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Wednesday, December 15, 2021





# Definition of Family Christmas ~ Johnson Family Lights Up Reddick

by Brandon LaChance

It's hard to miss.

If you're too close, it may be hard to see because of the brightness.

No, we're not talking about the sun, we're talking about the Johnson family's Christmas decorations on the outskirts of Reddick.

"We always think of the Griswold family in Christmas Vacation when they turn their lights on and you hear the nuclear plant go out and they have to flip the switch," Katie Johnson said. "Two or three years ago, my husband, Brian, was on the field every day until a couple of days before Christmas. People were so mad at him because he didn't get the tree up."

Brian Johnson also receives comments, jokes, and praises about the display on a regular basis as people constantly honk as they drive past the Johnson home, or stop to take pictures and say hello.

"Our neighbors always joke around with us about it. They say their lights dim when we turn on our lights," Brian Johnson said. "The lights are on a timer. They turn on at 4:30 p.m. and shut off at 7:30 a.m. They're on all night.

"The worst part with the outside lights is the wind. It beats up the lights. We have to constantly replace lights, so it can get expensive. One year, we put all the lights on the gutters and the next day we had 45-mile per hour winds and all of the lights were in the gutters. We had to pull all of them out.

"But, it's a lot of fun and I enjoy it.' The joy of taking 2 ½ hours

to put 900-plus feet of Christmas lights on a 50-foot tree began 10 years ago. At first, Brian used a pole to

put the lights up, but as the tree continued to grow, the lights stopped at the halfway point.

With the addition of a lift (bought for the Johnson farm, originally), Brian and Hayden – who is the only child from the couple of 21 years, married for 16 – are able to reach 40-feet of

There are negotiations being had about purchasing a longer lift...for the farm, wink wink.

"The lift is 40 feet and we can't reach the top. I'd say the tree is close to 50-feet tall. The star on top is actually not on top," Brian Johnson said. "It's about eight- or nine feet down from the top of the tree. You can't really notice unless you're right next to it.

"It's funny how many peo-

ple ask me, 'How do you put the lights on?' I think I'm going to start telling them, 'I climb

The big tree surrounded by numerous smaller trees outside of the Johnson home is just the beginning.

Inside the home is the rest of the family's 40-plus versions of the holiday staple.

There is the vintage room, the Christmas movie bar, the traditional Christmas room, snowman standing on the stairs telling you how many days are left until Christmas, the Grinch room with an upside-down tree and a tree coming out of the fireplace (Hayden's idea), a Minnesota Vikings nutcracker at the end of a row of its peers, and much, much, much more.

"I decorate for every holiday, but not like I do for Christmas," Katie Johnson said. "Christmas is my favorite because of sentimental reasons. My mom and dad (Amy and Kevin Wancho) always made Christmas special and I wanted to make Christmas special for my son. It's kind of spiraled since then.

"It's the most magical time of the year until we have to take it down and then they're mad at me."

But not too mad.

Actually, the entire family is really into the decorating process which started 16 years ago when Hayden celebrated his first Christmas.

Every year since then, Hayden helps his dad outside and has made deals with his mom such as taking 50-plus trips up and down the attic steps to bring the trees, lights, orna-

(continued on page 12)



# Pfizer Booster Being Offered in Dwight December 29

The State of Illinois is part- cine is authorized and recom- a clinic near you by visiting nering with Dwight VFW Post 2608 to offer a free COVID-19 vaccine clinic to the area from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 29, at the Dwight VFW, 506 S. Old Route 66.

The Pfizer-BioNTech vac-

mended for persons 12 years of age and older.

To schedule your appointment, visit https://events.juvare. com/IL-IDPH/w77s9/1158682/. A vaccination card must be presented.

Can't make this event? Find

coronavirus.illinois.gov or by calling 1-833-621-1284.

Questions about COVID-19? Call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov. Visit the Illinois Department of Public Health at dph.illinois.

Opposition to SB 818 School Board of Education met Monday, December 8, with establishing the 2021 tax levy the main order of business.

The estimated total 2021 EAV for the three counties which make up the Dwight Township High School District projected to \$166,758,922, reflecting an increase of approximately \$6 million over last year.

Using the 2021 rate setting projection \$166,758,922, the board agreed to a 2021 tax rate of 2.3549, with a projected extension of \$3,927,048 resulting in an increase of \$79,033 (+2.05 percent) for the district. The 2020 tax levy rate was \$2.3915 with an extension of \$3,848,015.

Based on a recent tour of the school facilities by the board, it was determined best to increase the Operations and Maintenance marginally to keep ahead of inflation as there will be some needed improvements to the interior of the building in the near future. In addition it was discussed to increase the Transportation Fund slightly with the purpose of enhancing the Wage and Benefit package

The Dwight Township High for bus drivers. The shortage of among local school boards and drivers has caused some inefficiencies and disruption of schedules. It was felt it would be necessary to offer better wages in order to compete in the labor market. All board members voted in favor of the motion.

DTHS Tax Levy Set for 2021;

During Public Comments, concerned citizen Jeff Wynn addressed the Board, urging them to not adopt the provisions of Illinois Senate Bill 818. The "Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act (SB 818)" is presented as an updated curriculum that creates personal health and safety standards for grades K-5 and updates and expands comprehensive sexual health education standards in grades 6 - 12. Wynn expressed his concern that much of the content of the proposal is age inappropriate and medically inaccurate. He was accompanied by several community members supporting his stand.

Wynn asked that a resolution be added to the agenda for next month's meeting stating that the Board was not supportive of the updated curriculum. The controversial legislation has created strong opposition

the religious community.

Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek responded that the Board and Administration were aware of the legislation, but at this time saw no reason to change their current curriculum. Since DTHS has a Health program in place, they are allowed to opt out, and are not required to adopt the bill. He added that the appropriate staff would review the contents of the bill and potentially incorporate any portions that did make sense, so there would be no need to add a resolution to the agenda for the next meeting.

Board members present at the December session included Board President Tim Henson, BOE members Kevin Berta, Joel Sandeno, Eric Scheuer, and Susan Legner. Absent were Paul Warner and Max Sulzberger.

The next regular meeting of the Dwight Township High School Board of Education will be 6 p.m., Wednesday, January 12. Please check the school's website for location and information prior to the meeting.

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1/2 Pan Creamy Mashed Potatoes & Grav

OR 1/2 Pan Macaroni & Cheese

- 1/2 Pan Homemade Baked Mostaccioli - An Appetizing Spinach Dip Tray With Bread

- 12 Ct. King's Hawaiian Rolls - A Holiday Decorated Brownie Tray

FOR THE RECORD

### **Tickets Issued** by Dwight Police

December 2: Sabrina M. Miles, 44, Dwight, DL expired more than a year; Anthony R. Scheel, 36, Dwight, DL expired more than a year.

December 5: Kenneth D. Smith, 20, Dwight, operate uninsured motor vehicle.

December 9: Caitlyne Bayuk, 28, Dwight, operate uninsured motor vehicle.

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

### 7 Written Warnings

Speeding – 2; Only One Headlamp – 1; Disobey Stop Sign – 3; Driver's License Not On Person -1.

### **Dwight Police Blotter**

December 3: Dwight Police were dispatched to Dwight Common School for a stolen portable stop sign; Dwight Police were advised by a resident of a Hit and Run to their vehicle while parked on Washington St.

December 6: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of Linden for outdoor Christmas lights having been damaged.

December 7: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of W. Mazon for a report of plastic, covering a broken window, having been damaged.

December 8: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of Mazon for a domestic issue

Assist Agency – 2; Return Call – 7; Medical Assistance – 2; Traffic Stop – 7; Out with Vehicle – 1; Theft – 1; Accident - 2; Suspicious Subject -2; Lockout - 4; Intoxicated Subject − 1; Walk In − 6; Accident Unknown - 1; Fire Alarm -2; Found Dog -1; Hit and Run – 1; Juvenile Problems - 2; Assist Fire Dept. - 1; Sign Down - 1; 911 Open Line – 1; Burglar Alarm – 1; Domestic Issues – 1; Funeral Escort – 1; Property Retrieval –

### **Accident Reports**

Friday, December 3, 10:35 a.m., an accident was reported at Rt. 47 and Northbrook Dr. involving a Kenwood T880, driven by Gerald Olsen, Gardner, which struck a Lincoln MKC, driven by Jodine L. Silvola, Dwight, when attempting to go around the vehicle.

Sunday, December 5, 1:10 p.m., an accident was reported at 112 S. John St. involving a Honda CRV, driven by K. "Dalton" Smith, Dwight, which struck a parked and unoccupied Dodge Journey, owned by Dana Taylor, Dwight, while attempting to back up from a parking space.



### Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

December 2: trauma, Morris.

December 3: Mazon, medical, Morris.

December 4: Prairie, medical, refusal.

December 5: Jefferson, medical, Morris, mutual aid to Gardner; Susan, medical, Morris; Union, fire; Mazon, fire; Elk, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; Mazon, fire.

December 6: Susan, medical, Morris; Watters, fire.

December 7: Mazon, medical, Morris; Prairie, medical, Riverside, mutual aid from Coal City; Delaware, medical, refusal; South, medical, St. James.

December 8: Columbia, medical, refusal; Elk, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; Mazon, fire alarm; Bannon, trauma, refusal; Prospect, citizen assist, refusal.

December 9: Mazon, medical, Morris; John, medical, refusal; John, medical, Morris.

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# Temps - 2021

Dec. 2 - high 59°, low 29° Dec. 3 - high 55°, low 26° Dec. 4 – high 43°, low 27° Dec. 5 - high 47°, low 29°

.18" precip. Dec. 6 - high 34°, low 9° Dec. 7 - high 26°, low 12° Dec. 8 - high 34°, low 20° One Year Ago-Dec. 15, 2020

high 36°, low 26°



# **Dwight Fire Incidents** *12/03 - 12/10*

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following

December 5: Automatic Fire Arlm - N. Union; Elevator Rescue - E. Mazon; Cooking Fire -W Mazon

December 6: Automatic Fire Alarm - Watters Dr.

December 8: Automatic Fire Alarm - E. Mazon.

Dwight FPD also responded to 10 medical assists with Dwight EMS.

# Livingston **County Offices Closed December** 24 and 31

All Livingston County Offices will be closed Friday, December 24, and Friday, December 31, in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

Read The Paper every week!



Barbara DeWaard

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# FEATURED USED VEHICLES



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'20 F150 Crew Lariat, 9K, 4WD	.\$53,900
'19 F250 Crew Lariat, 47K, 4WD, 4" Lift	\$58,900
'19 F150 Crew Lariat, 8K, 4WD, Special Ed	.\$54,900
'19 F150 Crew XLT, 14K, 4WD	\$43,900
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 63K, 4WD	\$31,900
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 59K, 4WD	\$34,900
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 47K, 4WD, 8' Bed, HD Susp.	\$37,900
'18 F150 Crew King Ranch, 32K, 4WD	\$54,900
'17 F150 S/C XLT, 60K, 4WD, 8' Bed	. \$33,900
'15 F350 Crew XL, 71K, 4WD	\$31,900
'04 F250 S/C Lariat, 199K, 4WD	\$9,900
'99 F150 Reg Cab, 104K, 4WD	\$1,900

# **MOTORCYCLES**

'08 Harley Davidson XL 1200C, 5K..... ..\$4,900



# **CARS**

'20 Spark LS, 35K	.\$13,900
'18 Fusion Titanium, 44K, AWD	\$26,900
'14 Mustang, 93K	\$16,900
'14 Taurus SEL, 99K	\$14,900
'90 Cougar XR7 Supercharged, 70K, Sunroof	\$9,900
VANS and SUVS	

VANS and SUVS			
20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD	\$48,900		
20 Escape Titanium, 8K, AWD	\$36,900		
20 Explorer XLT, 31K, RWD	\$34,900		
17 MKX Reserve, 44K, AWD	\$33,900		
17 Escape Titanium, 33K, 4WD	\$24,900		
17 Edge Titanium, 81K, AWD	\$25,900		
14 Escape SE, 156K, FWD	\$10,900		
14 Escape SE, 92K, FWD	\$14,900		
14 Escape SE, 95K, FWD	\$13,900		
13 Edge LTD, 128K	\$13,900		
10 Escape LTD. 199K. 4WD	\$6.900		

'07 FJ Cruiser, 256K.....

# It's History...



DECEMBER 2011 - LOOK WHAT "BLUE" INTO DWIGHT LAST WEEK. Employees of Republic Services of Pontiac distributed the new "waste and recycling carts" to each household. The residents began using the large, blue carts this week.

# Walk-In COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics **Offered in Grundy County**

The Grundy County Health Department is offering walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics for residents 12 years of age and older each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in December (not offered on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31). from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Grundy Administration record of previous doses ad-

All three vaccines will be available at each clinic, as supplies last. Doses to be administered include first, second, third, and boosters. Unless obtaining a first dose, vaccine

Building, 1320 Union Street in ministered must be presented.

The Paper

These clinics continue to be possible because of the staff and volunteers who are dedicated to helping others in the community.

Pediatric doses remain available through local pharmacies.

# Jesse White Receives Award from National Organization for Driver Services Appointment System

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White was honored with the Region 3 Customer Convenience Award from the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) for his office's webbased appointment system at select Driver Services facilities.

"My office is committed to providing Illinoisans with the best customer service, and this award is proof that our efforts have been recognized throughout the Midwest," said White. "I thank AAMVA for this prestigious award. During the pandemic, we have continued to serve the public, including face-to-face transactions, in a safe and responsible manner. Throughout this time, we also greatly expanded online services in a diversified effort to address the heavy customer demand at facilities caused by the ongoing pandemic."

Twin Size Quilted \$60 Each Limit Two Limited Supply I FISFR FIIRNITII

Convenience Award recognized White's office for implementing the stand-alone web-based appointment system designed to address heavy customer demand caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. AAMVA cited the online appointment system's ease of use for customers to schedule an appointment.

Under the appointment system, customers may visit ilsos.gov to schedule an appointment same day and up to 10 days in advance for behindthe-wheel road tests, REAL IDs, standard driver's licenses and ID cards at the appointment-designated facilities. New appointment slots are made available each morning at ilsos.gov. The system also addresses complexities such as allowing seniors, veterans, persons with disabilities and expectant mothers to walk in without appointments.

Currently, 16 Chicagoland Driver Services facilities are requiring appointments while 13 larger central and downstate Illinois facilities are being added over the next two

The AAMVA Customer months. A list of these facilities can be found at ilsos.gov.

The Secretary of State is also partnering with the Chicago Lighthouse to provide an appointment hotline, which the public may call at 844-817-4649. The Chicago Lighthouse's call centers offer career opportunities for people who are blind, visually impaired, disabled, veterans and economically disadvantaged.

In addition to the appointment system, White's office continues expanding remote renewal for driver's license and ID card holders. During the fall and through the end of 2021, the office is mailing letters to eligible customers with expired driver's licenses and ID cards requiring them to renew online, by phone or by mail. White estimates that this will eliminate the need for approximately 1 million people to visit a facil-

As a reminder, White has extended all driver's license and ID card expiration dates to Jan. 1, 2022. This extension does not apply to commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and CDL learner's permits.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the federal REAL ID deadline to May 3, 2023.

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# **Gas Prices For This Week**

Pump prices continue their slow seasonal descent, despite a slight rebound in oil prices due to waning fears of a global slowdown caused by the COVID-19 omicron variant. The national average for a gallon of gas fell two cents on the week to \$3.33. Gas prices tend to fall a bit this time of year due to the shorter days and less robust demand, and this trend was assisted by the recent steep drop in oil prices due to fears over the omicron variant. But the variant's impact on pricing appears to be fading, so it remains to be seen if oil prices stabilize or move higher. Today's national average of \$3.33 is eight cents less than a month ago and \$1.17 more than a year ago.

City/Village	December 13	December 6
Dwight	\$3.33	\$3.39
Kankakee	\$3.40	\$3.53
Streator	\$3.46	\$3.49
Pontiac	\$3.31	\$3.33
Gardner	\$3.49	\$3.52
Braceville	\$3.35	\$3.49
Morris	\$3.38	\$3.42
Herscher	\$3.55	\$3.55
Chicago	\$3.62	\$3.63
Illinois	\$3.46	\$3.50
U.S.	\$3.33	\$3.35
Sources: GasRi	iddy com and U.S. Fnor	ov Information Adminis

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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# **Kinzinger Legislation to** Strengthen U.S. Supply Chain

Adam Kinzinger (IL-16) introduced H.R. 6157, the Allies Strengthening Economies And Manufacturing (Allies SEAM) Act, which would require the Secretary of State to support the relocation of critical manufacturing from countries of concern to the United States or elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere. The *Allies SEAM* Act would complement efforts in other committees of jurisdiction to address the ongoing supply chain crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As the holidays approach, Americans across the country have witnessed firsthand how supply chain disruptions are impacting our way of life. From shortages in everyday goods to those on which our critical infrastructure relies, we need to ensure our supply chains are protected," said Congressman Kinzinger.

"That's why I introduced the Allies SEAM Act. By incentivizing companies to relocate their manufacturing to the United States and Western Hemisphere, we would bolster national security, prevent future disruptions to our economy, and provide good-paying jobs in the United States. This legislation, working in conjunction with my Manufacturing Econ-

This week, Congressman omy And National Security (MEANS) Act, will place Amermanufacturing stronger footing moving for-

> Congressman Kinzinger has been actively working to address the ongoing supply chain crisis by crafting legislation and working with colleagues in different Committees to find solutions.

• In May 2021, the Congressman introduced the bipartisan Made in The Americas Act, which would deploy a comprehensive strategy to address supply chain concerns by establishing a Manufacturing Security and Resilience Council to oversee national policy and administer several programs included in the legislation to incentivize manufacturers of critical goods to relocate to the U.S. or Western Hemisphere. • In October 2021, the Congressman introduced the bipartisan MEANS Act with Reps. Malinowski (D-NJ) and Blunt

Rochester (D-DE), which would establish an Office of Manufacturing Security and Resilience in the U.S. Commerce Department. This bill is complemented by three other bipartisan bills in which Congressman Kinzinger is the lead Republican sponsor.

### ASSUMED NAME **PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 10, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Livingston County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as Sips Coffee Consignment & More, located at 104 South Franklin St., Dwight, IL 60420.

Dated this 10th day of December, 2021.

Kristy A. Masching Livingston County Clerk

### ASSUMED NAME **PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 7, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Livingston County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as C & B Bargains, located at 812 Sunset Dr., Dwight, IL

Dated this 7th day of December, 2021.

Kristy A. Masching Livingston County Clerk

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT **OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY** LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff,

JASON H. GROVES AKA JASON GROVES; AMY M. BALLES AKA AMY BALLES; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,

Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2021 CH 28

Property Address: 316 W. South Street, Dwight, IL 60420

# NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, JASON H. GROVES AKA JASON GROVES; AMY M. BALLES AKA AMY BALLES, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 20 IN BLOCK 4 IN NEWELL'S ADDITION TO DWIGHT, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.I.N.: 05-05-09-106-020

Said property is commonly known as 316 W. South Street, Dwight, IL 60420 and which said mortgage(s) was/were made and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 2017R-03953 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending.

NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Livingston County on or before January 7, 2022, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. 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 http://

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 www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp.

This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 Telephone: (630) 453-6960 Facsimile: (630) 428-4620

Attorney No. Cook 64727, DuPage 293191 Service E-mail: midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

8040-919688

# If you See Something, Say Something **IEMA Reminds Parents, Students, Schools** About the Availability of Safe2Help Illinois

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and local emergency managers throughout the state, are reminding students, parents and community members about a new program and free resources available to help improve school safety in

Safe2Help Illinois is a free information sharing platform that is available 24/7. In the absence of a trusted adult, students can use a free app, text/phone, or the website (Safe2HelpIL.com) to share school safety issues in a confidential environment.

Information obtained by Safe2Help Illinois will remain confidential to ensure student privacy and to protect the integrity of the program. This program is not intended to suspend, expel or punish students; rather, the goal is to encourage students to "Seek Help Before Harm".

Safe2Help Illinois is a free, voluntary program offered to public and private schools (grades K-12) in Illinois. Regardless of whether a school district is enrolled in the program, Safe2Help staff will vet all information received and forward to the appropriate local contact whether or not they elect to formally participate in the program.

In the wake of the deadly school shooting at Oxford High School in Michigan, Illinois schools have experienced an uptick in school threats. Public reports indicate there have been 30 school shootings (nationwide) this year, with 22 occurring since August 1, including one in the Chicagoland area on

October 12.

"In almost every case involving a mass school shooting there was someone, usually a fellow student, who had some advance warning or reason to believe that violence was possible," said Alicia Tate-Nadeau, Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. "In this era of social media prevalence, students are our eyes and ears, and they are our greatest tools in this school safety initiative. Through Safe2Help Illinois we are working together to empower students. If you see something on social media, if you hear someone making threats, Safe2Help Illinois is available 24 hours a day. In the absence of a trusted adult, Safe2Help Illinois aims to help today's youth seek help before harm."

### **Expanding School Safety** in Illinois

Safe2Help Illinois is a product of a statewide school safety capability assessment, following the 2018 school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. The Illinois Terrorism Task Force convened a School Safety Working Group made

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up of state and local law enforcement professionals, representatives from statewide education associations, emergency management and mental health professionals to identify school safety issues and come up with practical recommendations to improve student safety. The cornerstone of the group's school safety recommendations is the formation of a statewide

resource for students, schools

and local officials, called

Safe2Help Illinois. Although the origins of the workgroup recommendations intended to address the threat of school violence, the program evolved to provide resources to support a student's social, behavioral and mental health needs. Statistics from the Illinois Department of Public Health indicate that suicide is the third leading cause of death in Illinois youth ages 10-19. Additionally, prior to the onset of COVID-19, similar school safety initiatives throughout the nation found the two most common issues of concern have been threats of suicide and bullying. This holds true in Illinois. Of the public interactions received by Safe2Help Illinois to date, the top two concerns have been bullying and suicidal ideation, respectively.

### Call to Action

Safe2Help Illinois is encouraging all Illinois parents to talk to their school-age children about the importance of a trusted adult. Trusted adults are people whose words and actions make you feel safe, and these individuals (parents, teachers, coaches, mentors, etc.) can help you and/or your friends seek help before harm.

Recognizing that not all students may feel safe talking to their parents, teachers, coaches or mentors, now is a great time to introduce them to Safe2Help Illinois. It's free, confidential, and always available.

Thomas Bennett, State Representative 106th District

# More than 200 new laws take effect on January 1

will go into effect January 1, 2022. Many you have already heard about, like the watereddown ethics bill. But there are many others which have not gotten as much attention.

Below are some of the new laws which will take effect January 1. Check back here next week for a few more.

Motorcycle safety and organ transplant anti-discrimination bills take effect. Three of the bills I sponsored last spring will become law January 1. One of them is House Bill 656, which enhances motorcycle safety by requiring that a motorcycle passenger must be capable of resting their foot on the footrest while the motorcycle is in mo-

Senate Bill 595 changes some requirements for notifications in mortgage proceedings. The other is Senate Bill 500 which prohibits the denial of an organ transplant solely on the basis of a person's mental or physical disability.

College prep and high school graduation requirements. Minimum college preparatory curriculum requirements for admission to a public university oblige a student to complete three years of science. Effective January 1, a student may count an agricultural sciences class toward meeting that requirement. An agricultural education class may be counted toward the requirement for two years of electives. Another new law al-

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Edward Jones

More than 200 new laws lows students to use a speech class to meet a graduation requirement. Students may choose a forensic speech course as an elective to meet the one-year prerequisite for

high school graduation.

New state laws assist military families. Military families face the hardship of frequent moves as their loved one is reassigned to different posts around the nation. A change in Illinois state law will help members of these families restart their careers once they move to Illinois by expediting the professional licensing process for servicemembers and their spouses by reducing the processing time from 60 days down to 30. The change also makes it easier for a military spouse who already holds a professional license in another state to obtain one in Illi-

Flags at state parks. The Department of Natural Resources will be required to fly the United States flag, the Illinois state flag, and the POW/MIA flag at all state parks with the enactment of Senate Bill 2089. Those flags will have to be American-made due to the newly-enacted House Bill 605 which requires all flags flown at state buildings and facilities to be made in the United States.

How much do we owe? As of the time of this writing, the State of Illinois owes \$4,891,879,861 in unpaid bills to state vendors. One year ago, the backlog stood at \$7.8 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 estimated, such as our unfunded pension liability which is subject to a wide range of factors and has been estimated to be more than \$141

> The Paper Online Subscription \$40 815-584-1901

# **Don't Avoid 'Taboo' Topics With Older Parents**

If your parents are getting close to retirement age, or are already retired, it may be time to talk with them about financial and aging issues, some of which may involve difficult conversations. For the sake of everyone in your family, don't avoid

You'll need to be careful about approaching these subjects with your parents. Mention ahead of time that you'd like to talk to them about their future plans and reassure them that you want to understand their wishes, so their affairs will be If your parents are agreeable, choose a location comfortable for them and ask whom they might like to invite (or not

nvite). Then, think about how to open the conversation, preferably not with what they want to do with their money - this could be interpreted as your seeking information about your inheritance or being skeptical about their financial decisions. Instead, build a broad-based discussion about their vision for their aging years. A series of shorter conversations may allow you to cover topics more comfortably, one by one, rather than trying to solve everything at once. Try to address these areas:

Health care - You'll want to learn if your parents have established the appropriate health-related legal documents - a health care power of attorney, which gives someone the authority to make important decisions about their medical care it they become unable to do so themselves, and a living will, which spells out the extraordinary medical treatments they may

• Independence – As people age, they may begin to lose their independence. Have your parents considered any options for long-term care, such as a nursing home stay, or the services of a home health aide? And do they have plans in place? If they plan to receive support from family members, do their expectations match yours?

 Financial goals – Focusing on the personal and financial aspects of the legacy your parents want to leave can be a valuable conversation. Have your parents updated their will or other arrangements, such as a living trust? Have they named a financial power of attorney to make decisions on their behalf if they become incapacitated? Do they have the proper beneficiary designations on their insurance policies and retirement plan accounts? If you can position these issues as being more about your parents' control over their financial destiny, rather than "who will get what," you'll more likely have a pro-

 Last wishes – You'll want to find out if your parents have left instructions in their will about their funerals and last wishes. Express to them that you, or another close family member, should know who is responsible for making sure their wishes are Money, independence and aging can be sensitive topics. Don't think you have to go it alone – you can enlist help from

another close family member. Or, if you know your parents are working with a trusted advisor, such as an attorney or financial professional, you could see if they'd be willing to have this person participate in your talks. You might even be able to ntroduce them to one of your advisors. In any case, keep talking. These conversations can be challenging, but, if handled correctly, can be of great benefit to

your parents and your entire family This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

### ASSUMED NAME **PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Public Notice is hereby given that on November 24, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Livingston County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as Sweat Factory, located at 108 Watters Dr., Dwight, IL 60420.

vember, 2021.

Dated this 24th day of No-

Kristy A. Masching Livingston County Clerk



LIVINGSTON MASONIC LODGE #371 Officers for 2022 were installed on November 29 by Bill Swope from Manteno Lodge. Pictured, front row, from left, are Jerry Curtis, treasurer; Richard Leach II, senior warden; David Taylor, worshipful master; Del Hancock, junior warden; Daryl Holt, secretary; back row, Mark Dabbs, junior deacon; Chuck Wood, senior steward; Anthony Milton, senior deacon; and Bill Swope, installing officer.

# **Morris Hospital Announces Updated Visitor Guidelines**

In response to the significant increase in COVID hospitalizations and cases in the community, Morris Hospital has made a change to its visitor guidelines, effective immediately. Under the new guidelines, hospitalized patients will be limited to one visitor at a time, age 18 or older. The updated guidelines also apply to patients in the Family Birthing Suites.

As has been policy since the start of the pandemic, hospitalized patients who have COVID-19 are not permitted to have visitors. Special arrangements may be requested for COVID patients who are 17 or younger; at end of life; or intellectually and/or developmentally disabled or diagnosed with an impairment that affects understanding, judgment, or decision-making.

At this time, patients going for an emergency, outpatient or office visit at any Morris Hospital facility may continue to be accompanied by one support person age 18 or older if needed. This includes patients going to the emergency department, those having an outpatient procedure, test, surgery or therapy session, immediate care and convenient care visits, and physician office visits.

Visitors will be issued a badge when they enter the hospital. If the visitor badge for a patients and community."

patient is already checked out and another visitor arrives for the same patient, the second visitor will be asked to return at another time. Visiting hours for the medical/surgical units and Family Birthing Suites are 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Visiting hours for the Intensive Care Unit are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Per CDC guidelines for healthcare settings, Morris Hospital continues to require masks covering the nose and mouth at all times for everyone entering the hospital or a Morris Hospital facility. When entering a Morris Hospital facility, visitors will have their temperature checked, answer questions about any current symptoms, and apply hand sanitizer. Anyone who screens positive or refuses to comply will be unable to visit.

Visitors are always encouraged to review the visiting guidelines on the hospital website before going to the hospital to visit a patient.

"We continue to be faced with extraordinary times," says Kimberly Landers, Vice President of Patient Care and Chief Nurse Executive at Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers. "We ask for everyone's cooperation and understanding as our staff continues to work diligently to provide care for our





**Christmas!** 

Shop Local!

# Hines VA **Outreach Team** in Gardner Dec. 20

At Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, their health care teams are deeply experienced and guided by the needs of Veterans, their families, and caregivers.

As part of their mission, they have an outreach team that travels their service area to engage and educate veterans regarding their health care benefits.

The Edward Hines Jr. VA Medical Center Outreach Team, along with the Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission, will be at the South Resource Center of Community Foundation of Grundy County at 229 Liberty Street in Gardner from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mon., Dec. 20, educating and helping veterans enroll in VA health care and answering questions about VA health care services and other federal and state veterans' benefits. This event is open to all

Seasonal flu shots are available for eligible veterans. The nurse can also provide information regarding other immunizations available from the VA.

If you would like more information about the Hines VA outreach program, call Patrick Grimes at 708-904-1473.



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# **Never The Last Chance**

by Brandon LaChance

The definition of honor is high respect or

Throughout my almost 17-year career in journalism I've been fortunate enough to not

only receive respect, but dish it out like Magic Johnson in his prime feeding Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and James Worthy.

I've received awards for stories, met NBA

Hall of Fame member Walt Frazier, was asked to speak in front of college students, threw a first pitch, led the National Anthem for Boy Scouts, selected and coached an Illinois Valley All-Star Game roster, was interviewed by a student writing a story on media, and other amazing opportunities.

All of them were fantastic, truly enjoyed, and I know I'm truly blessed to help others and be asked to advise. However, when Pastor Randy asked me to speak at the Rotary Club meeting on Wednesday, it found itself toward the top of my career highlights.

I was honored to speak in front of an established group of Dwight's finest who have the community's best interests on the forefront.

They were friendly, inviting and were legitimately excited to meet me and find out some of my background since I'm a guy who came out of nowhere, invaded Dwight on a whim, and am now telling every story the area has to offer.

Not only was it a sign of respect for Pastor Randy to invite me and for me to speak at the meeting, but it was amazing to bring the honor full circle with appreciation toward the Rotary Club and the reason why I was there, The Paper.

Since The Paper co-owner Mary Boma asked in April, 'Would you like to write for us?,' I've been honored.

In 2021 (Two weeks away from 2022), journalism is on a downward slope steeper than it has ever been as more and more people think Facebook and social media is the best route to go to tell a story, find information or connect with people.

Usually this is when I'd say, I may have a biased opinion but... this time I can't.

I became a professional journalist and a member of Facebook during my freshman year at SIU as getting a job for the Carterville Courier, the Herrin Independent and the Johnson City Herald came two weeks before setting up a password and receiving a message from Tom (do you remember him, his bad haircut and white T-shirt?).

I have been both a newspaper guy and a FB user, for the exact same amount of time and have intertwined the two for 90 percent of everything I do, so I don't have to have a biased opinion this time.

It's simple, a small-town newspaper such as *The Paper* is an important part of our society and our community.

A newspaper links absolutely everything the area contains in one location. The feature stories with quotes from the actual person telling their story with two other sources who justify or prove the others correct are a page away from the obituaries where we show our respects to the fallen.

The crossword is surrounded by well-designed ads from businesses promoting their services and dedication for their product.

Sports stats from every school in *The Paper*'s 21-town circulation, letters of thanks, help wanted listings (get yourself a job), school board meeting information, new business assumed names, hard news stories such as crime, new laws, and current events are literally one turn away from photos by local photographers or us showcasing an individual succeeding, how the community celebrates national holidays, or honoring and showing proper respect for veterans and military.

All of this, and I'm sure I'm missing a few parts of the awesomeness, is all in one place.

A place where everyone behind it is truly, faithfully dedicated to achieving what a newspaper is supposed to do...connect different towns, entertain, inform, never have a biased opinion and showcase everything

Facebook is useful at times and does have a reason for existence, no doubt. At the same time, it doesn't do what *The Paper* does.

How many times do you remember to check out your favorite restaurants, establishments or stores for deals? You may check one or two different FB pages as they scroll down your timeline, but what about the ones that don't.

In *The Paper*, there is information and eye-catching designs for hundreds of businesses in 21 towns, every single week. Plus, The Paper has a circulation of 10,000 and has over 3,000 followers on Facebook -- again, in different towns and locations.

A business with 70-100 followers isn't going to bring in the traffic an ad with The Paper will.

Also, how many times have you seen a Facebook post that was a lie, or part of the rumor mill instead of factual information? How many times do you see someone posting out of spite to bring someone down's

You'll never find any of this in The Paper. But, you'll find credible journalists with true stories told by the real people who are living

I am honored to be part of the selfless work this staff does every week to help individuals tell their story and businesses get the word

Unfortunately, there is always a financial side. There is always a teamwork and a tag, it's your turn to assist.

With The Paper being a free newspaper, all income driven for all of its expenses is based on advertisements. Without them, The Paper doesn't exist. It is a business, just like your business, where you need customers to keep the lights on and pay your employees.

The crazy thing and what I respect the most about *The Paper* and newspapers is our business is to make your business stand out, be awesome and show it to everyone. Why wouldn't you want another business to be on your side, be

partners, and help your business prosper?

Why wouldn't you want to buy an ad with *The Paper* where all its resources are put forth to make your endeavors succeed?

In 2021 where the world seems to be on an end of a torch that could light at anytime, communities should be gelling, vibing and working together to keep each other's businesses open.

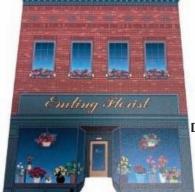
Open stores and togetherness make small towns like Dwight exist and seem like more than a spot on the map.

Facebook doesn't care about you, doesn't care about the quality of your story, and doesn't care if you're in business or not.

The Paper does.

Brandon LaChance is a journalist for The Paper. Contact LaChance at (815) 876-7941, blachance20@gmail.com, or on Twitter @LaChanceWriter.

The Dwight Economic Alliance is honoring Linda Emling and her business Emling Florist in its two signature pieces, its annual ornament and Cats Meow piece in 2021.



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Linda and Gary Emling and Emling Florist began business September 16, 1979 at 138 East Main Street after purchasing Country Village & Gifts. The business moved to 144 East Main Street after purchasing the former Baker Furniture building in September, 1990.

Emling Florist closed its doors for a final time on May 29, 2021, after 41 years in business in Dwight.

# **Christmastime at Church of Hope**

"Blue Christmas"

The holidays are upon us and while it is a time of prepartion and celebration, some of us have a difficult time getting into the spirit. Many things happened in our lives over the year, such as losing a loved one, or a change in employment, the effects of the pandemic and separation from our family, or other things that af-

just can't seem to feel the joy. Hope in Gardner is giving the be. opportunity to come together with others who are going through those same feelings, to realize that we are not alone in our feelings, and to just take time to focus on remembrance of the important persons and milestones in our lives.

fect us and our lives, and we Church of Hope for a special book for those who wish to stay

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sorted Homemade Desserts!

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service Sunday, December 19, With this service, Church of at 4:00 p.m., to just share and

**Christmas Eve Service** 

This year, Pastor Jan at Church of Hope has requested that they have one Christmas Eve service at 8:00 p.m., and **not** have the 11:00 p.m. serv-

They will be recording this They will be gathering at the service and posting it on Face-

home, yet celebrate the birth of Jesus.

This has been a year of change in so many ways, including our traditions. They hope you will join them as they once again hear the story of the birth of Jesus and sing the carols that are so familiar over the years...yet maybe that will change, too.

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

Sue and Rod Hogan

# Cookies and Carols Event at Dwight UMC December 15

Dwight United Methodist dren will also be sharing the Church Kids Klub and R.E.A.L. Kids will host their second annual Cookies and Carols event Wednesday, December 15, from 3:30-5:00

The children will be singing familiar carols, as well as fun new selections. The older chilreading of the Christmas story from the Bible.

Everyone is welcome to attend and take a friend. Cookies and refreshments will be

Go and feel the joy of the Christmas spirit presented in

# **Rod and Sue Hogan** to Celebrate 70th Anniversary

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Rod and Sue Hogan, as they are set to celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary Monday, December 27.

To commemorate this joyous milestone, the whole Hogan family invites you all to join them in showering the love-birds with a card, letter, or

If you have stories you would like to share, they would be warmly welcomed.

Letters can be sent to: Rodney and Suzanne Hogan 34899 East 2900 North Road

Buckingham, IL 60917 The family asks that you send your letter before Thursday, December 16.



DALE ADAMS, Dwight Rotary Member, welcomes Brandon LaChance, The Paper reporter, as the Rotary Speaker December 8. A column by LaChance discussing the topic that day appears on page 5 today.

# GSW's Colby Grieff in Morris Christmas Parade



COLBY GRIEFF, of East Brooklyn, a junior at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, participated in the Morris Hometown Parade on November 26. Colby represented the Queen in the lighted holiday event. She was escorted by Judge Mary Kay O'Brien, of Essex, who drove her dad's red corvette that was the perfect color for the celebration.



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# Franklin Corner

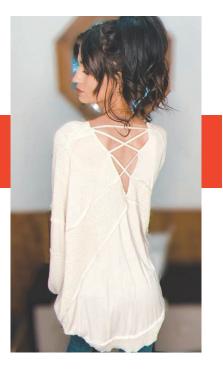
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### **OBITUARIES**

## Randy Wilkey

Randy Wilkey, age 64, of Gardner, Illinois passed away unexpectedly Monday, December 6, 2021 at Edward Hospital Naperville.

Born February 4, 1957 in Pontiac, Illinois, Randy Thomas

was a son of William Harold and Beata (Benson) Wilkey. He was raised and educated in Reddick, and went on to serve in the United States Navy (1974-1977), serving both stateside and abroad on the USS Detroit.

On September 24, 1983, Randy married Nancy Campbell in Coal City, and together they built a life they loved, and raised their boys in Gardner. He was employed as a machinist for R.R. Donnelley for 17 years from 1979 - 1996, and most recently worked as a Paramedic with Dwight, Gardner, and currently DULY Health and Care (formerly Du-Page Medical Group).

Randy was a member of the Gardner American Legion and was active in fire service for many years. He was past Fire Chief of Reddick Fire Department and involved with Gardner Fire Department for over 20 years, where he also served as Chief.

Randy was an instructor with Chief Shabbona Fire Academy; taught CPR, and was an EMT instructor for Riverside Medical Center. In addition, he was a member of the Illinois Fire Inspector Association, and served as a Fire Investigator for numerous

In his free time, he enjoyed golf and fishing, but could more often be found woodworking, as well as working in the yard. Randy was a man of many projects and was always building something. He was a fan of both the Chicago Bears and Cubs, and most of all enjoyed spending time and cooking with his family, especially the grandchildren. His big breakfasts will be missed most of all.

Throughout the years, Randy held many titles: Son, Husband, Father and Chief to name a few. No title was more important to him, however, than Grandpa, and Randy's grandchildren were the light of his life. He absolutely loved the time spent with each of

Survivors include his wife, Nancy; three children: Jamie (Eleanor) Wilkey of Gardner; Chad (Danielle) Wilkey of

Essex; and Jordan (Jessica) Wilkey of South Wilmington; six grandchildren: Cole, Tyler, Jaci, Avery, Kedzie and Drake; not to forget four-legged

> Seven siblings: William (Jeanette) Wilkey of

granddaughter, Ella.

Dwight; Duane Wilkey of Tennessee; Kathy (Dave) Curl of Reddick; Herb (Kathy) Wilkey of Braceville; Su (Robert) Thompson of Florida; James (Kelly) Wilkey of Cullom; and Doug (Julie) Wilkey of Dwight also survive.

Surviving are brothers-inlaw and sisters - in - law: Nora Wilkey of Braidwood; Dan (Mary) Campbell of Duluth, Minnesota; Mike (Debbie) Campbell and Mark Campbell, both of Braceville; and Linda Tira of Duluth; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Randy was preceded in death by his parents; son, Seth, on February 14, 1995; siblings: Wayne Wilkey, Wes Wilkey, Patsy Wilkey-Perry, Sandra Jensen and Terry Wilkey; his father-in-law and mother-inlaw, Howard and Faye Campbell; and his sister-in-law, Carri Campbell.

The family received friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 203 Liberty Street in Gardner, on Friday, December 10, 2021 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and on Saturday, December 11, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. until the time of funeral service, 10:00

Pastor Greg Likous officiated at the service.

Burial followed in Braceville - Gardner Cemetery, where Randy was laid to rest with his son, Seth.

Serving as pallbearers were: Jamie Wilkey, Chad Wilkey, Jordan Wilkey, Cole Mack, Tyler Wilkey and Jerry Von Qualen.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Randy's memory to Ronald McDonald House Charities, 5444 S. Drexel Avenue, Chicago, IL

(https://rmhccni.org/donate/) Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guestbook, upload photographs and share Randy's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.Reeves Funeral.com/obituary/Randy-Wilkey

Funeral services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Gardner. (815-237-2526).

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

The Paper email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

We welcome your thoughts.



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# Carolyn Boundy

Carolyn Boundy, 84, of Pontiac, Illinois passed away Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 4:15 a.m. at Accolade Healthcare in Pontiac, Illi-

A Celebration of Life will be held Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at

11:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Saunemin, Illinois, with Pastor Jane Bradford officiating.

Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Emington, Illinois at a later date.

Visitation will be Wednesday morning, December 15, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the service at the First United Methodist Church in Saunemin, Illinois.

Duffy - Baier - Snedecor Funeral Home, Pontiac, is in charge of arrangements.

Carolyn was born November 22, 1937 in Urbana, Illinois to Walter Otto and Bessie Floy (Becker) Stein. She married Richard Boundy on November 6, 1955 in the United Methodist Church, Sibley, Illinois. He survives in Pontiac, Illinois.

Also surviving are her children: Kristy (Mark) Masching of Pontiac, Illinois; Mark (Rosalie) Boundy of Jacksonville, Florida; Douglas (Betty) Boundy of Bourbonnais, Illinois; Steven (Vivian) Boundy of Dwight, Illinois; and Kari (Jeff) Walters of Athens, Texas; brother, John (Janet) Stein of Le Roy, Illinois; sister, Kathy Cook of Fairbury, Illinois; and sister-in-law, Norma Stein of Menifee, California.

Grandchildren: Brian (Lindsay) Masching of Pontiac, Illinois; Todd (Jen) Masching of Odell, Illinois; Franklin (Tara) Carino of Atlanta, Georgia; Kelly (Drew) Provost of Victoria Austin, Texas; Facchinetti of Jacksonville, Florida; Caroline Mina of Jacksonville, Boundy Florida; Meghan (Robbie) Ragland of Morris, Illinois;



survive. Surviving greatgrandchildren include: Addison, Bailey, Cayden Masching of Pontiac, Illinois; Bryce and Kamryn Moore of Odell, Illinois; Olivia and Owen Masching of Odell, Illinois; Caroline and Charlotte Provost of Austin, Texas; Mark, Luke and Conor Facchinetti of Jacksonville, Florida; Madison, McKenzie, Colton Ragland of Morris, Illinois; Sage, Kylise, Noah and Avery Carino of Atlanta, Georgia; Reid, Leah Hoegger of Spokane Valley, Washington; and Brooklyn and Corbin Becker of Manteno, Illinois.

(Nicole)

Rachel

Seneca,

Stephani

Valley,

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Wesley Stein; and one sister, Frances Stein, in infancy.

Carolyn was a graduate of Melvin-Sibley High School, class of 1955. She spent 25 years at the Emington United States Post Office, retiring in 1998; sold AVON for many years, helped on the family farm, and was a homemaker.

Carolyn was a member of Saunemin United Methodist Church, where she enjoyed singing in the choir. She was also a member of the Thursday Evening Club in Emington, United Methodist Women, and the Saunemin Community Chord Chorale. She enjoyed baking, sending cards, cross stitch, dancing, and hosting family holiday din-

The family suggests memorials be made to the Saunemin United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 151, Saunemin, IL 61769.

Online condolences may be made to the family at: duffyfuneralhome.com or visit us on Facebook.

another obituary appears on page 12

The Paper is free - its value unlimited.

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

LIVINGSTO	Ti COCITI I, IEEE TOO	
BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corpo Plaintiff,		21-СН-
VS.	)	
SHAWN P. HOLMES, ar and non-record claimants Defendants.	,	
Dolollamino.	)	

# **NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE**

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bid-

- A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Donald R. Mc-Clarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009; (815) 584-1525.
- B. The common address of the real estate is 1304 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

C. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 68 in First Addition to Westview Subdivision to the City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois, as per Plat recorded October 16, 1979, as Document Number 387228 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-16-452-031

Commonly known as: 1304 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

- D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: 1story single-family home, including 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, no basement, and 1-car attached garage.
- E. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.
- F. The date, time and place of the sale are: January 11, 2022 at 10:00 A.M., Livingston County Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764.
- G. The terms of the sale are: 50% paid at sale and balance paid within 48 hours of sale, all in cash or certified funds. No refunds
- H. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions apparent and of record.
- I. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Donald R. McClarey Attorney for Bank of Pontiac





# The Holidays

As a semi follow-up in regards to my column last week, it was reported that Stacey King had tested positive for Covid-19 and will not be calling the games for the Bulls for the time being, so just wanted to wish him well and a quick, speedy, recovery. That goes for the rest of the team as well who are currently in the midst of a team outbreak.

My intended idea or thought for this column were somewhat more of a Public Service Announcement, and just typing that I'm kind of realizing that PSA for whatever reason has a negative connotation to it in my head, maybe that's not true, but it feels fairly negative. If that's off base and not true feel free to email in and let me know.

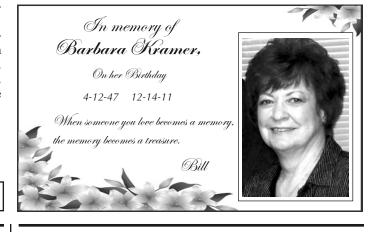
What the service announcement is, is that it's Christmas time, and while that in-and-unto itself is not really a PSA, the subsidiary ideas surrounding Christmas are, and the biggest one is that someone in your town, community, neighborhood can probably use your help.

This isn't limited to one thing, but can be applied to a litany of things. There may be people in town who need a meal, and then there may be a service which is delivering presents and gifts to someone who's maybe fallen on tough times given the way the last year has unfolded. I think there are opportunities to both donate your time and your capital whether it be financial or something physical like a gift, or donating food.

This works for any size community, too - big, small, medium, medium-big, pick your size and there's probably a pocket of volunteering or donation that could use your assistance. This is important, too, because communities are usually better off when everyone in the community is better off. A rising tide lifts all boats? Ships? I'm not sure the exact phrasing of this euphemism, but point being, if you're able to help this holiday season it's great to get out and

Go, Bulls, even though they basically all have Covid.

Aaron J. Boma | 2016 ISU Grad



# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, ) No. 21-CH-7 Plaintiff, VS. SHAWN P. HOLMES, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

# **NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE**

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bid-

- A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Donald R. Mc-Clarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009; (815) 584-1525.
- B. The common address of the real estate is 1309 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

C. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 89 in First Addition to Westview Subdivision in the City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois, as per Plat recorded October 16, 1979, as Document Number 387228.

PIN: 15-16-451-032

Commonly known as: 1309 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

- D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: 1story single-family home, including 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, no basement, and 1-car attached garage.
  - E. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.
- F. The date, time and place of the sale are: January 11, 2022 at 0:00 A.M., Livingston County Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764.
- G. The terms of the sale are: 50% paid at sale and balance paid within 48 hours of sale, all in cash or certified funds. No refunds.
- H. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions apparent and of record.
- I. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLI-NOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Donald R. McClarey Attorney for Bank of Pontiac

More letters to Santa next week ;)



ELEVEN CHILDREN and five moms met at the Piper City Public Library December 8 to make homemade Christmas decorations to decorate their Christmas tree. Refreshments were served after all the fun work. The librarians extended their thanks to the mothers for staying and providing extra help. A good time was had by all.



THE CHOIR AT Zion Lutheran Church-Bonfield presented its 2021 Christmas Cantata on December 12. The church is on Route 17, just east of Herscher Road. Regular Sunday services are at 10:00 a.m.

### **Tri-Point Elementary** K/1 - Mrs. Bryan

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. My brothers haven't no matter what they tell you. I would like a kickball and basketball. I will share them with my sister. Do reindeer really fly? Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Bryanna Pozos (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I pick up my toys without Mommy telling me to. I would like little dog toy like Molly got, with the doghouse, and the Barbie she got too! How do the reindeers fly? Merry Christ-Gwen (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. One time I cleaned up my mess at home. I would really would like a pink bike and new piano What do you want me to leave for you on Christmas Eve, cookies and milk again?

Amiah (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I help Nana do dishes. I would like a giraffe stuffed toy, some more stickers for Nana's desk, and a piggy bank. Tell the elves Mia (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I clean my room, and my laundry. I am nice to my brothers even when they aren't to me. My sister is nice though. I would like Ryan toy and Fgteev. How do the elves get to our houses? Do they come on the sleigh with you? Or is it Ben (6) magic?

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I go to sleep when I supposed to. I love opening presents. I would like a camera and play microwave. I will leave you cookies and milk on Christmas eve, love you Santa. and carrots for the reindeer.

Gabie (6)

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

North Pole.

Dear Santa.

Dear Santa,

former RC car.

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would

I have been good. I would

I have been good. I would

I have been nice. I have

been kinda of rude to my

brother BUT I am getting bet-

ter. I would like a real life dirt

bike. Maybe a Batman trans-

I have been kinda of good. I

would like makeup and slime

please. Tell your elves hi for

like LOL and Barbie dolls. I

like a barbie doll with clothes

and a LOL doll. Is it cold at the

Sawyer (6)

Caitlin (7)

Baylee (5)

Elsie (5)

like a t rex and batman hq.

What are the elves doing now.

Dear Santa,

I have been good. May i have the PS5, and earpods. Some hotwheels and trucks. Say hi to Mrs. Claus.

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like LOL dolls and Barbie dolls. What are the elves doing? Delaney (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like Barbie and LOL dolls. Do the reindeer fly?

Kennedy (6)

**Dwight Common School** 2nd Grade - Mrs. Legner

Dear Santa,

My name is Sophi and I have 7 pets, but I had 2 fish but 1 dies and I have a big family. I would like a phone and another crafts kit and a spiky and whatever else you want me to have. Did you send us an elf? Merry Christmas!! Happy Holidays. Love, Sophi

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi. My name is Jackson. I want a PS5. I want an iPod 13 Pro. Merry Christmas. Say that I said hi to the elves!

Love, Jackson

Dear Santa,

Hi. I can't wait to see Charlee sit on your lap. I am excited for Christmas. Do you get presents? I am 7. I want a kids tablet.

> Love, Makayla

Dear Santa,

Hi! My name is Seth. I live outside in a house. Where is Jim my elf because I miss him? I am wanting to give my brother a Harry Potter set and a lego one with a car. I want some fish and a fun tank for Christmas. Merry Christmas Santa Claus.

Love, Seth

Dear Santa,

How are you? I'm good if you were going to ask. I have a question, how do your reindeer fly? Here are 3 things I want. A rare Pokemon card and an electric scooter and a ton of Pokemon.

Dear Santa,

My name is Willow. My teacher's name is Mrs. Sulzberger. I also have a sister named Iris. She is in Kindergarten. My brother is in preschool. Today, the elf that you sent to my house took candy from our Halloween candy bag. The classroom elf hid in the ones spot. Merry Christmas Santa Claus.

Love, Willow

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas. It's me Damian. I want \$100,000,000 for Christmas and Kick the Buddy game. Tell the elves I Dear Santa, said hi. Have a Happy New Year.

Love, Damian

Dear Santa,

Hi! I am Delilah. Tell the elves I said hi. I would like a kitten for Christmas. How are you? I am well. I am 8 now.

Yours truly, Delilah

Archer (5) P.S. Merry Christmas!

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Aiden. I have a brother. I live in Dwight. What I want for Christmas is a VR headset and I also want a new scooter and bike. Tell the elves hi. Tell Giggles hi when he goes back to the North Pole. How are you doing? How is your wife doing? Merry Christmas!

Love, Aiden

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Damien. I have Dear Santa, two things in mind for you for and an electric scooter.

Damien

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi. My name is Harper. I'm in 2nd grade. I have 2 sisters and 2 brothers. One of them is kind of like my brother. Who is your favorite reindeer? I want for Christmas an iPhone and a puppy. I don't know if my dad will let me but I will try to convince him. Say hi to your elves! Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

> Love, Harper

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Charlotte. I live in Dwight. I have 3 brothers at home, 2 parents, 3 dogs, and 1 cat. I want to have a stuffy for Christmas. Tell the elves I said Merry Christmas and tell Mrs. Claus I love her. Merry Christmas to you. Where is my elf?

Love, Charlotte

Dear Santa,

My name is Maci. My mom's name is Mary. My dad's name is Mike. My sister's name is Monroe. My cat's name is Oscar. All I want for Christmas is 5 things. I want two rabbits, two show monkeys, and a toy elf. Her name is Carly. Merry Christmas.

Love, Maci

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa. My name is Liberty. Have a Happy Holidays Santa Claus. Who is your favorite elf? I love Christmas. I I also would like to get a new want everyone to have fun on bed. Christmas.

Love, Libby

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa, how are you? Say hi to the elves please. What I want for Christmas is the world's best Charzard and Fortnie Mighty Legends for Nintendo, Call of Duty Black Ops and Call of Duty Two,and a black and white Husky. How is Mrs. Claus doing?

Love, Niko

Hi my name is Bentley and I have 1 brother, 1 mom, 1 dad, and 2 dogs. I live in Dwight and I am a student. I want a robot for Christmas and a GX card. Merry Christmas.

Love, Bentley

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi. My name is Allison. I love Christmas. It is my favorite holiday because I get to give presents to my family. I am giving you a present for Christmas. What I want for Christmas is lots of slime. What do you want for Christmas? How are you doing Santa Lego, pop, a car, and a Nin-Claus? I am doing good. I am really good at drawing. I can get you a picture or I can make a picture for you. If you want me to make a picture for you, I will make it in makeup! Love.

Allison

Hi. My name is Lilly. I have Christmas. They are an Xbox a cat. Today the school elf went in the place value chart! For Christmas, I want Fgteev plushies and merch.

> Love. Lilly

Dear Santa.

My name is Camry. I really want a new hydroflask and that is a type of water bottle. I already have two, but I have to share one with my sister. And I really want Lankybox merch! What kind of cookies do you

> Love, Camry

Dear Santa,

I am John. I am in 2nd grade. Santa Claus, all I want for Christmas is 19 things. I want a computer so I can get a YouTube account. Also, 8 sweatshirts that my friends think are cool, super dragonite, 4 super binders of rare GX 2, GX Pikachu, and 1 GX binder.

Love, John

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Brysen. I want to know how you can carry that big bag. I want an RC truck for Christmas. Love.

Brysen

Dear Santa,

I have a pet ferret that is named Chica. Merry Christmas! Is the elf real that you sent us? I would really like to have a toy elf for Christmas. I would also like to have earrings too. I would also like to have a PS5.

Love, Gavin

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Adalynn. I have two brothers. I live in Streator. I go to Dwight school. Can both of my elves come to my house in Streator? How is Zify and Sparkles doing? What is your favorite elf? I want a lot of LOL's and a lot of shopkins. Love,

Adalynn

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Ryan. I have two dogs. One is named PJ and my other dog is Maro. My mom's name is Carly and my dad's name is Nick. Why is Rudolf's nose red? I want a Narwhal for Christmas. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Ryan

Dear Santa Claus,

I just want to see my friends and family. I want some candy canes, but no toys please. I would like two dogs, a big T-Rex, and legos. I really want 254 dinosaurs, Space Jam tendo with Minecraft. Love,

Kamren







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501 Carriage House Lane

815-584-3061

# Letters To Sa

### **Tri-Point Elementary** 1st Grade - Mrs. Lane

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I help all my teachers when they ask. I help mom clean up. I would like candy, some books and some crayons. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Laurel (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good, I read my books. I would like Pokemon cards and a big dinosaur. Can I have my own elf that I don't have to share with Max. I would name him Gingerbread. Merry Christmas.

Finley (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I did my chores when my mom asked. I would like some Playdoh and Uno cards.

August (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I cleaned my room. I would like chocolate coal and a Lego Huck Buster.

Kyler (7)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I washed

Mazon-Verona-Kinsman

**Elementary School** 

I want a Mickey Robot so I

I want Pokemon cards. I

would also like a Nintendo

Switch. I also want a binder to

put my cards in and \$9 please.

yummy candy from Peter my

I want a stair case slide for

I want a puzzle to do with

Destiny and a popit. Thank

Christmas. I want a Pokemon

Love,

Mason

Thanks,

Love,

Cecilia

Love,

Colin

CJ (Clark)

I wish I could see you. I eat Thanks.

can build it. Also I want a PS5,

pokemon cards and Treasure X.

Dear Santa,

Thanks.

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

elf. I love you.

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

you.

card case. Thanks.

dishes for my mom when she Dear Santa, was sick. I would like a vet kit and a turkey stuffed animal.

Briana (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good sometimes. I helped my brother pick up a lot of toys. I would like the game Road Blocks and 10 million Row books.

Brady C (6.5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I cleaned the living room and my room. I would like a RC car and any kind of candy.

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. Helped feed the cat and helped my cousins clean their room. I would like new crayons and green Play-doh.

Atticus (7)

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Thanks.

I want an Xbox, Treasure

rex, Ryan's World everything,

and Fortnite characters like

Drift. You are the best. It's ob-

I want an American Girl

I want a 1/64 farm house

and a versatile snow plow.

squishy, popits, and \$100.

Dear Santa, I want a baby

puppy, makeup, LOL Doll-

house, and an American Girl

doll. Thank you.

Horse and a real horse and a

pony. Merry Christmas!

I have been good this year. I helped my mom clean the dishes and helped remove crayon drawing off the wall that my cousin made. I would like a Play Station 5 and new crayons. I promise to hide them from my cousin.

Alonzo (6)

I have been good this year. I feed my dog. I would like a tablet and Legos.

Emmy (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good! I washed the dishes like 4 times. I also carried the groceries without being asked. I would like 100 Legos and a tablet.

Dekon (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been bad and good this year. I helped my dad work on cars and helped mom do chores. I would like a Barbie Power Wheel Van and a Dr. McStuffin hat.

Amelia (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I helped my dad and mom clean up after my cousins came over. I helped do the dishes and clean my sister and my room.

Phoebe (8)

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

sign on.

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Love,

Love,

Sutton

Love,

Nathan

Love,

Rylee

Love,

McKenna

Bradley

I want Pokemon cards to put

Love,

Avery

Love.

in my binder. I want a doll-

house and American Girl horse.

I also want a microphone to

I want 3 pictures of you and

the reindeer. I would also like a

binder for my Pokemon cards,

and Ryan's World rocket ship.

and iPhone 13. Thank you.

I want money for my dad. I

I have been bad and good. At the old house, I used to help mom cook. I would like a Chewbacca gun and a derby RC car. Brady S. (6)





THE HOLLIS' OF RED-DICK, above, enjoyed visiting with Santa. Below, Adalyn Fritz had a ball playing one of many games during the Reddick Community Auxiliary's Winter Carnival on December



Saunemin Grade School 1st Grade - Ms. Zeedyk

Dear Santa,

I would like hatchimals, an LoL doll, and a cheetah plushie. Thank you Santa! Love, Ravynn

Dear Santa,

I would like planets on a stick, a ukulele, and a pumpkin. Thank you Santa!

Ayden

Dear Santa,

I would like color changing barbies, 15 puppies, and rain bow high dolls. Thank you Santa!

> Love. Paisley

Dear Santa,

I would like a tales games, a robot Santa, and a play phone. Thank you Santa!

David

Dear Santa,

I would like a rainbow high I want a PS5 and pokemon toy, LoL doll, and a toy reindeer. Thank you Santa!

Love, Charlotte Dear Santa,

dumplings, and a fake bowl of spaghetti. Thank you Santa! Love, Cecilia

I would like a sled, squishy

Dear Santa,

I would like a Minecraft toy, pillow and a hatcracker. Thank you Santa!

> Love, Barrett

Love,

I would like a tractor, a bow and arrow, and a track. Thank you Santa!

Ben

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

I would like a gravity rover, 500 kittens, and a toy laser. Thank you Santa! Love.

Daniel

Dear Santa, I would like a pop-it back-

Dear Santa,

pack, a rain bow high doll to use, and a puppy. Thank you

Love, Missy

tractor game, and soft blanket. Thank you Santa!

> Love, Graydon

Dear Santa, I would like water barbies,

toy phone, and a heated blanket. Thank you Santa! Love.

Willow

Dear Santa,

torized scooter and a tank gator. Thank you Santa!

I would like an xbox, a mo-

Love, Dathan

Dear Santa,

I want a Bowser lego set and a Pixer cars track.

Love Malachi

Dear Santa,

I would like \$1021, 3 mini brans, and 10 LOL dolls. Thank you Santa!

> Love, Lynette

Dear Santa,

I would like a tab let, apple phone, and shoes. Thank you

Love, Myla

Dear Santa,

I would like a Rain bow I would like sprayer tractor, high doll, a LaLa Loopsy doll, a LoL doll, a omg doll.

Josie

I want a watermelon want Pokemon action figures. Thank you. Dear Santa, I want a ukelele, I want a microphone. I want a pop it because I have been good. Love, Kenzie





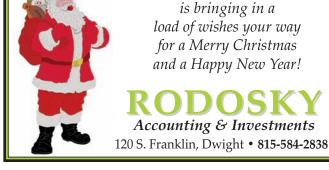
Merry Christmas Dwight Aero Service (Dwight Airport)

Deanna, Terry, Dan, Joanne

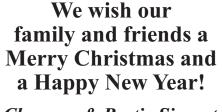
10365 S. Dwight Rd., Dwight, IL (815) 374-4319 dtgaero@gmail.com P.O. Box 214

www.dwightaeroservice.com





Jolly Old St. Nick



- Clarence & Bertie Simantel







### Monday, December 6 Dwight vs. Newark

Varsity -The varsity Lady Trojans lost to Newark December 6, 47-23.

Dwight fought hard, however cold shooting in the second quarter allowed Newark to build a 13point halftime lead, that they continued to add to in the second half.

Kassy Kodat was high scorer for the Lady Trojans with eight points, connecting on two threes. Mikalah Bregin chipped in with seven points, going 1-2 from the line. Brooke Vigna contributed five points, with a 1-2 showing from the charity stripe. Alayna Airgood hit a three-pointer. JV-

Dwight's JV girls fell to Newark, with Kassy Kodat, Njomza Asllani (5 rebounds), and Emerson Peters (7 rebounds) all putting points on the board.

### Wednesday, December 8 Dwight vs. Streator Varsity -

Dwight was in action at home December 8 taking on Streator, and took a tough 35-32 loss.

The Lady Trojans used a big 14-point fourth quarter to cut Streator's lead to three – but ran out of time.

Mikalah Bregin led Dwight with a double-double on the night, scoring 12 points (8-11 FT) and pulling down 11 rebounds. Kassy Kodat poured in 11 points (2 3pointers, 4-4 FT) to go with nine boards. Brooke Vigna added seven points (3-4 FT), 13 rebounds, while Lilly Duffy chipped in with two points and three boards.

The JV Lady Trojans picked up an exciting overtime victory over Streator to pick up their first win of the season, 28-26.

Kassy Kodat played just one half, but led tthe team with 15 points and six rebounds. Njomza

# **DTHS LADY TROJANS BASKETBALL**

Asllani, Izzy Bunting, Ella Legner, Emerson Peters, and Lilly Duffy all scored points for Dwight. Ellora McCullough led the squad with eight rebounds.

"The ladies played very well as a team tonight," stated Coach Thompson. "I was very proud of our disciplined defense in the second half of this game."

### Thursday, December 9 **Dwight vs. Putnam County** Varsity -

The Dwight Lady Trojans defeated Putnam County 40-32 on December 9, earning their first Tri-County Conference victory of the season.

"Well-rounded scoring and excellent team rebounding were keys," said Coach Butterbrodt.

Kassy Kodat led with 11 points, eight rebounds, and four steals. Lilly Duffy added nine points, three steals, and an assist. Brooke Vigna contributed eight points while pulling down 15 boards. Njomza Asllani scored seven points to add to eight rebounds and a steal. Mikalah Bregin had another double-digit night on the glass, grabbing 10 rebounds and scoring five points.

"Great overall effort led to a solid victory over a good Putnam County team." Butterbrodt added. Dwight is now 1-3 in the TCC.

In the JV game, the Lady Tro-

jans lost to Putnam County. Kassy Kodat and Ella Legner led the team in scoring, with Issy Bunting, Olivia Buck, and Ellora McCullough all contributing.

### Saturday, December 11 Dwight vs. Iroquois West Varsity -**Iroquois West Holiday Tournament**

Dwight's Lady Trojans defeated #3-seed, and host, of the Iroquois West Holiday Tournament, 33-27, on December 11, utilizing a 20-2 run in the second half to take control of the contest.

Leading the way for Dwight was Kassy Kodat with 10 points (1 3-pointer, 1-4 FT), eight boards, and five steals. Brooke Vigna added nine points (3-4 FT), eight rebounds, with Mikalah Bregin leading the team on the glass with 14 boards to go with a 3-10 showing from the free throw line. Lilly Duffy had four points, followed by a three-pointer each from Njomza Asllani and Alayna Airgood. Ellora McCullough went 1-2 from

the charity stripe. Dwight vs. Milford Varsity -

**Iroquois West Holiday Tournament** 

In game two of the Holiday Tourney, Dwight was beaten by Milford, the #2-seed, 40-35.

Kassy Kodat's 14 points (6-7 FT) and six steals led the way for the Lady Trojans. Lilly Duffy (5 rebounds, 2 steals, 3-6 FT) and Njomza Asllani (4 rebounds, 1 3pointer) scored seven points each, while Mikalah Bregin scored five points (1-1 FT) and grabbed six rebounds. Brooke Vigna chipped in with two points and nine boards.

Dwight is now 3-9 on the sea-



### Thursday, December 9 Seneca vs. Roanoke-Benson

The Lady Irish were in action December 9 against Roanoke-Benson, and came away with a 52-37 win.

"Nice to get a conference win after a three-game losing streak," stated Coach Holman. "We're getting better and learning our rotations and roles. We'll keep working."

Emma Smith and Kennedy Hartwig led the way for Seneca, scoring 18 and 16 points, respectively. Zoe Hougas had 10 points.

Shelly Renken

Livingston County

Supervisor of Assessments





DTHS LADY TROJAN **ELLA LEGNER shoots** as Streator works to de-



The Lady Panthers were at Illinois Lutheran December 6, and

Hannah Balcom had a teamhigh seven points, going 3-6 from the free throw line. Eva Henderson and Grace Olsen each scored six points. Taeryn Lardi and Mary

### Wednesday, December 8 **GSW** vs. Wilmington

GSW faced off against Wilmington on the road December 8, falling 38-14.

Aspen Lardi scored six points

shooting 2-2 from the charity stripe. Grace Olsen and Hannah Balcom both had two points.

### Thursday, December 9 GSW vs. Donovan

On December 9, the Lady Panthers were dominant in their first win of the season, taking out Donovan, 45-24.

Grace Olsen led with 16 points, followed by 11 points (3-8 FT) from Hannah Balcom. Eva Henderson had 10 points, hitting two threes, while Riley Klingler scored four points, going 2-4 from the line. Taeryn Lardi and Mary Clare Phillips each had two points.

# **TRI-POINT** CHARGERS BASKETBALL

### Tuesday, December 7 Tri-Point vs. St. Anne

The Tri-Point Chargers jumped out to an early 30-11 first quarter lead over St. Anne December 7,

and would cruise to a 66-47 win at home. "We needed a game like this," stated head coach Justin Cox. "Our kids have been battling very big and competitive teams since the tip-off of the GCMS Turkey Tournament, and our defensive

pressure tonight set the tone for the entire game." Bobby Mogged scored a gamehigh 24 points, shooting 4-6 from the charity stripe. Connor Cardenas followed with 17 points, including three three-pointers. Ayden McNeill (2-2 FT) and Frankie Barriga (3 3-pointers) put up 12 and 11 points, respectively.

The Chargers are now 2-6 with a 1-2 record in the RVC.

Jose Amador added a bucket.

In the JV game, St. Anne got the best of Tri-Point, 23-19.

### and six points, respectively. Friday, December 10

The Chargers struggled throughout much of their matchup against Illinois Lutheran December 10, but Donovan Conners hit two big threes to spark a 25point fourth quarter for Tri-Point leading to a 57-49 come-from-be-

Tri-Point vs. IL Lutheran

hind victory. T-P was led by Connor Cardenas and Bobby Mogged, scoring 21 points each. Jose Amador added seven points, while Connors was good for six fourth-quarter points.

### Monday, December 6 putting up four points, including GSW vs. Illinois Lutheran

suffered a 33-23 loss.

Clare Phillips had two points each.

Monday, December 6

GSW vs. Woodland

on the other end."

(2-6 FT), with Mary Clare Phillips

The Gardner-South Wilming-

"After dropping the last few

ton Panthers put up a 40-34 win

games, it is great to get a win,"

said Coach Allan Wills afterwards.

"Our defense was strong down the

stretch. We got away with missing

a few free throws by getting stops

over Woodland December 6.

Cale Halpin scored 19 points to go with four steals and three rebounds. Bennett Grant (7 rebounds, 2 steals) and Gabe McHugh (7 rebounds, 5 steals)

rounded out the scoring with nine

**GSW Panthers Basketball** 

### Friday, December 10 GSW vs. Donovan

In a varsity meeting between GSW and Donovan December 10, the Panthers won 44-37 to improve to 3-5 on the season.

"It is always nice to get a win and also get everyone on the team some decent minutes," Coach Wills stated.

Cale Halpin led with 21 points and five steals. Bennett Grant came up with 11 points, eight boards, with Gabe McHugh (5 rebounds) and Bryce Handzus adding six points each.

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff.

MICHAEL J. KENNEDY,

and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

No. 21-CH-35

# **NOTICE**

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

Lot 6 in Block 22 in Fell's Second Addition to Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-27-129-013

Commonly known as: 701 S. Vermillion St., Pontiac, IL 61764

The title holder of record to the above described real estate is MICHAEL J. KENNEDY. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on June 18, 2003 and recorded on June 23, 2003 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 546443, a modification of mortgage executed on July 26, 2013 and recorded on July 31, 2013 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 624514, a modification of mortgage executed on August 25, 2015 and recorded on September 1, 2015 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 2015R-636014, a modification of mortgage executed on July 27, 2016 and recorded on August 1, 2016 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2016R-03032, and a modification of mortgage executed on October 11, 2019 and recorded on October 15, 2019 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2019R-03992. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 21-CH-35 is currrently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, unknown owners and non record claimants, file your answer to the complaint in this action or otherwise enter your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, held in the Law & Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before December 31, 2021, a default may be entered against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint.

Dated this 19th day of November, 2021.

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



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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff. ) No. 21-CH-8 SHAWN P. HOLMES, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

# **NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE**

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bid-

A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Donald R. Mc-Clarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009; (815) 584-1525.

B. The common address of the real estate is 118055 E. 2160 N. Rd., Pontiac, IL 61764

C. The legal description of the real estate is: TRACT 1:

Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Block 19 in the Village of Cayuga, situated in the County of Livingston, in the State of Illinois, EXCEPT the West Half of Lot 4 in Block 19 in the Village of Cayuga, and that portion of the East-West alley which adjoins said lots to the North.

TRACT 2:

Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in Block 19 in the Village of Cayuga, Livingston County, Illinois, together with the South Half of the vacated alley adjoining the North line thereof.

PIN: 10-31-154-011

Commonly known as: 18055 E. 2160 N. Rd., Pontiac, IL 61764

D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: 3,200 sq. ft. commercial storage building with septic system on 1.86-acre lot.

E. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.

F. The date, time and place of the sale are: January 11, 2022 at 10:00 A.M., Livingston County Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

G. The terms of the sale are: 50% paid at sale and balance paid within 48 hours of sale, all in cash or certified funds. No refunds.

H. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions apparent and of record.

I. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

> Donald R. McClarey Attorney for Bank of Pontiac

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

**Public Notice** 

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Livingston

County Township Assessors for the 2022 Assessment Year will

be held Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Liv-

ingston County Board Room located at 112 W. Madison St., Pon-

tiac, IL. The purpose of the meeting is to give instructions to the

local assessors that will tend to lend to uniformity in the assess-

ment process. This meeting is open to the public.

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, ) No. 21-CH-16 Plaintiff, SHAWN P. HOLMES, and unknown owners and non-record claimants. Defendants.

# **NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE**

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bid-

- A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Donald R. Mc-Clarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009; (815) 584-1525.
- B. The common address of the real estate is 1401 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

C. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 88 in First Addition to Westview Subdivision, City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois, as referenced on a Plat recorded October 16, 1979, as Document Number 387228.

PIN: 15-16-451-031

Commonly known as: 1401 Nixon Dr., Pontiac, IL 61764

D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Split-level single-family home, including 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full basement, and 1-car attached garage.

E. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.

F. The date, time and place of the sale are: January 11, 2022 at 10:00 A.M., Livingston County Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

G. The terms of the sale are: 50% paid at sale and balance paid within 48 hours of sale, all in cash or certified funds. No refunds.

H. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions apparent and of record.

I. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Donald R. McClarey

Attorney for Bank of Pontiac



# SENECA FIGHTING IRISH BASKETBALL

Friday, December 10 Seneca vs. Woodland

The Seneca Fighting Irish defeated Woodland 47-28 on December 10, upping their 2021-22 record to 4-1.

"It was nice to get back into the gym after a 10-day layoff due to our pause," stated Coach Witte. "Kids did a great job defensively. We need to take care of the ball a little bit better but overall it was a nice first game back."

Paxton Giertz had a team-high 13 points, going 2-3 from the line and hitting one three. Zack Pfeifer (1 3-pointer) and Lane Provence (1-2 FT) each added 11 points, with Owen Quigley scoring eight points (1 3-pointer, 1-2 FT). Kysen Klinker and Dominic Traina had two points each.



# DCS REDBIRDS BASKETBALL

### Tuesday, December 7 Dwight vs. Elwood 8th Grade -

The Redbirds dismantled conference foes, Elwood, December 7, locking in an undefeated 5-0 run in the conference this season, as the win moved Dwight to 13-1 overall.

"Nice game - we are playing well," said Coach Joe Stevenson.

Evan Cox compiled 13 points, eight steals, and five boards, while Joey Starks put up 12 points, four steals, and a rebound. Maddox De-Long provided 10 points, two boards, and a steal, with Asher Kargle (2 steals, 1 rebound) and Jackson Launius (6 rebounds, 1 steal) adding five and four points, respectively. Zander Tarnowski had three points, four steals, and two boards. Jack Statler and Filemon Ortiz each contributed two points and two rebounds. 7th Grade -

The seventh grade match-up ended with a similar result, with the Redbirds winning big, 52-15 as they finished their conference schedule with a 5-0 record.

"Another good all around effort," Coach Conroy stated after the game.

Colin Bachand had a gamehigh 20 points to add to eight rebounds, three steals, and two assists. Matt Watchinski came up with 11 points, three boards, and three steals, with Bradley Thompson adding nine points, four rebounds, two assists, and a steal. Trevor Jensen (4 rebounds, 3 assists) and Carson Sandeno (2 steals, 1 assist) contributed four and three points, respectively. Blake Thetard (3 assists, 1 rebound, 1 steal) and Graham Meister (5 rebounds, 1 assist) scored

two points each. Joey Farris grabbed two rebounds, while Honore Nwizorwa added a steal and a rebound.

Dwight moves to 11-3 for the season.

6th Grade -The sixth grade Redbirds lost

to Elwood 28-16. Evan Olson had six points and 10 boards, with Ryland Wooden providing four points and seven rebounds. Axel Kargle, Jude Hurt, and Kayden Wood each scored two

In the "B" game, Dwight prevailed 12-10.

points, with Walter Bradley snag-

ging 10 rebounds.

Jude Hurt had a team-high four points, adding that to two rebounds. Cason Johnson, Logan Pakula, Walter Bradley (5 rebounds), and Kyler DeLisle all scored two points.

### Thursday, December 9 Dwight vs. Peotone 6th Grade -

Dwight's sixth graders hosted Peotone December 9, suffereing a 23-11 loss.

Leading the Redbird charge was Kayden Wood with seven points and nine boards. Evan Olson scored four points and snagged six rebounds. Jude Hurt had three rebounds, with Hudson Colclasure pulling down two.

The Redbird "B" team took a 9-5 loss to Peotone.

Evan Olson (3 rebounds) and Logan Pakula each scored two points. Jude Hurt hit a free throw and led the team with six boards. Ty Turner and Ryker Anderson were each able to grab five re-

# **MVK Mavericks Basketball**

Tuesday, December 7 MVK vs. Seneca 8th Grade -

The Mavericks defeated Seneca 30-18 in eighth grade basketball action December 7.

Colton Baudino led MVK in scoring with eight points.

7th Grade -

The seventh grade meeting ended with Mazon-Verona-Kinsman on top, 32-24.

Brant Roe and Colton Baudino each scored 15 points in the win.

# **Church Dartball League**

Church Dartball League started December 6, and results are as follows:

Emmanuel Luth. Zion Lutheran	<u>W</u> 2	<u>L</u> 1 2
Trinity Lutheran Dwight Meth.	1 2	2
Dwight Cong. Herscher #1	2	1 2
Herscher #2 New Life	2	1 2

# **League Standings**

	W	L
Dwight Meth.	7	2
Dwight Cong.	7	2
Emmanuel Luth.	6	3
Herscher #2	6	3
Herscher #1	3	6
Trinity Lutheran	3	6
Zion Lutheran	2	7
New Life	2	7

The next day of play is Monday, January 3, at 7:00 p.m.

GSW Spiritline Places, Qualifies for State



THE GARDNER-SOUTH WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Spiritline hosted their 5th Annual IDTA regional Dance/Flag Competition on December 4, when they welcomed 20 teams for their first in-person contest in almost two years. The team placed first in Pom/Dance, second in Pom, and third in the IHSA category. The team also qualified their pom routine for the IDTA State Contest, which will be held February 11-12 in Springfield at the Bank of Springfield Center. Senior Ella Sandeno also placed second with her solo and also qualified for the IDTA State Contest. Senior Katelyn Farris received a rising star award for her outstanding showmanship in their pom/dance routine. Coaches Nicole Leigh and Holly Swisher are very proud of the team's performances and are looking forward to the rest of the competitive season.

# **SENECA FIGHTING IRISH WRESTLING**

### Tuesday, December 7 Seneca vs. Wilmington

The Fighting Irish took to the road December 7 to take on Wilmington, and returned home with a 54-24 victory. Individual results are as follows:

106: Julian Decker by FF; 113: Tommy Milton by FF; 120: Landon Dooley F:25 over Bill Farcus; 126: Jaden Casey by FF; 132: Robby Nelson by FF; 138: Will Milton by FF; 145: Owen Feiner F 2:36 over Parker Adams; 152: Ryan Flynn by FF; 160: Aiden Burton by FF; 170: Hunter Hayes by FF; 182: Double FF; 195:

Chris Peura by FF; 220: Alex Bogner by FF; 285: Blake Shirey F:27 over Liam Blue. Seneca is now 2-3 overall.

### Saturday, December 11 Seneca at Riverdale Invite

Seneca took part in the Riverdale Invite December 11, placing seventh overall with 93 points. Placers included:

106: Kyler Hahn (3rd); 113: Tommy Milton (6th); 126: Nick Grant (6th); 126: Jaden Casey (3rd); 132: Nate Othon (5th); 145: Owen Feiner (4th); 152: Asher Hamby (2nd); 195: Chris Peura (4th); 285: Liam Blue (5th).

# **Dwight Wrestling Club** Goes to Work in DeKalb

The new Dwight Wrestling Christensen; 2nd Place – Rem-Club has 46 wrestlers, with the interest level and support from the community being outstand-

On December 12, 14 wrestlers participated in the first tournament of the season at DeKalb. The following wrestlers took home medals:

1st Place - Dalton DeLong, ce Eggenberger and RI ington Paulsen, Vincent Stipanovich, and Coleman; 3rd Place - Ava Eggenberger, Carlos Ochoa. Sadie Burke, Breckin Halstead, Christian Ochoa, Jack Tjelle, Kevin Peterson, and Landon McGann.

The wrestlers will next be in action Sunday, January 2, in El Paso.

# McClarey Law Firm Donald R. McClarev

313 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight, IL 60420 (Also Engaged in the General Practice of Law)

and Donald John McClarey

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# **LEGAL**

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, ) No. 21-CH-5 Plaintiff. SHAWN P. HOLMES, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants. **NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE** 

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bid-

A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Donald R. Mc-Clarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009; (815) 584-1525.

B. The common address of the real estate is 303 W. Jackson St., Cullom, IL 60929.

C. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 14 and the East 8 feet of Lot 13 in Block 1 of Peterdorf's Addition to the Village of Cullom, Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 18-23-385-011

Commonly known as: 303 W. Jackson St., Cullom, IL 60929.

D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: 2story single-family home, including 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, full basement, and 2-car detached garage.

E. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.

F. The date, time and place of the sale are: January 11, 2022 at 10:00 A.M., Livingston County Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

G. The terms of the sale are: 50% paid at sale and balance paid within 48 hours of sale, all in cash or certified funds. No refunds.

H. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions apparent and of record.

I. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

> Donald R. McClarey Attorney for Bank of Pontiac

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P235/70/R16......\$138.00

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Ford

# **Area COVID-19 Stats** as of December 13

-	J = J = J = J = J = J = J = J = J = J =		
_	Total Tests	~	
<u>Town</u>	<b>Performed</b>	<u>Cases</u>	
Dwight	19,331	807	
Gardner	4,309	349	
Herscher	4,828	347	
Odell	4,455	260	
Mazon	3,111	258	
Braceville	3,163	226	Numbers
Essex	2,044	192	
S. Wilmington	1,652	130	as of
Cullom	2,413	99	12/13/21
Verona	1,316	96	G
Saunemin	2,040	96	Statistics via:
Reddick	1,577	88	dph.illinois.gov
Cabery	1,475	81	
Ransom	1,350	80	
Buckingham	1,194	78	
Kempton	1,223	65	
Emington	881	63	
Blackstone	851	47	
Kinsman	898	31	
Campus	641	23	
Union Hill	211	14	
County	<b>Tested</b>	Cases	<b>Deaths</b>
Kankakee	372,884	20,336	273
LaSalle	351,028	17,055	296
	1117151	2 - 2	

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,884,744; Deaths: 26,801; **Probable Deaths:** 3,041; **Total Tests Performed:** 40,810,633.

8,657

6,679

4,936

2,803

91

107

86

115,726

180,903

84,417 52,586

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

# Definition of Family Christmas ~ **Johnson Family** Lights Up Reddick



(continued from page 1) ments, and other decorations down so all his mother has to do is decorate.

"It means a lot. I know they care about me and love me,' said Hayden, who is a junior at Herscher High School. "It's special because then I can pass on the tradition to my kids and grandkids. That's what I look forward to."

He doesn't think the same happy thoughts during the trudge up the stairs, but before and afterward is different.

"The outside is pretty fun. Inside, I like the bar area because I love Christmas movies," Hayden added. "I really enjoy bonding with my mom and dad while we're doing this. I've already had a lot of compliments from people at school. They say our Christmas lights look really good. I have a couple of buddies who drove by and honked a couple of times."

The bond shared with Hayden is exactly why Katie began collecting Christmas memorabilia and a reason Katie is one of Hobby Lobby's top cus-

She knew how much she loved Christmas and the time spent with her family including

her grandparents John and Verna Clark and Al and Agnes Wancho.

In their memory, she wanted it to continue in her own home.

"My favorite is my vintage room just because I've tried to incorporate my family. I almost cry every time I put up my grandma's ornaments," Katie said. "My other grandma always gave me Precious Moments, so I put those out. Every time I put them up, I think about them. I have Christmas pictures that are from my childhood and pictures of Brian's childhood, and I put them up because they're sentimental to

"Christmas was always a special time and my grandparents and my mom always did little things to always make it special whether it was making cookies or taking a special trip. It was just always a special time of the year for our family. I wanted to make it special for my son.

"I would hate it if Brian and Hayden didn't enjoy it because I wouldn't get any help."

Brandon LaChance is a journalist with The Paper. He can be contacted at 876-7941, blachance20 @gmail.com, or on (a)LaChanceWriter.

# **New Bill Proposal Could Make Unvaccinated Pay Out-of-Pocket**

By: Peter Babb

An Illinois lawmaker has proposed a new bill that would make unvaccinated Illinoisians pay medical bills, including hospital bills, out-of-pocket if they contract the virus. Even if they have health service.

The bill would target those who choose to remain unvaccinated, not those that have an underlying condition or other situations that would prevent them from being vaccinated.

The new bill was proposed on Dec. 6, by Illinois Democrat Rep. Jonathon Carrol. The new legislation still needs to be approved by the state house and senate, as well as approved by Gov. J.B Pritzker.

The bill was proposed as COVID-19 cases begin to rise across the state. Carroll expressed his frustration over the rise of cases.

"It's getting to a point where the people who are not vaccinated are impacting those of us that are and those of us that follow the science and medicine on this," said Carroll. "And it's just very frustrating.'

The bill is already facing backlash from Illinois Republicans, saying that it discriminates against those refusing the vaccine.

If the bill is passed, it is expected to face legal challenges and complications. Insurance providers cannot discriminate based on an individuals vaccination status.

Carroll did state that he is willing to consider opposition to the bill, and work with both sides to make a stronger proposal.

The proposal, if passsed, won't go into effect until Jan. 1, 2023.

### **OBITUARY**

### Harold Garrett Pinnow

Harold Garrett Pinnow, passed 1.7 Kempton away Saturday, December 11, 2021 at Riverside Medical Center.

He was born July 22, 1943 in Kankakee, the son of Harold William and Violet Mae

(Splear) Pinnow. Harold retired from GNB Battery after 40 years of serv-

Preceding him in death are his wife, Martha Diane; his par**I HIS** ents; and brother-inlaw, Herb Pitts. Surviving are his

I brother and sister-**E**in-law, David and Bonnie Pinnow; brother-in-law and 🙎 sister-in-law, Jim Shirley Creswell of Kerr-

ville, Texas; and sister-in-law, Carol Pitts of St. Charles, Mis-

Services will be held in the Trinity United Methodist Church in Kempton Saturday morning, December 18, 2021.

More Obituaries appear on page 7.

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

The Paper email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net



The Mitten Tree at Limestone Township Library District (LTLD) is standing tall during the month of December. It can hold all of your donations of mittens, hats, gloves, and scarves. All donations will go to the Herscher School District for children in need of these

Don't just check out their books and movies, check out their upcoming programs as

Storytime, for preschool children, is on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. It will be in person with Mr. Austin on December

**Federal** 

will be with Ms. Holly on Facebook on December 28.

They are having Chess Club Thursday,

December 16, at 6:00 p.m. on Facebook. Watch Austin's latest tutorial to improve your skills or learn a new

Adult Crafting Night will be held Monday, December 20, at 6:00 p.m. Join for a night out to learn how to turn a mason jar into a snow globe soap dispenser.

On Wednesday, December 22, at 6:00 p.m., they are Christmas Cookie Baking in the Meeting Room. There is no better smell than Christmas Cookies in the oven. Help make a mess of cookies, and decorate them, too.

Christmas Movie Night through fifth grade. For Saturwill be held Thursday, December 23, at 6:00 p.m. Take the family for an evening watching Polar Express with Tom Hanks! Popcorn and drinks will

Join Austin for Cooking with the Season Monday, December 27, at 6:00 p.m. on Facebook. He will be making Potato/Leek Soup with Sage Oil, a perfect winter soup to warm up your bones.

STEAM Workshop, a part of their Getting Ready for Kindergarten grant program, will be held Wednesday, December 29, at 6:00 p.m. Geared for students entering kindergarten in 2022, this month they are doing engineering experiments with Legos. This program is sponsored by the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley.

Every Saturday, they have a new Take-and-Make Craft available for pick-up. These are geared for children in first

day, December 18, the craft is a Christmas Puzzle.

The library will be closed Friday, December 24, and Saturday, December 25, for the Christmas holidays. They will re-open Monday, December 27, at 10:00 a.m.

Every day that the library is open, their first hour is reserved for those community members/patrons with compromised immune systems, and seniors. Their remaining hours are open to all members of the commu-

Masks are required for all visitors from the age of two and up while in the library building. Contactless Curbside Service is also available.

Any questions? Call them at 815-939-1696, e-mail them at info@limestonelibrary.org, or message them at Facebook or Instagram. Visit their website, limestonelibrary.org, for more information.

# Lawsuit to Keep ICE **Detainee** Contract **Gets Dismissed**

On September 1, McHenry County, along with Kankakee County, filed suit in US District Court to stop the implementation of the Illinois Way Forward Act and to challenge it by seeking an injunction to delay its end-of-year deadline while the case was being heard. The counties' lawsuit maintained that the Act violates the Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution - which prohibits states from interfering with the federal government's exercise of its constitutional powers – as well as case precedents forbidding state and federal government intruding on each other's sovereignty.

"The court's ruling in this particular matter is extremely disheartening, and quite frankly shows a clear overreach by the IL General Assembly and Governor Pritzker by not only overpowering local government control but also that of the United States Constitution," said Kankakee County Sheriff Mike Downey.

Kankakee County is one of two Illinois counties that houses ICE detainees for the Department of Homeland Security. Kankakee County began housing ICE detainees in October of 2016, which, according to the Sheriff, significantly lessened the burden on local taxpayers.

"While we are obviously disappointed in this first ruling, the Kankakee County Board will pursue this as far as we can, up to and including the US Supreme Court," said Kankakee County Board Chairman Andy Wheeler.

> A good read. The Paper



GET THE BUZZ on becoming a master gardener at your own pace and own home with the online training program this January.

# **Master Gardener Program** Offers Online Training This Winter

For 46 years, University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners have measured success by gardens planted, insects identified, produce harvested, and the millions of hours volunteers have logged by helping others learn to grow.

From farms and small towns to suburbs and the inner city, more than 2,600 volunteers statewide put their mission of "helping others learn to grow" into practice by providing gardening education and outreach in their communities. Take your love of gardening to the next level in 2022 joining the Master Gardeners.

Online training is again being offered starting January 31, 2022. This self-guided course is for Illinois residents and can be taken from the comfort of home on a desktop, laptop, or tablet.

"Our online training is a great opportunity for folks who need more flexibility to participate," said State Master Gardener Specialist Candice Hart. "It is a self-paced program that can be completed at any time."

The training includes videos, a manual, reading materials, and quizzes. The course can be completed in 14 weeks with four hours of weekly work. A strong internet connection is highly recommended.

This course is aimed at exposing participants to in-depth horticulture content through 13 modules including soils and fertilizers, plant diseases, entomology, pest management, organic gardening and more. For more information, https://extension.illinois.edu/ mg/become-master-gardener.

The course costs \$300 and registration is open until January 10, 2022. Local fees may also apply. For more information or to fill out an application form, contact your local Illinois Extension Office at 309-663-8306. Livingston, McLean, and Woodford Counties are offering the online option during the winter training, so fill out the interest form online or contact staff at the number above.

After receiving training, volunteers participate in education programs in their communities. Those opportunities may include speaking at garden clubs, civic groups, or schools; answering calls or e-mails at garden help desks; establishing demonstration gardens that serve as educational tools; and educating citizens on how to establish community gardens.

# The Paper

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UNION HILL - Union Hill Sales & Service is looking for motivated experienced mechanic to join our team. Applicants must have five years mechanical experience, preferably on agricultural equipment. Must have strong people skills, ability to work hard, valid driver's license. Pass preemployment drug test. Fulltime position. Pay based on experience. Must have own tools. Benefits negotiable. Cal 815-426-6103.

### **General/Special Education Paraprofessional**

Dwight Common School has a vacancy for a general education/special education paraprofessional. Please email a letter of interest and resume to Mrs. Julie L. Schultz @ schultzju@dwight.k12. il.us by 8/13/2021. Call 815-584-6221 with any

The posting will be open until filled.

### **BUS DRIVER**

Odell CCSD #435 is accepting applications for Full-Time and Substitute Route School Bus Drivers. Full-Time position has a guarantee of four hours a day and some extra curricular runs. Starting hourly rates are \$18.25/hour. If you do not currently have a CDL with a passenger endorsement, the district will pay for that endorsement for you. Interested candidates should fill out an application at the district office or mail a letter of interest and resume to Mark Hettmansberger, 203 N. East St., Odell, IL 60460.

# Part Time Cook/Kitchen Help

Gardner South Wilmington High School is seeking a part time cook/kitchen help. \$13.00 per hour, 4 hours per day (9:30-1:30) on student attendance days.

Apply To: Josh DeLong, Superintendent -Email jdelong@gswhs73.org or mail to: Gardner-South Wilmington High School 500 E. Main St.

Gardner, IL 60424

For Additional Information Please Call: (815) 237-2176

# **LOCAL DRIVERS**

Schiber Truck Company has a position available for a Molten Sulfur truck driver at its Channahon, Illinois location. This position is 4 days on, 3 days off. The driver will work Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday afternoons starting at approx. 3 p.m. Earning \$86,000 plus per year.

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Apply on-line at Schiber.com or Call (800) 221-4849 to arrange for an application.

# Pet of the Week

Hello there! My name is Samson! I am a 5 year old boy who is very sweet! I just want all the attention that I can get! Chin scratches are definitely my favorite form of affection! If you need someone to talk to, I'm your guy! I love listening to everyone's conversations! I tend to be a talker, too, especially if you are ignoring me! I can be a little shy and nervous at first, but I warm up very quickly! I am not



the biggest fan of being held, but the ladies think that over time I will be an awesome lap cat! I also love food and I get so excited when the ladies offer me soft food as a treat! I did test positive for FIV shortly after I arrived here at the shelter If you would like more information about FIV, please reach out to our amazing office staff! At this time, I am a strong healthy boy that weighs 12 lbs! I have not let my FIV affect me! Please give me a chance and consider bringing me home!

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### **READ and USE the WANT ADS**

# **HELP WANTED**

### **HELP WANTED**

Administrative Assistant needed at T&E Ent of Herscher, Inc. General Office and Computer skills required. Full benefits included. Send resume to PO Box 237 Herscher, IL 60941.

### **Administrative Assistant**

Livingston County Mental Health Department has a full time opening for an administrative assistant who will organize and coordinate office administration and procedures, in order to ensure organizational effectiveness, efficiency, and safety for the Mental Health Department. To apply www.livingstoncountyil.gov, click on "About Livingston" and then click on "Employment" for more details regarding this position and where to send your application.

### Help Wanted

Accounting office is looking for a FULL-**TIME** experienced Bookkeeper to assist in managing our day-to-day accounting and finance requirements. Confidentiality, excellent organizational skills and accuracy are important qualifications for this position, as well as good customer relations and the ability to communicate clearly. The ideal candidate for this position is a skilled multi-tasker, is reliable and is committed to consistently meeting deadlines. QuickBooks computer experience highly recommended.

# Responsibilities would include:

- Prepare monthly posting: reconcile bank deposits, prepare financial reports and Sales Tax
- · Reconcile monthly financial statements, including cash flow, profit and loss statements and balance sheets
- Payroll Services: Prepare quarterly and monthly payroll tax returns, Unemployment reports, Year-end W-2's

# Qualifications and skills:

- QuickBooks experience preferred
- · Experience working in accounts payable and receivable, general ledger, payroll and payroll
- Strong knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles
- Extensive experience with data entry, record keeping and computer operation
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Send resume to P.O. Box 245 Dwight, IL 60420

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> Read The Paper!



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

Wed., Dec. 15: Creamed chicken w/ green onions & pi-Tarragon mento, carrots, pineapple, biscuit.

Thurs., Dec. 16: Stroganoff over noodles, broccoli, 3-bean salad, warm cinnamon applesauce, grain wheat. Fri., Dec. 17:

mashed potatoes w/ gravy, seasoned green beans, pumpkin pie, dressing. Mon., Dec. 20:

Settlers beef and

Roasted

Brussels beans, sprouts, seasoned baby carrots, applesauce, whole grain dinner roll.

Tues., Dec. 21: Baked ham, candied sweet potatoes, buttered Midori vegetables, pears, whole grain wheat, pudding.

Wed., Dec. 22: Chili w/ beans, creamy cole slaw. peaches, cornbread, oyster crackers. Thurs., Dec. 23:

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• FREE ESTIMATES •



South Wilmington 815.237.8298



# **FREE Christmas Dinner**

meaningful way to celebrate Christmas?

Share the Christmas spirit by volunteering on Christmas Day to help deliver Christmas dinners to your friends and neighbors in Dwight who may be shut in or just not able to join their families for Christmas. Many people may be alone this season and simply unable to prepare a holiday meal.

Christmas Day dinners will be prepared by local restaurants, and delivered free of charge to anyone who requests.

Anyone in the community is invited to help deliver meals, or if you wish to donate cash to be used to provide the meals, donations are welcome.

If you know of someone in need of a hot meal on Christmas Day, or if you wish to receive a meal, call *The Paper* at 815-584-1901 and provide us the name, address, phone num-

Are you looking for a ber, and the number of meals needed. Be sure to leave all the requested information. Meals cannot be delivered if a correct address and phone number is not available.

> A volunteer will call each dinner recipient on December 25 to inform them what time the volunteers will deliver their meal so they know when it is coming.

> By having the meals supplied by local restaurants, the free Christmas Meal tradition continues in a safe manner, provides an outlet for charitable giving, and helps support the local restaurants.

For more information, to volunteer to help, or to offer a donation, call 815-584-

If you would like to make a donation, make checks payable to The Paper or visit thepaper1901.com to donate via PayPal. On the check memo line, put down Christmas Dinners.

The last day to order is Friday, December 17.

The Dwight Economic Alliance is honoring Linda Emling and her business Emling Florist in its two signature pieces, its annual ornament and Cats Meow piece in 2021.



Limited edition. Limited supplies. \$25.00 ea.

The Emling Ornament is expected any day and will be Available at the **DEA office -**

132 E. Main, Tues., Th. 10-1; Fri. 12-3, Franklin Corner, and **Dwight Village Hall.** 

Linda and Gary Emling and Emling Florist began business September 16, 1979 at 138 East Main Street after purchasing Country Village & Gifts. The business moved to 144 East Main Street after purchasing the former Baker Furniture building in September, 1990.

Emling Florist closed its doors for a final time on May 29, 2021, after 41 years in business in Dwight.

# I ree of Memories

by Brandon LaChance

We have all lost people whether it be because of old age, cancer, Covid-19, car accidents, or another of the long list of possible factors.

With death, comes grief and trying to remember the fond memories we shared with those no longer here.

Jenny Johnson, the wife of Dwight Mayor Paul Johnson, thought she would help preserve memories during the holidays with a memory tree.

"I basically just threw it out there on Facebook that I was doing a memory tree this year. It's for people that have passed away," Johnson said. "It helps remember them during the holiday season. I have a basket on my front porch. People drop off ornaments and then I take them to the tree and zip tie them on.

"The tree is right up on the road so everybody can see it. I think I have at least 40 ornaments on the tree so far."

Every Christmas the Johnson display gets bigger and bet-

The tree alongside 305 E. William St. in Dwight labeled memory tree with a spotlight in front and a lighted angel statue to the right was this year's new addition.

"This is the first time I've decided to do the memory tree. We have a big Christmas display in our yard every year and we like to have something new each year also," Johnson said. "This one came to mind this

"My goal is to plant a real tree in the same spot the (fake) tree is now for next year. I'll keep the ornaments and hopefully add even more to it."

The basket on the porch, which was installed in November, is still welcoming ornaments as Johnson continues to check the basket and add new ornaments to the tree.

Ornaments of all kinds are accepted as the tree currently holds regular bulbs with names written on them, store-bought ornaments, personalized keepsakes, and even a teddy bear playing bingo.

Marla Kinkade has been personalizing ornaments by making them out of metal and adding initials of loved ones, and Andrea Johnson has also personalized some of the collected ornaments.

"I love Christmas. There was a realtor in town, Phil McArdle, who loved Christmas as much as I do," Johnson said. "I was thinking about him this year, so I asked his wife Karen if she would be OK with me putting up the memory tree in his honor.

"His was one of the first ornaments I put on the tree. It's just kind of taken off from there. I just like doing things for the community in general. If this helps one person, then it worked.'

Brandon LaChance is a journalist for The Paper. Contact LaChance at (815) 876-7941, blachance20@gmail.com, or on Twitter (a)LaChanceWriter.



THE MEMORY TREE in Dwight represents people we have lost in our lives who hold a special memory in our hearts. To view, drive by 305 E. William, Dwight.

# May all of your holiday dreams come true!

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