

\*\* ECRWSS \*\*

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Wednesday, August 18, 2021

## Senior Living ~ Pages 4 and 5 ~ Inside today!

## Gardner Residents Voice Continued Concern **About Property Conditions**

by Don Phillips

The Gardner Village Board met in regular session August 9, and again heard concerns from residents concerning the condition of several properties in the village.

Mayor Mike Serena reported there have been two additional vehicles towed, three moved, as well as several yards cleaned. Serena noted at least one case will go to legal and it is an ongoing process. Several residents also inquired regarding applying for grants.

Bill Pohl, representing the Knights of Columbus, requested the board's approval for the annual Tootsie Roll special education and proannual drive will be held September 9, 10, and 11, one week earlier than normal. The board approved unanimously.

The board continued their discussion of the Golf Cart

ordinance. Mayor Serena presented the most recent draft, which he has shared with the County Board and Grundy County Sheriff's Department. The village is awaiting feedback from the other agencies and the ordinance was again tabled.

Village Engineer Casey McCullom reported the generator at the water plant has been repaired and repairs have been made to several sections of ten-inch pipe, with additional pipe to be repaired. The public works employees have been cleaning ditch areas throughout the village.

Mayor Serena reported he spoke to the Union Pacific fund-raising drive to support Railroad concerning the hole grams at local schools. The Carbon Hill Road railroad crossing. The railroad denies responsibility but agreed to pay for the repairs.

> The audit report was distributed to the board for its review and approval at the next meeting.



at the southwest corner of the DWIGHT FARMERS MARKET Every Saturday, 8-11 a.m. on East Main Street in Downtown Dwight, Produce, plants, trinkets, homemade kitchen items and so much more. The only thing missing is YOU!

### John Branz Named Grand Marshal of 2021 Herscher Grand Labor Day Parade

The Herscher Chamber of Commerce and its Labor Day Parade Committee have announced that John Branz has been selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2021 Herscher Grand Labor Day Parade.

John grew up in Saunemin, the son of the late Genevieve and Kenneth Branz, and graduated from Saunemin High School in 1964 – where he later served as Vice President in 2017 and President in 2018 of the Saunemin Alumni Associa-

In 1974, he moved to Herscher with his wife, Margo (Hendrix) Branz.

He went on to graduate from Marycrest Business College in Kankakee in 1968. While at Marycrest, John joined Kankakee Federal Savings and Loan Association part time in May of 1968, and then began full time in October of 1968. He started as a courier, then managed the Intra-Office Services Department. In 1973, he moved to the Accounting Department until he was named Assistant Branch Manager of the new Kankakee Federal office in Herscher that

opened August 1, 1977. Three ber's Community Service years later, he was named Branch Manager of the Herscher office. He was elected an Assistant Secretary of the Bank in January of 1980. When he retired from Kankakee Federal Savings Bank after 33+ years on December 31, 2001, he was an Assistant Vice President. He continued to work for the bank, and its successor, Centrue Bank, as a "float" person until April of 2007. When he completely retired, he had a total of 39 years between part time and full time with Kankakee Federal/Centrue.

John has been very active in the community, starting with the Kankakee Jaycees in 1971, where he served as Membership Director, Treasurer, and Internal Vice President.

He served on the Village of Herscher Zoning Board of Appeals from 1981 to February, 1993, when he was appointed to the Herscher Village Board, where he continues today to serve as the Finance Chairman.

A Herscher Chamber of Commerce member since 1977, he received the Cham-

Award in 1996. John has served as Co-Chairman of the Labor Day Parade since 1991 and has also been a long-time member of the Labor Day Entertainment Committee. He was Herscher Chamber President when the Village of Herscher celebrated its Centennial in 1982.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Herscher Townhouses, Inc., from 1982-2003, and was President of the Board from 1984-2001.

He was a charter member of the Board of Directors of Kankakee County Crimestoppers, Inc., serving from 1983-1992, and its Board President 1989-1990.

John served on the Board of Directors of the Kankakee Chapter of the American Red Cross from 1988-1990, has worked on several United Way of Kankakee County campaigns, is a former member of the Kankakee Lodge of the Loyal Order of the Moose, a former member of the Board of the Herscher Foundation, representing the Herscher United Methodist Church, and was one



John Branz

of three original incorporators of the Herscher Area Historical Society.

John served eight years on the Board of Directors of the Kankakee County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Two of those years he was an At-Large member of the Board and six of those years he represented the

Kankakee County Board. John has been very involved in his church, Herscher United Methodist, serving as Church Treasurer, secretary-treasurer of the Men's Club, Chairman of

(continued on page 14)



BILL POHL, left, and Gardner Mayor Mike Serena announce the annual Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll fundraising drive to support special education and programs at local schools will be held September 9, 10, and 11. This event is one week earlier than normal.

# **SALE VALID 8/18-8/24/21 DWIGHT 815-584-2492**

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WEEKLY AD AT BERKOTFOODS.COM









#### FOR THE RECORD

#### **Ticket Issued** by Dwight Police

August 8: Dakota J. Sater, 20, Morris, expiration of registration.

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

#### **Dwight Police Blotter**

Crisis Intervention -1; Assist Agency -5; Lock Out -4; Return Calls - 9; Medical Aid – 3; Illegal Burn – 1; Well Check Warrant/Wanted Person - 1; Walk In To DPD – 1; Reckless Driver – 1; Battery – 2; Burglar Alarm – 1; Traffic Stop – 3; Miscellaneous – 1; 911 Misdial – 1; Suspicious Subject – 1; Verbal Domestic Issue – 1; Suspicious Vehicle – 2; Audible Alarm -1; Threats -2; Report of DUI - 1; Accident - 1; Check Area – 1; Motorist Assist - 1; Found Item - 1.

#### **Accident Report**

Monday, August 9, 9:05 a.m., an accident was reported at Rt. 17 and Rt. 47 involving a Dodge Caravan, driven by Jessica Ryan, Mazon, which struck a Jeep Latitude, driven by Brittany Allen, Chenoa, after failing to yield.

#### **LaSalle County Accident Report**

Thursday, August 11, 7:10 a.m., LaSalle County Deputies investigated a single-vehicle accident with no injuries, car versus deer on N. 17th Rd., ical, Morris.

3/4-mile east of E. 29th Rd. Douglas Maubach, 35, Odell, was traveling east on N. 17th Rd. when his vehicle struck a deer on the front side of his ve-



#### Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

August 5: Bannon, medical; Mazon, fire; Spencer, trauma, mutual aid to Odell.

August 6: 2600 E. Rd., medical; I-55, medical, refusal; Deer, trauma, mutual aid from Coal City; Northbrook, medical, Morris.

August 7: Mazon, medical, Morris; Industry, trauma, Morris, mutual aid to Gardner; Prairie, medical, St. James; Mazon, medical, Morris.

August 8: North, trauma, St. James; I-55, trauma, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.

August 9: Rt. 47 and Rt. 17, trauma; Watters, fire; Mazon, medical, Riverside; Bannon, trauma, refusal.

August 10: Mazon, medical,

August 11: Rt. 17, fire; Mazon, medical, Morris; 2700 N. Rd., trauma, Riverside; Union, fire, mutual aid from Gardner; De Witt, COQ, mutual aid to Coal City; Churchill, medical, Morris, mutual aid to Coal City; Northbrook, med-

#### Video Gambling **Continues To Grow**

The Illinois Gaming Board reported that 40,496 video gambling terminals were in operation during July, at 7,670 lo-

The state's total number of terminals is 339 more than in June, and at 47 new locations.

The state share of video gaming revenue in July was \$64,829,733.

The Village of Dwight earned \$8,006 from the \$699,189 gambled locally.

Dwight and Gardner July results by location are below.

#### **Dwight**

July F	<u>unds In</u>	<b>Funds Out</b>	NTI*	State I	<u>Dwight</u>
Aly Anne's	s 55,574	44,985	10,588	3,070	529
Cherry Red	d's 6,149	4,389	1,759	510	87
Lili Mae's	150,580	114,951	35,628	10,332	1,781
Love's	234,064	172,409	61,654	17,879	3,082
VFW	97,783	80,826	16,956	4,917	847
Vic. Lanes	12,155	7,957	4,197	1,217	209
Virbapa	20,077	17,547	2,529	733	126
Willy's	122,807	<u>95,997</u>	<u>26,809</u>	<u>7,774</u>	<u>1,340</u>
TOTAL:	\$699,189	539,066	160,123	46,436	8,006
~ 1					

#### Gardner

<u>July</u>	Funds In	Funds Out	NTI*	<b>State</b>	Gardner
Buddies (3)	934	930	3	1	.17
Marks (5)	46,151	33,396	12,754	3,698	<u>637</u>
TOTAL:	\$47.085	34 327	12 757	3 699	637

\*The State of Illinois and Villages receive a total of 33% of the Net Terminal Income monthly (State 28%, Village 5%). Of the remaining 67%, Scientific Games receives 0.7275% of the NTI as compensation for building and maintaining the Central Communications System, which is monitored by the Illinois Gaming Board. The remaining income is divided equally between the terminal operator and location.

Gambling problem? Call 1-800 GAMBLER.



#### Temps - 2021

Aug. 5 - high 83°, low 57° Aug. 6 - high 82°, low 65° .12" precip.

Aug. 7 – high 87°, low 69° Aug. 8 - high 88°, low 66° .67" precip.

Aug. 9 - high 80°, low 69° .06" precip.

Aug. 10 – high 90°, low 71° .01" precip.

Aug. 11 - high 86°, low 66° 1.52" precip.

One Year Ago-Aug. 18, 2020 high 83°, low 62° .03" precip.



#### **Dwight Fire Incidents** 8/6 - 8/12

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:

August 7: Mutual Aid to Gardner - Motor Vehicle Acci-

August 9: Motor Vehicle Accident - Rt. 17 & 47; Gasoline/Fuel Spill - Watters

August 10: Smoke Detector Activation/False Alarm - Morgan St.

August 11: Automatic Fire Alarm/False Alarm - North

Dwight FPD also responded to eight medical assists with Dwight EMS.

## Vermilion Valley **ETSB** Meeting August 18

A meeting of the Vermilion Valley Regional Emergency Communications Joint Authority Board is slated for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 18, in the Public Safety Complex, 911 Training Room (downstairs), 844 W. Lincoln St.,

The next regular meeting of the Vermilion Valley ETSB will be held Wednesday, September 15, at the same time and location.

The next regular committee of the whole meeting is set for Wednesday, October 13, at 10:00 a.m. at the same location.





#### *It's History...*



CAN YOU IDENTIFY ANYONE PICTURED? 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

#### It was February 1947 . . .

Margadette Moffatt, a senior at College of St. Francis in Joliet, and Theresa Christesen, freshman at the College, were listed on the first semester honor roll.

A Troop 77 Boy Scouts of America meeting was conducted by Jerry Edmunds and Chuck Brady. Lee Christopher transferred from Cubs to Boy Scouts; Leroy Deutscher transferred to Troop 77 from Westmont, Illinois; and John Carty was a new recruit. Dick Schou was awarded his bars as a patrol leader.

Pfc. Doug Kepplinger and Pfc. Ollie Zappa, friends from Dwight high school days, met in Yokohama, Japan in January of this year. Both were inducted into the Army in February 1946.

### Local Scene -and Unseen

by Tom Tock

4,183 is the new population figure for Dwight. Or is it? That number is based on a projection of the latest U.S. Census estimate.

In 2018 that estimate was 4,210. In 2010, the last official U.S. Census figure for Dwight was 4,482.

The census figure used for village business the last ten years has been 4,260, according to Administrator Kevin McNamara.

4,300 has been the population number on signs at entrances to Dwight.

New lights for the downtown area have been ordered for several weeks, though de-

livery may be 12 weeks away. The pandemic has changed production and delivery dates for any number of manufacturers, and this is likely the problem with the lights, the erection of which should enhance downtown and eliminate the barrels that cover the electrical connections.

Vandals caused some light damage to the train station recently. Village workers again had to clean it up.

Security cameras at the station have not been in use since the station was built but a new service provider has been hired to resume the picturing of everyone who enters the sta-

#### Free Food to Be **Distributed August 25**

Free food will be distributed to qualifying households in Dwight Township Wednesday, August 25, 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.

#### Babysitter's Training Course at Morris Hospital in Sept.

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers is offering a Babysitter's Training Course Saturdays, September 11, September 18, or October 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the former Shabbona School, 725 School St., Morris.

The Babysitter's Training Course is designed for youths age 11 and older who are interested in acquiring the information and education needed for a safe babysitting experience.

Topics include first aid, diapering and feeding techniques, bedtime strategies, safe and age-appropriate toys and games, and preparing for a babysitting interview. Participants should take a doll to class. Face masks must be worn during class.

A registration fee applies, which includes lunch. Register online at morrishospital.org/ events. Questions can be directed to 815-705-7360.

#### **Upcoming Events**

**Fairbury Fair August 18-22** 

Thresherman's Reunion September 2-6

Herscher **Labor Day** September 4-6

**Dwight Harvest Days** September 16-19



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#### 529 Plans: Not Just For College

If you've heard of 529 plans, you might think they can only be used to help pay for college. And you wouldn't be alone: Less than one-third of adults properly identified that a 529 plan can be used for more than just higher education, according to a survey by Morning Consult and Edward Jones. But what are these other expenses?

Before we get to them, let's review the main benefits of 529 plans. Contribution limits are high and earnings can grow tax-free if withdrawals are used for qualified education expenses such as tuition and room and board. (Withdrawals for nonqualified distributions are subject to taxes and a 10% penalty on the earnings portion.) Plus, as the account owner, you maintain control of the plan, so you can switch beneficiaries to another qualified family member, if neces-

Now, let's consider the other uses of 529 plans, which have been made possible by various pieces of legislation over the past few years:

Student loan repayments - The average amount of student loan debt per borrower is well over \$32,000, according to the Federal Reserve. So, many people welcomed the news that 529 plans could be used to repay student loans. There's an aggregate lifetime limit of \$10,000 in qualified student loan repayments per 529 plan beneficiary, plus \$10,000 for each of the beneficiary's siblings. Being able to use 529 plans to repay student loans gives you some flexibility if your family members have excess balances in their accounts.

K-12 expenses – A 529 plan can now be used to pay up to \$10,000 per year in tuition expenses at private, public and religious elementary and secondary schools. This amount is per student, not per account. However, not all states allow 529 plans to be used for K-12 expenses – or to be technical, some states consider K-12 tuition to be a nonqualified 529 plan expense, which means the earnings portion of a 529 plan is subject to state income taxes and possibly a "recapture" of other state income tax breaks connected with 529 plan withdrawals. So, make sure you understand your state's rules on K-12 expenses before taking money out of your 529 plan.

Apprenticeships - Not every child wants or needs to attend a college or university. And now, 529 funds can be used to pay for apprenticeship programs registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. These types of programs, which combine on-the-job training with classroom instruction, are offered at community colleges and trade schools. Once students complete their apprenticeships, they often go on to well-paying careers in a variety of fields. And since these types of programs are typically far less expensive than a four-year college degree, a 529 plan can have a particularly long reach. The tax treatment of 529 plans for all these expenses can vary from state to state, so, if you move to another state after you've established your plan, you'll want to know the rules. Even if you don't move, it's still a good idea to consult

with your tax advisor about how 529 plan withdrawals will be treated. Nonetheless, a 529 plan could be valuable to you in many ways. Consider how you might want to put it to work for you and your family.

> 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**

The nation's average gas price has fallen 0.5 cents per gallon from a week ago to \$3.18 per gallon today according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million individual price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country. The national average now stands unchanged from a month ago and \$1.01 per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen a penny in the last week and stands at \$3.28 per gallon.

City/Village Dwight Kankakee Streator Pontiac	August 16 \$3.30 \$3.20 \$3.04 \$3.13	August 9 \$3.24 \$3.23 \$3.18 \$3.16
Gardner	\$3.25	\$3.25
Braceville	\$3.39	\$3.39
Morris	\$3.33	\$3.34
Herscher	\$3.29	\$3.33
Chicago	\$4.01	\$3.55
Illinois	\$3.36	\$3.40
U.S.	\$3.18	\$3.19

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

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## Senior Living

#### Simple Ways to Maintain Memory As You Age



Adults confront various agerelated side effects as they transition from middle age to their golden years. Skin may begin to wrinkle and hair may turn gray, but those are just the vis-

ible side effects of aging. Many additional effects are unseen, but those changes can have a profound effect on adults' quality of life.

According to the Mayo

Clinic, various parts of the evitable, even if it's commonly body are affected by aging. For example, the cardiovascular system changes as people grow older. Blood vessels and arteries stiffen as adults age, forcing the heart to work harder to pump blood through them.

Though many changes are linked to aging, other changes commonly associated with aging, such as a decline in memory, reasoning and other thinking skills, are not natural. The Alzheimer's Association® notes that dementia is not a normal part of aging. There are many different types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, and these are the result of damage to brain cells that affect a person's ability to communicate. That damage is not inassociated with aging.

The Harvard School notes that fleeting memory problems experienced with aging often reflect normal changes in the structure and function of the brain. But it's important that those changes not be mistaken for dementia, and it's equally important that adults recognize there are many ways they can protect and sharpen their minds as they

Continue learning. HMS notes that a higher level of education is associated with improved mental functioning in old age. The reasons for that are unknown, but experts theorize that advanced education compels people to remain mentally

active, which in turn helps them maintain a strong memory. Even aging men and women who are still working in challenging fields can benefit from pursuing a new hobby or learning a new skill.

• Use the tools at your disposal. It may seem counterintuitive to suggest that organizational tools like planners, maps and lists can help people maintain their memories. However, HMS notes that expending mental energy on finding car keys or trying to remember what to buy at the store makes it harder to learn new and important things.

• Let all your senses play a role. HMS reports that the more senses a person uses to learn steps to maintain their memosomething, the more his or her ries as they age.

brain is involved in retaining a memory. HMS cites one study in which adults were shown a series of emotionally neutral images that were each presented along with a smell. Participants were not asked to recall what they saw, but were later shown a set of images and asked to indicate which they had previously seen. The participants had excellent recall for the odor-paired images, and researchers believe that's because additional parts of the brain were activated when participants were asked to use more than one sense.

Memory loss is not an inevitable side effect of aging, especially for adults who take









Whether you plan to play golf, travel the world, or spend more time with your family, determining your retirement needs is the first step to defining how the assets you've worked hard to build, keep working for you.

Planning for your retirement can be a daunting task. If you're nearing retirement, we can work with you to evaluate your needs and develop a sound strategy that helps to pursue your goals and provide greater satisfaction.

Contact our office today for more information or to schedule a free consultation.



Stephen J. Tock

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#### How to Build Friendships in Your Golden Years

Making friends as a child or even as a parent to school-aged children is relatively easy. Classrooms and school functions facilitate the building of friendships. Even as one gets older and enters the workforce, it's not uncommon for people to become friends with their coworkers.

As people near retirement age, their situations may have changed considerably. Children have moved out, careers are coming to an end and friendships may be hard to maintain due to people relocating or traveling. Older adults may aspire to make new friends, but they may not know how.

Ph.D., The Friendship Doctor and contributor to Psychology Today, it is not unique for seniors to want to make new friends. Age can be a barrier because there are stereotypes that pigeonhole people of certain ages. But Levine notes that state of mind and physical ability is not directly tied to chronological age. Making friends is pos-

sible at any age. These guidelines can help along the way.

• Explore online connections. A 2016 study published in the According to Irene S Levine, Journal of Gerontology found seniors (even those in their 80s) who stay connected with friends and family using social media report feeling less lonely and better overall. Connected seniors also demonstrated higher executive reasoning skills. There are plenty of ways to meet new people online by joining social media groups that cater to your interests. In person meetings in particular cities or regions of the country also can make for great ways to make new friends. Exercise caution when meeting people in person after contacting them online. Take another person along, whether it's a spouse or an adult child, to ensure that you are

> • Volunteer your time. One way to meet new people is to get involved with causes or activities you love. This serves the double benefit of getting you outside and active and puts you in touch with people who share your passions and interests.

> • Attend alumni events. If you have an interest getting in touch with someone from your past and reconnecting, make the time to attend school reunions and other alumni activities. It can be fun to reconnect with friends from high school or college.

> **Join a gym.** The local gym isn't just a great place to get physically fit. Group exercise classes also can be ideal places to meet other people who enjoy working out. Strike up a conversation with another class participant you see on a regular basis. Once you develop a rapport, schedule lunch dates so your friendship grows outside of the

> Making friends is not just for the young. Men and women over 60 also can find ways to build new friendships.



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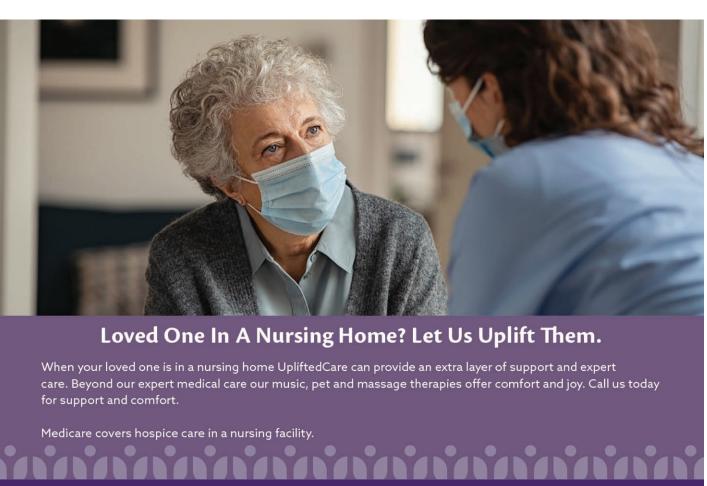
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## Senior Living

#### How to Help Seniors Adapt to Automotive Tech

and ask for a quick tutorial on

all the safety features in the ve-

hicle. Salesmen demonstrate

these features every day, so it

shouldn't take long for them to

• Be patient. Each person

adapts to a new technology at his or her own pace. It's impor-

tant to remain patient when teaching aging drivers how to

use the tech in their vehicles.

Old habits die hard, and while

some drivers may quickly

adapt to tech like backup cam-

eras, others may not be so

quick to abandon driving techniques they've been safely

using for decades. Stay the

course, remain patient and

allow senior drivers to adapt at

• Teach one tech at a time. It can be overwhelming for driv-

ers of all ages to adapt

overnight to all the tech in their

new vehicles. When teaching

senior drivers how to utilize

various driver assistance tech-

nologies, take it one tech at a

time. When coupled with your patience, this approach can

help seniors avoid being over-

whelmed and increases the likelihood that they will em-

brace the tech in their vehicles.

driver assistance technologies

every day. A patient and methodical approach to showing

seniors how their vehicles can

help them stay safe behind the

wheel can be a road map to

helping seniors adapt to life in

EOE

modern vehicles.

Many senior drivers utilize

their own pace.

show you the ropes.

Modern automobiles are more technologically advanced than ever before. That tech isn't just making driving more comfortable and convenient, but also more safe.

In a recent analysis of motor vehicle accidents, researchers at the International Institute for Highway Safety found that vehicles with blind spot and lane departure warning systems were involved in 11 percent fewer sideswipes and head-on crashes than cars that did not feature such systems. In addition, the IIHS estimates that the number of automobile crashes in the United States could be decreased by 85,000 each year if every vehicle were outfitted with a lane departure warning system.

Driver assistance systems have made driving safer for millions of people across the globe, but one demographic may need some extra help adapting to modern vehicles, and may even need a little extra encouragement to utilize tech that can keep them safe behind the wheel. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that, in 2018, the United States was home to 45 million licensed drivers aged 65 and over. That marks a 60 percent increase since 2000. Though seniors' perceived unwillingness or inability to utilize modern technology is often overstated, some aging drivers may need a little extra help as they try to learn how to use assistance technologies in their vehicles.

• Learn the tech yourself. Assistance technologies are not all one and the same. Vehicle manufacturers have their own systems and there can be a learning curve when adapting to a new one. If you aspire to teach a senior how to utilize the assistance technologies in his or her vehicle, first learn the tech on your own. If both you and your aging friend or family member own a Subaru, chances are you already know how to use the tech in your loved one's vehicle. If you drive cars made by different manufacturers, visit the dealership where your loved one bought his or her car



100

TO HELP CELEBRATE William Henry's 100th birthday, motorcycles, cars, and trucks lined up at the bowling alley so they could parade through Heritage Health, Dwight, on August 1. Residents and staff at Heritage Health also joined in the festivities outside to help celebrate William's 100th birthday – an extra special treat, 100 cupcakes were



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30 YEARS! The Dwight Township High School Class of 1991 celebrated their 30-year Class Reunion on August 7 at the Dwight Country Club. Pictured, front row, from left, are Tracy (Copes) Anderson, Jennifer (Piskule) Lindsey, Leta (Schrishuhn) Leach, Mike Pedersen; second row, Gary Beier, Tom Legner, Jennifer (Connor) Horrie, Jennifer (Carlson) Robison, Amanda (Patten) Lauritsen; back row, Mike Dinelli, Jon Hall, Sarah (Drake) Brown, and Jason Davison.

#### **Art Show Open House** at PCPL **A Success**

The Piper City Public Library had its first local artist Art Show Open House, and the librarians were overwhelmed by the response of the public to loan them their precious art-

They had a wide variety of creativity on display, such as oil painting, watercolor, stained-glass window, tatting, pictures on clay and scratch board, pen and pencil drawing, photography, 3-D glass painting, wooden quilt blocks, small wooden puzzles, and painted China plates.

Many guests attended the open house to enjoy the gifts and the history of the artists.

Talent seemed to run in families in several cases, as they had three mother and daughters, and one grandmother and granddaughter, that shared their talents.



Ellen and Keith Girard



#### Keith and Ellen Girard **Celebrate 50th Anniversary**

Keith and Ellen Girard, of Cornell, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 31 with a family dinner at Capponi's restaurant in Toluca.

The couple was marrried at Trinity Lutheran Church, Goodfarm, Dwight. Attendants were Deloris (Thompson) Lockwood and Ron Girard.

They have two children, Debora (Dan) Van Dyke, Newton, WI, and Brian (Andrea) of Streator, four grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Keith retired from Owens-Illinois Glass in 1994. Ellen retired from North Central Behavior Health in 1996.

#### **Ashlyn Kratochvil Receives Livingston County HCE Scholarship**

The Livingston County versity attendance. They must HCA (Home, Community, and Association) Education \$1,000.00 student scholarship for 2021 has been awarded to Ashlyn Kratochvil of Fairbury.

She is a 2021 graduate of Prairie Central High School and will be attending Illinois State University. Her goal is to become an Elementary Education Teacher. Her parents are Phil and Angie Kratochvil.

The scholarship is open to any student who graduated, or will graduate, from a Livingston County High School or who resides in Livingston County prior to college or uni-

be enrolling as a full-time student in an accredited two- or four-year college.

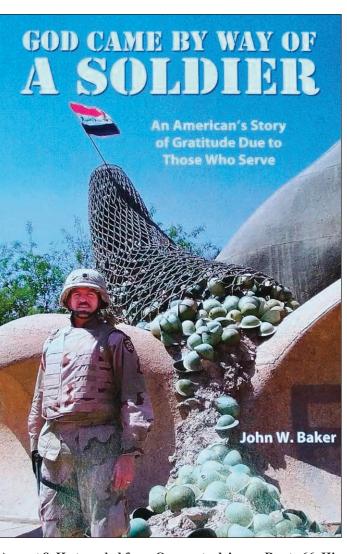
For more information, contact Shirley Meenan at 815-657-8385 or your guidance counselor at your school.

The scholarships are funded partially thru donations made by family and friends of deceased HCE members.

The scholarship judges for 2021 were Meenan and Ann Hoke, members of the Pleasant Ridge HCE, and Brenda Collins and Connie Kostelc, members of Rooks Creek Starlighters HCE.

#### Read The Paper every week!





AUTHOR JOHN W. BAKER visited Ambler-Becker gas station August 8. He traveled from Oregon to drive on Route 66. His new book, "God Came By Way of a Soldier," tells his story. While at the gas station, he graciously gave a signed book to the volunteer. It will be available at Prairie Creek Public Library.



DRAWING EVERY MONDAY @ 6 p.m. JACKPOT OVER \$13,000

Tickets may be purchased until time of drawing. Open daily 10:00 a.m.

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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### Fred A. Zabel

Fred A. Zabel, formerly of by his wife, Jeanne K. Zabel. Dwight, passed away Wednesday, August 11, 2021.

He is survived by daughters: Tamra Monson (Dr. Victor) and Debra Hensold (Dr. Jack); granddaughters: Kara Krehbiel (Dr. Kyle), Kayla Hawkins (Chris), Briana Hensold (Benjamin Pearce), and Chloe Hensold (Dan Schiff); and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death

Funeral services were Monday, August 16, at 10:30 a.m. at Morning Star Lutheran Church, 331 S. 85th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska.

Private burial: Evergreen, with Military Honors by Millard American Legion Post 374 and VFW Post 8334.

Memorials are suggested to the Morning Star Lutheran

#### Marilyn Y. Luttrell

**DWIGHT** Marilyn Y. Luttrell, 74, of Forrest, Illinois passed away Friday, August 13, 2021 at Carle Bromenn.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, August 19, 2021 in Forrest Township Cemetery, Forrest, Illinois.

Memorials in Marilyn's name may be to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Forrest.

Marilyn was born February 17, 1937 in Hoopeston, Illinois, a daughter of Walter and Mabel F. (Gossett) Gillins. Her father passed away when she was 15 months old and her mother married Clarence King, who was a wonderful step-father to Marilyn. She married James Luttrell on June 30, 1956 in Forrest, Illinois. He passed away November 5,

She is survived by her children: Randy Luttrell, Lori

DeKeyser, Coykendall-Rogers; three grandchildren;

> Barbara Lykins of Leroy; Marta (Jed Reynolds) Brandon of Farmer City, Illinois; one niece and two nephews.

seven great-grand-

children; brothers

and sisters: Nancy

Cooper of Colfax;

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two brothers-in-law; and two

Marilyn was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Forrest, Illinois, and sang for many years in the Senior Choir. She worked over the years for the school cafeteria, Knapp Cabinetry, and Dave's Supermarket. She graduated from Forrest - Strawn - Wing High School in 1955.

This obituary may be viewed and guestbook signed at www.hagermemorialhome.

#### Robert 'Bob' Chellson

**DWIGHT** Robert "Bob" Chellson, 78, of Cardiff, Illinois passed away Wednesday, August 4, 2021 while on a family trip to Ogden, Utah.

Cremation rites have been accorded and a Celebration of Life will

be held at a later date. Memorials in Bob's name

may be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Bob was born November

11, 1942 in Chicago, Illinois, a son of Carl and Martha (Jasa) survives in Cardiff, Illinois.

Also surviving are sons: Robert (Kim) Chellson, Jr. of Bourbonnais; Shane (Shawna) Cuddy of Morris; daughters: Kim (Dan) Spargur of Las Vegas, Nevada; Kiedra (Craig) Meece of Coal City, Illinois;



grandchildren: Tim, Tony and Tom Chellson; Layne and Lance Cuddy; Ryan and Danielle Pool, and Colin Meece.

One brother, Thomas (Linda) Chellson of Salt Lake City, Utah; and one sister, Jeanette

(Darrell) Richardson of Manteno, Illinois also survive, along with his beloved dog,

He was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Eric Chellson.

He was a member of the Chellson. He married Brenda PUBS motorcycle group, and Rafferty May 11, 1996 at EJ an avid Peterbilt and Harley Carz in Verona, Illinois. She enthusiast. Bob loved traveling in his RV and his winters in Florida. His grandchildren will always remember his favorite sayings and one liners.

This obituary may be viewed and guestbook signed at www.hagermemorialhome.

#### 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 house hold. 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.



Liberty St., Gardner, IL

815-237-2526 www.ReevesFuneral.com

For a Life Worth Celebrating

#### **Notice of Budget Hearing:**

Notice is hereby given to the Public that Dwight Common School District #232 will hold a public hearing on the annual budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022, on September 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dwight Common School Cafe, 801 South Columbia 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 Common School District #232

Mrs. Debbie Conroy **Board Secretary** 

#### Robert E. Gaston

SAUNEMIN Robert E. Gaston, 91, of Saunemin, Illinois passed away Saturday, August 14, 2021 at Evenglow Lodge in Pontiac, Illinois.

Funeral services were held in the United Methodist

Church in Saunemin at 11 a.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2021. Pastor Jane Bradford officiated. Masks were encouraged to be

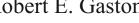
Visitation was held from 9:30 a.m. until the time of services at the church.

Cremation rites were accorded and burial will be in Sunny Slope Cemetery, Saunemin, at a later date.

Memorials in Robert's name may be made to the United Methodist Church of Saunemin or the Alzheimer's Association.

Robert was born March 17, 1930 in rural Emington, Illinois, a son of Robert J. and Nora (O'Brien) Gaston. He married Ann Rich in 1951 at the United Methodist Church in Saunemin. She survives in Saunemin.

Also surviving are his chil-



dren, JoAnn Jenkins of Bloomington, Illinois; Karen (Billy) Sims of Saunemin; Jean McGuffin of Pontiac; James "Jim" (Shelah) Gaston of Emington; 10 grandchildren; 13 greatgrandchildren; seven

great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents; brother, John Gaston; sister, Mary Rieck; son-inlaw, Gary Jenkins; and niece, Carol Rieck-Hahn.

Robert served his country in the United States Navy during the Korean War from 1951-1955. He was a member of the American Legion Post 5310. He was also a member of the United Methodist Church in

He graduated from Saunemin High School in 1948. He was an avid White Sox fan and enjoyed spending time with his family and tending to his yardwork. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor.

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

#### Anna Mae Leach

Another obituary appears on Page 12

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Anna Mae Leach, 97, of Mazon passed away August 9, 2021 at Heritage Woods Nursing Home in Dwight.

Born June 18, 1924 in Coal City, she was the daughter of the late Paul and Fannie (Small) Reuter.

Anna Mae graduated from Mazon High School with the class of 1942. She married Earl (Cootie) Leach in 1942 and they lived most of their lives in Mazon.

Anna Mae is survived by her son, Curt Leach, and daughter, Brenda Noonan of Mazon; grandchildren: Anna Noonan - McBee, Jarin Noonan, Tammy Leach, Andrea Leach and Candice El Mekkaoui; several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; brother, Bill (Shirley) Reuter; sister, Helen Barra; and several nieces, nephews, and

good friends.

Anna Mae was preceded in death by her husband, Earl (Cootie); her parents, Paul and Fannie; son, Merle Leach; daughter-in-law, Julie Leach; sisters: Evelyn (Johnnie) Stevenson and Ruth Reuter; and brother, John Reuter.

A graveside service will be held at Mazon Brookside Cemetery.

An online guestbook has been created for the family, where you may sign the book, share memories and photographs. You may visit our web-

www.ucdaviscallahan.com

Arrangements have been entrusted with U. C. Davis-Callahan Funeral Home and Aqua Cremation Center, located at 301 West Washington Street in Morris, Illinois 60450.

**Minutes** 



#### **Teetering On Chaos**

I learned this week, the hard way, that you're always a half-step away from something in your life stumbling into chaos.

Over the past 6-7 days, I've had my car towed from a parking garage (I called the tow truck, I was parked legally), attempted to jump my car 3 times, and it's been at the dealership to be fixed twice. All of this ended up running me about .75 stimulus checks.

I had a few thoughts going through this. The biggest is that a simple thing going wrong with your car, or your computer or phone, or it could be anything that you use in a day-to-day manner, is always very close to falling out of functional use. Thankfully, most of these things are very well built and don't do that. But it's always just so close and you never even consider

The shift gear in my car might've been on the verge of getting stuck for weeks, and then one day it just said "nope," and decided not to do its intended func-

On the other side of things, if my car not working is maybe the worst thing that has happened to me, then I'm probably doing okay in the grand scheme of

Which brings me to my next point. I want to say this with the disclaimer that people who work on and fix cars are important for society, but it has to be the biggest industry where you receive a charge and have no clue what you're being charged, with dentistry being a close second. I never actually know if I have a cavity or not - you just kind of have to take

Again, no ill will towards these professions. I just realize going through this that I would never know if what they're saying is correct. Maybe I should learn about my car, and my teeth, and then this wouldn't be the case.

But, what I do know is my car is back in my possession. It's functioning (for now.) And my life, for the moment, is avoiding chaos by a razor's thin edge.

> Aaron J. Boma 2016 ISU Grad

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

#### The Paper

fax: 815-584-2196 email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY – IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

DOROTHY M. DASSOW,

Deceased

Case No.: 2021-P-78

**CLAIMS NOTICE** 

NOTICE is hereby given to you of the death of DOROTHY M. DASSOW who died on June 1st, 2021. At the time of her death, DOROTHY M. DASSOW was a resident of Fairbury, Livingston County, Illinois.

Letters of office were issued on July 16th, 2021, to ERVIN D. FEHR, Independent Executor, whose address is 20263 E. 900 N. Rd., Fairbury, IL 61739, and whose attorney is William J. Gerber, of the Law Office of William J. Gerber, LLC, 201 W. Oak St., Fairbury, IL 61739.

Claims may be filed on or before February 18th, 2022. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Claims may be filed in the office of the Livingston County Circuit Clerk, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764, or claims may be filed with the Independent Executor, or both. If filed with the Clerk, claimant must within 10 days mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Independent Executor and to its attorney and file with the Circuit Clerk proof of such mailing or delivery.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/ service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp

DATED: <u>8/12/2021</u>

ERVIN D. FEHR, Executor

/s/ William J. Gerber BY: William J. Gerber, his attorney

Prepared By: William J. Gerber Attorney at Law Law Office of William J. Gerber, LLC 210 West Oak Street Fairbury, IL 61739 Telephone: 815.692.2224 Facsimile: 815.692.8227 Email: will@Gerberlaw.net ARDC: 6303375 8040-917280

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF TENTATIVE **BUDGET FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING THEREON

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Mazon-Verona-Kinsman School District 2C, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois, that the tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, will be on file and available for public inspection at the Office of the Superintendent, 1013 North Street, Mazon, Illinois, in this School District from and after 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 20th day of August, 2021.

Notice is further given that at 6:45 p.m. a public hearing on said budget will be held prior to final action hereon at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Mazon-Verona-Kinsman School District 2C at 7:00 o'clock p.m., on Monday, September 20, 2021, at the Mazon-Verona-Kinsman Middle School Library, 1013 North Street, Mazon, Illinois.

Board of Education of Mazon-Verona-Kinsman ESD 2C, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois.

Keith Pfeifer

**Board Secretary** 

### Morris Hospital's Rhythm of Our Youth Cardiac Screening **Returns to Area High Schools**

Morris Hospital's free team of specially-trained vol-Rhythm of Our Youth cardiac screening is returning to several area high schools fall semester of the 2021-22 school year, including Gardner-South Wilmington High School Wednesday, August 25, Morris High School September 8, Coal City H.S. Sept. 22, and Newark H.S. October 19.

The purpose of the screening is to prevent sudden cardiac death in high school students by identifying those who may have undiagnosed existing cardiac abnormalities.

With the exception of last school year, the screening has been conducted at each high school in the Morris Hospital service area every other year since 2016 as the result of funding provided by generous donors to the Morris Hospital Foundation.

On the screening day, a

unteers from Morris Hospital perform electrocardiogram (ECG) screenings free of charge to students who have received parental permission to participate. An electrocardiogram is a non-invasive, painless test that measures the electrical activity of the heart and detects certain heart abnormalities that can lead to sudden cardiac death.

Screenings are held during PE class or study hall. The test takes about three minutes to complete.

Based on results of the screenings, about 3% of students are referred to their physician for additional followup. Typically, less than 1% are found to have a medical problem that requires cardiac intervention. Results are sent home to the student's parents and are not shared with the school.

Parents who wish to have their child screened should complete an electronic consent form prior to the screening day by going to morrishospital.org/ rhythmofouryouth.

The screening is scheduled at Minooka H.S. and Seneca H.S. for the second semester of the 2021-22 school year. Dwight, Marquette, Ottawa, Reed-Custer, and Wilmington are on the rotation for the 2022-2023 school year.

Sudden cardiac death claims more than 2,000 lives of children and adolescents in the United States each year. Most victims of sudden cardiac death have had underlying heart conditions that could have been detected through a simple ECG.

For more information or to volunteer at a Rhythm of Our Youth screening event, go to morrishospital.org/rhythmof ouryouth.



## Hare & Tortoise 5K Race, 2-Mile Fun Walk in Herscher Sept. 5

The 40th Annual running of the Herscher Hare & Tortoise 5K Race and 2-Mile Fun Walk, under the direction of the Kankakee Running Club, is set for Sunday, September 5, with the starting time for all races kicking off at 5:30 p.m.

All runners and walkers should check in between 4:00-5:00 p.m. at the Herscher High School football field, located just south of the intersection of Illinois Route 115 and N. Elm

Online registration is available at racerpal.com/races/ herscher.html.

Both the 5K and 2-Mile Fun Walk will take place on Herscher's streets. The course is flat and mostly shaded. The course will be painted on the street to direct runners. Refreshments will be provided

after the race.

A fee applies to participate in the 5K Race, 2-Mile Fun Walk, and Bunny Dash, with the fee increasing August 23 through race day.

5K Age Divisions: Male and Female: 14 and Younger / 15-19 / 20-24 / 25-29 / 30-34 / 35-39 / 40-44 / 45-49 / 50-54 / 55-59 / 60-64 / 65-69 / 70-74 / 74 and Older. Masters Division: Male and Female, 40 and Older.

Championship awards will go to the overall men's and women's champions. Awards will be bestowed to the first, second, and third place finishers in each male and female age division. Also, a heavyweight award will be distributed to the fastest runner who weighs at least 200 pounds.

The 2-Mile non-competitive

Fun Walk will award the first ten finishers.

The Bunny Dash, for kids age seven and under, will be on the track and will start immediately after the completion of the 5K/Fun Walk.

The 5K and Fun Walk will finish at the Herscher High School football field. Police protection will be provided during the race. Awards will be presented at the football field after the race.



### **Dwight Sports Boosters**



**Sports Kickoff Dinner** 2021-2022

Friday, August 20th 5:30-7:30 P.M.

@ Football **Concession Stand** 

**Pork Chop Meal - \$7** Sandwich Only - \$5 Hot Dog Meal - \$4 Hot Dog Only - \$2

Meals Include – Chips, Water & Cookie

Volleyball Scrimmage @ 5:00



in the DTHS Gym



**Football** Scrimmage @ 6:30

at the Football Field

**Dwight Youth Football Players & Cheerleaders** Will Be Recognized at the Football Scrimmage

#### Registration Underway for Corn Fest 5K Run

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers will host its annual Corn Fest 5K Saturday, September 25, from Morris Elementary School, 2001 Dupont Avenue, Morris, as part of the Grundy County Corn Festival.

The race begins at 9:00 a.m. and is preceded by Youth Fun Run for children ten and under beginning at 8:15 a.m.

14,246

3,228

2,844

3,043

2,132

2,126

1,332

1,100

1,465

1,156

1,445

842

917

938

796

740

426

557

292

492

143

**Tested** 

275,324

230,800

75,402

127,871

59,601

35,998

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,457,687; Deaths: 23,594;

tests that are not, at this time, IDPH-approved tests.

Probable Deaths: 2,498; Total Tests Performed: 27,609,781.

Probable cases are individuals who have been tested and are

found to have a positive test result by a local clinic using "rapid"

**Town** Dwight

Herscher

Gardner

Odell

Mazon

Essex

Cullom

Reddick

Verona

Ransom

Cabery

Kempton

Blackstone

Emington

Kinsman

Campus

**County** 

LaSalle

Grundy

Kankakee

Livingston

Iroquois

Ford

Union Hill

Saunemin

Buckingham

Braceville

S. Wilmington

**Area COVID-19 Stats** 

as of August 16

Cases

618

236

227

180

179

157

145

97

84

70

67

60

63

47

43

39

37

35

19

17

13

<u>Cases</u>

15,036

13,256

6,248

5,051

3,412

2,016

Early bird registration for the 5K run is currently underway through August 29. A fee applies per person. From August 30 through September 21, the registration fee increases; and race day registration, also.

The first 350 pre-registered 5K participants will receive an adult, unisex, short sleeve running shirt.

Numbers

as of

08/16/21

Statistics via:

dph.illinois.gov

**Deaths** 

224

259

79

95

68

The course is a 3.1-mile USATF-certified course that starts on Dupont Avenue in front of Morris Elementary School and winds through residential neighborhoods. Awards will be presented to the top three in each age group, along with overall awards presented to the top three males and fe-

A fee applies per child for the Youth Fun Run, whether registering in advance or on race day. Children ages six to ten will run a half-mile course around the grounds of the school starting at 8:15 a.m. At 8:30 a.m., children five and under will run a 100-yard course on the field behind Morris Elementary School. Children registered for the Youth Fun Run will receive a short sleeve cotton t-shirt.

Online registration is available through September 21 at raceroster.com/45461 or by going to morrishospital.org/ events and clicking on the Special Events category. After September 21, participants may register in person on race day between 7:30-8:45 a.m.

For more information, call the Morris Hospital Wellness office at 815-705-7364.

> PLEASE Wear Masks where Required.

We are ALL in this TOGETHER! Saturday, Sept.18 @ 8:45 a.m.

**Dwight Harvest Days** 

5K run/3K walk

Renfrew Park Dwight, IL

Register: runsignup.com/ dwightharvestdays5k

Join in the fun!

#### Statement from Supt. of Catholic Schools

With the approval of Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, CSC, and Most Reverend Louis Tvlka the Office of Catholic Schools will be directing its 42 diocesan elementary and secondary schools to comply with Governor JB Pritzker's Executive Order mandating the wearing of masks for in-person learning in schools.

In his press conference, the Governor noted that to support safe in-person learning requires that masks be worn indoors by all teachers, staff, students, and visitors in PK-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

The Catholic Diocese of Peoria has the greatest concern and care for God's children, and will do what is required by the Governor to hopefully eradicate COVID-19 and its variants.





#### **MVK Lady Mavericks Softball**

#### Saturday, August 7 MVK vs. Saratoga

The Lady Mavericks were unable to complete a comeback against Saratoga August 7, falling 8-7.

Hayden Pfeifer tossed five innings, allowing three earned runs on seven hits and six walks, striking out ten in the loss. Aurora Weber recorded two outs, striking out one hitter, beaning another, and walking two. Morgan Starwalt pitched an inning-plus, giving up two hits and tallying one strikeout.

On offense, Lily Pfeifer led with four RBI on a 2-3 showing that included a home run, a walk, a stolen base, and two runs scored. Kaylee Klinker (double, SB, R) and Starwalt SAC, ROE) each knocked in one run. Lexi Buis was 2-4 with a double and a run scored. H. Pfeifer (BB, R), Madison Degrush (SB, R), and Audrey Claypool (SB, R) chipped in with a single each. Weber drew a walk.

#### MVK vs. Grand Ridge

MVK earned a "W" in its second game of the day, defeating Grand Ridge 17-1.

Morgan Starwalt picked up the win in the circle, striking out eight while allowing one earned run on three hits and two walks during the mercyrule-shortened contest.

Lexi Buis went off at the plate, going 2-2 with a grand slam, a walk, two stolen bases, three runs scored, and four RBI. Lily Pfeifer (1-1, BB, 3 SB, 2 R), Madison Degrush (1-1, HBP, 2 SB, R), Kaylee Klinker (2-2, 4 SB, R), Kaydynce Wardlow (HR, HBP) each batted in two runs. Hayden Pfeifer doubled in a run, walked once, stole two bases, and scored twice. Aurora Weber (double, 2 SB, R) and Audrey Claypool (4 SB, 2 R) had two hits each. Marlie Lissy drew two walks and scored once, while Starwalt walked

once, was hit by a pitch, and scored a run. Tori Skelton and Brynlee Hunt (HBP) each drew a free pass and stole three

#### Wednesday, August 11 MVK vs. Streator St. Michael's

The Lady Mavs dismantled Streator St. Michael's August

11, by a score of 20-6. Hayden Pfeifer got the victory, allowing four earned runs on two hits, a hit batsman, and 12 walks, fanning 13. Aurora Weber pitched an inning in relief, giving up two earned runs on one hit and four walks,

striking out two. Lexi Buis was a single shy of the cycle, but ended up with seven RBI on a double, a triple, and a home run, walking once, stealing two bases, and scoring five runs. Kaydynce Wardlow went a perfect 6-6 at the plate, doubling twice, swiping a base, and batting in six runs. Kaylee Klinker was 3-4 with a double, grounded into a fielder's choice, was hit by a pitch, and scored a run. Madison Degrush doubled twice, scored once, and knocked in two runs. Gracie Smith singled in a run, stole two bases, and scored a run. Lily Pfeifer was 3-6 with four stolen bases and four runs scored, while Hayden Pfeifer went 3-5 with a walk, scoring twice. Aurora Weber added two singles, walked twice, swiped two bags, and scored four runs. Audrey Claypool provided a single, a walk, two stolen bases, and two runs scored.

#### Thursday, August 12 MVK vs. GSWB

The MVK Lady Mavs edged out the GSWB Lady Lions 2-1 on August 12.

Hayden Pfeifer got the win, allowing just one earned run on two hits and three walks, striking out seven in a complete game effort.

Offensively for MVK, Lexi

Buis was 2-2 with a double, a walk, two stolen bases, an RBI, and a run scored. Aurora Weber (R, SB), H. Pfeifer, and Kaylee Klinker each singled, with Gracie Smith drawing one walk. MVK vs. GSWB

In "B" game action, MVK was victorious in a walk-off,

12-11. After the game got knotted up at 11, the Lady Mavericks had one more opportunity to win it in the bottom of the fifth – and that's precisely what

they did. Leading the way at the plate was Brooklyn Sheedy (double, 2 BB, 4 SB, R), Marlie Lissy (double, BB, 2 SB, 2 R), and Casey Humphrey (1-2, BB, 2 SB), each with one RBI. Brynlee Hunt singled, doubled, swiped four bags, and scored twice. Grace Biros doubled, walked twice, and scored once. Tori Skelton tripled, drew threw walks, stole three bases, and scored two runs. Ameliah Weber (3 SB, 2 R) and Maggie Pfeifer (3 SB, R) each drew two free passes, while Addison Kilmer walked once and later scored.

Lissy began the game in the circle, giving up five earned runs on four hits, a hit batsman, and six walks, striking out three in two innings. Am. Weber picked up the win in three innings of work, allowing five earned runs on six hits, two hit batters, and five walks, fanning five.

#### Saturday, August 14 MVK vs. Beecher

The Lady Mavericks fell victim to a combined perfect game dealt by Beecher August 14, losing 10-0.

Hayden Pfeifer took the loss in the circle, allowing eight earned runs on five hits, a hit batsman, and 12 walks, striking out three. Aurora Weber pitched in relief – walking one.

#### Wednesday, August 4 Dwight vs. Pontiac St. Mary's

On August 4, the Lady Redbirds suffered an 18-8 loss to Pontiac St. Mary's.

Madi Ely pitched five innings, giving up eight earned runs on eight hits and eight walks, striking out nine in the loss. Dori Wilson threw in relief, allowing six earned runs on four hits, a hit batsman, and three walks.

At the plate, Sophie Buck led with a double, a triple, three RBI and two runs scored. Delaney Boucher had one run batted in on a triple. Mikayla Chambers singled twice, stole three bases, and scored two runs. Makayla Wahl tripled and later scored. Ely singled and scored twice. Claire Sandeno drew a walk and swiped a bag. Hannah Harsh reached on an error and scored a run.

#### Thursday, August 5 Dwight vs. **Streator Woodland**

Dwight's "B" squad opened their season August 5 against Streator Woodland, dropping a 9-8 decision.

Raegan Brown had a triple with the bases loaded, knocking in three runs. Olivia Buck, Madlynn Lucus, Emmalynn Anderson, and Grace Tjelle each added a hit, with Buck batting in two runs and Mikayla Ely, Tjelle, and Cloe Gall batting in one each.

#### Saturday, August 7 **Dwight vs. Pontiac**

The Lady Redbirds stole the lead late in their game against Pontiac August 7, earning a 6-

Wednesday, August 11

MVK vs. Reed-Custer

Reed-Custer.

ing out 11.

first contest of 2021, coming

away with a 15-2 victory over

nings and allowed one run on

one hit and three walks, strik-

21 communities.

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Cam Shriey pitched four in-

The game was tied at 2-2

#### with Dwight batting in the bottom of the fifth, when Sophie Buck doubled on the first pitch

**DCS Lady Redbirds Softball** 

of the at bat, plating a run. In the bottom of the fourth inning, the Lady Redbirds tied things up when an error led to a run scored.

Taylor Heath was in the circle for Dwight, allowing four runs, three earned, on two hits, striking out ten in seven innings. She would also go yard at the plate in the fifth inning.

Heath (3-3) and Mikayla Chambers both managed multi-hit showings. "B" -

On August 7, the Dwight Lady Redbirds' "B" team hosted Pontiac, losing 20-2.

Raegan Brown and Sienna Burke each got a base hit, with Brown batting in a run.

#### Monday, August 9 Dwight vs. GSW

Dwight put up five hits against their rivals from GSWB August 9, but ultimately fell 6-3.

In the second inning, the Lady Redbirds got their offense started when Makayla Wahl singled on a 2-1 count, knocking in a run.

GSW pulled away for good, however, with four runs in the fourth.

Madi Ely toed the rubber for Dwight, with the righthander allowing four runs on two hits over four innings, striking out three. Taylor Heath threw two innings in relief.

Sophie Buck and Heath each had two hits in the game. GSWB tore up the base

paths on offense, tallying several stolen bases. "B" -

In "B" game play August 9,

the Lady Redbirds took on GSWB, pulling out a 14-13

Leading the team with two hits each were Olivia Buck (2 RBI) and Raegan Brown (3 RBI). Madlynn Lucus (1 RBI) and Mia Franklin (2 RBI) also added a hit each, with Franklin stealing five bases for her squad. Grace Tjelle had one RBI in the contest.

#### Thursday, August 12 Dwight vs. Saratoga

The Lady Redbirds lost the lead late against Saratoga, and would fall in a walk-off, 6-5.

Dwight got things moving in the first inning, with Mikayla Chambers knocking in a run on a single.

The game was tied at 5-5 after the Lady Redbirds put up a run in the top of the fifth on a Taylor Heath double, but then the Lady Hawks would walkoff on an RBI single in the bottom of the sixth.

Madi Ely started the game, surrendering six runs on six hits over six innings, striking out eight.

Heath led with a perfect 3-3 showing at the plate. Chambers also had multiple hits in the game.

Dwight's "B" team lost to Saratoga, 12-5.

Raegan Brown homered, with Olivia Buck doubling. Madylnn Lucus recorded two hits for the Lady Redbirds, while Cloe Gall singled.

Buck led in stolen bases with five, followed by three each from Lucus, Mia Franklin, and Sienna Burke. Gall added one swiped bag.

#### **GSWB Lions Baseball**

Wednesday, August 11 GSWB vs. **Grace Christian Academy** 

On opening day August 11, the Lions traveled to Grace Christian – holding them to just one hit and cruising to a 17-2

Four pitchers combined to toss the one-hitter, with Hunter Partilla starting on the mound and getting the victory. He would strike out two, peg another, and allow no hits in one inning. Cooper Biros pitched one inning, striking out three, beaning two, and allowing one unearned run. Aiden Mack pitched an inning in relief, walking two and giving up the lone hit to GCA, while striking out three batters. Reed Millette walked one and struck out three during his one inning outing.

At the plate, Gavin Bafia led with five RBI on a single and a triple. Partilla singled, walked once, scored a run, and batted in two runs. Ayden Christians (BB, 2 R), Owen Vitko (1-2, BB, 3 R), Brock Enerson (R), Aiden Himes (1-1, 2 BB, R), Millette (2 BB, 2 R), and Aiden Bodine (BB, ROE) each had

one RBI. Biros drew three walks and scored three runs. Mack walked twice and scored twice. Logan Rice drew a free pass and scored two runs.

#### Saturday, August 14 **GSWB vs. Reed-Custer**

GSWB took on Reed-Custer August 14, winning big, 17-5, in four innings.

The Panthers capitalized on a Lions error to take an early 1-0 lead. But GSWB answered in the bottom of the first, when Brock Enerson hit into an RBI fielder's choice that plated Ayden Christians - who had doubled earlier. Gavin Bafia followed with an RBI double that scored Owen Vitko, who previously walked.

With the help of a few walks, the Lions extended their lead to 8-1 after two innings. However, in the third, R-C would cut into the lead, making it interesting at 8-5.

That's when GSWB roared back with seven runs of their own in the third inning – and from there they would cruise to victory.

on the mound behind five strikeouts, allowing one earned run. Vitko came on in relief to keep the Panthers in check.

Christians, Bafia, and Vitko each scored three runs, while Enerson batted in three runs in the contest.

In the second game, Reed

In the bottom of the first, the Lions jumped out to a 3-0 lead. Then, Gavin Bafia extended their lead with a three-run homer in the third - giving

Heading into the fifth, the

Aiden Mack helped GSWB out of the bullpen to keep his squad in control.

Bagia plated five runs on two hits in the game. Hunter Partilla scored four runs.

The pair of wins puts the Christians grabbed the win Lions at 3-0 for the season.

The Paper ... connecting

Millette took the ball for GSWB against Reed-Custer's "B" team and was superb going three innings, fanning four and giving up just one hit.

GSWB a 7-0 lead.

Lions held an 11-0 advantage. Reed-Custer would put a dent in the lead, but never made it closer than what the final scored ended up being – 11-4.

#### **MVK Mavericks Baseball** Shriey also singled and

The MVK Mavericks took to the road August 11 in their

scored a run on offense. Colton Pfeifer had two doubles and three runs scored. Evan Eplin

added two hits and three runs, with Ethan Othon doubling. Vince Corrado scored twice.

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#### RBI Academy Fall Baseball League Sign-Up Underway

tember 15, and running for six weeks, will be the RBI Academy Fall Baseball League with games being held at Coal

City North Park. Boys in third through seventh grade are urged to join, as

Beginning Wednesday, Sep- they are currently looking for teams or individuals to form a

> Last year, this league was comprised of five Mustang and five Bronco teams.

which includes a shirt. Coaches with a team/uniform – to be determined.

For questions, or to register, contact Jerry McDowell at 815-735-6387 or e-mail jerry A fee applies per individual, mcdowell12@gmail.com.

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## Students Return to the Classroom August 18

by Madelyn Fogarty madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

In a masked-filled room that was mask free just one week prior, community members challenged the Boards or Education for Dwight Public Schools regarding a statewide school mask mandate announced on August 4 by Gov. JB Pritzker. The discussion took place during a special joint Board of Education session on August 11.

Last week, and prior to the new mask mandate, Dwight Schools had approved a resolution that would allow students and staff a personal choice regarding wearing face masks in the school buildings to start the school year. However, the BOEs also agreed to reconvene the Special Joint Meeting to discuss further if the CDC / IDPH guidelines changed and an executive order regarding wearing of masks was issued.

The mandate applies to all PK-12 schools, both public and private. The governor's mandate, prompted by a rise in COVID cases and concerns about the new more contagious delta variant, also extends beyond the classroom with face coverings required for all indoor recreation. Outdoors, where transmission risks and rates are lower, athletes and coaches will not be required to mask.

With many questions and concerns on the table, such as the legality of the mandate, the impact of mask wearing on school children and education, and how to explain to a child they must wear a mask at a school while not required elsewhere, the bottom line became the simple fact that, regardless of anyone's feelings or beliefs, there really was no choice but to follow the mask mandate.

"Sometimes we get an opportunity to make a decision, and sometimes we don't," said Dwight's Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek.

Courts have ruled that the Governor has the legal authority to enact these mandates. Adding to that, the Illinois State School Board Association is holding schools accountable.

Summarizing a communication received by the State Superintendent of Schools, Dr Jancek told the group that as soon as a school is found not compliant, that district will have an opportunity to remedy the situation and then will be put on probation with the local Board of Education required to come up with a plan of action to correct the noncompliance.

"If you don't, [the school] won't be recognized meaning no sports, no activities, no funding," stated Dr. Jancek regarding the consequences of going against the mandate.

No funding includes a loss at both the state and federal levels as Dr. Jancek explained that Federal monies come through the State – a loss of funding schools cannot withstand.

Beyond the reason of being mandated, board members also deferred decisions to medical experts and to following health recommendations aimed at the health and safety of students, a largely unvaccinated popula-

"I hold my vote, and hang my hat, on the Livingston County Health Department Director who I feel is very crediintelligent

nonpolitical," said DTHS School Board President Tim Henson. "And, someone who I feel has the best interest of the people of Livingston County, and our kids, on her mind."

Following lengthy discussion where everyone was heard, both boards approved a requirement that all DCS and DTHS students and staff will be required to wear masks as mandated by the Governor's Executive Order. It was noted that, if the mask mandate is dropped by the Governor, Dwight Public Schools will look to move to the personal choice option for wearing masks in school.

In another matter of joint concern, the Dwight BOEs discussed the timeline for completing a new superintendent search as current Superintendent, Dr. Richard Jancek, plans to retire on June 30, 2022. Following posting for the position, initial and final interviews will be planned for October, with an offer and contract approval anticipated to take place in No-

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, and Jaime Mallaney; absent were Marc Ellis and Michael Cornale (Cornale submitted a statement). Present for District 230 was Board President Tim Henson along with Board of Edumembers cation Sulzberger, Joel Sandeno, Kevin Berta and Paul Warner. Absent were Eric Scheuer and Susan Legner.

## Dwight Schools Comply with Mask Mandate DTHS District #230 Reviews Budgets

August 11 BOE Actions

by Madelyn Fogarty madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

District finances were a topic before the DTHS Board of Education when it met on August 11 where Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek reported a very healthy end to the FY21 budget. The fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

The FY21 Education Fund ended its year with a balance of \$5,123,964 and an end balance across all funds of \$8,046,863 with revenues exceeding expenditures by \$1,006,360.

Dr. Jancek also presented the first reading of the 2021-2022 (FY22) budget showing a starting balance of \$8,046,863. Proposed revenues across all funds are \$6,393,409 with proposed expenditures in all funds totaling \$5,937,985 for a positive projected difference of \$455,424. The FY22 proposed budget shows an anticipated end balance across all funds of \$8,502,287.

The overall proposed budget

will be reviewed and adjusted over the next month. Following a Public Hearing, the final budget will be presented to the board for approval at the September BOE session. The proposed FY22 budget is available for review for 30 days in the District office.

In reports to the board, the first day of student attendance for the new school year is August 18, with picture day scheduled for August 23. It was noted that the current student enrollment is 220. It was also noted that indoor sports are returning, but face masks for athletes and fans will be required. There is currently no fan attendance limit. Outdoor sports will not require face masks. The IHSA will follow all IDPH guidelines.

In another matter, the BOE discussed projects on the docket to receive attention. The outdoor basketball court has had some recent surface work completed. The courts will also have sleeves put in to allow

nets to be placed for tennis use. Lights will be installed with a timer mechanism. Dr. Jancek noted that beyond school use, the area offers a place for "wholesome" activity by community youth. Other DTHS projects designated for improvements include the football stadium press box and the concrete drive in front of the school.

The board entered closed session with no action follow-

Present at the meeting representing the District 230 BOE were Board President Tim Henson along with Board of Edumembers Sulzberger, Joel Sandeno, Kevin Berta and Paul Warner. Absent were Eric Scheuer and Susan Legner.

The next regular meeting of the Dwight Township High School Board of Education will be 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 8, at the high school.. Meetings are open to the pub-

#### Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of Up to \$500 Million in Emergency Rural Health Care Funds

The Biden-Harris Adminis- manent structures for health ing the impacts of climate tration announced August 12 that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making up to \$500 million available in grants to help rural health care facilities, tribes and communities expand access to COVID-19 vaccines, health care services, and nutrition as-

President Biden's comprehensive plan to recover the economy and deliver relief to the American people is changing the course of the pandemic and providing immediate relief to millions of households, growing the economy and addressing the stark, intergenerational inequities that have worsened in the wake of COVID-19.

As of August 12, applicants may apply for two types of assistance: Recovery Grants and Impact Grants.

The Biden-Harris Administration is making Recovery Grants available to help public bodies, nonprofit organizations, and tribes provide immediate COVID-19 relief to support rural hospitals, health care clinics, and local communities.

These funds may be used to increase COVID-19 vaccine distribution and telehealth capabilities; purchase medical supplies; replace revenue lost during the pandemic; build and rehabilitate temporary or percare services; support staffing needs for vaccine administration and testing; and support facility and operations expenses associated with food banks and food distribution facilities.

Recovery Grant applications will be accepted on a continual basis until funds are expended. USDA encourages appli-

cants to plan and implement strategies to: · develop health care systems that offer a blend of be-

and other medical services; • support health care as an anchor institution in small communities; and

havioural care, primary care,

· expand telehealth, electronic health data sharing, workforce development, transportation, paramedicine, obstetrics, behavioral health, farmworker health care, and cooperative home care.

Impact Grant applications must be submitted to your local USDA Rural Development State Office by 4:00 p.m. local time on October 12, 2021.

USDA encourages potential applicants to review the application guide at rd.usda.gov/erhc.

USDA Rural Development is prioritizing projects that will support key priorities under the Biden-Harris Administration to help rural America build back better and stronger. Key priorities include combatting the COVID-19 pandemic; address-

change; and advancing equity in rural America. For more information, visit rd.usda.gov/priority points.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs, and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety, and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal, and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit rd.usda.gov.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit

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#### Kankakee County 'Voices of the Past' Cemetery Walk August 29

The Kankakee County "Voices of the Past" Cemetery Walk is set for Sunday, August 29, at Mound Grove Cemetery, 1000 N. Greenwood Ave. in Kankakee, and will bring the fascinating history of Kankakee County to life.

Participants who visit Mound Grove Cemetery will get a guided history lesson as they are led to gravesites of former residents, portrayed by actors in period costumes, and share something of their lives and times.

The historic people being portrayed this year are: Lemuel Milk, Jenny Milk-Conrad, Frederick Swannell, William Swannell, F.D. Radeke, Anna Radeke, Maria Radeke, Lomira Perry, Warren Hickox Sr., Anna Hickox Bradley, and Fannie Still.

This event is made possible through the partnership of the Kankakee County Historical Society, the Kankakee Valley Theatre Association, and Mound Grove Cemetery.

Wear walking shoes and be prepared for walking through uneven terrain. Enter the south side of the cemetery, off Rt. 50 (exit on north side of the cemetery).

This event is for all ages. A fee applies. You can purchase credit card tickets in advance at the Kankakee County Museum. Cash tickets will be available the day of the event at Mound Grove Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Tours start at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Arrive 30 minutes prior to your tour time.

#### **Livingston County Health Department Business-Based Flu Shot Clinics**

around the corner and the Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) is offering to

help local businesses prepare. Employers can play an important role in preventing seasonal flu, helping to protect employee's health and reducing losses in productivity and revenue. Annually, flu-related ill-

Flu (influenza) season is just ness costs an estimated \$10.4 billion in direct medical expenses and an additional \$16.3 billion in lost earnings.

The LCHD is helping accommodate Livingston County businesses and reduce any barriers to their workers to receiving the flu vaccine. This service is at no cost to the employer and all vaccinations are adminnurse.

Insurance card and ID are required as Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance will be billed. Accommodations will be made for those without insurance.

For more information about business-based flu shot clinics, call 815-844-7174.

#### **GEDC Hosts Internship Recognition Dinner**

Parents were on hand to cel- crowd and discussed the beneebrate the successes of their sons and daughters as the ninth Grundy County Summer Internship Program came to a close.

An internship recognition dinner was held August 10 to formally recognize and congratulate the students that participated in the paid, hands-on internship program.

Nancy Norton, President and CEO of the Grundy Economic Development Council (GEDC) opened the event by welcoming the businesses, educators, parents, and students. Senator Sue Rezin introduced the company representatives along with their interns. Senator Rezin emphasized that the students should be proud that they were chosen to work at some of the finest businesses in Grundy County.

The internships offer a chance to gain meaningful professional work experience and learn more about the many different employment options within the community.

Grundy Area Vocational Center

fits and opportunities that the experience of the internship had given the students. Copes stated that there were nearly 100 students who applied for the 30 positions and those in the room should be proud that they were selected to participate in the program. Copes also encouraged the interns to keep in touch with their mentors and

ask if there are opportunities to

work during school breaks or

even again next summer.

The 30 paid internships this year were with 12 different companies, offering a diverse set of opportunities for local students. The program began in 2013, with just 12 internships and three companies. To date, over 200 students have gone through the program, which is open to students attending one of the four Grundy County high schools or GAVC.

The Grundy County Internship Program was based on a mutual desire expressed by leaders in education and industry to highlight local employ-Lance Copes, Director of ment opportunities and retain local talent in Grundy County. (GAVC), also addressed the Senator Rezin, GAVC, and the

GEDC partnered with local industry and education to launch the program in 2013.

The 2021 Grundy County summer interns are: Aux Sable: Blake Gerovac,

Jace Pruim. Busy Bank: Kameron Drans-

feldt. D'Arcy Motors: Jonathan

Henson. **GEDC:** Sophie Pfaff.

Joliet Junior College: Caden Hennessy, Mariah Johnson, Faith Lowman, Madelyn Pe-

Lyondell-Basell: Jaxon Garibay, Kiana Gubbins, Abby Jackman, Nathan Jepson.

Mack & Associates: Abby Akre, Easton Ashley.

Morris Hospital: Keaton Auwerda, Morgan Brown, Hannah Casey, Emma Cook, Veronica Cumba, Tyler Davis, Grace Feigl, Mackenzie Zweeres.

**SPACECO:** Alex Ferrari. US Cold Storage: Matthew Dailey, Nicholas Pucel.

Village of Channahon: Caite Gugerty.

Village of Minooka: Rebekah Baxa, Allysen Kotowski, Sasha

#### Saint Patrick Church, Dwight, To Host MJM7 Band August 29

The parishes of Saint Patrick, Dwight, and Saint Paul. Odell, will host the MJM7 Band Sunday, August

The group, a Catholic family band comprised of Michael James Mette and five of his children: Gabriella (17), Trinity (15), Charity (13), Cecilia (12), and MJ (11), will provide the music liturgy for Masses, and for a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction in Saint Patrick Church following 10:30 a.m. mass.

After Benediction, light refreshments will be offered prior to, and during, the concert in the parish hall at 114 W. Mazon Avenue, Dwight.

The Mettes' gifts of music,

joy, and family life offer the boldness and innocence of youth with the wisdom and depth of lived experiences.

Their events fall somewhere between a rock concert and a parish mission, with vibrant lights, powerful music, faith sharing, and an invitation to prayer. The music is uplifting without being preachy, creating an environment that is engaging without being confrontational. The concert empowers all ages to pray more fully and worship more freely.

All are invited to this free concert, and free-will donations are welcomed. Take a friend – you won't want to miss this unique event.

## The Paper

Deadline is Friday at noon for news and advertising.

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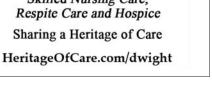
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#### Taylor Rose Salon **Ribbon Cutting**

A NEW BEAUTY SALON, Taylor Rose Salon on West Main Street in Dwight, held its ribbon cutting ceremony Saturday, August 14 followed by an Open House. Pictured are: left to right: DEA board members, Bob Ohlendorf and Shayla Samples; Kate Goodwin, Ruby Oelschlager, Amber Arnold, Marla Koons, salon owner Taylor Weikle, Dick Weikle, Tru Connor, Kit Connor, Addelyn Krug and Halie Weikle. We wish you all the best in your new adventure, Taylor!

#### **OBITUARY**

#### Raymond Howard Needy

Raymond Howard Needy, age 90, of Gardner, Illinois passed away peacefully at his home Monday, August 9, 2021.

He was born February 21, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois to the late Allen and Eva (nee Brady) Needy.

Raymond loved flying his airplane. He also looked forward to the thresherman shows, where he could hear the huff and puff of the steam engines. Ray was in a ham radio club (call letters K9PMJ), where he talked nationwide before computers were around. He transitioned to the computer era and video chatted daily during the covid pandemic.

Raymond was in the United States Navy. He was employed by Argonne National Laboratory, and later taught at Triton College. He retired in 1990 and moved to Gardner, where he could watch the corn grow, after living 33 years in Lock-

Surviving are his wife of 70 years, Wavel Needy of Gardner; two daughters: Dawn (Ken) Luzbetak of Bremerton, Washington and Sharon Ber-

nico of Braidwood, Illinois; eight grandchildren: (Steve) Myers of Mystic, Connecticut; Karen (Andy) Luzbetak of Bremerton, Washington; Jennifer (Brian) Nesselroad of Burnaby,

Canada; Timothy (Tracy) Bernico of Braidwood; Alex Bernico of San Francisco, California; Secilanne (Mark) Amlotte of Wilmington, North Carolina; Erin Humphreys of Lawrenceville, Georgia; and Gail (Bill) Brewer of Rockmart, Georgia; 16 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ray was preceded in death by his daughter, Alice King; four brothers and one sister.

Private services were held at the R. W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory.

Interment: Gardner Prairie Cemetery, with Pastor Greg Olson officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Lightways Hospice would be appreciated.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to www.rwpatte rsonfuneralhomes.com or find us on Facebook.

More obituaries appear on page 7.

#### Thomas Bennett, State Representative 106th District

#### **Early Report Indicates State Revenue** Is Not Keeping Up With Spending

This spring the legislature more than 20 representatives who passed an unbalanced budget, which Governor Pritzker then signed into law. The warnings about state revenue not being able to keep up with the record-breaking spending in the budget are now beginning to come true, according to a report from the state's fiscal watchdog agency.

The July report from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (COGFA) studied where the state's revenue and spending picture stands one full month into the new fiscal year. COGFA found that revenue in July 2021 was down by more than a billion dollars compared to July 2020. COGFA warned that personal income tax revenue was down by more than a billion dollars and that revenue from Illinois casinos had also declined. It does not help matters that Illinois still has the lowest credit rating of any of the 50 states. We cannot keep spending more than we take in.

Investigation into LaSalle out**break still needed.** I am among the

stone Township Library District is

asking visitors to Check-In! When

you use the Facebook Check-In

feature on your phone (Android or

Apple), show it to the staff at the

front desk to receive a chance ticket

for their Check-In Basket giveaway.

If you need help to find the Check-

In feature, feel free to ask a staff

recently renewed our call for Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul to open an investigation into what went wrong at the LaSalle Veterans Home last fall. A coronavirus outbreak at the home in October took the lives of 36 veterans.

We first made this call back in May, after a scathing inspector general's report detailed numerous failings at the facility, but so far the Attorney General has not responded. Our follow-up letter demands to know why the AG's office is not investigating and asks what changes in the law can be made by the legislature to better protect our veterans.

How much do we owe? As of the time of this writing, the State of Illinois owes \$4,121,384,098 in unpaid bills to state vendors. One year ago, the backlog stood at \$4.9 billion. This figure represents the amount of bills submitted to the office of the Comptroller and still awaiting payment. It does not include debts that can only be esti-

## **ESTATE AUCTION**

**BREAKING** 

publication in The Paper.

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The Paper is looking for an individual or

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meetings and also Dwight Common School

and Dwight High School meetings. Must

attend meetings and write an article for

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**AUCTIONS** 



HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE: '14 John Deere S660 combine, 1,058/683 hours; '15 John Deere 635FD 35' flex draper head; '11 John Deere 608C 8R30" corn head; Unverferth HT35 35' head trailer; Unverferth HT25 25' head trailer; John Deere 7810 MFWD tractor w/loader, 5,400 hours; Allis Chalmers 8070 2wd tractor; Allis Chalmers 7060 2wd tractor; John Deere 4020 diesel 2wd tractor; John Deere 70 antique tractor - restored: John Deere A antique tractor - original: John Deere 4300 MFWD compact tractor w/loader; John Deere HX15 15' batwing mower; Sukup 9400 12 row 30" cultivator; Demco 550 gravity wagon; Brent 540 gravity wagon; Hardi pull-type sprayer; '06 Peterbilt 379 daycab truck; '07 Wilson 43' hopper bottom trailer; '01 Wilson 41' hopper bottom trailer; '95 opper bottom trailer; Mack truck w/RO 200m crane: (2) 25 bushel grain bins; Honda Foreman ES 4wd ATV; Large selection of older farm implements; Huge selection of tools, parts & farm supplies.

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#### member and they can show you how to do it. One lucky person will receive a basket filled with goodies, including organizational tools, cloth bags, books, and stationery. The winning

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trons with compromised immune

systems and seniors. Their remain-

For the month of August, Lime- ing hours are open to all members of the community. Masks are required for all visi-

tors from the age of two and up while in the library building. The library's Contactless Curbside Service is also available for those patrons who want it. Call the library for more information.

Programming is on a break until September, but patrons can still go into the library to check out any of their items. If you can't find what you are looking for, ask a staff member. They'll go beyond the boundaries of the library to find what you need.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call them at 815-939-1696, e-mail them at info@lime stonelibrary.org, or message them at Facebook or Instagram. Visit their website, limestonelibrary.org, for more information.

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#### AT THE CHURCHES

(continued from pg. 13)

**KINSMAN** Sacred Heart Catholic Church 219 W. Emmett Street Rev. Stanley Drewniak, swkrcatholics.org

**MAZON** Mazon United Methodist Church 509 7th Street 815-448-5677 Church 815-483-9343 Cell mazonmental Button

Pastor Donald Batz Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. **Park Street** Congregational United Church of

Christ 806 Park Street Pastor Tyler Carrell Phone 448-5514 **ODELL** 

St. Paul Catholic Church 200 S. West St. Father Chris Haake, Pastor

**United Methodist** Church 109 N. Morgan Street Phone 815-998-2271 Rev. Janeen Tronc

#### **RANSOM** St. Patrick Catholic Church

110 Wallace Street
Pastor, Alexander Millar;
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Ghislain
Inai, SMA; Deacon Ron Wackerlin Sunday Mass: 7:30 a.m. Parish Office: 815-795-2240 (Marseilles) Email:

parishgroup3@gmail.com Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2:30

Ransom United Methodist Church Worship Service Sunday 10 a.m. and live on Facebook 102 E. Plumb St. Phone: 815-587-0488 email: RansomUMC@gmail.com Pastor Andrew King Pastor cell: 815-257-4485

REDDICK Reddick United Methodist Church 35900 E 3200 N Road Pastor Kevin Boesen 815-426-6169

**Zoar Community Church** 18172 W. Route 17 P.O. Box 87 Reddick, IL 60961 Pastor Andrea Boggs

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

St. Mary's Catholic Church' 216 E. Lincoln Street Rev. Stanley Drewniak 815-237-2230 swkrcatholics.org

**SAUNEMIN** Saunemin United Methodist Church 90 North Street 815-832-4935 Pastor Jane Bradford

**SOUTH WILMINGTON South Wilmington** United **Methodist Church** 225 Rice Street Pastor Kevin Boesen 815-426-6169

St. Lawrence **Catholic Church** 135 Rice Street Rev. Stanley Drewniak 815-237-2230 swkrcatholics.org

**VERONA** Verona United **Methodist Church** The Wayside Chapel with a Warm Heart 433 Anne St. Phone: 815-287-2491 Pastor Andrew King



#### TRACT LOCATIONS

Tracts 1 & 2 are located approximately 1 mile southwest of Dwight, IL, in the South Half of Section 7, T30N•R7E, Dwight Township, Livingston County, IL.

Tracts 3 - 6 are located approximately 1 mile west of Dwight, IL in Section 6, T30N•R7E, Dwight Township, Livingston County, IL.

Tracts 7 & 8 are located approximately 2 miles northwest of Dwight, IL in the North Half of Section 32, T31N-R7E, Goodfarm Township, Grundy County, IL.

Tracts 9 - 12 are located approximately 1 mile southwest of Gardner, IL, or 5 miles northeast of Dwight, IL in the Northwest Quarter of Section 17 & the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, T31N·R8E, Garfield Township, Grundy

Dwight, IL is located approximately 28 miles west of Kankakee, IL or 35 miles southwest of Joliet, IL. All 12 tracts are located adjacent to or in close proximity to I-55.

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#### **Dwight Peace Meals**

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

White chili, sunshine salad, cottage cheese, crackers, peaches.

Thurs., Aug. 19: Roast beef, mashed broccoli potatoes, salad, whole grain wheat, warm fruit cobbler.

Aug. Fri., 20: Swissed beef pattie, zucchini bake, mixed vegetables, grain wheat, sweet potato pie.

Mon., Aug. 23: Breakfast casserole,

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Wed., Aug. 25: Sub sandwich w/ lettuce, spinach, tomato & mayo pkt., 3-bean salad, bun, cantaloupe.

Thurs., Aug. 26: Turkey salad w/ grapes, vegetable soup, cucumber onion salad, assorted crackers, fresh fruit.

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The Paper

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#### AT THE CHURCHES

**DWIGHT Dwight United** Methodist Church 701 S. Columbia 584-3420 church Dwightumc.org Pastor: Mary Arnold

**Emmanuel Lutheran** Church LCMS 325 E. Mazon Ave. 584-3433 church 584-3433 church 584-1291 fax Rev. John F. Mueller, Pastor Sunday Worship, 9 a.m. with Livestream on their Facebook page. Wednesday Evening Devo-

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 Serv-

tions, 6 p.m.

ice, 7 p.m. Sunday School for All Ages, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m. First Congregational

**United Church of** Christ 200 W. Delaware St. 584-1260 church Rev. Grant Speece Sunday Worship, 10:30

Aug. 18: Trustees, 7 p.m. AUG. 18: Trustees, 7 p.m. AUG. 22: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; 1 Kings 8:22-30; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69; "The Whole Armor of God"

New Life Assembly of God 903 S. Old Route 66 Victor J. Randle Jr., Pastor St. Patrick Catholic

Church Mazon Ave. at Prairie 815-584-3522 Office Father Chris Haake, Pastor St. Peter's

Lutheran Church 326 W. Chippewa St. 815-584-1199 Pastor Chrissy Salser email:chrissytherev@att.net **Trinity Lutheran** Church "Goodfarm"

515 E. Stonewall Rd. Rev. William Mitschke 815-725-1341 **BRACEVILLE** 

**Braceville United Methodist Church** 106 W. Goold St. 815-237-8512 Church 815-483-9343 Cell bracevilleumc.com Pastor Donald Batz Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

**CABERY** Cabery United Methodist Church Ames & Chester 815-949-1681 Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell

**CULLOM** St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church NALC 511 W. Jackson

**Cullom United** Methodist Church 103 E. Van Alstyne St. 815-689-2484 Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell

**ESSEX Essex United Methodist Church** 

Church of Hope Presbyterian Church (USA) 202 N. Monroe P.O. Box 248

ChurchofHope@ sbcglobal.net **United Lutheran** 

**HERSCHER** Trinity Lutheran Church LCMS

Rev. Eric J. Brown, Pastor St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

**Herscher United Methodist Church** 274 N. Elm Street Phone: 815-426-6169

Herscher Christian

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 815-426-2908 Staff e-mail: life@herscherchristian.com herscherchristian.com

**KEMPTON** Kempton United Methodist Church 305 Main Street 815-253-6373

Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell **Kempton Church** of the Nazarene 105 E. Main St. 815-253-6250

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#### **Livingston County Humane Society** 21179 N. 1358 E. Rd., Pontiac, IL 61764 • 815-842-1025 Ichumanesociety.com • Check us out on facebook and PetFinder!

Pastor: Gabriel Baumgardner AUG. 19: Text Study Livestream on FB, 10 a.m. AUG. 22: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m. AUG. 23: Friendship Day, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

114 Waverly St. **GARDNER** 

Janet Chandler, Pastor Office hours: T-W, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. 815-237-8312

**Church ELCA** 309 E. Jefferson St. 815-237-2227 pastorulc@att.net Pastor Greg Olson

255 E. Third St. P.O. Box 414 815-426-2262 email: trinityher1@com-

Main Street Fr. Ron Neitzke 815-426-2153

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Church
30 Tobey Drive
Pastor Sam Stow
Office Hours: Tue.-Fri,

On Facebook: Herscher Christian Church

Rev. John A. Mohler, Pastor

219 W. Emmett Street Rev. Stanley Drewniak, swkrcatholics.org

(continued on pg. 12)





TIME KEEPS ON SLIPPIN... A futuristic-looking car and its snappy occupants stopped by the Dwight Texaco station last week. Volunteers were Jerry Anderson and Kate Connor.

## Dwight Seeks Information Regarding Townhome Project

#### August 9 Dwight Village Board Actions venture between North Arrow is in its infancy stages with no

by Madelyn Fogarty

madelynfogarty@yahoo.com

Several members of the community were present when the Dwight Village Board of Trustees met on August 9 looking for information, and expressing concerns, regarding a possible apartment housing project being looked at on the west side of town.

The question rose following a legal publication in the July 28 issue of The Paper. The Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds states that "the City of Urbana will authorize the Housing Authority of Champaign County to submit a request to the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for the release of funds under Section 8 of the 1937 Act to undertake the Williams Street Townhome Project at 401 W. Williams Street, Dwight, IL." It also states that "the City of Urbana has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment", therefore an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Questions about the possible townhome project drew few answers as village officials knew little themselves. Information received by the village just prior to the meeting indicates that the project is a joint

the Champaign County Urban Development Board. The proposed townhome project is a new 32-unit affordable apartment property. Construction would be funded specifically with low income housing tax credits and conventional debt mortgage. Units will be restricted to households earning less than 30 percent and 60 per-

Developer of Villa Park, and

cent Area Median Income (AMI) with some units covered by project based Section 8 rental assistance from the Housing Authority of Champaign County plus additional units covered by project based Section 8 rental assistance vouchers from Menard county.

The project would consist of a mix of four-one bedroom; 12two bedroom; and 16-three bedroom configurations. Cold water, sewer and trash service would be included in rent. A few other details regarding the proposed project were also shared.

"This is what we know and we are doing our due diligence," Dwight Mayor Paul Johnson told the group.

Mayor Johnson noted that the property is zoned for such a development and there may be concerns that need to be weighed such as how the development might tax village services. However, it was also noted that the project proposal

sale of the physical property having taken place, and no permits have been secured.

Village officials will request that the developer attend a future meeting, share details, and provide answers to questions about the proposed project.

In other business, the board discussed Dwight EMS Coverage of Odell. Effective August 1, Dwight EMS began providing ambulance service to the Odell Fire Protection District. The change came following an unexpected announcement on July 29 that Duffy Ambulance Service, Pontiac, was ceasing its emergency medical services business on July 31. The Village of Dwight has been asked to assume Duffy's contract to provide emergency medical service to the Odell FPD area. After discussion, it was decided that Dwight EMS will continue to provide EMS services to Odell, but will need to review, with more information and possible changes, before approving contract terms.

A new squad purchase for Dwight Police was approved. The 2022 Ford Explorer will be purchased from DeLong Ford at the State bid price not to exceed \$55,000.

In a report from the August 9 Services Committee meeting, it was noted that Dwight's Chief of Police, Tim Henson, will be retiring in March. Also at that committee meeting, it was recommended that a retiring police officer with 25 or more years of service be allowed to keep his/her service weapon. This recommendation will come to the village board for approval at a future meet-

The board also:

• approved payment of August 9, 2021 bills totaling \$71,078.94

• approved a Public Properties Committee recommendation to develop a Request for Proposal and put the Smart Meter project out for bid.

• approved the purchase of Watch Guard in-car police video cameras using awarded grant money of \$11,150.

 discussed possible changes and updates to job descriptions with more review to follow. The board entered into Ex-

ecutive Session to discuss personnel and collective bargaining with no action following. Present at the August 8 ses-

sion were Mayor Paul Johnson, Trustees Randy Irvin, Pete Meister, Marla Kinkade, Chuck Butterbrodt, Jenny Johnson and Justin Eggenberger.

The next meeting of the Dwight Village Board of Trustees will take place at 6:30 p.m., Monday, August 23 in the Public Services Complex board meeting room.

#### Herscher Homecoming, **Labor Day Celebration** 'Hi-Lites'

The 100th Herscher Home- Live Music by Adam Linder, coming and Labor Day Celebration is set to run Saturday, September 4, through Monday, September 6, and the following is just a sample of what to expect during the festivities:

September 3 Beer Stand

September 4 – Kids Day

- Softball/Baseball games Matt Yaeger and the South Side Social Club September 5
- 16" Softball Tournament be-

gins Inflatables

• Herscher Hare & Tortoise Race

 The Breakfast Club September 6

• 16" Softball Tournament con-

- tinues • Arts and Crafts Show
- Grand Labor Day Parade - Grand Marshal: John Branz
- Kiddie Tractor Pull

• BINGO

• Afternoon entertainment on stage in Village Park: HAHS presentation; Herscher H.S. Marching Band and Herscher School District Music Dept.;

The Sodbusters, and "A Natural High"; Herscher Chamber

of Commerce Drawing. Appearing, so far, in the Herscher Grand Labor Day Pa-

rade will be: • The Jesse White Tumblers

- Andy Linder World Record holder in Footbag (Hacky Sack). Andy will also be in the Village Park for two hours after the Parade.
- The Medinah Motor Corp. from the Medinah Shriners
- The Medinah Aviators with their motorized airplane
- The DuPage Shrine Club

· and much more!

Both the Herscher Area Historical Society Museum and HAHS Anderson House will be open all three days, in addition to concession stands and games booths in Village Park. The Beer Stand will also be open Friday through Monday, with live music being played Saturday and Sunday.

Visit herscher.net or the Herscher Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page for more information.

#### John Branz Named Grand Marshal - - -

(continued from page 1) the Trustees, and currently is on the Finance Committee.

John was elected the GOP precinct committeeman for Pilot 1 precinct in 2004 and is still the committeeman to this day. He was twice named GOP Precinct Committeeman of the Year by the Kankakee County Republican Central Committee in 2007 and 2016. In 2005, John was elected to the Executive Committee, representing

the Precinct Committeemen from Pilot, Norton, Salina and Essex Townships, serving in that position until 2008 when he was appointed Vice Chairman of the Kankakee County Republican Central Committee. He retired as Vice Chairman in 2018, but soon rejoined the Executive Committee to again represent the same Township Committeemen, and in 2020 was appointed to the Finance Committee.

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MARGARITAS 1.75 liter