked to as a man with experience, and he said he also has to “ride” the younger volunteers to do things properly.

For example, when examining his tanker truck during the interview with *The Paper* last week, he noticed it was not washed after the last call.

He said these machines cost hundreds of thousands

(continued on page 3)

Ransom Wind Farm Public Hearing Jan. 17 – Page 2

Odell Community Builder



ODELL’S 2017 COMMUNITY BUILDER award went to Rich Ribordy (right), who recently retired from a more than 20-year career as street superintendent with the village of Odell. He received his award Dec. 9 at Rentz Tap from Mayor Terry Joyner.

Submitted photo

INSIDE TODAY!!

Winter Car Care
Page 8

Record Year for Dwight Fire Calls
Page 2

CONGRATULATIONS!



DAILY CASH
CALENDAR WINNERS!

1/01 Shay Sulzberger, Dwight	\$200
1/02 Lisa McDonald, Lincoln	\$20
1/03 Theresa McNamara, Dwight.....	\$20
1/04 Blaine Wilkey, Dwight.....	\$20
1/05 Lucille Locke, Dwight	\$30
1/06 Amie Voss, Odell.....	\$50

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FOR THE RECORD

No Citations Issued

2 Warnings Issued by Dwight Police



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

December 30: 7:38 p.m., Columbia, medical, Morris; 8:26 p.m., Mazon Ave., medical, Morris, mutual aid from Duffy; 11:00 p.m., Prairie St. – Odell, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.

December 31: 8:46 a.m., Mazon Ave., medical, Riverside; 1:58 p.m., Mazon Ave., medical, refusal.

January 1: 6:23 a.m., Waupansie, trauma, Morris; 10:02 a.m., Mazon Ave., medical, Morris; 11:44 a.m., Mazon Ave., medical, Riverside; 2:10 p.m., I-55, medical, St. James; 7:26 p.m., Scott Dr., trauma, Morris; 8:00 p.m., Union St., medical, mutual aid from Gardner.

January 2: 3:01 a.m., Union, medical, Morris; 9:22 a.m., Mazon, medical, Morris; 12:36 p.m., Mazon, medical, Morris.

January 3: 12:43 a.m., Bannon, medical, refusal.

January 4: 8:15 a.m., Northbrook, medical, Morris; 10:57 a.m., Julie.

2016 Vital Statistics For Livingston, Kankakee Counties

Vital Statistics for the counties of Livingston and Kankakee for 2016 were released last week with more births and deaths in Livingston county compared to the previous year, while Kankakee County had a decrease in births.

In Livingston County, there were 194 births including two home births. There were 185 births in 2015.

The most births occurred in August at 28.

There were 314 deaths in the county, compared with

301 the prior year.

For marriage licenses, there were 229 in Livingston County while just 221 in 2015.

In Kankakee County, there were 1,466 births registered with August the month with the most births at 147. This is 56 less births than in 2015.

There were 705 marriage licenses, 13 more than in 2015.

A total of 1,267 people died, up 78 deaths from 2015.

Temps-2016-17

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Investment Tips for “Millennials”

If you are a “millennial” – a member of the age cohort born anywhere from the early 1980s to the late 1990s – then you’re still in the early chapters of your career, so it may be a stretch for you to envision the end of it. But since you do have so many years until you retire, you’ve got the luxury of putting time on your side as you save and plan for retirement.

Here are some suggestions for making the best use of that time:

Invest early – and often. Even if you are at the very beginning of your career, make investing a priority. At first, you might only be able to contribute a small amount each month, but something is far better than nothing – and after a year or so, you might be surprised at how much you’ve actually put away.

Take advantage of your employer’s retirement plan. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar plan, contribute as much as you can afford. At the least, put in enough to earn your employer’s match, if one is offered. Your contributions can lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis.

Invest more as your earnings increase. As your career advances, and your earnings rise, you’ll want to increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar plan. And if you ever “max out” on your annual 401(k) contributions (the limits change over time), you can probably still contribute to another tax-advantaged retirement plan, such as a traditional or Roth IRA.

Thus far, we’ve only discussed, in general terms, how much and how often you should invest. But it’s obviously just as important to think about the type of investments you own. And at this stage of your life, you need an investment mix that provides you with ample opportunities for growth. Historically, stocks and stock-based vehicles provide greater growth potential than other investments, such as government securities, corporate bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs). Of course, stocks will rise and fall in price, sometimes dramatically. But with decades ahead of you, you do have time to overcome short-term losses. And you may be able to reduce the effects of market volatility by spreading your dollars among many different stock-based investments, along with a reasonable percentage of bonds and other, more conservative securities.

Here’s something else to consider: Many millennials want more from their investments than just good performance – they also want their money to make a difference in the world. This interest in “impact” investing (also known as “socially responsible” investing) has led some of your peers to screen out companies or industries they believe have a negative impact on society in favor of other businesses that are viewed as contributing to a more sustainable world. If this viewpoint resonates with you, then you may want to explore these types of investment opportunities with a financial professional.

But most importantly, keep on investing throughout your life. As a millennial, you’ve got plenty of the one asset that can never be replaced: time. Use it wisely.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Public Hearing For Ransom Wind Farm Set For Jan. 17

There will be a public hearing for a planned wind farm in the Ransom area.

Avangrid Renewables LLC is planning the wind farm and expected to include up to 53 turbines with a maximum of five turbines per tract.

The hearing will be at 5 p.m., Jan. 17, in Ottawa at the La Salle County Governmental Complex, 707 E. Etna Road, Room 250.

All parcels of which special uses are sought are zoned A-1 agriculture by La Salle County and include property in Allen and Otter Creek townships.

The petition for the development was submitted by Otter Creek Wind Farm Limited Liability Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables, LLC, to the La Salle County Environmental Services and Land Use Department.

The meeting is hosted by the La Salle County Zoning Board of Appeals and is open to the public.

Mautino’s Pension Overstated

by Tom Tock

The Paper has been publishing stories since June of 2016 concerning questions that surround campaign spending by former 76th District State Representative Frank Mautino, who was named Illinois Auditor General January 1, 2016.

A formal complaint about Mautino’s campaign spending was filed in February of 2016 by former Dwightite David Cooke and found “justifiable” by the State Board of Elections. A federal probe of Mautino’s campaign spending was begun shortly thereafter.

A story in The Times newspaper, Ottawa, a spokesman for the Retirement System indicated the mistake was made by them in May of 2016 when they classified Auditor Mautino as a Tier I employee (hired before Jan. 1, 2011) rather than a Tier II employee (hired after Jan 1, 2011).

Livingston Co. Offices Closed January 16

All Livingston County offices will be closed Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



DWIGHT EMS Paramedic Jenny Kasper instructs Dwight teachers on CPR. The 28 high school teachers attended the American Heart Association’s Heartsaver CPR Course. The course covers adult, child and infant CPR. The use of an AED and aid to someone choking was also covered.

2016 Record Year for Dwight Fire Protection District



2016 proved to be a record year for the Dwight Fire Protection District. The Dwight Fire Department responded to 284 emergency incidents in 2016, a 30% increase from 2015. Over the last 5 years, the department’s responses have increased by 104%. In 2016, 24% of responses were calls to assist Dwight EMS, 22% of calls were for vehicle accidents, 11% of calls were for in-district structure fires, and 13% of calls were for Mutual Aid structure fires. The average response time (time of 911 call until time that FD arrived at the address) in 2016 was 10 minutes and 24 seconds and the average turnout time (time of 911 call until time a fire truck leaves the station) was 8 minutes and 52 seconds. The average number of firefighters per call was 6.5 firefighters.

In addition to handling emergency incidents and training activities, the department was very active participating in events throughout the community. Over the last 12 months, members of the fire department volunteered to assist during events that included the Taste of Dwight, Dwight Spring Fest, Dwight Harvest Days, DEA Christmas Parade, DEA Auction, Father’s Day Touch A Truck Event, Fire Prevention week activities at DGS, Dwight

4th of July Fireworks, Dwight Grade School Camp 911, School Fire Drills at DGS and DTHS, and the Buzz the Gut Extrication Demonstration. In addition, the department provided fire truck escorts for DGS and DTHS sports teams, and conducted facility tours and pre-planning events at local businesses. Dwight Fire Department hosted two blood drives during 2016 through the American Red Cross with a total of 114 successful donations collected. Members logged over 2,500 man-hours in public education and fire prevention activities this year.

The fire department expanded the boundaries to allow people who do not live in Dwight to join the department. The individuals who joined the organization from out of the district are asked to volunteer 8 hours per week to help cover emergency incidents, training and station tasks. This completely volunteer station coverage has led to over 12,000 man hours (excluding training and emergency incidents) in successful emergency protection. The fire department is averaging five people volunteering to staff the station every day which would cost an estimated \$250,000 if they were paid positions. Over the last two years, the fire department increased its active member roster to 50 firefighters, which is 30 firefighters higher than the 20 member roster in 2014. During the same time period, we have significantly increased the number of members who are trained to assist with emergency medical incidents. We currently

have 26 trained EMS personnel which include 10 paramedics, one EMT Intermediate and 15 EMT Basics. The number of trained EMS personnel will increase again this year as there is a large number of individuals registered for EMT and Paramedic class for 2017.

DFPD began operating a formal partnership with the Romeoville Fire Academy which is the 2nd largest fire academy in the state of Illinois. We also formalized an Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Illinois to use several buildings at the Dwight Correctional Center for Fire and Police Training. The fire department has hosted monthly hands-on drills at the closed prison and has hosted mutual-aid training with other fire departments at the site as well. Multiple other emergency agencies have contacted DFPD regarding utilization of this facility for training.

Dwight Firefighters have logged over 12,000 man hours of training during 2016. Dwight firefighters as well as firefighters from around the state of Illinois attended state certified classes through the Romeoville Fire Academy taught at the fire station and the prison. Some of the courses that were offered this year at Dwight were Rope Operations, Tactics and Strategies, Hazardous Materials Operations, Technical Rescue Awareness, and Fire Service Vehicle Operator. The partnership with Romeoville Fire Academy has saved the fire district over \$7,000 in tuition during 2016.

For any further information please visit the fire department’s website at www.dwightfire.org or email Deputy Fire Chief Justin Dyer at jdyer@dwightfire.org. To apply visit the website, call the station to inquire (815-584-2373), or stop at the station located at 111 South Prairie Avenue.

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2016 Record Year for Dwight Fire Protection District

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Overdose Preventative Drugs Administered by Dwight EMS Spikes in 2016

(continued from page 1)

delay of perhaps another 10 minutes for response time to the scene, which of course could be life-threatening. “So there is a ripple effect,” he added.

In total calls last year, Narcan calls were 20 of 334 medications administered.

The department went out on 1,151 calls in 2016, more than the 1,049 in 2015. And there has been no increase in staffing at Dwight’s EMS department.

All departments are having manpower issues.

His staff does mutual aid for surrounding departments such as Mazon-Verona-Kinsman or even Odell and Ransom.

And Dwight uses mutual aid when they need help such as the tornado that struck Dwight in 2010.

Dwight went out on 88 mutual aid calls to other departments in 2016 and was assisted by other departments 51 times.

Dwight has a second ambulance staffed from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 21 percent of the time. All other times require mutual aid for a second ambulance.

And the staff currently includes just nine people out of 19 that live locally and can go out on emergency calls on their time off. Sandy Kokaly led her department with a total of 92.75 volunteer hours while Al Metzke

was next with 75.5. The next highest individuals were Mitch Nettleingham at 26.5 and Justin Dyer at 25.5.

When asked if the Narcan administrations solve the problem, Metzke replied that it is “reactive” rather than “proactive” and does not solve anything. The person possibly buys more drugs to perhaps overdose again.

A special meeting of law enforcement and EMS services will be hosted by the Pontiac Police Department for area agencies Jan. 17. Metzke, who will be attending, said the purpose of the meeting is to strategize on ways to prevent the overdose epidemic in the region.



Illinois Prairie Community Foundation Grant Adds to Vaccination Campaign Success

Thanks to grant funding provided to the Livingston County Public Health Department by the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, the health department was able to purchase a portable electric cooler for the safe transportation of vaccine.

“Keeping vaccines at the required temperature is an important factor in ensuring the efficacy of vaccines,” says health department Immunization Coordinator Kathy Kennell.

Considering that health department staff administered nearly 900 influenza vaccines, to children and adults, at over 40 sites throughout the county this fall, having the proper equipment for safely transporting vaccines made a big difference in the department’s outreach success.

“We have been fortunate over the years to have received a variety of grants from the Illinois Community Prairie Foundation,” states Jackie Dever, Director of Nursing, “and this one will assist us for years to come, as it enables us to expand all of our vaccination programs.”

Call us with your stories: (815) 584-1901

Herscher’s Hoffman Devotes More Than Six Decades As Volunteer Fireman

(continued from page 1)

of dollars and should always be kept in prime operating condition.

“All the younger guys want to do is squirt water,” he said.

For example, to drive the tanker truck requires a chauffeur’s license, which takes time and training. Not all are willing or able to provide the extra time for such training.

Hoffman is married to Madonna, and the couple has two grown sons, Doug, who is retired, and Dean, who is CEO of a company in Arizona.

They have one granddaughter.

Hoffman is from Essex originally, moving his family to Herscher in 1958.

He is a 1953 graduate of Reddick High School.

Working for the fire department can be both rewarding and challenging.

“It’s got lumps,” Hoffman said,

When firefighters cannot save a burning building, that is hard to deal with.

“Things don’t always work out the way you like.”

He added that his fire Chief is a “good man to work for,” which makes his job as a volunteer easier.

Prairie Creek Library Gives Children a Chance to Read to a Comfort Dog

Young patrons of Prairie Creek Library in Dwight will have the opportunity to welcome a new friend on January 12 and 26.

In the past, children have been invited to read to service dogs-in-training as part of the dog’s socialization.

The library will welcome a new dog, Damarias, this month.

“Read to Damarias” will be held from 3:30-4:00 p.m. Thursdays, January 12 and 26. Children will take turns reading aloud to Damarias, and will practice their read-

ing skills while he practices his good behavior.

This program is free and open to the public. No registration is necessary, but children will read on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, call the library at 815-584-3061.

Agriculture Scholarships Now Available

1st Farm Credit Services is offering 24, \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors to further their education in an agriculture or rural life-related field of study.

Graduating high school seniors who have been accepted into an agriculture or agriculture-related curriculum at a university, college or community college and either reside or attend

high school within 1st Farm Credit Services’ service territory are eligible.

Agriculture-related fields include those that would contribute to the quality of rural life for people living in rural areas, or for those who want to return to a rural area to work in any field.

Selection will be based on a combination of academic achievement, community and agricultural youth

organization involvement and brief essays. Applicants will be judged by a panel of independent agribusiness, education, youth and farm organization leaders.

Qualifying students may obtain an application online at www.1stfarmcredit.com or through a local 1st Farm Credit Services office.

The deadline to apply is February 15, 2017.

Organizations Benefit from Community Fund of Sullivan Township Donations

The 2016 Unit 122 Community Fund of Sullivan Township, a project sponsored by Skinner Trost Auxiliary Unit 122 – a 501c3 charitable organization, has received donations totaling \$3,429.

The organizations benefiting from these donations are: Livingston County Heart Fund (\$181.50); American Red Cross Blood Bank (\$149.50); Livingston

County Cancer Fund (\$212.00); IHR (Mental Health) (\$108.00); American Red Cross (\$129.50); The Salvation Army – Pontiac (\$240.50); MS (\$81.50); Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts (Cullom Area) (\$50.50); Cullom Senior Citizens (\$381.50); SHOW Bus (\$235.50); Cullom Food Pantry (\$1,095.50); Cullom Historical Society (\$150.00); and Cullom Beckman Memorial Library (\$413.50).

A newspaper is not just for reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it.

– Mark Twain

Plan To Attend: Dwight Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Jan. 13

Kresl Memorial Gymnasium, between the JV and varsity basketball games at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Gas Jumps 4.3 cents

For the sixth consecutive week, the U.S. national average gasoline price per gallon jumped another 4.3 cents a gallon to \$2.367 Monday.

“Just 9,500 gas stations across the U.S. are holding on to gas prices at \$2 per gallon or less, while a year ago nearly 100,000 (73%) of the nation’s gas stations saw such pricing. Today (Jan. 9) finds 66.5% of U.S. gas stations over \$2.25 per gallon, a rise from 13.4% a year ago,” said Patrick DeHaan, analyst for GasBuddy.com.

“It was back in November of 2014 that Saudi Arabia indicated they were going to pump as much oil as possible to regain market share lost to the United States, and the new reversal of that move is the sole reason oil and gasoline prices have risen,” DeHaan said.

Average U.S. gallon regular price is made up of 21% state & local taxes; 19% distribution and marketing; 12% refining and 49% crude.

City/Village	Jan. 9	Dec. 30
Dwight	\$2.3426	\$2.174
Seneca	\$2.386	\$2.386
S. Wilmington	\$2.35	\$2.29
Streator	\$2.384	\$2.384
Odell	\$2.37	\$2.37
Saunemin	\$2.39	\$2.39
Cullom	\$2.35	\$2.35
Pontiac	\$2.34	\$2.34
Gardner	\$2.35	\$2.29
Braceville	\$2.29	\$2.25
Mazon	\$2.35	\$2.29
Morris	\$2.326	\$2.29
Herscher	\$2.29	\$2.29
Kankakee	\$2.254	\$2.31
Chicago	\$2.62	\$2.62
Illinois	\$2.49	\$2.48
U.S.	\$2.367	\$2.324

Sources: GasBuddy.com and U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Gasoline price data collected by The Paper and brought to you by Steve’s Tire.

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Chili Cook Off in Cullom Jan. 21

The GFWC IL Woman’s Club of Cullom is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off Saturday, January 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Community Building in Cullom.

Prizes will be given for

the best tasting chili.

A donation will be collected at the door to taste and vote on the best chili.

For competitor information, call Judy Wojchowski at 815-689-2857.

Kempton Woman Wins \$200,000 in Illinois Lottery

A Kempton family had a lot to be thankful for this past Thanksgiving.

Rachel Shelby, of Kempton, won \$200,000 just in time for Thanksgiving late last year, according to an announcement by the Illinois State Lottery released Dec. 29.

She purchased a Lucky Day Lotto Quick Pick at Casey’s General Store, 215 W. Jackson St., Cullom.

Her winning numbers were 2-8-12-35-36.

She said she plans to use her winnings to help pay for her children’s college.

One day, I would like to turn on the news and hear there’s Peace on Earth.



Justin Eggenberger

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FCCLA Winter Ball



THE DWIGHT TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA winter ball will be Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 to 11 p.m. in the high school gym. Coronation will be at 9 p.m., open to the public. The court consists of (front row) seniors Ashley Burkhardt, Daly Galloway, Hannah Van Der Karr; juniors Lucy Rieke, Jillian Frauli; (back row) sophomores Kat Harms, Hunter Sulaica, senior Mark Taylor; freshmen Addison Bean, Bryson Connor, and (not pictured) junior Jimmy Soto. The Future of FCCLA is also invited to the ball. The Future King and Queen are kindergartners Ameryn Wiles and Jelana Hinich.

Submitted photo

Will/Grundy
Genealogical
Society
Meeting
Jan. 14

The Will/Grundy Genealogical Society will hold its membership meeting Saturday, January 14, at 10:00 a.m. at the Coal City Public Library, 85 N. Garfield St.

The program will offer assistance to members and guests who have questions or problems concerning their own family history research. WGGs members will share their experience and knowledge of methods and sources with anyone needing research help.

The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

Dwight
Senior Citizens
Duplicate
Bridge Results

Duplicate Bridge was played January 5 at the Dwight Senior Citizens Center.

North/South:

- 1. Janyce Gross/Nancy Evers
- 2. Darlene Drechsel/Mary Anne McNamara
- 3. Dacia Hancock/Glenda Kutos

East/West:

- 1. Evelyn Neuhaufen/Peg Watters
- 2. Norma Rodosky/Barb Christensen
- 3. Pat Townsend/Joan Francis

The next duplicate bridge play will be January 19.

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ALA Unit 122
Holds Christmas Supper,
Meeting, Party

The American Legion Auxiliary of Skinner Trost Unit 122 of Cullom held their Christmas Supper/Meeting/Party December 12 at the Post Home.

The Committee of Suellen Fink, Kim Harms, Vicki Allen, and Becky Henrichs served a pork chop meal starting at 5:30 p.m.

President Suellen Fink called the short meeting to order following the meal. With the flags in place, a hand salute was given.

Secretary Diane gave the opening prayer in place of Chaplain Joan Haren. In memory of the deceased, they stood in silence. A moment of silence for MIA/POW was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Americanism Co-Chairman Pat Fagan. One stanza of “The Star Spangled Banner” was sung, led by Phyllis Perring. They repeated the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

President Fink declared the Skinner Trost Post #122 Department of Illinois regularly convened. Permission to deviate from the printed

agenda was granted.

Roll call showed five officers, 17 members, and one guest present.

The e-mailed minutes were approved. Treasurer’s report was given by Linda Vercler and approved. A motion to pay a bill at the Cullom Market was approved.

On membership, Vicki has sent in 106 paid and they are at 74.65%.

Linda Vercler and Meri Knapp took gifts to Manteno. Marsha Haag reported that when she took the gifts for Veterans Day that had been collected by themselves and Tri-Point High School, there were over 600 items.

The most recent meeting was held January 9, with Janice Winge and Kristen Bartus as hostesses.

With no further business to go before the meeting, President Fink read a story.

After a hand salute, the meeting ended with the singing of “God Bless America,” followed by the playing of “Take Away Bingo.”

Chief Pontiac NSDAR
Holds December Meeting

The December meeting of Chief Pontiac NSDAR was recently held at Café Fontana.

Regent Michelle Clark called the meeting to order and Chaplain Marcia Weber opened with a prayer. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance, the American’s Creed, and the Preamble to the Constitution. Cheryl Spaid read the President General’s Report. Michelle read from the American Spirit Magazine and the National Defense Report.

Michelle reported that they now have 35 members in their chapter. She also read a letter she had received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Danville thanking them for their recent donation. The chapter has recorded 404 Service Volunteer Hours.

Ruby Sherr, who recently died, had been a member since February 1, 1963. Ruth Schlosser made a motion to place Ruby’s name on the DAR Electronic Wall in D.C. Elsie Utterback seconded the motion and it carried. They sent a Christmas donation to the Hillside School in Massachusetts, along with any personal donations.

Hostesses were Eleanor Winters and Marcia Weber. As one of the hostesses, Mrs. Winters, who was unable to attend, gave each member a Café Fontana peppermint gelato.

State Regent Sharon Frizzell’s Theme is “Be Yourself, Be Together, Be DAR,” and introduced her toy Bumble Bee, “Darby.” She explained why bees were so important during the American Revolution and how they helped win a battle during the war. She read the story of Miss Charity and her bees. When Charity found a wounded Continental soldier, she bandaged his leg, and then on horseback she swung a stick at all the bee-hives. The angry bees flew out of their hives, spotted the Redcoats and their horses, attacked them, and stopped them in their tracks. George Washington received a letter about how the attack of the bees helped win the fight against the British troops.

“Patriotism and Preservation” is Mrs. Frizzell’s final project for her last year as State Regent.

The next meeting will be March 6 at Evenglow Lodge, where they will be celebrating the Pontiac chapter’s 90th anniversary.

The trouble is, you think you have time.
– Buddah

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Celebrating the Life of Jerry Beier
‘B+ Celebration Tour’ on Sat., Jan. 28th

Friends and family of the late Jerry Beier will host the B+ CELEBRATION TOUR on what would have been his 44th birthday: Saturday, January 28th, 2017. At the Country Mansion, this open-house style event will begin at 1:10pm – all are invited to gather to share stories and cheer to celebrate the rich, yet too-short, life of one of Dwight’s best friends. A diverse musical lineup will perform on the hour starting at 2pm. Emcee’d by Mike McConnell, the live music is slated thru 11pm or later. The Mansion will offer a select menu of baseball-inspired fare beginning at 4pm. All are welcome to join and remember our friend Jerry Beier.

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2016 -- A Glance Back Through The Pages of *The Paper*

Note: The headline news that filled the pages of *The Paper* from July through December 2016 follows:

by Myke Feinman
Managing Editor

July

In 2016, most people take it for granted that alcoholism and drug addiction are diseases that can be treated, according to an article in the July 13 issue of *The Paper*.

When Dr. Leslie Keeley announced he had a cure for alcoholism in 1879, 137 years ago, his ideas were not widely accepted by the medical community. He was obviously ahead of his time.

But the challenges Americans faced with alcoholism and drug abuse in 1879 are still prevalent in 2016, with more and more young people experimenting with illegal drugs and alcohol, and becoming addicted, according to Theresa Diemer, substance abuse program director for the Institute for Human Resources Counseling Services in Pontiac.

The entire Dwight downtown area will be “closed” to Harvest Days this September due to the railroad crossing work being done on the streets. Events moving from downtown to Renfrew park include the Carnival at the Stevenson Pool, craft and flea market, entertainment stage, baby changing station and Harvest Days Head-quarters.

Moving to the park leaves the festival more vulnerable to rain because the park does

not drain as efficiently as the downtown area, according to Jerry Beier, Harvest Days president in an article from Mid-July.

August

The St. Joseph’s Church of Cabery Preservation Society filed an appeal Aug. 3 with Pope Francis in Rome to keep their church open as a sanctuary.

A year ago, the preservation society filed an appeal with the Bishop of the Joliet Diocese, the Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon; to prevent the church from being sold or torn down.

The Cullom Historical Society will open its doors to the public for the first time during this year’s 124th

Annual Homecoming Aug. 11 to 13 in Cullom.

The society is in its second year, renting the location of the former Leiser Department Store, 123 W. Hack Street in downtown Cullom.

Thanks to help from emergency agencies and level-headed residents, Odell and Braceville each survived the great flood of 2016, when the sky fell, dumping roughly five inches of rain in less than an hour on the two small villages.

The flooding occurred in the afternoon, Sunday, Aug. 28, but it had not completely subsided until Tuesday, Aug. 30, according to Braceville Mayor Jim Homa.



CHERYL WEAVER heads up a group in Cabery that is working to preserve St. Joseph’s Catholic Church as a sanctuary, raising \$6,000 so far in less than a year to maintain the structure. But even with those funds raised, the Joliet Diocese wants to sell the building. The people of Cabery are appealing the Bishop’s decision to the Pope.

The Paper photo

Heritage Health: Veterans Day Balloon Travels 105 Miles

Every year on Veterans Day, Heritage Health has a ceremony for their residents who served our country. The ceremony concludes with a balloon lift-off, attached with a personalized message on each balloon. Heritage Health held their annual ceremony on November 11th, but this year something special happened.

On November 18, a balloon was found over 105 miles away in Indiana by a farmer, Jason Brier, who was farming his field. The Brier family read the message attached and reached out to the facility to let them know they found the balloon from Bill Briddick, a resident living at Heritage Health. Initially, the family kept in touch to learn more about Bill because they wanted to send him a Christmas present. They decided they wanted to do something more in order to show their appreciation for Bill’s service in the military.

On December 23rd, Jason, Hillary, Easton and Sloan Brier made the trip to Dwight to meet Bill and to



DWIGHT HERITAGE HEALTH Resident Bill Briddick and the Brier family.

give him all of his favorite things for Christmas. The boys, Easton and Sloan, sat and colored pictures with Bill. They even brought their school pictures for him to keep. Bill was extremely happy. Employees from Heritage Health expressed how kind-hearted the Brier family is. Their gratitude shown will always be remembered.

September

The Gardner Archives Curator chastised the Gardner Village Board at its meeting, Sept. 12, asking why there has been a delay in placing the sign on Village Hall.

The Archives, which were established more than a decade ago in the Gardner Village Hall, contains fully packed cases with memorabilia and artifacts outlining the village’s history.

A former Dwight Grade School and High School student stars as the lead female in “The Last Descent” which opens in theaters Sept. 16.

Just before her final year at Dwight Township High School, Alexis Johnson, now 28, graduated from high school and attended college on the East Coast.

The Illinois native attended Dwight schools under her family surname, raised by her grandparents in Dwight.

A \$1.6 million water main improvement project was awarded by the Village of Dwight when its Board of Trustees met on September 26.

With six bids received, Conley Excavating of Morris was awarded the contract with a low bid of \$1,621,154.00. The areas slated for water main improvements as part of this bid are Mazon Avenue from Old Rt. 66 to John Street; North Street from Clinton to Chicago; and Taylor Street



ALEXIS JOHNSON, who grew up in Dwight and now resides in California, landed the starring role in “The Last Descent,” a movie about a man trapped in a small hole in Utah who left a pregnant wife behind. Johnson portrays the wife. The movie debuted in theaters Sept. 16.

Submitted photo



BETTY CLOVER (left) is embraced by Dwight’s Route 66 Family Restaurant owner Maria Ahmedi the day before the business turned 15 years old. Clover was a waitress at the restaurant prior to Ahmedi purchasing it, when it was known as Stark’s.

The Paper photo

from Morris Road to Clinton Street.

October

Sherri Brooks, rural Reddick, just can’t stay away from one of her unparalleled loves — animals.

So after recovering from years of an illness, she is back in the animal game doing dog grooming and training.

She works out of her house, which is surrounded by corn and soybean fields, and has a wooden sign at her door that says “The Brooks’ Field Zoo.”

November

The Route 66 Family Restaurant in Dwight has been serving the community for 15 years, officially opening its doors under the current ownership Nov. 5, 2001.

Maria and Naser Ahmedi came to the Dwight area after running Wishing Well in Odell from 1993 until they sold it in 2003.

She purchased the Dwight restaurant from Melvin Mack who had purchased Stark’s Restaurant in 1999.

There are those individuals who are not content to just fly in airplanes — some prefer to jump out of them.

Dwight’s Major Jeremy Riegel, a 1995 graduate of Dwight Township High School and the son of Annette and Troy Riegel, is one of those who prefers to jump out of the airplanes.

Riegel retired from the U.S. Army on Oct. 31, after achieving the distinction of being a jumpmaster (making at least 65 jumps) as part of

the Airborne Infantry, according to *The Paper*’s Veterans Day feature.

He said the highlight of his career was jumping from a plane over Normandy in France in 2009, the 65th anniversary of D-Day.

December

Being in a leadership position is nothing new for Bob Young, 69, of Emington.

For years Young was superintendent of schools in Saunemin.

The Livingston County Board elected him Board Chairman in a narrow victory Monday, Dec. 5, winning the position by a 13 to 11 majority.



BOB YOUNG, Emington, stopped by the offices of *The Paper* in early December after he was elected chairman of the Livingston County Board. He said two major issues facing the board in the near future include siting of wind farm developments and county finances.

The Paper photo

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OBITUARIES

Elaine M. Balke

STREATOR – Elaine M. Balke, 88, of Streator passed away Saturday morning, December 31, 2016 at Heritage Health, Streator.

Elaine was born June 13, 1928 in Emington, daughter of Frank and Anna Nelson Zeller. She married John “Jack” Balke July 10, 1948. He preceded her in death on November 15, 1999.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews, and she was loved by many friends.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; brothers: Earl, Leo, Dale, Donald, and Francis in infancy; and sisters: Angelene Forneris, Margaret Lepic and Rita Luber.

Elaine graduated from Reddick High School in



1946 and was an inspection specialist for the Department of Defense. She worked at Lipton Tea, and retired in 1980 from Westclox in Peru.

She was a member of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church and the Altar and Rosary Society, and Streator American Legion Auxiliary. She was an avid card player and a huge football fan.

Elaine’s countless hours of giving of herself helping people will always be remembered.

Following cremation, services were held Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at Winterrowd Funeral Home, Streator.

Burial: St. Anthony’s Cemetery, Streator.

Memorials in her name may be made to St. Jude’s

Donna Andreassen

Donna Andreassen passed away in her sleep December 31, 2016.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Leo Andreassen.

Surviving are her brother, Darrell Condon; her three children: Terry Andreassen,

Karen Andreassen, and Barbara Andreassen Stearns.

Donna was blessed with six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

Her passing leaves a hole in their hearts, but adds another Angel in Heaven.

Celebration of Life for William Walkup

A Celebration of Life will be held from 6 until 8 p.m. at Hager Memorial Home, Dwight, Friday, January 13,

2017 for William “Bill” Walkup, who passed away December 21, 2016.

Celebration of Life Jan. 15 for Richard and Roberta Corneglio

A celebration of life for Richard and Roberta Corneglio will be held at South Wilmington Grade School Sunday, January 15,

from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and is urged to take a light heart and great stories of their lives to share.

Janet Louise Ziegler

MORRIS – Janet Louise Ziegler, 65, of Morris passed away Saturday evening, December 31, 2016 at Park Pointe Rehabilitation Center in Morris.

Visitation and video tribute were held today, Wednesday, January 4, from 4 until 8 p.m. at Reeves Funeral Home, Morris.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Ed Howe, CR Thursday, January 5, at 10 a.m. in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Morris.

Burial: Mount Carmel Cemetery, Morris.

Janet Louise was born February 28, 1951 in Morris, daughter of Lester M. and Lois C. Dickman Thorsen. She was raised in Morris and graduated from Morris Community High School with the class of 1969.

On October 13, 1973, Janet married Ronald Ziegler in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Morris, and together they raised their family in Morris.

Janet worked for Mazon State Bank for 12 years, until retiring in 2006. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Parish, where she taught religious education; she belonged to the Norman Homemakers Club; and was a fan of the Chicago Bears and Chicago Cubs.

Survivors include her husband of 43 years, Ronald; three children:



Brenda (Jeff) Edwards of Morris; Timothy (Jerri) Ziegler of Plano; and Christian (Rickee) Ziegler of Ottawa.

Also surviving are nine grandchildren: Logan Edwards, Alexa Edwards, Graham Ziegler, Arianna Castro, Jenisis Welch, Ethan Ziegler, Jersei Ziegler, Landen Ziegler and Wyatt Ziegler; one brother, John (Carol) Thorsen of Crown Point, Indiana; two sisters: Christine (Gordon) Gantzert of Mazon and Doris (Dan) Olloff of Freeport.

Brothers- and sisters-in-law: Pam (John) McNabb of Morris; Angela (William) Walsh of Verona; and Diane (Mark) Washburn of Morris; nieces and nephews: Karen (Chase) Olson, John (Alana) McNabb, Aaron (Addie) McNabb, Sarah (Cecil Cecirello) McNabb, Peter (Mandi) McNabb, Abby McNabb, Gary Gantzert (fiance Mira Dudchak), Katie (Jeff) Homerding, Todd Olloff, Andrew Olloff, Rob Thorsen and Kelley Thorsen; and numerous cousins and friends also survive.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Janet’s memory to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Family and friends may sign the guestbook, upload photographs, or share Janet’s memorial page by logging on to: www.ReevesFuneral.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Heritage Woods Provides Excellent, Loving Care

Dear Editor,
We would like to thank Alexandra Shuell, administrator at Heritage Woods of Dwight, and her entire staff for the excellent care and love they gave our mother, Barbara McArdle, during her five-year residency.

We were extremely pleased with the attention provided to every detail.

The administration, activities directors, nurses, CNA’s, dining room staff, kitchen staff, maintenance and cleaning staff all had mom’s best interest at heart. There is no place like

home but for many, like mom, “The Woods” was even better. There were people around all the time, new Friends to make, activities provided on most days and safe places to congregate and just talk. Never alone unless you chose to be.

The loving atmosphere and care they provided her was all we could ask for. Thank you.

We would recommend the Heritage Woods of Dwight to anyone.

Phil and Karen McArdle
Dwight

Sibling Class at OSF Saint James Jan. 22

The next OSF Saint James Family Birthing Center Sibling Class will be held Sunday, January 22, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the OSF Saint James Education Center (second floor), 2500 W. Reynolds St. in Pontiac.

The class prepares brothers and sisters, two years and older, for the addition of a new family member. It

includes a short film, hands-on diapering, dressing a baby, and a tour of the Family Birthing Center. *A parent must attend with their child.*

A fee applies, but will be waived for those delivering their baby at OSF Saint James. RSVP by one week prior to the class at www.osf.saintjames.org.

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Minutes
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Time to Get Going

Coming of the new year I think that it usually takes something to get you going, it’s really tough to get back into the swing of things, sometimes you just need a little boost.

I have to be honest, last week was rough, I wanted to be back on the couch doing nothing as opposed to being at work actually doing something.

This past Sunday was the airing of the Golden Globes on NBC. I’m usually not big into TV and movie award shows, but this year there were a few to look for as they were up for nominations.

The biggest ones I was watching this year were the nominations for the TV Atlanta and the writer and creator of the show, Donald Glover.

I’ve been a big fan of his music for a while now, and been a fan of his previous writing for the show 30 Rock, and then his acting for the TV show “Community”.

Point being, I’ve been a fan of a lot of his past work, there are people who you run into, or watch that just continuously tackle the next obstacle, some do it easier than others, but some just take on hurdle after hurdle.

He won a Golden Globe Sunday night, for a show he created, from scratch, it was all his.

This was probably a goal of his for a while now, since the TV show debuted this past year he probably had the idea years ago, and on Sunday he finally got to see it come to fruition.

This isn’t to say that one of my goals in life is to obtain a Golden Globe, although that would be very cool.

It’s just to show that 5 years ago, this was just a goal of his, every day since he’s probably taken steps to get there.

I was a fan 5 years ago, and I’m a fan now. I was able to watch the growth, and see where he is today.

The biggest thing to take away from it is that it’s obtainable, goals that are set today for 5 years from now, it’s possible, and it’s going to help me tackle this upcoming week.

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Graduate

Family members of the deceased:
Please instruct the Funeral Home
to send information to:
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The family of Kathy L. Halbert
wishes to extend our sincere thanks
for your condolences and support
we have received since her passing on 11-2-16.
She will always be loved and never forgotten.
A special thanks to our friends who prepared food,
sent flowers, and plants and donations
to a charity of choice
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) NO.16-CH-76
BRANDI L. SULLIVAN a/k/a)
BRANDI L. MILLER, JAKOB M.)
MILLER, and unknown owners and)
non-record claimants, Defendants.)

NOTICE

Notice is given you Defendants, JAKOB M. MILLER and 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 11 and the West 3 feet of Lot 12 in Block 5 in Driving Park Addition to the City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois.
PIN: 15-23-405-009
Commonly known as: 611 E. Payson St., Pontiac, IL 61764.
The title holders of record to the above described real estate are BRANDI L. SULLIVAN a/k/a BRANDI L. MILLER and JAKOB M. MILLER. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on February 11, 2011 and recorded on February 15, 2011 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 00607620. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 16-CH-76 is currently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, McClarey Law Office, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, JAKOB M. MILLER and 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 Law and Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before February 15, 2017, 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 23 day of December, 2016.

LeAnn Dixon, Circuit Clerk
Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial
Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois

Letters to the Editor

in *The Paper* should be limited to 250 words.

Letters must be signed when submitted and received by Friday noon prior to Wednesday publication.

Letters are limited to one every 60 days per household.

Political letters will not run the week prior to an election.

We welcome your thoughts.

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When The Rubber Meets The Road, Makes Sure It Has Tread and Proper Air Pressure: Jensen’s BP

by Myke Feinman
Managing Editor

The good news is most of the cars on the road today have tire pressure monitors built in to tell the driver when tires are in need of more air.

The bad news is, they may come on while driving, in perhaps less than good conditions.

In snow and ice, poorly inflated tires will result in lower gas mileage, but more importantly could mean trouble steering, said Gregg Jensen, manager of Jensen’s BP service station in Dwight.

At this time of the year with sub zero actual temperatures, air inside tires contracts and causes pressure inside the tire to drop.

Driving with improperly inflated tires can also result in damage done to the tires, experts say.

Sometimes tire pressure can fall due to corrosion to the tire rim, according to Kevin Oelschlager, mechanic for Jensen’s BP. He said this requires the tires to be removed and the corrosion removed with tires replaced with proper inflation.

Jensen said in addition to proper inflation, tires must have proper tread to avoid issues during snow and icy road conditions.

“Tread provides traction in snow,” Jensen said. “With low tread, you can’t get the car going. Also you could hydroplane.”

Hydroplaning happens when one or more tires is lifted from the road by a wedge of water that gets trapped in front of and under a tire as the vehicle drives through water, according to tirerack.com.

“Hydroplaning most frequently occurs during heavy rainstorms when water cre-

ates puddles on the highway or expressway,” the web site says. “In addition to the accompanying splash, and scaring the heck out of the driver, hydroplaning typically causes the steering wheel to jerk and the vehicle to abruptly pull towards the puddle.”

Jensen said that Route 47, which borders his gas station, was ground down because of puddles in pot holes that retained water and ice. The state is expected to repair that road this spring.

“The speed at which a tire hydroplanes is a function of water depth, vehicle speed, vehicle weight, tire width, tread depth and tread design,” Tirerack said. “It depends on how much water has to be removed, how much weight is pressing down on the tires and how efficient the tread design is at evacuating water. While deeper water, higher speeds, lighter vehicles, wider tires, less tread depth and less efficient tread designs will



KEVIN OELSCHLAGER, a mechanic at Jensen’s BP in Dwight, works on repairing tires on a car with rims corroded, causing the tires to lose air pressure. Maintaining proper air pressure in tires during cold months is imperative for safe driving and also improves gas mileage.

The Paper photo

cause tires to hydroplane at lower speeds, all tires will be forced to hydroplane at some speed.”

As a rule, tread design affects hydroplaning resistance at high speeds and in deep water. Tread compound affects wet traction at lower

speeds or in shallow water.

Jensen said today’s tires are all “all-weather,” and can handle rain, snow and ice. “The tread is for all seasons,” he added.

But the tread must be maintained to ensure the driver’s safety.

Also, to avoid hydroplaning, he said people should never use cruise control in wet, icy or snowy road conditions. “When it is snowing, if you use cruise control, when you have to brake you could start spinning out,” Jensen added

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5 Car Care Tips for Winter
Don't let cold temperatures wreak havoc on your car

Keep these five car-care tips in mind as the mercury plummets. You don't want to be stranded by a dead battery or get into an accident because you can't see out your windows. If you haven't taken some of the mechanical preventive-care

steps, do them as soon as you can so you're prepared for the next big chill.

- **Keep the battery in good shape**
- **Replace wiper blades**
- **Clear the windows**
- **Check the oil**
- **Consider new tires**

- Make sure all lights work efficiently to prevent getting rear ended
- Replace windshield wiper blades and leave them up at night so they won't freeze to the window
- Test battery life - a dead battery means a dead car
- Rotate tires to make them wear evenly
- A brake check is important during winter because stopping could be harder due to ice
- Check tire tread and pressure to prevent sliding and flats

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SPORTS

DWIGHT TOWNSHIP ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

FRIDAY NIGHT AT KRESL MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM
The ceremony takes place between the JV and Varsity basketball games
versus Momence, at approximately 6:15 p.m.
- More Inductees on page 10 -

Dwight Wrestlers Bring Solid Performances to the Mat

The Trojans split a triangular meet Wednesday night by beating Grant Park 54-29 and losing to Herscher 51-30. The home meet, which was wrestled at Gardner South Wilmington High School, was the first meet wrestled there in many years.

Coach Tarnowski stated "This was a great experience for our team. We figured since we co-op with Gardner we should try to wrestle a home meet there. We look forward to wrestling there again in the future."

Jeremy Chaparro, Daniel Gutierrez, Cameron Klingler and Kyle Henson all went 2-0 for the Trojans.

Jordan Emmons and Jaxson Tarnowski avenged losses from earlier in the season to help the Trojans seal the victory against Grant Park. The meets bring the team dual record to 9-5 as a team, which is already an improvement from last year.

Another solid performance by the Dwight Trojan wrestling team at the Prairie Central Hawk Classic. In a field of 15 teams they finished 9th as a team and had 4 place winners.

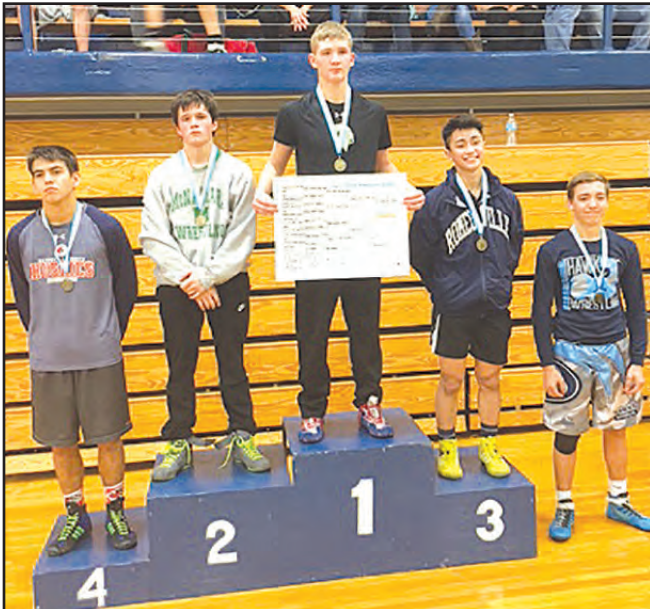
Jordan Emmons finished 6th going 2-2 on the day. Cameron Klingler took 3rd place winning by decision 8-

3, Klingler went 2-1 on the day.

Daniel Gutierrez took 2nd place losing by major decision in a hard-fought championship match, Gutierrez went 3-1 on the day.

Cade Enerson took home the gold winning the championship by decision 11-3, Enerson went 3-0 on the day.

Coach Tarnowski stated "The team wrestled very well today. I am pleased with our results. The hard work these boys put into getting better is really showing."



Cade Enerson, center, took home the gold, winning the championship at the Prairie Central Hawk Classic by decision 11-3. Enerson went 3-0 on the day.



THE DWIGHT TROJANS WRESTLING TEAM traveled to Argenta-Oreana for the Bomber Classic Tournament December 30, wrestling some tough competition but still boasting seven place winners. Pictured, l to r, are Paul Norton (6th), Kyle Henson (3rd), Cameron Klingler (5th), Daniel Gutierrez (2nd), Cade Enerson (4th), and Josh Chaparro (7th). Hunter Esposito, not pictured, placed seventh. The Trojans finished in seventh place as a team, out of 15 teams.



GARY SWARTZ, DWIGHT BASKETBALL COACH (1976-84), helped the Trojans earn five conference championships and five IHSA regional championships during his career – in which he recorded an overall coaching record of 166-58 in eight years. He was named IBCA District 9 Coach of the Year in 1980.

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92582	2005	Dodge	Dakota SLT	2WD Crew Cab	Silver	\$8,875	\$2,300	\$6,575
93441	2011	Buick	Lucerne CXL	Sedan	Red	\$8,675	\$1,550	\$7,125
93771	2008	Dodge	Dakota SLT	4WD Ext Cab	Gray	\$11,075	\$3,825	\$7,250
92271	2012	Dodge	Journey SXT	AWD SUV	Black	\$11,150	\$2,225	\$8,925
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P738	2002	Ford	F-150 Lariat	4WD SuperCrew	Blue	\$12,200	\$2,425	\$9,775
P7371	2005	Dodge	Ram 1500 SLT	4WD Quad Cab	Black	\$12,975	\$3,000	\$9,975
92181	2007	Chevrolet	Avalanche	2WD Crew Cab	Dark Blue	\$15,075	\$3,125	\$11,950
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92792	2008	LINCOLN	Navigator	4WD SUV	Pearl White	\$17,225	\$4,026	\$13,199
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P733	2015	Chevrolet	Malibu LS	Sedan	Silver Ice Metallic	\$17,275	\$1,626	\$15,649
93721	2013	Chevrolet	Equinox LT	AWD SUV	Red	\$17,350	\$1,226	\$16,124
P710	2015	Chevrolet	Captiva Sport LT	FWD SUV	Black	\$18,750	\$1,751	\$16,999
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92141	2014	Toyota	RAV4 XLE	AWD SUV	Gray	\$19,275	\$1,500	\$17,775
92691	2013	Chevrolet	Equinox LTZ	2WD SUV	Champagne Silver	\$22,550	\$3,576	\$18,974
91482	2008	GMC	Yukon Denali	AWD SUV	Black	\$24,250	\$4,300	\$19,950
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93131	2014	Chevrolet	Equinox LT	FWD SUV	Silver	\$19,700	\$1,326	\$18,374
93681	2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 LT Z71	4wd Reg Cab	Blue	\$24,125	\$2,951	\$21,174
93191	2014	Chevrolet	Traverse LTZ	AWD SUV	Black Granite	\$34,100	\$2,451	\$31,649
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THE 1978-79 DWIGHT TROJANS' BASKETBALL TEAM, coached by Gary Swartz, boasted an overall record of 26-4 (fourth best record in school history), earning Northeast Co-Conference Champions with a 9-1 record, and winning the IHSA Class A regional. The roster included: (front row from left) Bob Brooksmit (manager), Wayne Zimmerman, Roger Murphy, Tracy Ballard, Brad Verdun, Mike Buss, Steve Miller, Brad Battrell (PASE Ranger); Asst. Lyle Hicks, Rick Stevenson, Mike Malone, Dave Trewartha, Mark Buss, Mike Gross, Ed Slattery, Pat Halloran, Asst. Jim Rucks, and Head Coach Swartz. This year's Hall of Fame Induction ceremony is Jan. 13 at 6:15 at DTHS.



ERIN DANIELS, A 2002 GRADUATE OF DTHS, was a softball standout for the Lady Trojans, earning the following accolades during her career at Dwight: All-Conference Softball ('99-'02), All-Area Softball ('99-'02), three-year All-State Softball Team ('00-'02), Outstanding DTHS Senior Female Athlete, Augustana Female Athlete of the Year ('06), Softball Team MVP ('06)Augustana College Softball – 1st Team All-American ('06).



Tri-Point Chargers Basketball

Tuesday, January 3
Tri-Point vs. Clifton
Central Varsity -

The Chargers used a terrific second half to top Clifton Central 68-64 in b-ball action in Cullom January 3.

Tri-Point was trailing 37-28 after two quarters, but Randal Ifft went off for 18 of his 27 points in the second

half – coupled with 12 from Jacob Carrera in the last two frames – giving T-P the come-from-behind win.

After Ifft's game-high 27 points, it was Carrera with 20, including two threes, and Nick Mahoney scoring eight. Mark Miller put in five points, followed by Glen Margewich with four. Jasper Mauricio and Jacob Bruner each added a basket.

Week Seventeen Winner is Nearly Perfect

Many of our contestants were probably feeling comfortable about their selections this week, as we had 9 entries with 12 correct and 14 with 11 correct.

However, in order to win this round, a player needed to be nearly perfect. Two challengers submitted entries with 13 correct out of a possible 14. They were Rick Nelson of Dwight and Diana Furlano of Braceville,

both long-time, loyal players. The total points tie-breaker was needed to determine the ultimate winner, and Rick with a guess of 644 total points, was nearest to the actual total of 659.

The award for winning week 16 is again \$100!! Congratulations, Rick.

There were 92 total entries. The business drop-off locations were Lu's Sports Bar and Grill,



GSW Panthers Basketball

Friday, January 6
GSW vs. Grant Park
Varsity -

GSW had three Panthers in double figures Friday night, as they earned a 50-33 win over Grant Park.

"Anytime you can get three guys into double figures scoring, good things will happen," GSW head coach Chris Gibson stated after the game.

Braden Marks led the Panthers with 15 points, including three three-point-

ers. Austin Kavanaugh and Junior Schultz added 11 and ten points, respectively. Walker Eutsey and Chris Bement each had six points, with Mike Wise and Nathan Wozniak each hitting a free throw.

"Great job defensively overall," Gibson added. "We gave up only four field goals effectively through three quarters. Our intensity and energy was fantastic throughout."

Church Dart Ball League

The Church Dart Ball League results from the January 2 match-ups are as follows:

	W	L
Mazon Cong.	2	1
Emmanuel Luth.	1	2
Essex-Bonfield	1	2
Dwight Meth.	2	1

Trinity Luth.	1	2
Dwight Cong.	2	1

New Life Assembly/God	3	0
Church of Hope	0	3

St. Peter's Luth.	3	0
bye		

Current League Standings
W L

New Life Assembly/God	12	3
Mazon Cong.	10	5
Dwight Meth.	10	5
Trinity Luth.	9	6
St. Peter's Luth.	8	7
Essex-Bonfield	7	8
Emmanuel Luth.	7	8
Church of Hope.	6	9
Dwight Cong.	6	9

Schedule for January 16 at 7:00 p.m.

- New Life Assembly of God at Emmanuel Lutheran.
- Mazon Congregational at Church of Hope.
- Dwight Congregational at St. Peter's Lutheran.
- Essex-Bonfield at Trinity Lutheran.
- Dwight Methodist has a bye.

Paper Bowl Sponsor Championship

During the playoffs, Dairy Queen (3) squared off against Planning Associates (2) and won with a score of 11-2. First National Bank (3) beat SOCU (2) in a close matchup 10-3 to 9-4.

This week, Dairy Queen (3) plays Jensen's (1) and First National Bank (3) plays Bank of Pontiac (1).

1. 3 miles N. on Rt. 47, Dwight 815-584-1600

2. Dairy Queen of Dwight 324 W. Mazon Ave., Dwight 815-584-1118

3. 317 W. Waupansie, Dwight 815-584-2492

4. Planning Associates, Ltd. Larry Little 108 E. Main, Dwight 815-584-1044

5. 410 E. Mazon Ave, Dwight 815-584-2724

6. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF DWIGHT Member FDIC 122 W. Main St., Dwight 815-584-1212

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8. Jensen's BP Amoco Routes 17 & 47, Dwight 815-584-3329

9. Dwight Bank Branch of Bank of Pontiac Member FDIC 132 E. Main St., Dwight 815-584-1855

10. PRAIRIE CREEK WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC Stephen J. Tock 310 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight 815-584-1470

11. Route 17 and Route 47, Dwight 815-584-2880

12. DeLong Ford 212 E. Delaware, Dwight 815-584-3016

13. The Paper 204 E. Chippewa 815-584-1901

14. Streater Onized Credit Union 124 E. Main St., Dwight 815-584-9730

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Dwight Bank Branch of Bank of Pontiac Member FDIC 132 E. Main St., Dwight 815-584-1855

Planning Associates, Ltd. Larry Little 108 E. Main, Dwight 815-584-1044

PAPER BOWL XV

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.*
For Weeks 18-20: A \$100 Sponsor Gift Certificate Winner Each Week!*

This week's entry is due FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 by 5 p.m. Winner announced January 25.

ENTRY FORM

PLEASE FILL IN YOUR ANSWERS BELOW.

1. Who will win in FOOTBALL?
A. Houston at B. New England

2. Who will win in FOOTBALL?
A. Pittsburgh at B. Kansas City

3. Who will win in FOOTBALL?
A. Green Bay at B. Dallas

4. Who will win in FOOTBALL?
A. Seattle at B. Atlanta

5. Who will win in NBA BASKETBALL?
A. Chicago Bulls at B. Memphis Grizzlies

6. Who will win in NBA BASKETBALL?
A. San Antonio Spurs at B. Phoenix Suns

7. Who will win in NCAA BASKETBALL?
A. Duke at B. Louisville

8. Who will win in NCAA BASKETBALL?
A. Florida State at B. North Carolina

9. Who will win in HOCKEY?
A. Calgary at B. Edmonton

10. Who will win in HOCKEY?
A. Minnesota at B. Chicago

11. Which conference will score more points?
A. NFC B. AFC

12. Which QB will have a better rating?
A. Matt Ryan B. Tom Brady

13. Will Dallas' final score be...
A. Even B. Odd

14. Who will score more points?
A. Jimmy Butler vs. Grizzlies B. Patriots

Tie Breaker 1 - Total points of all four FOOTBALL games combined.

Tie Breaker 2 - Total points of all four BASKETBALL games combined.

Name:

Address:

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

Home Phone:

Fill in the number with the letter matching the winning answer.

1 6 11 Tie Breaker1 (total XX points)

2 7 12

3 8 13

4 9 14 Tie Breaker2 (total XX points)

5 10

* 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 XV.



DTHS Trojan Basketball players - counter clockwise, Colton Holm, Dakota Wahl, Blake Graham, Wesley Pulver and Justin Fox.



Saunemin Eagles Basketball

Thursday, January 5
Saunemin vs. Flanagan
8th Gr. -
Vermillion Conf. Tourney

Saunemin's eighth grade Eagles advanced to the championship of the Vermillion Conference Tournament January 5, with a 31-21 win over Flanagan.

Carson Crouch scored a game-high 15 points to lead Saunemin, with Caleb Peet putting in seven. Isaac Telford scored four, while Dallas Hillier had three. Chase Broerman added two points.

Friday, January 6
Saunemin vs. Woodland
8th Gr. -
Vermillion Conf. Tourney

The Eagles' eighth graders took home the Vermilion Conference Tourney Title Friday night, topping top-seeded Woodland 46-31, moving their season record to 11-6.

Saunemin, the #2 seed entering the tourney, avenged two earlier losses during the season to the Warriors.

Carson Crouch had a game-high 21 points to lead the Eagles, with Isaac Telford and Caleb Peet scoring ten and nine, respectively. Dallas Hillier added six points to round out the scoring.

Saturday, January 7
Saunemin vs. Iroq.West
4th/5th Grade -

The young Eagles took on Iroquois West's fifth grade squad on Saturday, falling 18-17.

Conner Telford led the hosts with six points, while Hayden White scored four. Timmy Logan added three points, with Myles Gilliam and James Durham scoring two points each.

A fourth quarter rally from Saunemin came up short in a 22-20 loss to IW's sixth graders.

The Eagles were down 20-10 after three quarters, but outscored the Raiders 10-2 in the final frame – coming up just short of the win.

Preston Jama led Saunemin with nine points. Telford had seven points, with Tysom Cramer scoring four. Saunemin vs. Woodland 5th Grade -

In a match-up with Woodland later in the door, the fifth grade Eagles fell

short, 24-22.

Saunemin was down 22-10 going into the fourth, but were able to outscore the Warriors 12-2 to end the game – but it ended with Woodland in the lead.

Telford had a game-high eight points, all in one quarter of play. Gilliam and White each added four points, while Logan, Durham and Reed Frazier had two points each.

4th/5th/6th Grade -
In the finale, Woodland's sixth graders defeated Saunemin's fourth/fifth/sixth grade team, 39-22.

Telford led the Eagles, with Cramer putting in five. Frazier tossed in three points, while Jama scored two.

Saunemin is off until opening day of the Coca-Cola Classic Saturday, January 14.

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DTHS Trojans Basketball

Tuesday, January 3
Dwight vs. Reed-Custer
Varsity -

The Trojans took their record to 10-4 with a big 77-48 victory over Reed-Custer on the road, fueled by a 24 point, 22 rebound performance from Justin Fox.

It was Dwight who got out in front early, taking a 26-15 lead into the second half, and a 48-27 advantage into halftime.

Their lead would only grow in the second quarter, as the Trojan offense continued to click on all cylinders, while their defense clamped down and held every Comets' player under double digits in the scoring column for the game.

Following Fox's game-high 24, it was Blake Graham with 21 points, including three three-pointers. Logan Graham added ten points, with Colton Holm drilling three trifectas in the contest. Carter Wykes scored seven points, followed by two each from Collin

Schroeder, Andrew German, and Dakota Wahl.

Friday, January 6
Dwight vs. Clifton Central
Varsity -

Dwight traveled to Clifton Friday night to come back home with an 84-66 win – their 11th of the season.

Four Trojans scored in double figures, as Dwight drilled nine threes and shot 13-17 from the line in the game – which they commanded throughout.

Justin Fox led the way with 28 points, with two three-pointers and 10-12 shooting from the free throw line. Brothers Logan and Blake Graham scored 18 and 13, respectively, including a three from each. Cal Schultz buried three treys, en route to 11 points on the night. Wes Pulver added six points, while Carter Wykes and Colton Holm each hit a three in the contest. Dakota Wahl was 2-2 from the charity stripe.



GSWB Tigers Basketball

Saturday, January 7
GSWB vs. Seneca
8th Grade -
IVC Tournament

After a long layoff, the Tigers were in Elwood taking on Seneca in the IVC Tournament, and found themselves a little rusty.

However, after trailing by two at the half, they would eventually take the lead and, ultimately, the 18-17 victory to advance to the semi-finals.

Nate Wise had 11 points to lead GSWB, who is now 11-6 overall.

JV Lady Trojans
Go 1-1 at Momence
Christmas Tournament

Dwight's JV Lady Trojans went 1-1 at the Momence Christmas Tournament, falling to Gardner 45-25 in the opening game of the tourney.

Danielle Carlson led Dwight with nine points, while Kaitlyn Harms and Chloe Butterbrodt each had five points. Rishell Galbraith added four points, with Gretchen Hilt scoring two.

In their second game, the Lady Trojans defeated the hosts, 36-7.

Chloe Butterbrodt had a game-high 17 points in the win, with Rishell Galbraith putting in ten points. Danielle Carlson added five points, while Felicia Nelson and Kaitlyn Harms had two points each.



DTHS Lady Trojans Basketball

Tuesday, January 3
Dwight vs. Streator
JV -

The JV Lady Trojans fell to Streator, 41-35, on January 3.

Dwight led by one point after three quarters, but were outscored 15-8 in the final quarter, leading to the "L."

Chloe Butterbrodt and Danielle Carlson led the Lady Trojans with 13 and 12 points, respectively. Kaitlyn Harms had seven points, while Rishell Galbraith scored three.

Varsity -
In the varsity meeting, cold shooting was the downfall for Dwight, yet again, as Streator outscored them 23-10 in the second quarter, making a big difference in the game – as the Lady Trojans would outscore Streator in each of the other three frames.

Dwight managed to regain the lead late in the game, only to have Streator go 4-4 from the line down the stretch to secure the win, 61-57.

Lucy Rieke had a team-high 17 points to go with her seven rebounds, with Mel Stewart scoring 15 – all via three-pointers. Rachel Dawson had nine points and ten boards, followed by

Leah Flynn with six points and 14 rebounds. Brooklyn Long put up five points, with Daly Galloway adding three. Zeedyk contributed a buck-et.

Thursday, January 5
Dwight vs. Momence
JV -

Dwight's JV girls defeated Momence January 5, moving to 5-7 on the season and 2-1 in the SVC.

Chloe Butterbrodt scored 15 points in the win, with Rishell Galbraith adding nine. Kaitlyn Harms had six points, followed by Danielle Carlson with two.

Varsity -
In SVC conference action Jan. 5, the Lady Trojans picked up a 52-32 win on the road against Momence.

Leading Dwight was Lucy Rieke with 16 points and nine rebounds. Rachel Dawson added 12 points, seven boards, while Daly Galloway scored nine points. Mel Stewart contributed eight points, followed by Brooklyn Long with five. Leah Flynn led the team on the glass with 11 rebounds to go with her two points.

The Lady Trojans are now 8-6 overall and 2-2 in the conference.

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'13 Fusion SE, 52K, Sunroof	\$12,900
'12 Fusion SE, 101K	\$7,900
'12 Fusion SEL 40K, Sunroof	\$12,900
'12 Focus SEL, 44K, Leather	\$10,900
'12 Focus SE, 77K	\$8,900

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DWIGHT – 2-bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car attached garage duplex near downtown. \$700/month plus utilities, available immediately. New carpeting. Appliances furnished including washer/dryer, central air. No pets, no smoking. References and security deposit required. Call Mary or Tom at 858-564-9820. 1-2w

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WATER OPERATOR: The Village of Dwight, Illinois is now accepting resumes for the position of Water Operator. Dwight, a community of 4,200, is located in North Central Illinois on Interstate 55.

The successful candidate will be responsible for servicing and maintaining the needs of all routine and non-routine maintenance and surveillance of the Village water distribution system. A technical knowledge of operating, maintaining, and managing a utility system is needed.

Hands on experience in all laboratory techniques in water treatment facilities, EPA regulations and the ability to keep detailed records and manage reports is essential.

Certification as a Class B Water Plant Operator is mandatory. Three to five years' experience is preferred. As a full-time employee you will qualify for all Village benefits including health insurance, dental and IMRF retirement plan. The Village of Dwight is an equal opportunity employer. Salary is commensurate to experience.

If interested, please send resume to Village Administrator, Village of Dwight, 209 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight, IL 60420.

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Van Voorst Lumber Co., in Union Hill is currently seeking experience 2nd and 3rd shift maintenance technicians. Maintenance technician primary functions:

- Repair and maintain electrical and mechanical systems on production equipment.
- Modify new an existing equipment for performance improvements and upgrades.
- Work with 110, and 480 volt systems, AC/DC Drives, high and low voltage controls
- Troubleshoot electrical and mechanical problems to the component level
- Completes documentation/paperwork accurately and in a timely manner.
- Complete other duties as assigned.

Must possess 2 to 4 years of related experience. Shift will be 2nd or 3rd shift. Must be willing to work overtime as needed.

Please email resume to jacqueline@vanfab.com or stop in our office to complete an application.

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We are currently seeking a hardworking, hands-on Supervisor for our manufacturing facility in Union Hill, Illinois. We specialize in lumber products. Must be willing to work 3rd shift and 6 days a week. This is an hourly position with overtime available.

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- Keeps team focused on productivity, quality, and safety.
- Identifies and implements new processes and procedures as necessary.
- Monitor change-overs and set-ups to reduce down time.
- Communicates and interacts with other supervisors daily to create an environment focused on teamwork, learning and innovation leading to best practices.
- Responsible for harboring the proper attitude toward production and safety through demonstrated behavior and training.
- Learn and grow every day.

The ideal candidate will be self motivated and possess good organization, communication, and people skills.

Supervisory experience of 3+ years required. Salary will be based on experience. Benefits offered after 90 days of continuous employment.

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Nancy 815-252-6677

Dwight Peace Meals

Peace Meals are served on Thursdays at Dwight Senior Center - - ALL 60 AND UP are welcome. Served at 12 noon.

Home delivery Monday - Friday 60 and up homebound – Must make reservations –

Mon., Jan. 16: Sausage patty or links, egg, bacon and cheddar scramble, fruit juice, whole grain blueberry muffin, warm fruit strudel bites.

Tues., Jan. 17: Country beef stew with potatoes, carrots and onions; Mexi corn, roll, cherry pie.

Wed., Jan. 18: Shepherd's pie with vegetables, broccoli, warm biscuits, Mandarin oranges.

Thurs., Jan. 19: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes w/ gravy, seasoned peas, Texas toast, fresh fruit. Milk is served each day.

Fri., Jan. 13: Ham or cheese salad, potato soup, creamy coleslaw, whole grain wheat, crackers, fruit salad.

For a reservation, call 815-374-0411 or 1-800-543-1770; or for more information call the 800 number.

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Farmland Auction

Auction to be held at the Brookfield Township Hall Located at: #2099 E. 27th Rd., Seneca, IL Directions: From Ransom, IL., Go North (On E 27th Rd.) 5 Miles OR from Seneca, IL., Go South (On Rt. 170), 5 miles to N. 21st Rd., Then 2-Miles West (At Jct. of N. 21st Rd. & E. 27th Rd.)

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OBITUARY

Bonnie Lou Fellers

COAL CITY — Bonnie Lou Fellers, 69, of Coal City and formerly of Cornell, passed away Sunday, January 8, 2017 at Morris Hospital.



A visitation will be held from 4 until 8 p.m., Wednesday, January 11, at Calvert & Martin Funeral Home, Pontiac. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, January 12, at the funeral home with Dan Leonard officiating. Burial will follow in Memorial Park Cemetery, rural Pontiac. Following the burial, all are welcome for a time of food and fellowship at

Cornell Fire Station, 406 W. Main St., Cornell. Bonnie was born January 30, 1947 at her home in Cornell, daughter of Clifford Charles and Doris Mae Gray Cashmer. She married C. Dean Fellers in 1963. They divorced in 1989. He survives. Also surviving are her children: Jeff Fellers of Cornell; Penny (Mark) Wills of Coal City; and Brenda Fellers of Pontiac; her grandchildren: Jeffery J. Fellers; Emmy Lou and Trevor J. McIntire; Crystal and Ashley Wills; Kelly and Teddy Deal; Katie Wills, and Dekota, Ransom, and Blade Fellers; her siblings: Mildred Dunning and Dannie (Katie) Cashmer; two sisters-in-law: Jane Cashmer (late Clifford) and Diana Cashmer (late Chuck); and her beloved

poodle, Haley. She was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings: Clifford Charles Cashmer, Jr.; her twin sister, Connie Sue (Clifford) Hinshaw; and Charles “Chuck” Cashmer. Bonnie worked as the head cook of Cornell Grade School for 27 years until her retirement. She loved playing bingo, watching the Wheel of Fortune, and the color purple. Most of all, she loved her children and spending time with her grandchildren. They were her world. Bonnie was active in the Cornell Fire Department and was a member of Top Ten Club in Cornell. Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at: calvertmemorial.com

(More obituaries appear on page 7)



TRI-POINT LOWER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS' math achievement was recognized on December 21. Those honored were Trevor Condon, Emma Floyd, Trenton Read, Nathan Clark, Lillian Tuck, Emma Kimbro, and Aiden Pelehowski.



THE PRIDE OF TRI-POINT STUDENTS FOR DECEMBER were selected and honored on December 20 during the second quarter PBIS celebration. Students at Tri-Point Elementary earn Pride Points from staff and administration when they are viewed demonstrating and following the school's expectations. Students who have earned Pride Points may then have their name drawn at the end of each month to be honored as a Pride of Tri-Point Student. The students honored, pictured – in no particular order, are Ben Frantz, Josh Ostrander, Madison Amell, Garret Smolkovich, Adrian Stoain, Kinsley Hamilton, Glen Richie, Allen Lucero, Jesse Small, and Ella Buchenau, who was absent.

OPINION-EDITORIAL

Repealing Obamacare Puts Rural Hospitals at Risk

Editor's Note: The following is an opinion-editorial by Alan Morgan, CEO of the National Rural Health Association.

Plans are being laid in Washington to repeal the Affordable Care Act as soon as Donald Trump takes the presidential oath of office. Hidden inside the law is a little-known provision unrelated to the health insurance expansion that helps rural hospitals across America stay open. It's called the 340B drug discount program. The ACA made 1,100 rural hospitals eligible and it requires drug companies to supply these remote providers with discounted medications. These discounts can be passed along to patients unable to afford expensive medications or the savings can help fund essential medical services for their communities such as emergency rooms and labor and delivery. Rural hospitals across the country face daunting economic challenges. Eighty have closed since 2010 and 673 -- fully one third of rural hospitals -- operate at a loss and are at risk of closure. These are often the only medical facilities for hundreds of miles in any direction. Rural hospitals provide essential, lifesaving local access to health care close to home for the 62 million

Americans living in rural and remote communities. Rural hospitals serve vulnerable Americans that are older, sicker and poorer than their urban counterparts. These patients are more likely to suffer with a chronic disease that requires monitoring and follow up care. That makes convenient, local access to health providers vital. It also reduces the overall cost of care and improves patient outcomes and quality of life. The 340B program makes it possible for these hospitals to offer necessary services needed in their communities. Cass Country Memorial Hospital in Atlantic, Iowa, uses 340B program savings to pay for free medications for needy patients, and it helps fund the hospital's Behavioral Health Unit -- one of two critical access hospitals in the state that offers psychiatric services. At RiverView Health in Crookston, Minnesota, program savings allow the hospital to recruit orthopedic surgeons, pain management and oncology specialists. The facility has also been able to update equipment, start an anti-coagulation clinic and set up a 24/7 onside laboratory and CT scan services even though patient volumes don't support them. The hospital is also able to offer additional

charity care to patients in need. In Wishek, North Dakota, the Wishek Hospital has used its 340B savings to help buy a bone density scanner, relocated and renovated its physical therapy department for better patient access and purchased equipment for its cardiac rehab patients. It was also able to pay a private doctor to provide services at a local clinic until a physician was hired on staff. It's important to understand that 340B is not taxpayer funded. The program is paid for by drug companies that can well afford it, particularly as medicine prices continue to skyrocket. As Congress considers repealing the ACA, it is essential that any changes in health care law do not deny rural hospital eligibility in the 340B drug discount program. Savings from the program are critical to ensuring rural hospitals are able to meet the health care needs of their communities in an uncertain future. Rural closures are already hurting the most vulnerable patients and the loss of the 340B program eligibility could further erode timely access to lifesaving care. Alan Morgan is CEO of the National Rural Health Association.

Upcoming Events at Limestone Library

Limestone Township Library, 2701 W. Tower Rd. in Kankakee, is hosting the following events through the end of January:

- **Storytime: Tuesday, January 17, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** Every Tuesday, parents and guardians can take their children (ages six-months to five-years old) to meet for Storytime -- a mix of crafts, stories, and music to help young children develop a love for reading.
- **YA/Adult Craft Night: Tuesday, January 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Get out for a night of crafting and create a candle holder. All supplies are included and there is no fee.

This program is for young adults (seventh grade and older) and adults.

- **Lego Building: Saturday, January 21, 1:00-2:00 p.m.** Lego building blocks and your creativity can only add up to fun at the library. Join other Lego enthusiasts for an afternoon of building fun. For children in kindergarten and up.
- **Tiny Explorers: Tuesday, January 24, 10:00 a.m.** Playing at a number of stations, children will learn fine motor skills with the help of manipulative toys. These activities are meant for children from ages six-months to five-years old.
- **Storytime at Night:**

Thursday, January 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Visit Storytime in your PJs and enjoy the mix of crafts, stories, and music to help young children develop a love for reading. Parents and guardians can take their six-months to five-year old children. Registration for programs is required prior to the day of the event. For more information or to register for any programs, stop in at the library, call them at 815-939-1696, or visit www.limestonelibrary.org to see a listing of all programming. The library will be closed Monday, January 16, for Martin Luther King Day. They will re-open Tuesday, January 17, at 10:00 a.m.

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At the Churches

DWIGHT
Dwight United Methodist Church
701 S. Columbia
584-3420 church
Dwightumc.org
Pastor: Lance Leeds
• JAN. 11: 8:30 a.m., Morning Service
• JAN. 11: 7 p.m., Real & Kids Klub; 6:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal; 7 p.m., Ignite.
• JAN. 12: 7:30 p.m., Praise Team rehearsal.
• JAN. 13: Office closed.
• JAN. 14: 7 a.m., Men's Bible Study at Route 66 and Pete's Restaurants.
• JAN. 15: 8 a.m., Church; 9:15 a.m., Sunday School; 9:30 a.m., Praise Team rehearsal; 10:30 a.m., Church with Praise Band.
• JAN. 16: 8:30 a.m., UMW Executive Board; 7 p.m., Bible Warriors.
• JAN. 17: 8:30 a.m., Hens Bible Study; 7 p.m., Trustees.
• JAN. 18: 2 p.m., Real & Kids Klub; 6:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal; 7 p.m., Ignite.

Dartball here vs. Assembly of God.
• JAN. 18: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., Weekday School.
First Baptist Church
401 N. Clinton St.
815-584-3182
Pastor Daniel L. Woodward
• JAN. 11: Wednesday Evening Service & King's Kids Children's Program, 7 p.m.
• JAN. 15: Sunday School for all ages, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.
• JAN. 18: Wednesday Evening Service & Kings Kids Children's Program, 7 p.m.

First Congregational United Church of Christ
200 W. Delaware St.
584-1260 church
Pastor Connie Williams
Moodie, Intentional Interim Minister
• JAN. 11: Women's Guild meeting, 7 p.m.
• JAN. 15: Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sermon title: "The Gift of Light."
• JAN. 18: Trustees meeting, 7 p.m.
DATES TO REMEMBER:
• JAN. 22: Annual Church Meeting after Church Service. • FEB. 28 -- Fat Tuesday -- Soup and Sandwich Supper.
"January Mission of the Month" -- Outdoor ministries/Pilgrim Park; and Hope Pregnancy Center

New Life Assembly of God
903 S. Old Route 66
Victor J. Randle Jr., Pastor
815-584-3430
• JAN. 11: 7 p.m., Disciples Making Disciples Bible Study.
• JAN. 12: 6 p.m., CPR training at Dwight EMS Complex; 7 p.m., Worship practice.
• JAN. 15: 9 a.m., Morning Bible Study; 10 a.m., Main Service & "Impact Ministries"; Kids Church, ages 3 - 11; 2 p.m., Heritage Health Ministry; 6 p.m., "Impact Ministries;" NO Xtreme Youth Group.
• JAN. 16: *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* -- 7 p.m., Dartball at Emmanuel Lutheran.
• JAN. 17: 7 p.m., Stampin' Up Group.
• JAN. 18: 7 p.m., Disciples Making Disciples Bible Study/Christmas Party.
• JAN. 19: 7 p.m., Worship practice.

St. Patrick Catholic Church
Mazon Ave. at Prairie
815-584-3522 Office
Father Chris Haake, Pastor
• JAN. 14: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m., Reconciliation; 5 p.m., Mass.
• JAN. 15: 8 a.m., Mass.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
326 W. Chippewa St.
spetersdwright@sbcglobe.net
• JAN. 11: Youth Night -- 5:30 p.m., Intergenerational

Music rehearsal; 6:15 p.m., Youth meal and fellowship; 7 p.m., Youth Group.
• JAN. 13: Church office closed; 8 p.m., A.A. meeting.
• JAN. 15: 8:15 a.m., Handbell rehearsal; 8:45 a.m., Fellowship time; 9 a.m., Faith Development for All Ages; 10 a.m., Worship with Holy Communion; 11:15 a.m., Council Minutes meeting; 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Membership Orientation.
• JAN. 16: Martin Luther King Day -- Church office closed-- 7 p.m., Men's Club: Dwight Congregational at St. Peter's.
• JAN. 17: No quilting; 1 p.m., Staff meeting; 4:30 - 6 p.m., Salvation Army, Food Pantry & Clothing.
• JAN. 18: Intergenerational Music rehearsal; 6:15 p.m., Youth Meal & Fellowship; 7 p.m., Youth Group.
• JAN. 19: 12 p.m., Sarah Circle at The Country Mansion.

BRACEVILLE
Braceville United Methodist Church
106 W. Gould St.
815-237-8512 Church
Pastor: Bennett A. Woods
After School/Static Programs resume Jan. 11
• JAN. 13: 8 p.m., AA meeting.
• JAN. 14: 1 p.m., Movie Day, showing

"God's Not Dead."
• JAN. 15: Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• TUES. Women's Bible Study, 10 a.m.
• TUES./THURS.: Exercise with Patty, 9 a.m.
• JAN. 18: Children's After School Programs -- After school until 4:30 p.m. -- J.A.M. Junction (Kindergarten - 4th grade) and E.D.G.E. (Preteen). Snacks are provided; S.T.A.T.I.C., 6 until 8 p.m.
7th - 12th grades. Snacks are provided.

CAMPUS Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Father Chris Haake, Pastor
• JAN. 15: 10 a.m., Mass.
EMINGTON
Emington Congregational United Church of Christ
103 Division Street
Pastor Connie Williams
Moodie, Intentional Interim Minister
• JAN. 15: Worship, 8:45 a.m. Sermon title: "The Gift of Light."
January Food Pantry Collection -- Cereal

Pet of the Week
Midnight & Lily
Meet our pets of the week! Both cats need to go into a home with no other cats. *Midnight* is a one-year-old domestic short hair. She is very sweet and loves attention. She likes to play hide and seek and play with toys. She loves to sit on your lap. *Lily* is an eight-year-old domestic short hair. She is very calm and mellow. She likes to play with toys and lay around. She is a loving girl who is shy at first but eventually comes around. Come out and meet these two loving cats!

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Odell Christmas Decorating Winners



THREE ODELL Homeowners won \$100 apiece in the 2016 Christmas Decorating contest. Winners included Patricia Cumming and Diana Rigg, the third consecutive win for this home, at left; Alina and Don Hartley, above, the second straight victory for their home; and Wesley and Mary Mansfield, top left.

Submitted photos

Tri-Point Lower Elementary 2nd Quarter PBIS Celebration

Tri-Point Lower Elementary students enjoyed the last day of student attendance prior to the holiday break. All kindergarten to third grade students participated in the second quarter Positive Behavioral Intervention as Support (PBIS) Celebration and classroom parties, which consisted of an awards assembly and attendance at a movie. The students purchased tickets to the movies with Pride Points they had earned by following school expectations. The students were also able to purchase treats with Pride Points, which they could eat while watching the movie. The students had been invited to wear pajamas and take blankets, which many did. Following the movie, students ate lunch and enjoyed classroom celebrations prior to the early dismissal.

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