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Volume 23 • Number 51

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Wednesday, December 22, 2021

All Sides of the Story

Reasoning Behind EMT Firing

by Brandon LaChance

Samantha Marshall, a Dwight paramedic since April, 2020 was terminated at the Village of Dwight Board Meeting on December 13.

The reasoning behind the firing was because of improper Covid-19 personal protective equipment -- not wearing an N95 Mask -- during a call on Dec. 7, according to Dwight Mayor Paul Johnson.

Marshall feels the decision to remove her from the Dwight EMS staff was unfair and unjustified.

"We had a patient come in in obvious severe respiratory distress. We had an ambulance down. Our lone ambulance was on a call," said Marshall, who has 12 years of paramedic experience and has earned Life Saver Awards. "They didn't call for a change of quarters like they should have. We should have had another ambulance from another town sitting there when this patient came in. They didn't call for that. They also didn't get disciplined for

"With the ambulance being down for so long there wasn't any supplies on it. The supplies we needed, including masks, were scattered throughout the position and we had to aggressively treat this patient.

"When we started treating her, our last thoughts were, 'Oh, I'm going to look for a mask for five minutes.' It could have very easily been a life-ordeath situation for the patient and we had to act fast.'

The patient was 47-year-old Wilmington resident Dawn Trizna, who is the mother of Marshall's co-worker Rachel Groll (who was also on the call) and Marshall's friend.

Trizna had been diagnosed with Covid on Nov. 26, but has doctor paperwork stating she wasn't contagious as of Dec. 5. With the incident taking place two days later, Marshall, Groll, and Trizna felt helping Trizna breathe was more important than wearing a mask.

"During my time with Covid I was fine. I had a little bit of a cough and I lost my taste and smell. That was no big deal," Trizna said. "Then I started having flu like symptoms. I told my doctor I wasn't ready to go to work and he said I needed to be reevaluated.

"He told me to come in because he said it may be possible I have pneumonia. My cough was getting worse and I was weak. When I got to the doctor,

walk me up to the door, wheel me into the facility with a wheelchair. My oxygen level was fine at the time because I used my inhaler. They did a chest x-ray and gave me some new medications. They said I should go to the emergency room because I may be dehydrated."

> Trizna called Groll and told her she was still having trouble breathing.

> The mother, daughter, or Marshall didn't know if her issues were because of Covid, possible pneumonia or an allergic reaction Trizna had suffered through most of November.

After Trizna drove to the Village of Dwight Services Complex to meet Marshall and Groll, her measurement of oxygen going through her blood was read. A normal reading is 98-100. Trizna's was at a 93 while her face and neck were

"They had my husband pull into the bay because the ambulance was at Morris Hospital. They treated me inside of the vehicle," said Trizna, who believes the Dwight Board should have some compassion for the situation and the fact that Mar-

(continued on page 2)



Something different . . .

Shaking up Christmas

by Brandon LaChance

Christmas is part of all of our

Every December we get excited about the holiday and spend

time with our families. Just like everything else in life, there are many different ways to celebrate what many think is the most wonderful time

of the year. The Schultz family does more on Christmas Eve than Christmas Day because this is the way Leonard M. Lipinksi celebrated and shared the last holiday of the

year with his family. "We always followed my dad's Polish traditions on Christmas Eve," said Mary Schultz, who teaches eighth grade at Dwight Common School. "He passed away four years ago, but we try to keep the traditions alive. We have modified it a bit, but we keep them alive. As a kid, we always stuck to the true tradition

called the Wigilia. We go to my grandparents and we'd have the traditional meal, which is a meatless meal. We always had fish. We would start the evening breaking the optatek, which is the Christmas wafer. Everyone gets a piece of the wafer. We stand in a line, the oldest person in the room starts and you wish each other Merry Christmas or a well wish.'

According to the tradition, no one can eat until everyone has broken off a piece of the wafer.

Once the wafer is separated, it's time for the meal featuring 8-

10 parts. Schultz, who teaches social studies, math, science, and astronomy, remembers as a child eating a soup (usually potato), cheese, sauerkraut, and potato pirogis, stir-fried mushrooms and onions, stewed prunes and apricots, Kasha (a pseudocereal buckwheat Schultz said was disgusting), pickled herring, a vegetable, and a fish whether it was salmon or a white fish.

"We would always set an extra place setting. If there were 10 of us, there would be 11 place settings at the table for the unexpected visitor," Schultz said. "In Catholicism, if the holy spirit shows up, there is a place for the holy spirit. As kids, we would say it's for the weary traveler. If they stopped by the house, we had a place for them to sit.

"We would always place straw under the table cloth to commemorate the nativity in the manger.'

Church service is always a must whether it be before dinner or midnight mass.

If the Schultz family was going to the midnight mass they would make sure to get the desserts such as kolacky (Polish cookies) and other sweets demolished.

Also, they had to open gifts before mass.

"After we cleaned up, Santa would always come to the house and bring presents," Schultz said. "We never saw Santa. We would always be downstairs in my grandparent's basement because they would shoo all the kids downstairs. Bells would ring signaling for us to come upstairs and there would be presents from Santa."

Although Leonard M. has passed away, Mary Schultz and her family keep some of the traditions alive with her mother Loretta Lipinski.

Although Loretta is German, she welcomes the family over for the potato soup, the pirogis, the mushroom and onions.

This year they're going to cheat and have meat, pork tender-

"It's just always been our tradition and I love the fact that we're still carrying it on," Schultz said. "My kids look forward to it every year on Christmas Eve. My kids are 19 (Isabelle Schultz), 21 (Alexander "Bubba" Schultz), and 23 (Nick Schultz), and the first thing my college kids ask is, 'Are we having potato soup and pirogi at grandma's house this year?' I told them, 'Of course we

"It's very special to keep the little bit of Polish tradition still



TOP: Lydia Abraham, Sandy Abraham, and Sofia Abraham make Potica. **BOTTOM: The Schultz fam-**

ily lights up their walkway with luminaries as they celebrate their Polish Christmas traditions.

going through the family. It keeps the connection with my father going for me and for my kids. My children talk about keeping it going when they have families."

The Schultz family is not the only family who makes unique foods for Christmas.

Sandy Kokaly and her family make Potica, which is Croatian.

"It's a Croatian sweet bread nut roll. It's delicious," said Kokaly, who has lived in Dwight for 49 years beginning when she married Joe Kokaly. "My husband's grandmother (Francis Kokaly, who passed away 10 years ago) taught me how to make it when we first got married. So, I've been making it for 49 years. This is a recipe that has been passed down the family.

"She made it her whole life as her mother taught her how to make it."

Kokaly, who grew up on the outskirts of Reddick, added her entire family enjoys the bread.

Actually, they not only enjoy eating it but they enjoy making it

"I'm excited and the rest of the family is excited that I know how to do it. I've taught my two daughters (Sandy Abraham and Katy McCormick) how to make it also," Kokaly said. "This year we haven't made it yet, but last year my two daughters, my two granddaughters, and myself made 36 loaves in one afternoon.

(continued on page 2)

LSC Property Sold / Paramedics dismissed and hired

The Dwight Village Board met on Monday December 13 directly following a Services, Health and Safety Committee meeting.

Following the regular agenda items the Board entered into executive session to discuss personnel matters. After a lengthy discussion, the Board returned and once back in regular session voted 4 - 0 to terminate paramedic Samantha Marshall who was currently on probationary status with the EMS Department. The action stemmed from a recent incident at EMS headquarters involving a drive-in patient to the station.

Marshall had asked to be placed on the meeting agenda during regular session and requested her termination letter from acting EMS Director Tim Henson be read into the public record. She listened in, and participated via phone. Following the reading of the letter, she offered rebuttal and presented her side of the event.

Other action from the executive session resulted in the hiring of two full-time and three part-time paramedics. Kevin Mitchell, Herscher, and Rachel Andreina, Braidwood, were hired full-time at annual compensation of \$50,874. Employed as part-time at \$20.50 per hour were Crista Confil-

iano, Joliet; Ryan Januzewski, Dwight; and Matthew Kaplan, Diamond. Employment for all is probationary for 6 months and is contingent on appropriate accreditation and testing through Morris Hospital.

In the President's Report, Mayor Paul Johnson disclosed that a grant had been submitted to FEMA regarding the acquisition of a new ambulance.

Administrator Village Kevin McNamara reported that the LSC property had been purchased by Phoenix Acquisition out of Milwaukee. The eventual tenant of the building was not known at this time. Also, a recent zoning variance request from a resident on Julie Drive had been withdrawn. The list of candidates for the position of Chief of Police is being developed and interviews are to be conducted in the next few

Village Board meeting dates for 2022 were established as the second and fourth Mondays of each month. There will only be one meeting in December.

The Board approved the 2021 Corporate Tax Levy amount to be \$954,000. This is estimated to increase the village tax amount paid by the owner of a \$150,000 house to be \$25. In addition, the Board voted to extend the flat rate fee of \$1,000 for new home construction for another year.

Public Works Director Cory Scoles reported that branches from the recent high winds would be picked up by city crews. City residents are also reminded that the winter overnight street parking ban is in effect.

Local cable supplier Mediacom informed the Village that rates charged to subscribers would be increasing January 1. Customers with the Essential TV package with a rate of \$84.99 would see an increase to \$100.00, an increase of approximately 18%. In a letter to the Village, Mediacom stated that the decision to make price adjustments is always difficult as with increases, customers are always lost. However, the fees they pay to retransmit local broadcast stations as well as regional sports networks continue to grow rapidly. In addition, supply chain challenges and labor shortages experienced over the last year have resulted in significant inflationary pressure across their business.

Trustees in attendance were Randy Irvin, Pete Meister, Marla Kinkade and Jenny Johnson. Absent were Chuck Butterbrodt and Justin Eggen-

DWIGHT 815-584-2492

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* See Contest Rules for Details

FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

December 9: Alexis J. Delehanty, 21, Wenona, operate uninsured motor vehicle; Henry T. Gubernat, III, 49, Dwight, operate uninsured motor vehicle.

December 11: Anthony L. Gargo, 28, Dwight, fail obey stop sign.

December 12: Amy M. West, 41, Somonauk, no valid regis./1st and 2nd.

December 13: Caitlyn M. Nelson, 25, Shorewood, driv-

ing 21-25 MPH above limit. December 15: Alexxander Kalil, 18, Dwight,

driver>19/wireless phone/1-2. December 16: Jezabel Talavera Matos, 26, Washington, DC, fail obey stop sign.

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

13 Written Warnings

Stop Sign Violation – 5; Fail to Signal - 2; Only One Headlamp – 3; No Registration Plate Light – 1; Improper Turn Signal – 1; Fail to Carry License –

Dwight Police Blotter

December 14: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 200 block of N. Franklin for a Domestic Issue.

Assist Agency – 2; Walk In - 6; Domestic Unknown – 1; Extra Patrol - 6; 911 Hang Up - 2; Burglar Alarm - 2; Loud Music – 1; Return Call – 7; Traffic Stop – 17; Suspicious Subject -1; Medical Aid -3;

Out with Vehicle - 3; Well Being Check – 3; Fire Alarm – 2; Suspicious Vehicle – 3; Civil Issue – 2; Accident – 1; Open Door -2; Limb on Road -1; Domestic Verbal - 3; Lock Out – 3; Motorist Assist – 3; Check Vehicle - 1; Illegally Parked Vehicle – 1.



Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

December 10: Mazon, medical, Morris; Delaware, trauma.

December 11: Main, medical, Morris; Rte. 17, medical, Morris; Elk, trauma, mutual aid to Odell; medical, mutual aid from Pontiac; Mazon, fire; Washington, medical; Prospect, medical.

December 12: Union, medical; Susan, medical.

December 13: Prairie, medical, Morris; Spencer, medical, St. James; Wilmac, trauma, refusal, mutual aid from Gardner.

December 14: 3000 E., medical, Riverside; Mazon, trauma, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris.

December 15: Mazon, medical, Morris; Washington, medical, Morris; Mazon Ave., medical, Morris; Mazon Ave., medical, Morris, mutual aid from Coal City; Mazon, medical, Morris.

December 16: Spencer, medical; Spencer, trauma; William, medical, Morris.

December 17: South, medical, Riverside.

Voter ID Cards Sent to Kankakee County Voters

Dan Hendrickson, Kankakee County Clerk, has mailed new voter cards to all registered voters in Kankakee County due to redistricting of congressional, legislative, representative, county board and precinct lines.

"It is important that all eligible residents of Kankakee County make sure their voter registration is current and correct. Because of redistricting, many voters will be in new districts and possibly a new polling place. I strongly encourage everyone to review their new identification card, to see what their new districts are and where they should go to vote. If you do not receive a voters card and believe that you are registered to vote, you June 28, 2022.

should contact our office," said Hendrickson.

If information on the card is not correct, the voter should return the card within seven days with the corrected address. If the information is correct, voters should sign the card on the appropriate line and retain the card for Election Day.

For additional information, contact the County Clerk's office at 937-2990 or stop by the office, which is located in the County Administration Building, 189 East Court St., Kankakee. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The next election is the General Primary Election on

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Give Yourself Some 'Paychecks' For Retirement

During your working years, you've probably met the costs of living through your salary. But once you retire, where will the money come from? Is there a way to give yourself a "paycheck" for retirement?

There is indeed – but you'll have to do a good job of managing your available income sources. Here are some moves

• Accept dividends and interest payments. Instead of automatically reinvesting all your dividends and interest payments into your portfolio – which is an excellent strategy for building wealth – you might want to begin receiving these payments as part of your income. Keep in mind, though, that companies can lower or discontinue dividends at any time. However, it's also true that some companies have consistently paid, and even increased, dividends over many years, and even

· Choose an appropriate withdrawal rate. Once you're retired, you'll likely need to begin withdrawing from your investment accounts. But you'll need to avoid taking out too much early in your retirement - you don't want to risk outliving your portfolio. For many people in their mid-60s, a 4% annual withdrawal rate is a good starting point, but everyone's situation is different, and your ideal rate will depend on several factors: your age, the size of your portfolio, other sources of income, and so on. Once you turn 72, you'll be required to take at least a minimum amount from your traditional IRA

and 401(k), but you can choose to withdraw more, if necessary. · Maximize your Social Security. You have significant control over the amounts you'll receive from Social Security. You can begin taking these payments at age 62, but they will be much larger if you wait until your full retirement age, which will likely be between 66 and 67. (You will receive the maximum amount if you wait until you reach 70.) So, if you think you have enough income from other sources, you might decide to delay taking Social Security - but if you need the money, you may not be able to wait. And here's something else to think about: If your spouse had considerably higher

earnings than you did, you may be eligible for spousal benefits. · Consider an annuity. You might want to consider purchasing an annuity that provides lifetime payments. Some annuities are even indexed for inflation, meaning payments will increase or decrease each year, keeping pace with the Consumer Price Index. Annuities are not suitable for everyone, though, so, before investing in one, you should consult with a financial professional who is familiar with your situation.*

Finally, don't rule out the possibility of earned income. Just because you've retired from your full-time job doesn't mean you can't work in some capacity, perhaps by doing some part-time work or consulting or even opening your own Look at all these ideas when thinking about putting together an income plan for your retirement. You may find that

your diligence will pay off.

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



Dwight Fire Incidents 12/10 - 12/17

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:

December 10: Powerlines Down - 2000 East Rd.

December 11: Motor Vehicle Accident – 3200 North Rd. and 2300 East Rd.; Automatic Fire Alarm – E. Mazon Ave.

Dwight FPD also responded to 14 medical assists with Dwight EMS.

Vehicle, Body of Ottawa **Woman Found** in Heidecke Lake

The Grundy County Coroner's Office is investigating the death of an Ottawa woman, whose vehicle was found in the water at Heidecke Lake on December 18.

The 26-year old Ottawa woman's vehicle was discovered partially submerged, near the boat ramps, by hunters shortly before 5:30 a.m.

The decedent, identified as Natalie C. Conrad, was pronounced deceased at the scene at 6:35 a.m. by Grundy County Coroner John W. Callahan.

An autopsy was performed on Sunday and results are pending toxicology and further investigation by Callahan's office, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois State Police.

Dwight Food Pantry 2022 **Schedule**

The Dwight Food Pantry will continue to offer its services to those in need in 2022 on the following dates:

January 26; February 23; March 23; April 27; May 25; June 22; July 27; August 24; September 28; October 26; November 16 (the week before Thanksgiving).

There is no Food Pantry in December, as Love Boxes are distributed.

The Dwight Food Pantry is held at the Old Town Hall, the Gothic Church, at 201 N. Franklin St., from 1:00-2:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month, January through October. The November Food Pantry is held on the third Wednesday. Love Boxes distributes food in December.

Behrends Arrested for Video Game Burglaries

to find the suspect and on Dec.

9 brought Dustin Behrends into

by Brandon LaChance

Video footage of the Trails End, Campus, burglary on Nov. 29 and the Cullom American Legion burglary on Nov. 30 featured what looked like the same man breaking into video game machines at both establishments.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department Detective Section conducted an operation

All Sides of the Story ---

custody. The detective section was

assisted by the Livingston County Sheriff's Department Patrol, Livingston County Sheriff's Proactive unit, Ford County Sheriff's Department, Iroquois County Sheriff's Department, Watseka Police Department, and VCOM.

Behrends, 24, of Cabery,

individuals in September after they fled from a Franfort RV dealership with stolen catalytic converters.

He was charged with criminal damage to property and theft. Behrends' bond was set at \$25 thousand.

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

(continued from page 1) ployee. When they get hired shall and Groll knew Trizna into a full-time, pensioned powasn't contagious and did sition, any employee – even if they're a seasonal worker -

everything they were supposed to help her breathe. "They were trying to figure out what was wrong because they thought I was going to go into respiratory arrest," said Trizna.

"I was in EMS for 22 years. I was a paramedic for 16 years and I worked for Dwight for 12 years. I worked in Morris for four years. I worked with Sam in Coal City. I know policy, procedures and everything a provider needs to know. I know what's going on and what they can and can't do," said Trizna.

'Sam turned Gardner away and VCOM is giving her a tough time about it. She requested Coal City because I needed the advance life support and not basic. They were giving me medication to counteract any allergic reaction I was having. They were trying to give me fluids and I was on a cardiac monitor."

Marshall and Groll were able to help Trizna and when an ambulance arrived, Groll asked Dwight Chief of Police and EMS Interim Director, Tim Henson, permission to ride the ambulance with her mother.

Henson granted the permis-

Marshall was called on Dec. 9 (her birthday) and was told there was a meeting on Dec. 13 to discuss what happened during the incident and possible termination.

"I was called by Chief Henson and Kevin McNamara (Dwight Village Administrator) and they had asked if I could meet with them because they had a concern about a situation that happened on an EMS call," Mayor Johnson said. "We sat down and Tim laid out the issues he had with the call.

"Samantha was recently hired full-time with village after being a part-time emthey go on a 6-month probation period. It gives the village time to review their performance. Even somebody we didn't know, they're all going on the same probation period.'

With Marshall being on probation, the village doesn't need to follow any protocols or rules to terminating an employee.

Johnson said after reviewing a request of termination from Henson, firing Marshall was justified.

"The board and I take this very seriously. They're supposed to be professionals and they need to act professional," Johnson said. "Samantha didn't wear the proper PPE. If Samantha had been exposed and ultimately contracted Covid, Covid for an EMS employee is considered a presumptive illness which means it would be a workman's compensation

"It would cost the village money because she was exposed to Covid. There are procedures in place to mitigate that from happening. Hypothetically, if she would have come down with Covid, she could have sued the village for work comp, went on work comp, and would have been a lost-time injury for the village, which ultimately, raises our workman's comp premium rates. The rate wouldn't have just gone up for her, the rates go up across the village as a whole.

"It was bad judgement in what she did. Every department around is following these protocols. It's not something new. It's not something that they've just found out about. They've been practicing these protocols for a long time. The hospitals send out information about it constantly. The violation goes to show that there are some judgement issues. I expect our EMTs and paramedics to be professional. They make a really good wage and they have everything they could possibly want. They need to do their job."

Marshall feels she shouldn't have been on probation because of her track record and the number of hours she put in as a part-time paramedic.

She also stated, Dwight EMS had to hire her to a fulltime position because she wouldn't have been able to log in any more hours without the village having to pay into IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund).

"It makes me feel extremely irritated because I don't understand why they go after paramedics, police officers, or fire fighters when we are people going above and beyond trying to help other people," said Marshall, who is co-owner of Naked Sun Salon & Spa in Diamond. "Are you that bored? Do something else."

"I've not had a single issue over my 12-year career. I haven't had any write-ups or any disciplinary actions at all. I have a great working relationship with the fire department, the police department, hospitals, and other agencies."

Groll, who isn't in a probation period, didn't get reprimanded immediately as the village has to follow protocol with the review of termination policy.

Henson, who was on vacation, had to submit a review to Mayor Johnson for a board meeting for Groll.

Groll received a call Dec. 17 saying she too will have a meeting with possible termina-

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

Something Different – – –

(continued from page 1)

"We pass them out to family all across the country (California, Idaho, Arkansas, Texas, and Georgia) and of course keep it to eat it all year long. It freezes very well. Usually, by the time you get to the next winter season and you're making more, you're out of what you made the previous year.

"We have fun. We listen to Christmas music and play card

games. It's very important to do this with my family. I love the connection with family and genealogy. Family is very important. There used to be a very large Croatian population in Joliet. Back in the 1960s, they would have a Croatian festival."

Potica is a yeast bread. After the dough is made it rises for about 1½ hours. Then it is rolled out as thin as possible. Kokaly

said she should be able to see her hand through it. The dough usually covers her tabletop, which is 4x6 feet.

A nut filling is spread across the thin dough, it's rolled up and then set aside to rise for 45 minutes. After the Potica has reached its bread mountaintop, it is baked for an hour.

Then the eating, freezing, and sending begins.

<u>The Paper</u>

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BRIAN CRAFT, Vice President of Peoples National Bank and **Operations Supervisor at Dwight Banking Center, presents a** \$500.00 donation to Shayla Smith and Kolby Golden for this year's Christmas for Kids drive. Peoples National Bank says it's honored to support local charities and organizations, particularly during the holiday season.

Video Gaming Takes a Little Break

by Tom Tock

Video gambling in Dwight has been at, or above, the \$700,000 mark almost everymonth since gaming resumed early this year, following the coronavirus-caused shutdown in November of 2020.

Last month showed a little

slowdown, however, with only \$660,721 being wagered in Dwight's 44 terminals.

Statewide, 421 more terminals were in use at 7,795 locations. Forty-one of those locations were new in Novem-

Dwight received \$9,094.

Dwight

Nov.	<u>Funds In</u>	Funds Out	NTI*	State	Dwight
Aly Anne's	61,911	46,233	15,677	4,546	783
Cherry Red	d's 6,243	5,279	963	279	48
Lili Mae's	143,508	114,361	29,146	8,452	1,457
Love's	195,750	132,829	62,920	18,246	3,146
VFW	125,839	92,602	33,236	9,638	1,661
Vic. Lanes	26,128	20,836	5,291	1,534	264
Virbapa	11,155	9,018	2,136	619	106
Willy's	90.197	<u>57,677</u>	<u>32,509</u>	<u>9,427</u>	<u>1,625</u>
TOTAL:	\$660,721	478,839	181,881	52,745	9,094
\sim 1					

Gardner

Nov.	Funds In	Funds Out	NTI*	State	Gardner
Buddies (3)	1,678	1,123	554	160	27
Marks (5)	29,698	19,662	10,035	<u>2,910</u>	<u>501</u>
TOTAL:	\$31,376	20,786	10,589	3,071	529

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

Gambling problem? Call 1-800 GAMBLER.

2022 Meeting Dates of Dwight Twp.

Dwight Township has released its schedule of 2022 meeting dates, and they are as follows:

January 4; February 1; March 1; April 5; April 12 – **Annual Town Meeting**; May 3; June 7; July 5; August 2; September 6; October 4; November 1; and December 6.

All regularly scheduled meetings are held in the Dwight Township Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.



MISS KELLY'S KINDERGARTEN CLASS rings the bells for the Dwight Salvation Army December 10. Pictured, front row, from left, are Hunter Lindsey, Will Brady, Iris Riber, Landon McGann; back row, Kelly Bruce and Emily Bovelle.

Gardner Village Board Meets

The Gardner Village Board met in regular session December 13, with commissioners Dick Hileman, Erik Smith, and Mayor Mike Serena present. The board approved the meeting minutes from November 23, payment of the bills, and the treasurer's report. There were no public comments.

The board approved the ordinance for the tax levy and assessment of taxes for the 2022 fiscal year. The board also approved Christmas bonuses for Village employees, with money to be taken out of the scrap metal fund. Bonuses of \$100 each will go to the three fulltime employees, and \$75 for the one part-time employee.

The board approved funds

for the holiday outdoor decorating contest of \$100, \$75, and \$50 for first, second, and third place, respectively, with funds coming from the gaming fund. Judging will be December 22.

The board thanked everyone involved with the Christmas Tree Lighting, including Don and Melissa Phillips (sound), the Gardner Lions, First Midwest Bank, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, the Village employees, Curly's Tap, and annual Christmas ornament recipients John and Renee Hollmeyer and Dan and Janet Anderson.

The board closed the meeting with approval of time off for Christmas and New Year's holiday.

LMW4H or contact your local

Extension office at Livingston

(815-842-1776), McLean (309-

663-8306), Woodford (309-

accordance with current and

ongoing University of Illinois,

Centers for Disease Control,

and Illinois Department of

Public Health guidelines.

This event will operate in

4-H Learn and Fun Day

467-3789).

Attention all area youth tration, visit go.illinois.edu/ ages five to 14 - University of Illinois Extension's annual 4-H Learn and Fun Day event is back. Join Monday, February 21, 2022, at Trinity Lutheran School in Bloomington for a full day of fun, hands-on learning experiences. Workshop topics include beekeeping, animal science, dog care, interior design, shooting sports, food decorating, drones, agriculture innovation, electricity, 3-D pen design, and more.

A fee applies, with 4-H members receiving a discount. Registration will include two morning workshops, lunch, two afternoon workshops, and all supplies.

In keeping with the 4-H tradition of giving back and procommunity service attendees are also encouraged to take supplies to put together Birthday Cake in a Bag packages for local food pantries. Packages include a cake mix, frosting, candles, and a small

For the full list of workshops, event details, and regis-

in Dwight December 29 The State of Illinois is part-

COVID Boosters Available

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.

Booster doses from Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson will be available.

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is authorized and recommended for persons 12 years of age and older.

Walk-ins are welcome. 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 a clinic near you by visiting coronavirus.illinois.gov or by calling 1-833-621-1284.

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

Read The Paper every week!



Lobster Tail & Bacon-wrapped Filet Mignon Dinner.... 6. 12 pc. Sauteed Jumbo Shrimp

in Garlic & Parmesan Sauce

5 Jumbo hand-breaded

Shrimp Dinner.

Dinners include: Garlic Toast, Choice of Potato, Mashed w/Gravy, Baked Potato or (Twice Baked \$2 extra), Choice of Vegetable (Corn or Green Beans w/onion & bacon), Assorted Desserts, Homemade Soup & Full Salad Bar.

CLOSED

Try an Appetizer: Cold Shrimp Cocktail \$14 Wisconsin Cheese Curds \$9 Fried Portabello Mushrooms \$9

Happy New Year!

5:30 p.m. or 7:15 p.m. IOIN US to Ring In the New Year at Midnight! TOM'S TAVERN 221 Main Street **KEMPTON**

You are Committed to Your Pre-order!

815-253-6407



As a THANK YOU we are offering you and your immediate family (spouse, kids)

50% off all services



for the entire month of January

Must show ID or Badge.





Wednesday, **Dec. 22** 4-9 p.m.

Last chance to fill their stockings with local freeze-dried candies



There is still time to grab those last-minute Christmas gifts . . .

OPEN

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 22 4-9 p.m. THURSDAY, Dec. 23 11-7 p.m. FRIDAY, Dec. 24 11-3

MERRY CHRISTMAS

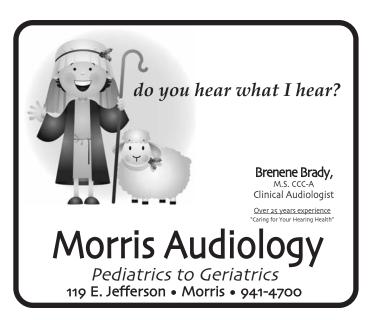
THANK YOU for SHOPPING SMALL

LOCAL ART • WOMEN'S FASHIONS • JEWELRY **STOCKING STUFFERS • CHOCOLATES GIFT CARDS AND MORE!**



Be Wise - Advertise in *The Paper!*







Merry Christmas from everyone at Tech-Ni-Kolor

Thank you for letting us help you get back on the road!

105 Watters Dr. Dwight, IL 60420 **815-584-2588**

Dwight Common School Establishes Tax Levy

by Mark Boma

The 2021 tax levy for Dwight Common School District #232 was established at 3.0143 at the December board meeting on Wednesday December 1. This is a slight decrease from the 2020 levy of 3.0787. However, since the calculated EAV of \$141,553,552 will be increasing by approximately \$6.2 million over this year, there is an estimated overall increase in tax funds coming to the District of \$101,890. This results in an overall increase collected of 2.45%. The board felt it was appropriate to keep the levy amount at a level that would keep collections close to the current rate of in-

In a related item, the Prairie Central Coop and Circle K Properties have requested a decrease in assessed valuation by the county. A decision on that is pending and will affect all Livingston County taxing districts.

Principal Julie Schultz reported that there is ongoing difficulty covering staffing shortages. It is often necessary to be resourceful with administration and current staff to manage coverages. She noted Ms. Cassie Fleischauer has been hired as the new second grade teacher and Mrs. Kara Stork has been hired for the sixth grade ELA/SS. In addition, the administration is close to selecting the vendor that will be supplying the new playground equipment.

Superintendent Dr. Richard Jancek reported to the board that the District has been ruled fully compliant by the Office of Civil Rights following a recent inquiry from a parent.

Jancek also addressed recent discussion around Illinois Senate Bill 818, The Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act. He indicated that there is no plan or recommendation to wholesale adopt the standards presented in the bill, and that the current curriculum is sufficient. There have been residents at current board meetings speaking out against it. The Illinois State Board of Education has indicated they will be issuing guidelines and further information to local boards of education in January. Any action necessary can be addressed at February or March board meetings.

In other matters, the board had a lengthy discussion surrounding the need for additional storage on the grounds. Currently classrooms and sometimes the cafeteria are

proposal is to build a series of storage units under one roof with multiple bays and doors, adjoining the blacktop in the rear of the school. Labor would be supplied by district staff and would be constructed in the summer. Board member Michael Cornale suggested that inhouse cost estimates should be developed along with estimates on sourcing out construction. It was agreed that estimates would be brought to the next meeting for further discussion.

In attendance were board members Michael Cornale, Marc Ellis, Mark Christenson, and Jaime Mallaney, along with board president Nick Stipanovich. Absent were Tara Hansen and Lori Bowman. The next DCS board meeting is scheduled for January 19.

Christmas Wishes Merry & Bright



Important safety information from Nicor Gas

Every day, underground pipelines safely transport natural gas – one of the most efficient, reliable and environmentally friendly fuels – to homes and businesses throughout the country. Nicor Gas operates, secures and maintains the pipelines in our service territories. We adhere to state and federal pipeline safety regulations, perform extensive quality-control checks, educate the public on how to recognize and prevent natural gas leaks, and work closely with officials to develop emergency response plans.

Call before you dig

Before digging on your property, state law requires you call 811 to have your utility lines professionally marked - for free! You must wait the required amount of time before you begin your project. Pipeline markers indicate the general area of the pipeline, but not its exact location or depth. A pipeline may not always be marked in all areas, so it is important to always "Call Before You Dig." If a pipeline right of way is adjacent to your property, you have a responsibility to ensure no new installations of landscaping or physical structures are placed in the right of way, which interferes with our ability to keep the pipeline safe through routine monitoring and maintenance.

Information about transmission pipelines operating in your community can be accessed online at **npms.phmsa.dot.gov**, courtesy of the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS).

Water heater safety

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urges all users to lower their water heaters to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Carbon monoxide

Incomplete combustion of any fuel produces carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is poisonous and has no odor, taste or color. Carbon monoxide detectors are helpful, but they are no substitute for using equipment safely. This includes having your appliances inspected once a year by a certified contractor.

Appliance safety

heating systems.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- It is important that you have your furnace inspected by a qualified specialist.
- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shut-offs are in proper working condition.
- Keep trash and other combustible materials away from your air, heating and water

Pipeline integrity management is a process for assessing and mitigating pipeline risks to reduce both the likelihood and consequences of incidents. We have a comprehensive plan that fully addresses these processes, especially for locations deemed high-consequence areas.

To learn more, visit nicorgas.com/integritymanagementplan.

If you smell gas, act fast!

Although natural gas pipeline incidents are uncommon, you can help prevent emergencies by knowing the signs of a potential problem. Even though you may not currently be a Nicor Gas customer, you can play an important role in natural gas safety. Below are some tips on how to identify a possible natural gas leak, and what to do in such a situation.

LOOK for blowing dirt, discolored vegetation or continued bubbling of standing water.

LISTEN for a hissing or roaring noise near a natural gas appliance or line.

SMELL for the distinctive, rotten-egg odor associated with natural gas. Natural gas is colorless and odorless, so we add a chemical odorant called mercaptan for easy detection of a suspected natural gas leak. This odorant has a distinctive "rotten egg" type odor. You should act any time you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air.

Note: Be aware that "odorant fade," while uncommon, can occur.
Odorant fade occurs when a physical or chemical process causes the level of odorant in the gas to be reduced. This can happen in both existing gas pipe and new installations. Some individuals may not be able to detect the smell of the natural gas odorant because they have a diminished sense of smell, because the scent is being masked by other odors in the area or because the odorant has diminished so that it is not detectable.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air: **DO NOT** try to identify the source or to stop the leak

LEAVE the area immediately and move a safe distance away from the potential leak, while avoiding any action that may cause sparks.

AVOID using any sources of ignition, such as cellphones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines, as natural gas can ignite from a spark or open flame, possibly causing a fire or explosion. Natural gas is nontoxic, lighter than air and displaces oxygen. In severe cases, if not used properly, it can also lead to asphyxiation.

CALL Nicor Gas at **888.Nicor4U** (642.6748) or **911** once you are out of the area of the suspected leak and in a safe place. Stay away until Nicor Gas or emergency personnel indicate it is safe to return.

For more information, visit **nicorgas.com/safety** or call **888.Nicor4U** (642.6748).

Para solicitar una copia de esta información en español, llame al **866.Nicor4U (642.6748)** o visite **nicorgas.com/safetyspanish**.



Online Survey

Please take a moment to complete a survey about natural gas safety and you by scanning the QR code or visiting **surveymonkey.com/r/QTT3WNR** to help us make sure we are keeping our communities safe.





A Gift Inside a Gift (you can't see)

My Dad bought me a Christmas tree last year for my birthday and said to remember him.

I open it and put it up. To see a green tree a little taller than me and snow on the tip of the branches but no lights, no decorations you see.

green tree and saw, felt something more.

· 2 lbs. Coleslaw

2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes 1 lb. Gravy

• 32 pc. Broasted Chicken*

6 lbs Coleslaw

6 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 2 lbs. Gravy

Don't Forget

the WINGS!

WING FLAVORS AVAILABLE:

BBQ, Buffalo, Garlic Parmesan, Sweet Chili or Mango Habanero. Dipping Sauces: Homemade Ranch or Bleu Cheese

CHRISTMAS EVE

\$5999

• 8 pc. Broasted Chicken

• 1 lb. Coleslaw

• 1 lb. Mashed Potatoes, 1/2 lb. Gravy

• 24 pc. Broasted Chicken*

4 lbs. Coleslaw

4 lbs. Mashed Potatoes. 1½ lbs. Gravy

· 6 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

Serves

4 to 6 people

• 14 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

Holiday Meals

Roast Turkey w/Homemade Dressing

or Ham Steak w/Pineapple

Homemade Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Vegetable,

Fresh Baked Bread, Soup or Salad and Dessert.

Regular Menu Also Served.

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

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www.route66restaurant.com

12 to 14 people

Joyful memories like singing Christmas carols to my grandparents round the Christmas tree and waiting to see what Santa brought to me. HA HA a fuzzy's white cat as curious as can be ringing the bell under the tree or a cute little floppy ear puppy mistaking I looked and looked at the an ornament for a ball to play under the Christmas tree. "Oh what a sight to see".

Merry Meals

· 4 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

2 to 4 people

• 10 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

Serves 8 to 10 people

8 piece - \$9.99

12 piece - \$14.99

16 piece - \$19.99

24 piece - \$29.99

48 piece - \$49.99

CHRISTMAS DAY

7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun. 8-Close

Family Pack #2

\$3999

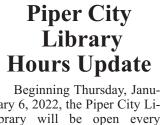
Family Pack #4

\$7999

But above all the Christmas tree brings many special gifts to you and me love, family friends on Christmas you see. The gifts are here you need to find them.

So Daddy thank you for my beautiful Christmas tree it means more than what you see.

By Danielle Scharwatz



ary 6, 2022, the Piper City Library will be open every Thursday from 3:00-7:00 p.m., in hopes that these hours will make the library more available for those who work during the day.



LOUISE DAVIS celebrated her 106th birthday at Heritage Health in Dwight with family and friends. Louise was surprised with all of her guests that attended her celebration.





GSW Hall of Fame Ceremony January 14

The 2022 Gardner-South Wilmington Panther Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place during the 2022 GSW Homecoming basketball games Friday, January 14.

This year's inductees are Richard Joyce and George Bexson. They will be inducted, along with last year's candidates, David Doglio and Leroy Brandt.

The new inductees will join fellow Hall of Famers: Mr. James Fair, Mr. Daniel Jerbi, Mr. Matthew Jerbi, Mr. Terry Marketti, Mr. John Hollmeyer, and Mrs. Nancy Riggi.

The schedule for the evening is as follows:

• 5:30 p.m. – JV Boys Basket-

• 6:30 p.m. - Panther Hall of Fame, Class of 2022 Induc-

• **7:00 p.m.** – Varsity Boys Basketball



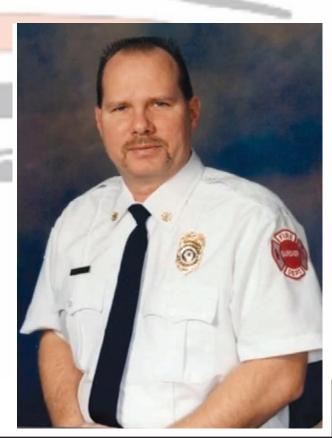


The family of the late Chief Randy Wilkey would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the following Fire/EMS Service community members/organizations for their sincere display of brotherhood and respect in honoring Randy on his final ride to eternal rest. The fire service is built upon the pillars of Duty, Pride, Honor, and Tradition. These qualities were on full display for Randy's services and will never be forgotten.

THANK YOU!

Chief Paul Johnson Deputy Chief Justin Dyer Dwight EMS Paramedic Jenny Allsworth **Dwight Fire Protection District** Dwight EMS Pontiac Fire Department

Braceville Fire Department



OBITUARIES

Wallace G. Pfeifer

DWIGHT - Wallace G. Pfeifer, 90, of Dwight passed away at 12:38 p.m., Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at Morris Hospital in Morris, Illinois.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, December 27, 2021 in Goodfarm Cemetery, rural

Dwight. Hager Memorial Home is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials in Wallace's name may be left to the charity of the donor's choice.

Wallace was born December 31, 1930 in Goodfarm Township, Illinois, a son of Wallace and Margaret (Goldie) Pfeifer. He married Alma Cook of Streator, and she passed away in 2007. He then married Margaret (Sampson) Pfeifer of Dwight in 2008. She survives in Dwight.

He is also survived by his sons, Dan and John Pfeifer, both of Chicago; step-children, Beth (Terry) Riccolo, Amy (Monte) Jensen, and Greg grandchildren: Taylor (Ben), Rem, Hunter Raegen, (Justine), Courtney (Luke), Ainsley (Brad), Morgan (Lindsey), Ean, Kirk, Anna, Megan, Shawn (Jenny),

Hannah,

Patrick, Robbie, Parker, Oliver, Audrey, Mason, Hayden, and Emmy Ma and great grandchild, Jacoub.

Jason,

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife; daughter, Alana Wonnel; brothers, Raymond and James; sisters, Betty Close and Margaret Pfeifer.

Wallace was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dwight. He was also a member of the Sleepy Eye Pottery Club and the Hawaiian Steel Guitars Club. He worked over the years until his retirement from

He served his country in the United States Marines from

This obituary may be (Amy) Pfeifer, all of Dwight; at www.calvertmemorial.com

Delmar E. Norgaard

PONTIAC Delmar E. Norgaard, 94, of Pontiac, Illinois passed Monday away evening, December 13, 2021 at Good Samaritan Nursing Home.

Cremation rites were accorded.

held at a later date in Oaklawn Cemetery, Dwight, Illinois.

Calvert and Martin Funeral Home is in charge of arrange-

Memorials in Delmar's name may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Delmar was born August 23, 1927 in Emington, Illinois, the son of Elmer and Agatha (Eich) Norgaard.

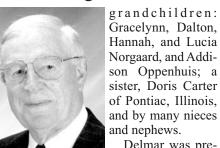
He is survived by his son, Terry (Mary Jo) Norgaard of Pontiac, Illinois; and his daughter, Sonia (Grant) Oppenhuis of Lansing, Illinois.

He is also survived by four grandchildren: Jeff (Sheina) Norgaard of Highland, Illinois; Tracy (Ken) Simmons of Griffith, Indiana; Paul Oppenhuis of Manhattan, Illinois; and and guestbook signed at: Kayla Oppenhuis of Lansing, Illinois; five cherished great-

Commonwealth Edison.

July 26, 1948 to January 30, 1950.

viewed and guestbook signed



of Pontiac, Illinois, and by many nieces Delmar was pre-

ceded in death by A graveside service will be his wife, Norma J. Norgaard; his parents, Elmer and Agatha

Norgaard; his siblings, Lorraine Norgaard and Betty Norgaard; and his granddaughter, Teresa Jo Norgaard. Delmar graduated from Saunemin Township High School. He worked at Honeg-

ger's Hatchery for some years before pursuing a career in insurance sales. He eventually "The Norgaard owned Agency," an insurance and real estate brokerage business, for over 30 years. He was a longstanding member of the Lions Club and served as Lions District Governor.

He was a cherished husband, brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Inis obituary may be read www.calvertmemorial.com

Donna J. Muzzarelli

PONTIAC Donna J. Muzzarelli, age 76, of Pontiac, Illinois passed away Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at OSF St. James Hospital in Pontiac, Illinois.

Born May 26, 1945 in Morris, Illinois to the late Lyle Henry and Ruth Gladys (nee

Larson) Grieff, Donna was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church in Dwight. She retired from the Fox

Developmental Center in Dwight and then continued to work as a school bus driver for the Pontiac School District.

Donna grew up on a dairy farm and gained a love for cows, including any or all cow decorations. She was very involved with her church life at United Methodist. She enjoyed volunteering and also singing with the Praise Team that traveled locally to many functions.

Donna had a heart of gold and would do anything for anyone without hesitation. She was a proud mother and grandmother and enjoyed spending time with her daughter and grandchildren.

Donna will always be remembered for her kind soul, and her light will continue to shine in the lives of her daughter and grandchildren.

Surviving are her daughter, Tina Sue (fiance, Kevin



grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Lynn Grieff of South Wilmington, Illinois; many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends; and her beloved Pomeranian,

"Princess."

Preceding her in death were her parents, Lyle and Ruth; daughter, Lori Sue Muzzarelli (April 1971); husband, Edwin Keith "Muzzy" Muzzarelli (2-13-2007), whom she married May 22, 1965 in Dwight; brother, Dale Grieff; and dear friend, Dee Hanner.

Visitation for Donna was in the United Methodist Church in Dwight, Saturday, December 18, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the funeral service beginning at 12:00

Interment followed in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery, Braceville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her name may be directed to the United Methodist Church in Dwight or the American Heart Associa-

For more information and to visit her online guestbook, log on to www.rwpattersonfun eralhomes.com or find us on Facebook.

Corinne Michelle Adkins

Corinne Michelle Adkins, age 30, late of Dwight, Illinois, loving mother of Kian Laird and Kierawn Raven Ahlstrom who were her whole world.

She was the beloved daughter of Debra Adkins and

the late Michael Ashmus; cherished sister of Caitlyn Adkins and Tristian Ashmus; and treasured aunt of Cleo Cryder.

Corinne attended Dwight Elementary School and graduated from New Symma Beach, Florida High School.

Corinne had many titles, but her favorite was "Mom." She loved music, Disney movies, Harry Potter, animals, her family and doing activities, or going on adventures with her boys.

Corinne always had a smile on her face and lit up a room when she entered. Her sons said their favorite thing to do was to hang out with mom. They also said they loved making cookies with their mom for Santa and leaving carrots for the reindeer.

Corinne is survived by her mother, Debra Adkins (Dwight); her sons, Kian and Kierawn; her siblings, Caitlyn Adkins and Tristian Ashmus; her grandmother, Vicky Ashmus; her grandfathers, Mack Adkins and Michael Joyce; her (Michael) aunts, Janifer



Burkhardt, Pamela Adkins (Billy Whalen), Tena (Kevin) Ashmus; her uncle Josh (Megan) Ashmus; special cousins: Austen Tankersley, Bailey Tankersley, Landon Burkhardt, Ashton Burkhardt, Kallista Cox, Ethan

Cox, Ivy Whalen, Christopher Ashmus, Savannaha Ashmus; and significant other David Goodwin. Corinne was preceded in

death by her father, Michael Ashmus; and grandmother, Barbara Joyce. Preferred memorials may be

made to the family of Corinne, as her death was unexpected, and the family could use some assistance.

A visitation for Corinne was held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 20, 2021 at the U. C. Davis - Callahan Funeral Home, located at 301 West Washington Street, Morris, Illinois.

A Celebration of Life was held immediately following, at 7:00 p.m.

Aqua cremation was accorded after her services.

Arrangements have been entrusted with the U. C. Davis -Callahan Funeral Home, Mor-

Friends may sign an online guestbook by visiting the website: www.ucdaviscallahan.com

more obituaries appear on page 14



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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff,

VS.

No. 21-CH-37

JAY D. BERRYHILL, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, a California Corporation, and unknown owners and non-record claimants,

Defendants.

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 described as follows:

Lot 14 of Gibson's Addition to the Original Town, now City of Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-22-217-002 Commonly known as: 810 N. Mill St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

The title holder of record to the above described real estate is JAY D. BERRYHILL. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on November 10, 2010 and recorded on November 5, 2010 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 605511, a modification of mortgage executed on December 3, 2013 and recorded on December 3, 2013 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 626593, and a modification of mortgage executed on December 13, 2019 and recorded on December 23, 2019 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2019R-05039. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 21-CH-37 is currently 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 January 31, 2022, 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 16th day of December, 2021.

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





Top Christmas Gifts

We are only a few days out from Christmas. With that being the case, I came across an article highlighting different gifts and I'm going to give my thoughts on some of

Publication being used is Rolling Stone, honestly didn't know this was in their wheelhouse of things to write about, but here we go.

Item 1: Apple AirPods (3rd Generation)

I have the second generation of these. I'm not entirely sure what the 3rd generation consists of but the 2nd generation are the best wireless headphones I've ever had. These are at a decent price point for this market. All things considered I'm in on these. If you got them for someone, great job.

Item 2: Singsation All-In-One-Karaoke-System

Yeah, they kind of lost me on this one. Karaoke is fairly fun for the most part, but it's usually fun in communal settings, i.e. a bar, or maybe a bachelor party or something like that. I can't imagine firing this up at home that often.

Item 3: U-Turn Orbit Plus Turntable

This is a record player. I have been acquiring more records recently because they're just more interactive and fun to play than firing up Spotify. As a music fan, I am in favor of the revitalization that records have had in the last few years.

Item 4: Theragun Prime

Maybe I'm telling on myself that I don't workout hard enough, but I go to the gym most weeks 4-5 times and rarely feel like I need a gun to massage my muscles. They seem overpriced (at least this brand). I think it's a lot of performative healing going on. I also might know nothing, and this might actually be really good for you, or... you could just stretch.

Item 5: Hatch Restore

It looks like this is an all encompassing alarm clock/speaker/sleep enhancing product. I'm all for giving yourself better sleep, but this may be a little overpriced. However, good sleep should be achieved by any means necessary. It also states the noises it uses to wake you up are much less harsh than a standard iPhone or alarm clock noise. I'm reluctantly in on this.

Item 6: iRobot Roomba 694

This is the last item and, as a previous purchaser of something from the Roomba/mobile vacuum family, I'm all in. Vacuuming is not enjoyable, and if you can just have a little robot zoom around and do it for you I think that's a worthwhile investment. Who doesn't want their life to be

That sums up my gift(s) review. Hopefully you end up with my approved ones and skip the ones I do not favor.

Go, Bulls!

Aaron J. Boma 2016 ISU Grad



Liberty St., Gardner, IL

815-237-2526 www.ReevesFuneral.com

For a Life Worth Celebrating

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY **ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT** 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

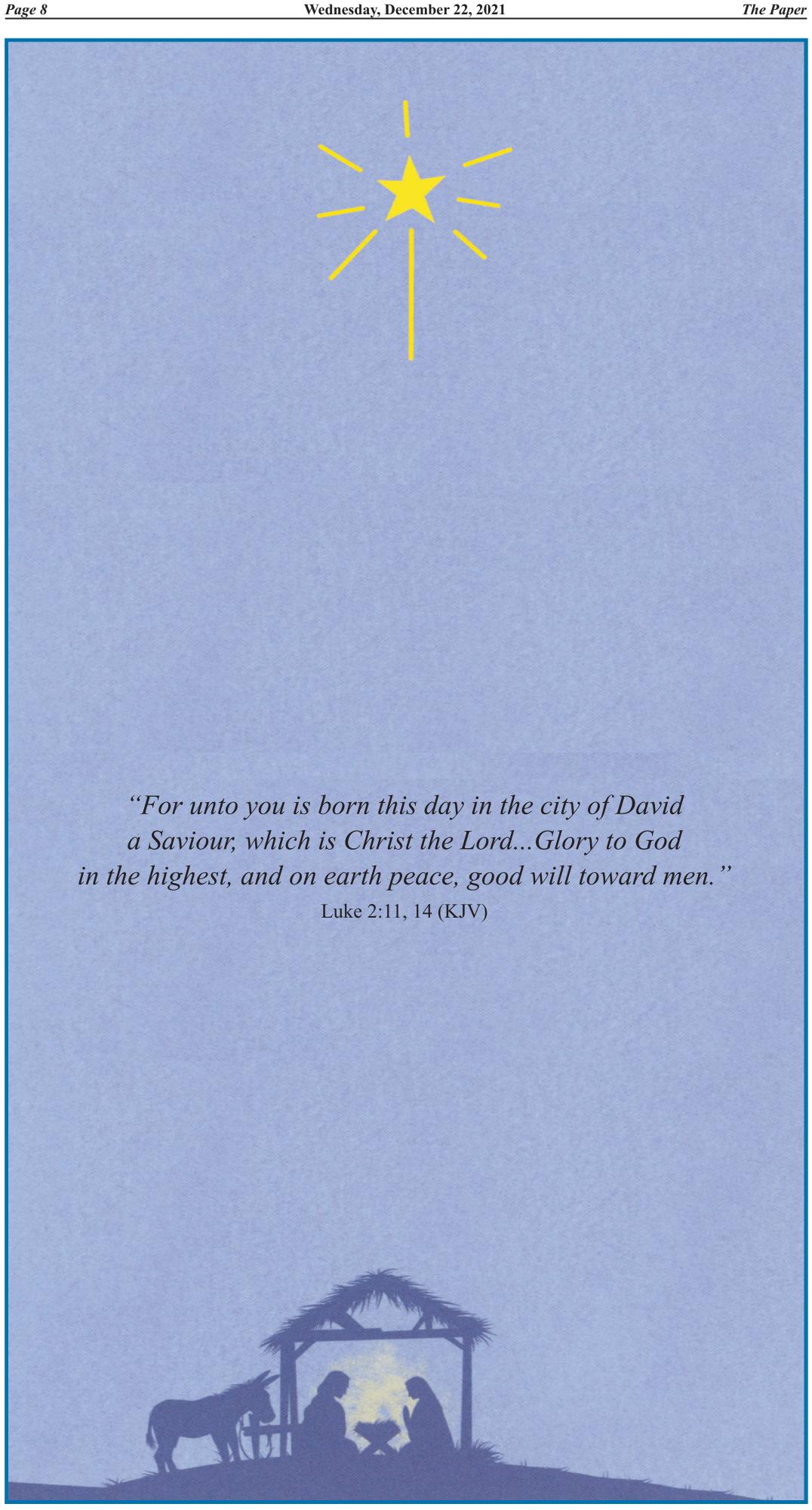
NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Livingston County on or before January 7, 2022, a default may be taken against you at any time after that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

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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

Family members of the deceased, please instruct the Funeral Home to send information to: *The Paper* email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net



SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

Fighting Irish Top Panthers, 82-57

Tuesday, December 14 Seneca vs. GSW

In a varsity meeting between the Seneca Fighting Irish and the Gardner South-Wilmington Panthers, Seneca won by a score of 82-57 – backed by 13 three-pointers.

"Our defense fell short of Seneca's head coach Russ Witte, "and we need to work on our free throws (15-29). We

Monday, December 13

The Fighting Irish got a big

46-16 win over Morris Decem-

ber 13, with 11 of Seneca's 15

Seneca vs. Morris

definitely have a lot to work from Braden Ellis (1 3-pointer),

Zach Pfeifer set a Seneca school record, burying eight three-pointers in the contest, ending up with 33 points (1-3 FT) on the night. Paxton Giertz added 14 points (1 3-pointer, 3-4 FT), while Noah Quigley had what we wanted to do," stated nine on three threes. Kysen Klinker came up with seven points, going 3-5 from the line, followed by five points each

Seneca went up against

"We played our best two

Newark December 16, and

used a big second half to pick

Dominic Traina (3-5 FT), and Lane Provence (3-6 FT). Owen Quigley contributed three points (1-4 FT), with Sam Kleich making one free throw.

For GSW, Cale Halpin led with 23 points (4 3-pointers, 1-3 FT, 3 steals). Bennett Grant had 16 points (2 3-pointers, 2 rebounds), with Garrett Grant adding 10 points (4-5 FT, 3 rebounds). Gabe McHugh had

five points, going 1-2 from the line. Bryce Handzus hit a three.

"We played three very good quarters tonight," Panthers' head coach Allan Wills said. "The game just got away from us in the second. Hats off to Seneca, they shot it very well."

The Irish improved their record to 5-1, while the Panthers drop to 3-6.



GSW Panthers Basketball

Saturday, December 18 **GSW** vs. Ridgeview

On the road December 18, the GSW Panthers won over Ridgeview, 54-47, improving to 4-6 on the season.

"We got off to a great start today," stated Coach Wills, whose squad was up 19-5 after

the first quarter. "It is nice to get a road win, especially on a Saturday, which we have struggled with in the past."

Bennett Grant's 20 points and five rebounds led GSW. Cale Halpin had 17 points, with Garrett Grant providing 12 points and five boards.

TRI-POINT CHARGERS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, December 14 Tri-Point vs. **Grace Christian Academy**

It was Senior Night in Cullom, and the Chargers came ready to fight - winning easily over Grace Christian, 73-41.

"It was a very fun Senior Night for the Chargers," said head coach Justin Cox, "and the crowd was electric."

Connor Cardenas led all scorers with 31 points, hitting four treys and going 5-6 from

the line. Bobby Mogged followed closely with 27 points (5-8 FT). Dominic Carrera connected on two threes, while Ayden McNeill scored four points (2-2 FT). Brendan Likes drilled one three-points, while Spencer Moreno added a bucket.

In the JV meeting, Tri-Point snuck by Grace Christian, 36-

Iroquois West

DTHS LADY TROJANS BASKETBALL

Monday, December 13 Dwight vs. Herscher Varsity -

Holiday Tournament

Dwight fell to Herscher, the number-one seed in the IW Holiday Tournament, 48-14 on December 13.

Cold shooting and turnovers made for a long night for the Lady Trojans.

Leading the way offensively for Dwight was Kassy Kodat (1 3-pointer) and Mikalah Bregin (4-6 FT, 12 rebounds) with five and four points, respectively. Njomza Asllani hit a three-pointer, with Lilly Duffy chipping in with two points.

Wednesday, December 15 Dwight vs. Wilmington Varsity -

Holiday Tournament

Iroquois West

The Lady Trojans fell on the wrong side of a 56-51 ending to a double-overtime thriller with Wilmington December 15 – part of the Iroquois West Holiday Tourney.

Kassy Kodat – who was named to the All-Tournament Team – led all scorers with 21 points, including two threes, 7-10 free throw shooting, and three steals. Njomza Asllani put up 10 points (1 3-pointer, 1-2 FT) and three steals. Lilly Duffy (1 3-pointer, 3-4 FT, 7 steals, 6 rebounds) and Brooke Vigna (2-2 FT, 9 rebounds) each scored eight points, with Mikalah Bregin providing four points (4-9 FT), nine rebounds, and three steals. Ellora McCullough hauled in four boards. Dwight finished the Tournament in fourth place.

Thursday, December 16 Dwight vs. Midland Varsity -

Dwight was in Varna December 16 going up against Tri-County Conference foes Midland, and suffered a 36-20 loss following a cold night of shooting.

Brooke Vigna (12 rebounds, 1 steal) and Kassy Kodat (1 3pointer, 1-2 FT, 5 steals) led with eight points each. Maci Johnson (1 steal) and Lilly Duffy (5 steals) both added two points. Emerson Peters came up with two steals.

The Lady Trojans enter Christmas break with a mark of 3-12 overall and 1-3 in the TCC. They will be back in action in the new year Monday, January 3, when Fieldcrest visits Dwight for a non-conference match-up. JV -

The JV Lady Trojans fell short to Midland, 32-20.

Njomza Asllani was the high scorer for Dwight with eight points. Olivia Folkers added four points, followed by Lilly Duffy and Kassy Kodat with three each. Maci Johnson put in two points. Emerson Peters pulled down nine rebounds, while Ella Legner dished three assists.

"We are looking forward to a couple of weeks off so we can clean some things up before the busy new year," commented Coach Thompson.



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ond half," Coach Holman said. "We stayed disciplined and really fought hard against a really

fourth quarter."

up a 43-36 victory.

SENECA LADY FIGHTING IRISH BASKETBALL

players scoring. quarters of the year in the sec-"Well-balanced effort and we did a nice job of making free throws and adjusting our press to make a run in the secgood Newark team. We made ond quarter," stated Coach some huge threes in the second Holman. "We're figuring half and really did a nice job of things out and we'll keep controlling the basketball in the

working hard." Kennedy Hartwig had a Kennedy Hartwig and Zou game-high 17 points, while Hougas led the Lady Irish with Emma Smith scored nine 13 and 10 points, respectively. Scoring eight each were Alvssa points. Zellers and Emma Smith.

Thursday, December 16 Seneca vs. Newark

GSW Lady Panthers Basketball

Monday, December 13 **GSW** vs. Iroquois West

The Lady Panthers lost to Iroquois West December 13, 33-26.

Addi Fair led GSW with 11 points, hitting a three and going 2-5 from the line. Eva Henderson had six points, with Aspen Lardi supplying five points (1 3-pointer). Riley Klingler and Mary Clare Phillips each scored two points.

Wednesday, December 15 **GSW** vs. Hoopeston

In basketball action December 15, the GSW Lady Panthers were beaten Hoopeston, 43-25.

Addi Fair was high-scorer for GSW with 13 points, going 1-2 from the line. Mary Clare Phillips, Aspen Lardi, and Hannah Balcom all added four points each.

The Lady Panthers fall to 1-13 on the season.

Tri-Point Lady Chargers Basketball

Monday, December 13 Tri-Point vs. Donovan

The Lady Chargers were on the road December 13, and returned home with a 47-31 victory over Donovan.

Melina Schuette led with 15 points, going 3-7 from the charity stripe. Kadie Hummel

and Kyra Cathcart each added ten points, with Lanie Woods scoring five (1 3-pointer). Mikaayla English was good for three points, shooting 1-2 from the free throw line. Lainey Bertrand and Millie Ruiz put up two points each.





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THE GSW PANTHERETTE SPIRITLINE traveled to Dunlap High School December 11 to compete at their IDTA Regional Competition. The team placed third (out of 10 teams) in the IHSA category, first in Pom/Dance, and second in Pom. They also received a state-qualifying score again for their Pom routine, which advances them to the IDTA State Contest. "Awesome job to the team for working so hard this week at practice to make changes to both routines," commented Coach Nicole Leigh.



Tuesday, December 14 Dwight vs. Morris 8th Grade -

Dwight was beaten by Morris 39-23 on December 14, just the Redbirds' second loss of the

"Not one of our better admitted Coach games," Stevenson. "We turned the ball over too many times."

Colin Bachand led Dwight with nine points, four steals, and a rebound. Asher Kargle and Zander Tarnowski (2 rebounds, 2 steals) each scored three points. Jackson Launius (2 rebounds, 2 steals), Joey Starks (10 rebounds, 2 steals), Ethan Pakula (1 rebound, 1 steal), and Jake Wilkey (2 rebounds) had two points each. 7th Grade -

In the seventh grade matchup, the Redbirds won 24-18.

"We struggled but came out on top due to our defense," Coach Conroy said after the game.

DCS REDBIRDS BASKETBALL

Colin Bachand led the way with 15 points, six steals, and five boards. Graham Meister (7 rebounds) and Matt Watchinski (7 rebounds, 3 steals) added five and three points, respectively. Blake Thetard made a free throw, grabbed a rebound, and had one swipe. Trevor Jensen provided four boards and one assist.

Thursday, December 16 Dwight vs. Manteno 6th Grade -

The sixth grade Redbirds played their final home game December 16, coming up short against Manteno, 34-16.

Leading Dwight was big Walter Bradley with eight points and seven boards. Hudson Colclasure added four points, with Evan Olson (9 rebounds), Jude Hurt (6 rebounds) and Kayden Wood (4 rebounds) scoring two points each.

The "B" game saw Dwight go down 30-14 to Manteno.

Logan Pakula led with seven points, three rebounds, while Tyler DeLisle had five points and four boards. Ty Turner chipped in with two points. Ryker Anderson and Jude Hurt each snagged three rebounds.

Friday, December 17 **Dwight vs. Pontiac** 6th Grade -**Odell Tournament**

The Dwight Redbirds traveled south to participate in the Odell Tournament December 17, and came away with a victory over Pontiac, 29-9.

Leading Dwight's offense was Kayden Wood with 15 points and 14 boards. Walter Bradley added four points, nine rebounds, while Evan Olson put up four points, six boards, and five steals. Hudson Colclasure had four points and three rebounds.



Wednesday, December 15 MVK vs. Saratoga 8th Grade -

Saratoga defeated Mazon-Verona-Kinsman, 43-28, in an eighth grade game held December 15.

Brady Sheedy scored 15 points for the Mavs – all on three-pointers.

7th Grade -

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MVK's seventh graders won, 41-22, over Saratoga.

Colton Baudino led with 15 points for the Mavericks.

SENECA FIGHTING IRISH WRESTLING

Tuesday, December 14 Seneca vs. Dwight and Pontiac

Dwight, the Fighting Irish won over the hosts, 60-18, and defeated Pontiac, 69-12. Individual results are as follows: vs. Dwight

106: Kyler Hahn by FF; 113: Tommy Milton by FF; 120: **Bill Farcus** by FF; 126: Jaden Casey 7-0 over Dylan Crouch; 132: Robby Nelson by FF; 138: Emmett Emmons F 5:46 over **Ryan Flynn**; 145: Owen Feiner 3-1 over Dillon Sarff; 152: Asher Hamby F :46 over Kyler Stark; 160: Aiden Burton F 5:38 over Domingo Rodriguez; 170: Evan Sandeno by FF; 182: Austin Burkhardt by FF; 195: Chris Peura by FF; 220: Alex Bogner by FFF; 285: Liam **Blue** F 1:36 over Terry Wilkey. vs. Pontiac

106: Kyler Hahn by FF; 113: Tommy Milton by FF; 120: **Bill Farcus** by FF; 126: Jaden Casey by FF; 132: Robby Nelson by FF; 138: Nate Othon by FF; 145: Owen Feiner 4-3 over Dylan Ramsey; 152: Chris Smith by FF; 160: **Asher Hamby** F 3:33 over Dwavne Johnson: 170: Carlito Latin F 1:01 over Aiden Burton; 182: Santi

F 1:40 over Jackson Crawford; 220: Alex Bogner F:25 over Adam Rodriguez; 285: Liam In action December 14 in Blue F 3:01 over Kaden Gre-

Seneca is now 4-3 overall.

Saturday, December 18 Seneca at Tyler Cox Dual **Tournament**

The Irish were in action December 18 at the Tyler Cox Dual Tournament at Glenwood Chatham High School in Springfield, taking seventh place overall.

Seneca (#17-seed in 1A) was defeated by the #8-seed in 2A Mahomet-Seymour, 44-20, then fell to Rock Island (#11 in 2A), 56-15. They would defeat Petersburg Porta (#5 in 1A), 41-36, then drop a 33-27 decision to Auburn (#7 in 1A).

Individual results on the day are as follows:

Kyler Hahn (106), 2-2; Jaden Casey (126), 2-2; Robby Nelson (132), 3-1; Nate Othon (138), 2-2; Owen Feiner (145), 4-0; Asher Hamby (152), 4-0); Chris Peura (195, 2-2).

"All the teams we faced today were ranked in the top 11 in either Class 1A or 2A," said Coach Yegge. "Our wrestlers competed very well against some top competition."

Seneca's record overall in



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'18 F150 S/C XLT, 63K, 4WD	\$31,900
'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
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)	'14 Taurus SEL, 99K	
)	'90 Cougar XR7 Supercharged, 70K, Sunroof	\$9,900
)	VANS and SUVS	
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J	'20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD	\$48,900
)	'20 Escape Titanium, 8K, AWD	\$36,900
)	'20 Explorer XLT, 31K, RWD	\$34,900
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J	'17 MKX Reserve, 44K, AWD	\$33,900
)	'17 Edge Titanium, 81K, AWD	\$25,900
1	'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, AWD	\$13,900
	'10 Escape LTD, 199K, 4WD	\$6,900
)	'07 FJ Cruiser, 256K	\$8,900

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail)

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

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

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

Seneca at Wilmington JV Tournament

At the Wilmington JV Tournament December 18, the Fighting Irish placed every wrestler that participated, with the following individual re-

113: Tommy Milton (Champion); 120: Bill Farcus (3rd); 126: Nick Grant (2nd); 132: Ryker Terry (4th); 138: Will Milton (Champion); 145: Ryan Flynn (Champion); 152: Aiden Burton (5th); 220: Alex Bogner (2nd); 285: Liam Blue (2nd).

We Are PROUD of YOU!









MRS. THOMPSON'S sixth grade STEM class organized a door decorating contest to bring holiday cheer to the halls of Dwight Common School. Each classroom chose a theme based on a holiday song or movie. Above are the winners. The elementary school winners were Ms. Jana, The Night Before Christmas, and Mrs. Law, Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer. The Junior High winner was Ms. Gorga, Wreck the Halls.

Shop with a Hero a Success

Non-profit Grundy County Heroes & Helpers, INC. treated 110 Grundy County children to a day of Christmas celebration December 11 at their 3rd Annual Shop with a Hero event.

The children were matched with a local hero; police, fire, deputies, EMS and a helper, and then taken on a \$150 Wal-Mart shopping spree for clothes, boots, coats and other necessities. After shopping, the children were treated to a Christmas party, held at First Christian Church, where their heroes helped them pick out several new toys. The children got to meet Santa for a photo and were treated to lunch.

Due to several generous bike donations, any child in need of a bike received a bike.

"This year, we were able to serve more children than any previous years due to the generous support of our community via fund-raisers and toy drives we hold throughout the year," said GCHH president Wendy Briley. "The smiles on the children's faces reminds us what we work for all year. We

are so grateful to the community, as a 100% volunteer nonprofit we would not be able to make this day happen without everyone's support."

Over 50 first responders and over 75 helpers volunteered their time setting up, shopping, and treating the children to Christmas spirit. Pastor Scott Zorn of First Christian Church generously donated the space to host the event, as well as volunteers from the church who grilled hot dogs and served the children lunch.

Families were able to apply for the event by filling out an application detailing the hardship or difficulty the family had experienced this year.

"A large part of our mission as an organization is to foster healthy relationships between our first responders in the community with our children," said Briley. "This day helps facilitate this by giving a positive interaction and experience. The kids and first responders have so much fun together."



THE MALE STAFF at Gardner Grade School recently participated in No Shave November. Students and staff were able to donate coins throughout the month for the "best" and "worst" beard. Mr. Leone, Mr. Mark, Mr. Rury, Mr. McDowell, and Dr. Merritt each received a pie in the face, with Dr. Merritt being the loser and Mr. Rury declared the winner. Pictured are Kaylee T. and Mr. Rury and Grace V. and Mr. McDowell. The No Shave November coin war, as well as Student Council's candy cane gram fund-raiser in December, helped to raise over \$200 to help families in need this ChristThomas Bennett, State Representative 106th District

More new laws take effect on January 1

the more than 200 new laws which will take effect with the start of the new year.

Reducing fees on trailers. Back in 2019 the fees for registering trailers in Illinois jumped up to \$118. This very large fee increase had an immediate negative effect on Illinoisans in a wide variety of ways. This year I was proud to support legislation which would roll that fee increase back. Starting January 1 the trailer registration fee will fall

Children's lemonade stands free from regulation. A while back a young girl in Illinois had her lemonade stand shut down by a local public health agency. In response, the General Assembly earlier this year passed legislation that would exempt children's lemonade stands from being regulated by state law. The bill was nicknamed Hayli's Law in honor of the young lady who had her stand closed down and who inspired the change in state law.

E-learning for senior driver safety classes. Illinoisans over the age of 55 may now use e-learning for certified driver safety training classes rather than having to attend an in-person classroom. Secretary of State-approved accident pre- only be estimated.

I want to highlight a few of vention courses will now offer their 8-hour instruction through either an in-person classroom or an e-learning setting if the student prefers. This change allows seniors to safely and comfortably access the driver safety instruction they need to stay safe on the road and also gives drivers a chance to reduce their vehicle insurance

> State Constitution Day. Illinois just celebrated its 203rd birthday a couple of weeks ago, but did you know our first state Constitution was actually approved much earlier on August 26? Under new legislation which takes effect January 1, August 26 is designated as Illinois Constitution Day to be observed throughout the state as the day our first state Constitution was ratified. This is a good opportunity to teach our students about the proud history of our great state.

How much do we owe? As of the time of this writing, the State of Illinois owes \$5,136,563,504 in unpaid bills to state vendors. One year ago, the backlog stood at \$7.0 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

Area COVID-19 Stats as of December 20

	<u>Total Tests</u>		
<u>Town</u>	Performed	<u>Cases</u>	
Dwight	19,901	837	
Gardner	4,436	361	
Herscher	4,929	361	
Odell	4,565	270	
Mazon	3,193	266	
Braceville	3,257	243	Numbers
Essex	2,089	193	
S. Wilmington	1,698	134	as of
Saunemin	2,109	102	12/20/21
Cullom	2,482	100	Statistics via:
Verona	1,350	99	
Reddick	1,607	92	dph.illinois.gov
Cabery	1,521	85	
Ransom	1,389	81	
Buckingham	1,219	80	
Emington	909	65	
Kempton	1,265	65	
Blackstone	889	49	
Kinsman	938	31	
Campus	650	23	
Union Hill	217	14	

<u>County</u>	Tested	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Kankakee	381,212	20,874	280
LaSalle	362,685	17,673	299
Grundy	119,338	9,002	93
Livingston	185,364	6,893	112
roquois	86,294	5,080	86
Ford	54,112	2,881	59

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 1,944,056; Deaths: 27,117; **Probable Deaths:** 3,085; **Total Tests Performed:** 42,033,355.

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.



Notice of Availability of Audit Report of Highland Township

Highland Township hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the period April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 has been made, and that a report of such audit dated October 20, 2021 has been filed with the County Clerk of Grundy County, in accordance with 30 ILCS 15/.01 et. seq. The full report of the audit is available for public inspection at 9965 S. Kinsman Road Kinsman, IL 60437. Please contact Doreen Harlow, Supervisor, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at (815) 585-2593 or e-mail her at doreenharlow@gmail.com.

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 (

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





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Santa, I want a Barbie doll,

Love, Kenzi

From,

Conrad

Love,

Alyvia

Love.

Lilith

Love,

Elsie

Love,

a American girl doll, and I want

a toy train. A fake Mrs. Claus

costome, and a American doll

I want an all terrain hover-

board please, and phone please.

How are you and Mrs. Clause

doing? I'll leave one cookie

and a cup of milk and ten car-

rots. Also, a letrick scooter and

I wood like a dog or a cat

and I wood like some high

heels boots and some nice

clothers, and some nice jenes

and some nice shots and a bike

and how are you and your

What I want for christmas. I

would like a tablet and 100,000

Robux please thank you Santa.

I would like...a kitten, more

books, a tabblet, and more! I

have been really good this

year! Plus for November I was

the Student of the Month. In

second grade our elf has been

I want a 1:64 semi truck.

Also, I want PlayStasin 5. Hey

Mrs. Cluse tell the elf to make

house.

Dear Santa,

beef jerky.

Dear Santa,

wife?

Dear Santa,

pretty noutty!

Dear Santa,

a four wheeler.

Tri-Point Elementary Kindergarten - Mrs. Storm

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I would like a remoted control plane. Hi Santa, tell the reindeer I said hello!

Gage (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like a red guitar, and a pokemon sit thing, and a xylophone too please.

Logan (5)

Dear Santa.

I have been good. I would like Pokemon Cards and Hotwheel cars. Love you Santa.

James (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I would like a Digital watch, and a brand new monster truck. How are the reindeer? Are they getting ready for Christmas

Bensyn (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. Can I have an electric scooter, and may I have a new bike? Thanks

Oliver M (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I would like Puppet and reindeer games. Thank you.

Evan (5)

Dear Santa, I have been good. I would

&cason's Greetings Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! **Nutrien** 418 E. North Street, Dwight 815-584-2733



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Happy Holidays

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like a red dinosaur with green eyes, a big trex with green.

Sawyer (5)

Dear Santa,

Year I've been good. A big candy and a spaceship and a toy friends. Mark (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like a hoverboard, 3 ace buckets for my Dad. For Kaley a box of Barbies, Kara books, and mom some cooking stuff. Thank you.

Blake (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like supersonic toy, a watch, earphones please. Thank you. Brayden (5)

Dear Santa,

I am being good. I would like a Barbie with clothes, and a baby with a pacifier.

Braylee (6)

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I would like a pop it and Christmas Decorations and Bubble Ice Cream. Faith (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I would like pokemon cards, a transformer toy, and my own gameboy with headphones. Mo(5)

Dear Santa.

I have been good this year. I would like a new bike and a toy car.

Lukale (5)

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year and my elf is watching at my house. I would like a toy unicorn, a little toy Christmas tree with ornaments.

Olivia (5)

Dear Santa,

Yes I have been good. I want a teddy bear to cuddle with and two Christmas trains and shoes. Luzelena (6)

511115

COMING TO TOWN...

Tri-Point Elementary Pre-K - Ms. Aimee

Dear Santa.

I want a car, a little tiny one that I can drive around in my yard. And I want to give Santa an ornament, but I am not making it yet, I will make it on Christmas Eve. Rowena R.

Dear Santa,

I want monster trucks and Ash M.

Dear Santa, Santa will bring presents.

And Santa will get a snack. Derek R. Dear Santa,

I want a real unicorn and a real horse. And I will leave you Kinsley M. a note.

Dear Santa, I want presents.

Trace R. Dear Santa,

I want a motorcycle. Gabriel M.

Dear Elise. I want a Barbie doll and a

drum. And that is all I want. Elise M.

Dear Santa,

I would like some cars. Allie H.

Dear Santa,

I am going to give you one of my toys. I think I am going to give him my green dinosaur. I just want a present, a real RC car. I want a tool bench.

Rhett D.

Dear Santa,

Santa will bring presents. Daniel M.





(next to CVS Pharmacy)

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from our family to yours

Back row: Randal Fransen, Dawn Schroeder, Brian Craft, Eric Stewart.

Front row: Desiree Harrell, Corey Finkenbinder, Emily Solis, Sharon Voigts, Jennifer Tjelle, Christine Leonard.

Saunemin Grade School 2nd Grade - Mrs. Froelich

Dear Santa,

I hope you have been making toys at your workshop. I hope you stop here. Thank you for the Santa camra. I want toys and tools for Crismus.

> Your friend, Jase

Dear Santa,

I am always good. I hope you are doing good for Christmas. I want 1,000 Robux. I also want a desk.

John

Dear Santa,

I wood like a Popit's. How are your Elfs? Are thay good like me? Kids all aros the world have joy because kids have toys and that's all I want for Chrismas. Thank you.

> Love, Aubrey

Dear Santa,

I have been a good kid. I would like a new dirt bike and a Pokemon game for XBox

Love, Grant

Dear Santa,

One.

Dear Santa,

How are your reindeer? For Christmas I would like a doll house, Barbie's LoL, Roblox Robut, OMG Dolls, Prinsess dresses, Princess crowns, high heels, skirts, dresses, Amizon gift card, and makeup. Pls and thank you.

Love, Abi

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a four wheeler. I hope you and Mrs. Clos and the reindeer are good this year!

Love, Justin

Dear Santa,

I want a dirt bike for Christmas and I want a onixlc.

Luv, Blake

Gardner Grade School 1st Grade - Mrs. Countryman

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeers doing? I want a new chrgr and a computer for Christmas this year. Merry Christmas!

Love, Riot

Dear Santa,

How are the elves and Mrs. Claus? I want a braslet cit for Christmas this year. Merry Christmas! Love, Presley

Dear Santa,

How is Jingle doing? I want a magick mixy for Christmas this year. Love, Tori

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

What is Rudolph up to? I want a Nintendo switch joy con holder for Christmas this year! Merry Christmas!

Love, Maggie

Claus doing? I want an xbox for Christmas this year. I also want a TV and hoverboard. Merry Christmas! Love, Khaleesi

How are the elves and Mrs.

Dear Santa, How are the elves doing? I

want a majick mixie for Christmas this year. Merry Christ-Love, Kacey

Dear Santa,

How are the elves doing and Mrs. Claus? I want a bord gam and a coloring book. Merry Christmas! Love, Salem

Dear Santa,

How are the elves doing? I want a new bike for Christmas this year. I want a new helmet Love, Bridget

Dear Santa,

How are the elves and Mrs. Claus? I want a coloring book new clothes and new shoes.

Love, Lucy

Dear Santa,

How are the elves doing? I want a weighted blanket, a Barbie ambulance, and a smart watch for Christmas this year. Merry Christmas! Love, Mora



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HOLIDAY HOURS

Friday, December 24th - Close at Noon Saturday, December 25th - CLOSED Friday, December 31st - Close at Noon Saturday, January 1, 2022 - CLOSED

From, AXTON

From, Eva

From, Laila20

I want computer skateboard

I want kowal to and elf and

I would like LOL dall com-

poppit cat and ipod.



Dwight Common School 1st Grade - Mrs. Brownfield

Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I want a robot, a remote-control snake with a camera, and I want it to have a bite.

> Love, Vinny Stipanovich (6)

Dear Santa,

I would like a dirt bike for Christmas please.

> Love, Bren Herlan (7)

Dear Santa,

I would like a Nintendo Switch and a new iphone.

Jeffery Henson (6)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I would like a LOL toy, Spirit Toys, and a dirt bike.

> Love, Nicole Faulds (6)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I would like a hamster in a cage. I need a water dish and a food bowl, too!

> Love, McKenzie Hurt (6)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a Barbie and some instruments.

> Love, Madi Miller (7)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I would like LOL toys, a baby, and a cap.

> Love, Dakota Elsey (6)

Dear Santa.

I would like a toy unicorn, one book, a yo-yo, an apple and LOL toys. I would also like a picture of my family.

Love, Harley Connell (6)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I would like an iPhone 13 and \$10,000. I want a hamster in a blue cage, too!

> Love, Caiden Bean (7)

Dear Santa,

I want a Baymax toy that has wings and rocket boosters. I want Hero that comes with the Baymax toy, too. I also want a remote-control snake.

Killian Faletti (6)

Dear Santa,

I want a motorcycle and a four-wheeler.

> Love, Jameson Schell (7)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I want a panda mask, some boots and phone, too. I hope you have Merry Christmas.

Lainy Maxard (7)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I want a carriage and to go to the North Pole, and I want all of my presents there.

> Love, Sadie Burke (7)

Dear Santa,

For Christmas this year, I want a doll, a hamster and two nerf guns. Have a Merry Christmas Santa!

> Love. Lilly Aug (6)

Dear Santa,

1. Slime 2. Paw Patrol 3. JoJo Bows 4. Cocomelon.

> Love. Sky Brown (7)

Dwight Common School 1st Grade - Mrs. Schmeltzer

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a new bed and some toys for Christmas this

Love, Alex

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want pop-its, jewelry making kits, robes, hair supplies, a pink or blue bedding set and an Xbox one for Christmas this year.

Love, Sophie

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I want a paw patrol mobile for Christmas this year. Love, Dominic

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I want a Huggy Wuggy and a Kissy Missy plush and a car that can drive on the wall and ceiling for Christmas this year. Thank you. Love, Jaxson

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a choker necklace and a Barbie plan for Christmas this year.

Love, Layla

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want rainbow slim, kids makeup, OMG dolls, Jo-Jo Siwa bows, and a play kitchen for Christmas this year. Love, Atalee

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a unicorn toy and a lot of other things this year for Christmas.

Love, Adellyn

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I want a remote control car, a stocking, and a remote controlled helicopter for Christmas this year.

Love, Peyton

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a lunch box, candy, books, markers, bunk beds, toys, and pop-its this year for Christmas this year.

Love, Aubree

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I want a remote control monster truck and plane, as well as a shark ornament for Chistmas this year.

Love, Jace

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a toy pig and a toy onion for Christmas this year. Love, Maya

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a squishmello and an American Girl Doll set for Christmas this year?

Love, Natalie

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I want an IPhone 13, 5 one hundred dollar bills, a squishmello, and a pop-it for Christmas this year.

Love, Willow

I have been a very good girl this year. I want a gumball machine for Christmas this year. Love, Pari

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I want the Sonic and Tails stuffed animals for Christmas this year. Love, Brayden

Dwight Common School 1st Grade - Mrs. Maxard

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I wish for a barbie dream house and a barbie accessories and baby doll.

> Love, Charlotte

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I wish for a pop it and A For Addy and a blanket.

Love, Lexi

Dear Santa,

I wish for a phone and a headset and a go cart.

Love, Kian

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I want a barbie dream house and a doll accessories.

Love, Bristol

Dear Santa,

I have been very good. I wish for Pipp's castle for Christmas and Zipp.

Love, Delaney

Dear Santa,

I have been close to good! I wish for a Lovey Pups the whole collection of Lovey

Pups. I also wish for a little Dear Santa, snowman, a friend for Horsey. Love, Jovie

Dear Santa,

I wish for markers. I wish for colored pencils. I wish for a toy train. I wish for I Phone 12. Love, Gabe

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I wish for a big hot wheel set! I love you Santa.

I have been good! I wish for

a go cart and a four wheeler

Love, Ashton

Love, Tanner

and a xbox.

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa, I have been very good! I wish for a weiner dog.

Love, Callan

Dear Santa,

I have been very good. I wish for a baby dog and I want or Christmas is a cat stuffed an-Love, Sofia

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I wish for a cat and a phone. Love, Aria

Dear Santa, I have been very good! I wish for a tub of slime, phone 13, figits, and stuffed animals!!! Love, Oakleigh

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! I wish for nail polish!

Love, Dorothy

Dear Santa,

I have been very good! For Christmas I would like a toy train and a phone.

Love, Avery

Odell Grade School Mrs. Tarnowski - 2nd Grade

Dear Santa,

I want switch ipad comfrom, ayla bunting

I want hedfonse and fijits.

from, boston lewis

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa, I want a squish mellow. A i phone a ipad a computer. From, Elizabeth

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a new Ipad And a remote control cat Reindeer toy for christmas.

From, Emmalyn

Dear Santa,

Want for christmas is some popits and other figits and some slime.

Kaylynn Omeara

Dear Santa, For Christmas i want a collection of minecraft lego sets Sonic lego set and Avengers lego set please. I want Sonice action figures and a giant minecraft steve stuffed animal.

From, Jackson

As you celebrate

I have been vary good but dont no if you understand The phone my own tv. part wen i put vary.

> From, PATRICK LaBorence

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

from Taelynn.

Dear Santa,

phone.

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

and see to Rudolf.

I want a Ferrari and a phone and a switch.

reindeer. Elf closes art supplips

I want a Smart Watch. I

want a Laptop. I want a Com-

puter. I want a Fidget Spinner.

I would like a lot of popits. A

I would like a dog. A ipad.

I want a elf from christmas

A bunny. A smart watch. I

would like a lot of popits.

Seth Caudle Dear Santa,

from, Taelynn

Tylie

Vivian

Zihana

puter Ipad phon fidgets. I want 2 elfs and a elf pet

Dear Santa,

I would want a skateboard and a phone.

From, Reed Oswald

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Dear,

I what a baby ulivand And dollclos.

From, Sarah





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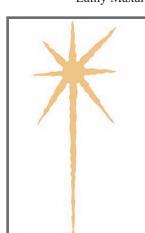


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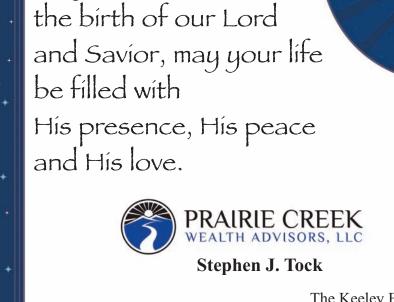
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OBITUARIES

Nancy Anne Rose

Nancy Anne Rose, 72, of Flanagan, Illinois and formerly Dwight, Illinois, passed away at 5:40 p.m., Friday, December 2021 at OSF St. James John W. Albrecht Medical

Center in Pontiac, Illinois. Nancy was born September

25, 1949 in Streator to Joseph and Goldie Rose. She married Richard Gragert in 1969 and later divorced.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and nephew, John Seabert.

Surviving are one son, Chad (Tricia) Gragert of Odell; one granddaughter, Sydney Gragert of Odell; four sisters: Sally Rose (Morris) of Versailles, MO; Mary (Glenn) Seabert of Dwight; Barbara Rose of Flanagan; and Jane (Ed) Hyslop of Gardner; two brothers: Robert (Judith) Rose of Kempton and Dean Rose of Odell.

She had several nieces and nephews: Andy, Amy and Anna Capps; Paul, Cari, Neal and Mark Seabert; Sarah, Brian (Maria) and Lora Rose; Deanna and Nicole Rose; Nena (Josh) Eitenmiller; Kennon

(Katelyn Devault) Rose; Justin (Heidi), Brenna Megan, (Thomas Harwood), Josie (Tom Kazale) Hyslop. She also had many great-

> Also surviving is her constant cacompanion, nine

nieces and nephews.

Tucker.

Nancy had numerous jobs during her lifetime, some of which included Dwight Correctional Center and The Country Mansion.

Nancy enjoyed spending time with her family. She was very proud of her granddaughter, Sydney, and enjoyed visits with her. She always looked forward to her "Sisters parties." She was a Christian and had been a member of Dwight United Methodist Church. She was there to help others in need. She was an avid scrabble, canasta and euchre player. A private family service will be held.

In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, memorials should be made to the Livingston County Sheriff's Department Shop with a Cop program, c/o LCSP, 844 W. Lincoln, Pontiac, IL 61764.

Helen Margaret Hansen Simpson (nee Louis) passed away at 5:55 a.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at Columbia Acute Care and Hospice Center, Columbia, Missouri.

In her final days, her family stayed by her side and she was able to talk by telephone with many of her grandchildren.

Helen was born on October 10, 1926 in Dwight, Illinois, at a nurses' home, to parents Andrew and Myra (Doughan) Louis. She was the youngest of four children including siblings Michael Louis, Teresa Fogarty, and Martha Lambert.

She remembered having whooping cough as a child of age 3 or 4. She grew up during the Great Depression when times were hard. She walked from the family farm to a one-room country school at Emington, Illinois, and graduated in 1944 from St. Paul High School in Odell, Illi-

Her childhood chores included carrying corn cobs and coal into the house to heat the stove, driving horses around and around to get corn into the crib, washing dishes, separating cream, and hanging clothes out

After her high school graduation, she and her girlfriends moved to Chicago where Helen was employed as a civilian secretary for the Army Air Force Helen Margaret Hansen Simpson

from 1944-1946. She said this was one of her favorite times in life. She loved to dance to the music of the Big Bands of the World War II era, and wear her fashionable fur coat during cold

weather.

She married Russell P. Hansen on August 10, 1946 in Dwight, Illinois. The couple began their married life together in Galesburg, Illinois. Together they ran a family grocery store, "Russ's Grocery," in Abingdon, Illinois from 1955-

There were six children born of this marriage. During these years, Helen kept busy raising the children, working in the grocery store, serving as a Cub Scout den mother, a member of the Legion Auxiliary, and supporting her Catholic church by serving on the Altar and Rosary Society. She was employed by Combined Insurance from 1979-1986, and Care at Home from 1986-1993. Russell preceded her in death in 1993.

Helen was united in marriage with David D. Simpson in 1996. They lived in River Grove, Illinois, then Geneva, Illinois. They were married 20 years, during which time she enjoyed spending time with the Simpson family, traveling, socializing with

friends, garage sales, and watching the Chicago Cubs baseball games. David preceded her in death in 2016.

Shortly after David's death, Helen moved to Columbia, Missouri to the Mill Creek Assisted Liv-

ing facility. She met new friends and sang in the holiday choir performances. Twice in 2020 she was quarantined for two weeks to her room to protect her and other residents from the Covid-19 coronavirus. She enjoyed family visits and watching hummingbirds outside her window.

During her life, Helen had many hobbies including sewing, crocheting, collecting antiques, bowling, traveling, visiting the cabin on the Mississippi River, reading, playing cards, assembling jigsaw puzzles and watching Lawrence Welk episodes and Chicago Cubs games.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, her siblings and their spouses, both husbands, her oldest child, Terry, and greatgrandson, Alex; mother-fathersisters-and brothers-in-law, and two nieces.

She is survived by sons Lonnie (Kathy) Hansen of Columbia, Missouri; Rick (Paulette) Hansen of Columbia, Missouri; daughters, Kristy (Ike) Cundiff of Abingdon, Illinois; Kathy (Jeff) Nelson of New Braunfels. Texas; and Dana (Richard) Wherley of Eureka, Illinois.

She is also survived by 14 grandchildren and 22 greatgrandchildren, and one more great-grandchild and one greatgreat-grandchild on the way in

June, 2022. She is also survived by two step-children, Donald Simpson of River Grove, Illinois and Mary Ellen (Kenneth) Pollina of Geneva, Illinois; five step-grandchildren and two step-greatgrandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and friends in Illinois, Missouri and California.

Helen lived a long, productive life with unwavering faith, love and hard work. She had a zest for life and a great sense of humor. She will be sorely missed by those who loved her.

Arrangements are being handled by Hager Memorial Home, Dwight, Illinois.

A funeral mass will be held in St. Paul Catholic Church, Odell, Illinois on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., followed by a celebration of life dinner at GD's Saloon, Odell, Illinois.

Interment of ashes will be in Rock Island National Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois.

Memorials may be made to St. Paul Catholic Church, 313 West Hamilton Street, Odell, Illinois 60460.

More Obituaries appear on page 7.

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SAT, JAN 15, 2022 @ 10:00 AM

Property Location: 620 E Southmor Rd, Morris, IL Auction Location: Morris Moose Lodge #967 3835 IL-47, Morris, IL 60450

Farm is located 1 mile south of the Morris Illinois River Bridge on IL-47, then east 1/2 mile on Southmor Rd.

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Complete Listing, Terms, Flyer and Maps on website! **Owners: Carol Peacock-Jacobson** and Debra Peacock Arroyo Seller's Attorney: Don Black - Black & Black Law Firm - 815-942-0594

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Read *The Paper!*

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.

UNION HILL - Union

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.

Pet of the Week

Hey guys! My name is Rizzo! I am a 3 year old English Bulldog mix! I tend to be shy with strangers, but I am a very sweet girl once I have time to warm up! I am very playful and I love to give kisses to my favorite people! I will even bark if you are not giving me the attention that I want! I also tend to grump and snort like a true bulldog! Head smushes, butt scratches, and cuddles are my favorite things in



out any other animals! I just want all of the attention to be mine!

Would you please come meet me and give me a chance? **Livingston County Humane Society**

21179 N. 1358 E. Rd., Pontiac, IL 61764 • 815-842-1025 Ichumanesociety.com • Check us out on facebook and PetFinder Would you like to sponsor a pet? Call The Paper 815-584-1901

Dwight Veterinary Clinic Old Rt. 66, Dwight • 815-584-2732 • dwightvet.com

The Paper deadline is Friday at noon.

The Paper is located at 204 E. Chippewa St., Dwight

Office hours are: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Phone: 815-584-1901 Fax: 815-584-2196 E-mail: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net Online: www.thepaper1901.com

Dwight Peace Meals

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

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

CLOSED CHRISTMAS HOLI-DAY. Fri., Dec. 24: CLOSED FOR

CHRISTMAS HOLI-DAY. Mon., Dec. 27: Sausage in gravy, hash rounds, orange juice,

sautéed mushrooms,

onions & bell pepper,

mashed potatoes w/ white gravy, Nantucket vegetables, apricots, whole grain

Country fried steak,

Tues., Dec. 28:

Fried chicken, mashed

potatoes w/ brown

gravy, Italian green

salad, whole grain

Beef tortellini, peas,

carrots, tropical fruit

Wed., Dec. 29:

Thurs., Dec. 30:

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Gas Prices For This Week

Gasoline demand surged last week, buoyed by increased pre-holiday consumer confidence. But fears of the COVID-19 omicron variant's economic impact may threaten future global oil consumption. As a result, pump prices fell again last week as crude oil prices wobbled—neither rising steadily nor falling rapidly. The national average for a gallon of gas dipped two cents to \$3.31. Last week, crude prices crept above \$70 per barrel and if oil prices continue to climb, pump prices will likely follow suit. Today's national average of \$3.31 is 10 cents less than a month ago and \$1.10 more than a year ago.

City/Village	December 20	December 13
Dwight	\$3.28	\$3.33
Kankakee	\$3.34	\$3.40
Streator	\$3.40	\$3.46
Pontiac	\$3.30	\$3.31
Gardner	\$3.45	\$3.49
Braceville	\$3.16	\$3.35
Morris	\$3.32	\$3.38
Herscher	\$3.45	\$3.55
Chicago	\$3.59	\$3.62
Illinois	\$3.43	\$3.46
U.S.	\$3.31	\$3.33

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

The Paper and brought to you by Steve's Tire.



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

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Area Christmas Mass Schedules

St. Lawrence Catholic **Church South Wilmington**

• **December 24:** 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

• December 25: 10:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

<u>Kinsman</u> • **December 24:** 4:00 p.m. • December 25: 8:00 a.m.

> **Catholic Church** Reddick

St. Mary's

• **December 24:** 5:30 p.m.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7 (KJV)

Gardner-South Wilmington High School District #73 Board Briefs

On December 15, the Board of Gardner-South Wilmington High School District #73 held a Public Hearing on the 2021 Levy and their Regular Meeting.

Superintendent, Mr. Josh De-Long, reviewed the Levy with the board. It is anticipated that the tax rate will stay steady or go down some from last year once the final EAV numbers from the assessor are released.

There was no public comment on the 2021 Levy, or during the Regular Meeting.

Principal, Mr. Engelman, was not present at the meeting, so Mr. DeLong discussed the following:

- Attendance report
- Discipline report
- Mr. DeLong discussed the following in regards to the Buildings and Grounds Report: • Library – They have added photos to the walls and some cosmetic work has been done

old yearbook sales.

• Squad Room – This room is up and running for the basketball season.

• Café – Finishing touches have been completed.

Superintendent DeLong presented the following:

- · New courses for next year were discussed. Mr. DeLong and Mr. Engelman have been working with the teachers for a couple of months to make these changes. The new CTE and STEAM courses are being paid for with grant funds.
- Triple I Conference Reports Board members discussed the recent Annual School Board Conference that was held in Chicago November 19-21. All members attended this year.
- Superintendent search update – Mr. DeLong updated the board on the current applicants and a tentative timeline was discussed for interviews and final with the money donated from board approval. It is anticipated

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that the new superintendent will be approved at the February 16 board meeting.

- · Non-Mandated curriculum options for 2022-2023 - Recent state legislation (SB 818), The Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act, creates new standards for personal health and safety standards. These standards are controversial and progressive in nature. School districts do not have to adopt these voluntary standards. If the board does adopt the standards, they would go into place for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. De-Long recommended that they do
- not adopt them at this time. • Robin Schwartz Attorney fee increases – They have not raised their rates in three years.
- Co-op discussion with Dwight High School – Dwight has been in discussions with them about bringing GSW back into the football co-op. Mr. DeLong and Mr. Engelman have met with interested students to discuss logistics, etc. Coach Standiford and Coach Thompson from Dwight recently met with the interested players as well. There are conversations happening about what it would take to make a potential co-op better and stronger for both schools than it was before it was disbanded three years ago.

Action Items included the following:

- Approve the 2021 Tax Levy • Approve the Certificate of Compliance with Truth & Taxa-
- Appoint the Superintendent to review closed session minutes • First Reading of Press Policy
- First Reading of Paraprofes-
- sional job descriptions • Approve the District Bullying
- · Approve new courses for 2022-2023 as presented: STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math), SEL (Social Emotional Learning), RUSH (Recent US History), Integrated Science, Public Speaking / SPEECH, Business Entrepreneurship and Accounting.

Health care in the air

Heinrich improves travel time with airplanes

by Brandon LaChance

When Bret Heinrich graduated from Dwight Township High School in 1985, Eureka College, Western Illinois with a Masters Degree in fine arts and theater performance, he didn't predict what would become his most valued career move.

For the last four years, Heinrich has been the CEO and president of Wings of Hope, a non-profit organization based out of St. Louis.

'We are a global, humanitarian organization that saves and changes lives through the power of aviation," said Heinrich, who was born in Streator. "We're 58years old and have worked in 51 countries around the world. We reach into some of the most remote parts of the world to give people access to a better life.

"A lot of times it will be taking health care or supplies into these remote areas. We also take people out of remote areas to give them the care that they need."

Wings of Hope has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize twice.

This year, the nonprofit has worked in 10 countries. Currently, Heinrich and his team is trying to set up a telehealth program in Columbia. After building a surgical theater at a school or cinder block hospital and performing surgeries, there isn't always the means to follow up with the patients.

This telehealth program will develop a process to allow Wings of Hope and medical professionals to track patients using remote patient monitoring to connect local midwives in communities to physicians in Bo-

Monitoring at-risk pregnancies isn't only happening in Columbia as Wings of Hope travels to 27 different African villages every two weeks to help get ahead of diseases. Heinrich says they're seeing a reduction in infant mortality as babies are living longer.

BUSCH



Bret Heinrich

The health aviation services are also in the states as the organization helps fly Americans to access specialized care not available in their community.

"If a child was born with severe club foot at birth and there wasn't an orthopedic surgeon in driving distance, we would fly the parents and the child to a place that supplies that type of surgery," Heinrich said. "We would take them as many times as it takes until the issue is reme-

"We do that at absolutely no cost to the family."

If the patients are not being charged, who is?

"One piece of our funding comes from traditional, charitable giving as people, individuals, or groups give gifts to Wings of Hope," Heinrich said. "The second bucket is event income. We have a gala each year and we raffle off an airplane twice each year. For \$100, you could win an airplane, which is pretty cool.

"The third area is airplane donations, which is people who maybe have decided they're done flying. They've reached a point in their lives where they're no longer able to fly. Instead of selling their airplane, they want to see it go on and do good work in the world. They'll donate it to Wings of Hope. If we can use it in the field, we will. If we can't use it, we'll sell it for program revenue." Volunteers are a huge part of

Wings of Hope as there are 350

volunteers and 17 paid employ-

"People who have retired from Boeing in St. Louis will come help us work on airplanes," Heinrich said. "This year, we had 25,000 donated volunteer hours, which is just phenomenal. I've never seen another organization that uses volunteers the way we do."

Heinrich began his career as a teacher at Tokoyo International College in Japan. When he came back to America his plan was to move to Chicago, get married and take advantage of his Masters and become an actor.

However, he was contacted by a contact in Japan to help start a program promoting cross cultural exchange between Japan and USA. This was his introduction to non-profit work.

After 20-plus years of fund raising for older adults in St. Louis who need assistance, he entered the national search for the next president with Wings of Hope.

"I had two predecessors as Wings of Hope president and they were both aviation experts. I am not. The search community was looking for someone who had non-profit leadership experience, so that is why I was ultimately able to be selected for the position.

"This has really been the highlight of my career, so far."

Heinrich, who gives credit to Dwight for being a large part of his journey, is extremely happy with his career path.

In fact, he continues to push this path all across the world.

"I feel very blessed to be able to do this. It fills me with a great sense of purpose," Heinrich said. "A purpose and also urgency because there are so many people that need our help. The need is never ending. "We continue to provide assistance throughout the world. While we're sitting comfortably in our homes, there are people around the world who need access to a better life."

WINES

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