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Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Dwight Schools to Continue Mask Mandate Discussion August 11

Superintendent Jancek to Retire / August 3 Actions

by Madelyn Fogarty
madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

A Special Joint Meeting of the Boards of Education for Dwight Common School District #232 and Dwight Township High School District #230 was held August 3.

Following a Public Hearing, both boards of Education approved an Application for Waiver of Illinois State Board Code. The five-year waiver will allow non-resident pupils of non-resident full-time district employees to attend Dwight Public Schools tuition free. All other non-resident pupils are assessed tuition in an amount not exceeding 110 percent of the per capita cost of maintaining the schools of the districts for the preceding school year. The move is hoped to give the local public schools a competitive edge in an effort to attract and retain more teachers and staff members as Dwight school districts

face “dire” staffing needs, according to Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek. Both the IESA and IHAS support the waiver. It was noted that non-resident property taxes would stay with their home district; however, the non-resident student(s) would count towards the local one cent sales tax revenue. Transportation for the out of district student(s) would not be provided by the school district. DTHS BOE member Kevin Berta opposed the move, with all other board members of both districts in attendance favoring the action.

With the start of school just days away, in a controversial matter, the Dwight Boards of Education approved a resolution that would allow students and staff a personal choice regarding wearing face masks in the buildings to start the school year. However, the resolution also stated that if the Governor enacted an executive order mandating the wearing of

masks inside school buildings, the Boards would comply. After much open discussion, the Boards passed the resolution with the understanding that if CDC / IDPH language changed from “recommend and should wear masks” to “shall or required to wear masks”, the Boards would reconvene the special joint meeting to discuss whether they would comply with said executive order.

“There is no us and them – it is all we – we are all in this together,” DTHS Board President Tim Henson told those in attendance. “We are looking out for the best interest of the overall educational experience of your child, and we value our employees. We are going day by day, just like you guys are, and there is a fear of the unknown. But, I promise you, we will do our best to try and make things transparent so everyone is well versed on what our decision is.”

(continued on page 12)



I’VE GOT YOUR BACK. Samantha, left, and Isabella Bunting work as a team showing cattle. Samantha was born with a genetic vision impairment condition called Leber's Congenital Anaurosis (LCA). Through gentle taps from her sister, Samantha knows what leg to move forward.

Family Farm Affair

Samantha Bunting, visually impaired, shows cattle

By Brandon LaChance

If there is a fair in Illinois or close enough to make the trip worth it, the odds of the Bunting family attending and showing cattle are extremely high.

Jason and Tasha Bunting, as well as their three children Isabella (14), Samantha (11) and Jackson (8) have made a living, a responsibility, a passion for stepping into the show ring.

“Jason and I were both raised on farms and raised livestock from the time we were born,” Tasha Bunting said. “He grew up on a grain and livestock farm outside of Dwight. They raised sheep and he was in 4-H and FFA (Future Farmers of America) doing different projects like showing sheep, pigs and cattle at fairs.

“I grew up in Ford County, just outside of Gibson City, also on a grain and livestock farm. My family had registered short-horn cattle. I guess, it's in our blood. We've been doing it for a long time. It's not just a lifestyle, it's more of who we are. Being able to have a farm and raise our children on it, is the life we wanted to continue and provide for them.”

The Bunting calendar reads: the Livingston County Fair, the State Fair, the National Junior Short-Horn Show (this year in Louisville, Ky., last year in Texas) and the North American Livestock Expo (Louisville) every November. Additional events are added if schedules permit.

The shows highlight what the children have learned and put a spotlight on their love for showing cattle. But the real work – lessons such as work ethic, taking care of responsibilities, chores, providing for animals so when ready they can feed the family and consumers – begins at the Bunting Farm outside of Emington.

“They start learning a little about what it takes to provide for their animals right from the beginning,” Tasha Bunting said. “They're not involved in all of the details and the minute decisions, but they know gen-

erally that things cost money and we have to make money to be able to provide and purchase the items we need.

“Isabella and Samantha are old enough to show. Jackson isn't quite old enough yet and he's very anxious. The 4-H age requirement is 8-years old by Sept. 1 and he has a late September birthday. The girls started when they were both 8. They show heifers and they raise the calves that come from the heifers. They continue to build their herd. If they have a steer or a bull calf that we feed out, they know it's to provide for our family or another family.

“They feed their own show animals. They wash them and get them ready for the fair. They bale hay and help move equipment around. Isabella is getting to drive more and more equipment, so she's pretty pumped about that. They all have things they have to help out on whether it's making sure water tanks are full, filling feed buckets or checking cows to make sure they're healthy and paired up with their mammas.”

For Samantha, the process of showing cattle is a little more difficult.

The 11-year old was born with a genetic vision impairment condition called Leber's Congenital Anaurosis (LCA). The family could tell Samantha's eyesight was different than Isabella's sight when the younger sister was 4-months old. After some time and testing, the University of Iowa's genetic test found Jason and Tasha were both carriers of LCA.

“It was a one in a million test and Samantha happened to have the right gene matchup. She's the lucky recipient of the LCA gene,” said Tasha Bunting. “There are definitely days where it can be a challenge, but she is determined to not let it slow her down and she works through it in multiple ways.”

Although it hasn't been easy, Samantha Bunting didn't back down from the condition or the

challenge.

She saw her sister and cousins washing, feeding and showing cattle and wanted to be a part of it whether she had 20/20 vision or not.

“I try to not let it get the best of me. I try to put up with it and figure things out. If I want to do something, I'll try my best to do it. If in the end I can't, at least I tried,” Samantha Bunting said. “I knew I had difficulty seeing pretty early. Since then, I really haven't thought much about it. I can see outlines of things. I can't really see details. If someone walks up to me, I can tell who they are by their voice. If I can't figure out who it is, I'll ask.

“When we're washing cows I ask my family, 'Is this good, do I need to keep working on it?' If I can't get something or can't reach, I ask my sister or whoever is out there to help me get it. Jackson is helpful when he wants to be, but I can always rely on Izzy, mom and dad pretty well.”

Not only does she enjoy showing cattle at a young age, but it's something she wants to do for the rest of her life.

Like the rest of her family, she never wants to leave the farm.

“I like showing cows because it gives me the experience to learn different things. It gives me a chance to work with a different cow every couple of years,” Samantha Bunting said.

“I learn some cows are not going to act the way you want them to. Some cows are going to do what you want them to.” Samantha's cow is named Gold Cumberland aka Goldie and Isabella's cow is Xena.

Isabella shows Xena and also helps Samantha in the ring. Samantha doesn't need Isabella's help because of her vision or the heifer, but because there may be other animals in the ring not behaving and the judges use hand signals to show where exhibitors need to show next.

The older sister is the eyes. “There are many times where (continued on page 8)

Taylor Rose Salon

New Hair Salon in Dwight Offers Many Beautiful Options

by Brandon LaChance

We all like to look beautiful or handsome, right?

The problem is not all of us are capable of making ourselves look the best we can and we may need some assistance.

Taylor Weikle, 29, has opened Taylor Rose Salon at 106 West Main Street in Dwight to help with the beautifying process.

“This has always been a dream of mine. I've always wanted to work for myself,” Weikle said.

“Although being a booth renter, you are your own boss and are in control of everything, you still have one person above you who can kind of micromanage. It was just time. I've had nothing but positive feedback.

“I wanted to offer this experience and it's kind of hard to do when you have other people you're working with. You can't control what everybody else does or how they act. That can interfere with your own vision or how you're trying to provide a service for somebody.

“Ultimately, I had this vision and I wanted to finally see it. I had this opportunity and I really couldn't pass it up.”

The salon is open Thursday through Monday with Tuesdays and Wednesdays being off days. However, if you need to come in on one of those days, Weikle will get you in her chair.

Although Taylor Rose Salon has been open a month, there will be a grand opening ribbon cut at 10:30 a.m. August 14 by the city of Dwight followed by an open house from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. with a raffle basket featuring over \$100 worth of retail products including a service, goodie bags, cookies and refreshments.

Taylor Rose Salon isn't just hair. It isn't just makeup. The list of services provided gives



TAYLOR WEIKLE stands outside her new salon at 106 W. Main St., Dwight. A grand opening is planned for Saturday, August 14, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

everyone's style – their look – a chance to shine.

Weikle, who is the only stylist at the salon as she perfects the work flow, offers specialized color, creative color, color correction, foilyage, root melting, hand painting, cuts, men's cuts, kid's cuts, makeup, waxing, keratin treatments, facial services, strip lash applications, cluster lashes, lash lift and tinting, eyebrow tinting and extensions.

“I honestly was more interested in doing makeup and skin services rather than hair at first,” said Weikle, who is Redken color certified and is a certified extension tech who can add microbead and tape extensions. “I wasn't immediately great at it. It took a lot of hard work and you have to learn how to fail and get back up. I started to focus a lot on color, blondes and blanding techs (continued on page 12)

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* See Contest Rules for Details

FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police
August 1: Kyle S. Hawkins, 19, Hanover Park, improper traffic lane usage; Korinne F. Wilson, 37, Bourbonnais, operate uninsured motor vehicle, fail right-of-way/intersection.
August 2: Adrienne K. Fritz, 18, Bourbonnais, driving 15-20 MPH above limit.
August 3: Demitrius F. Skrapates, 26, Elwood, driving 21-25 MPH above limit.

Persons in the police report are innocent of any charges until proven guilty in a court of law.

5 Written Warnings
Speeding – 1; Fail obey stop sign – 3; No registration plate light – 1.

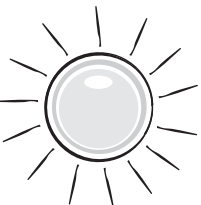
Dwight Police Blotter
Medical Aid – 1; Return Call – 8; Assist Agency – 4; Traffic Stop – 8; Road Hazard – 2; Lock Out – 9; Well Being – 3; Fire – 1; Flagged Down – 1; Battery – 2; Open 911 Call – 1; Domestic Issue – 1; Burglar Alarm – 2; Damage To Property – 1; Abandoned Vehicle – 1; Suspicious Vehicle – 2; Accident – 2; Walk In To DPD – 1; Vandalism – 1; Crisis Intervention – 1; Found Dog – 1; Lost Item – 1.

Accident Report
Sunday, August 1, 12:23 p.m., an accident was reported at W. Waupansie and N. Washington involving a Chevrolet sedan, driven by Korinne Wil-

son, Bourbonnais, which struck a Toyota Camry, driven by Karen Brassard, Godley, after failing to stop at an intersection.
Wednesday, August 4, 5:19 a.m., an accident was reported at Rt. 47 and E. Northbrook Dr. involving a Honda hatchback, driven by Karemah Coakley, Broadview, which struck a Honda Odyssey, driven by Jesse Stoller, Goodland, IN, after failing to yield.



Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS
July 29: Rt. 17, medical, Morris; Mazon Ave., medical, Morris; Julie, trauma, St. James.
July 30: Coal City, COQ; Spencer, fire.
July 31: Mazon, medical, Morris.
August 1: Mazon, medical, refusal; William, medical, Morris.
August 2: Watters, fire.
August 3: James, trauma, Morris; Sheldon, medical, Riverside.
August 4: Mazon, fire; Julie, trauma, St. James; Susan, medical, Riverside, mutual aid from Gardner; E2300, trauma, no pt. contact, mutual aid to Odell; Boxelder, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; I-55, medical, refusal; N1700, medical, mutual aid to Odell.



Temps - 2021

July 29 – high 86°, low 63°
July 30 – high 76°, low 62°
July 31 – high 76°, low 60°
Aug. 1 – high 78°, low 52°
Aug. 2 – high 77°, low 56°
Aug. 3 – high 80°, low 55°
Aug. 4 – high 81°, low 56°
One Year Ago – Aug. 11, 2020
high 83°, low 69°



Dwight Fire Incidents 7/30 - 8/5

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:
July 30: Mutual aid to Coal City; Mutual aid to Braceville; Mutual aid to Allen Township; Cooking fire, contained - Spencer St.
August 2: Gasoline spill - Watters Dr.
August 4: Smoke scare, failed equipment - East Mazon Ave.
August 5: Unauthorized / illegal burn - East Mazon Ave.
Dwight FPD also responded to six medical assists with Dwight EMS.



CAN YOU IDENTIFY ANYONE PICTURED AT LEFT? These photos are from the Dwight Historical Society’s collection of photos, which were taken by local photographers at Dwight Photo Studios and have no identification on them. If you recognize anyone, please send ID information to dhs1854@yahoo.com or call 815-674-9056. Thank you.

Thomas Bennett, State Representative 106th District

Statewide Mask Mandate for Schools

Governor JB Pritzker has issued a statewide mask mandate for K-12 students in all Illinois public and private schools.
The Governor’s new order, announced last Wednesday, mandates that masks be worn indoors at all times in all Illinois public and private schools and daycare settings.
Students from pre-school through 12th grade will be required to wear masks, including while participating in indoor sports events.
COVID is real, and we need to be concerned about it. However, once again, Governor Pritzker is imposing one-size-fits-all mandates on our very diverse state.
Last year’s statewide lockdowns and other mandates made it very clear that what works in some Illinois communities is actually counter-pro-

ductive in others. The Governor is dictating orders without input from legislators, local elected officials, or the families themselves whose lives he’s impacting. What’s worse, he is taking away parents’ right to make healthcare decisions for their children as young as pre-school age.
After living through a global pandemic for the last 18 months, we are still very much all in this together. Our goal remains the same: stop the spread of COVID-19. In order to do that efficiently and effectively, all parties should be at the drawing table and not stuck under unilateral authority.
You may reach out to the Governor directly by calling 217-782-0244.
Please know that I am available to meet with you in person – or virtually – to discuss this issue further. Feel

free to contact me at my office.
Energy Deal Impasse. It now appears there will be no deal on a new state energy bill before summer’s end. State labor leaders this week declared an impasse on negotiations with environmental groups. Some of the main sticking points include prevailing wage and reduced carbon standards.
Meanwhile, two Exelon power plants have announced they will cease operation.
Big issues are at stake here: Changes to environmental standards and plant closures impact thousands of jobs. The reliability of our power grids also hang in the balance, which is a concern for every family in Illinois. Any deal that is struck MUST maximize the safety and reliability of our energy supply and protect good jobs.

What We Owe. According to the State Comptroller’s website, as of this writing, Illinois currently has a General Fund Backlog of bills requiring payment of \$3.765 billion. In addition, we owe \$1.928 billion in short term and emergency borrowing that must be repaid.
The total number of vouchers (bill payments) currently backlogged is 15,016.

Mobile Food Pantry in South Wilmington Aug. 16

On Monday, August 16, at 4:00 p.m., Catholic Charities’ Mobile Food Pantry will be distributing food at St. Lawrence Church (135 Rice Road in South Wilmington) in the church parking lot (rain or shine).
Catholic Charities and the Northern Illinois Food Bank have partnered to deliver nutritious food (meat, produce, and nonperishable items) to people

in need.
Participants are asked to stay in their cars. The Mobile Food Pantry will use a “drive-thru” method to distribute pre-packed groceries to ensure that all participants are safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
You do not have to be Catholic to participate. For more information, visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org.

Drive-In Movie at Dwight UMC August 21

Dwight United Methodist Church will host a drive-in, outside movie Saturday, August 21, starting at 8:30 p.m.
Popcorn, drinks, and snacks will be provided, but take your lawn chairs or blankets.
If it rains, they will change the location to their fellowship hall.
All are invited to go and enjoy a family movie to celebrate the start of school.

Dwight FPD, EMS Assist in Emergency Incident at Heritage Woods

The Dwight Fire Protection District and Dwight EMS responded to Heritage Woods, Dwight, for a fire alarm shortly after 7:00 a.m. on August 4.
The first fire company arrived to find that the staff at Heritage Woods were evacuating residents from the facility due to smoke filling up the common corridors and hallways on the first floor.
Dwight Fire and EMS emergency responders worked seamlessly with each other and with the staff to begin a large-scale evacuation. At the time of

the evacuation, there were 69 residents and 12-15 staff members.
Numerous fire companies, EMS agencies, and chief officers from fire departments in both Livingston and Grundy Counties assisted at this incident.
No residents or staff were injured and no firefighters were injured during the operation. Residents were all back in the building in the morning and the problem which created the smoke has been fixed.
“The staff at Heritage

Woods and all of the fire and EMS personnel did a fantastic job at handling a very chaotic situation,” stated Dwight’s Deputy Fire Chief Justin Dyer.
Dwight FPD and EMS extended its thanks to Casey’s General Store of Dwight for donating pizzas to the crews. In addition, they thanked Village Council member Jenny Johnson for donating a \$100 gift card to Berkot’s grocery store to pay for the firefighters’ lunch and dinner the day of the incident.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Review Your IRA, 401(k) Beneficiaries

If you’ve had an IRA and a 401(k) for many years, you may occasionally ask yourself some questions: “Am I contributing enough?” “Am I still funding these accounts with the right mix of investments for my goals and risk tolerance?” But here’s one inquiry you might be overlooking: “Have I used the correct beneficiary designations?” And the answer you get is important.

It wouldn’t be surprising if you haven’t thought much about the beneficiary designation – after all, it was just something you once signed, possibly a long time ago. Is it really that big a deal?

It could be. For one thing, what if your family circumstances have changed since you named a beneficiary? If you’ve remarried, you may not want your former spouse to receive your IRA and 401(k) assets or the proceeds of your life insurance policy, for which you also named a beneficiary.

However, upon remarrying, many people do review their estate plans, including their wills, living trusts, durable powers of attorney and health care directives. If you’ve revised these documents, do you have to worry about the old beneficiary designations? You might be surprised to learn that these previous designations can supersede what’s in your updated will and other documents. The end result could be an “accidental” inheritance in which your retirement accounts and insurance proceeds could end up going to someone who is no longer in your life.

Furthermore, your retirement plans and insurance policy may not just require a single beneficiary – you may also be asked to name a contingent beneficiary, to whom assets will pass if the primary beneficiary has already died. As you can imagine, the situation could become quite muddled if stepchildren are involved in a remarriage.

To avoid these potential problems, make sure to review the beneficiary designations on all of your accounts at some point – and especially after a significant change in your family situation. If you see something that is outdated or incorrect, contact your retirement account administrator – or your insurance representative, in the case of life insurance – to request a change-of-beneficiary form.

And if you really want to be on the safe side, you may want to enlist a legal professional to help you with this review to make sure the beneficiary designations reflect your current family situation and are consistent with what’s in your estate plans.

In fact, if you’re already working with an experienced estate planning attorney – and you should – you might also pick up some other suggestions for dealing with beneficiaries. Just to name one, it’s generally not a good idea to name minor children as beneficiaries. Because children can’t control the assets until they become adults, a court would likely have to name a guardian – one that you might not have wanted. Instead, you could either name your own custodian to manage the assets designated to the minor or establish a trust for the benefit of the minor, which can distribute the money in several disbursements over a period of years – which is often a good move, since young adults aren’t always the best at managing large lump sums.

If you’re like many people, you have a strong desire to leave something behind. But you’ll want to do it in the right way. So, pay close attention to your beneficiary designations – when you first create them and throughout your life.

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

Gas Prices For This Week

Crude oil prices dropped below \$70/bbl at the end of last week in reaction to concerns about the delta variant, growing COVID case numbers and the possibility of potential lockdowns. While crude is a little cheaper, gas prices are still positioned to remain high in August. Today’s national average is \$3.19. That is the most expensive gas price average of the year as well as \$1.02 more than a year ago. Pump prices fluctuated across the country last week with states seeing as much as a nine-cent jump to a seven-cent decrease.

| City/Village | August 9 | August 2 |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| Dwight | \$3.24 | \$3.23 |
| Kankakee | \$3.23 | \$3.33 |
| Streator | \$3.18 | \$3.32 |
| Pontiac | \$3.16 | \$3.08 |
| Gardner | \$3.25 | \$3.25 |
| Braceville | \$3.39 | \$3.39 |
| Morris | \$3.34 | \$3.30 |
| Herschel | \$3.33 | \$3.35 |
| Chicago | \$3.55 | \$3.58 |
| Illinois | \$3.40 | \$3.43 |
| U.S. | \$3.19 | \$3.17 |

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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Masks Mandated at Schools, Day Cares, Long-Term Care Facilities

State Says COVID-19 Proving More Problematic for Those 20 and Younger

by Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois

Masks will be required at all Illinois long-term care facilities, day cares and Pre-K-12 schools, Gov. JB Pritzker announced August 4 amid a nationwide surge of COVID-19.

“Every time we think we know where this virus is headed, it changes and it shifts,” Pritzker said at a COVID-19 briefing in Chicago. “For example, unlike before, people 29 years old and younger accounted for 12% of hospitalizations. All across the nation, we are seeing young people with no underlying conditions now on ventilators. I want to say specifically to young adults: Please do not think that the worst case scenario can’t happen to you. It can happen. It is happening. Get vaccinated.”

Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said youth hospitalizations and infections have been rising.

About 5.5% of COVID-19 cases were among those who are younger than ten years of age in January, Ezike said, but that number increased to 15% last month. Approximately 13% of cases in January were among those ten to 19 years old, increasing to 23% in July. Hospitalizations for those 20 years old and younger have tripled from 2.5% to 7.8% in that time span.

“And yes, while most children who get COVID have fewer symptoms than adults, they absolutely can still get COVID-19 and they can absolutely spread it to others,” Ezike said, noting many cases of the virus have spread to youth camps this summer.

The masking requirement extends to indoor but not outdoor activities and sports.

While Pritzker said masks are important in schools, especially for students who are not yet eligible for the vaccine, the best approach to limiting the spread of COVID-19 is getting vaccinated. It’s also the best way to limit severe illness and death.

In Illinois, 6.5 million people are fully vaccinated, or 51.2% of the population, while 73% of the population that is older than 12 years of age has received at least one dose of the vaccine. The state averaged 28,180 vaccine doses administered each day over the past seven days.

Of the millions of fully vaccinated individuals, just 714 have spent time in the hospital with COVID-19, according to IDPH. Since January, 180 vaccinated individuals have died of COVID-19 symptoms, accounting for just 2.58% of the COVID-19-related deaths this calendar year. That number increased by 11 from the state’s reporting of the numbers last week.

That’s about 0.01% of vaccinated individuals who have been hospitalized for the virus and 0.003% who have died of complications.

“The overwhelming majority of cases, the hospitalizations, the deaths are among those who are not vaccinated,” Ezike said. “And the majority of transmission is also among the unvaccinated...But the key is that we actually have the tools to turn the tide on the next wave. And that next wave wants to threaten us if we don’t avail ourselves of these tools.”

Pritzker said there are two routes to enforcing the mask mandate, including civil liability for schools not enforcing the mandate and the removal of recognition status by the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Illinois Department of Public Health also announced Aug. 4 it is making free COVID-19 testing available to K-12 schools across the state through the SHIELD Illinois saliva-based test developed by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The test can detect the virus and its variants in those with or without symptoms.

The testing would allow close contacts of a COVID-19-positive individual to stay in the classroom as long as they test negative. Funding comes from federal COVID-19 relief packages.

By October 4, all Illinois state employees working in congregate facilities will be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

The order covers certain employees at the Department of Human Services, Veterans’ Affairs, Corrections and Juvenile Justice working in congregate facilities, and Pritzker said the state has reached out to the unions representing those employees to work out the details.

Illinois is also requiring universal masking in private long-term care facilities and “strongly encourages owners of private facilities to join the state in adopting vaccination requirements,” according to the governor’s office.

Pritzker’s announcement came as 1,165 people were hospitalized for COVID-19, including 246 in intensive care unit beds and 94 on ventilators as of Aug. 3.

The state’s seven-day average case positivity rate for COVID-19 was 4.4% as of Aug. 4, while the state reported another 18 deaths, a high since June 24. That brought the death toll to 23,476 since the pandemic began with another 2,428 deaths reported with probable links to COVID-19.

Pritzker said the state is “evaluating every day” the trajectory of the virus and other potential mitigations that may be needed.

Area COVID-19 Stats as of August 9

| Town | Tested | Cases | |
|---------------|--------|-------|--|
| Dwight | 13,943 | 610 | |
| Herscher | 3,126 | 233 | |
| Gardner | 2,799 | 221 | |
| Mazon | 2,104 | 178 | |
| Odell | 2,986 | 177 | |
| Braceville | 2,099 | 154 | |
| Essex | 1,308 | 143 | |
| S. Wilmington | 1,080 | 97 | |
| Cullom | 1,442 | 84 | |
| Reddick | 1,137 | 69 | |
| Saunemin | 1,418 | 67 | |
| Buckingham | 833 | 60 | |
| Verona | 903 | 59 | |
| Ransom | 925 | 46 | |
| Cabery | 788 | 43 | |
| Kempton | 727 | 39 | |
| Blackstone | 417 | 37 | |
| Emington | 547 | 35 | |
| Kinsman | 288 | 19 | |
| Campus | 482 | 17 | |
| Union Hill | 140 | 13 | |

Numbers as of 08/09/21

Statistics via: dph.illinois.gov

| County | Tested | Cases | Deaths |
|------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Kankakee | 271,535 | 14,866 | 224 |
| LaSalle | 227,250 | 13,095 | 256 |
| Grundy | 74,166 | 6,138 | 79 |
| Livingston | 125,888 | 4,999 | 95 |
| Iroquois | 58,368 | 3,368 | 68 |
| Ford | 35,307 | 1,987 | 50 |

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,436,353; Deaths: 25,503; Probable Deaths: 2,489; Total Tests Performed: 27,188,772.

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.

Get Your COVID-19 Vaccine

DO IT for Your Community



Cullom Homecoming

Wednesday, August 11

- 5:00 p.m. – Rabbit show

Join in the rest of the week for more fun at the park and on Hack Street.

Thursday, August 12

- 6:00 p.m. – All swine on park grounds and weigh-in begins
- 6:30 p.m. – Hot air balloon ascension
- 6:30 p.m. – Activities on Hack Street open

Friday, August 13

- 8:00 a.m. – All livestock in place

- 8:30 a.m. – Swine judging begins
- 8:30-11:00 a.m. – Floriculture & Domestic Arts exhibit check-in
- 9:00 a.m. – Dairy judging begins
- 1:00 p.m. – Domestic Arts judging begins
- 1:00 p.m. – Flower judging
- 1:30 p.m. – Steers and Sheep weigh-in begins
- 3:00 p.m. – All beef registration papers checked
- 5:30 p.m. – Sheep costume lead
- 6:00 p.m. – Bags Tournament begins
- 6:30 p.m. – Activities on Hack Street open
- 6:30 p.m. – Fire Department Water Fights (ages 7-13)

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Pollinators Are Celebrated at Yost House in Pontiac

An Oregon State University research study featured in Science Daily tracking butterfly abundance in Ohio over the last 20 years has discovered a 33% decline. We can only assume that in Illinois we have similar patterns in the decline in our butterfly populations. Scientists believe the decline may be attributed to climate change, habitat degradation, and agricultural practices.

“The yearly count of monarchs decreased by 53% in 2020 from the previous year,” says University of Illinois Horticulture Educator Kelly Allsup. “This most recent drop may not be directly correlated to our reduced milkweed numbers; drought and other environmental factors are also contributing to the problem; however, the decrease in the monarch population over time can be attributed specifically to a lack of milkweed for larvae,” says Allsup.

Milkweed is the only plant that monarchs will lay eggs on, and it is the sole food source for monarch larvae when eggs hatch.

With decreasing numbers in the pollinator populations, Livingston Master Gardeners like Cathy Montgomery are ready to help gardeners increase habitat for these insect visitors. Join Cathy and other Master Gardeners at the Catherine V. Yost House Museum for a program on gardening for pollinators.

Master Gardeners will highlight the early bloomers of spring and the late bloomers of fall to contribute to pollinator health at times when resources are limited. Gardeners will show how historic garden flowers like zinnias, coneflowers and herbs can also contribute to the bees and the butterflies.

Master Gardeners will host a booth from 1:00-3:00 p.m. outside the Yost House, located at 298 W. Water Street, Pontiac, Saturday, August 21. Visitors will receive pollinator handouts highlighting the best plants in the garden and strategies to conserve pollinators. Participants will also get to take home a posy of pollinator blooms from the garden by highlighting them in Tussie Mussies.

Originating in the Victorian era, Tussie Mussies are small, round bouquets made up of herbs and flowers that each hold symbolic meaning. Cathy and the Master Gardeners intend to highlight flowers and plants that help attract pollinators to the garden in the posy of blooms.

There is no cost or registration to attend. For questions or if you will need an accommodation in order to participate, contact them at the Livingston County Extension Office at 815-842-1776. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs. For more information about Extension, Master Gardeners, and upcoming programming, visit: go.illinois.edu/LMW.



WITH DECREASING NUMBERS in the pollinator populations, Livingston Master Gardeners are ready to help gardeners increase habitat for these insect visitors. Find out how you can help by stopping by Yost House in Pontiac on August 21.

formation about Extension, Master Gardeners, and upcoming programming, visit: go.illinois.edu/LMW.

Delinquent Notices for Livingston Cty. Mobile Home Taxes to Be Mailed Oct. 12

Livingston County Mobile Home Taxes were due on August 10, 2021.

Late payments will be accepted but are subject to a penalty of \$25.00 per month. Delinquent notices will be

mailed out on October 12, 2021. The annual tax sale is November 15, 2021.

Visit the Livingston County Treasurer’s office, located at 112 W. Madison St. in Pontiac, or call them at 815-844-2306.

Do good and good will come to you.

2021 Dwight Harvest Days Car Show Set for Sept. 17

Downtown Dwight will be the setting for the 2021 Dwight Harvest Days Car Show, which will be Friday, September 17, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Registration runs from 3:00-6:00 p.m. the day of the event, with awards being presented between 7:00-7:30 p.m. on the Main Stage.

All cars and trucks are welcome. Dash plaques will be

awarded to the first 250 registrants.

Food, music, door prizes, awards, and more will be part of the experience, including entertainment by Cosmic Rewind (5:30-7:00 p.m.) and the Kankakee Silhouettes (7:30-9:00 p.m.).

For more information, visit DHDCarShow.com or call Randy at 815-474-9795.



THE DWIGHT HISTORICAL SOCIETY hosted a tour of Ottawa, IL on August 6. They visited historic houses, Ottawa Historical and Scouting Museum, Reddick Mansion, Washington Square, I & M Canal Tollhouse, St. Columba and Ottawa Avenue Cemeteries, then stopped for a treat at Tone’s Cones.

Junk In The Trunk in Morris Aug. 15

The “Junk In The Trunk” flea market will take place at 100 Commercial Drive in Morris, just west of Rt. 47, behind the BP Amoco station.

Set-up time is 8:30 a.m., with the sale running from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Ken at willis824@comcast.net or call 815-942-2032.

& Junior Fair Schedule

Saturday, August 14

- 8:00 a.m. – Tractor Pull begins at the school
- 8:30 a.m. – Sheep judging begins
- 10:00 a.m. – Breeding beef judging begins

Steer judging begins immediately following breeding stock

- 3:00 p.m. – Release of Floriculture & Domestic Arts exhibits
- 4:00 p.m. – Release of all exhibits and entries
- 6:00 p.m. – AUCTION begins in the park
- 6:30 p.m. – Activities on Hack Street open

FIREWORKS at DUSK

Food Options

- St. John’s Lutheran Church tent
- Monster Grilled Cheese
- El Taco Rico
- Valera Tacos

- Skully’s
- Earl’s Smokehouse

At the Park

- Tri-Point FFA Alumni food stand

Activities

- Bounce houses
- Obstacle courses
- Slide
- Axe throwing
- Light arena
- Dunk tank
- Game tent
- BINGO
- Train rides



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A CELEBRATION WAS HELD July 4 at Bergan Farms for retirees of the Dwight Post Office. Pictured, front row, from left, are Shirley Zeedyk, Judy Mobley; back row, Jon Bogert, Tom Bergan, and Dee Bergan.

Garden Group at Piper City Public Library in August

Piper City Public Library will host a Garden Group at 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays, August 11, and August 25. You don't have to have a green thumb to attend. You can be someone having problems with vegetables and flowers, or a Master Gardener willing to help a novice.

and i think to myself
what a wonderful world!

Dwight Historical Society Meeting August 16

The Dwight Historical Society will meet Monday, August 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the historic Dwight Depot on West Main Street. All are welcome who are interested in preserving Dwight history. Historical Society meetings are open to the public. The Dwight History museum is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. until November.

Essex UMC Ice Cream Social August 21

Essex United Methodist Church, 114 Waverly Street in Essex, will host its Ice Cream Social Saturday, August 21, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Take the whole family to enjoy ice cream goodies with your favorite toppings, including cones, sundaes, and other dessert surprises. Free will offerings are accepted and appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Linda Michel at 630-918-9696. Essex UMC holds Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m., and will host a Family Movie Night from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Saturday, September 18.

Book Signing at Prairie Creek Library Aug. 16

Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight, will be the site of a book signing for local author, Rhonda Voigts, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Monday, August 16, in the upstairs community room. Voigts will be signing copies of her book, "Mother, Can You Hear Me Now?". Copies of the book will be available for purchase. The event will be an open house format, wherein guests can stop by any time between 5:00-7:00 p.m., but, due to COVID restrictions, guests are asked to observe social distancing guidelines.



Deadline Approaching for Herscher Labor Day Parade Entries

The Herscher Chamber of Commerce Labor Day Parade Committee is reminding everyone that the entry forms for the Grand Labor Day Parade need to be in to: John Branz at PO Box 575, Herscher, IL 60941, dropped off at the Herscher Village Hall during normal Village Hall hours, or dropped off at Midland States Bank, 654 N. Park Rd. in Herscher by **Friday, August 13.** Everyone's help in meeting this date is greatly appreciated by the Committee. For questions, call 426-6183.

Please join us for a
90TH BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE
in honor of
Arlene Prindiville
Sunday, August 29th
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Dwight Country Club
No gifts please.
Your presence will be the best present.



Saint Patrick CCD Registration

is open in Dwight for all grades - Kindergarten to 8th.

You may register in the following ways:

- † Stop by the Parish Hall office between 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and pick up materials
- † Call Andrea Pugh, CCD Coordinator (815) 584-3110 and schedule an appointment
- † Come to Registration Nights to be held at Saint Patrick Parish Hall, August 12 and 13, from 5-7 p.m.

Classes start in September and are held on Wednesday night from 4:30-6 p.m.
Schedule will be provided on Registration Nights.

Livingston County Concert Association Opens Its 70th Season Sept. 26

The Board of Directors of the Livingston County Concert Association (LCCA) has announced that the Membership Renewal Brochures for its 70th season are in the mail. Former members should be receiving their renewal information soon. Rod Patterson, President of the Board, stated that "We are very happy to once again be able to present top-notch, live entertainment here in Livingston County." Unlike previous seasons, the membership tickets will be distributed at the first concert instead of being mailed. Patterson went on to provide a summary of the schedule for the coming season:

- The season opener will be a 2:00 p.m. matinee starring David Shannon September 26. David is known as "Ireland's greatest showman" who has also played some of Broadway's most famous roles.
- An Andrews Sisters Style program presented by the America's Sweethearts will be presented Saturday, November 13 at 3:00 p.m. The Board is telling everyone to not "sit under the apple tree with anyone but this trio from New York."
- At 7:00 p.m. on February 18, 2022, LCCA will present a truly "family friendly show" presented by a comedian and magician. The program is called "Chipper Experience". According to Patterson, this program will show the audience where "Comedy and Magic Collide." Members are encouraged to take along their children and grandchildren for this fun evening.
- Great piano music is in store on the evening of March 22, 2022, presented by Barron Ryan. According to Allied Concert Services, Barron is a "virtuoso pianist and entertainer playing a wide variety of great music."
- The 70th season will end on May 4, 2022, with Sundae & Mr. Goessl. This husband and wife (guitar/vocal) duo is famous for blending blues, swing, country, and Latin sounds.

If members have not received their membership renewal brochure by August 15, they should call Ruth Schlosser at 815-844-6394. New members are encouraged to also contact Ruth at the above number if they are interested in joining for the coming season. Memberships will also be available for purchase at the Pontiac Township High School auditorium prior to the first concert. Adult memberships entitle members to attend the five concerts in Pontiac, as well as concerts presented by the concert association in Ottawa. It is also anticipated that LCCA members will be able to attend concerts in Canton. Patterson also wants to remind everyone that area High School students can attend the concert free of charge. Members may also take their young children to the Pontiac concerts for no charge. If, however, members wish to take their children to the concerts in Ottawa, they must purchase a family membership. For general information about LCCA, call Rod or Dorothy Patterson at 815-844-7833. They may also be reached by e-mail at rod.hjemme@gmail.com.



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Hippocrates Health & Wellness Fair in Kankakee

Hippocrates Medical Clinic, along with the NAACP and the Tyjuan Hagler Foundation, is hosting a back-to-school Health & Wellness Fair Sunday, August 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the parking lot at 606 E. Court St. in Kankakee. Special guest will be former Indianapolis Colts and Seattle Seahawks standout, Kankakee's own Tyjuan Hagler. The Illinois State Health Department will be providing Johnson & Johnson, as well as Pfizer, COVID-19 shots. Blue Cross Blue Shield will be giving out boxes of school supplies. Bradley Lions Club will provide free vision screening, while other organizations will be doing diabetic and blood pressure checks. In addition, there will be complimentary hot dogs, chips, and fruit.

OBITUARY

Norma Jean ‘Jeanie’ Norgaard

PONTIAC — Norma Jean “Jeanie” Norgaard of Pontiac, Illinois passed away Tuesday evening, August 3, 2021 at Good Samaritan Nursing Home.

Cremation rites were accorded. A graveside service will be held at a later date in Oaklawn Cemetery, Dwight, Illinois.

Memorials in Jeanie’s name may be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Calvert and Martin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jeanie was born November 27, 1929 in Kempton, Illinois, daughter of Avis and Cora Lee Bailey.

She is survived by her husband of 72 years, Delmar Norgaard of Pontiac, Illinois; son, Terry (Mary Jo) Norgaard of Pontiac, Illinois; and daughter, Sonia (Grant) Oppenhuis of Lansing, Illinois.

She has four grandchildren: Jeff (Sheina) Norgaard of Highland, Illinois; Tracy (Kenneth) Simmons of Griffith, Indiana; Paul Oppenhuis of Manhattan, Illinois; and Kayla



Oppenhuis of Lansing, Illinois.

She has five great-grandchildren: Gracelynn, Dalton, Hannah and Lucia Norgaard and Addison Oppenhuis. Also surviving are her sister, Wilma Fay Meredith of Clifton, Illinois, sister-in-law, Doris Carter of Pontiac,

Illinois; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Avis and Cora Lee Bailey; in-laws, Elmer and Agatha Norgaard; siblings: Evelyn Greene, Alla May Bailey, Clarence Bailey, Lawrence Bailey, Edna Huber, Edith Lopez, Ernest Bailey, and Donald Laverne Bailey; sisters-in-law, Betty and Lorraine Norgaard; brother-in-law, William Carter; and granddaughter, Teresa Jo Norgaard.

She graduated from Kempton High School in Kempton, Illinois. She worked various jobs throughout her life. She was a cherished wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

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

‘A Celebration of Life’ for Jim Drach August 21

Join the Drach family Saturday, August 21, for “A Celebration of Life” in remembrance of Jim Drach.

There will be a Funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Campus at 10:30 a.m., followed by the celebration of his life at the Drach Farm tool shed, 26521 E. 2200 North Rd. in Emington, starting at noon.



Updates at Liberty Village of Streator

COVID-19

Due to COVID-19 variants with increased transmissibility, masks are recommended for residents and visitors of Liberty Village of Streator while indoors.

Visitors, regardless of their vaccination status, should wear source control (masks) and physically distance from staff and other patients/residents, or visitors that are not part of their group at all other times when in the facility.

Outdoor visitation is preferred, even when the resident and visitor are fully vaccinated.

The CDC still recommends maintaining the core

infection practices that reduce the spread of COVID-19, such as wearing a face mask, performing hand hygiene, and maintaining six feet of physical distance from others.

Mass Services

Mass is held on the second Monday of each month at Liberty Village of Streator, and is held in the main dining room.

Podiatrist

The Foot Doctor will be at Liberty Village of Streator Monday, August 16, at 9:00 a.m.

A sign-up sheet is at the front desk.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

‘Think About It...’

Thank you, but no thanks to the 730,000.00 dollars grant to put in a walking path around the west outskirts of town! If the village has an extra 73,000 dollars (our portion to pay for) laying around I can think of numerous better ways for it to be spent right here inside the village. Let’s fix the sidewalks and drive thru at Renfrew Park. The sidewalks are so broken and cracked up in places that it is very dangerous for our citizens to walk on. The drive and parking lot are riddled with

huge holes and ruts in it, making it hard to navigate thru. Please, if you’re going to spend that much money, use it on something that everyone can benefit from and enjoy with our families. This is just one idea. My point is that spending any money on that grant project just does not make any financial sense at this time. I think more discussion needs to be had on the issue. Think about it.

Mary Pokarney
Dwight

Notice of Public Hearing

Gardner Community Consolidated School District 72C

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the School Board of School District Number 72C, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 598 N. Elm St., Gardner, Illinois in this School District. From and after 9 o’clock a.m., on the 16th day of August, 2021. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 7 o’clock p.m., on the 16th day of September, 2021, at Gardner Grade School in this School District Number 72C.

Dated this 5th day of August, 2020.

School Board of School District Number 72C, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois.

By Lauren Vitko, Secretary

Notice of Public Hearing
Gardner South Wilmington High School #73

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE School Board of Gardner South Wilmington High School #73, in the Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 500 East Main Street, Gardner, Illinois in this School District beginning from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., on the 19th day of August, 2021. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing, on said budget will be held at 7:00 p.m., on the 22nd day of September, 2021, in this School District #73.

Dated this 11th day of August, 2021.
School Board of Gardner South Wilmington High School #73, in the Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, State of Illinois.
Board of Education, Gardner South Wilmington High School #73

Carla Huston,
BOE Secretary

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RunDown

When you’re not sure what to write about, you do a quick round-up of a bunch of topics in the news. I haven’t done one of these in a while, so here we go:

The Olympics - I have to be honest: didn’t watch much this year. I think the lack of storylines among many of the athletes made it tough to be invested. No fans didn’t help either. It was still fun to watch some of the more unique events, like speed walking and anything involving a horse unnecessarily. The United States still left with the most medals, so all’s well that ends well, I guess.

Vegan Donuts - I had never had a vegan donut until this weekend. Truthfully, I’m not even 100% sure which ingredients in a donut make it vegan versus not making it vegan. HOWEVER, it was, maybe, the best donut I’ve ever had. So whatever they were doing, they were doing it very, very well. 4.8/5 stars on Google. Maybe all donut places should be going vegan? I don’t know. I don’t care. But, boy, were they good donuts.

Student Loans - We’re just kicking the payment can down the road just a little bit further. As someone with student loans, I can attest to them not being enjoyable, and I will very much be taking advantage of this extra 3-4 month window of no interest. The world is (actually) burning to the ground right now, but at least we have no interest on the loans. Shoutout Sleepy Joe, one time for the one time.

Concerts - I went to my first one in over 18 months. Actually, 2 now, since I’ve been in Chicago. Turns out they’re still really great and one of the best shared human experiences you can partake in. One was around a 1,000-person venue, the other around 100. So I’ve taken in both ends of the venue spectrum, and both of them were just pure bliss.

These are my thoughts on some current topics. I hope to have a more cohesive column next week.

Go whatever Chicago team isn’t falling apart at the seams currently.

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

BE WISE – Advertise in The Paper!

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

The Paper

fax: 815-584-2196
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Notice of Public Hearing
Braceville Elementary School District #75

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE School Board of Braceville Elementary SD #75, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 209 North Mitchell Street, Braceville, Illinois in this School District beginning from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., on the 12th day of August, 2021. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing, on said budget will be held at 6:30 p.m., on the 14th day of September, 2021, in this School District #75.

Dated this 11th day of August, 2021.

School Board of Braceville Elementary SD #75, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois.

Board of Education, Braceville Elementary SD #75

Beth Fatlan,
BOE Secretary

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Paper welcomes letters to the editor on topics of current local interest. All letters must be signed and include your name, address and phone number. No letters will be published with fictitious names or if unsigned. All letters should be typed or neatly printed and should not exceed 250 words. Letters are limited to one every 60 days per household. Political letters will not run the week prior to an election.

The Paper reserves the right to edit or reject any or all submitted items. Address letters to: Editor, The Paper, P.O. Box 245, 204 E. Chippewa, Dwight, IL 60420.

We welcome your thoughts.

Notice of Public Hearing
Budget Hearing
South Wilmington CSD #74

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE School Board of South Wilmington CSD #74, in the Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 375 5th Avenue, South Wilmington, Illinois in this School District from and after 8:00 o’clock A.M., on the 16th day of August, 2021.

Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 7:45 o’clock P.M. on the 16th day of September, 2021, in this School District #74.

Dated this 4th day of August, 2021.

School Board of South Wilmington CSD #74, in the Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, State of Illinois.

Heather Buck,
Secretary

Notice of Budget Hearing:

Notice is hereby given to the Public that Dwight Township High School District #230 will hold a public hearing on the annual budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022, on September 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dwight Township High School Cafe, 801 South Franklin Street, Dwight, IL 60420. Any person interested in said budget may be present at said time and place, and may be heard in regard to the budget. The tentative budget is now on file with the Secretary of the Board of Education at the District Office, located at 801 South Franklin Street, Dwight, IL 60420. The budget may be reviewed upon request prior to the said hearing by the Public.

Board of Education
Dwight Township High School District #230

Mrs. Debbie Conroy
Board Secretary



SUMMER LEAGUE CHAMPS! The Full Send squad was crowned champion of the 9-Pin Summer Bowling League at Victory Lanes in Dwight. Pictured, from left, are Nick Castelli, Zor Broderick, Brandi (Brown) Farcus, and Ken Benson. Not pictured is team member Ashley Castelli.

Victory Lanes Bowling,
Dwight

League
Results

**Summer League
9 Pin Bowlers**
HSG: Doug Gassman, 278; Nick Castelli, 250; Chuck Dudak, 237; Josh Larson, 235; Zor Broderick, 235 – Brandi Farcus, 270; Annie Sporrer, 244; Kathy Howard, 217; Jessica Boyd, 212; Heather Boucher, 207. HSS: Doug Gassman, 741; Nick Castelli, 682; Kyle, 661; Zor Broderick, 649; Doug Haag, 600 – Brandi Farcus, 661; Kathy Howard, 571; Paula Watts, 547; Annie Sporrer, 504; Jessica Boyd, 472. HSG: Full Send, 875. HHG: The Hookers, 885. HSS/HHS: Full Send, 2543.

| League Standings | W | L |
|------------------|-----|-----|
| Full Send | 28½ | 11½ |
| Cafe 110 | 25½ | 14½ |
| Miller Busch | 25 | 15 |
| The Hookers | 21½ | 18½ |
| The Rookies | 21 | 19 |
| T. City | 20 | 20 |
| California Kings | 18½ | 21½ |
| Maxwell Truck. | 15 | 25 |
| 3 Women... | 14 | 26 |

Fall Bowling League Meetings

Anyone wishing to join a Fall Bowling League team, or get information about the Leagues at Victory Lanes, Dwight, are encouraged to attend the following upcoming meetings:

- **Men's League – Wednesday, August 11, at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mixed League – Thursday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m.**

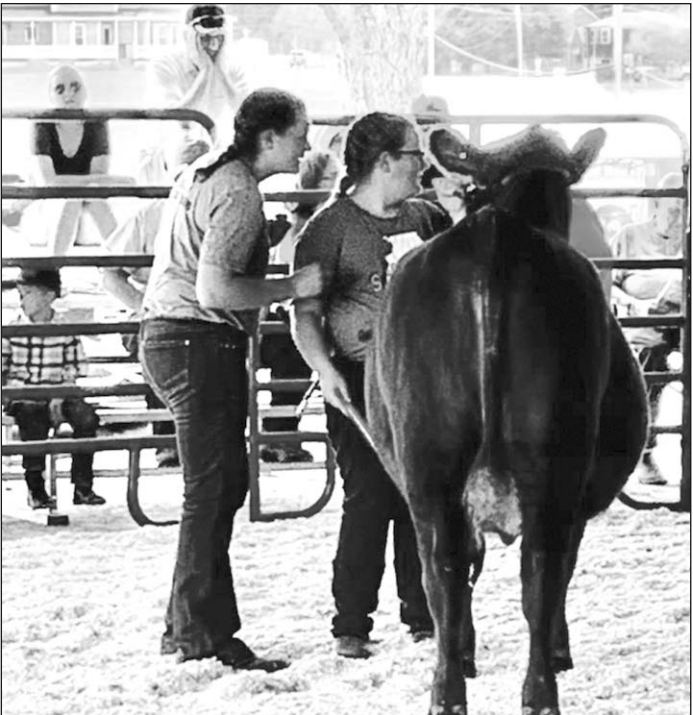


**Wednesday, August 4
MVK vs. Wilmington**
The Lady Mavericks were back in softball action August 4, picking up a 7-4 win over Wilmington.
Hayden Pfeifer tossed a complete game, allowing four earned runs on three hits and nine walks, striking out 12 en route to the victory.
Lexi Buis (2-4, 2 SB, 2 R), and Kaydynce Wardlow (1-2, HBP, SB) each had two RBI in the contest. Gracie Smith knocked in a run on a sacrifice. Lily Pfeifer was 2-4 with two stolen bases and a run scored. H. Pfeifer doubled, drew a walk, and scored once. Madison De-Grush singled, walked once, stole a base, and scored two runs. Morgan Starwalt drew two walks and scored a run, with Audrey Claypool walking once.

“B” -
In “B” game play, MVK fell to Wilmington, 13-3.
Brynlee Hunt led with a single, two walks, a stolen base and one RBI. Grace Biros added a single, a double, a stolen base, and a run scored. Brooklyn Sheedy (BB, 3 SB, R) and Addison Kilmer (3 SB, R) each singled. Maggie Pfeifer drew two walks and swiped two bags. Casey Humphrey (SB) and Jordyn Both (SB) each walked once.
Taking the loss in the circle was Marlie Lissy, allowing four earned runs on four hits, two hit batters, and four walks, striking out three. Biros pitched in relief, giving up seven earned runs on three hits, a hit batsman, and six walks, fanning two. Pfeifer allowed two earned runs on two walks, a hit batter, and one hit.

Football 101
Clinic at DTHS
August 12

There are many football positions who have obvious roles – like the quarterback. But when it comes to telling the difference between the full-back and running back, it may not be as easy.
So why not go and learn some basic football knowledge?
Dwight Township High School is holding a **Football 101** clinic Thursday, August 12, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Coach Standiford, Laura Pittenger, and some special guests will be explaining the basics of the game.
Men, women, and kids are welcome to attend. Go join the fun and be ready for the season.
If you have questions, contact Cathy Ferguson, Athletic Director, at 815-584-6202.



ISABELLA BUNTING, left, has grown close to her sister, Samantha, as her sighting assistant and roommate.

Family Farm Affair
Samantha Bunting, visually impaired, shows cattle

(continued from page 1)
I'm going to look back when I was helping her in the ring and smile or giggle to myself because of the things we say,” said Isabella Bunting, who has grown close to Samantha between being her sighting assistant and roommate.
“Sometimes I'll tell her jokes so she can smile because she is so concentrated and doesn't want to smile. I'll giggle or tell her a joke to get her to smile or laugh a little bit.
“I tap her on the arm and she knows what leg goes forward. It's kind of like a short hand (messaging) and we're working on that. When mom told me I was going to help her, I didn't think I was going to be the right person. I thought me helping her would distract her or distract me. I thought I might tell her the wrong spot or not direct her correctly and it would be difficult.
“When I went out there for the first time, I liked it and I wanted to be her right-hand person.” Momma Bunting didn't want to hold Samantha back because of the eye condition,

but was still cautious at the beginning.
With Samantha's passion for showing cattle and Isabella's older sister love, the angst wore off quickly. “I would say any parent would be nervous and anxious,” said Tasha Bunting. “It's about giving her the freedom to do the things she wants to do and kind of stepping back and letting her handle it when she's comfortable and prepared. It can be hard, but ultimately, it's something she really enjoys and the family enjoys. It's a family affair where everyone is helping each other.
“We knew we would figure out a way to make it work no matter what.”
Jackson Bunting is a part of the family affair as well. Although he is jealous of his sisters because they can show cattle and he isn't quite old enough, he helps as much as he can around the farm.
“I want to help dad run the farm and do everything he needs help with,” Jackson Bunting said. “My favorite part of helping him is I get to drive the truck and skid-steer loader.”
At fairs, the jealousy wears off a bit because he gets to eat all the snacks while his sisters are in the show ring.
Brandon LaChance can be reached at (815) 876-7941, blachance20@gmail.com or on Twitter @LaChanceWriter.

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DCS LADY REDBIRDS SOFTBALL

Friday, August 6
Dwight vs.
Streator Woodland
The Lady Redbirds defeated Streator Woodland, 16-8, on August 6.
Taylor Heath struck out 18 batters on her way to the “W”.
Dwight had ten hits in the game, with Heath leading the way with a game-high three. Avery Connor and Mikayla Chambers each added two hits, with Sophie Buck and Madi Ely chipping in with a hit each.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Free Gate All Day

• 8:00 a.m. – Junior Swine – Show Barn
• 8:00 a.m. – Culinary & Textile Judging – Floral Hall
• 8:30 a.m. – Dairy Cattle & Jr. Dairy Cattle Judging – Cattle Barn
• 9:00 a.m. – Jr. Swine Judging followed by Open – Show Barn
• 9:00 a.m. – Poultry Judging – Poultry Building
• 9:00 a.m. – Floriculture & Fine Arts Judging – Floral Hall
• 9:30 a.m. – Vegetable Judging – Floral Hall
• 10:00 a.m. – Model Judging – Floral Hall
• 10:00 a.m. – Rooster Crowing Contest – Poultry Building
• 4:00 p.m. – **Pinewood Derby Qualifying Races Begin** – East End of grounds
• 6:00 p.m. – Luehr’s Ideal Rides – Midway
• 6:30 p.m. – **Brushville** (stands open at 5:00 p.m.) –

Grandstand

• 8:00 p.m. – **Diamond Rio** – Grandstand

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Free Gate All Day

• 10:00 a.m. – **Daycare Day Events for area licensed providers** – Midway
• 4:00 p.m. – **Pinewood Derby Finals** – East End of grounds
• 5:00 p.m. – **Talent Show** featuring family musical Entertainment by Johnathan Len – Free – Grandstand
• 6:00 p.m. – Luehr’s Ideal Rides **ONE TICKET RIDE NIGHT** – Midway
• 8:00-11:00 p.m. – **Protege (Rock Band)** – Beer Garden

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

\$5 Gate starting at 3:00 p.m.

• 8:00 a.m. – Beef Judging followed by Steers – Cattle Barn

• 8:00 a.m. – Sheep Judging – Show Barn
• 12:30 p.m. – Euchre Tournament Check-in (\$5 entry) – BINGO Tent
• 1:00 p.m. – **Euchre Tournament Begins** – BINGO Tent
• 5:30 p.m. – **Heart to Heart-breakers** Tribute Band Rock Show featuring Cher, Heart, Pat Benatar & more – Grandstand; **Crazy Babies** Ozzy Osbourne Tribute Band – Grandstand
• 6:00 p.m. – Luehr’s Ideal Rides **BUDDY NIGHT (2 FOR 1)** – Midway
• 9:00-11:00 p.m. – **Rolling Thunder** AC/DC Tribute Band – Beer Garden

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

\$5 Gate starting at 10:00 a.m. – Military Day (FREE gate for active and retired military with credentials.

• 6:45 a.m. – Registration begins for 5K run/2 mile Walk –

Main office area

• 8:00 a.m. – **5K Run/2 mile Walk begins** – 3rd Street gate
• 8:00 a.m. – Junior Beef Judging – Cattle Barn
• 8:00 a.m. – Market Lamb Show followed by Jr. Sheep – Show Barn
• 9:00 a.m. – **KCBS Barbeque Cookoff begins** – West End of grounds
• 10:00 a.m. – Rabbit Judging – Poultry Building
• 12:00 p.m. – **Golf Cart Rodeo Activities Begin** – Grandstand
• 12:15 p.m. – Kids Baggo Tournament check-in – West End
• 1:00 p.m. – **Kids BBQ contest begins** – West End of grounds
• 1:00 p.m. – **Kids Baggo Tournament begins** – West End
• 2:00 p.m. – **Luehr’s Ideal Rides** – Midway
• 2:00 p.m. – **Pinewood Derby**

Outlaw / Open Class – East

End of grounds
• 3:00-5:30 p.m. – DJ – Beer Garden
• 4:45 p.m. – BBQ Awards – West End
• 5:15 p.m. – **Stock Car Racing \$10** – Grandstand
• 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. – **Johnny McGuire** w/ Opening Act Eric Chesser – Beer Garden

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

\$5 Gate starting at 10:00 a.m.

• 9:00 a.m. – Dairy Goat and Jr. Goat Judging – Show Barn
• 10:00 a.m. – **Community Worship Service** – Grandstand
• 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Sign up for Kids Drawing – Under the Grandstand
• 12:00 p.m. – Antique Farm Equipment Display – East End of grounds
• 12:00-2:00 p.m. – Johnny Whitecotton Acoustic Show –

Beer Garden

• 12:00-5:00 p.m. – **Chili Cook Off** – Beer Garden
• 12:15 p.m. – Baggo Tournament Check in – Beer Garden
• 1:00-4:45 p.m. – Silent Auction for Wood Carving – Beer Garden
• 1:00 p.m. – **Baggo Tournament Begins** – Beer Garden
• 1:00 p.m. – Luehr’s Ideal Rides **ALL RIDES ONE TICKET** – Midway
• 1:00 p.m. – **Demo Derby \$10.00** – Kids 12 & Under Free – Grandstand area
• 3:00-4:30 p.m. – John Kattke Band – Beer Garden
• 4:30 p.m. – Golf Cart Raffle Winner Announcement – Beer Garden
• 4:45 p.m. – Kids Drawing Winners posted – Under Grandstand
• 5:00 p.m. – Wood Carving Silent Bid Winner Announced – Beer Garden

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PRE-FAIR EVENTS

- Early sale ride tickets available at local banks and businesses
- Fair Office open for in-person availability
- Entries must be made no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 13.

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FAIR WEEK EVENTS

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Additional events may be added as they are finalized. Refer to the fairburyfair.com to check for updated information. If you have any questions, e-mail thefairburyfair@gmail.com.

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Evenglow Senior Living Appoints Cindy Wegner as CEO



Cindy Wegner

Evenglow Senior Living, Pontiac, and its Board of Trustees has announced the appointment of Cindy Wegner as Chief Executive Officer, following the retirement of Mark Hovren, who served as CEO for 17 years. Cindy will join Evenglow on August 16.

Cindy has more than 27 years of experience in senior living services. A dedicated leader who loves mentoring and coaching her team members, she has a passion for providing excellence in retirement choices and services that promote senior independence. Prior appointments including serving as a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator for two other quality organizations offering skilled nursing services. Her love for senior living was developed early in her career, which began with her service as an Activity Director for a therapy and senior care center.

Cindy accepted the position in early July after Evenglow conducted an extensive executive search that yielded a broad candidate pool of close to 100 applicants. Carol Flessner, Evenglow’s Board of Trustees Chairperson, shares, “On behalf of the Evenglow Board of Trustees, I am pleased to welcome Cindy Wegner to the Family of Evenglow as the new CEO. Cindy brings with her an extensive career in many aspects of senior living, and Evenglow is fortunate that she will utilize that experience in our area to continue to move Evenglow forward as the premier senior living facility in the area.”

Cindy holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in Gerontology from Illinois State University. A member of the Illinois Nursing Home Administrator’s Association, she has been nominated as its Administrator of the Year multiple times and is an accomplished public speaker. In her free time, Cindy enjoys reading, painting and spending time with her family.

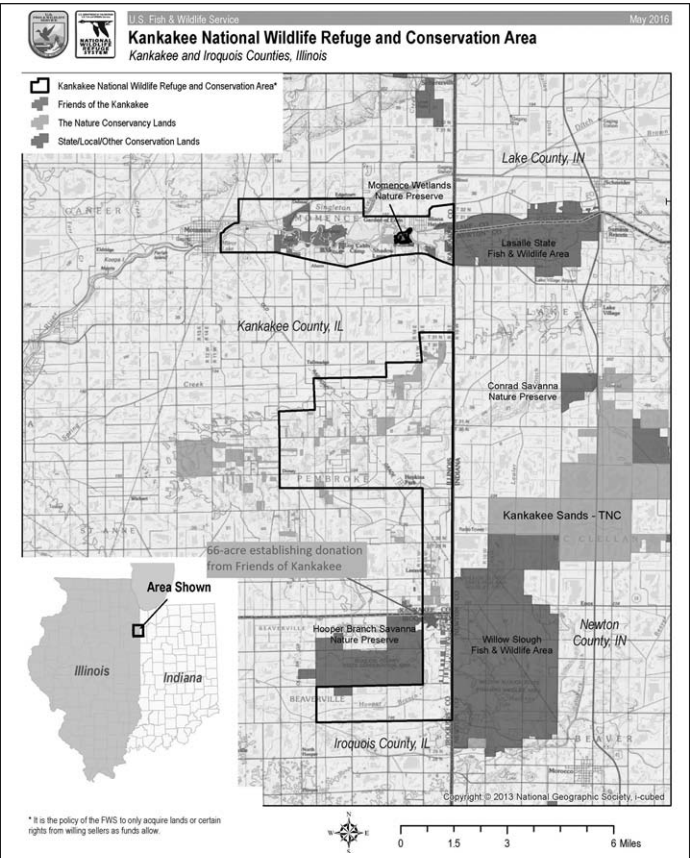
“I am honored to be selected to lead this outstanding organization into the future. At this point in my career, I have found that I like the idea of working in a continuum of care environment which has a strong mission and seeks to create a ‘family of friends’ for all it serves,” Cindy said, while also

speaking to her desire to be “back in an environment with a sole focus on taking care of seniors.”

Cindy is going to Evenglow at an exciting time and is about to launch a multi-phase repositioning of its organization. Phase 1 will involve the construction of a new, 66,000-square-foot three-story Assisted Living building (“The Lodge at Evenglow”) comprising of 76 total studio and one-bedroom units, commercial kitchen, dining area, wellness area, multi-purpose room, salon, multiple living and activity rooms, laundry facilities, and administrative areas. The new building will connect to The Inn at Evenglow, utilizing the existing building entrance and reception area.

Phase 2 will involve the demolition of the seven-story building and subsequent construction of a new, three-story building on the downtown campus. This new building (“The Residences at Evenglow”) will house 24 Independent Living Residences with garage parking, commercial kitchen, multipurpose space, bistro, therapy room and will connect to The Tjardes Health Center at Evenglow. Phase 1 of the proposed project is scheduled to break ground September 2021.

To learn more about Evenglow Senior Living, visit Evenglow.org.



Community Lists Concerns With US Fish & Wildlife Service Refuge

submitted by
Kankakee County Farm Bureau

The US Fish & Wildlife Service would like to establish a wildlife refuge in our community. Their 28-square-mile wildlife refuge planned for Kankakee County could have a large negative impact on our area. The US Fish & Wildlife Service is a federal agency funded by your taxpayer dollars. The Farm Bureau, elected officials, farmers, landowners, residents, and other concerned citizens have documented their concerns with this Kankakee National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area project, and the list is lengthy. While the Farm Bureau realizes that not every acre is suitable for farming and that providing habitat for wildlife is a worthy cause, there are many reasons why you should be concerned with this project. The following is a summary of these concerns and how

our community could be impacted.

- Loss of Farmland
- Impacts to Established Water Drainage
- Loss of Property Tax Base

- Loss of Recreational Access & River Maintenance Access
- Fire Suppression & Public Safety
- No Updated Environmental Assessment
- Burdensome Process for Roadway Projects
- Funding Source
- Elected Officials Oppose the Refuge

Submitting Public Comment is Important!

Is it important to submit your thoughts on how this refuge would impact your home, farm, property, and your community. Your comments need to be submitted by August 13, 2021.

Comments on the Kankakee National Wildlife Refuge and Con-

THIS MAP SHOWS the local areas that are sought by the US Fish & Wildlife Service to establish a wildlife refuge. The 28-square-mile focus areas outlined in black in Kankakee County include areas east of the City of Mokena and the north and south sides of the Kankakee River and a very large portion of Pembroke Township which includes the Village of Hopkins Park. The impact to the local community could be devastating if this project were implemented. To read further information on this project, contact the Kankakee County Farm Bureau office at 815-932-7471.

ICPHD Recognizes Immunization Awareness Month

The Iroquois County Public Health Department (ICPHD) recognizes National Immunization Awareness Month this August. Vaccines are a safe and effective way to prevent disease. You have the power to protect you and your family against preventable diseases.

ICPHD offers a large variety of immunizations for both children and adults, including back-to-school vaccines. If you are not sure if your child needs vaccinations for school, you should contact your physician’s office or ICPHD to review

your child’s vaccination records.

ICPHD has COVID-19 vaccine available by appointment for individuals age 12 and older. At this time, there is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine. Pregnant/breastfeeding individuals will need to take written documentation from their physician to receive the vaccine.

Vaccines are available by appointment Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Note that individuals under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian present at the time of vaccination.** For a complete list of vaccines offered at ICPHD, visit co.iroquois.il.us/offices/health-department/community-health. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 815-432-2483.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail)

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother, Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse in thee. (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3x).

Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life You are with me. I want in this short prayer to Thank You for all things as you confirm once again, that I never want to be separated from You in eternal glory. Thank You for your mercy toward me and mine.

The Person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

Anonymous

AT THE CHURCHES

(continued from pg. 11)

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Rev. Stanley Drewniak,
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MAZON
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Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

Park Street
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806 Park Street
Pastor Tyler Carrell
Phone 448-5514

ODELL
St. Paul Catholic Church
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Father Chris Haake, Pastor

United Methodist Church
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Phone 815-998-2271
Rev. Janceen Tronc

RANSOM
St. Patrick Catholic Church
110 Wallace Street
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Parish Office: 815-795-2240 (Marseilles)
Email: parishgroup3@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Ransom United Methodist Church
Worship Service
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Pastor cell: 815-257-4485

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815-426-6169

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Pastor Andrea Boggs
Email: Zoarcommunity@yahoo.com
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

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Pastor Jane Bradford

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AT THE CHURCHES

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| DWIGHT Dwight United Methodist Church 701 S. Columbia 584-3420 church Dwightumc.org Pastor: Mary Arnold | New Life Assembly of God 903 S. Old Route 66 Victor J. Randle Jr., Pastor | NALC 511 W. Jackson P.O. Box 414 st.johns@frontiernet.net Pastor: Gabriel Baumgardner AUG. 12: Test Study Livestream on FB, 10 a.m.; Cullom Fair. AUG. 15: Church under the Tent, 9 a.m.; Cullom Fair. AUG. 16: Friendship Day, 8:30-11:30 a.m. | Church LCMS 255 E. Third St. P.O. Box 414 815-426-2262 email: trinityher1@com-cast.net Rev. Eric J. Brown, Pastor |
| Emmanuel Lutheran Church LCMS 325 E. Mazon Ave. 584-3433 church 584-1291 fax Rev. John F. Mueller, Pastor Sunday Worship, 9 a.m. with Livestream on their Facebook page. Wednesday Evening Devotions, 6 p.m. | St. Patrick Catholic Church Mazon Ave. at Prairie 815-584-3522 Office Father Chris Haake, Pastor | Cullom United Methodist Church 103 E. Van Alstyne St. 815-689-2484 Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell | St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church Main Street Fr. Ron Neitzke 815-426-2153 |
| First Baptist Church 401 N. Clinton St. 815-584-3182 Home of Dwight's Christian Radio Station WGVD 97.3 FM Pastor Dan Woodward Wednesday Evening Service, 6:30 p.m. Sunday School for All Ages, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m. | St. Peter's Lutheran Church 326 W. Chippewa St. 815-584-1199 Pastor Chrissy Salser email: chrissytherev@att.net | ESSEX Essex United Methodist Church 114 Waverly St. | Herscher Christian Church 30 Tobey Drive Pastor Sam Stow Office Hours: Tue.-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 815-426-2908 Staff e-mail: life@herscherchristian.com herscherchristian.com On Facebook: Herscher Christian Church |
| First Congregational United Church of Christ 200 W. Delaware St. 584-1260 church Rev. Grant Speece Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. AUG. 11: Guild, 7 p.m. AUG. 15: 1 Kings 8:22-30; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58; "Solomon's Prayer" AUG. 18: Trustees, 7 p.m. | BRACEVILLE Braceville United Methodist Church 106 W. Gould St. 815-237-8512 Church 815-483-9343 Cell bracevilleumc.com Pastor Donald Batz Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. | GARDNER Church of Hope Presbyterian Church (USA) 202 N. Monroe P.O. Box 248 Janet Chandler, Pastor Office hours: T-W, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. 815-237-8312 ChurchofHope@sbcglo bal.net | KEMPTON Kempton United Methodist Church 305 Main Street 815-253-6373 Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell |
| | CABERY Cabery United Methodist Church Ames & Chester 815-949-1681 Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell | United Lutheran Church ELCA 309 E. Jefferson St. 815-237-2227 pastorule@att.net Pastor Greg Olson | Kempton Church of the Nazarene 105 E. Main St. 815-253-6250 Rev. John A. Mohler, Pastor (continued on pg. 10) |
| | CULLOM St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church | HERSCHER Trinity Lutheran | |

Dwight Schools to Continue Mask Mandate Discussion August 11

Superintendent Jancek to Retire / August 3 Actions

(continued from page 1)

The need to reconvene the special joint session came quickly when, on August 4, Gov. JB Pritzker announced a statewide school mask mandate as COVID cases increase and concerns about the delta variant spread in Illinois. The mandate applies to all PK-12 schools, both public and private. The Governor's mandate also extends beyond the classroom with face coverings required for all indoor recreation, whereas outdoors, where transmission risks and rates are lower, athletes and coaches will not be required to mask.

The Special Joint BOE Meeting to discuss the Governor's executive mask mandate order, and make a final determination with regard to mask wearing at Dwight Public Schools as students return to the classroom next week, will take place at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 11, in the DTHS Cafeteria. The meeting is open to the public.

In a related conversation, both boards discussed and accepted Safe Return to School Plans (ESSER III mandated). DCS Principal Julie Schultz outlined a plan that will, procedurally, have students "back to as much of a traditional experience as possible."

In another matter of joint concern, the Dwight BOEs accepted a Letter of Retirement from Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek. Dr. Jancek will retire on June 30, 2022, at the close of this coming school year. The BOEs discussed a plan to begin the search process for a new Superintendent of Dwight Public Schools. Dr. Jancek has served as Superintendent at Dwight since 2011. Dwight Common School BOE members took the following actions:

- accepted the resignation of Danielle Battles, 8th Grade Teacher.
- accepted the resignation of Hannah Bookheimer, 1st Grade Teacher.
- approved the employment of Jessica Schmeltzer, 1st Grade Teacher.
- approved employment of Laura Drews, 8th Grade Teacher.
- approved Memo of Understandings, Heartland Head Start.
- affirmed Jeremy DeLong, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach.

DTHS BOE members:

- approved employment of Dennis Dunlap, Boys Freshman Basketball Coach.
- approved an Intent to withdraw from Vermillion County

Conference (Football at the conclusion of the 2021/22 season) with a new conference to be determined.

- affirmed employment of Amie Lee, District Office Administrative Assistant.
- approved employment of Jana Brooks, Assistant Volleyball Coach.
- approved Carli Serpe, Social Studies Teacher.
- affirm IASB Annual Dues of \$2,397.00.
- approved extension of the Co-op with Gardner South Wilmington High School 2021/22 and 2022/23 for Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Cross Country, Boys/Girls Track, and Wrestling.

In additional Joint matters, the BOEs approved the employment of Timothy Halloran, Substitute Teacher.

Present at the special joint session was District 232 Board President Nick Stipanovich along with Board of Education members Lori Bowman, Tara Hansen, Mark Christenson, Michael Cornale and Jaime Mallaney; absent was Marc Ellis. Present for District 230 was Board President Tim Henson along with Board of Education members Max Sulzberger, Joel Sandeno Eric Scheuer, Susan Legner and Kevin Berta; absent was Paul Warner.

Taylor Rose Salon

New Hair Salon in Dwight Offers Many Beautiful Options

(continued from page 1)

niques.

"Now that's my specialty – foilage, root melting, hand painting. It's really an artistic aspect of hair color. I went to school for education for a year before I did beauty school. I wanted to be an art teacher and I kind of decided makeup would be a fun outlet. So, I decided to change career paths and luckily I ended up being talented at it."

Weikle moved to Dwight when she was 7. After graduating from Dwight High School in 2010, she spent time in Bloomington, Chicago and Florida before moving back to Dwight in 2018 with her now 3-year old daughter, Ruby.

Styling has been her life since she was 13 when she and her friends used kitchen sheers and shaving razors for their punk look of fun colors and haircuts. Moving her craft out of a house bathroom in high school, Weikle went to Regency Beauty Institute in Joliet and became a licensed professional in 2011. From there, the beautician started at Ulta Beauty as a designer (lowest entry level) and worked her way up the ranks to elite stylist (highest level) within two years. Then it was time for the managing ranks. "They actually needed a salon manager in a Chicago location, so I interviewed and got the job," Weikle said. "I was the youngest salon manager in Chicago district for Ulta. I worked with the CEO, Mary Dillion, and I actually did her daughter's hair for Prom and Homecoming."

"I worked at the main store so we did all of the new styles, new marketing, and any type of new services and packages. We were the ones to come up with it and test before other Ulta



Taylor Rose working in her new salon.

stores nationwide started to implement them."

Weikle worked at two bata salons – where it's all an exclusive, luxury experience and not just a hair cut– and rented booths from two local Dwight businesses upon her return to Dwight in 2018 to build a client base.

The list of clients has grown considerably for Weikle as her doors are open to anyone regardless of gender or location as she has men and women coming from many directions.

"About 45 percent of my clientele doesn't live in Dwight," Weikle said. "A lot of people travel from Coal City, Morris and Bloomington. That's important because people are coming from everywhere." The wedding season and upcoming school year may expand the client numbers even further. Weikle travels all over Illinois and has even been asked to leave the state borders to perform her services at weddings. She specializes in wedding hair and makeup and is willing to put miles on her vehicle to make everyone involved in the special day look special.

The same services will be provided for high school events such as Homecoming and Prom. "I partner with Shayla Loring Photography," Weikle said. "I do all of the hair and makeup for her senior model team. It's really fun to partner with her and hopefully we'll be able to add some fun events for Dwight and do makeup parties."

"We're going to get together where we offer a Prom package where all of the girls get together, get their hair done and have a little party with their photographs taken."

Brandon LaChance can be reached at (815) 876-7941, blachance20@gmail.com or on Twitter @LaChanceWriter.

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