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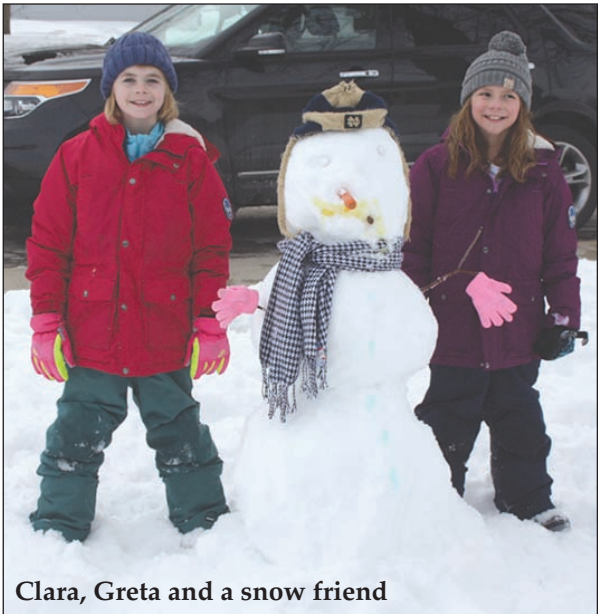
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Volume 23 • Number 8

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Wednesday, February 24, 2021



Clara, Greta and a snow friend



Frosty, Ethan
and Evan

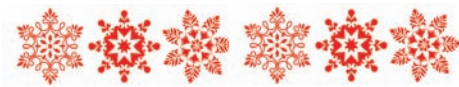


Jenny, Catie and Cason



Averi, Charleigh and Maci

Sunday Fun-Day at Heritage Health, Dwight



BUILDING SNOWMEN AND PLAYING TIC TAC TOE with residents at Heritage Health in Dwight. Members of the Dwight Community came together to participate in a snow building exercise for the residents of Heritage Health to see. What a great idea to share their creations for all. Hot cocoa was enjoyed after the build.

The Paper photos



DTHS February Board Actions

BOE Returns to In-Person Meetings/21-22 Calendar Approved

by Madelyn Fogarty
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com



The Dwight Township High School Board of Education met on February 17 in its first in-person session since measures to combat the pandemic moved meetings to a virtual platform.

The 2021-22 school calendar was approved by the BOE. Next year's calendar calls for the first day of student attendance to be Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Highlights from the calendar include no school November 24 – 26 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Winter Break will begin on December 20, 2021 with students returning to school on January 5, 2022. Spring Break has been designated as March 21 – March 25, 2022. May 26, 2022 is the planned last day of student attendance; however, five emergency days designated as May 27 and May 31 - June 3, 2022 could impact the final day of school.

Addressing other business, school bus leases and extensions were discussed. The Board approved a two year lease extension for the nine pre-owned 2019 buses at a cost of \$11,150 per bus per year. For the two needed lift busses, the BOE approved a three year lease for two new 2022 lift busses at an annual cost of \$15,514 per lift bus.

In an effort to keep the Industrial Arts program alive and available to DTHS students in a time when teachers in this field are scarce, the board approved the hiring of a currently uncertified teacher. Robert Caridi will be employed as a Long Term Substitute / Industrial Arts Teacher. Mr. Caridi, who has a substitute teaching license and brings much experience in the field of wood-working and industrial arts, will complete his master's pro-

gram within a year to earn his teaching certificate. Caridi will work alongside Mr. Jeff Froelich for the fourth quarter this year to mimic student teaching before taking over the classroom as a long term substitute next fall while completing the program for his teaching certificate. Mr. Froelich, who has retired but was filling the position, will not be retuning next fall.

In reports to the board, Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek noted that the Livingston County Health Department recently held a clinic at DTHS to provide COVID vaccinations for Dwight Public School employees along with staff of the Odell Public School and St Paul School. It was noted that LCHD has trained school nurse Erica Sandeno to administer rapid COVID tests. This free test will be made available to high school coaches and high school athletes on a voluntary basis and when applicable.

DTHS Principal Andrew Pittenger reported that current enrollment at DTHS reflects 229 total students with 175 students opting for in-person learning and 54 students currently choosing remote learning. Mr. Pittenger also informed the board that an after school study program began on January 25 providing additional assistance to students with failing grades.

Mr. Pittenger also discussed recommendations with the board for the 2021-22 year including the addition of a Tran-

sitional Math course. Regarding schedule structure, it was decided to move to a modified block schedule. The modified block format, which was the preferred option of most teachers, will allow for one day of traditional learning, on Mondays, with four days of block scheduling each week.

Athletic Director Cathy Ferguson reported that the season for boys basketball, girls basketball and competition cheerleading has begun. Scholastic Bowl has also been holding virtual meets and Dwight has agreed to host the Regional Scholastic Bowl on Monday, March 8, with approximately six to seven schools in attendance. The Regional meets will be in-person. It was also reported that football practices are allowed to begin on March 3 and Volleyball practices can begin on March 8.

The board also:

- affirmed employment of Elisabeth Bland, Substitute Bus Monitor.
- approved employment of Jared Steck, Assistant Boys Golf Coach.
- affirmed employment of Nick Schultz, Substitute Teacher.
- discussed additional Social Worker resources for the 2021 – 22 school year.
- approved a Resolution, TRS supplemental Savings Plan/Voya Financial.

The next regular meeting of the Dwight Township High School Board of Education will be 6 p.m., Wednesday, March 17 in the DTHS cafeteria. Virtual access for anyone wanting to attend BOE meetings will also continue to be available. Anyone logging in will be able to listen and watch only. Visit the school's website for an access link and login information.



Turn-1 Photography | 2018

New Series Steers Into Grundy County Speedway Midwest Super Cup Series Begins May 7

By Bridget DeWaard

"We took the rules, and laid them out side by side. At the time, there were three other cup series, all racing under very slim differences," Eric Heddins, owner/operator of Heddins Motorsports, paused a moment, reflecting on the course-altering conversation that led to the creation of a new series. "Now, for the first time in 20 years, drivers from all over will be able to race together under one series, thanks to a few simple changes. It's really exciting."

Debuting this season at Morris' Grundy County Speedway, the new program is a super cup series, promising a friendlier atmosphere, more accessibility for racers, and plenty of updates for a completely new and unique competition. Pulling potential racers from Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan and even Ohio, this series is planned to be much larger, and much more inclusive, leading to better races.

Though the point system

will stay similar to that of any other series, purses will now be offered as part of Heddins' new program, currently unheard of in any midwest super cup series. A purse is a pool of prize money paid out to racers, usually funded by sponsor donations. "We are currently seeking 11 businesses to fund the upcoming races," Heddins said of the new feature. "There will be a payout every night of the race, something that's completely new for these kids." As part of the series, kids will also get the chance to win trophies, and participate in an end of the year celebratory banquet, also funded in part by sponsor donations.

Heddins also put together new staff, placing the utmost importance on his team's role and responsibility for how the race goes. "Combined, both Scott Pool and Ken Odo have decades of racing experience," Eric said confidently of the new hires. "And the additional staff also allows for me to completely remove myself from

any sort of decision-making in race outcomes, ensuring a fair competition."

Well-versed in his line of work, Eric was always interested in cars - particularly the ones that went fast. "I loved anything with four wheels and an engine," he said, remembering long days spent working on cars with his father. "I still do." Having also owned and operated Heddins Motorsports since 2019, Eric has always searched for ways to bring people together, originally forming the business to help service more teams.

Heddins took time to address any concerns parents might have about becoming involved with the sport, and above all, stress the family-oriented and supportive atmosphere down at the track. "The time investment breaks down to about two hours a week, outside of actual time spent racing," he explained. "This could

(continued on page 3)

NATIONAL FFA WEEK

See pages 8 and 9 today
for area FFA happenings.

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FOR THE RECORD

Dwight Police Blotter
February 12: 1:58 a.m., Dwight Police were contacted by a resident in the 200 block of Renfrew. The resident advised they had lent their car to a friend and it had never been returned. The car was found and impounded in Chicago.
February 15: Dwight Police generated a report for ID fraud; 4:29 p.m., Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of E. Main for a Domestic disturbance; 6:21 p.m., Dwight Police were dispatched to 12 W. Northbrook for a custody exchange issue.
February 16: Dwight Police generated a report for ID fraud.
Accident Report
Monday, February 15, 1:00 p.m., an accident was reported at Seminole at Rt. 47 involving a Ford F350, driven by Scot Banks, Dwight, which struck a Chrysler van, driven by Diana Pokarney, Dwight, in the driver's side passenger sliding door. No injuries were reported.
Wednesday, February 17, 3:48 a.m., a hit-and-run accident was reported at 12 W. Northbrook Dr. involving a 2020 Freightliner, driven by J. Haley, Oshkosh, WI, who was asleep in his semi when it was struck by an unknown unit that did not stop to give information.



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS
February 11: Delaware, medical, Morris; South St., medical, Morris; Mazon, trauma, RMC.
February 12: William, medical, MER.
February 13: I-55, trauma, refusal; Union, medical, RMC.
February 14: Union, fire; Union, fire; Mazon, fire, three refusals; Dwight, fire.
February 15: Mazon, medical, Morris.
February 16: Prairie, trauma, refusal.
February 17: Union, medical, refusal; Northbrook, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris.

Need Groceries?
Mobile Pantry in Morris

If you don't have enough to eat, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry can help – distributing nutritious food to high-need areas.
The Mobile Pantry will be in Morris Saturdays, March 20, April 17, May 15, and June 19, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Goodwill, 414 Arthur Avenue in Morris.
Food is free to neighbors in need; no ID, proof of address, or income is required. Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis, while supplies last.
Due to COVID-19, Mobile Pantry distributions have moved to a contactless drive-thru model, with pre-packed boxes of groceries.
For additional food resources, visit SolveHunger Today.org/GetHelp.

The Paper
Deadline is Friday at noon.

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Protect Benefits for Children with Special Needs
If you have a child or other family member who has special needs due to physical or mental conditions, you face a variety of challenges planning for their care, including financial ones. You may also have some well-meaning relatives who want to help, but who may not realize that their moves could actually result in some serious lifestyle and monetary problems for your loved one. Fortunately, by planning ahead, you can avoid these potential traps.
As you probably already know, individuals with special needs are eligible for a variety of government benefits and local programs that provide assistance with housing, medical needs, specialized equipment, independent living, job training and other services. You may also know that some of these programs require participants to meet financial criteria to qualify for benefits. Usually, this isn't a problem if your loved one has little income and few assets.
Difficulties can arise, though, when other relatives, such as grandparents, include loved ones with special needs in their estate plans by naming them as beneficiaries of insurance policies or retirement assets, or as beneficiaries of any trusts the grandparents have established. In these situations, loved ones who receive or inherit a sizable amount of assets may then be ruled ineligible for some important services.
Hopefully, your relatives will have informed you of their plans. If so, let them know that although you appreciate their generosity, the way they've chosen to show it could have unanticipated – and harmful – effects. You could then suggest ways they could structure their gifts to be more valuable.
Specifically, they can help through a special needs trust, either one that's already been created or one they create for their gift. A special needs trust is designed to help people with special needs use financial gifts or inheritances for a variety of purposes while keeping their eligibility for some government programs and other services. There are two main types of special needs trust:
• **First-party special needs trust**
An individual with special needs, their legal guardian or the court can establish a first-party special needs trust benefiting that individual. The first-party special needs trust is funded by the individual's own assets, either through earnings or an inheritance or a personal injury award. A first-party trust contains a "payback" rule, which means that when the individual beneficiary with special needs dies, the trust must pay back the state for certain benefits received.
• **Third-party special needs trust**
A relative or person other than the individual with special needs who wants to include that individual in their estate plan can set up a third-party special needs trust. The third party trust is funded with assets from someone other than the individual with special needs. With a third-party trust, no "payback" provision is required.
Many issues are involved in establishing an appropriate special needs trust. Consequently, you'll need to consult with your legal advisor to determine your next steps. Afterwards, you'll want to involve everyone in your family who could contribute to a trust, so they'll all know what to expect and how they can participate. Once the arrangements are made, you can all feel like you've done your part to make things easier for the loved one in your life with special needs.
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
Edward Jones, Member SIPC

It's History...

IN 1954, THIS YOUNG BUSINESSMAN, DEL HANCOCK, and his wife, Docia, were the Bride and Groom during the Centennial Parade in Dwight. The Model T was transported by trailer from Marion, IL with assistance from Del's father and followed Clem Steichen's surreys in the parade.

Dwight FPD, EMS, PD Assist in Life-Saving Rescue Following Crash

An accident occurred shortly after 2:00 a.m. February 20 near the intersection of Verona Road and 3300 North Road (County Line).
OnStar notified Vermilion Valley 911 Dispatch, who then notified Dwight Fire, Dwight EMS, Dwight PD, and Livingston County PD. Upon the emergency crews' arrival, the driver of the vehicle was not located.
Knowing the time of the accident through OnStar, emergency crews began a ground search for the driver. Mutual aid was requested to assist with the search, including Grundy County Sheriff's Department, Livingston County Sheriff's Department, Pontiac Police Department Drone, and Illinois State Police.
Search efforts continued through the early morning when the subject was located near the northwest corner, outside of the closed women's correctional center, at approximately 8:45 a.m.
The subject was located in a combined effort with all of the aforementioned agencies. When the subject was located, he was in severe hypothermia laying in a snowbank.
Dwight Fire requested mutual aid assistance from Reddick with their UTV and Dwight EMS requested a helicopter for medical transport. A local resident was on scene and was able to assist with the use of a tractor to get emergency crews and equipment to the subject.
Crews had to get through a fence and track through high snow drifts to be able to extricate the subject, who was removed from the elements and in the care of Dwight EMS until the Superior helicopter arrived on scene and transported the patient to Christ Hospital.
Dwight FPD Deputy Fire Chief Justin Dyer stated that "the combined efforts and the dedication of all emergency crews proved to save a life today. We are unsure at this time why the individual had left the scene of the accident, but we are certain he is alive at this time because of the amazing work by all of the emergency agencies. Dwight Fire would like to thank all of the agencies involved in the search and rescue; especially the dispatchers at our 911 center."

Jesse White Calls on Drivers to Move Over for Stopped Emergency Vehicles

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has issued an urgent reminder to motorists to adhere to the state's Move Over Law, also known as Scott's Law, designed to protect law enforcement and emergency responders who are stopped on the side of roadways. White also underscored the importance of not driving while distracted – with a special emphasis on avoiding texting while driving at all times.
White has taken steps over the last few years to increase public awareness about protecting those who protect us. His office added a reminder about the Move Over Law to driver's license and vehicle registration renewal notices, produced an educational brochure and added a test question to the written driving exam. In addition, he initiated a law that further strengthened the state's efforts to combat texting while driving.
Motorists convicted of violating the Move Over Law face a minimum fine of \$250 up to \$10,000, and the offense goes on their driving record. Driving privileges can be suspended for 24 months in the event of a fatality and six months for a crash causing personal injury.
In addition, White called on motorists to avoid distracted driving and to stop texting while driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a motorist traveling at 55 mph takes his or her eyes off the road an average of five seconds when sending or reading a text. This equates to driving blindly for the length of a football field.
White initiated a July 1, 2019, law that further cracked down on texting while driving by classifying first-time offenses as moving violations. Under the previous law, which took effect in 2014, second and subsequent texting while driving offenses were treated as moving violations, while first offenses were treated as non-moving violations.
Scott's Law is named after Chicago Fire Lieutenant Scott Gillen who was struck and killed Dec. 23, 2000, while responding to a traffic crash.

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New Series Steers Into Grundy County Speedway — —



(continued from page 1)

involve practicing, or performing maintenance on the car, but beyond that it’s pretty comparable to any other youth sport.” Eric also assured that parents who worry about being car literate enough for the maintenance aspect of the sport will also find support at the track, with plenty of friendly faces willing to offer tips and a helping hand.

Heddins also discussed safety concerns, making it a top priority of his team at the Speedway. Safety equipment, such as fire resistant suits and gloves, as well as protective head gear, like helmets, and head and neck restraints, will need to be purchased prior to racing. The cars used in the series, considered stock cars, are fully contained, and allow for more crash protection. “All the parts of these cars are well-made, and their smaller size makes them a bit safer,” Heddins explained, also mentioning that the vehicles allow younger racers currently driving carts to smoothly transition to entry-level racing cars. “Of course, there are some bumps and bruises from time to time, but drivers are, for the most

part, protected.”

After all the registration fees and purchasing necessary equipment, Heddins realizes racing can get pricey. “Some of these things can get up there in cost, but we also set out to make this series as inexpensive as possible to get into,” Heddins said. “It kind of depends on you and your child, and how much you want to put into the sport beyond the necessities.”

Racing may prove to be a slightly hefty time and cost commitment, but the benefit to youth racers through experience and connection is unmatched. Time spent off the track is just as important as time spent on, with plenty to take away from the process of preparation and practice. With tools in hand, surrounded by family and friends, kids have a safe and supportive environment to learn, grow, and discover themselves.

Nothing is more empowering than problem solving a repair, and seeing the results of the fix as the car zooms flawlessly around the track. Determination, too, can be found intermingled in the losses just as much as the wins, encouraging kids to keep pushing for-

ward, uncovering essential life lessons with each new race. Even the interpersonal connections that form almost effortlessly, from conversations sparked at school to trading racing tips with fellow competitors, all lead to more confidence, a stronger sense of self, and safe, productive social interactions.

Parents can also rediscover themselves at the track, finding a new way to bond and connect with their children, learning and growing right along with them. “You get a chance to be more involved with your kids,” Heddins said. “It’s a good time for them, and it’s a good time for the family.”

With events planned all the way through September, the first race of the series is set for May 7, at the Grundy County Speedway. Interested parents can e-mail or call for registration information and forms, and visit www.midwestsupercupseries.com for schedules, updates and more. Racers need to be at least 8 years of age to start, and while there is no deadline for registration, those signed up by March 31 will be able to receive a discount.

One of the first races this season for the new series is a memorial race, in remembrance of fallen soldier Corporal Christian P.K. Smith. Smith,

originally of Crown Point, IN, passed away while on active duty in the United States Marine Corps at just 25 years old. “His father, Thomas Smith, still races with us,” Heddins said. “We are hoping to make this a huge event, and are honored to race in his memory.”

The Heddins team is beyond thankful for all the sponsors, whose generosity and monetary support have made these races possible. The team is currently hoping for more sponsors this season, and anyone interested can submit forms via mail or email.

“Come race with us,” Heddins invited as the interview came to an end. “But most importantly, come laugh with us. Come spend time with us. There’s no better place to be on a Friday night.”

Heddin’s Motorsports and the Midwest Super Cup Series also races for Suicide Awareness continuously throughout the season, hoping to remember and honor all those we have lost, and support resources for those who are struggling.

For more information, on how to sponsor or regarding registration, contact the team at:

Phone number:
1-630-429-1529

Email: midwestsupercupseries@yahoo.com

the corner

by Tom Tock

So, what have you readers been doing to escape cabin fever?

A lot of time at our house has been consumed with jigsaw puzzles. We began with a 500 piece puzzle, “graduated” to a 750 piece, then foolishly tackled one with 1,000 pieces.

The 1,000 jigsaw has been a very difficult endeavor, a real sleep depriver, though I believe we will finish it in time to emerge from our cocoon and welcome Spring.

Good friends brought us tulips which are now blooming and reaffirm our faith in Mother Nature. The snow and cold are just to remind us who is in charge.

The doctor told us to “get those vaccine shots,” and so we did last Friday in St. Patrick’s parish hall in Dwight. On arrival, we were perplexed to see the parking lot so full, but a system was in place to help the older folks from their cars into the building where an organized staff soon had us all signed in, vaccinated, and on our way back to our cars. Bless them all.

In the reel world, Governor Pritzker has submitted a \$42.9 billion budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. In today’s ultra-political world, the Governor blamed the Republicans for not supporting his much sought-after

graduated-rate income tax, and therefore responsible for a serious shortfall in revenue.

The state has actually been surprised with better than expected income in the final quarter of 2020, but the Governor still had to do a lot of cutting to come up with an allegedly balanced budget. For instance, he closed “corporate tax loopholes” worth a billion dollars that were established in 2019 during a previous budget deal. The Illinois Chamber of Commerce calls the closing of the “loopholes” a “massive tax increase” on the business world.

It’s a very complicated budget — cuts here, cuts there, with the hope that the federal government will respond to Illinois’ fiscal problems with much more than the \$9.9 billion in pandemic aid money already granted, with a final draft of the budget to be determined by the Illinois legislature.

Not mentioned is a solution to the state’s \$141-billion unfunded pension liability.

Want details? Look up “Fiscal Year 2021 Illinois Budget Highlights.”

It’s past deadline and I failed to connect with information about the high speed rail program that was zoomed at noon Friday. More about that next week.

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Gardner-South Wilmington School District #73 Board Briefs

On February 17, the Gardner-South Wilmington School District #73 held its Regular Meeting.

Principal, Mr. John Engelman, reported on the following:

- Mrs. Nicole Leigh, GSW math teacher and Spiritline coach, was presented with the

IHSA Teacher Spotlight Award (\$500 gift card) at the February 17 girls' home basketball game. Her Spiritline team also performed. She was one of 24 teachers who received this award from Country Financial for going above and beyond. Dean Tambling from Country

Financial, presented this special surprise during halftime.

- Senior Scholarship meeting – Ms. Kilmer, Guidance Counselor, spoke to the senior class about many scholarship opportunities. Mr. Nick Morris, Nick Morris Productions, was also present at this meeting to discuss his \$1,000 scholarship offered to one lucky senior.

Academics Coordinator, Ms. Angel Dallio, electronically submitted her Student Services Report to the board. This 43-page report showed MAP scores for current students, comparing last year to this year's Reading and Math scores, per class.

Mr. Josh DeLong presented the following:

- Cafeteria floor options – three different floor options were discussed: VTC tile, LVT tile and epoxy. The board agreed on installing an epoxy floor in the cafeteria area this summer. Bids will be reviewed at next month's meeting.
- Mr. DeLong, Superintendent, presented on the following:
 - Vaccine update – Only ten staff have received the first dose so far. Grundy County is facing shortages at this time. Mr. DeLong and other county superintendents have been contacting legislators showing their frustration about the inequity between counties in getting teachers vaccinated.
 - CTE Grant – GSW has been approved for \$52,000 to spend between now and June

2021. This money will be used for desktops, lap work spaces, course updates, supplies and professional development for their current business program.

- Curriculum – Mr. DeLong has begun meeting with a few staff to begin discussing updating curriculum and course offerings for the 2022-23 school year. This will be work that will be started this spring, as they finish this school year and continue throughout next year.
- Moving towards a regular dismissal – GSW still plans to move to a full school day on Monday, March 15, with students attending until 3:00 p.m. They currently have 28 remote students, and hopefully most of them will return to in-person for the last nine weeks. Mr. DeLong and Mr. Engelman are having conversations with those who will choose to remain on remote instruction.
- Discussion on if ISBE will require remote learning next year – GSW is hopeful that this will not be a requirement for next school year. IASA, IPA and the teacher unions are working together to let ISBE know their frustration with this.
- GAVC Director's Award Winner – Colton Alexander (Automotive Technology) for the month of January 2021. Colton is a junior at GSW and this is his first year in the program.
- Calendar for the 2021-22 school year – This item was approved at this meeting. They

are closely aligned with GAVC and all three feeder grade schools.

- Online registration – This will be their second year having online registration. It will open on March 2 and close on April 9. Anyone registering during this time frame will receive a fee discount.
- Transportation bid updates – A Pre-Bid Meeting was held last week and with two companies showing interest.
- 1:1 plan for 2021-22 – Their goal is for every student to have their own Chrome Book next school year.
- School fees – General fees will be raised from \$80 to \$125 (\$45 increase) to help implement their 1:1 plan. Fees have not been raised in many years. Their fees will be comparable to other area schools.
- Discussion on extra curriculums, graduation, prom, others:
 - Sports season is off to a great start. GSW is live-streaming both boys' and girls' home basketball games and this seems to be going well.
 - Prom – They are in the process of planning prom to be held on Saturday, April 17, at the Gardner American Legion. This will be a "Senior Prom" only, to be able to follow the Phase 4 guidelines with which they will have to be in compliance.
 - Graduation – A Committee Meeting was held Mon., Feb. 22, at 4:30 p.m. to discuss this

year's graduation and what options they may have.

- Donation from Knights of Columbus #1574 – \$737.00 donated to the GSW Special Education Department. Money came from their annual Tootsie Roll Fund Drive. The two Special Education teachers, Mrs. Duffy and Mrs. Arrambide, will split the money to spend on each of their classrooms.

Actions Items included the following:

- Approve Personnel Report:
 - Accept resignation of cafeteria worker – Jennifer Fisher
 - Hire temporary cafeteria worker – Betsy Elliot
 - Hire temporary cafeteria worker – Maria Serena
 - Hire assistant Spiritline coach – Holly Swisher
 - Accept resignation of summer office worker – Jessica Wilson
- Approve Milk Program Contract Renewal with Clover Leaf Farms
- Appoint Superintendent to begin Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2022
- Approve 2021-22 District Calendar
- Approve Early Graduation request, as presented
- Approve increase in school fees for 2021-22 school year
 - Approve School Board Policy Manual updated
 - Approve Press Policy Maintenance Contract

Pet of the Week

Howdy! I'm Hobbs! I am estimated to be around 8 years old, don't let that fool you, though! I am still full of life and love! I am house trained and I walk well on the leash! I am very smart and would likely pick up well in my new family's routines in a new home!



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Country Financial Joins IHSA to Recognize Gardner-South Wilmington High School Teacher

Country Financial Representative Dean Tambling was pleased to recognize Nicole Leigh, Math teacher and Pantherette Spiritline coach at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, as part of the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) teacher spotlight program.

Tambling presented a \$500 gift card to Leigh to be used towards resources for her classroom and team.

"Mrs. Leigh has had a major influence on her students in and out of the classroom throughout her career at GSW," said Tambling. "As a Math teacher

coaching both the Math team and Pantherette Spiritline, she is well deserving of this recognition and I am honored to present this award to her on behalf of Country Financial and IHSA."

The 'Teacher Spotlight' program was established during

this pandemic as it was known that many educators were going out of their way to make sure students were having their emotional needs met. IHSA knew they wanted to shine a spotlight on those efforts, and from that small seed an idea grew.

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(8 frog legs)
\$14.00

Combo Dinner
(1 pc cod, 3 shrimp, 4 frog legs)
\$18.00

Chicken Strip Dinner
(2 large strips)
\$12.00

Egg Salad Sandwich
(on Italian bread)
\$4.00

Dinners include: slaw, Italian bread and butter, your choice of baked potato or fries, and coffee or lemonade

Kid's Meals \$5
Served with lemonade, and choice of baked potato or fries

1 pc Fried Cod or
5 pc Chicken Nuggets

Eat In or Carry Out
(no beverage on carry-outs)



CONGRATS TO MRS. LEIGH! On February 17, Gardner-South Wilmington High School's Mrs. Leigh was surprised at halftime by receiving the IHSA Teacher Spotlight from Dean Tambling of Country Financial. The IHSA and Country Financial have teamed up this year to give out 24 \$500 prizes to teachers/coaches across the state who have truly made a difference during the pandemic. Mrs. Leigh is the proud sponsor of their Spiritline team and is an excellent math teacher and co-sponsor of GSW's dominant Math Team. Congrats, Mrs. Leigh, on this well-deserved honor.

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Congratulations, Mrs. Leigh!



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Edwards' Thin Crust- 23-24.8 oz

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FUNERALS AND CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Pre-Planning and Honoring the Memory of a Loved One

Why Do We Have Visitations?

Navigating the Waters of Funeral Trusts

by Matt Baskerville

As a funeral director working with families who have experienced a death, I am more commonly hearing questions such as: “What is the purpose of having a visitation? We’re just going to have a memorial service at a later date.” Or even, “We don’t want anything at all.”

In many cases, families arrive to make arrangements already planning on not having a visitation.

Some common explanations may be: “Mom didn’t want a fuss...” or “Dad didn’t want anyone looking at him in a casket...” Or one of the most common, “They said if they didn’t come see me alive, I don’t want them to see me dead...”

Today’s society would not think of attending a wedding without the newlyweds present for the ceremony, or go to a baptism without the baby. We may chuckle to think of showing up for church to that wedding, only to see the couple’s photo on an easel, all while the new Mr. and Mrs. may have already

ready left for the honeymoon.

It is, however, becoming common practice for people to show up for a memorial service without the body present. Or not have any ceremony at all to honor the life of the departed.

During the current pandemic, it has become even more clear to us the importance of being able to see the loved one who has died, and join together to not only mourn the death, but celebrate the life lived.

A visitation gives the community an opportunity to say goodbye. To process that their loved one, friend, colleague, etc. has died. It provides a support network and gives others the opportunity to show love and support, as well as extend words of kindness. A visitation also allows an opportunity for more people to participate and opens the window for family and friends to attend.

Often times, visitations are in the evening or for a period of time prior to the services, which allows people to not necessarily be a part of the formal

ceremony, but acknowledge the family personally.

It has taken a pandemic, a time when by law and governmental mandates, inhibited us from having public gatherings that has driven us to realize how important visitations, funerals, and celebrations of life really are! We so often take so many things for granted, and when our options are taken away from us it is in plain sight, how significant being together and showing support really is.

There are many options to incorporate a visitation for services involving burial, flame cremation, and flameless cremation, and we are always available to discuss how we can remember and celebrate the life lived.

Reeves and Baskerville Funeral Homes have locations in Coal City, Gardner, Morris, and Wilmington, and are available to serve families outside of our brick and mortar locations. For more information, find us on the web at www.Reeves-Baskerville.com.



Things People Should Know About Creating Wills



Drafting a last will and testament is an essential component of estate planning. Despite the importance of having a will, a recent survey from AARP found that two out of five Americans over the age of 45 do not have one.

Estate planning can be tricky, which is why many people turn to attorneys to get the job done right. Attorneys who specialize in estate planning will no doubt discuss the following topics with their clients.

- **Assets owned:** Make a list of known assets and figure out

to leave money or property to help care for those pets.

- **Funeral instructions:** Settling probate will not happen until after the funeral. Therefore, funeral wishes in a will often go unnoticed, states the legal advisement resource Find Law.
- **Executor:** An executor is a trusted person who will carry out the terms of the will. This person should be willing to serve and be capable of executing the will.

People who die without a valid will become intestate. This means the estate will be settled based on the laws of where that person lived, and a court-appointed administrator will serve in the capacity to transfer property. This administrator will be bound by laws and may make decisions that go against the decedent’s wishes. To avoid this outcome, a will and other estate planning documents are crucial.

trust, or IFT, is a tool people who are facing the high cost of skilled nursing care can consider. An IFT establishes an account into which money for funeral expenses is deposited. The money cannot be withdrawn or refunded, and funds must be used for funeral expenses.

In the United States, an IFT is often considered an eligible expense during the social services spend-down process. That means the money deposited in the trust is exempt as a countable asset from any financial look-back period that helps determine eligibility for government healthcare services, such as Medicaid.

Revocable funeral trusts can be cancelled. According to the National Care Planning Council, a revocable trust can be created by anyone and, at a later date, can be dissolved by the person who originally created it.

Various organizations oversee the investment and management of prepaid funeral trust accounts.

When is a trust unnecessary? In certain instances, a funeral trust will not be needed. Those who have the means to fund long-term care services and will not need assistance later in life may not want their money locked up in a trust. Others opt for life insurance policies to pay for funeral needs.

Assistance with funeral trusts Funeral homes may work directly with companies that manage funeral funds. Speak with a funeral director if you want to learn more about trusts. Trusts also can be established by working with an elder care attorney or with a funeral trust agency.

Taking care of funeral planning in advance can relieve families of the stress of making funeral decisions in the wake of a loved one’s death.

Insurance Policies Everyone Should Have

Insurance is something everyone needs but hopes to never use. Without insurance, already difficult situations could be made much worse and cause financial devastation.

The following are some examples of insurance policies everyone should have.

Health insurance Everyone needs health insurance. The out-of-pocket costs for routine medical examinations can be quite high, and testing, hospitalization or surgery can take quite a toll on a person’s finances if he or she has no health insurance. Shopping around for adequate coverage and the most affordable plans for one’s situation is essential,

as even minimal coverage is better than nothing when it comes to offsetting the rising costs of health care.

Life insurance Life insurance is something most people will never benefit from personally, but it leaves a financial legacy for the people they love, providing for those they leave behind. Parents or men and women who are the sole breadwinners in the household can rest easy knowing their life insurance will keep their loved ones financially secure in the event of their death. Experts suggest 10 times one’s yearly income.

Disability insurance Many people do not believe

they will become ill or injured. But the statistics speak otherwise. Data from the Social Security Administration show that three in 10 workers entering the workforce will become disabled before they reach retirement. Short- and long-term disability policies provide partial and complete income replacement depending on the policy chosen.

Auto insurance People who drive are urged to have auto insurance to protect themselves in the event of an accident or theft. Auto insurance also helps protect against any litigation as the result of accidents when a passenger or other driver is injured.



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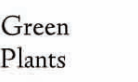
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Area Students Named to Augustana Dean’s List

Augustana College has announced the students who have been named to the Dean’s List for the 2020 fall semester. Students who have earned this academic honor have maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a four-point scale for courses taken during the semester.

Area students earning Dean’s List honors include:

- **Wesley Pulver** – a senior from Dwight, majoring in computer science.
- **Hayley Schlabowske** – a junior from Morris, majoring in teaching biology and middle grades science.

SWGS Kindergarten Pre-Registration February 24

Pre-registration for South Wilmington Grade School’s kindergarten Class of 2021-2022 will take place Wednesday, February 24, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the school office.

No fees will be taken at this time.

Take in two proofs of residency and your child’s birth certificate. Your child will need to be five years of age by September 1, 2021.

Gardner Grade School Kindergarten Pre-Registration

Gardner Grade School 72C kindergarten online pre-registration is now open for the 2021-2022 school year.

To begin the online application process, visit [ggs72.org](#) and follow the prompts for New Student Registration under the Resources tab. Once you provide the initial information, you will receive an e-mail containing your login information to complete the online registration process.

Your child must be five-years old by September 1, 2021, to be eligible for kindergarten.

A copy of your child’s birth certificate and three forms of proof of residency must be submitted to the school office. For your convenience, you may take these documents to the school office and pay registration fees Thursday, February 25, between 3:00-6:00 p.m.

All students entering kindergarten must have a health examination, updated immunizations, eye and dental exam prior to the first day of school.

If you have any questions, contact the school office at 815-237-2313.

Area COVID-19 Stats as of February 22

Town	Tested	Cases	Numbers as of 02/22/21	Statistics via: dph.illinois.gov
Dwight	9,148	487		
Herscher	2,228	201		
Gardner	1,731	180		
Odell	1,828	151		
Mazon	1,281	139		
Braceville	1,303	122		
Essex	896	118		
S. Wilmington	699	85		
Cullom	909	65		
Reddick	709	61		
Buckingham	592	53		
Verona	513	48		
Saunemin	917	41		
Ransom	594	37		
Emington	339	34		
Cabery	464	32		
Blackstone	232	31		
Kempton	396	30		
Campus	298	16		
Union Hill	92	12		
Kinsman	168	12		

County	Tested	Cases	Deaths
Kankakee	180,835	12,341	188
LaSalle	137,328	10,648	215
Grundy	44,088	5,039	62
Livingston	74,877	4,127	74
Iroquois	39,403	2,765	60
Ford	23,839	1,553	44

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,174,409; **Deaths:** 20,269; **Probable Deaths:** 2,197; **Total Tests Performed:** 17,622,800; **Recovery Rate:** 98%.

Probable cases are individuals who have been tested and are found to have a positive test result by a local clinic using “rapid” tests that are not, at this time, IDPH-approved tests.

Severe Weather Causes COVID-19 Vaccination Delays Grundy Cty. Appointments Cancelled, Rescheduled

Due to severe weather throughout the country, the state of Illinois did not receive the intended shipment of Moderna vaccine this past week.

Appointments scheduled through Grundy County Health Department for February 20 were cancelled.

Anyone with a Dose 2 appointment are automatically **rescheduled for Saturday, February 27**, at the exact same time. There is no need to do anything further. Your appointment time automatically rolls to the new date.

Anyone with a Dose 1 appointment is cancelled, and their office will reach out to reschedule the appointment as vaccine becomes available.

The Health Department staff will be calling each person with an appointment on February 20 and sending this same message via e-mail.

Residents should continue to monitor [grundyhealth.com](#) or local media sources for updates. Follow them on Facebook, read *The Paper*, or tune in to WCSJ at 8:40

a.m. each Monday and Thursday, at which time the same information is shared.

OBITUARIES

Marilyn K. Martin

Marilyn K. Martin (nee Klehm), beloved wife of Thomas; loving mother of Edward (Stephanie); proud grandmother of Grace Emma; dear sibling of five sisters: Delores Lazzar, Carol Klehm, Ellen Gayon, Alberta Kinata; and Sharon Klehm, deceased.

A Funeral Mass was Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 10 a.m. Family and friends were asked to meet at Immaculate Conception Church at Talcott and Harlem in Chicago.

Due to Covid 19 concerns, masks were required and social distancing rules were observed.

Interment will be private in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Arrangements by Cooney Funeral Home. Info 847-685-1002.

Violet Bode

DWIGHT – Violet Bode, 86, of Normal, IL and formerly of Saunemin, IL passed away at 8:43 p.m., Monday, February 15, 2021 at St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington, IL.

Funeral services are private for the family at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Burial will follow the service in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Richton Park, IL.

Violet was born January 1, 1935 in Chicago Heights, IL, the daughter of Edward and Lillian (Harms) Kampe. She married Donald Bode on June 28, 1959 in St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Tinley Park, IL. He preceded her in death on June 28, 2014.

She is survived by daughters: Sandra Bode of Normal, IL; Joan (Allen) McClean of Goodfield, IL; and Diane (Jon) Zimmerman of Fairbury, IL; a son, Michael Bode of Normal; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Violet was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Dwight, where she also sang in the choir alongside her husband. She graduated from Bloom Township High School in Chicago Heights, IL.

She loved to travel, read and spend time with her family.

Memorials in honor of Violet may be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Online condolences may be made to the family at: [hagermemorialhome.com](#)

Morris Hospital Announces Updated Visitor Guidelines

In response to improvements in COVID-19 test positivity and incidence rates, Morris Hospital has updated its visitor guidelines.

As of February 19, one visitor/support person age 18 or older is permitted for patients going to Morris Hospital for any reason. This includes hospital inpatients, emergency visits, surgeries and procedures, outpatient tests and therapy sessions, Immediate/Convenient Care and physician office visits. There is only one exception: visitors are not permitted for patients who are hospitalized with COVID-19.

Inpatient visiting hours are 12:00-7:00 p.m. The support person for obstetrical patients will continue to have 24-hour visiting.

Visitors going to the hospital on weekends should use the Emergency entrance after 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays and after 11:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Special visiting arrangements may be requested for children 17 and younger, patients with an intellectual and/or developmental disability that impairs understanding, judgment and decision-making, and patients who have reached end of life. The special visiting arrangements also apply to hospitalized COVID patients.

Anyone visiting or accompanying a patient is asked to help maintain a safe environment at the hospital and all Morris Hospital facilities by respecting the visitor guidelines. This includes wearing a mask at all times while inside a Morris Hospital facility, undergoing a temperature and wellness screening at the entrance, maintaining six feet of distance from others, refraining from eating and drinking except in the hospital cafeteria, and wearing the required personal protective equipment when visiting a patient in isolation. Anyone currently showing signs of illness should not visit or accompany a patient.

To review Morris Hospital’s full visitor guidelines, visit [morrishospital.org/visitors](#).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE OF DWIGHT, LIVINGSTON AND GRUNDY COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held before the President and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dwight, Illinois with respect to the Tentative Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing April 1, 2021, and ending March 31, 2022, for the Village of Dwight. **The Public Hearing shall be held on Monday, March 22, 2021, at the Hour of 6:15 P.M. by remote/teleconference meeting. All interested parties may attend by teleconference by calling 1-351-999-3046 to be joined into the Public Hearing.**

Copies of the Tentative Annual Budget are available for public inspection commencing Monday, February 15, 2021, at the Office of the Dwight Village Clerk, Public Services Complex, 209 South Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois 60420, during regular business hours.

At the time and place of the Public Hearing on the Tentative Annual Budget, all interested parties are invited to attend and make their views known, either orally at the time of the Public Hearing, in writing, or by a representative to the Dwight Village Board of Trustees.

After the close of the Public Hearing, the President and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dwight shall vote on the Annual Budget Ordinance for the above Fiscal Year, either as presented or as modified after the Public Hearing.

For further information, contact the Village Administrator as set forth above during regular business hours:

Kevin McNamara
209 S. Prairie Avenue
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PH#: 815-584-3077

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5 Minutes with Boma



NFTs and NBA TopShot

If you haven’t been paying attention, you might be surprised to learn that in the last few weeks, months, and year, whatever time duration you want to use, sports cards and collectible sports memorabilia in general have been making a comeback.

People not involved with sports memorabilia, probably viewed it as a fad and insignificant, in the large scheme of investments. Now, enter NFTs.

What are NFTs you might be asking yourself? Truth is, I don’t even know what a NFT really is, but it stands for non-fungible token. (It’s a token that is incapable of collecting fungi).

No, just kidding that was a bad joke and that is not what a non-fungible token is.

Here is the wikipedia definition of a non-fungible token. “*A non-fungible token (NFT) is a special type of cryptographic token which represents something unique; non-fungible tokens are thus not mutually interchangeable. This is in contrast to cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, and many network or utility tokens that are fungible in nature*”. Basically these “tokens” are set up on blockchain to designate unique digital ownership.

Now that you know what non-fungible tokens are (kind-of), enter NBA Top Shot.

NBA Top Shot is a marketplace full of “moments” that have been minted, and of each moment only a certain limited amount exist of each. A “moment” is a highlight taken from a game in which a player was involved. Currently the cheapest LeBron James moment is on sale for \$1,850.

You might be thinking, I can go on Youtube and watch this moment for free, and it would cost me nothing. You are correct. But by buying the moment on the blockchain you have cemented ownership of say, #1/250 of these unique minted moments. It’s very similar to physical card ownership but only in the digital world.

NBA highlights aren’t the only digital things you can buy. You can buy memes, art, pictures. Just about anything can have digital ownership.

I think there is much more to come in the digital ownership space, and this is simply the beginning. There’s a lot online to read and more to learn if you’re as confused as I was and still am about it all.

Go, Bulls.

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

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NATIONAL FFA WEEK

Seneca FFA Celebrates National FFA Week

National FFA Week looks a little different this year for Seneca FFA due to COVID-19. No all-night lock-in. No ski trip to Wisconsin. No sectional dodgeball tournament. No chapter picture.

But that doesn't mean that Seneca FFA isn't celebrating the organization and its members. The FFA has been able to maintain some of its programs and members continue to be successful in their activities throughout the pandemic.

There will be one community activity in which the public can participate.

Seneca FFA will be serving their traditional two pork chop lunch with all the fixings Sunday, February 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in drive-by fashion. Orders must be placed ahead of time by visiting the Seneca High School website, senecahs.org, and clicking on the pork chop. Orders may also be placed by calling the SHS Ag Ed Department at 815-357-5024. Meals will be picked up at the ag shop.

But there is a catch: If you are unable to pay, you don't have to. Lunch donations will be accepted for \$10.00 per meal, but are not mandatory.

"To support our programs, Seneca FFA has made a profit off of our pork chops for years from people who had the financial means to do so," explained FFA officer, Ethan Brockman. "For this lunch, we want to include meals for our community's families even if they are financially challenged."

"We are doing this for those who may not have the means and just want a good, warm meal for their family after a long pandemic and cold winter," said FFA senior, Madison Bromberek. "We hope that people who are fiscally able will pay for their meal and may even chip in a little extra for the car behind them that can't afford it. We want to do it in a way that no one will know if you paid or not."

FFA members will be participating this week in three virtual Career Development Events (contests): vet Science, meats evaluation, and food science.

Recent accomplishments by Seneca FFA members include 13 members receiving the State FFA Degree, the highest honor bestowed in Illinois. Members receiving the degree include: Ethan Brockman, Madison

Bromberek, Alanna Chapman, Jenna Goslin, Chase Hauch, Trey Hauch, Levi Maierhofer, Luke Sangston, Mallory Sobkowich, Ella Robson, Emelia Traina, Maveric Varland, and Danny Widman. Seneca FFA class of 2021, with Spencer DeGraaf having received his last year, set a school record with the number of degrees – quite an accomplishment during a pandemic.

The Section 7 FFA recently held their section proficiency award interviews and Seneca took home winners in 16 categories. Proficiency awards put students from different schools against each other and test their knowledge about their respective Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs. Winners will compete at the district competition in March.

Section Proficiency Award Winners

Miranda Araujo – Environmental Science; Mark Bergeson – Ag Mechanics Repair and Maintenance; Ethan Brockman – Forage Production; Madison Bromberek – Diversified Agriculture Production; Alanna Chapman – Food Service; Trey Hauch – Turfgrass Management; Hailey Kennedy – Poultry Production; Calvin Maierhofer – Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication; Ty Sulzberger – Oil Crop Production; Luke Sangston – Landscaping; Emma Smith – Fruit Production; Mallory Sobkowich – Ag Sales Placement; Emelia Traina – Agricultural Education; Maveric Varland – Forest Products; Peyton Weber – Diversified Livestock Production; Danny Widman – Diversified Crop Production.

Levi Maierhofer was named the Section 7 Star in Agribusiness with his grain and mowing enterprises.



A UNITED STATES FLAG WAS PRESENTED to the Tri-Point School District at the February meeting by Ted Conkling, on behalf of the William (Bill) Malone family. The U.S. Flag was presented to the William Malone family at Bill's funeral. The family has asked that the U.S. Flag be flown at the Tri-Point Grade School in Kempton. Bill Malone was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1953-1956. Bill was on the Tri-Point School Board from 1968-1984, serving as a board member for two years, the board secretary for two years, and the board president for 12 years. Accepting the flag were Superintendent Jeff Bryan, Lower Elementary Asst. Principal Summer Pearson, and Board President Cherie Smolkovich.

Tri-Point FFA Kicks Off National FFA Week

The Tri-Point FFA chapter has been hosting events for National FFA Week 2021, with more in the plans.

Pre-FFA Week included decorating the school, FFA Snacks, and Ag Bowl. Monday was Greenhand Day, followed by Cowboy/Flannel Day – Truck & Tractor Day on Tuesday.

The remaining schedule of events is as follows:

• Wednesday, February 24: PJ Day – Staff and Member Pizza Lunch

• Thursday: Red, White and Blue Day
• Friday: FFA Day/Blue and Gold Day/End of Day Mini-Assembly

Ag Trivia events are being held during lunch hour through Friday, with the overall Ag Trivia winner taking home cash.

Chapter Officers for 2020-21 include: President – Aaron Hughes; Vice President – Lanie Woods; Reporter – Chase Hummel; Secretary – Mikaayla English; Treasurer – Kailey Dedic; and Sentinel – Hope McDermott.



TRI-POINT FFA CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2020-21, pictured, from left, include President Aaron Hughes, Vice President Helena Woods, Secretary Mikaayla English, Sentinel Hope McDermott, Treasurer Kailey Dedic, and Reporter Chase Hummel.

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Kankakee County
FB Annual
Meeting Set
Register to
Participate Virtually

The 109th Annual Meeting of the Kankakee County Farm Bureau will take place Thursday, March 11, at 2:00 p.m.

Due to ongoing concerns for the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the safety of Farm Bureau members and guests, there will not be a banquet held in conjunction with the annual business meeting this year. Taking the place of the evening event, the afternoon business will include the election of eight directors to the County Farm Bureau Board and reports to the membership.

The meeting will be conducted virtually through an online platform and will be free of charge for Farm Bureau members wishing to participate. Registration is required by Wed., March 3. To register, contact the Kankakee County Farm Bureau office at 815-932-7471.

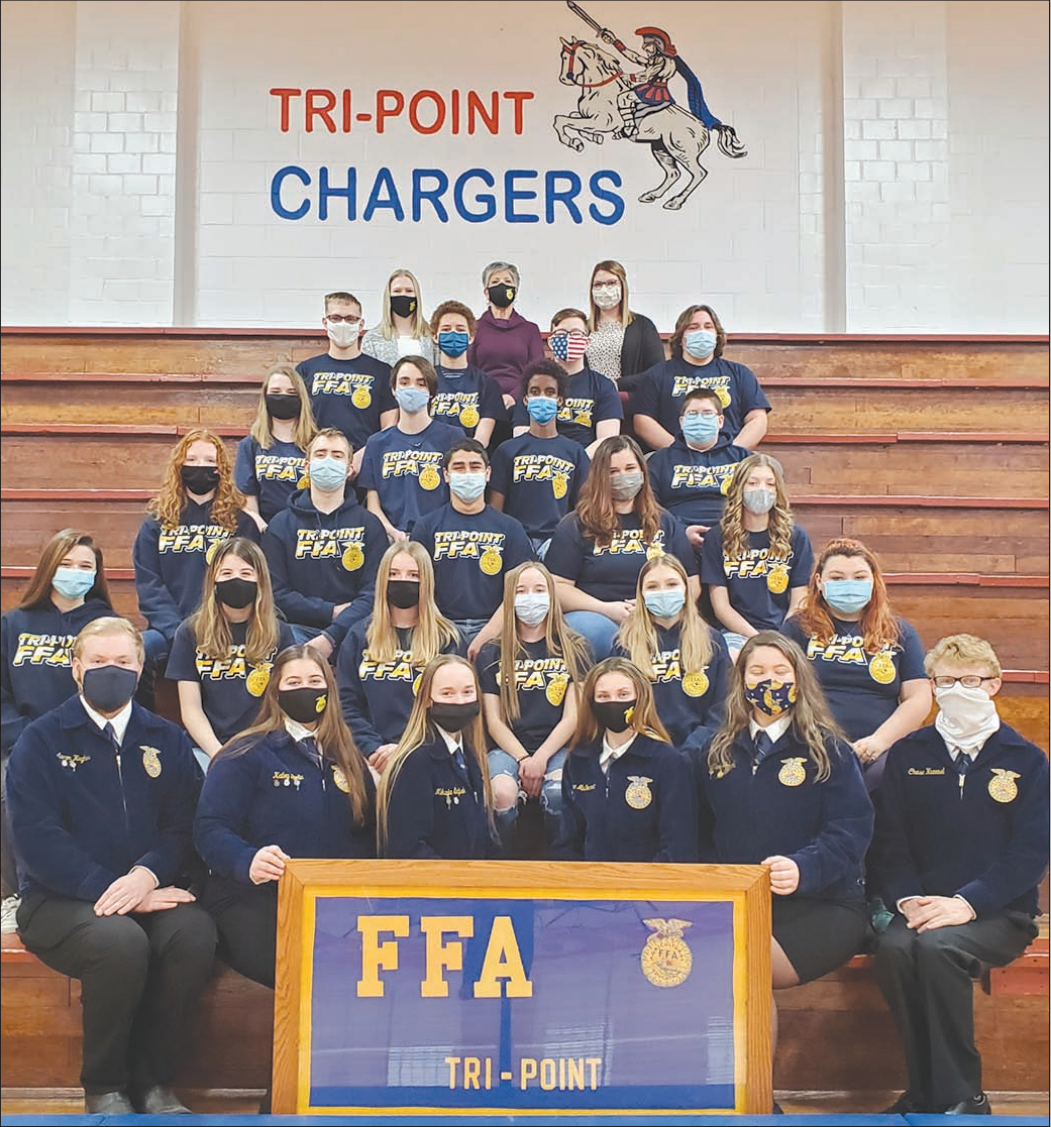
**Grundy SWCD
Pond Seminar
March 11**

The Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District, along with the Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District, will be holding its Annual Pond Seminar Thursday, March 11, at 6:00 p.m. – it will be held virtually this year.

Their featured speaker will be Seth Love, who is the District Fisheries Biologist from Silver Springs State Park in Yorkville. Love is very informative about fish and pond care and will answer any questions someone may have about their personal pond. He will also cover maintenance of retention/detention ponds for subdivisions or businesses.

The seminar is open to everyone and is free of charge. If you plan to attend, call their office to let them know at 815-942-0359, ext. 3, or e-mail Brooke at brooke.baker@il.nacdn.net by Tuesday, March 9, so that they can send you the link to the virtual zoom meeting.

NATIONAL FFA WEEK



TRI-POINT FFA MEMBERS



Joyce Stresses Grain Bin Safety On The Farm

February 21-27 is Grain Bin Safety Week

or flowing grain, typically caused by an auger running or grain being moved out of the bin by gravity.

A worker stands on or below a grain bridging situation. Bridging happens when damp grain clumps together, creating an empty space beneath the grain as it is unloaded. A worker above or below this bridge of grain is at risk should the bridge collapse.

A worker stands next to an accumulated pile of grain on the side of the bin and attempts to dislodge it. It can collapse onto the worker.

While workers should avoid entering grain bins if possible, safety measures can greatly diminish the risk if they must enter. Workers entering a grain bin wear a body harness attached to a lifeline, and an observer should be stationed outside the bin to track the worker and call for help if something goes wrong.

Joyce suggests farm workers attend regular safety trainings as a reminder to utilize

best practices while working in and around grain bins. Online training resources are also available from the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois, the Grain and Safety Council, and the University of Illinois Extension.

New Youth Reading Programs Coming to Prairie Creek Library

Due to the success of their 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and 500 Books Before Middle School programs, Prairie Creek Library, Dwight, is launching two new reading programs, 100 Books Before High School and 100 Books Before College.

No registration is necessary for the new programs. However, contact information will be necessary. If a participant is a card holder and their e-mail and phone number are current, there is no reason to contact the library. If someone is not a current card holder, they may

choose to get a card or include their contact information with their first log.

Logs for all four programs will be available on the library's website, www.prairiecreeklibrary.org. Simply print the log, fill it in, and return it to the library, either the paper copy or scan and e-mail to 4pc.library@gmail.com.

Participants of both 100 books programs will receive a Barnes and Noble gift card for every 25 books read. The amount will increase with each new 25 book level they meet.

FFA Week at DTHS

Dwight Township High School's FFA is hosting a Kiss the Duck Fund-raiser (last year it was Kiss the Goat) this year to buy age-related books for Dwight Common School. They have put jars by the office for students to put coins in throughout the week, and the employee who has the most weight in their jar at the end of the day Thursday, February 25, will have to kiss a duck during lunch.

Monday was PJ/Comfy Dress Up Day at DTHS, and included the passing out of

goody bags. Tuesday was Mix and Match and Hat Dress Up Day.

Wednesday, February 24, is Sherpa Sheep Dress Up Day, followed by Hillbilly Dress Up Day Thursday, February 25 – which is the last day for the Kiss the Duck collection.

The final day, Friday, February 26, is Blue and Gold (official dress) Dress Up Day and Drive Your Tractor to School Day – and will be the day a DTHS teacher kisses the duck.

Each day will also feature a Duck Hunt.



The FFA Emblem

Colors

As the blue field of the nation's flag and the golden fields of ripened corn unify the country, the FFA colors of national blue and corn gold give unity to the organization. All FFA functions and paraphernalia should proudly display the colors.

Emblem

The cross section of the ear of corn provides the foundation of the emblem, just as corn has historically served as the foundation crop of American agriculture. It is also a symbol of unity, as corn is grown in every state of the nation.

The rising sun signifies progress and holds a promise that tomorrow will bring a new day glowing with opportunity.

The plow signifies labor and tillage of the soil, the backbone of agriculture and the historic foundation of the country's strength.

The eagle is a national symbol which serves as a reminder of our freedom and ability to explore new horizons for the future of agriculture.

The owl, long recognized for its wisdom, symbolizes the knowledge required to be successful in the industry of agriculture.

The words "Agricultural Education" and "FFA" are emblazoned in the center to signify the combination of learning and leadership necessary for progressive agriculture.

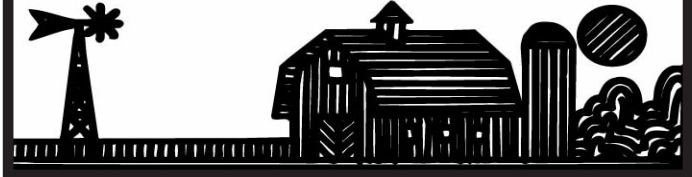
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GSW Lady Panthers Top Tri-Point, 49-22

**Wednesday, February 17
GSW vs. Tri-Point
Varsity -**

The Lady Panthers of Gardner-South Wilmington improved their 2021 record to 5-0 with a 49-22 win at home over Tri-Point.

Addi Fair led GSW with 18 points, including a perfect 6-6 shooting from the line and two three-pointers. Kylie Hawks added ten points (2-2 FT), followed by Abby Beck with nine

points (1 3-pointer). Mya Anderson came up with six points, while Claire Hennessy had four. Wells rounded out the scoring with a bucket.

For Tri-Point, Kyra Cathcart led her team with 11 points, shooting 5-17 from the charity stripe. Ellenie Dyrby hit two threes and shot 3-5 from the line, en route to nine points, with Melina Schuette scoring two points.



GSW Lady Panthers Basketball

**Thursday, February 18
GSW vs. Grant Park
Varsity -**

GSW continued its winning ways on the road February 18, with a 52-31 victory over Grant Park.

Abby Beck's 16 points (1 3-pointer, 5-8 FT) led the Lady Panthers, followed by 12 points (2-2 FT) from Addi Fair. Scoring 11 points (1-2 FT) was Kylie Hawks, with Grace Halpin putting up six points. Claire Hennessy had four points, while Wells scored three points (1-4 FT).

**Friday, February 19
GSW vs. Beecher**

Varsity -

In a closely contested game against Beecher February 19, an ugly third quarter ended up being the demise of the Lady Panthers, as they suffered a heart-breaking 50-49 loss – their first of the season.

GSW was held to just six points in the third quarter – all scored by Kylie Hawks.

Hawks wound up with 26 points (8-11 FT) on the night, with Abby Beck scoring ten points (6-10 FT). Addi Fair followed with seven points (5-6 FT), while Mya Anderson (2-2 FT), Grace Halpin, and Klingler added two points each.



DTHS Lady Trojans Basketball

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Clifton Central
JV -**

In JV basketball action February 17 against Clifton Central, the Dwight Lady Trojans earned a 33-17 victory.

Lily McKelvey led the way with eight points, nine boards, while Mikalah Bregin put up seven points. Njomza Asllani and Kira Bean each added five points, with Maya Green (7 rebounds) and Kassy Kodat scoring four points each.

Varsity -

In a hard fought SVC varsity match-up, Dwight defeated Clifton Central 40-39 in a contest that was close throughout.

The game was tied at the half, then the Lady Trojans would take a three-point advantage into the final frame.

In the fourth quarter, Rylee Farris pulled down an offensive board and put it back in for the go-ahead points. At the other end, Kassy Kodat came up with a crucial steal to seal the victory.

Kayla Kodat led Dwight with 19 points (2 3-pointers, 1-1 FT) and three assists. Nora Anderson added eight points, three steals, and seven boards, with Farris contributing five points (1-3 FT) and eight rebounds. Nellie Rieke provided four points and ten boards. Destinie Drapeau and Kassy Kodat had two points each.

**Friday, February 19
Dwight vs. Prairie Central
JV -**

The JV Lady Trojans fell to Prairie Central, 34-22, when they met February 19.

Mikalah Bregin was high

scorer for Dwight with 11 points and five rebounds. Lily McKelvey had four points, four boards, while Kassy Kodat and Kira Bean contributed two steals each.

Varsity -

Dwight was defeated by P.C. in the nightcap, 54-20.

Kayla Kodat led the Lady Trojans with nine points, including a three-pointer. Nellie Rieke scored four points to go with eight boards, with Kassy Kodat connecting on a three. Nora Anderson and Destinie Drapeau (2-2 FT) had two points each.

**Saturday, February 20
Dwight vs. Putnam County
JV -**

Dwight's JV girls lost to Putnam County February 20, 32-30.

Njomza Asllani and Mikalah Bregin each had 14 points and three steals, with Bregin grabbing five rebounds. Skylar Horrie also hauled in five boards.

Varsity -

The Lady Trojans took a trip to Putnam County Saturday, suffering a 57-35 loss.

Dwight jumped out to an early 13-7 lead at the end of one, but were unable to sustain the lead.

Kayla Kodat hit four threes, en route to an 18-point game to go with five rebounds. Nora Anderson added 11 points (1-3 FT), seven boards, followed by Mikalah Bregin scoring four points (2-2 FT). Destinie Drapeau chipped in with two points. Nellie Rieke pulled down five rebounds.

The loss drops Dwight's record to 4-4 on the season. They sit at 2-1 in the SVC.



Seneca Lady Fighting Irish Basketball

**Wednesday, February 3
Seneca vs. Serena**

The Lady Fighting Irish had their first action of 2021 in a contest against Serena – winning by a score of 53-40.

Madi Bromberek led her squad with 17 points, followed by ten points each from Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig.

**Monday, February 8
Seneca vs. Roanoke-Benson**

Seneca took on Roanoke-Benson February 8, picking up a 48-27 victory.

Brooklyn Giertz had 17 points to lead the Lady Fighting Irish. Madi Bromberek came up with 15 points, with Kennedy Hartwig scoring 11.

**Wednesday, February 10
Seneca vs. Midland**

Kennedy Hartwig went off for 27 points, as the Lady Fighting Irish. Madi Bromberek won big over Midland February 10, 64-32.

Adding to the scoring column was Brooklyn Giertz with 12 points. Addie Olson and Madi Bromberek provided seven and six points, respectively.

**Thursday, February 11
Seneca vs. Putnam County**

Seneca upped its record to 4-0 for the 2021 season, defeating Putnam County 64-39 on February 11.

Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig led the way with 15 points each. Madi

Bromberek scored nine points, while Harleigh Varland contributed seven points.

**Wednesday, February 17
Seneca vs. Plano**

The Lady Irish put down Plano 46-31 when they met February 17.

Addie Eltrevoog led Seneca with 15 points, followed by nine each from Kennedy Hartwig and Madi Bromberek. Emma Smith chipped in with six points.

**Thursday, February 18
Seneca vs. Midland**

Seneca got off to a hot start February 18 against Midland, holding them scoreless in the first quarter – en route to a 64-34 win.

Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig led with 12 and 11 points, respectively. Haley Einhaus added seven points, with Faith Deering and Addie Eltrevoog scoring six points each.

**Saturday, February 20
Seneca vs. Henry**

The Lady Irish remained undefeated as they cruised to a 55-40 win over Henry February 20.

Madi Bromberek had 16 points to lead her team, while Addie Eltrevoog and Kennedy Hartwig added 11 and ten points, respectively. Brooklyn Giertz scored eight points, with Addie Olson adding five.

"You must expect great things of yourself before you can do them." | M.J.



DCS Redbirds Basketball

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Saratoga
6th Grade -**

The sixth grade Redbirds traveled to Morris Saratoga February 17 and brought home a win – prevailing 28-21.

Leading Dwight was Collin Bachand with 14 points, seven steals, and eight boards. Matt Watchinski added four points and a game-high 15 rebounds, while Graham Meister pulled down eight boards and put in eight points. Ethan Marques

contributed two points to round out the Redbird scoring.

"Blake Thetard played stellar defense," stated Coach Gettinger, "keeping pressure on the ball at all times."

In the "B" game, Dwight was beaten 21-15.

Collin Bachand led the Redbirds with nine points, five steals, and three rebounds. Brad Thompson put up two points, with Matt Watchinski adding two points and eight boards. Graham Meister provided a bucket and three rebounds. Ethan Marques was big on "D" and grabbed three boards.

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Morris**

7th Grade -

In action against Morris February 18, the seventh grade Redbirds held off a comeback to secure a 30-27 win.

"We won a close one!" exclaimed Coach Conroy afterwards, as his squad moves to 3-0 on the season.

Evan Cox led Dwight with 13 points, seven boards, four assists, and a steal. Joey Starks added eight points, six rebounds, while Asher Kargle had five points, two assists, and a steal. Jackson Launius came up with four points and two rebounds, with Jake Wilkey and Jack Statler each contributing a steal and a rebound.

8th Grade -

Dwight's eighth grade Redbirds took a 25-15 loss to Morris, dropping to 1-2 on the season.

"Not a good shooting night," admitted head coach Joe Stevenson in the post-game.

Luke Gallet was high scorer for Dwight with five points, adding that to three steals and two rebounds. Joey Starks chipped in with four points, two boards, while Tristan Larkin had three points, six rebounds, and a steal. Evan Cox added two points, four boards, and a steal. Owen Woods hauled down three rebounds, had three steals, and hit a free throw.

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MVK Lady Mavericks Volleyball

**Wednesday, February 17
MVK vs. Seneca
7th Grade -**

The Lady Mavs defeated Seneca in three sets February 17, 25-22, 12-25, 25-19.

Madison DeGrush had six points (1 ace) and a kill, with Lilly Pfeifer (1 ace, 1 block), Tessa Krull (5 kills, 5 blocks), and Lexie Buis (3 aces, 3 kills, 1 block) adding seven points each.

8th Grade -

MVK's eighth graders were beaten by Seneca, 2-25, 13-25.

Vicky Naines led with four points and one kill, while Lexie Buis (1 kill, 1 block) and Kiley Francisco each scored three points.

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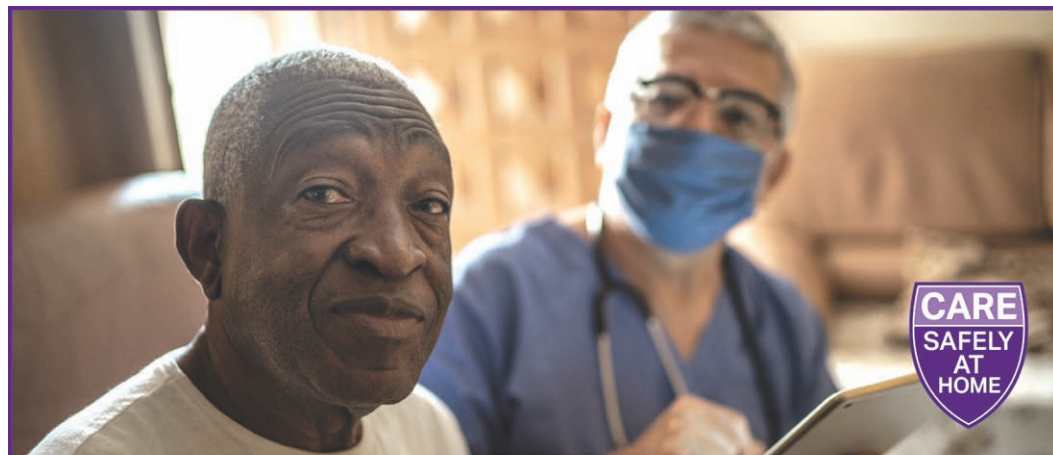
If you have concerns about your neurological health, call **815-942-4506** (Morris) or **815-467-0555** (Channahon).

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DTHS TROJANS BASKETBALL

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Prairie Central Varsity -**
The Trojans were at home February 18 taking on Prairie Central, suffering an 80-43 loss.

Brandon Ceylor led the way with 19 points (2 3-pointers, 5-6 FT), seven rebounds, two steals, and two assists. Isaac

Telford was good for 11 points (3 3-pointers), nine boards, and two steals. Dawson Carr (1-2 FT, 2 rebounds, 2 steals), Randy Groves (1 3-pointer), and Landon Brown (1 3-pointer) each scored three points. Kaleb Duden (3 rebounds, 2 blocks) and Reid Legner each added a bucket. Jack Duffy grabbed three rebounds.



GSWB LADY TIGERS VOLLEYBALL

**Wednesday, February 17
GSWB vs. Seneca 6th Grade -**
GSWB's sixth grade blue squad lost in three sets to Seneca on February 17, 16-25, 25-16, 31-29.

Aubrey Male led in serves with four aces and four in-serves, followed by Abbie Galass with an ace and six in-serves. Also adding serving points were Madison Grivetti (5), Abbie Olsen (4), Peyton Thomas (3), Grace Vitko (2), and Jayde Schweitzer and Carmela D'Amico with one each.

5th Grade -
In the fifth grade (white team) match-up, the Lady Tigers won 16-25, 25-20, 15-8. Jaci Wilkey led the team in serves with five aces and one in-serve, along with Lily Buck with four aces and one in-serve. Hailey Balcom and Lilly Scheuber added three serving points each, while Marissa Bafia provided two. Sammie Engel-Runty came up with one serving point.

**Thursday, February 18
GSWB vs. Saratoga 7th Grade -**
The seventh grade Lady Tigers won over a tough Saratoga team February 18, 25-23, 25-16.

The first set seemed to be a battle of which team could serve receive the best, as both teams had some tough serving. GSWB adjusted after the first set and played much better in the second to secure the match.

8th Grade -
GSWB's eighth graders dropped in two sets, 22-25, 16-25.

In the first set, the Lady Tigers came out ready to play and looked great – but came up just short to guarantee a third set if needed.

They looked like an entirely different team as they took the court in the second set .
“Communication continues to be a struggle,” stated Coach Stacy Faletti, “as we search for some leaders on the team to take charge on the court.”
GSWB is now 2-3 overall.



DTHS VARSITY TROJANS

Photos by J7Images



SENECA FIGHTING IRISH BASKETBALL

**Friday, February 12
Seneca vs. Putnam County Varsity -**
The Irish earned a 40-35 win on February 12 against Putnam County, improving to 2-2 on the 2021 season.

Noah Quigley was high scorer with 16 points, followed by 11 from Zach Phiefer. Chase Hauch put in four points, with Carter Ellis scoring three. AJ Stiegler, Given Siegel, and Trey Hauch each scored two points.

**Saturday, February 13
Seneca vs. Woodland JV -**
In JV play February 13, the Seneca Irish won over Woodland, 50-20.

Calvin Maierhofer led with 18 points, including a three-pointer, 1-2 FT shooting, four steals, and three assists. Dalton DeGrush added 11 points (1 3-pointer, 2-2 FT), five rebounds, and a steal, with Braden Ellis contributing seven points (1 3-pointer), two boards, two steals, and three assists. Lane Provance provided six points, three rebounds, and an assist. Bryce Roe (1 3-pointer, 1 rebound, 1 assist) and David Bergeson (1-2 FT, 2 rebounds, 1 assist) each scored three points. Casey Clennon came up with two points, four boards, and a steal. Nate Neal added two rebounds, a steal, and an assist, while Sam Kleich came up with a steal and one assist. Jaxyn Sibert had two boards and a steal, with Josh Lucas adding an assist and a rebound. Liam Blue pulled down three boards, with Kysen Klinker snagging two.

Kenny Daggett hauled down one rebound.
The JV Irish are now 2-2 overall.

**Friday, February 19
Seneca vs. Ottawa Marquette Varsity -**
A big fourth quarter helped the Seneca Irish put down Ottawa Marquette 54-44 on February 19.

Zach Phiefer led all scorers with 13 points, with Trey Hauch following closely with ten points. Chase Hauch and Noah Quigley added nine points each, while Brayden Roe, AJ Stiegler, and Carter Ellis each had three points. Scoring two each were Matt Cruise and BJ Hooker.

**Saturday, February 20
Seneca vs. Henry Varsity -**
A big second half for the Irish was the difference in their 42-32 victory over Henry February 20.

AJ Stiegler and Given Siegel each had seven points to lead Seneca. Dominic Traina and Chase Hauch scored five points each, followed by Zach Pfiefer and Noah Quigley – each scoring four points. Brayden Roe and Trey Hauch had three points each, while Carter Ellis and BJ Hooker each put up two points.

The Paper
It's Free...
Enjoy!



GSW PANTHERS BASKETBALL

**Tuesday, February 16
GSW vs. Grant Park Varsity**
On February 16, the GSW Panthers came from behind to pick up a 58-50 win over Grant Park.

“We got the ‘W’, which is what is important,” said Coach Wills in the post-game. “However, it was a very weird/sloppy game. Too many missed free throws, rebounds, and turnovers. We did close out the game well and picked it up in the fourth quarter.”

Connor Steichen was the leading scorer for GSW with 18 points, followed by 16 from Brandon States. Nate Wise contributed 12 points in the victory.

Also in the contest, Chris Bexson recorded the 1,000th point of his GSW career.

**Wednesday, February 17
GSW vs. Donovan Varsity -**
In a contest that was neck-to-neck throughout its entirety, the GSW Panthers found themselves on the right side of a 41-39 decision against Donovan February 17.

“Missed free throws almost

cost us the game, but we did enough to get the ‘W’,” Coach Wills stated afterwards.

Connor Steichen led the way with 11 points and seven boards for GSW. Cayden Landry (8 rebounds) and Brandon States (7 rebounds) added ten points each.

“Back-to-back nights with two road RVC wins,” added Wills. “One more hard one this Friday at St. Anne.”

**Friday, February 19
GSW vs. St. Anne Varsity -**
The winning continued for GSW on the road at St. Anne February 19, as they won 54-45 – upping their record to 4-4 (4-0 conference).

“It is nice to get back to .500,” said Coach Wills in the post-game, “especially with three straight road wins. We hope to carry this momentum into next week.”

Chris Bexson and Connor Steichen spearheaded the offensive attack for the Panthers, scoring 17 and 15 points, respectively. Brandon States scored eight points, while Garrett Grant added seven.

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Registration for the 2021
DYBS Season is Now Open

Dwight Youth Baseball and Softball is looking for coaches, help with field prep, a concession stand manager, and umpires. If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, please register on our website. Games are expected to start June 1st and run through July (Schedule is subject to change). We will not have an in-person sign-up this year. Please visit www.dwightyouthbaseballandsoftball.org before March 14th to register. Registration is open for ages 5-14.

DYBS will once again be having a raffle this season. There is one big change to the raffle. This year the board has decided to collect money for raffle tickets at time of registration. Each registrant will be charged \$50 at time of registration . This charge will be for 5 \$10 raffle tickets. Once registered, tickets will be distributed to each person. It will then be that person's responsibility to sell the tickets or keep them for themselves. The number of tickets sold will be unlimited this year. There will be a \$500 cash prize awarded to whomever sells the most DYBS raffle tickets. Visit our Facebook page or website for more details on the raffle and updates on the season as it gets closer.

We hope to see you all on the diamonds soon!



DCS LADY REDBIRDS VOLLEYBALL

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Saratoga 6th Grade -**
The sixth grade Lady Redbirds lost to Saratoga 19-25, 14-25 in volleyball action February 17.

Kirsta Connor led the team with 13 points, while Sophie Bastian (2 aces) and Avery Connor added seven points each. Olivia Buck contributed four points.

Dwight's “B” team fell in two sets, 0-25, 20-25.

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Elwood 7th Grade -**
Dwight's seventh grade girls won over Elwood 25-28, 25-8 when they met February 18.

Sophie Buck led with eight aces and two assists, while Makayla Wahl-Seabert had seven aces and two kills. Taylor Frobish added five aces, followed by two aces from Madi Ely. Kamryn Folkers had three kills, with Dori Wilson providing an ace and one dig.

8th Grade -
In the eighth grade match-up, the Lady Redbirds defeated Elwood in three sets – 25-17, 20-25, 27-25 – coming back from a ten-point deficit to seal the victory in the third set.

Kiah Handzus had nine aces and a kill. Maci Johnson put up seven aces and five kills. Brynn Connor added five aces, with Sophi Richie coming up with three. Ella Legner followed with two aces and six kills. Ava Meister had one ace and Leah Larson had three digs.

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'18 F250 Crew XL, 27K, 4WD, Diesel, Flatbed.....	\$44,900
'18 F150 Crew XLT, 21K, 4WD.....	\$36,900
'18 F150 Crew XLT, 18K, 4WD.....	\$36,900
'18 F150 Crew XLT, 21K, 4WD, NAV, Sport Pkg.....	\$38,900
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'19 Flex LTD, 20K, AWD, Appearance Pkg.....	\$33,900
'19 Transit Connect XLT, 7K, Leather.....	\$26,900
'19 EcoSport Titanium, 15K, 4WD.....	\$18,900
'19 Grand Caravan SXT, 40K.....	\$18,900
'19 Escape Titanium, 8K, 4WD.....	\$26,900
'19 Edge Titanium, 11K, AWD.....	\$32,900
'18 MKX Reserve, 24K, AWD.....	\$33,900
'18 Escape S, 50K, FWD.....	\$13,900
'18 Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon, 9K, 4WD.....	\$44,900
'18 Escape Titanium, 30K, 4WD.....	Just In
'18 Edge SEL, 14K, AWD.....	\$26,900
'18 Escape SE, 12K, 4WD.....	\$19,900
'18 Escape SE, 13K, FWD.....	\$18,900
'17 MKX Reserve, 31K, FWD.....	\$25,900
'17 Explorer XLT, 59K, 4WD, NAV.....	\$24,900
'16 Escape SE, 76K, 4WD.....	\$13,900
'16 Escape SE, 41K, 4WD.....	\$16,900
'15 Transit Connect Cargo XL, 100K.....	\$10,900
'15 Escape SE, 97K, 4WD.....	\$12,900
'14 Grand Caravan SXT, 106K.....	\$8,900
'12 Ram Cargo Van, 137K.....	\$7,900
'12 Edge SEL, 133K, AWD.....	\$7,900

LEGAL		
Sunbury Township		
SUPERVISOR’S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS GENERAL TOWN FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$24,336.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$53,889.87	
Replacement Tax	\$2,835.96	
State Grants		
Interest Income	\$50.16	
Rental Income		
Miscellaneous Income	\$799.57	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$57,575.56
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$36,313.18	
Audit	\$6,167.50	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$42,480.68
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$39,430.88
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
R DAVIS		\$23,000.04
COMED		\$2,032.76
LIV. CO. TWP. OFF.		\$150.00
THE PAPER		\$84.00
DELUX CHECKS		\$164.67
ILLINOIS OFFICE SUPPLY		\$23.75
TOI		\$114.96
BANK OF PONTIAC		\$248.00
S ANDREE		\$2,500.00
M SULLIVAN		\$4,000.00
M FESSELL		\$1,700.00
A CONNOR		\$550.00
L GOOD		\$550.00
J LANGHOFF		\$450.00
R LUCAS		\$655.00
NANCY FESSEL		\$90.00
GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$97,728.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$756.18	
Replacement Tax	\$3.75	
Interest Income	41.09	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$801.02
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$565.00	
Home Relief	\$671.40	
ASSISTANCE	\$624.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$1,860.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$96,668.62
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
ALLIED INSURANCE		\$375.00
J KROLAK		\$624.00
FERRELLGAS		\$671.40
TOI		\$190.00
AUDIT FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$3,774.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$515.39	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$515.39
EXPENDITURES		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$4,289.39
INSURANCE FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$16,886.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$2,557.13	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$2,557.13
EXPENDITURES		
Insurance	\$3,448.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$3,448.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$15,995.13
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
TOIRMA		\$3,448.00

(continued in next column)


(continued from previous column) SOCIAL SECURITY FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$15,694.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$2,162.96	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$2,162.96
EXPENDITURES		
Social Security	\$2,379.79	
MEDICARE	\$547.56	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$2,927.35
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$14,929.61
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
SOCIAL SECURITY		\$2,379.79
MEDICARE		\$547.56
IMRF FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$34,144.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$3,243.87	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$3,243.87
EXPENDITURES		
Illinois Municipal Retirement	\$6,095.04	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$6,095.04
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$31,292.83
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
IMRF		\$6,095.04
ROAD DISTRICT TREASURER’S ANNUAL REPORT GENERAL TOWN FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$187,015.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$22,225.28	
Replacement Tax	\$5,086.51	
Interest Income	\$184.35	
Miscellaneous Income	\$789.00	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$28,285.14
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$5,184.00	
Maintenance	\$13,458.76	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$18,642.76
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$196,657.38
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
JIM HOGAN		\$3,034.50
BRYAN DAVIS		\$1,154.50
JJ SCHOPP		\$680.50
RICK BENNETT		\$314.50
STOCK & FIELD		\$491.41
NAPA		\$209.90
FOGARTY’S GARAGE		\$420.25
FS		\$3,490.25
GRAY’S GARAGE		\$3,111.68
KELLY ELECTRIC		\$475.99
BOB SHAY		\$380.00
DELUX CHECKS		\$329.34
GETZ FIRE		\$182.37
SNYDER BROTHERS		\$79.94
KSR		\$656.69
LIV. CO. TREASURER		
(ENGI. FEE)		\$1,952.25
BENIACH CONSTRUCTION		\$216.00
TOI		\$656.69
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED		\$90
EQUIPMENT & BUILDING FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$180,927.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$10,228.48	
TRANSFER FROM CD 669235	\$21,921.14	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL TO		
RESTRICTED ACCT.	\$13,290.00	
DEPOSIT FROM Liv. Co.	\$25,000.00	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$70,439.62
EXPENDITURES		
Equipment	\$107,957.00	
Building	\$13,289.85	
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED	\$13,290.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$134,536.85
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$116,829.77

(continued in next column)

(continued from previous column)		
TO WHOM PAID	AMOUNT	
BANK OF PONTIAC		\$13,289.85
CTI TRUCKS		\$107,957.00
TRANSFER TO		
RESTRICTED ACCT.		\$13,290.00
JOINT BRIDGE FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$2,792.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$5,446.50	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$5,446.50
EXPENDITURES		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$8,238.50
PERMANENT ROAD FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$91,717.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$11,067.64	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$11,067.64
EXPENDITURES		
Maintenance	\$16,121.49	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$16,121.49
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$86,663.15
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
STOCK & FIELD		\$65.94
BOB SHAY		\$1,135.00
VALLEY VIEW		\$7,306.81
METAL CULVERTS		\$2,189.50
JOHN DEERE		\$5,424.24
INSURANCE FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$19,370.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$1,820.27	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$1,820.27
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$3,589.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$3,589.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$17,601.27
TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
TOIRMA		\$3,589.00

Gas Prices For This Week

Motorists are filling-up to some of the most expensive gas prices in over a year. With the forced shutdown of refineries due to the winter storm, gas prices have skyrocketed. 66% of state averages spiked by double digits, driving the national average up by 13 cents. This is the most expensive national average since October 2019. You can expect high prices to stick around, but large spikes should subside.



City/Village	February 22	February 15
Dwight	\$2.74	\$2.60
Kankakee	\$2.69	\$2.55
Streator	\$2.72	\$2.67
Pontiac	\$2.67	\$2.44
Gardner	\$2.75	\$2.59
Braceville	\$2.75	\$2.69
Morris	\$2.76	\$2.66
Herscher	\$2.75	\$2.59
Chicago	\$2.87	\$2.73
Illinois	\$2.80	\$2.67
U.S.	\$2.63	\$2.51

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


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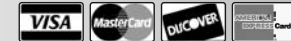
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Auction to be Held at: Bradleys' Auction Barn in Kernan, IL

Located At: #1456 E. 22nd Rd., Streator, IL

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Sunday, March 7 @ 9:00 A.M.

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Don & Nancy Fiedler, Formerly of Dwight, IL

Wayne Wentte, Cicero, IL

visit our website: www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

Real Estate Auction

Auction to be held at: The Denaple Residence

Located At: #1377 E. 29th Rd., Ransom, IL 60470

Directions: From Ransom, IL, Go 2 Miles South (on IL Rt. 170)

to N. 13th Road/Ralph Smith Road, Then 2 Miles East to E. 29th

Rd., & 8/10 Mile North (Approx. 15 Min. from I-55 at

Dwight, IL) OR: Exit I-55 (Exit 220) at Dwight, IL (Rt. 17

Exit) and go West on Rt. 17, 8 miles to 1700 E. Rd., then 2.8

Miles North. (Home Site on West Side.)

Saturday, March 13 @ 10:00 A.M.

See Photos, Maps, & Info @ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

FARMLAND & RANCH STYLE/BRICK HOME & BUILDINGS

75.87 Acres in Allen Twp., LaSalle County, IL

74 Acres in Sunbury Twp., Livingston County, IL

Tract 1: 74 Acres M.O.L. (No Improvements)

Legal Description: The East Seventy-four (74) Acres of the

Northeast Quarter of Section Two (Except the Railroad Right-of-

the-way) in Township 30 North, Range Five East of the Third

Principal Meridian, Livingston County, State of Illinois. WAPI:

116.5.

Tract 2: 75.87 Acres M.O.L., Improved with One (1) Wind Tur-

bine. (Annual Wind Turbine Income of Approx. \$15,190 with

Small Annual Increases & 10 yrs. Remaining, w/ an Option to

Extend)

Legal Description: The East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section

26, Township 31 North, Range 5 East of the 3rd Principal Meri-

dian, LaSalle County, State of Illinois. (Except for the 4 Acre Home

& Building Site.) WAPI: 123.6.

Tract 3: Approx. 4 Acre Home Site with Brick/Ranch Style Home

& Out Buildings. Commonly known as 1377 E. 29th Rd., Ran-

som, IL.

Inspections:

The Home will be open for inspection on

Sunday, February 21, from 1-4 p.m. and

Saturday, February 27, from 1-4 p.m.

See photos of Home & Buildings @ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: This is a very well built & well maintained

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Prairie Creek Public Library Seeking Part Time Library Clerk

The Prairie Creek Public Library is currently tak-
ing applications for two part time Library Clerks.
One position is for 9-13 hours per week and includes
two mornings and one evening. The morning hours
are 9:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the evening hours are
3:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. One position is for 8-12 hours
per week and includes afternoons with an occa-
sional evening shift. The afternoon hours are 1:00
p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Both positions include a 9:45 a.m. -
2:15 p.m. shift one to two Saturdays per month.

General Description and Duties:

The position requires routine library and clerical
work as well as basic help for patrons. The duties
include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Check out material to patrons, check in materials
when returned, collect fines and manage holds
using an automated circulation system.
- Shelf materials according to the Dewey Decimal
System as well as assist patrons in finding materials
- Perform routine computer functions
- Operate a variety of standard office and library
machines. These include: Computers (both desktop
and laptop), Fax Machine, Xerox Copier, Wireless
Printers and Scanner.

Knowledge and Skills required:

- Good knowledge of clerical practices and proce-
dures.
- Some typing skills and the ability to perform data
entry.
- Good ability to understand and follow both writ-
ten and oral instructions.
- The ability to troubleshoot computer issues and
help patrons with computer questions.
- Some knowledge of Windows 7 or higher.

Qualifications:



DWIGHT FCCLA has been collecting used formal dresses for the February 27 sale at Mazon American Legion, 508 Depot St., from noon to 3:00 p.m. Proceeds will go to the Meghan Bugg Foundation. FCCLA members pictured above, left to right, Izzy Burkhart, Ella Kargle, and Nellie Rieke.

New Twist on Battleship Offered to Teens at Prairie Creek Library

Prairie Creek Library, Dwight, will be offering a winter reading program for teens (grades 6-12) during the month of March. The program will use elements from the classic board game Battleship.

Each time a teen checks out a book or audiobook at their reading level, they may guess a set of coordinates from the Battleship grid. Teens are allowed one guess per day. Their guesses will be marked as either a hit or a miss on the board. When a guess sinks a ship, the person who guessed the last set of coordinates wins the prize designated for that ship.

The Battleship board and guessing materials will be located at the main circulation desk. The game will begin Monday, March 1, and end either on Wednesday, March 31, or sooner if all the ships are sunk.

This game is free to play and open to all teens in the library's district.

LTLD to Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday

Every year, libraries across America celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by honoring the man who taught many of us to read. Limestone Township Library District (LTLD) plans to celebrate with grab and go bags and a special video presentation.

Their building is open to the public. No more than 15 people will be allowed in the library building at any given time and patrons are restricted to be inside the library up to one hour. Patrons will be required to use hand sanitizer upon entering and to wear a mask while inside. They still offer curbside service for anyone who wants or needs it.

However, we are not having programming at LTLD just yet.

So to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, they are planning on a special Facebook presentation of various staff members reading Dr. Seuss books and a special grab-and-go bag for those who register ahead of time. Parents or guardians will need to sign up for the grab-and-go bags. You can do so when you stop in at the library or by giving them a call at 815-939-1696.

Other virtual programming options happen on their Facebook page and YouTube channel.

They have Storytime every Tuesday and Friday at 10:15 A.M. on Facebook with Ms. Holly and Ms. Karyn.

On Thursday, February 25, at 6:00 P.M., learn how to improve your chess game with Austin as he hosts Chess Club.

Other services are back at the library. The computer area is open to patrons by appointment for 30-minute time slots. It is possible for patrons to use the computers two times a day. Printing and faxing from the copier will also be available. Patrons will hand their copy or fax jobs to staff who will complete them.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call them, e-mail them at info@limestonelibrary.org, or message them at Facebook or Instagram. Visit their website, limestonelibrary.org, for more information.

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Louis Martini Senoma Cabernet 750 ml.	\$12⁹⁹

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1.75 liter

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Clara, Greta and a snow friend



Frosty, Ethan and Evan

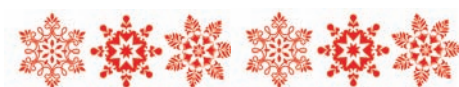


Jenny, Catie and Cason



Averi, Charleigh and Maci

Sunday Fun-Day at Heritage Health, Dwight



BUILDING SNOWMEN AND PLAYING TIC TAC TOE with residents at Heritage Health in Dwight. Members of the Dwight Community came together to participate in a snow building exercise for the residents of Heritage Health to see. What a great idea to share their creations for all. Hot cocoa was enjoyed after the build.

The Paper photos



DTHS February Board Actions

BOE Returns to In-Person Meetings/21-22 Calendar Approved

by Madelyn Fogarty
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com



The Dwight Township High School Board of Education met on February 17 in its first in-person session since measures to combat the pandemic moved meetings to a virtual platform.

The 2021-22 school calendar was approved by the BOE. Next year's calendar calls for the first day of student attendance to be Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Highlights from the calendar include no school November 24 – 26 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Winter Break will begin on December 20, 2021 with students returning to school on January 5, 2022. Spring Break has been designated as March 21 – March 25, 2022. May 26, 2022 is the planned last day of student attendance; however, five emergency days designated as May 27 and May 31 - June 3, 2022 could impact the final day of school.

Addressing other business, school bus leases and extensions were discussed. The Board approved a two year lease extension for the nine pre-owned 2019 buses at a cost of \$11,150 per bus per year. For the two needed lift busses, the BOE approved a three year lease for two new 2022 lift busses at an annual cost of \$15,514 per lift bus.

In an effort to keep the Industrial Arts program alive and available to DTHS students in a time when teachers in this field are scarce, the board approved the hiring of a currently uncertified teacher. Robert Caridi will be employed as a Long Term Substitute / Industrial Arts Teacher. Mr. Caridi, who has a substitute teaching license and brings much experience in the field of wood-working and industrial arts, will complete his master's pro-

gram within a year to earn his teaching certificate. Caridi will work alongside Mr. Jeff Froelich for the fourth quarter this year to mimic student teaching before taking over the classroom as a long term substitute next fall while completing the program for his teaching certificate. Mr. Froelich, who has retired but was filling the position, will not be retuning next fall.

In reports to the board, Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek noted that the Livingston County Health Department recently held a clinic at DTHS to provide COVID vaccinations for Dwight Public School employees along with staff of the Odell Public School and St Paul School. It was noted that LCHD has trained school nurse Erica Sandeno to administer rapid COVID tests. This free test will be made available to high school coaches and high school athletes on a voluntary basis and when applicable.

DTHS Principal Andrew Pittenger reported that current enrollment at DTHS reflects 229 total students with 175 students opting for in-person learning and 54 students currently choosing remote learning. Mr. Pittenger also informed the board that an after school study program began on January 25 providing additional assistance to students with failing grades.

Mr. Pittenger also discussed recommendations with the board for the 2021-22 year including the addition of a Tran-

sitional Math course. Regarding schedule structure, it was decided to move to a modified block schedule. The modified block format, which was the preferred option of most teachers, will allow for one day of traditional learning, on Mondays, with four days of block scheduling each week.

Athletic Director Cathy Ferguson reported that the season for boys basketball, girls basketball and competition cheerleading has begun. Scholastic Bowl has also been holding virtual meets and Dwight has agreed to host the Regional Scholastic Bowl on Monday, March 8, with approximately six to seven schools in attendance. The Regional meets will be in-person. It was also reported that football practices are allowed to begin on March 3 and Volleyball practices can begin on March 8.

The board also:

- affirmed employment of Elisabeth Bland, Substitute Bus Monitor.
- approved employment of Jared Steck, Assistant Boys Golf Coach.
- affirmed employment of Nick Schultz, Substitute Teacher.
- discussed additional Social Worker resources for the 2021 – 22 school year.
- approved a Resolution, TRS supplemental Savings Plan/Voya Financial.

The next regular meeting of the Dwight Township High School Board of Education will be 6 p.m., Wednesday, March 17 in the DTHS cafeteria. Virtual access for anyone wanting to attend BOE meetings will also continue to be available. Anyone logging in will be able to listen and watch only. Visit the school's website for an access link and login information.



Turn-1 Photography | 2018

New Series Steers Into Grundy County Speedway Midwest Super Cup Series Begins May 7

By Bridget DeWaard

"We took the rules, and laid them out side by side. At the time, there were three other cup series, all racing under very slim differences," Eric Heddins, owner/operator of Heddins Motorsports, paused a moment, reflecting on the course-altering conversation that led to the creation of a new series. "Now, for the first time in 20 years, drivers from all over will be able to race together under one series, thanks to a few simple changes. It's really exciting."

Debuting this season at Morris' Grundy County Speedway, the new program is a super cup series, promising a friendlier atmosphere, more accessibility for racers, and plenty of updates for a completely new and unique competition. Pulling potential racers from Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan and even Ohio, this series is planned to be much larger, and much more inclusive, leading to better races.

Though the point system

will stay similar to that of any other series, purses will now be offered as part of Heddins' new program, currently unheard of in any midwest super cup series. A purse is a pool of prize money paid out to racers, usually funded by sponsor donations. "We are currently seeking 11 businesses to fund the upcoming races," Heddins said of the new feature. "There will be a payout every night of the race, something that's completely new for these kids." As part of the series, kids will also get the chance to win trophies, and participate in an end of the year celebratory banquet, also funded in part by sponsor donations.

Heddins also put together new staff, placing the utmost importance on his team's role and responsibility for how the race goes. "Combined, both Scott Pool and Ken Odo have decades of racing experience," Eric said confidently of the new hires. "And the additional staff also allows for me to completely remove myself from

any sort of decision-making in race outcomes, ensuring a fair competition."

Well-versed in his line of work, Eric was always interested in cars - particularly the ones that went fast. "I loved anything with four wheels and an engine," he said, remembering long days spent working on cars with his father. "I still do." Having also owned and operated Heddins Motorsports since 2019, Eric has always searched for ways to bring people together, originally forming the business to help service more teams.

Heddins took time to address any concerns parents might have about becoming involved with the sport, and above all, stress the family-oriented and supportive atmosphere down at the track. "The time investment breaks down to about two hours a week, outside of actual time spent racing," he explained. "This could

(continued on page 3)

NATIONAL FFA WEEK

See pages 8 and 9 today
for area FFA happenings.

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FOR THE RECORD

Dwight Police Blotter
February 12: 1:58 a.m., Dwight Police were contacted by a resident in the 200 block of Renfrew. The resident advised they had lent their car to a friend and it had never been returned. The car was found and impounded in Chicago.
February 15: Dwight Police generated a report for ID fraud; 4:29 p.m., Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of E. Main for a Domestic disturbance; 6:21 p.m., Dwight Police were dispatched to 12 W. Northbrook for a custody exchange issue.
February 16: Dwight Police generated a report for ID fraud.
Accident Report
Monday, February 15, 1:00 p.m., an accident was reported at Seminole at Rt. 47 involving a Ford F350, driven by Scot Banks, Dwight, which struck a Chrysler van, driven by Diana Pokarney, Dwight, in the driver's side passenger sliding door. No injuries were reported.
Wednesday, February 17, 3:48 a.m., a hit-and-run accident was reported at 12 W. Northbrook Dr. involving a 2020 Freightliner, driven by J. Haley, Oshkosh, WI, who was asleep in his semi when it was struck by an unknown unit that did not stop to give information.



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS
February 11: Delaware, medical, Morris; South St., medical, Morris; Mazon, trauma, RMC.
February 12: William, medical, MER.
February 13: I-55, trauma, refusal; Union, medical, RMC.
February 14: Union, fire; Union, fire; Mazon, fire, three refusals; Dwight, fire.
February 15: Mazon, medical, Morris.
February 16: Prairie, trauma, refusal.
February 17: Union, medical, refusal; Northbrook, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris.

Need Groceries?
Mobile Pantry in Morris

If you don't have enough to eat, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry can help – distributing nutritious food to high-need areas.
The Mobile Pantry will be in Morris Saturdays, March 20, April 17, May 15, and June 19, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Goodwill, 414 Arthur Avenue in Morris.
Food is free to neighbors in need; no ID, proof of address, or income is required. Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis, while supplies last.
Due to COVID-19, Mobile Pantry distributions have moved to a contactless drive-thru model, with pre-packed boxes of groceries.
For additional food resources, visit SolveHunger Today.org/GetHelp.

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Protect Benefits for Children with Special Needs
If you have a child or other family member who has special needs due to physical or mental conditions, you face a variety of challenges planning for their care, including financial ones. You may also have some well-meaning relatives who want to help, but who may not realize that their moves could actually result in some serious lifestyle and monetary problems for your loved one. Fortunately, by planning ahead, you can avoid these potential traps.
As you probably already know, individuals with special needs are eligible for a variety of government benefits and local programs that provide assistance with housing, medical needs, specialized equipment, independent living, job training and other services. You may also know that some of these programs require participants to meet financial criteria to qualify for benefits. Usually, this isn't a problem if your loved one has little income and few assets.
Difficulties can arise, though, when other relatives, such as grandparents, include loved ones with special needs in their estate plans by naming them as beneficiaries of insurance policies or retirement assets, or as beneficiaries of any trusts the grandparents have established. In these situations, loved ones who receive or inherit a sizable amount of assets may then be ruled ineligible for some important services.
Hopefully, your relatives will have informed you of their plans. If so, let them know that although you appreciate their generosity, the way they've chosen to show it could have unanticipated – and harmful – effects. You could then suggest ways they could structure their gifts to be more valuable.
Specifically, they can help through a special needs trust, either one that's already been created or one they create for their gift. A special needs trust is designed to help people with special needs use financial gifts or inheritances for a variety of purposes while keeping their eligibility for some government programs and other services. There are two main types of special needs trust:
• **First-party special needs trust**
An individual with special needs, their legal guardian or the court can establish a first-party special needs trust benefiting that individual. The first-party special needs trust is funded by the individual's own assets, either through earnings or an inheritance or a personal injury award. A first-party trust contains a "payback" rule, which means that when the individual beneficiary with special needs dies, the trust must pay back the state for certain benefits received.
• **Third-party special needs trust**
A relative or person other than the individual with special needs who wants to include that individual in their estate plan can set up a third-party special needs trust. The third party trust is funded with assets from someone other than the individual with special needs. With a third-party trust, no "payback" provision is required.
Many issues are involved in establishing an appropriate special needs trust. Consequently, you'll need to consult with your legal advisor to determine your next steps. Afterwards, you'll want to involve everyone in your family who could contribute to a trust, so they'll all know what to expect and how they can participate. Once the arrangements are made, you can all feel like you've done your part to make things easier for the loved one in your life with special needs.
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Temps - 2021
Feb. 11 – high 17°, low 0° trace snow
Feb. 12 – high 12°, low 3° 1" snow
Feb. 13 – high 8°, low -9° trace snow
Feb. 14 – high 1°, low -4° 2" snow
Feb. 15 – high 9°, low -1° 6" snow
Feb. 16 – high 14°, low -13°
Feb. 17 – high 15°, low -9° trace snow
One Year Ago – Feb. 24, 2020
high 49°, low 24°

Free Food to Be Distributed February 24
Free food will be distributed to qualifying households in Dwight Township Wednesday, February 24, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, Gothic Church, 201 N. Franklin St., Dwight.
The pantry is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, January through October. The November Food Pantry is held on the third Wednesday, while Love Boxes distribute food in December.

NEED NEWSPAPER?
We have a plethora of old (free) newspapers for anyone interested. Pick up a bundle or four at **The Paper**, 204 E. Chippewa St., Dwight, IL
While supply lasts.

Better Days Are Coming



IN 1954, THIS YOUNG BUSINESSMAN, DEL HANCOCK, and his wife, Docia, were the Bride and Groom during the Centennial Parade in Dwight. The Model T was transported by trailer from Marion, IL with assistance from Del's father and followed Clem Steichen's surreys in the parade.

Dwight FPD, EMS, PD Assist in Life-Saving Rescue Following Crash

An accident occurred shortly after 2:00 a.m. February 20 near the intersection of Verona Road and 3300 North Road (County Line).
OnStar notified Vermilion Valley 911 Dispatch, who then notified Dwight Fire, Dwight EMS, Dwight PD, and Livingston County PD. Upon the emergency crews' arrival, the driver of the vehicle was not located.
Knowing the time of the accident through OnStar, emergency crews began a ground search for the driver. Mutual aid was requested to assist with the search, including Grundy County Sheriff's Department, Livingston County Sheriff's Department, Pontiac Police Department Drone, and Illinois State Police.
Search efforts continued through the early morning when the subject was located near the northwest corner, outside of the closed women's correctional center, at approximately 8:45 a.m.
The subject was located in a combined effort with all of the aforementioned agencies. When the subject was located, he was in severe hypothermia laying in a snowbank.
Dwight Fire requested mutual aid assistance from Reddick with their UTV and Dwight EMS requested a helicopter for medical transport. A local resident was on scene and was able to assist with the use of a tractor to get emergency crews and equipment to the subject.
Crews had to get through a fence and track through high snow drifts to be able to extricate the subject, who was removed from the elements and in the care of Dwight EMS until the Superior helicopter arrived on scene and transported the patient to Christ Hospital.
Dwight FPD Deputy Fire Chief Justin Dyer stated that "the combined efforts and the dedication of all emergency crews proved to save a life today. We are unsure at this time why the individual had left the scene of the accident, but we are certain he is alive at this time because of the amazing work by all of the emergency agencies. Dwight Fire would like to thank all of the agencies involved in the search and rescue; especially the dispatchers at our 911 center."

Jesse White Calls on Drivers to Move Over for Stopped Emergency Vehicles

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has issued an urgent reminder to motorists to adhere to the state's Move Over Law, also known as Scott's Law, designed to protect law enforcement and emergency responders who are stopped on the side of roadways. White also underscored the importance of not driving while distracted – with a special emphasis on avoiding texting while driving at all times.
White has taken steps over the last few years to increase public awareness about protecting those who protect us. His office added a reminder about the Move Over Law to driver's license and vehicle registration renewal notices, produced an educational brochure and added a test question to the written driving exam. In addition, he initiated a law that further strengthened the state's efforts to combat texting while driving.
Motorists convicted of violating the Move Over Law face a minimum fine of \$250 up to \$10,000, and the offense goes on their driving record. Driving privileges can be suspended for 24 months in the event of a fatality and six months for a crash causing personal injury.
In addition, White called on motorists to avoid distracted driving and to stop texting while driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a motorist traveling at 55 mph takes his or her eyes off the road an average of five seconds when sending or reading a text. This equates to driving blindly for the length of a football field.
White initiated a July 1, 2019, law that further cracked down on texting while driving by classifying first-time offenses as moving violations. Under the previous law, which took effect in 2014, second and subsequent texting while driving offenses were treated as moving violations, while first offenses were treated as non-moving violations.
Scott's Law is named after Chicago Fire Lieutenant Scott Gillen who was struck and killed Dec. 23, 2000, while responding to a traffic crash.

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New Series Steers Into Grundy County Speedway – –



(continued from page 1)

involve practicing, or performing maintenance on the car, but beyond that it's pretty comparable to any other youth sport." Eric also assured that parents who worry about being car literate enough for the maintenance aspect of the sport will also find support at the track, with plenty of friendly faces willing to offer tips and a helping hand.

Heddins also discussed safety concerns, making it a top priority of his team at the Speedway. Safety equipment, such as fire resistant suits and gloves, as well as protective head gear, like helmets, and head and neck restraints, will need to be purchased prior to racing. The cars used in the series, considered stock cars, are fully contained, and allow for more crash protection. "All the parts of these cars are well-made, and their smaller size makes them a bit safer," Heddins explained, also mentioning that the vehicles allow younger racers currently driving carts to smoothly transition to entry-level racing cars. "Of course, there are some bumps and bruises from time to time, but drivers are, for the most

part, protected."

After all the registration fees and purchasing necessary equipment, Heddins realizes racing can get pricey. "Some of these things can get up there in cost, but we also set out to make this series as inexpensive as possible to get into," Heddins said. "It kind of depends on you and your child, and how much you want to put into the sport beyond the necessities."

Racing may prove to be a slightly hefty time and cost commitment, but the benefit to youth racers through experience and connection is unmatched. Time spent off the track is just as important as time spent on, with plenty to take away from the process of preparation and practice. With tools in hand, surrounded by family and friends, kids have a safe and supportive environment to learn, grow, and discover themselves.

Nothing is more empowering than problem solving a repair, and seeing the results of the fix as the car zooms flawlessly around the track. Determination, too, can be found intermingled in the losses just as much as the wins, encouraging kids to keep pushing for-

ward, uncovering essential life lessons with each new race. Even the interpersonal connections that form almost effortlessly, from conversations sparked at school to trading racing tips with fellow competitors, all lead to more confidence, a stronger sense of self, and safe, productive social interactions.

Parents can also rediscover themselves at the track, finding a new way to bond and connect with their children, learning and growing right along with them. "You get a chance to be more involved with your kids," Heddins said. "It's a good time for them, and it's a good time for the family."

With events planned all the way through September, the first race of the series is set for May 7, at the Grundy County Speedway. Interested parents can e-mail or call for registration information and forms, and visit www.midwestsupercupseries.com for schedules, updates and more. Racers need to be at least 8 years of age to start, and while there is no deadline for registration, those signed up by March 31 will be able to receive a discount.

One of the first races this season for the new series is a memorial race, in remembrance of fallen soldier Corporal Christian P.K. Smith. Smith,

originally of Crown Point, IN, passed away while on active duty in the United States Marine Corps at just 25 years old. "His father, Thomas Smith, still races with us," Heddins said. "We are hoping to make this a huge event, and are honored to race in his memory."

The Heddins team is beyond thankful for all the sponsors, whose generosity and monetary support have made these races possible. The team is currently hoping for more sponsors this season, and anyone interested can submit forms via mail or email.

"Come race with us," Heddins invited as the interview came to an end. "But most importantly, come laugh with us. Come spend time with us. There's no better place to be on a Friday night."

Heddin's Motorsports and the Midwest Super Cup Series also races for Suicide Awareness continuously throughout the season, hoping to remember and honor all those we have lost, and support resources for those who are struggling.

For more information, on how to sponsor or regarding registration, contact the team at:

Phone number:
1-630-429-1529

Email: midwestsupercupseries@yahoo.com

the corner

by Tom Tock

So, what have you readers been doing to escape cabin fever?

A lot of time at our house has been consumed with jigsaw puzzles. We began with a 500 piece puzzle, "graduated" to a 750 piece, then foolishly tackled one with 1,000 pieces.

The 1,000 jigsaw has been a very difficult endeavor, a real sleep depriver, though I believe we will finish it in time to emerge from our cocoon and welcome Spring.

Good friends brought us tulips which are now blooming and reaffirm our faith in Mother Nature. The snow and cold are just to remind us who is in charge.

The doctor told us to "get those vaccine shots," and so we did last Friday in St. Patrick's parish hall in Dwight. On arrival, we were perplexed to see the parking lot so full, but a system was in place to help the older folks from their cars into the building where an organized staff soon had us all signed in, vaccinated, and on our way back to our cars. Bless them all.

In the reel world, Governor Pritzker has submitted a \$42.9 billion budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. In today's ultra-political world, the Governor blamed the Republicans for not supporting his much sought-after

graduated-rate income tax, and therefore responsible for a serious shortfall in revenue.

The state has actually been surprised with better than expected income in the final quarter of 2020, but the Governor still had to do a lot of cutting to come up with an allegedly balanced budget. For instance, he closed "corporate tax loopholes" worth a billion dollars that were established in 2019 during a previous budget deal. The Illinois Chamber of Commerce calls the closing of the "loopholes" a "massive tax increase" on the business world.

It's a very complicated budget — cuts here, cuts there, with the hope that the federal government will respond to Illinois' fiscal problems with much more than the \$9.9 billion in pandemic aid money already granted, with a final draft of the budget to be determined by the Illinois legislature.

Not mentioned is a solution to the state's \$141-billion unfunded pension liability.

Want details? Look up "Fiscal Year 2021 Illinois Budget Highlights."

It's past deadline and I failed to connect with information about the high speed rail program that was zoomed at noon Friday. More about that next week.

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Gardner-South Wilmington School District #73 Board Briefs

On February 17, the Gardner-South Wilmington School District #73 held its Regular Meeting.

Principal, Mr. John Engelman, reported on the following:

- Mrs. Nicole Leigh, GSW math teacher and Spiritline coach, was presented with the

IHSA Teacher Spotlight Award (\$500 gift card) at the February 17 girls' home basketball game. Her Spiritline team also performed. She was one of 24 teachers who received this award from Country Financial for going above and beyond. Dean Tambling from Country

Financial, presented this special surprise during halftime.

- Senior Scholarship meeting – Ms. Kilmer, Guidance Counselor, spoke to the senior class about many scholarship opportunities. Mr. Nick Morris, Nick Morris Productions, was also present at this meeting to discuss his \$1,000 scholarship offered to one lucky senior.

Academics Coordinator, Ms. Angel Dallio, electronically submitted her Student Services Report to the board. This 43-page report showed MAP scores for current students, comparing last year to this year's Reading and Math scores, per class.

Mr. Josh DeLong presented the following:

- Cafeteria floor options – three different floor options were discussed: VTC tile, LVT tile and epoxy. The board agreed on installing an epoxy floor in the cafeteria area this summer. Bids will be reviewed at next month's meeting.
- Mr. DeLong, Superintendent, presented on the following:
 - Vaccine update – Only ten staff have received the first dose so far. Grundy County is facing shortages at this time. Mr. DeLong and other county superintendents have been contacting legislators showing their frustration about the inequity between counties in getting teachers vaccinated.
 - CTE Grant – GSW has been approved for \$52,000 to spend between now and June

2021. This money will be used for desktops, lap work spaces, course updates, supplies and professional development for their current business program.

- Curriculum – Mr. DeLong has begun meeting with a few staff to begin discussing updating curriculum and course offerings for the 2022-23 school year. This will be work that will be started this spring, as they finish this school year and continue throughout next year.
- Moving towards a regular dismissal – GSW still plans to move to a full school day on Monday, March 15, with students attending until 3:00 p.m. They currently have 28 remote students, and hopefully most of them will return to in-person for the last nine weeks. Mr. DeLong and Mr. Engelman are having conversations with those who will choose to remain on remote instruction.
- Discussion on if ISBE will require remote learning next year – GSW is hopeful that this will not be a requirement for next school year. IASA, IPA and the teacher unions are working together to let ISBE know their frustration with this.
- GAVC Director's Award Winner – Colton Alexander (Automotive Technology) for the month of January 2021. Colton is a junior at GSW and this is his first year in the program.
- Calendar for the 2021-22 school year – This item was approved at this meeting. They

are closely aligned with GAVC and all three feeder grade schools.

- Online registration – This will be their second year having online registration. It will open on March 2 and close on April 9. Anyone registering during this time frame will receive a fee discount.
- Transportation bid updates – A Pre-Bid Meeting was held last week and with two companies showing interest.
- 1:1 plan for 2021-22 – Their goal is for every student to have their own Chrome Book next school year.
- School fees – General fees will be raised from \$80 to \$125 (\$45 increase) to help implement their 1:1 plan. Fees have not been raised in many years. Their fees will be comparable to other area schools.
- Discussion on extra curriculums, graduation, prom, others:
 - Sports season is off to a great start. GSW is live-streaming both boys' and girls' home basketball games and this seems to be going well.
 - Prom – They are in the process of planning prom to be held on Saturday, April 17, at the Gardner American Legion. This will be a "Senior Prom" only, to be able to follow the Phase 4 guidelines with which they will have to be in compliance.
 - Graduation – A Committee Meeting was held Mon., Feb. 22, at 4:30 p.m. to discuss this

year's graduation and what options they may have.

- Donation from Knights of Columbus #1574 – \$737.00 donated to the GSW Special Education Department. Money came from their annual Tootsie Roll Fund Drive. The two Special Education teachers, Mrs. Duffy and Mrs. Arrambide, will split the money to spend on each of their classrooms.

Actions Items included the following:

- Approve Personnel Report:
 - Accept resignation of cafeteria worker – Jennifer Fisher
 - Hire temporary cafeteria worker – Betsy Elliot
 - Hire temporary cafeteria worker – Maria Serena
 - Hire assistant Spiritline coach – Holly Swisher
 - Accept resignation of summer office worker – Jessica Wilson
- Approve Milk Program Contract Renewal with Clover Leaf Farms
- Appoint Superintendent to begin Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2022
- Approve 2021-22 District Calendar
- Approve Early Graduation request, as presented
- Approve increase in school fees for 2021-22 school year
 - Approve School Board Policy Manual updated
 - Approve Press Policy Maintenance Contract

Pet of the Week

Howdy! I'm Hobbs! I am estimated to be around 8 years old, don't let that fool you, though! I am still full of life and love! I am house trained and I walk well on the leash! I am very smart and would likely pick up well in my new family's routines in a new home!



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Country Financial Joins IHSA to Recognize Gardner-South Wilmington High School Teacher

Country Financial Representative Dean Tambling was pleased to recognize Nicole Leigh, Math teacher and Pantherette Spiritline coach at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, as part of the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) teacher spotlight program.

Tambling presented a \$500 gift card to Leigh to be used towards resources for her classroom and team.

"Mrs. Leigh has had a major influence on her students in and out of the classroom throughout her career at GSW," said Tambling. "As a Math teacher

coaching both the Math team and Pantherette Spiritline, she is well deserving of this recognition and I am honored to present this award to her on behalf of Country Financial and IHSA."

The 'Teacher Spotlight' program was established during

this pandemic as it was known that many educators were going out of their way to make sure students were having their emotional needs met. IHSA knew they wanted to shine a spotlight on those efforts, and from that small seed an idea grew.

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Kid's Meals \$5
Served with lemonade, and choice of baked potato or fries

1 pc Fried Cod or
5 pc Chicken Nuggets

Eat In or Carry Out
(no beverage on carry-outs)



CONGRATS TO MRS. LEIGH! On February 17, Gardner-South Wilmington High School's Mrs. Leigh was surprised at halftime by receiving the IHSA Teacher Spotlight from Dean Tambling of Country Financial. The IHSA and Country Financial have teamed up this year to give out 24 \$500 prizes to teachers/coaches across the state who have truly made a difference during the pandemic. Mrs. Leigh is the proud sponsor of their Spiritline team and is an excellent math teacher and co-sponsor of GSW's dominant Math Team. Congrats, Mrs. Leigh, on this well-deserved honor.

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Why Do We Have Visitations?

Navigating the Waters of Funeral Trusts

by Matt Baskerville

As a funeral director working with families who have experienced a death, I am more commonly hearing questions such as: “What is the purpose of having a visitation? We’re just going to have a memorial service at a later date.” Or even, “We don’t want anything at all.”

In many cases, families arrive to make arrangements already planning on not having a visitation.

Some common explanations may be: “Mom didn’t want a fuss...” or “Dad didn’t want anyone looking at him in a casket...” Or one of the most common, “They said if they didn’t come see me alive, I don’t want them to see me dead...”

Today’s society would not think of attending a wedding without the newlyweds present for the ceremony, or go to a baptism without the baby. We may chuckle to think of showing up for church to that wedding, only to see the couple’s photo on an easel, all while the new Mr. and Mrs. may have al-

ready left for the honeymoon.

It is, however, becoming common practice for people to show up for a memorial service without the body present. Or not have any ceremony at all to honor the life of the departed.

During the current pandemic, it has become even more clear to us the importance of being able to see the loved one who has died, and join together to not only mourn the death, but celebrate the life lived.

A visitation gives the community an opportunity to say goodbye. To process that their loved one, friend, colleague, etc. has died. It provides a support network and gives others the opportunity to show love and support, as well as extend words of kindness. A visitation also allows an opportunity for more people to participate and opens the window for family and friends to attend.

Often times, visitations are in the evening or for a period of time prior to the services, which allows people to not necessarily be a part of the formal

ceremony, but acknowledge the family personally.

It has taken a pandemic, a time when by law and governmental mandates, inhibited us from having public gatherings that has driven us to realize how important visitations, funerals, and celebrations of life really are! We so often take so many things for granted, and when our options are taken away from us it is in plain sight, how significant being together and showing support really is.

There are many options to incorporate a visitation for services involving burial, flame cremation, and flameless cremation, and we are always available to discuss how we can remember and celebrate the life lived.

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Discussing end-of-life issues can be an emotional experience. Making decisions upon the death of a loved one can be challenging, especially if the wishes of the deceased are murky or unknown. Funeral trusts often help families avoid making decisions at times when their emotions may make such decisions more difficult.

What is preplanning a funeral?

Preplanning a funeral can save family and friends from having to make difficult decisions. It also enables people to choose their burial space, services and transportation. Preplanning also allows people to pay for or arrange payment for their funeral costs ahead of time. According to Consumer Protection Ontario, a person can pre-plan a funeral without prepaying. However, many people prefer to have all financial components in place as well for maximum convenience.

What is a funeral trust?

Funeral trust can be a smart investment for people who have not spelled out their wishes in a will or conveyed them in writing to someone who will be managing their estate.

Funeral trusts may be referred to as revocable or irrevocable. An irrevocable funeral



trust, or IFT, is a tool people who are facing the high cost of skilled nursing care can consider. An IFT establishes an account into which money for funeral expenses is deposited. The money cannot be withdrawn or refunded, and funds must be used for funeral expenses.

In the United States, an IFT is often considered an eligible expense during the social services spend-down process. That means the money deposited in the trust is exempt as a countable asset from any financial look-back period that helps determine eligibility for government healthcare services, such as Medicaid.

Revocable funeral trusts can be cancelled. According to the National Care Planning Council, a revocable trust can be created by anyone and, at a later date, can be dissolved by the person who originally created it.

Various organizations oversee the investment and management of prepaid funeral trust accounts.

When is a trust unnecessary?

In certain instances, a funeral trust will not be needed. Those who have the means to fund long-term care services and will not need assistance later in life may not want their money locked up in a trust. Others opt for life insurance policies to pay for funeral needs.

Assistance with funeral trusts

Funeral homes may work directly with companies that manage funeral funds. Speak with a funeral director if you want to learn more about trusts. Trusts also can be established by working with an elder care attorney or with a funeral trust agency.

Taking care of funeral planning in advance can relieve families of the stress of making funeral decisions in the wake of a loved one’s death.

Things People Should Know About Creating Wills



Drafting a last will and testament is an essential component of estate planning. Despite the importance of having a will, a recent survey from AARP found that two out of five Americans over the age of 45 do not have one.

Estate planning can be tricky, which is why many people turn to attorneys to get the job done right. Attorneys who specialize in estate planning will no doubt discuss the following topics with their clients.

- **Assets owned:** Make a list of known assets and figure out

which assets are covered by the will and which will have to be passed on according to other estate laws, such as through joint tenancy on a deed or a living trust. A will also can cover other assets, such as photographs, clothing, cars, and jewelry.

- **Guardianship:** Parents’ wills should include a declaration of who they want to become guardians for their underage children or dependents.
- **Pets:** Some people prefer to use their will to also dictate guardianship for their pets and

to leave money or property to help care for those pets.

- **Funeral instructions:** Settling probate will not happen until after the funeral. Therefore, funeral wishes in a will often go unnoticed, states the legal advisement resource Find Law.
- **Executor:** An executor is a trusted person who will carry out the terms of the will. This person should be willing to serve and be capable of executing the will.

People who die without a valid will become intestate. This means the estate will be settled based on the laws of where that person lived, and a court-appointed administrator will serve in the capacity to transfer property. This administrator will be bound by laws and may make decisions that go against the decedent’s wishes. To avoid this outcome, a will and other estate planning documents are crucial.

Insurance Policies Everyone Should Have

Insurance is something everyone needs but hopes to never use. Without insurance, already difficult situations could be made much worse and cause financial devastation.

The following are some examples of insurance policies everyone should have.

Health insurance

Everyone needs health insurance. The out-of-pocket costs for routine medical examinations can be quite high, and testing, hospitalization or surgery can take quite a toll on a person’s finances if he or she has no health insurance. Shopping around for adequate coverage and the most affordable plans for one’s situation is es-

sential, as even minimal coverage is better than nothing when it comes to offsetting the rising costs of health care.

Life insurance

Life insurance is something most people will never benefit from personally, but it leaves a financial legacy for the people they love, providing for those they leave behind. Parents or men and women who are the sole breadwinners in the household can rest easy knowing their life insurance will keep their loved ones financially secure in the event of their death. Experts suggest 10 times one’s yearly income.

Disability insurance

Many people do not believe

they will become ill or injured. But the statistics speak otherwise. Data from the Social Security Administration show that three in 10 workers entering the workforce will become disabled before they reach retirement. Short- and long-term disability policies provide partial and complete income replacement depending on the policy chosen.

Auto insurance

People who drive are urged to have auto insurance to protect themselves in the event of an accident or theft. Auto insurance also helps protect against any litigation as the result of accidents when a passenger or other driver is injured.



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Area Students Named to Augustana Dean’s List

Augustana College has announced the students who have been named to the Dean’s List for the 2020 fall semester. Students who have earned this academic honor have maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a four-point scale for courses taken during the semester.

Area students earning Dean’s List honors include:

- **Wesley Pulver** – a senior from Dwight, majoring in computer science.
- **Hayley Schlabowske** – a junior from Morris, majoring in teaching biology and middle grades science.

SWGS Kindergarten Pre-Registration February 24

Pre-registration for South Wilmington Grade School’s kindergarten Class of 2021-2022 will take place Wednesday, February 24, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the school office.

No fees will be taken at this time.

Take in two proofs of residency and your child’s birth certificate. Your child will need to be five years of age by September 1, 2021.

Gardner Grade School Kindergarten Pre-Registration

Gardner Grade School 72C kindergarten online pre-registration is now open for the 2021-2022 school year.

To begin the online application process, visit ggs72.org and follow the prompts for New Student Registration under the Resources tab. Once you provide the initial information, you will receive an e-mail containing your login information to complete the online registration process.

Your child must be five-years old by September 1, 2021, to be eligible for kindergarten.

A copy of your child’s birth certificate and three forms of proof of residency must be submitted to the school office. For your convenience, you may take these documents to the school office and pay registration fees Thursday, February 25, between 3:00-6:00 p.m.

All students entering kindergarten must have a health examination, updated immunizations, eye and dental exam prior to the first day of school.

If you have any questions, contact the school office at 815-237-2313.

Area COVID-19 Stats as of February 22

Town	Tested	Cases	
Dwight	9,148	487	
Herscher	2,228	201	
Gardner	1,731	180	
Odell	1,828	151	
Mazon	1,281	139	
Braceville	1,303	122	
Essex	896	118	
S. Wilmington	699	85	
Cullom	909	65	
Reddick	709	61	
Buckingham	592	53	
Verona	513	48	
Saunemin	917	41	
Ransom	594	37	
Emington	339	34	
Cabery	464	32	
Blackstone	232	31	
Kempton	396	30	
Campus	298	16	
Union Hill	92	12	
Kinsman	168	12	

Numbers as of 02/22/21

Statistics via: dph.illinois.gov

County	Tested	Cases	Deaths
Kankakee	180,835	12,341	188
LaSalle	137,328	10,648	215
Grundy	44,088	5,039	62
Livingston	74,877	4,127	74
Iroquois	39,403	2,765	60
Ford	23,839	1,553	44

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,174,409; **Deaths:** 20,269; **Probable Deaths:** 2,197; **Total Tests Performed:** 17,622,800; **Recovery Rate:** 98%.

Probable cases are individuals who have been tested and are found to have a positive test result by a local clinic using “rapid” tests that are not, at this time, IDPH-approved tests.

Severe Weather Causes COVID-19 Vaccination Delays Grundy Cty. Appointments Cancelled, Rescheduled

Due to severe weather throughout the country, the state of Illinois did not receive the intended shipment of Moderna vaccine this past week.

Appointments scheduled through Grundy County Health Department for February 20 were cancelled.

Anyone with a Dose 2 appointment are automatically **rescheduled for Saturday, February 27**, at the exact same time. There is no need to do anything further. Your appointment time automatically rolls to the new date.

Anyone with a Dose 1 appointment is cancelled, and their office will reach out to reschedule the appointment as vaccine becomes available.

The Health Department staff will be calling each person with an appointment on February 20 and sending this same message via e-mail.

Residents should continue to monitor grundyhealth.com or local media sources for updates. Follow them on Facebook, read *The Paper*, or tune in to WCSJ at 8:40

a.m. each Monday and Thursday, at which time the same information is shared.

OBITUARIES

Marilyn K. Martin

Marilyn K. Martin (nee Klehm), beloved wife of Thomas; loving mother of Edward (Stephanie); proud grandmother of Grace Emma; dear sibling of five sisters: Delores Lazzar, Carol Klehm, Ellen Gayon, Alberta Kinate; and Sharon Klehm, deceased.

A Funeral Mass was Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 10 a.m. Family and friends were asked to meet at Immaculate Conception Church at Talcott and Harlem in Chicago.

Due to Covid 19 concerns, masks were required and social distancing rules were observed.

Interment will be private in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Arrangements by Cooney Funeral Home. Info 847-685-1002.

Violet Bode

DWIGHT – Violet Bode, 86, of Normal, IL and formerly of Saunemin, IL passed away at 8:43 p.m., Monday, February 15, 2021 at St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington, IL.

Funeral services are private for the family at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Burial will follow the service in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Richton Park, IL.

Violet was born January 1, 1935 in Chicago Heights, IL, the daughter of Edward and Lillian (Harms) Kampe. She married Donald Bode on June 28, 1959 in St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Tinley Park, IL. He preceded her in death on June 28, 2014.

She is survived by daughters: Sandra Bode of Normal, IL; Joan (Allen) McClean of Goodfield, IL; and Diane (Jon) Zimmerman of Fairbury, IL; a son, Michael Bode of Normal; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Violet was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Dwight, where she also sang in the choir alongside her husband. She graduated from Bloom Township High School in Chicago Heights, IL.

She loved to travel, read and spend time with her family.

Memorials in honor of Violet may be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Online condolences may be made to the family at: hagermemorialhome.com



Morris Hospital Announces Updated Visitor Guidelines

In response to improvements in COVID-19 test positivity and incidence rates, Morris Hospital has updated its visitor guidelines.

As of February 19, one visitor/support person age 18 or older is permitted for patients going to Morris Hospital for any reason. This includes hospital inpatients, emergency visits, surgeries and procedures, outpatient tests and therapy sessions, Immediate/Convenient Care and physician office visits. There is only one exception: visitors are not permitted for patients who are hospitalized with COVID-19.

Inpatient visiting hours are 12:00-7:00 p.m. The support person for obstetrical patients will continue to have 24-hour visiting.

Visitors going to the hospital on weekends should use the Emergency entrance after 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays and after 11:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Special visiting arrangements may be requested for children 17 and younger, patients with an intellectual and/or developmental disability that impairs understanding, judgment and decision-making, and patients who have reached end of life. The special visiting arrangements also apply to hospitalized COVID patients.

Anyone visiting or accompanying a patient is asked to help maintain a safe environment at the hospital and all Morris Hospital facilities by respecting the visitor guidelines. This includes wearing a mask at all times while inside a Morris Hospital facility, undergoing a temperature and wellness screening at the entrance, maintaining six feet of distance from others, refraining from eating and drinking except in the hospital cafeteria, and wearing the required personal protective equipment when visiting a patient in isolation. Anyone currently showing signs of illness should not visit or accompany a patient.

To review Morris Hospital’s full visitor guidelines, visit morrishospital.org/visitors.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE OF DWIGHT, LIVINGSTON AND GRUNDY COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held before the President and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dwight, Illinois with respect to the Tentative Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing April 1, 2021, and ending March 31, 2022, for the Village of Dwight. **The Public Hearing shall be held on Monday, March 22, 2021, at the Hour of 6:15 P.M. by remote/teleconference meeting. All interested parties may attend by teleconference by calling 1-351-999-3046 to be joined into the Public Hearing.**

Copies of the Tentative Annual Budget are available for public inspection commencing Monday, February 15, 2021, at the Office of the Dwight Village Clerk, Public Services Complex, 209 South Prairie Avenue, Dwight, Illinois 60420, during regular business hours.

At the time and place of the Public Hearing on the Tentative Annual Budget, all interested parties are invited to attend and make their views known, either orally at the time of the Public Hearing, in writing, or by a representative to the Dwight Village Board of Trustees.

After the close of the Public Hearing, the President and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dwight shall vote on the Annual Budget Ordinance for the above Fiscal Year, either as presented or as modified after the Public Hearing.

For further information, contact the Village Administrator as set forth above during regular business hours:

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5 Minutes with Boma

NFTs and NBA TopShot

If you haven’t been paying attention, you might be surprised to learn that in the last few weeks, months, and year, whatever time duration you want to use, sports cards and collectible sports memorabilia in general have been making a comeback.

People not involved with sports memorabilia, probably viewed it as a fad and insignificant, in the large scheme of investments. Now, enter NFTs.

What are NFTs you might be asking yourself? Truth is, I don’t even know what a NFT really is, but it stands for non-fungible token. (It’s a token that is incapable of collecting fungi).

No, just kidding that was a bad joke and that is not what a non-fungible token is.

Here is the wikipedia definition of a non-fungible token. “*A non-fungible token (NFT) is a special type of cryptographic token which represents something unique; non-fungible tokens are thus not mutually interchangeable. This is in contrast to cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, and many network or utility tokens that are fungible in nature*”. Basically these “tokens” are set up on blockchain to designate unique digital ownership.

Now that you know what non-fungible tokens are (kind-of), enter NBA Top Shot.

NBA Top Shot is a marketplace full of “moments” that have been minted, and of each moment only a certain limited amount exist of each. A “moment” is a highlight taken from a game in which a player was involved. Currently the cheapest LeBron James moment is on sale for \$1,850.

You might be thinking, I can go on Youtube and watch this moment for free, and it would cost me nothing. You are correct. But by buying the moment on the blockchain you have cemented ownership of say, #1/250 of these unique minted moments. It’s very similar to physical card ownership but only in the digital world.

NBA highlights aren’t the only digital things you can buy. You can buy memes, art, pictures. Just about anything can have digital ownership.

I think there is much more to come in the digital ownership space, and this is simply the beginning. There’s a lot online to read and more to learn if you’re as confused as I was and still am about it all.

Go, Bulls.

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

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NATIONAL FFA WEEK

Seneca FFA Celebrates National FFA Week

National FFA Week looks a little different this year for Seneca FFA due to COVID-19. No all-night lock-in. No ski trip to Wisconsin. No sectional dodgeball tournament. No chapter picture.

But that doesn't mean that Seneca FFA isn't celebrating the organization and its members. The FFA has been able to maintain some of its programs and members continue to be successful in their activities throughout the pandemic.

There will be one community activity in which the public can participate.

Seneca FFA will be serving their traditional two pork chop lunch with all the fixings Sunday, February 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in drive-by fashion. Orders must be placed ahead of time by visiting the Seneca High School website, senecahs.org, and clicking on the pork chop. Orders may also be placed by calling the SHS Ag Ed Department at 815-357-5024. Meals will be picked up at the ag shop.

But there is a catch: If you are unable to pay, you don't have to. Lunch donations will be accepted for \$10.00 per meal, but are not mandatory.

"To support our programs, Seneca FFA has made a profit off of our pork chops for years from people who had the financial means to do so," explained FFA officer, Ethan Brockman. "For this lunch, we want to include meals for our community's families even if they are financially challenged."

"We are doing this for those who may not have the means and just want a good, warm meal for their family after a long pandemic and cold winter," said FFA senior, Madison Bromberek. "We hope that people who are fiscally able will pay for their meal and may even chip in a little extra for the car behind them that can't afford it. We want to do it in a way that no one will know if you paid or not."

FFA members will be participating this week in three virtual Career Development Events (contests): vet Science, meats evaluation, and food science.

Recent accomplishments by Seneca FFA members include 13 members receiving the State FFA Degree, the highest honor bestowed in Illinois. Members receiving the degree include: Ethan Brockman, Madison

Bromberek, Alanna Chapman, Jenna Goslin, Chase Hauch, Trey Hauch, Levi Maierhofer, Luke Sangston, Mallory Sobkowich, Ella Robson, Emelia Traina, Maveric Varland, and Danny Widman. Seneca FFA class of 2021, with Spencer DeGraaf having received his last year, set a school record with the number of degrees – quite an accomplishment during a pandemic.

The Section 7 FFA recently held their section proficiency award interviews and Seneca took home winners in 16 categories. Proficiency awards put students from different schools against each other and test their knowledge about their respective Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs. Winners will compete at the district competition in March.

Section Proficiency Award Winners

Miranda Araujo – Environmental Science; Mark Bergeson – Ag Mechanics Repair and Maintenance; Ethan Brockman – Forage Production; Madison Bromberek – Diversified Agriculture Production; Alanna Chapman – Food Service; Trey Hauch – Turfgrass Management; Hailey Kennedy – Poultry Production; Calvin Maierhofer – Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication; Ty Sulzberger – Oil Crop Production; Luke Sangston – Landscaping; Emma Smith – Fruit Production; Mallory Sobkowich – Ag Sales Placement; Emelia Traina – Agricultural Education; Maveric Varland – Forest Products; Peyton Weber – Diversified Livestock Production; Danny Widman – Diversified Crop Production.

Levi Maierhofer was named the Section 7 Star in Agribusiness with his grain and mowing enterprises.



A UNITED STATES FLAG WAS PRESENTED to the Tri-Point School District at the February meeting by Ted Conkling, on behalf of the William (Bill) Malone family. The U.S. Flag was presented to the William Malone family at Bill's funeral. The family has asked that the U.S. Flag be flown at the Tri-Point Grade School in Kempton. Bill Malone was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1953-1956. Bill was on the Tri-Point School Board from 1968-1984, serving as a board member for two years, the board secretary for two years, and the board president for 12 years. Accepting the flag were Superintendent Jeff Bryan, Lower Elementary Asst. Principal Summer Pearson, and Board President Cherie Smolkovich.

Tri-Point FFA Kicks Off National FFA Week

The Tri-Point FFA chapter has been hosting events for National FFA Week 2021, with more in the plans.

Pre-FFA Week included decorating the school, FFA Snacks, and Ag Bowl. Monday was Greenhand Day, followed by Cowboy/Flannel Day – Truck & Tractor Day on Tuesday.

The remaining schedule of events is as follows:

• Wednesday, February 24: PJ Day – Staff and Member Pizza Lunch

• Thursday: Red, White and Blue Day
• Friday: FFA Day/Blue and Gold Day/End of Day Mini-Assembly

Ag Trivia events are being held during lunch hour through Friday, with the overall Ag Trivia winner taking home cash.

Chapter Officers for 2020-21 include: President – Aaron Hughes; Vice President – Lanie Woods; Reporter – Chase Hummel; Secretary – Mikaayla English; Treasurer – Kailey Dedic; and Sentinel – Hope McDermott.



TRI-POINT FFA CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2020-21, pictured, from left, include President Aaron Hughes, Vice President Helena Woods, Secretary Mikaayla English, Sentinel Hope McDermott, Treasurer Kailey Dedic, and Reporter Chase Hummel.

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The 109th Annual Meeting of the Kankakee County Farm Bureau will take place Thursday, March 11, at 2:00 p.m.

Due to ongoing concerns for the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the safety of Farm Bureau members and guests, there will not be a banquet held in conjunction with the annual business meeting this year. Taking the place of the evening event, the afternoon business will include the election of eight directors to the County Farm Bureau Board and reports to the membership.

The meeting will be conducted virtually through an online platform and will be free of charge for Farm Bureau members wishing to participate. Registration is required by Wed., March 3. To register, contact the Kankakee County Farm Bureau office at 815-932-7471.

Grundy SWCD
Pond Seminar
March 11

The Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District, along with the Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District, will be holding its Annual Pond Seminar Thursday, March 11, at 6:00 p.m. – it will be held virtually this year.

Their featured speaker will be Seth Love, who is the District Fisheries Biologist from Silver Springs State Park in Yorkville. Love is very informative about fish and pond care and will answer any questions someone may have about their personal pond. He will also cover maintenance of retention/detention ponds for subdivisions or businesses.

The seminar is open to everyone and is free of charge. If you plan to attend, call their office to let them know at 815-942-0359, ext. 3, or e-mail Brooke at brooke.baker@il.nacdn.net by Tuesday, March 9, so that they can send you the link to the virtual zoom meeting.

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NATIONAL FFA WEEK



TRI-POINT FFA MEMBERS



Joyce Stresses Grain Bin Safety On The Farm

February 21-27 is Grain Bin Safety Week

or flowing grain, typically caused by an auger running or grain being moved out of the bin by gravity.

A worker stands on or below a grain bridging situation. Bridging happens when damp grain clumps together, creating an empty space beneath the grain as it is unloaded. A worker above or below this bridge of grain is at risk should the bridge collapse.

A worker stands next to an accumulated pile of grain on the side of the bin and attempts to dislodge it. It can collapse onto the worker.

While workers should avoid entering grain bins if possible, safety measures can greatly diminish the risk if they must enter. Workers entering a grain bin wear a body harness attached to a lifeline, and an observer should be stationed outside the bin to track the worker and call for help if something goes wrong.

Joyce suggests farm workers attend regular safety trainings as a reminder to utilize

best practices while working in and around grain bins. Online training resources are also available from the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois, the Grain and Safety Council, and the University of Illinois Extension.

New Youth Reading Programs Coming to Prairie Creek Library

Due to the success of their 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and 500 Books Before Middle School programs, Prairie Creek Library, Dwight, is launching two new reading programs, 100 Books Before High School and 100 Books Before College.

No registration is necessary for the new programs. However, contact information will be necessary. If a participant is a card holder and their e-mail and phone number are current, there is no reason to contact the library. If someone is not a current card holder, they may

Dwight Township High School's FFA is hosting a Kiss the Duck Fund-raiser (last year it was Kiss the Goat) this year to buy age-related books for Dwight Common School. They have put jars by the office for students to put coins in throughout the week, and the employee who has the most weight in their jar at the end of the day Thursday, February 25, will have to kiss a duck during lunch.

Monday was PJ/Comfy Dress Up Day at DTHS, and included the passing out of

goody bags. Tuesday was Mix and Match and Hat Dress Up Day.

Wednesday, February 24, is Sherpa Sheep Dress Up Day, followed by Hillbilly Dress Up Day Thursday, February 25 – which is the last day for the Kiss the Duck collection.

The final day, Friday, February 26, is Blue and Gold (official dress) Dress Up Day and Drive Your Tractor to School Day – and will be the day a DTHS teacher kisses the duck.

Each day will also feature a Duck Hunt.

Agriculture Trivia

Q: What is the most popular non-meat food commodity in the U.S.?

A: Flour (white and whole wheat)

Q: What image is used to depict the five food groups and the portions needed for a healthy diet?

A: Dinner plate – MyPlate model

Q: Which two countries are the largest trading partners with the U.S.?

A: China and Canada

Q: What agricultural commodity is the top import for the U.S.?

A: Fresh and processed fruit

Q: What is the greatest expense farmers have when raising livestock?

A: Purchased feed

Q: On average, how often does the average U.S. family consume pizza at home each year?

A: 30 times

Q: What is the term used to describe the production of aquatic animals and plants under controlled conditions?

A: Aquaculture

Q: What is the most popular meat food in the U.S.?

A: Chicken

Q: Which state has the highest number of farms in the U.S.?

A: Texas

Q: What agricultural commodity is the top export for the U.S.?

A: Soybeans

Q: Who was responsible for establishing the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 1862?

A: Abraham Lincoln

Q: About how much water does a dairy cow consume in a day?

A: 25 to 50 gallons

Q: Ethanol is a biofuel made from what agricultural commodity?

A: Corn



The FFA Emblem

Colors

As the blue field of the nation's flag and the golden fields of ripened corn unify the country, the FFA colors of national blue and corn gold give unity to the organization. All FFA functions and paraphernalia should proudly display the colors.

Emblem

The cross section of the ear of corn provides the foundation of the emblem, just as corn has historically served as the foundation crop of American agriculture. It is also a symbol of unity, as corn is grown in every state of the nation.

The rising sun signifies progress and holds a promise that tomorrow will bring a new day glowing with opportunity.

The plow signifies labor and tillage of the soil, the backbone of agriculture and the historic foundation of the country's strength.

The eagle is a national symbol which serves as a reminder of our freedom and ability to explore new horizons for the future of agriculture.

The owl, long recognized for its wisdom, symbolizes the knowledge required to be successful in the industry of agriculture.

The words "Agricultural Education" and "FFA" are emblazoned in the center to signify the combination of learning and leadership necessary for progressive agriculture.

**'All the Flowers
of All the Tomorrows
Are in the Seeds of Today'**

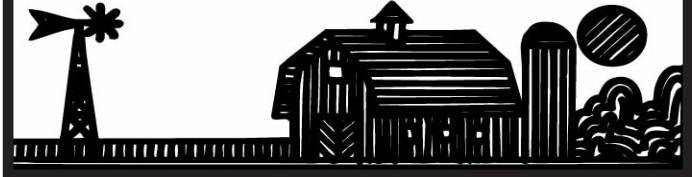
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photos by shayla loring photography

GSW Lady Panthers Top Tri-Point, 49-22

**Wednesday, February 17
GSW vs. Tri-Point
Varsity -**

The Lady Panthers of Gardner-South Wilmington improved their 2021 record to 5-0 with a 49-22 win at home over Tri-Point.

Addi Fair led GSW with 18 points, including a perfect 6-6 shooting from the line and two three-pointers. Kylie Hawks added ten points (2-2 FT), followed by Abby Beck with nine

points (1 3-pointer). Mya Anderson came up with six points, while Claire Hennessy had four. Wells rounded out the scoring with a bucket.

For Tri-Point, Kyra Cathcart led her team with 11 points, shooting 5-17 from the charity stripe. Ellenie Dyrby hit two threes and shot 3-5 from the line, en route to nine points, with Melina Schuette scoring two points.



GSW Lady Panthers Basketball

**Thursday, February 18
GSW vs. Grant Park
Varsity -**

GSW continued its winning ways on the road February 18, with a 52-31 victory over Grant Park.

Abby Beck's 16 points (1 3-pointer, 5-8 FT) led the Lady Panthers, followed by 12 points (2-2 FT) from Addi Fair. Scoring 11 points (1-2 FT) was Kylie Hawks, with Grace Halpin putting up six points. Claire Hennessy had four points, while Wells scored three points (1-4 FT).

**Friday, February 19
GSW vs. Beecher**

Varsity -

In a closely contested game against Beecher February 19, an ugly third quarter ended up being the demise of the Lady Panthers, as they suffered a heart-breaking 50-49 loss – their first of the season.

GSW was held to just six points in the third quarter – all scored by Kylie Hawks.

Hawks wound up with 26 points (8-11 FT) on the night, with Abby Beck scoring ten points (6-10 FT). Addi Fair followed with seven points (5-6 FT), while Mya Anderson (2-2 FT), Grace Halpin, and Klingler added two points each.



DTHS Lady Trojans Basketball

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Clifton Central
JV -**

In JV basketball action February 17 against Clifton Central, the Dwight Lady Trojans earned a 33-17 victory.

Lily McKelvey led the way with eight points, nine boards, while Mikalah Bregin put up seven points. Njomza Asllani and Kira Bean each added five points, with Maya Green (7 rebounds) and Kassy Kodat scoring four points each.

Varsity -

In a hard fought SVC varsity match-up, Dwight defeated Clifton Central 40-39 in a contest that was close throughout.

The game was tied at the half, then the Lady Trojans would take a three-point advantage into the final frame.

In the fourth quarter, Rylee Farris pulled down an offensive board and put it back in for the go-ahead points. At the other end, Kassy Kodat came up with a crucial steal to seal the victory.

Kayla Kodat led Dwight with 19 points (2 3-pointers, 1-1 FT) and three assists. Nora Anderson added eight points, three steals, and seven boards, with Farris contributing five points (1-3 FT) and eight rebounds. Nellie Rieke provided four points and ten boards. Destinie Drapeau and Kassy Kodat had two points each.

**Friday, February 19
Dwight vs. Prairie Central
JV -**

The JV Lady Trojans fell to Prairie Central, 34-22, when they met February 19.

Mikalah Bregin was high

scorer for Dwight with 11 points and five rebounds. Lily McKelvey had four points, four boards, while Kassy Kodat and Kira Bean contributed two steals each.

Varsity -

Dwight was defeated by P.C. in the nightcap, 54-20.

Kayla Kodat led the Lady Trojans with nine points, including a three-pointer. Nellie Rieke scored four points to go with eight boards, with Kassy Kodat connecting on a three. Nora Anderson and Destinie Drapeau (2-2 FT) had two points each.

**Saturday, February 20
Dwight vs. Putnam County
JV -**

Dwight's JV girls lost to Putnam County February 20, 32-30.

Njomza Asllani and Mikalah Bregin each had 14 points and three steals, with Bregin grabbing five rebounds. Skylar Horrie also hauled in five boards.

Varsity -

The Lady Trojans took a trip to Putnam County Saturday, suffering a 57-35 loss.

Dwight jumped out to an early 13-7 lead at the end of one, but were unable to sustain the lead.

Kayla Kodat hit four threes, en route to an 18-point game to go with five rebounds. Nora Anderson added 11 points (1-3 FT), seven boards, followed by Mikalah Bregin scoring four points (2-2 FT). Destinie Drapeau chipped in with two points. Nellie Rieke pulled down five rebounds.

The loss drops Dwight's record to 4-4 on the season. They sit at 2-1 in the SVC.



Seneca Lady Fighting Irish Basketball

**Wednesday, February 3
Seneca vs. Serena**

The Lady Fighting Irish had their first action of 2021 in a contest against Serena – winning by a score of 53-40.

Madi Bromberek led her squad with 17 points, followed by ten points each from Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig.

**Monday, February 8
Seneca vs. Roanoke-Benson**

Seneca took on Roanoke-Benson February 8, picking up a 48-27 victory.

Brooklyn Giertz had 17 points to lead the Lady Fighting Irish. Madi Bromberek came up with 15 points, with Kennedy Hartwig scoring 11.

**Wednesday, February 10
Seneca vs. Midland**

Kennedy Hartwig went off for 27 points, as the Lady Fighting Irish. Madi Bromberek won big over Midland February 10, 64-32.

Adding to the scoring column was Brooklyn Giertz with 12 points. Addie Olson and Madi Bromberek provided seven and six points, respectively.

**Thursday, February 11
Seneca vs. Putnam County**

Seneca upped its record to 4-0 for the 2021 season, defeating Putnam County 64-39 on February 11.

Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig led the way with 15 points each. Madi

Bromberek scored nine points, while Harleigh Varland contributed seven points.

**Wednesday, February 17
Seneca vs. Plano**

The Lady Irish put down Plano 46-31 when they met February 17.

Addie Eltrevoog led Seneca with 15 points, followed by nine each from Kennedy Hartwig and Madi Bromberek. Emma Smith chipped in with six points.

**Thursday, February 18
Seneca vs. Midland**

Seneca got off to a hot start February 18 against Midland, holding them scoreless in the first quarter – en route to a 64-34 win.

Brooklyn Giertz and Kennedy Hartwig led with 12 and 11 points, respectively. Haley Einhaus added seven points, with Faith Deering and Addie Eltrevoog scoring six points each.

**Saturday, February 20
Seneca vs. Henry**

The Lady Irish remained undefeated as they cruised to a 55-40 win over Henry February 20.

Madi Bromberek had 16 points to lead her team, while Addie Eltrevoog and Kennedy Hartwig added 11 and ten points, respectively. Brooklyn Giertz scored eight points, with Addie Olson adding five.

“You must expect great things of yourself before you can do them.” | M.J.



DCS Redbirds Basketball

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Saratoga
6th Grade -**

The sixth grade Redbirds traveled to Morris Saratoga February 17 and brought home a win – prevailing 28-21.

Leading Dwight was Collin Bachand with 14 points, seven steals, and eight boards. Matt Watchinski added four points and a game-high 15 rebounds, while Graham Meister pulled down eight boards and put in eight points. Ethan Marques

contributed two points to round out the Redbird scoring.

“Blake Thetard played stellar defense,” stated Coach Gettinger, “keeping pressure on the ball at all times.”

In the “B” game, Dwight was beaten 21-15.

Collin Bachand led the Redbirds with nine points, five steals, and three rebounds. Brad Thompson put up two points, with Matt Watchinski adding two points and eight boards. Graham Meister provided a bucket and three rebounds. Ethan Marques was big on “D” and grabbed three boards.

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Morris**

7th Grade -

In action against Morris February 18, the seventh grade Redbirds held off a comeback to secure a 30-27 win.

“We won a close one!” exclaimed Coach Conroy afterwards, as his squad moves to 3-0 on the season.

Evan Cox led Dwight with 13 points, seven boards, four assists, and a steal. Joey Starks added eight points, six rebounds, while Asher Kargle had five points, two assists, and a steal. Jackson Launius came up with four points and two rebounds, with Jake Wilkey and Jack Statler each contributing a steal and a rebound.

8th Grade -

Dwight's eighth grade Redbirds took a 25-15 loss to Morris, dropping to 1-2 on the season.

“Not a good shooting night,” admitted head coach Joe Stevenson in the post-game.

Luke Gallet was high scorer for Dwight with five points, adding that to three steals and two rebounds. Joey Starks chipped in with four points, two boards, while Tristan Larkin had three points, six rebounds, and a steal. Evan Cox added two points, four boards, and a steal. Owen Woods hauled down three rebounds, had three steals, and hit a free throw.

The Paper
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the area's
21 communities.



MVK Lady Mavericks Volleyball

**Wednesday, February 17
MVK vs. Seneca
7th Grade -**

The Lady Mavs defeated Seneca in three sets February 17, 25-22, 12-25, 25-19.

Madison DeGrush had six points (1 ace) and a kill, with Lilly Pfeifer (1 ace, 1 block), Tessa Krull (5 kills, 5 blocks), and Lexie Buis (3 aces, 3 kills, 1 block) adding seven points each.

8th Grade -

MVK's eighth graders were beaten by Seneca, 2-25, 13-25.

Vicky Naines led with four points and one kill, while Lexie Buis (1 kill, 1 block) and Kiley Francisco each scored three points.

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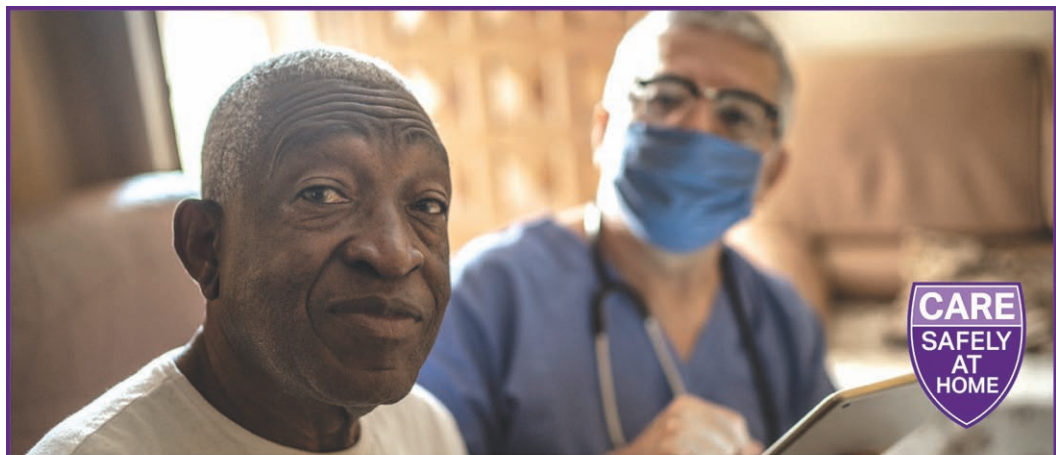
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DTHS TROJANS BASKETBALL

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Prairie Central Varsity -**
The Trojans were at home February 18 taking on Prairie Central, suffering an 80-43 loss.

Brandon Ceylor led the way with 19 points (2 3-pointers, 5-6 FT), seven rebounds, two steals, and two assists. Isaac

Telford was good for 11 points (3 3-pointers), nine boards, and two steals. Dawson Carr (1-2 FT, 2 rebounds, 2 steals), Randy Groves (1 3-pointer), and Landon Brown (1 3-pointer) each scored three points. Kaleb Duden (3 rebounds, 2 blocks) and Reid Legner each added a bucket. Jack Duffy grabbed three rebounds.



GSWB LADY TIGERS VOLLEYBALL

**Wednesday, February 17
GSWB vs. Seneca 6th Grade -**
GSWB's sixth grade blue squad lost in three sets to Seneca on February 17, 16-25, 25-16, 31-29.

Aubrey Male led in serves with four aces and four in-serves, followed by Abbie Galass with an ace and six in-serves. Also adding serving points were Madison Grivetti (5), Abbie Olsen (4), Peyton Thomas (3), Grace Vitko (2), and Jayde Schweitzer and Carmela D'Amico with one each.

5th Grade -
In the fifth grade (white team) match-up, the Lady Tigers won 16-25, 25-20, 15-8. Jaci Wilkey led the team in serves with five aces and one in-serve, along with Lily Buck with four aces and one in-serve. Hailey Balcom and Lilly Scheuber added three serving points each, while Marissa Bafia provided two. Sammie Engel-Runty came up with one serving point.

**Thursday, February 18
GSWB vs. Saratoga 7th Grade -**
The seventh grade Lady Tigers won over a tough Saratoga team February 18, 25-23, 25-16.

The first set seemed to be a battle of which team could serve receive the best, as both teams had some tough serving. GSWB adjusted after the first set and played much better in the second to secure the match.

8th Grade -
GSWB's eighth graders dropped in two sets, 22-25, 16-25.

In the first set, the Lady Tigers came out ready to play and looked great – but came up just short to guarantee a third set if needed. They looked like an entirely different team as they took the court in the second set. “Communication continues to be a struggle,” stated Coach Stacy Faletti, “as we search for some leaders on the team to take charge on the court.” GSWB is now 2-3 overall.



DTHS VARSITY TROJANS

Photos by J7Images



SENECA FIGHTING IRISH BASKETBALL

**Friday, February 12
Seneca vs. Putnam County Varsity -**
The Irish earned a 40-35 win on February 12 against Putnam County, improving to 2-2 on the 2021 season.

Noah Quigley was high scorer with 16 points, followed by 11 from Zach Phiefer. Chase Hauch put in four points, with Carter Ellis scoring three. AJ Stiegler, Given Siegel, and Trey Hauch each scored two points.

**Saturday, February 13
Seneca vs. Woodland JV -**
In JV play February 13, the Seneca Irish won over Woodland, 50-20.

Calvin Maierhofer led with 18 points, including a three-pointer, 1-2 FT shooting, four steals, and three assists. Dalton DeGrush added 11 points (1 3-pointer, 2-2 FT), five rebounds, and a steal, with Braden Ellis contributing seven points (1 3-pointer), two boards, two steals, and three assists. Lane Provance provided six points, three rebounds, and an assist. Bryce Roe (1 3-pointer, 1 rebound, 1 assist) and David Bergeson (1-2 FT, 2 rebounds, 1 assist) each scored three points. Casey Clennon came up with two points, four boards, and a steal. Nate Neal added two rebounds, a steal, and an assist, while Sam Kleich came up with a steal and one assist. Jaxyn Sibert had two boards and a steal, with Josh Lucas adding an assist and a rebound. Liam Blue pulled down three boards, with Kysen Klinker snagging two.

Kenny Daggett hauled down one rebound. The JV Irish are now 2-2 overall.

**Friday, February 19
Seneca vs. Ottawa Marquette Varsity -**
A big fourth quarter helped the Seneca Irish put down Ottawa Marquette 54-44 on February 19.

Zach Phiefer led all scorers with 13 points, with Trey Hauch following closely with ten points. Chase Hauch and Noah Quigley added nine points each, while Brayden Roe, AJ Stiegler, and Carter Ellis each had three points. Scoring two each were Matt Cruise and BJ Hooker.

**Saturday, February 20
Seneca vs. Henry Varsity -**
A big second half for the Irish was the difference in their 42-32 victory over Henry February 20.

AJ Stiegler and Given Siegel each had seven points to lead Seneca. Dominic Traina and Chase Hauch scored five points each, followed by Zach Pfiefer and Noah Quigley – each scoring four points. Brayden Roe and Trey Hauch had three points each, while Carter Ellis and BJ Hooker each put up two points.

The Paper
It's Free...
Enjoy!



GSW PANTHERS BASKETBALL

**Tuesday, February 16
GSW vs. Grant Park Varsity**
On February 16, the GSW Panthers came from behind to pick up a 58-50 win over Grant Park.

“We got the ‘W’, which is what is important,” said Coach Wills in the post-game. “However, it was a very weird/sloppy game. Too many missed free throws, rebounds, and turnovers. We did close out the game well and picked it up in the fourth quarter.”

Connor Steichen was the leading scorer for GSW with 18 points, followed by 16 from Brandon States. Nate Wise contributed 12 points in the victory.

Also in the contest, Chris Bexson recorded the 1,000th point of his GSW career.

**Wednesday, February 17
GSW vs. Donovan Varsity -**
In a contest that was neck-to-neck throughout its entirety, the GSW Panthers found themselves on the right side of a 41-39 decision against Donovan February 17.

“Missed free throws almost

cost us the game, but we did enough to get the ‘W’,” Coach Wills stated afterwards.

Connor Steichen led the way with 11 points and seven boards for GSW. Cayden Landry (8 rebounds) and Brandon States (7 rebounds) added ten points each.

“Back-to-back nights with two road RVC wins,” added Wills. “One more hard one this Friday at St. Anne.”

**Friday, February 19
GSW vs. St. Anne Varsity -**
The winning continued for GSW on the road at St. Anne February 19, as they won 54-45 – upping their record to 4-4 (4-0 conference).

“It is nice to get back to .500,” said Coach Wills in the post-game, “especially with three straight road wins. We hope to carry this momentum into next week.”

Chris Bexson and Connor Steichen spearheaded the offensive attack for the Panthers, scoring 17 and 15 points, respectively. Brandon States scored eight points, while Garrett Grant added seven.

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Dwight Youth Baseball and Softball is looking for coaches, help with field prep, a concession stand manager, and umpires. If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, please register on our website. Games are expected to start June 1st and run through July (Schedule is subject to change). We will not have an in-person sign-up this year. Please visit www.dwightyouthbaseballandsoftball.org before March 14th to register. Registration is open for ages 5-14.

DYBS will once again be having a raffle this season. There is one big change to the raffle. This year the board has decided to collect money for raffle tickets at time of registration. Each registrant will be charged \$50 at time of registration. This charge will be for 5 \$10 raffle tickets. Once registered, tickets will be distributed to each person. It will then be that person's responsibility to sell the tickets or keep them for themselves. The number of tickets sold will be unlimited this year. There will be a \$500 cash prize awarded to whomever sells the most DYBS raffle tickets. Visit our Facebook page or website for more details on the raffle and updates on the season as it gets closer.

We hope to see you all on the diamonds soon!



DCS LADY REDBIRDS VOLLEYBALL

**Wednesday, February 17
Dwight vs. Saratoga 6th Grade -**
The sixth grade Lady Redbirds lost to Saratoga 19-25, 14-25 in volleyball action February 17.

Kirsta Connor led the team with 13 points, while Sophie Bastian (2 aces) and Avery Connor added seven points each. Olivia Buck contributed four points.

Dwight's “B” team fell in two sets, 0-25, 20-25.

**Thursday, February 18
Dwight vs. Elwood 7th Grade -**
Dwight's seventh grade girls won over Elwood 25-28, 25-8 when they met February 18.

Sophie Buck led with eight aces and two assists, while Makayla Wahl-Seabert had seven aces and two kills. Taylor Frobish added five aces, followed by two aces from Madi Ely. Kamryn Folkers had three kills, with Dori Wilson providing an ace and one dig.

8th Grade -
In the eighth grade match-up, the Lady Redbirds defeated Elwood in three sets – 25-17, 20-25, 27-25 – coming back from a ten-point deficit to seal the victory in the third set.

Kiah Handzus had nine aces and a kill. Maci Johnson put up seven aces and five kills. Brynn Connor added five aces, with Sophi Richie coming up with three. Ella Legner followed with two aces and six kills. Ava Meister had one ace and Leah Larson had three digs.

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'15 F150 Crew Lariat, 52K, 4WD.....	\$33,900
'14 F350 Crew Platinum, 101K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$38,900
'14 Ram 1500 Crew Tradesman, 40K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$24,900
'08 F250 S/C Lariat, 235K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$9,900
'00 Ranger, 230K, 4WD.....	\$1,900
'99 F150 Reg Cab, 104K, 4WD.....	\$1,900

CARS

'19 Fusion Hybrid Titanium, 12K.....	\$22,900
'16 Fusion SE, 86K.....	\$11,900
'15 Taurus SEL, 72K.....	\$14,900
'02 Corvette Convertible, 32K.....	\$19,900

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VANS and SUVs

'20 Explorer XLT, 5K, 4WD.....	\$36,900
'20 T350 XLT, 24K, 15 Passenger.....	\$34,900
'20 Explorer XLT, 13K, 4WD.....	\$35,900
'20 EcoSport Titanium, 4K, 4WD.....	\$18,900
'20 EcoSport Titanium, 5K, 4WD.....	\$17,900
'20 Escape Titanium, 8K, AWD.....	\$27,900
'19 Flex LTD, 20K, AWD, Appearance Pkg.....	\$33,900
'19 Transit Connect XLT, 7K, Leather.....	\$26,900
'19 EcoSport Titanium, 15K, 4WD.....	\$18,900
'19 Grand Caravan SXT, 40K.....	\$18,900
'19 Escape Titanium, 8K, 4WD.....	\$26,900
'19 Edge Titanium, 11K, AWD.....	\$32,900
'18 MKX Reserve, 24K, AWD.....	\$33,900
'18 Escape S, 50K, FWD.....	\$13,900
'18 Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon, 9K, 4WD.....	\$44,900
'18 Escape Titanium, 30K, 4WD.....	Just In
'18 Edge SEL, 14K, AWD.....	\$26,900
'18 Escape SE, 12K, 4WD.....	\$19,900
'18 Escape SE, 13K, FWD.....	\$18,900
'17 MKX Reserve, 31K, FWD.....	\$25,900
'17 Explorer XLT, 59K, 4WD, NAV.....	\$24,900
'16 Escape SE, 76K, 4WD.....	\$13,900
'16 Escape SE, 41K, 4WD.....	\$16,900
'15 Transit Connect Cargo XL, 100K.....	\$10,900
'15 Escape SE, 97K, 4WD.....	\$12,900
'14 Grand Caravan SXT, 106K.....	\$8,900
'12 Ram Cargo Van, 137K.....	\$7,900
'12 Edge SEL, 133K, AWD.....	\$7,900

LEGAL		
Sunbury Township		
SUPERVISOR’S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS GENERAL TOWN FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$24,336.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$53,889.87	
Replacement Tax	\$2,835.96	
State Grants		
Interest Income	\$50.16	
Rental Income		
Miscellaneous Income	\$799.57	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$57,575.56
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$36,313.18	
Audit	\$6,167.50	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$42,480.68
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$39,430.88
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
R DAVIS		\$23,000.04
COMED		\$2,032.76
LIV. CO. TWP. OFF.		\$150.00
THE PAPER		\$84.00
DELUX CHECKS		\$164.67
ILLINOIS OFFICE SUPPLY		\$23.75
TOI		\$114.96
BANK OF PONTIAC		\$248.00
S ANDREE		\$2,500.00
M SULLIVAN		\$4,000.00
M FESSELL		\$1,700.00
A CONNOR		\$550.00
L GOOD		\$550.00
J LANGHOFF		\$450.00
R LUCAS		\$655.00
NANCY FESSEL		\$90.00
GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$97,728.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$756.18	
Replacement Tax	\$3.75	
Interest Income	41.09	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$801.02
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$565.00	
Home Relief	\$671.40	
ASSISTANCE	\$624.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$1,860.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$96,668.62
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
ALLIED INSURANCE		\$375.00
J KROLAK		\$624.00
FERRELLGAS		\$671.40
TOI		\$190.00
AUDIT FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$3,774.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$515.39	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$515.39
EXPENDITURES		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$4,289.39
INSURANCE FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$16,886.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$2,557.13	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$2,557.13
EXPENDITURES		
Insurance	\$3,448.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$3,448.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$15,995.13
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
TOIRMA		\$3,448.00

(continued in next column)

(continued from previous column)		
SOCIAL SECURITY FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$15,694.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$2,162.96	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$2,162.96
EXPENDITURES		
Social Security	\$2,379.79	
MEDICARE	\$547.56	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$2,927.35
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$14,929.61
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
SOCIAL SECURITY		\$2,379.79
MEDICARE		\$547.56
IMRF FUND		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$34,144.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$3,243.87	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$3,243.87
EXPENDITURES		
Illinois Municipal Retirement	\$6,095.04	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$6,095.04
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$31,292.83
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
IMRF		\$6,095.04
ROAD DISTRICT TREASURER’S ANNUAL REPORT GENERAL TOWN FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$187,015.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$22,225.28	
Replacement Tax	\$5,086.51	
Interest Income	\$184.35	
Miscellaneous Income	\$789.00	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$28,285.14
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$5,184.00	
Maintenance	\$13,458.76	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$18,642.76
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$196,657.38
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
JIM HOGAN		\$3,034.50
BRYAN DAVIS		\$1,154.50
JJ SCHOPP		\$680.50
RICK BENNETT		\$314.50
STOCK & FIELD		\$491.41
NAPA		\$209.90
FOGARTY’S GARAGE		\$420.25
FS		\$3,490.25
GRAY’S GARAGE		\$3,111.68
KELLY ELECTRIC		\$475.99
BOB SHAY		\$380.00
DELUX CHECKS		\$329.34
GETZ FIRE		\$182.37
SNYDER BROTHERS		\$79.94
KSR		\$656.69
LIV. CO. TREASURER (ENGI. FEE)		\$1,952.25
BENIACH CONSTRUCTION		\$216.00
TOI		\$656.69
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED		\$90
EQUIPMENT & BUILDING FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$180,927.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$10,228.48	
TRANSFER FROM CD 669235	\$21,921.14	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL TO RESTRICTED ACCT.	\$13,290.00	
DEPOSIT FROM Liv. Co.	\$25,000.00	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$70,439.62
EXPENDITURES		
Equipment	\$107,957.00	
Building	\$13,289.85	
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED	\$13,290.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$134,536.85
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$116,829.77

(continued in next column)

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TO WHOM PAID		AMOUNT
BANK OF PONTIAC		\$13,289.85
CTI TRUCKS		\$107,957.00
TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED ACCT.		\$13,290.00
JOINT BRIDGE FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$2,792.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$5,446.50	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$5,446.50
EXPENDITURES		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$8,238.50
PERMANENT ROAD FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Treasurer of Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$91,717.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$11,067.64	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$11,067.64
EXPENDITURES		
Maintenance	\$16,121.49	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$16,121.49
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$86,663.15
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
STOCK & FIELD		\$65.94
BOB SHAY		\$1,135.00
VALLEY VIEW		\$7,306.81
METAL CULVERTS		\$2,189.50
JOHN DEERE		\$5,424.24
INSURANCE FUND		
To the Highway Commissioner, Sunbury Township Road District, Livingston County, Illinois.		
I, Michael Sullivan, Supervisor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning February 1, 2019, and ending January 31, 2020.		
BEGINNING BALANCE	FEBRUARY 1, 2019	\$19,370.00
REVENUES		
Property Tax	\$1,820.27	
TOTAL REVENUES:		\$1,820.27
EXPENDITURES		
Administration	\$3,589.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:		\$3,589.00
ENDING BALANCE	JANUARY 31, 2020	\$17,601.27
TO WHOM PAID AMOUNT		
TOIRMA		\$3,589.00

Gas Prices For This Week

Motorists are filling-up to some of the most expensive gas prices in over a year. With the forced shutdown of refineries due to the winter storm, gas prices have skyrocketed. 66% of state averages spiked by double digits, driving the national average up by 13 cents. This is the most expensive national average since October 2019. You can expect high prices to stick around, but large spikes should subside.

City/Village	February 22	February 15
Dwight	\$2.74	\$2.60
Kankakee	\$2.69	\$2.55
Streator	\$2.72	\$2.67
Pontiac	\$2.67	\$2.44
Gardner	\$2.75	\$2.59
Braceville	\$2.75	\$2.69
Morris	\$2.76	\$2.66
Herscher	\$2.75	\$2.59
Chicago	\$2.87	\$2.73
Illinois	\$2.80	\$2.67
U.S.	\$2.63	\$2.51

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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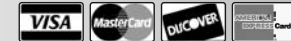
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15.5 acres, buildable lot, \$84,000.
0000 W. Smiley Rd., Wilmington
10+/- acres, buildable lot, \$139,000.
0 Division St., Joliet
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Michelle Weber 815-474-6511 Mary Kilbride 815-263-8753
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AUCTIONS

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Auction to be Held at: Bradleys' Auction Barn in Kernan, IL
Located At: #1456 E. 22nd Rd., Streator, IL
Directions: 5 Miles East of Downtown Streator, IL, (On Rt. 18) to
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Sunday, March 7 @ 9:00 A.M.

See Full Sale Bill + Over 300 Photos
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Shop Equipment & Tools; 2- Boats; Sign Collection;
New Fishing Equipment; New Gift Items; Antiques;
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AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: This is a very nice and large auction with
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tend!! www.bradleyauctionsinc.com.

Watch for full ad in next week's edition of *The Paper*

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Real Estate Auction

Auction to be held at: The Denaple Residence
Located At: #1377 E. 29th Rd., Ransom, IL 60470
Directions: From Ransom, IL, Go 2 Miles South (on IL Rt. 170)
to N. 13th Road/Ralph Smith Road, Then 2 Miles East to E. 29th
Rd., & 8/10 Mile North (Approx. 15 Min. from I-55 at
Dwight, IL) OR: Exit I-55 (Exit 220) at Dwight, IL (Rt. 17
Exit) and go West on Rt. 17, 8 miles to 1700 E. Rd., then 2.8
Miles North. (Home Site on West Side.)

Saturday, March 13 @ 10:00 A.M.

See Photos, Maps, & Info @ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

FARMLAND & RANCH STYLE/BRICK HOME & BUILDINGS
75.87 Acres in Allen Twp., LaSalle County, IL
74 Acres in Sunbury Twp., Livingston County, IL

Tract 1: 74 Acres M.O.L. (No Improvements)
Legal Description: The East Seventy-four (74) Acres of the
Northeast Quarter of Section Two (Except the Railroad Right-of-
the-way) in Township 30 North, Range Five East of the Third
Principal Meridian, Livingston County, State of Illinois. WAPI:
116.5.
Tract 2: 75.87 Acres M.O.L., Improved with One (1) Wind Tur-
bine. (Annual Wind Turbine Income of Approx. \$15,190 with
Small Annual Increases & 10 yrs. Remaining, w/ an Option to
Extend)
Legal Description: The East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section
26, Township 31 North, Range 5 East of the 3rd Principal Meri-
dian, LaSalle County, State of Illinois. (Except for the 4 Acre Home
& Building Site.) WAPI: 123.6.
Tract 3: Approx. 4 Acre Home Site with Brick/Ranch Style Home
& Out Buildings. Commonly known as 1377 E. 29th Rd., Ran-
som, IL.

Inspections:

The Home will be open for inspection on
Sunday, February 21, from 1-4 p.m. and
Saturday, February 27, from 1-4 p.m.



HOME INFO

A very nice, single story Ranch/Brick Home with 3 Bedrooms, 1-
1/2 Baths, Modern Kitchen, with Dining Area, Large Living Room,
4 Seasons Room, Full Basement (Partially Finished), Large At-
tached Garage (Heated).
Total Sq. Ft.: 1,924 Year Built: 1967
Outbuildings: Bonanza Pole Building, 60'W x 14'H x 100'L, w/ 3
Phase Power; Quonset Building, 40'W x 60'L w/ 24'W x 15'H Over-
head Door w/ Electric Opener; Large Wooden Barn.

See photos of Home & Buildings @ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: This is a very well built & well maintained
home in an ideal country setting. Don't miss this great opportunity!!

BOTH FARMLAND TRACTS ARE WELL TILED!
TENANCY: The Tenancy on both Land Tracts
is Open for the 2021 Crop Year.
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Bernadine Denaple Trust

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Prairie Creek Public Library Seeking Part Time Library Clerk

The Prairie Creek Public Library is currently tak-
ing applications for two part time Library Clerks.
One position is for 9-13 hours per week and includes
two mornings and one evening. The morning hours
are 9:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the evening hours are
3:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. One position is for 8-12 hours
per week and includes afternoons with an occa-
sional evening shift. The afternoon hours are 1:00
p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Both positions include a 9:45 a.m. -
2:15 p.m. shift one to two Saturdays per month.

General Description and Duties:

The position requires routine library and clerical
work as well as basic help for patrons. The duties
include, but are not limited to, the following:
• Check out material to patrons, check in materials
when returned, collect fines and manage holds
using an automated circulation system.
• Shelve materials according to the Dewey Decimal
System as well as assist patrons in finding materials
• Perform routine computer functions
• Operate a variety of standard office and library
machines. These include: Computers (both desktop
and laptop), Fax Machine, Xerox Copier, Wireless
Printers and Scanner.

Knowledge and Skills required:

- Good knowledge of clerical practices and proce-
dures.
- Some typing skills and the ability to perform data
entry.
- Good ability to understand and follow both writ-
ten and oral instructions.
- The ability to troubleshoot computer issues and
help patrons with computer questions.
- Some knowledge of Windows 7 or higher.

Qualifications:

- A high school diploma or the equivalent.

All interested persons should apply in person at
the following address:
Prairie Creek Public Library District
501 Carriage House Lane
Dwight, IL 60420
(815) 584-3061

*Prairie Creek Public Library is an equal opportunity em-
ployer and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis
of an individual's race, color, religion, creed, sex, national
origin, age, or any other status protected by applicable law.*

Dwight Peace Meals

Home delivery
Monday - Friday
60 and up home-
bound- *Must make
reservations* -

Wed., Feb. 24:

Fried chicken, mashed
potatoes w/ gravy,
spinach, whole grain
wheat, pears.

Thurs., Feb. 25:
Beef stew w/ potatoes,
carrots & onions,
tangy cole slaw, din-
ner roll, warm bread
pudding w/ fruit.

Fri., Feb. 26:
Salmon loaf, frosted
sweet potatoes, but-
tered Midori vegeta-
bles, whole grain
wheat, chunky apple-
sauce.

Mon., Mar. 1: BBQ
pork sandwich, mini
potato bakers, mixed

vegetables, bun, fruit
juice.

Tues., Mar. 2:
Chicken broccoli rice
bake, corn, whole
grain wheat, warm
fruit combo.

Wed., Mar. 3: Sa-
vory sausage stew w/
beans, Lyonnais car-
rots, biscuits, scal-
loped pineapple.

Thurs., Mar. 4:
Meatloaf, mashed po-
tatoes w/ gravy, sea-
soned peas, whole
grain wheat, overnight
fruit salad.

Milk served each
day.

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1-800-543-1770;
For information, call
the 800 number.

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NURSING HOMES Accolade Healthcare of Pontiac www.accoladehc.com Evenglow - Pontiac www.evenglowlodge.org Heritage Health www.HeritageofCare.com/Dwight	SENIOR LIVING Evenglow - Pontiac www.evenglowlodge.org Harvest View - Herscher www.harvestviewliving.com To make your business a part of <i>The Paper</i> WEB DIRECTORY, phone 815-584-1901.
ORGANIC GRAINS & FLOURS Brian Severson Farms www.qualityorganic.com	



DWIGHT FCCLA has been collecting used formal dresses for the February 27 sale at Mazon American Legion, 508 Depot St., from noon to 3:00 p.m. Proceeds will go to the Meghan Bugg Foundation. FCCLA members pictured above, left to right, Izzy Burkhart, Ella Kargle, and Nellie Rieke.

New Twist on Battleship Offered to Teens at Prairie Creek Library

Prairie Creek Library, Dwight, will be offering a winter reading program for teens (grades 6-12) during the month of March. The program will use elements from the classic board game Battleship.

Each time a teen checks out a book or audiobook at their reading level, they may guess a set of coordinates from the Battleship grid. Teens are allowed one guess per day. Their guesses will be marked as either a hit or a miss on the board. When a guess sinks a ship, the person who guessed the last set of coordinates wins the prize designated for that ship.

The Battleship board and guessing materials will be located at the main circulation desk. The game will begin Monday, March 1, and end either on Wednesday, March 31, or sooner if all the ships are sunk.

This game is free to play and open to all teens in the library's district.

LTLD to Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday

Every year, libraries across America celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by honoring the man who taught many of us to read. Limestone Township Library District (LTLD) plans to celebrate with grab and go bags and a special video presentation.

Their building is open to the public. No more than 15 people will be allowed in the library building at any given time and patrons are restricted to be inside the library up to one hour. Patrons will be required to use hand sanitizer upon entering and to wear a mask while inside. They still offer curbside service for anyone who wants or needs it.

However, we are not having programming at LTLD just yet.

So to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, they are planning on a special Facebook presentation of various staff members reading Dr. Seuss books and a special grab-and-go bag for those who register ahead of time. Parents or guardians will need to sign up for the grab-and-go bags. You can do so when you stop in at the library or by giving them a call at 815-939-1696.

Other virtual programming options happen on their Facebook page and YouTube channel.

They have Storytime every Tuesday and Friday at 10:15 A.M. on Facebook with Ms. Holly and Ms. Karyn.

On Thursday, February 25, at 6:00 P.M., learn how to improve your chess game with Austin as he hosts Chess Club.

Other services are back at the library. The computer area is open to patrons by appointment for 30-minute time slots. It is possible for patrons to use the computers two times a day. Printing and faxing from the copier will also be available. Patrons will hand their copy or fax jobs to staff who will complete them.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call them, e-mail them at info@limestonelibrary.org, or message them at Facebook or Instagram. Visit their website, limestonelibrary.org, for more information.

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Fireball Buckets 20-50 ml.	\$14⁹⁹
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