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Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Boucher Farm Wins the 'Carbon Cup'

Honored for Keeping Carbon in the Ground

By Rachael Reynolds-Soucie rachaelthepaper@gmail.com

As the global pandemic continues to steal headlines, farmers continue to quietly feed and fuel the world, and one Dwight farmer has been honored for doing so in the most sustainable ways.

Matt Boucher, of Boucher Farms, was awarded Indigo Ag's Carbon Cup for having the highest carbon sequester in the state, meaning they were able to keep more carbon in the ground than releasing it into the

Indigo Ag tested farms in 15 states in the Midwest and South, seeking to celebrate farmers and ranchers cultivating some of the nation's healthiest soils. The Carbon Cup, a soil carbon competition, honored a farmer in each state that has managed to draw down atmospheric carbon dioxide through regenerative practices in what's being called a new era for agriculture.

It involves methods such as growing cover crops, no-till farming and adaptive grazing management as ways to keep soil carbon from releasing into the air as carbon dioxide.

"We're still learning," Boucher said. "We just started, right, wrong or crazy... We tried it and it works."

Boucher began greener practices on their 1,000 acres about six years ago after talking to other farmers and doing his own research. The goal? "How to put carbon back into the soil and that helps clean up

the environment," he said.

One of the first steps was to stop tilling. Not only does that mean less fuel, tilling releases more carbon.

But the soil still needed caring. They started planting cover crops, and today Boucher has become a dealer for cover crop seeds. The cover crops are planted in the off season, grow in the fall, go dormant in the winter and then come back in the spring.

They plant a mix of 12 to 15 cover crops, the top four cereal rye, barley, oats and tillage radishes, also known as daikon radishes. Cover crops help control erosion, loosen the soil, suppress weeds, and stop nutrients from escaping the soil.

Take tillage radishes, which are popular in Chinese and Japanese cuisine and can be found in many Asian markets. A long, white root digs deep into the soil -- as deep as 3 feet. As they grow, they absorb nutrients around them and store them. When they die off over the winter, the radishes release the nutrients back into the soil. At the same time, those large, thick roots help do the work of

When it comes to planting, Boucher said their no-till practices involve a rig that strips 4inch wide swaths in the field. In the fall, they can put fertilizer right into this strip, and in the spring, plant crops such as corn directly where the soil is ready and fertile. Strip farming gets the seed right where you want the roots to grow.

Soybeans are planted



INDIGO AG'S CARBON CUP AWARD WINNER, Matt Boucher, of Boucher Farms, Dwight, had the highest carbon sequester in Illinois. The Carbon Cup, a soil carbon competition, observed a farmer in 15 respective states for managing to draw down atmospheric carbon dioxide through regenerative practices.

straight into the standing cover

"Our goal is to not work up the ground," Boucher said.

Cover crops do add to the cost, about \$20-\$35 an acre. But the idea, Boucher said, is in time, the soil will be healthier with less carbon emission.

"Our level of organic material has been increasing as well as reduced erosion by wind and rain over time," he said, explaining how sustainable practices have improved the soil. "We are conducting other tests that show soil health but are only one year into that process

in a five year program." But while cover crops add costs, Boucher said they can cut back on input costs because they are keeping more nutrients in the field. Over time, they can begin to cut back on herbicides and fertilizer such as nitrogen.

"It just takes time," he said. He's spoken to farmers who've been implementing similar methods for more than a decade, and he said they are seeing huge differences not only in the soil but yields as well. At Boucher Farms, they have seen two to three bushel gains.

According to Indigo, the Carbon Cup challenge measured soil carbon levels on a state-by-state basis. Land was assessed using the equivalent soil mass method, which allowed them to fairly compare competitors' soil carbon stocks across the diverse regions, soil types, and climatic zones.

(continued on page 3)

Where's Your Stimulus Money Going?

DEA President Hopes Some Will Be Spent Locally

by Rachael Reynolds-Soucie

Have you got your stimulus check yet? Many Americans are still waiting, but others have started spending and pumping money into the economy, while others are socking it away for a rainy day.

Josh DeLong, superintendent at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, said he and his wife are planning on saving or investing the money.

"[We] would like to take our boys on a family vacation this summer once the pandemic passes," he said.

But DeLong also plans on putting some of the money back into the local economy as much as he can.

"The last thing the economy needs is people tightening up their checkbooks," said Rodney Connor, president of the board of the Dwight Economic Alliance. "I would like to see money spent locally as much as possible.'

That doesn't mean you have to spend it all in one place. While the stimulus checks are hoped to boost the U.S. economy, many people are using it to pay past bills and mortgage, or as a safety net since we don't know when the COVID-19 pandemic's economic repercussions will end.

But Connor said if you can pick up dinner curbside a couple times, tip the pizza delivery driver a little more, send your hairdresser a tip, or give the gas station cashier a gift card it can make a world of difference.

While the U.S. has seen record-breaking unemployment claims, Connor said he knows people who are still working and may feel guilty taking the money, since nearly every American will be getting a check. Those are the ones who can really make a difference by spending locally and shopping small.

"If you aren't in a hurting situation, there are some in a hurting situation," Connor said.

Although Connor's wife, Destiny, had to close her Dwight massage shop, he said they are blessed to still have income coming in.

"We eat out more than we ever have," he said. He's ordered from Victory Lanes, Cherry Reds, Dairy Queen, Aly Anne's and Dwight's pizza. And even though he prefers a cold beer, he's even stopped in for some cherry mead at Unpossible Mead in Dwight.

Every little bit counts these days. "We're deliberately trying not to be frugal with our money," Connor said.

Eighty million taxpayers will get a check. A single American earning less than \$75,000 annually receives \$1,200, and married couples who earn less than \$150,000 receive \$2,400. Families with children under 17 also receive \$500 per child.

What will you do with your stimulus check? Stephen P. Ferris, the Bryan Dean of the Miller College of Business, at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., said families should take a hard look at how to allocate their funds

"Should they use the money to pay for immediate subsistence expenses?" he said. "Or build an emergency fund? Or pay down debt? Or plan for

longer-term goals?" The Federal Reserve reports that even before the pandemic many Americans were hurting financially. A report found that 25 percent of adults were either "just getting by" or "finding it difficult to get by." Further, a sizable proportion of adults would have some difficulty with even a modest unexpected expense.

Specifically, if faced with an unexpected expense of \$400, only 61 percent of adults say they would cover it with cash,



savings, or a credit card paid off at the next statement, while 27 percent would borrow or sell something to pay for the expense, and 12 percent would not be able to cover the expense at all, the study found.

Here are some tips from Ball State on how you should spend the money:

Individuals with acute fi-

nancial need, such as paying for rent or medicine, should focus their relief check spending on immediate needs to maintain their employment sustainability and physical health.

Individuals with more moderate levels of financial need should direct some of this money to the creation of a

rainy-day fund that will provide a reserve of cash to protect against emergencies and unanticipated expenses.

People with a low level of financial need can use the relief check to add to a rainy-day fund but also to invest in longer-term assets to allow for wealth creation and retirement security.

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police April 14: Stephanie M.

give notice of acc. Persons in the police report

Kendall, 36, Cornell, driver fail

are innocent of any charges until proven guilty in a court of

Dwight Police Blotter

April 18: 7:08 p.m., Dwight Police arrested David Pascarella for a warrant out of Kankakee Cty. Pascarella was taken to Dwight Police Dept., where he posted bond and was given a new court date.

Accident Report

Monday, April 13, 9:30 p.m., a single-vehicle accident was reported on Old Rt. 66 at Odell Rd. involving a 2015

Dodge utility, driven by Stephanie Kendall, Cornell, which struck a stop sign and went off road.



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

April 20: South, medical, refusal; Prairie, medical, re-

April 21: Bannon, medical, refusal; Northbrook, medical, refusal; Lloyd, medical, Mor-

April 22: Mazon, medical, Morris; Pollard, medical, St. James; Spencer, medical, Mor-

April 23: Bannon, medical, Morris.

Tech-Ni-Kolor AutoCrafters, Inc. Larry Seabert, President Fax: 815-584-2688 105 Watters Drive • Dwight "Like us on Facebook" 815-584-2588 • 815-584-2584



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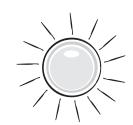
Heroin Bust Made in Pontiac

Livingston County Sheriff's Police Sheriff Tony Childress advised that on April 22, an ongoing narcotics investigation led the Pontiac Drug Unit and the Livingston County Proactive Unit to arrest several subjects for possession of controlled substances and delivery of controlled substances. Childress advised the substances were suspected to be heroin.

Childress advised a traffic stop and a search of #6 Sandy Creek Trailer Court, Pontiac, were done that afternoon. During the investigation, Felicia Bustle (Pontiac) was arrested for Unlawful Delivery of Controlled Substances (heroin), Darien Zeller (Pontiac) was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substances (heroin), Timothy Legner (Pontiac) was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substances (heroin), and Steven Carls (Fairbury) was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substances (heroin).

Childress said all the subjects were transported to Livingston County Jail for processing and are currently awaiting felony charges and bond set by a Judge.

Childress thanked those involved, including Pontiac Police Patrol Units, Livingston County State's Attorney's Office, and Sheriff's Detectives.



Temps - 2020

Apr. 16 - high 45°, low 27° 1" snow

Apr. 17 - high 39°, low 30° Apr. $18 - \text{high } 57^{\circ}, \text{low } 32^{\circ}$ Apr. 19 - high 63°, low 29° Apr. 20 - high 62°, low 34°

Apr. 21 - high 54°, low 31° Apr. 22 - high 65°, low 39° trace precip.

One Year Ago-Apr. 29, 2019 high 54°, low 43° .85" precip.

The Paper

... connecting the area's 21 communities.



Jesse White Urges Residents to **Renew Vehicle Registration Online**

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is urging the public to renew their vehicle registration online at www.cyber

driveillinois.com instead of waiting for Driver Services facilities to reopen. Since mid-March, more than 400,000 people have renewed their stickers online, an increase of approximately 50% from last

"Don't wait, renew online," said White. "By renewing your vehicle registration sticker now, you won't have to visit a Driver Services facility once they reopen. This will save you time and will also help alleviate the rush of face-to-face transactions at facilities once they are reopened."

To renew vehicle registrations online, residents need IEPA testing centers are cur-

their registration ID and PIN, which are located on their renewal notice and registration card – which most people store in their vehicle's glove compartment.

If you live in Chicagoland or Metro East areas, federal law requires the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to test vehicles for emissions prior to renewing your vehicle registration with the Secretary of State's office. This requirement impacts approximately 20% of those with expiring vehicle registrations. If your vehicle is due for an emissions test, the IEPA is requiring the test be completed before you may renew your vehicle registration online. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

rently closed; however, White extended vehicle registration expiration dates for at least 90 days after Driver Services facilities reopen. Additional 90-day exten-

ID cards and other transactions and document filings. In addition to renewing vehicle registrations online, other essential services available

sions include driver's licenses,

www.cyberdriveillinois. com include: renew a driver's license through Safe Driver Renewal, obtain a duplicate driver's license or ID card, obtain a driving record abstract or

White also reminded the public that the federal government extended the REAL ID deadline by one year. The deadline is now October 1, 2021.

change your address.

Cloth Mask Collection, **Donation Drive Underway in Morris**

Are you making cloth als throughout Grundy County public. masks at home? Are you or and the surrounding area who someone you know in need of a cloth mask but don't know where to get one?

As of April 23, the District Office of David Welter – State Representative, District 75 - isa collection point for individu-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Futures Unlimited, Inc.

May 26th @ 5:30 p.m. during the

regularly scheduled Board meeting

p.m. at 210 E. Torrance Ave., Pontiac for the purpose of providing

general information to the public regarding the proposed Futures Parking Lot and Driveway Two Phase Replacement project.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the public is invited to join

the meeting via phone or below link to comment on such issues

as economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternatives

Join with Google Meet

meet.google.com/cmp-hnye-udw

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 573-559-1832

PIN: 547 152 089#

BY Futures Unlimited, Inc.

to the project or any other pertinent issues.

A public meeting will take place on May 26th, 2020, at 5:30

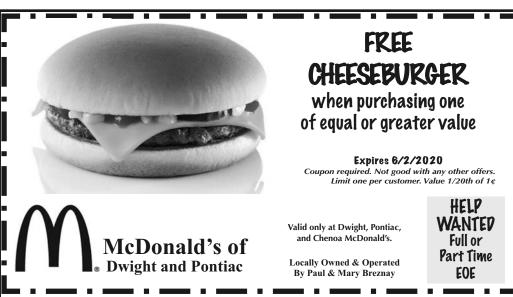
bers of the community who want or need to obtain them. Cloth face coverings help protect yourself and others from spreading COVID-19 while in

Cloth masks can be donated wish to donate homemade cloth contact-free in the lobby of masks for distribution to mem- Rep. Welter's Office, located at 1715 N. Division Street, Suite E, in Morris, Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and noon. The office is recognizable with a large Illinois-shaped heart in the window. If possible, residents are asked to drop off donated cloth masks in a plastic bag.

> Any individuals, families, or organizations in need of a cloth mask are asked to contact the office by phone at 815-416-1475 or via e-mail at wel ter@ilhousegop.org to arrange for pick-up or contact-free de-

> livery of their mask(s). For instructions on how to guidelines

> make and wear a homemade cloth face covering, follow the www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019 -ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diycloth-face-coverings. html









815-672-1194

Boucher Farm Wins the 'Carbon Cup'

Honored for Keeping Carbon in the Ground

(continued from page 1)

They pulled soil cores down to 30 centimeters and were able to determine organic carbon matter.

The tests showed that at Boucher Farms, the soil contained 2.7 percent organic carbon (- 4.7 percent organic matter).

The national winner was Chris Prevatt, a rancher from Alabama. His competition value was 5.4 percent organic carbon (- 9.4 percent organic matter). "If we translate Chris's measured carbon percentage down to the full 30 centimeters depth sampled, his soils hold about 203 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per acre," Indigo explained in a press release. "If Chris continues building his organic matter at a rate of 1 percent to 2 percent per year, this would result in 2 to 4 tons of CO2-e removed from the atmosphere per year, and earnings of \$30 to \$60 per acre per year through the Indigo



Carbon program."

Indigo Carbon is a program for paying farmers for increases in soil carbon levels and decreases in greenhouse gas emis-

"We're trying to do things

better," Boucher said. "We're trying to take this land and do better ... to protect it for years to come.'

Date Meets Zip

The Paper will publish a should be submitted by taking weekly "Letter Search Contest" leading up to the Date and Meets Zip festivities, in which a picture of a local sign or from the word DWIGHT will be printed each week – continuing through the final answer in the Wednesday, June 3, edition. Participants should fill out the entry form, identifying the sign and including your name and phone number. Entries

a picture of your entry form e-mailing it to dhs1854@yahoo.com by Monday of the following week. A building showing one letter \$10 prize will be awarded each week to one winner. In case of multiple correct entries, the winner will be pulled randomly from the group. On week five, Letter H, there are multiple signs to identify and a \$50 prize will be awarded to one winner that week.



Week 1 // " D " - DeLong's Garage: Claude DeLong, Sr. moved his garage and machine shop from Odell to Dwight in 1926. In 1945, his sons, Jim, Ed, and Claude, Jr. became partners. Today, DeLong Ford-Mercury is run by Jonathan DeLong, the fourthgeneration owner, who follows his father and uncle, Don and Ron, in the business at the original Dwight location, 212 E. Delaware

2 New COVID-19 Cases in Livingston County - 20 Total Cases

County residents have tested positive for COVID-19 -- a woman in her 20s who is hospitalized, and a woman in her 40s who is recovering at home in isolation.

That brings the total number of cases in the county to 20. One person has died from the disease, a woman in her 80s.

As of Monday, April 27, the Livingston County Health Department reported that 329 people have been tested for COVID-19 -- 309 of them testing negative.

"Assume COVID-19 is in every community. Because people can be carriers of the virus prior to experiencing symptoms, everyone should be presumed to be carriers of the COVID-19 virus," the LCHD

more Livingston wrote in a press release. "Community members are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community by slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.

Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcoholbased hand sanitizer with at bleach/water solution using a least 60% alcohol.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a cleaning spray with at least 70% alcohol or a

Slammer's

ratio of 1:10.

If you experience a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider before leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further di-



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Date Meets Zip

LETTER SEARCH - Week 2







Entry Form

Name of Sign/Building:

Submitted by:

Phone Number:

Submit your entry by taking a picture of the completed form and e-mailing the form to dhs1854@yahoo.com by Monday, May 4.

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Due to the extended Stay at Home Order: **Buzz the Gut** is canceled for 2020. See you in 2021!



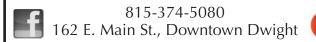


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Medical facilities

- Education

April 1st.

- Medicare
- Roads and bridge projects
- Child welfare
- **Emergency services**
- Libraries and schools
- Disabled veteran outreach programs Rural rental assistance payments



After May 11th, we will have lap tops available for the public to use at the Morris, Three Rivers Libraries (Minooka and Channahon), Fossil Ridge (Braidwood), and the We-Care Facility.

During this difficult time Grundy County, let's pull together to be counted and bring as much funding as possible to our area.

Shape the future Grundy County!

Visit 2020Census.gov today

Thank you Grundy County!





oping with the death of a loved one is never easy. Dealing with a sudden, unexpected death of a beloved friend or family member can be even more difficult, especially for those people who have to make important financial decisions while grieving.

To remove the burden and stress associated with funeral planning, many adults preplan their funerals. Adults can be as specific as they prefer to be when preplanning their funerals, and doing so gives relatives peace of mind knowing that their loved ones' funeral services were conducted in accordance to their own

Preplanning a funeral may sound morbid, as few people want to think about their deaths or discuss dying with their families. But there are numerous benefits to preplanning funerals.

Preplanning provides time to make the best decisions. Men and women who preplan their funerals have ample time to decide just what they want their memorial services to be like and how they want to fund those services. Men and women trusted to make those decisions upon the death of a loved one will need to make those decisions more quickly and likely won't be in the correct frame of mind to make decisions that will honor their loved one's legacy.

Preplanning ensures your wishes are honored. Men and women who formalize their funeral plans will ensure their wishes are honored. That can give men and women peace of mind and will provide peace of mind to the loved ones they leave behind, who can attend funeral services knowing those services are being conducted in adherence to their loved one's wishes. Even men and women who discuss their wishes for their funerals with loved ones may not have those wishes honored if they are not put in writing.

Preplanning can help control costs. Preplanning often includes men and women setting aside money for their funerals before they pass away. Knowing that a funeral, which can be expensive, is already paid for can provide additional peace of mind. Instead of

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and the surrounding areas.

uneral homes

worrying that their relatives will be forced to handle the burden of financing their funerals, men and women who preplan can rest easy knowing their insurance money and life's savings will be going to their surviving loved ones and not toward paying for funeral expenses.

Preplanning protects families faced with sudden death. Few people want to think about their deaths, and fewer still want to think about dying suddenly and/or dying young. Preplanning a funeral and setting money aside early can protect and help families faced with sudden deaths. That can be especially important for young parents, who won't want to leave their spouses and children financially destitute should they suddenly pass away.

Preplanning a funeral may not be something to look forward to, but doing so can protect families and provide men and women with some peace of mind.



Funeral Planning

Our Area Funeral Homes and Crematories are available to help you with Pre-planning and to assist and guide you at the time of a loved one's death.





Braidwood 815-458-2336







Whether you are researching general information or need guidance to help you through the loss of a loved one, our family will work diligently to meet your family's needs.

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Lori and David Watters



David and Lori Watters Celebrate 40th Anniversary

David and Lori Watters, formerly of Dwight, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary

The two were married on April 26, 1980, at the Goodfarm Trinity Lutheran Church.

Parents of the couple are

Bill and Dorothy Wollgast (both deceased) and Jim and Peg Watters.

They have two sons: Chad (Amber) and Bryan (Summer), and six grandchildren.

David and Lori reside in Bourbonnais.



Whitney English and Ryan Larson

English, Larson to Be Married

Kempton are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Whitney Leigh, to Ryan Larson, son of David and Jan Larson of Fairfield, IA, and the late RoAnne Larson.

Whitney is a graduate of ding is being planned.

Don and Deb English of North Central College and is currently employed as a Unit Program Associate with Americorps NCCC in Vinton, IA. Ryan is a graduate of Knox College and is currently employed as a Process Server.

A December 5, 2020, wed-

John R. Anderson Celebrates 30 Years at **LSC Communications**

brated 30 years of service at LSC Communications on April

"J.R." began with the company on September 11, 1989, as a Casual Material Handler in the Pressroom. He was promoted to full-time Pressroom Material Handler in April of

John R. Anderson cele- 1991 and then to Press Helper in January of 1996. He was promoted to Roll Tender in February of 2001, and to his current position of Assistant Press Operator in May of 2015.

J.R. and his wife, Barb, reside in Odell. They have one

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Road Purposes of the Dwight Township Road District, in the County of Livingston, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2020 and ending March 31, 2021, is on file and conveniently available for public inspecting at the Dwight Township Hall from and after 1:00 PM on Saturday, May

Notice is hereby given that public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:30 P.M., Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois, in this Dwight Township, and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at a meeting to be held at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois at 7:00 o'clock, Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Patricia S. Rosenbaum Dwight Township Supervisor Janice M. Masching Dwight Township Clerk

April 20 Meeting

Lunch Price Gets 10¢ Increase in Tri-Point Schools; Other Fees Remain Same

The Tri-Point Schools Board met Monday, April 20.

Many approvals were made: consent agenda as presented; the 2020-2021 calendar as presented, with revisions adopted; expenditure of funds for Pollinator Grant; and job descriptions as presented.

Participation in IESA for the 2020-2021 school year, along with renewing the membership of Tri-Point High School in IHSA for 2020-21 was approved.

It was approved to use the Marie Call Trust Funds for the Charger Room, and the authorization of the Superintendent to solicit private donations to complete the Room.

The current level for all Aimee Wright; second year

school fees will remain the same except lunch prices that are mandated to be raised by 10¢ to \$2.70.

The Superintendent was authorized to prepare Tax Anticipation Warrants; the current Summer Food Service Program's extension was approved until the May 18 Board meet-

Two teachers were re-assigned: Anita Platz to third grade teacher and Marsha Hills to second grade teacher/ PE

Those re-employed included: first year teachers -Annie Galindo, Scott Saffer, Josh Evans, Brendan Elens, Amy Saelens, Anita Platz and

teacher - John Allhands for the 2020-21 school year; third year teachers - Todd Fatka and Charlene Parsons (2020-2021 school year).

Acknowledged was the legislative granting of tenure to fourth year teachers: Laurie Novy, Lara Morrison, Akiko Thorson-Saffer, Diane Perkins, Alison Naese and Kyle Cahill (for 2020-2021 school

Ana Viera was employed on a provisional certificate to teach high school science; and Jim Dulek and Steve Weaver will be employed as part-time summer groundskeepers, splitting the duties as assigned by the administration.

Next meeting is May18.

Student Art Show Postponed

The "Juried 6th through 12th Grade Art Show", hosted by Greater Livingston County Arts Council that was scheduled for May, has been postponed indefinitely due to the pandemic.

When restrictions are lifted,

the time to both jury and show may continue to make art for the show.

In order to allow students who will be changing their grade category before then to

Read *The Paper* every week!

the Arts Center will establish still be able to submit art, students who at this time are in the art. Until then, students eighth grade may choose to enter in the Middle School category, and high school students who will have graduated may still enter in the high school category.

Pontiac Bancorp Conducts

Annual Meeting, Promotes Employees

Pontiac Bancorp, Inc., parent company of Bank of Pontiac, experienced another year of strong financial performance in 2019 as reported by Bill Kauffman, President and CEO. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the annual business meeting of stockholders was held remotely.

During his address, Kauffman reported to stockholders that "2019 proved to be another good year for Pontiac Bancorp. Total assets increased to \$566,787,911 and total loans grew to \$421,268,357. The bank remains a well-capitalized, locally-owned and managed community bank. I am proud of our officers and employees and the dedication and effort that they continue to show.

"In my 43-year career in banking, I have not experienced a time as challenging, and yet fulfilling, as the coronavirus pandemic situation. All of the officers, staff, and directors have been fully engaged. I can assure you that community banks are alive and well and remain a pillar of support and stability in their communities."

Kauffman announced the promotion of eight Bank of Pontiac employees. Nicolle Albrecht was promoted to Assistant Vice President, Lending; Officer and Assistant Trust Officer; Mark Donovan to Senior Vice President, Chief Lending Officer; Katie Duffy to Assistant Trust Officer; Seth McCoy to Vice President, Loan Administration; Rhys Meiner to Assistant Vice President, Lending; Julie Russow to Supervisory Staff, Executive Administrative Assistant; Jennifer Ullrich to Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of Coal City

In the Chairman's address, J. Collins Miller thanked the directors, stockholders, staff, and customers for contributing to Michelle Schultz, Vice Presi-

the success of Pontiac Bancorp, Inc. He commended the Bank management team and staff, saying "As everyone is well aware, we are going through a very unusual time in our country due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I am very proud of how the senior management and employees have stepped up to serve all of our communities during this time and how they are conducting business in this new norm for our bank customers. We were able to assist our local businesses with their loan application process for the small business loans. We processed over 200 applications and every completed application was approved for funding."

At the organizational meeting held after the meeting of stockholders, the election and re-election of directors and officers took place. Directors reelected or newly elected to the Pontiac Bancorp and Bank of Pontiac boards were: J. Collins Miller, Chairman of the Board; Courtney Farrell, Daniel Gschwendtner, Stuart Hoselton, Bill Kauffman, John Marshall, Mark Steffen, and Douglas Swartz.

Pontiac Bancorp officers reelected or newly elected were: J. Collins Miller, Chairman; Bill Kauffman, President and Chris Clement to Senior Vice CEO; John Marshall, Vice President, Chief Ag Services President and Secretary; Michelle Schultz, Treasurer.

> Officers re-elected or newly elected for Bank of Pontiac were: J. Collins Miller, Chairman; Bill Kauffman, President and CEO; John Marshall, Senior Vice President, Senior Trust Officer; Bob Meiner, Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer; Doug Durham, Senior Vice President, Chief Risk Officer; Mark Donovan, Senior Vice President, Chief Lending Officer; Clement, Senior Vice President, Chief Ag Services Officer and Assistant Trust Officer;

dent, Chief Financial Officer; Tina Trevino, Vice President, Chief Investment Officer and Asset Liability Analyst; Jim Rebholz, Vice President and Branch Manager of Odell Bank; Troy Harms, Vice President of Real Estate Lending; Amy Brummel, Vice President, Compliance Officer of Lending; Diane Jensen, Vice President and Branch Manager of Dwight Bank; John Bowman, Vice President of Information Technology; Jean Rabe, Vice President of Lending and Branch Manager of Bluestem Bank (Fairbury); Brad Brown, Vice President of Lending and Assistant Trust Officer; Andrew Weber, Vice President of Lending; Kate Fortner, Vice President of Customer Service; Nathan Wenger, Vice President of Ag Services and Branch Manager of Bluestem Bank (Forrest); Mary Austin, Vice President, Head Teller; Ann Scholtes, Vice President, Marketing; Seth McCoy, Vice President, Loan Administration; Dan Fry, Trust Officer; David Hammer, Trust Officer; Carla Corrie, Trust Officer; Katie Duffy, Assistant Trust Officer; Patty Wheat, Assistant Cashier; Rhys Meiner, Assistant Vice President, Lending; Nicolle Perino, Assistant Vice President, Lending; Jenn Ullrich, Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of Coal City Bank: Rebecca Lee, Loan Offi-

Advisory Directors re-appointed for the Odell and Dwight Banks were: Thomas Doran, Jeanne Gernentz, Diane Jensen, Bill Kauffman, John Marshall, Daniel Mehochko, Bob Meiner, and Jim Rebholz.

Advisory Directors re-appointed for the Bluestem Banks were: John Bellot, Rob Duffy, Bill Kauffman, John Marshall, Bob Meiner, Jean Rabe, Mark Steffen, and Nathan Wenger.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY - IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANE M. RIEGER, Deceased.

Case No.: 2020 P 23

CLAIMS NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to creditors of the death of JANE M. RIEGER. Letters of Office were issued on March 3, 2020 to Eric Rieger 307 South Center St., Forrest, IL 61741 and Peggy Vaughan, PO Box 554, Forrest, IL 61741 as independent executors whose attorney of record is James J. Stoller, 15 W. Front St., El Paso, Illinois 61738.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, C. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the

Claims against the estate may be filed with the office of the Clerk of Court, Livingston County Courthouse, Pontiac, Illinois, or with the representative, or both until November 3, 2020 or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 13th day of April, 2020

Stoller Law Office James J. Stoller Attorney for Representative 15 W. Front St. El Paso, IL 61738 (309) 527-4300 jamesstoller@stollerlaw.com



Don't Ignore Heart and Stroke Symptoms During a Pandemic

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loss of balance.

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peated incorrectly.

diately call 911.

side of the face droops.

slurred or the sentence is re-

• Time – If a person shows any

of these symptoms, it is impor-

tant to get to the hospital as

quickly as possible, and imme-

While everyone has been paying extra attention to the COVID-19 pandemic and taking care to stay home and away from others, that may not always be the best solution when it comes to potential health emergencies. For those people who have a history of heart and stroke issues, it's equally important to pay attention to your other health concerns, especially if you are currently experiencing any symptoms.

Classic heart attack symptoms include chest pain during exertion which can be accompanied by shortness of breath, sweating and nausea. Dr. Asad Shaikh, OSF HealthCare interventional cardiologist, said typically the pain will start in your chest and radiate into your left arm or jaw. And that, he says, can mean the difference between life and death.

Hospitals and other health care facilities have gone to great lengths to protect all patients during their medical appointments and hospital stays, including following CDC guidelines.

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It's History...



MRS. JAMES BAKER, one of the many volunteers who assisted with the Sabin oral polio vaccine program during the 1960s, is giving the vaccine to the small children of Mr. and Mrs. John Geschwind. The three phase program was a family affair, such as this, and a total of 2417 area residents took the third dosage Sunday in the DTHS gym. In the background is Dr. E. F. Joss, one of Dwight's doctors who assisted with the program.

> If you have a photo to share with The Paper email us at thepaper 1901@sbcglobal.net or mail it to 204 E. Chippewa St., Dwight, IL 60420

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Retired Teachers to Mentor Students Virtually

Members of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association, a statewide association of retired educators, their families and supporters, are volunteering during this COVID-19 pandemic to assist students tackling the unprecedented challenge of finishing the school year at home.

"We want to help students learn," said John Flaherty, a former high school and special education teacher and current president of the IRTA.

"Our members are ready to help students build their learning skills and tutor in highly advanced subject areas like chemistry and mathematics. For elementary students, selfpaced and self-directed learning is a foreign concept. A teacher-mentor will help students take their own initiative and focus their learning at their own pace."

Parents desiring to match their student with a retired teacher may sign up on the Association's website, www. irtaonline.org. Mentors are on a

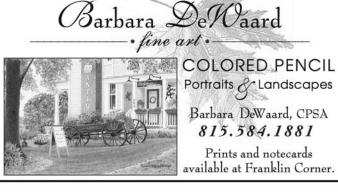
first come, first serve basis. Mentors will meet with students in virtual environments. Mentorships will last from now until the end of the school year on June 1. Mentorships are at the sole discretion of the teacher-mentors.

"A retired Illinois public school teacher's depth of knowledge is so great, it may be just what parents need to energize their children into athome students," Association Executive Director Jim Bachman said. "Retiree-mentors can specifically target aspects of learning that need the most attention, whether it's mathematics, science, history, writing, or reading."

"Younger students may simply need help reading a story; other students will need advanced tutoring. If we retirees can find a way to help, we will," Flaherty concluded.

IRTA encourages former teachers, spouses and supporters of teachers to join the Association. Learn more, join or renew your IRTA membership at irtaonline.org.

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How Should Millennials Respond to Market Decline?

The coronavirus crisis has unsettled every age group, as we are all worried about our health and that of our families and communities. And if you're in the millennial generation, generally defined as anyone born between 1981 and 1996, you might also be concerned about your financial future, given the sharp decline in investment prices. How should you respond to what's been happening?

Your view of the current situation will depend somewhat on your age. If you're an older millennial, you had probably been investing for a few years when we went through the financial crisis in 2007-2008. And you then experienced 11 years of a record bull market, so you've seen both the extremes and the resilience of the investment world. But if you're a younger millennial, you might not have really started investing until the past few years, if you've started at all, so you've only seen a steadily climbing market. Consequently, you may find the current situation particularly discouraging, but this is also a lesson in the reality of investing: Markets go down as well as up.

But no matter where you are within the millennial age cohort, you might help yourself by taking these steps:

Enjoy the benefit of having time on your side. If you're one of the younger millennials, you've got about four decades left until you're close to retiring. Even if you're in the older millennial group, you've probably got at least 25 years until you stop working. With so many years ahead, you have the opportunity to overcome the periodic drops in investment prices, and your investments have time to grow. And, of course, you'll be able to add more money into those investments,

Invest systematically. The value of your investments will always fluctuate. You can't control these price movements, but you may be able to take advantage of them through what's known as systematic investing. By putting the same amount of money at regular intervals into the same investments, you'll buy more shares when the share price is lower - in other words, you'll be "buying low," which is one of the first rules of investing - and you'll buy fewer shares when the price rises. Over time, this strategy can help you reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio, although it can't ensure a profit or protect against loss. Plus, systematic investing can give you a sense of discipline, though you'll need to consider the ability to keep investing when share prices are declining.

Focus on the future. You're never really investing for today – you're doing it to reach goals in the future, sometimes just a few years away, but usually much further out. That's why it's so important not to panic when you view those scary headlines announcing big drops in the financial markets, or even when you see negative results in your investment statements. By creating an investment strategy that's appropriate for your risk tolerance and time horizon, and by focusing on your long-term goals, you can develop the discipline to avoid making hasty, ill-advised decisions during times

As a millennial, you've got a long road ahead of you as you navigate the financial markets. But by following the suggestions above, you may find that journey a little less stressful.

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

OBITUARIES

James F. Tucker

DWIGHT - James F. Tucker, 65, of Dwight passed away Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at Northwestern Hospital in Huntley.

Born September 27, 1954, he was the son of the late Earl and Jean (Goley) Krug and the late James Tucker.

Jim was raised and educated in the Dwight area. He graduated from Dwight High School with the class of 1973. He lived most of his adult life in Chicago, returning to Dwight in 2003. He started working as a chef at the Harvest Table in Dwight, then continuing on to various restaurants in the Chicago area, where he was also bartender.

He liked to surround himself with nature, having a love for flowers and different kinds of plants, and also a love for all animals.

Jim is survived by his siblings: Juanita (Jack) Noffsinger of Cabery; Kim Krug of Dwight; Carl Krug of Dwight; Kirby (Pat) Krug of Dwight; (Dawn) Ronnie Tucker of Palos Park; Robert (Theresa) Tucker of Palos Park; and Brenda (Kevin) Cook of Pontiac; two

brothers-in-law, James Eskins and Bill Belter; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters, Jackie Eskins and Glenda Bel-

A private graveside for Jim will be held at a later date.

An online guestbook has been made for the family, where you may sign the book, share memories and photographs. You can access this by visiting the website: ucdaviscallahan.com

Arrangements have been entrusted with U.C. Davis-Callahan Funeral Home, 301 W. Washington St., Morris, IL

David Howard Schott

PONTIAC Howard David Schott passed away Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 6:50 a.m. at Accolade Healthcare in Pontiac, IL.

Cremation rites will be accorded. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, a Celebration of Life for Dave

will be held at a later date. Memorials in Dave's name may be made to First United

Methodist Church, Pontiac, IL. Calvert & Martin Funeral Home, Pontiac, is handling the arrangements.

David was born July 2, 1942 to Howard and Mabel (Branz) Schott in Pontiac, IL. He married Judy Drury on March 3, 1961 at the First Lutheran Church in Pontiac.

Survivors include his wife, Judy of Pontiac, IL; one son, Dale (Brenda) Schott of Blackstone, IL; three daughters: Ann (Joe) Foley of Pontiac, IL; Bobbi (Jerry) Curl of Diamond, IL; and Missi (Mike) Woods of Metamora, IL: grandchildren: Kristi (Nate) Tissiere, Tim (Stephanie) Jessica Turner, Turner (Nathon), Katelyn Dolan (Nathan), Danielle Dolan (Kyle), Dylan Marcin, Tyler Curl, Brett Curl and Steve (Megan) VandeWerken; "Grandpa's special helper" grandson, Don Foley, preceded him in death on September 17, great-grandchildren: Emerson, Riley, Zoey, Audrina, Logan, Lorelai, Calleigh, Talan and Kayson.

David had 12 siblings. Surviving are Ellis Schott of Braceville, IL, Francis Schott of Pontiac, IL, and Mary Mason of Chenoa, IL.

Preceding him in death were siblings: Lloyd Schott, Ivan Schott, Vera Wilson. Doris McDowell, Don Schott, Gail Schott and Roy Schott. Siblings Wayne and Shirley died in infancy.

David worked as a laborer with Klean-Lay in Leland, a driver with Creighton Allis-Chalmers dealer in Leland, and Fire Chief of Leland Fire and Ambulance.

After moving in 1975, David farmed in rural Blackstone until his retirement. He then worked for Stoller International in Pontiac, IL.

David was a member of the United Methodist Church in Leland, Odell, Dwight and Pontiac, where he loved to serve. He was also a member of the Moose Lodge in Pontiac. Leland Lions Club, Pontiac Lions Club, and the Central States Thresherman's Reunion.

He had a passion for maintaining and operating steam engines; he rebuilt and brought back to life the famous "Sparky" for the Pontiac Lions

David also organized and taught an annual Steam School to teach younger "engineers." He loved working with/showing horses. He was in many pa-

David was so proud of his family and was always quick to brag on them any chance he could get. He was a wonderful husband, dad, grandpa, brother and friend. He will be greatly missed.

This obituary may be viewed and guestbook signed at www.calvertmemorial.com

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY - IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID H. WIEGAND, Deceased.

Case No.: 2020 P 21

CLAIMS NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to creditors of the death of DAVID H. WIEGAND. Letters of Office were issued on April 3, 2020 to Ethel M. Wiegand, 204 East Church Street Unit #1, Forrest, IL 61741, as Independent Executor whose attorney of record is James J. Stoller, 15 W. Front St., El Paso, Illinois 61738.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, C. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the

Claims against the estate may be filed with the office of the Clerk of Court, Livingston County Courthouse, Pontiac, Illinois, or with the representative, or both until October 29, 2020 or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 16th day of April, 2020

Stoller Law Office James J. Stoller Attorney for Representative 15 W. Front St. El Paso, IL 61738 (309) 527-4300 jamesstoller@stollerlaw.com

Neil Theodore Ahern

HERSCHER Neil Theodore Ahern, 75, of Herscher and formerly of Campus, passed away April 21, 2020 at Amita Saint Mary's Hospital.

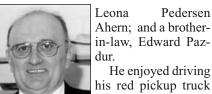
He attended Cabery grade school and was a 1963 graduate of

Kempton high school. He was employed as a pressman at RR Donnelley printing in Dwight for 35 years. Neil honorably served our

country in the US Army during the Vietnam war. He received commendation medals for heroism.

He is survived by two brothers: Francis (Rose) Ahern of Herscher and Tom (Naomi) Ahern of Chicago; two sisters: Theda Pazdur of Newport Beach, California and Kathy (Joe) Meisenbach of Kankakee; nephews: Joe (Tammy) Ahern, Ryan (Angie) and Theo Ahern, Paul Ahern, Mark (JoAnne) Pazdur, and Jonathan Meisenbach; nieces: Lynn (Terry) McGinnis, Haydin and Kate Pazdur; and step-nieces: Taylor and Nikki Doust.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore and



He enjoyed driving his red pickup truck through the countryside. He was a passionate sports fan and

followed college basketball closely. He was a big Illini fan.

Neil also liked game shows. One of his simple joys was mowing his lawn. He was always very generous with his time supporting his extended family.

Neil was a person who did not need many worldly things. His personal philosophy was "it is what it is."

There will be a private family funeral due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Memorial mass and military honors will be rendered at a later date.

His internment will be in Sacred Heart cemetery, Campus, Illinois.

His family will miss him dearly.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or AMITA St. Mary's Hospital Cancer Center.

Family members of the deceased, please instruct the Funeral Home to send information to:

The Paper email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Dwight Township in the County of Livingston, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2020 and ending March 29, 2021, is on file and conveniently available for public inspecting at the Dwight Township Hall from and after 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 2, 2020.

Notice is hereby given that public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:45 P.M., Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois, in this Dwight Township, and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at a meeting to be held at the Town Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois at 7:00 o'clock, Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Patricia S. Rosenbaum

Dwight Township Supervisor

Janice M. Masching Dwight Township Člerk

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,

Plaintiff,

CANDICE WHITE, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

No. 2020-CH-17

NOTICE

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

Lot 49 in Westview Subdivision, a subdivision of part of the Southeast Quarter and part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 16, Township 28 North, Range 5 East of the Third Principal Meridian, according to the plat thereof recorded June 18, 1968 in Plat Record 8, Page 107 as Document Number 329257, in Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-16-451-008

Commonly known as: 1202 Motorola Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764. The title holder of record to the above described real estate is CANDICE WHITE. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on July 21, 2017 and recorded on July 26, 2017 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2017R-2868. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC. an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 20-CH-17 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, 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 & Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before June 30, 2020, 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.

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





Dennis Rodman

I try to avoid writing about the same things in consecutive columns, but sometimes it just works out that way, and that's the case this week.

The Last Dance, which is the documentary diving into the 90's Bulls last championship season is airing two episodes every Sunday night. This Sunday, one of the episodes focused on one player in particular, Dennis Rodman.

Even when they focus on one player, it's usually in relation to the team and Michael Jordan, but Dennis was a larger than life character in his own right. This morning I was listening to a podcast that was recapping the episode. They brought up the idea that maybe Dennis Rodman is actually boring.

The argument was that he struggled to explain his behavior by basically saying the same thing over and over and that his antics weren't all that different than what some athletes and celebrities do now.

Now, while there's probably some truth to the idea that if some of the things he did were happening currently, they might just be a blip on the news radar. The fact that the person who didn't play basketball until he was nearly 18 years old ended up winning 5 NBA Championships and dated Madonna proves that even though some of what he did might not seem as outlandish in 2020, it's still fairly crazy in the grand scheme of things.

It was the first time that I had heard or even known that there may have been a segment of the population that thinks he is boring, but there's a first for everything I suppose.

Regardless of what happened off the court, there was a stretch in his career where Dennis Rodman was arguably the best defensive player of all time, and without a doubt the best rebounder.

Whether the worm was boring or not, he was certainly unique.

> Aaron J. Boma 2016 ISU Grad

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Successor in Interest to BANK OF DWIGHT, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff,

MICHAEL R. GROVES, WENDY L. GROVES, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

No. 2020-CH-18

NOTICE

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

Lot 9 and the East Half of Lot 10 in Block 6 of the Original Town, now Village of Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois. PIN: 05-04-379-005

Commonly known as: 117 W. Waupansie St., Dwight, IL

The title holders of record to the above described real estate are MICHAEL R. GROVES and WENDY L. GROVES. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on December 6, 2005 and recorded on December 9, 2005 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 568064, and a Modification of Mortgage executed on January 26, 2015 and recorded on January 27, 2015 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 632672. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Successor in Interest to BANK OF DWIGHT, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 20-CH-18 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, 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 & Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before JUNE 30, 2020, 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.

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

Rep. Tom Bennett Reports

STAY-AT-HOME ORDER EXTENDED, BUT PARTIALLY EASED

Governor Pritzker has announced that he is extending the stay-at-home order through May 30, but that he will be lifting some restrictions.

The Governor presented a series of scientific models which showed the projected impacts of different options relating to lifting the order.

Some activities and businesses which had been closed down will be allowed to reopen on a limited basis under strict social distancing guide-

State parks will begin reopening May 1 and outdoor activities "will be permitted

under strict safety guidelines." Businesses like greenhouses and animal groomers will be able to re-open so long as they follow strict social distancing requirements and employees and customers wear face coverings. Other retail stores which had previously been considered non-essential will be allowed to re-open for pick-

up and delivery of online or telephone orders.

Where elective surgeries are concerned, hospitals and other surgical centers will be receiving guidance from the Department of Public Health on how to begin re-starting those procedures which have been put off due to the shutdown. Face coverings will be required in public places where it is impossible to maintain six feet of separation, as well as in indoor public spaces.

I would have liked to see more of the restrictions on medical facilities and retail establishments lifted, particularly in those areas of the state that have had very few coronavirus cases. A regional approach, rather than a statewide one, would have done more to help struggling businesses and workers in our area. But at least the lifting of some parts of the shutdown is a step in the right direction, and should conditions improve, the order can be further eased at any time.

Legislature unsure of return date. The General Assembly has not met since March 5 amidst the coronavirus outbreak. There are pressing issues that must be addressed, including passing a balanced budget for next year, but there is another issue that the peoples' elected representatives need to be involved with. Throughout this crisis, the Governor has been issuing Executive Orders (like the stay at home order) using authority granted to him by the Illinois Emergency Management Act.

But that act contains an important limitation: the Governor may issue such orders under a disaster declaration "for a period not to exceed 30

days." This emergency began in Illinois in mid-March, so we are now well beyond that 30 day period, though experts are divided over whether the orders can be renewed 30 days at a time with the issuance of another disaster proclamation. It is time for the legislature, as a co-equal branch of government under our state Constitution, to once again be a part of this process.

There are many issues related to the coronavirus outbreak and the resulting economic slowdown that need to be addressed. The closure of state offices has made it difficult for Illinoisans to obtain or renew professional, firearm, driver and educational licenses. Easing this process will help get people back to work, as will reducing fees for everything from starting a small business to licensing a trailer.

We should look at removing late fee penalties for homeowners' property taxes and stop tax sales in order to help Illinoisans who have lost their jobs to be able to hold onto their homes.

Action is needed to protect unemployment insurance benefits to keep our struggling small businesses from being

punished with high insurance costs due to mandated closures. We need to clarify what is meant by "essential," as we have seen instances where a local business is closed while a big box store selling the same product remains open. This needs to change. We also need to create an additional business loan program to help Illinoisans get through this difficult time. There is much work to do when we get back to the

How much do we owe? Even in the midst of coronavirus, state government has been trying to continue as many normal operations as possible. It is important that we keep up with meeting our obligations. This includes paying our bills. As of the time of this writing, the State of Illinois owes \$7,831,296,858 in unpaid bills to state vendors. One year ago, the backlog stood at \$6.9 billion. This figure represents the amount of bills submitted to the office of the Comptroller and still awaiting payment. It does not include pension liability which is subject to a wide range of factors and has been

Dwight Business Hours and Information

Dwight Economic Alliance has compiled the list below with the help of local businesses. If you are able, please support your local merchants.

Business	Phone	Services	Other Info
Ace Hardware	815.584.2954	8:00-5:30 Mon-Sat 10:00-4:00 Sunday	Buy online to pickup from store or deliver. Open for shopping. See info on their Facebook page.
Aly Anne's	815.584.1425	Check Facebook	Order through: alyannes.square.site Curbside & Delivery Check their Facebook page for hours
Bank of Pontiac	815.584.1855	Drive-Up Open	Call for Lobby Appointment
Berkot's Super Foods	815.584.2492	8:00-8:00	7:00-8:00am shopping for Seniors and immune compromised
Caseys			Both Casey's open
Cherry Reds	815.584.1227	Carry Outs	Tuesday-Saturday 11:00-8:00 Sunday 11:00-6:00
Coleman & Sons Garage	815.374.5030		24 Hour Towing and regular business hours for auto repair
CVS Pharmacy	815.584.2140	Open	Drive Through will do inside shopping for you.
DeLong Ford	815.584.3016	Show Room Closed Call for Appointment	Service Department is open. Check their Facebook page for specifics. They will pick up and drop off vehicle.
Dwight Dairy Queen	815.584.1118	Drive Through	10:00-10:00
Dwight Economic Alliance	815.584.1830	Office Closed	Call or email for assistance. janderson@dwightalliance.org
Dwight Pizza	815.584.9100	Delivery & Curb	1:30-9:00
Dwight United Methodist	815.584.3420	YouTube Dwight UMC	Sunday at 9:00 am Check Facebook for Updates
Dwight Vet Clinic	815.770.3105	Open	This is drive up service. Check Facebook for procedures.
Family Dollar	815.584.2186	Open	8:00-7:00, Sunday 9:00-7:00
Geo's Pizza	815.584.3434	Delivery & Pick Up	T-Th 4-9, F-S 4-10 Su 4-9
Jensen's BP Dwight	815.584.3329		Open for all business until early closing of 7:00 pm
Love's Travel Center/ Hardee's	815.584.9596	Hardee's Drive Through	Hardee's Hours: 6:00 am to 10:00 pm
McDonald's	815.584.9008	Drive Through	7:00 am to 9:00 pm Curbside with app & Drive Through
Midland States Bank	815.584.1890		Drive Up open, lobby by appointment
New Life Assembly of God	815.584.3430		Sunday Live Streaming on Facebook 10:00 am Daily live messages on Victor Randle (not Senior) FB page
Old World Liquors	815.584.2880	Open	Monday-Saturday 9:00-7:00 pm Sunday 9:00-6:00
People's National Bank	815.584.1212	Drive-Up Open	Call for Lobby Services
Route 66 Tire & Auto	815.584.3054	Open	Call for Appointments
Sancken Sole Realty	815.844.4104	Call for Appointments	Everything can be done virtually, electronically
State Farm, Jerry Danko	815.584.1120	Call	Lobby Closed
Streator Onized Credit Union	815.584.9730	Use	Lobby closed through April 7th. Call to schedule appointments.
Subway	815.584.3800	No Dining In	Hours 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
Tech-Ni-Kolor AutoCrafters	815.584.2588	Open	Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00, Saturday 8:00-12.00
Unpossible Mead		Saturday Only	Grab & Go 5:00-6:00 pm
Victory Lanes	815.584.2724	Curbside & Delivery	Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 5:00-8:00
Vigna Team Lori Bonarek Realty	815.584.3637	Call for Appointments	
Village of Dwight Public Works	815.584.3077	Closed to public	8:30-12:30

Pritzker's Stay-At-Home Order Modified, Extended

Following are highlights essential businesses may refrom Governor Pritzker's modified stay-at-home order, effective May 1 until May 31:

Outdoor Recreation

- State Parks will begin phased re-opening on May 1. More details on which parks will reopen are available at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources website.
- Fishing and boating in groups of no more than two people will be allowed.
- Golf will be permitted under strict safety and social distancing guidelines provided by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportu-

New Essential Businesses

- Greenhouses, garden centers,
- and nurseries may re-open. Customers and employees
- must wear a face covering. · Animal grooming services

may re-open. **Non-Essential Retail**

• Retail stores designated non- and customers.

open to fulfill telephone and online orders through pick-up and delivery.

Face Coverings

- Individuals will be required to wear a face-covering or mask in public places where they cannot maintain a six-foot social distance.
- Face-coverings will be required in indoor public spaces, such as stores.
- This requirement applies to all individuals over the age of two who can medically tolerate a face-covering.

Essential Businesses and Manufacturing

- Essential businesses and manufacturers will be required to provide face-coverings to employees who are not able to maintain social-distancing.
- These businesses must follow new requirements to maximize social distancing and prioritize the well-being of employees COVID-19.

• This includes occupancy limits and precautions such as staggering shifts and operating only essential manufacturing

estimated to be more than \$137

Schools

billion.

- Educational institutions can establish procedures to pick up necessary supplies and student belongings.
- · Dormitory move-outs must follow public health guidelines, including social distancing.

Additionally, the Illinois Department of Public Health will be issuing guidance to surgery centers and hospitals to allow for certain elective surgeries for non-life-threatening conditions starting May 1. Certain criteria will be laid out that facilities must meet, including having proper PPE, ensuring enough space remains available for COVID-19 patients, and testing elective surgery patients to ensure they do not have





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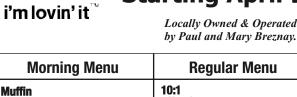
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- Bottled Water

- Apple Juice

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- Sausage Biscuit
- Sausage Egg & Cheese **Biscuit Bacon Egg & Cheese Biscuit**

McGriddle

Sausage McGriddle Sausage Egg & Cheese McGriddle

Friday Lunch

10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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- Hotcakes
- Sausage Burrito · Oatmeal Hash Brown
- **Other** - Fries - Filet-O-Fish
- McChicken Hot & Spicy McChicken
- **Chicken** Buttermilk Crispy Chicken McNuggets

Double Cheeseburger

- Triple Cheeseburger

- Happy Meal - Apple Slices

Double QPC

McDouble

- Big Mac

4:1

- QPC

- Smoothies Strawberry-Banana & Mango-Pineapple
- Chocolate Milk

- Frappe - Mocha/Caramel - Slushies

- Dessert
- Baked Apple Pie - McFlurry (Oreo & M&M)



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Pet of the Week

My name is Darla. Today is the day that I turn 1. Today also marks my 362 day here at the shelter. I am the last kitten of my litter of 6 that still needs to be adopted! I don't understand why I've been left behind. I would love a home for my birthday this



year! I am a sweet girl who loves to be petted and receive belly rubs! I love perching up high so a family cat tree would be awesome! I don't mind the other cats here at the shelter either so I could definitely live in a home with a feline sibling! I used to love cuddling up with my birthday twin, Inch, but he got his birthday wish yesterday and has been adopted! Won't you grant my birthday wish?

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Thurs., Apr. 30: Beef pattie w/mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, dinner roll, cinnamon chunky applesauce.

Fri., May 1: Pulled pork sandwich, macaroni and cheese, broccoli, fruit juice, bun, peaches.

Mon., May 4: Swiss beef pattie, For reservation, call: ranch potatoes, Midori blend veggies, whole grain wheat, Mandarin oranges.

Tues., May 5: Creamed chicken w/green onion and pimento, Italian green beans, biscuits, sliced pineapple.

Wed., May 6: Ham loaf, frosted sweet potatoes, seasoned peas, gelatin w/fruit, rye bread, oatmeal cookie w/raisins

Thurs., May 7: Mostaccioli w/meat sauce, Romaine salad w/dressing pkt., mixed vegetables, dinner roll, fruit juice.

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The Wayside Chapel

Contact your respective places of worship for more up-to-the-minute

information regarding changes and cancellations.

SIDEWALK CHALK



DRAWING CONTEST

Get your artistic skills ready... The Paper is hosting a sidewalk chalk con-

test. Get outside and use your driveway, sidewalk, or hard surface and draw your most creative art piece. It can be anything you want it to be.

Send a photo of your creation along with your name, age, and phone number to

thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

and the public will decide winner on facebook and publish them in next week's edition. The creations with the most likes will be selected as winners.

The deadline for submissions is Friday, May 1, at Noon. In the case of a tie, multiple winners will be crowned.

The age groups will be:

- 6 and under
- 7-12
- 13 and up



Gas Prices For This Week

Everyone is following the Governor's orders to stay at home. Refineries are producing excess gas so inventory is high and demand is still low.

Remember to watch for bike riders and children playing outside now that weather is nicer. Stay safe.

City/Village	April 29	April 22
Dwight	\$1.54	\$1.64
Kankakee	\$1.55	\$1.58
S. Wilmington	\$1.76	\$1.87
Streator	\$1.68	\$1.73
Odell	\$1.79	\$1.79
Pontiac	\$1.73	\$1.80
Gardner	\$1.73	\$1.82
Braceville	\$1.79	\$1.80
Morris	\$1.55	\$1.72
Herscher	\$1.65	\$1.69
Chicago	\$2.44	\$2.49
Illinois	\$1.81	\$1.85
U.S.	\$1.79	\$1.83

7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sources: GasBuddy.com and U.S. Energy Information Administration. Gasoline price data collected by

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Illinois Surpasses Testing Goal, **Unveiling Daily** High of New COVID-19 Cases

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker said Friday that laboraties in Illinois completed more than 16,000 COVID-19 tests over the previous 24 hours – far surpassing its goal of 10,000 tests per day.

"Surpassing 10,000 tests is a very important milestone, not only because it allows us to isolate more of those who are COVID-positive so that they don't spread the infection, but also because it moves us in the direction of expanding our surveillance for outbreaks,' Pritzer said during his daily briefing in Chicago.

The highest number of tests performed over a day also produced a new daily high number confirmed COVID-19 cases, at 2,724. But Pritzker said about only 17% of those tests came back positive, compared to the cumulative rate since the pandemic began of about 21%.

He said it was too early to say whether the lower rate of positive results was the result of decreasing infection rates or the fact that the state has expanded the criteria for allowing people to be tested.

Friday's report brings the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began to 39,658.

Dr. Ngozi Ezike, director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, also said 108 people had died of the disease over the previous 24 hours, bringing that total to 1,795.

As of Friday, she said, 4,828 people were being hospitalized for the disease, and of those about 25%, or 1,225 people, were in intensive care beds, and 58% of the ICU patients, or 709 individuals, were on ventilators.

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Brownstone Wines 750 ml.

Jules Taylor Sauvignon Blanc 750 ml. \$1399

Nobilo Sauvignon Blanc 750 ml.

Chi Chi's Cocktails 1.75 liter

Escapes 4-pack bottles.. 2/\$700

Jack Daniel's JACK DANIE COCKTAILS 6-Pack bottles

> Seagrams SPIKED

8-pack cans