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** ECRWSS **

Volume 24 • Number 1

Proudly serving the area since 1999

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Covid-19 strikes again

U.S. Postal Service has delivery issues



by Brandon LaChance

Covid-19 has slowed down, stopped, affected almost everyone and everything at this point.

Mail is the newest on the Covid hit list.

"Due to Covid-19, employees availability has impacted some delivery operations," read an automatic message played by the U.S. Post Office. "The postal service is mindful that customers are in need of timely delivery of mail, particularly mail conveying medications, merchandise packages, and first-class mail.

"We continue to monitor daily performance to ensure that mail delivery is returned to normal as soon as possible. Your local post office is doing everything it can to resume normal delivery with limited staff. Please be advised that our customer service representatives have no additional information pertaining to the operations at your local post office."

Many small-town post offices across the country have experienced this issue including Dwight, which didn't deliver mail for two days last week.

States such as Utah and Minnesota have said they're in search of more postal employees to avoid a mail delivery issue.

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

Last holiday tournament in Marseilles

Dwight, Seneca lose championship games

by Brandon LaChance

All good things must come to an end...is what they say at

For the high school boys basketball Marseilles Holiday Tournament, December 2021 was the last time Marseilles Elementary School would host the high school tourney.

"This started because of a project I had to do for an administration class," said Jeff Owens, who retired in July after 16 years as the Marseilles Elementary School principal and athletic director. "This gym is an asset to the community. It's huge. I still say it's one of the best gyms in La Salle County. You have Kingman Gym (Ottawa High School), Dr. AJ Sellett Memorial Gymnasium (La Salle-Peru High School), and Streator has a nice

"For a town without a high school, this gym is an absolute asset. The new seats are great and it's a great way for the community to make some money."

Owens started the tournament in 2009. The only year basketballs didn't bounce every day all day through the last week of December was in 2020 because of Covid-19.

Otherwise, Owens and his crew maintained their agenda of making a tournament that creates memories for everyone inside the gym.

"We're making memories for kids. Any athlete knows where they played during Christmas time," Owens said. "I played in the Colmone Classic. It's played during finals week right before Christmas break in Spring Valley (Hall High School).

"I had my career high of 18 points against St. Bede in 1982. You remember that stuff. I would love to see this tournament carry on. We're making memories for the kids and their families.'

Dwight coach Jeremy Connor has taken the Trojans to Marseilles in two of his three years at the helm.

However, he has been to many games at the annual event as a junior varsity coach or as a varsity assistant coach.

"I really like this tournament in Marseilles. Jeff Owens runs it really well," Connor said. "I kind of liked the idea that there wasn't a home court advantage for anyone since there isn't a Marseilles High School. I really liked that. It evens out the playing field. Having 16 teams where everyone is guaranteed four games. It all worked out well.

"In 2014, Dwight played Reed-Custer for the championship. I think Dwight lost 101-100 or something like that, without an overtime. That's just how the game went. Dwight



DTHS TROJANS Dawson Carr, Jack Groves and Kaleb Duden move the ball down the court against opponent Serena during the Marseilles Holiday Tournament. j7Images

missed a shot with one second left on the clock. I think it was voted as one of the most remembered games in the tournament."

During halftime of the championship game on Thursday between Seneca and Flanagan-Cornell, a tribute video was played for Owens as coaches, players and family members congratulated him on the 12 years of success.

Owens said the video and the sentiment he's received has been extremely touching, but he's not done yet.

The self-titled tournament director in transit is already figuring out a game plan for next year's tournament as he is sticking with his administration class project.

"Todd (Hopkins, Marquette Academy Athletic Director) and Brook (Rick, Marquette Superintendent) sat down and were very eager. They want to bring the tournament to Marquette," Owens said. "It's great because I'm going to need their help and support.

'We're already talking about how we make it a positive experience for everybody. We're going to do our best. I don't know if we'll always be a 16team tournament. People come and go every year. There is a team who wants to get out now so they're closer to home. Coaches change and they want to take their team where their buddies are. We have had that

forever and the tournament continued.

"I'm going to work hard. I think I've proven over 12 years that I'm going to do what I can to make it the best experience for the kids, the teams, the coaches, and the families.'

Marseilles Holiday Tournament Championship Flanagan-Cornell 47, Seneca 39

The Fighting Irish came out firing and had an 11-4 lead in the first quarter, had a 24-18 lead at halftime and held the advantage until the end of the third quarter when the Falcons hit a 3-pointer for a 32-30 edge.

Seneca was not able to re-(continued on page 10)

Sales Tax Receipts Continue Recovery

by Tom Tock

Sales tax receipts for Dwight in the third quarter, July, August, September, of 2021 were up appreciably from the some- Dwight, Livingston County, what-quarantined third quarter had sales tax collections during of 2020. Other communities showed similiar gains.

sales tax receipts for Dwight that category was \$14,321. (No were \$313,863. The third figures were available for the quarter sales tax in 2020 Grundy County part of amounted to only \$252,865.

The sales tax category of

quarter of 2020 the comparable figure was \$86,850.

Drinking & Eating Places in the third quarter of 2021 totaling \$24,519. The third quarter The third quarter 2021 total of 2020 sales tax collected in Dwight.)

Drugs and Miscellaneous Automotive & Filling Stations Retail earned \$48,078 in sales in Dwight, Livingston County, tax revenue during the third Herscher 100,228

produced \$91,599. In the third quarter of 2021. The corresponding figure was \$17,435 in the third quarter of 2020.

3rd Quarter Sales Tax

_	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Dwight \$3	313,863	252,865
Fairbury 2	206,956	203,685
Pontiac	829,423	740,198
Odell	16,528	10,843
Saunemin	7,167	3,749
Gardner	85,761	54,548
Mazon	24,991	14,040
Morris 1	,920,794	1,646,664
So. Wil.	13,960	6,749
Llorgobor	100 220	106 610

Van Vessen **Auto Expo Closes**

by Tom Tock

The used-vehicle business owned by Kirk and Debbie Van Vessen at 101 Watters Drive in Dwight has closed. The Van Vessens, of Munster, Indiana, opened the business in July of

Prior to the Auto Expo, the property in Dwight was the site of a Dodge/Chrysler/Jeep dealership owned by Tom Dempsey, who operates a similar dealership in Plano.

Dempsey told The Paper that future use of the Dwight property has not been determined.

The Van Vessens had been in the new and used car business prior to coming to Dwight.

The Paper was not succssful in repeated attempts to contact Kirk Van Vessen in Munster.





WARM UP WITH A HOT MEAL FROM THE DELI!



YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW.

Year in Review 2021 • JANUARY •

Studio 134

Moves to Its New Home Studio 134 Co-Owners Angela D. Turner and Jodi Livingston Baldauf, along with their colleague Jillian Kambic, welcomed everyone to their new location – 146 East Main Street in

What began as a small business partnership between two young entrepreneurs from Dwight over 24 years ago, has transformed into a fullservice premier salon.

DCS/DTHS Approves Blue Sky Solar Energy **Tax Abatement**

The Boards of Education for Dwight Common School District #232, Dwight Township High School District #230, and Gardner-South Wilmington High School District #73 all approved a tax abatement request from Blue Sky Solar Energy, LLC.

The Blue Sky Solar Project, impacting 2,700 acres of farmland in Grundy County between Dwight and Gardner as the largest proposed solar farm in Illinois, is expected to bring substantial new money to area school districts each year after agreed upon tax abatement incentives are gone

Dwight Fire Responds to

Vehicle vs. Train Collision Dwight Fire Protection District and Dwight

EMS were dispatched to a vehicle versus train incident the morning of January 21, at a railroad crossing at the cross roads of East 3200 North Road and East 3300 North Road.

The vehicle was rolled over in the ditch, fully involved in fire, upon DFPD's arrival. Upon extinction of fire, one male was found deceased in the driver's seat.

DFPD Fire Chief Paul Johnson reported that it appeared as if the vehicle crossed the tracks and was hit by the train.

#TeamLore

Continues Support, Fight

"Fight Song" by Rachel Platten was the anthem song sung by the Heritage Woods of Dwight staff, as one of their own, Lore Stone, was fighting a battle with breast cancer.

Lore, a dietary aide who has worked in the kitchen for almost four years, was shown support from Heritage Woods in the form of employees (continued on page 2)

FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

December 24: April N. Szalmasagi, 37, Bourbonnais, driving 21-25 MPH above

December 25: Nathan P. Dettmann, 25, Dwight, operate uninsured motor vehicle.

December 26: Harrison M. Giese, 19, Kankakee, driving 21-25 MPH above limit.

December 27: Rebecca C. Britz, 38, Emington, fail obey stop sign.

December 29: Raymond Johnson, 21, Bloomington, fail obey stop sign.

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

8 Written Warnings

Speeding – 3; Disobey Stop Sign – 3; Improper Turn Signal – 1; Only One Headlight –

Dwight Police Blotter

December 24: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of Bannon Dr. for trespassing.

December 26: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of W. William St. Arrested for Domestic Battery was Dillon Colman, 25, of Dwight. Colman was taken to Livingston Cty. Jail.

Medical Aid – 4; Traffic Stop - 14; Reckless Driver -3; Cell 911 Hang Up – 2; Verbal Domestic -1; Drive Off -1; Assist Agency – 1; Trespassing – 1; Problem with Subject – 1; Lockout – 4; Criminal Damage -1; Walk In -6; Funeral Escort – 1; Well Being Check – 1; CO Detector – 1; Suspicious Subject – 1; Accident – 1; 911 Open Cell -2; Return Call -5; Follow Up – 1; Out with Vehicle - 1; Property Retrieval - 1; Animal – 1; Domestic Physical - 1; Fire Alarm - 1; Loose Dog - 1; Extra Patrol - 2; Unknown Problem - 1; Check

Accident Report

Monday, December 27, 10:05 a.m., an accident was reported at N. Union St. and E. Mazon Ave. involving a 2014 Ford pickup, driven by Ethan Ward, of Canton, which struck a 2014 Subaru, driven by Alondra Retana, of Aurora, after the engine revved up and rearended the Subaru. Both vehicles were disabled.



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

December 23: Mazon, trauma, Morris; Grundy, trauma, Morris, mutual aid to Gardner; Prairie, medical, refusal, mutual aid to Odell.

December 24: Prairie, medical, refusal; Spencer, trauma, Morris; Mazon, medical, refusal; Prospect, trauma, refusal; Chippewa, trauma, refusal.

December 25: Industry, trauma, Morris, mutual aid to Gardner; Prairie, trauma, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; I-55, fire, mutual aid to Gardner; Mazon, fire; Franklin, medical, refusal.

December 26: William, trauma, St. James; William, trauma, refusal; Mazon, medical, Morris; Clinton, trauma, refusal; Waupansie, trauma, re-

December 27: Prairie, fire, mutual aid to Odell; John, medical, Morris; Prairie, medical, refusal; Mazon, trauma, refusal; Watters, trauma, St. James; Chippewa, fire; James, medical, RMC.

December 28: South, medical, St. James; I-55, trauma, refusal; 2500 N. Rd., trauma, refusal, mutual aid to Odell; Mazon, fire; Mazon, medical,

December 29: Camelot, fire, mutual aid to Gardner.

December James, trauma, refusal.



Temps - 2021

Dec. 24 – high 47°, low 17° Dec. 25 – high 57°, low 40° Dec. 26 – high 50°, low 28° Dec. 27 – high 42°, low 34° .18" precip.

Dec. 28 – high 45°, low 30° Dec. 29 - high 34°, low 31° 2" snow

Dec. 30 – high 32°, low 28° trace snow

One Year Ago-Jan. 5, 2021 high 32°, low 23°



Dwight Fire Incidents 12/25 - 12/30

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:

December 25: Mutual Aid to Gardner - canceled en route; Automatic Fire Alarm - E. Mazon Ave.; Carbon Monoxide Detector Activated Franklin.

December 27: Motor Vehicle Accident – E. Mazon Ave.; Carbon Monoxide Detector Activated – W. Chippewa.

December 28: Motor Vehicle Accident - I-55; Automatic Fire Alarm – E. Mazon Ave.

December 29: Mutual Aid to Gardner - canceled en route; Mutual Aid to Coal City.

December 30: Carbon Monoxide Detector Activated -

W. Chippewa. Dwight FPD also responded to 16 medical assists with Dwight EMS.



THIS HOUSE IN DWIGHT has an original steel roof, with Lustron Homes post-war enamels steel throughout. Everything is steel, even the kitchen cabinets, doors, walls, and ceilings, while the floors are almost always concrete. It is said that the house could be erected in four to five days. This local home is even more rare, as it has the original steel roof panels. Lustron Homes produced some of the first homes made out of metal in the U.S. The idea for the homes, which were a major hit, was brought to life by Carl Strandlund who realized that G.I.s were returning from World War II and there weren't enough homes on the market to meet demand. Lustron Homes produced over 2,000 durable, low maintenance homes between 1947 and 1950. There are also two remaining Lustron Homes in Pontiac. Andy Kelleher photo

ISP Investigate Murder of Bradley Police Officer

(ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Zone 3 is investigating an officer involved shooting (OIS) involving officers from the Bradley Police Department (BPD).

On December 30, at approximately 12:20 a.m., ISP DCI Zone 3 was requested to investigate the shooting of two police officers from the Bradley Police Department. Preliminary reports indicate that BPD officers responded to a hotel in the 1500 block of North State Highway 50 for a noise complaint. While investigating the incident, BPD officers initiated a conversation with subjects inside of the hotel. During the interaction, Sergeant Marlene R. Rittmanic, a 49-year old female, and Officer Tyler J. Bailey, a 27-year old male, were fired upon.

Sergeant Rittmanic and Officer Bailey sustained serious injuries after being struck by gunfire and were transported to area hospitals for treatment.

The Illinois State Police cumbed to her injuries. Officer Bailey remains in critical condition at the hospital as of press time.



Sergeant Rittmanic

A procession was held in honor of Sergeant Rittmanic on December 30.

The officers were investigating a report of dogs barking in an unattended vehicle in the parking lot of the hotel, locating the room where the possible vehicle owner was staying Sergeant Rittmanic later suc- and were subsequently shot



Officer Tyler J. Bailey

while talking to the people in that room.

ISP Zone 3 Agents obtained Kankakee County arrest warrants for Darius D. Sullivan, a 25-year old male of Bourbonnais, and Xandria A. Harris, a 26-year old female of Bradley, in relation to this incident.

On the morning of December 31, Sullivan was arrested at a residence in North Manchester, Indiana, 110 miles east of Bradley, surrendering to a SWAT team assisted by U.S. marshals. Arrangements were made to extradite Sullivan from Indiana to Kankakee County.

That same day, at approximately 4:00 p.m., Harris, who was suspected of being at the hotel during the incident, accompanied by her attorney, turned herself in at the Bradley Police Department and was taken into custody by the ISP DCI Zone 3 Investigators. She will remain in custody and will be held at the Jerome D. Combs Adult Detention Facility in Kankakee.

Two others were arrested for interfering with the search for Sullivan and Harris. Nichele Newton-Carrol (Sullivan's mother), 42, and Jelman Sullivan, 21, now face obstruction of justice charges.

The Paper ... connecting the area's 21 communities.



Area - 1.

Max B Sulzberger

Financial Advisor

100 W Main St Dwight, IL 60420 815-584-1414

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> Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

What Should You Know About Investment Risk?

When you invest, you incur risk – there's no avoiding it. But the concept of "risk" may be more expansive than you realized. And by understanding the different types of investment risk and how these risks can be addressed, you can improve your skills as an investor. The most common perception of investment risk is simply the risk of losing money. When you invest in stocks and

stock-based vehicles, such as mutual funds, there are no guarantees that your principal - your initial investment amount will be preserved. Generally speaking, if you hold stocks or mutual funds over a period of years, and even decades,

you can reduce the likelihood of sustaining losses that could send your investments' value to zero. Hopefully, the value of your investments will rise over time. And it's worth noting that, since the Great Depression, U.S. stocks have averaged 9.59% annual returns, according to Morningstar Direct, an investment research service. However, past performance can't In any case, this type of risk is real, and it's a factor to consider when making your investment decisions. But you can't avoid all risk by avoiding stocks and putting your money into other types of investments. Consider bonds, for example,

When you purchase a bond, you typically receive regular interest payments and you get back your initial investment when the bond matures, provided the issuer doesn't default. But if interest rates go up and you want to sell your bond before it matures, you'll have to offer it at a "discount," because no one will pay the full price for your bond when they can buy new ones at a higher rate. You can help manage this type of interest rate risk by owning a variety of bonds with different maturities. When interest

rates are rising, you can reinvest your short-term bonds at the new, higher rates. And in a falling-rate environment, you can still benefit from your longer-term bonds, which typically pay higher interest rates. Foreign or international investments also contain specific risks. When you purchase foreign stocks, you'll find that

fluctuations in the value of currencies relative to the U.S. dollar can affect your returns. Also, international investments may carry political risk, since some foreign governments and political systems may change in ways that work against businesses in those countries. To contain these types of risk, you'll want to maintain an appropriate allocation of international holdings and diversify across regions.

Ultimately, your most broad-based defense against all types of risk is to build a diversified portfolio containing U.S. stocks, international stocks, corporate bonds, mutual funds, government securities and other investments. Diversification works because it helps reduce the impact that market volatility can have on your portfolio if you only own one type of asset, such as domestic stocks. (However, diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.) And you'll also want your portfolio to reflect your individual tolerance for risk.

By being aware of the different types of risk, and taking steps to mitigate them, you can create a strategy that offers the potential to help you achieve your important goals, such as a comfortable retirement. And by doing so, you'll avoid the greatest risk of all: not investing for your future.

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

Gas Prices For This Week

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR GAS PRICES IN

It's not exactly good news. 2022 may bring more sharp increases to gas prices - straining motorists' wallets even more than the steep hikes of 2021. A national average of \$4 per gallon is possible this spring, largely due to pandemic recovery and rising demand before relief, or additional oil supply, arrives later in 2022. GasBuddy expects the 2022 yearly national average gas price will rise from 2021's \$3.02 to \$3.41 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline is forecast to climb early in the year. After a hot start to the summer, prices should begin to decline, falling back to potentially just under \$3 per gallon by the holidays.

C' /7 7'11	т	D 1 20
City/Village	January 5	December 29
Dwight	\$3.22	\$3.21
Kankakee	\$3.26	\$3.21
Streator	\$3.32	\$3.33
Pontiac	\$3.22	\$3.24
Gardner	\$3.39	\$3.42
Braceville	\$2.92	\$3.01
Morris	\$3.27	\$3.31
Herscher	\$3.43	\$3.43
Chicago	\$3.46	\$3.53
Illinois	\$3.33	\$3.38
U.S.	\$3.29	\$3.29
Sources: GasRu	ddy com and IIS Fr	navov Information Admini

 $Sources:\ Gas Buddy.com\ and\ U.S.\ Energy\ Information\ Administration.$

Gasoline price data collected by



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www.thepaper1901.com Mark and Mary Boma

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• Publishers •

YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...

Year in Review 2021 • JANUARY•

(continued from page 1) making, and wearing, "This Is My Fight Shirt" t-shirts, in addition to the staff putting together an essential care basket with tolietries and food for Lore, along with monetary donations.

Joyce Named **Chair of Senate Agriculture Committee** State Senator Patrick Joyce (D-Essex) was

elected to serve as chair of the Senate Agricul-

ture Committee in the 102nd General Assembly.

"As a fourth-generation farmer, I am honored to chair the Senate Agriculture Committee," Joyce said, vowing to be a strong representative to address critical matters affecting Illinois' food supply chain.

• F E B R U A R Y •

Dwight Receives IL Strong Communities Grant

The Dwight Village Board approved and accepted a grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authorit's Strong Communities Program. The grant, in the amount of \$60,000, is to be used by the Village of Dwight to preserve affordable housing efforts by assisting with the rehabilitation and/or demolition of abandoned properties within the village.

Mona Township Board Honors Hamilton, Moritz

The Township of Mona, located in Ford County, extended its thanks to Road Commissioner Gerald "Woody" Hamilton and Trustee Ed Moritz for their many years (40+) of service to the community of Mona Township.

Anderson to Retire Dwight Mayoral Seat

After 23 years of service to the Village of Dwight, Mayor Jared Anderson has decided to not seek re-election and will be turning over the helm to someone new.

Anderson served Dwight for eight years on the Planning Commission, followed by three years on the Zoning Board. He then spent four years as a Trustee on Dwight's Village Board before running for Village President, where he served two four-year terms.

(continued on page 3)



Petition Packets for June 28 Primary Election in Livingston County Now Available

Livingston County Clerk June election. Signature re-Kristy Masching has announced that petition packets are now available in her office for nominations in the June 28, 2022, Primary Election.

The first day in which nomination papers (petitions) may be circulated is Thursday, January 13. Petitions may be obtained through Monday, March

Livingston County offices to appear on the ballot are County Board (18 members), County Clerk, Sheriff and Treasurer. Precinct Committeemeen will be elected at the quirements will be included in the packets for each office.

The first date that petitions may be filed in the County Clerk's Office for the aforementioned offices is Monday, March 7, starting at 8:00 a.m. The final deadline for filing is 5:00 p.m. Monday, March 14.

Additional information may be obtained from the County Clerk's office at 815-844-2006 or by visiting their website at livingstoncountyil.

gov (click on "County Services", "County Clerk" and "Elections").

Mobile Pantry in Dwight, Odell Monthly

St. Nicholas Mobile Pantry, products, and baby products. a ministry of Catholic Charities, serves those in need in the Diocese of Peoria. The van stops in Dwight, in the parking lot of St. Patrick Church, and Odell, in the St. Paul Church parking lot, on the second Thursday afternoon of each month.

This month, the date is Thursday, January 13.

Individuals are given items such as blankets, socks, cleaning products, personal hygiene Charities.

These items may change monthly depending on needs and what is donated.

You must fill out an application in order to utilize this monthly service. You can do so at cdop.org/catholic-charities. Click on Region 3 and then the Link button.

If you need assistance, contact the Diocese at 309-671-1550 and ask for Catholic

Senate Redistricting Committee Chair: Federal Court to Uphold Fair Map

Best

the Senate Redistricting Committee, has issued the following statement regarding the Federal Court decision to uphold the state's legislative maps:

"This ruling from the court confirms what we have said all along: this is a fair map that reflects the wide diversity of our

Senator Omar Aquino, Chair of great state. We thank the judges for their thoughtful ruling, as well as the many individuals, advocacy groups and stakeholders from across Illinois who helped shape this map by sharing their insights and expertise. This map cements our state's dedication to ensuring all communities are represented

Secretary of State Depts. Driver Services Facilities **Closed Through January 17 Due to Increase in COVID-19 Cases**

Due to an increase in COVID-19 cases statewide, Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that all Secretary of State departments will not conduct in-person transactions - including Driver Services facilities – through January 17, 2022. All departments and Driver Services facilities will reopen Tuesday,

January 18. White is encouraging the public to visit ilsos.gov for online services. Online transactions will remain open for all departments to conduct office services, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Renewing a license plate
- Renewing a driver's license or ID card for those who qualify (individuals may call 217-785-1424 to confirm their

eligibility or to obtain their

- Obtaining a duplicate driver's
- license or ID card. · Obtaining a driver record ab-
- Filing Business Services documents, such as incorporations and annual reports.

In addition, the Drivers and Vehicles Services hotline phone number will remain open at 800-252-8980. Customers with issues involving administrative hearings may email adminhearings@il sos.gov or call 312-793-3722 or 217-782-7065.

As a reminder, White has extended all driver's license and ID card expiration dates to March 31, 2022. This extension does not apply to commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and CDL learner's permits.

"After careful consideration and out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to close all Driver Services facilities January 3 through January 17, 2022, due to the spike in COVID-19 cases," said White. "The health and safety of employees and the public remains paramount, and face-to-face transactions potentially increase the further spread of the virus. Our goal is to safely reopen all offices and Driver Services facilities on January 18 for face-to-face transac-

In addition, White greatly ilsos.gov.

expanded remote renewal for driver's license and ID card holders. Since this fall, White's office mailed letters to eligible customers with expired driver's licenses and ID cards requiring them to renew online, by phone or by mail. The office estimates that this helps to eliminate the need for approximately one million people to visit a facil-

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

For more information, visit



Dwight Economic Alliance

- Three seats on Dwight Economic Alliance Board set for election on January 18, 2022.
- There are no requirements for the board except passion for small towns, loving what you're doing, and making a differ-
- To pick up an application, questions, or return the application, DEA office is located at 132 E. Main Street, Dwight, IL 60420, call 815-584-1830,
- or e-mail DwightEAStaff@gmail.com.

RAFFLE Prize Pool Over \$7,880 **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** Drawing every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at the Mess Hall or Legion Bar until drawing Cullom American Legion • 815-848-7122

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Come see us in Dwight. 204 E. Chippewa St.

The Paper

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JANUARY 19, 2022

Special pages in

The Paper

Your Guide to

With a circulation of over 10,000 homes, don't miss the opportunity to inform area residents about your senior programs.

HEALTHY, HAPPY

SENIOR LIVING

- January Special -



for new members

for annual

renewals

For the month of January, Godley Park District annual fitness memberships will be 50% off for new members that have not held a membership (yearly or monthly) in the past year.

All annual renewals will be 10% off.

Fitness Center Amenities include:

- Weight Machines
- · Free Weights
- · Kettlebells
- Cardio Equipment · Flat Screen TV's with Satellite
- Men's & Women's Locker Rooms with Showers
- · Free access to gymnasium when available.

Visit our facility anytime during the month of January to take advantage of this limited time discount. The Fitness Center is available during the hours that the Community Center is open.



Godley Park District

500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley, IL 60407 www.godleypark.com • 815-458-6129.

The deadline for space is noon on Friday, January 14. For more information call The Paper at 815-584-1901 or email thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net **YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...**

• FEBRUARY•

(continued from page 2)

DTHS Settles Civil Lawsuit Regarding Student/Teacher Allegations

The DTHS Board of Education approved a Settlement of Agreement and Release with "James Doe" concerning alleged misconduct by a teacher of the District.

"The Board has denied and continues to deny any wrongdoing," Dr. Richard Jancek, Superintendent of Dwight Public Schools, said. "The Board believes that settlement of this matter is in all of the parties' best interests."

The Board, and its insurance carrier, agreed to pay \$300,000 to the Plaintiff to resolve all outstanding issues between the Plaintiff and the Board, "forever discharging" the DTHS Board, its members, and DTHS District #230 "from any and all matters of action and causes of action" related to the charges.

Kankakee County Museum Names New Director

Veronica E. Featherston, of Manteno, was chosen by the Kankakee County Historical Society's Board of Directors as the next Executive Director of the Kankakee County Museum, succeeding long-time Executive Director, Connie Licon, who retired at the end of April.

Tech-Ni-Kolor Owner Larry Seabert Retires; **Nate Bissey Takes Over Ownership**

Nate Bissey is the proud new owner of Tech-Ni-Kolor in Dwight, taking over the reigns from Larry Seabert, who has retired after 23 years of owning and operating the business.

Bissey, who was employed by Seabert for 10 years, kept the staff at Tech-Ni-Kolor.

Kayla Kodat Joins **1,000 Point Club**

Dwight Lady Trojan, Kayla Kodat, is the newest member of the 1,000 Point Club at Dwight Township High School, achieving the milestone in a 22-point performance against Iroquois West February 11.

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

An OnStar notification to Vermilion Valley 911 Dispatch led to Dwight Fire Protection District, Dwight EMS, and Dwight Police Depart-(continued on page 4)

Area COVID-19 Stats as of January 3

	J		_
	Total Tests		
<u>Town</u>	Performed	<u>Cases</u>	
Dwight	20,857	891	
Herscher	5,138	392	
Gardner	4,626	389	
Odell	4,762	297	
Mazon	3,328	280	
Braceville	3,417	264	Numbers
Essex	2,196	204	
S. Wilmington	1,770	138	as of
Saunemin	2,183	110	1/3/21
Cullom	2,560	107	Statistics via
Verona	1,404	104	Statistics via
Reddick	1,668	100	dph.illinois.go
Cabery	1,569	94	
Ransom	1,440	88	
Buckingham	1,275	85	
Kempton	1,328	74	
Emington	949	71	
Blackstone	926	49	
Kinsman	1,025	36	
Campus	669	23	
Union Hill	228	14	
County	Tostad	Casas	Dooths

County	Tested	<u>Cases</u>	Deaths
Kankakee	396,768	22,538	292
LaSalle	377,981	19,108	321
Grundy	124,612	9,736	101
Livingston	192,031	7,317	115
Iroquois	89,730	5,420	90
Ford	56,201	3,105	59

Illinois - Confirmed Cases: 2,149,548; Deaths: 27,821; Probable Deaths: 3,196; Total Tests Performed: 44,469,630.

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.

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DWIGHT VFW POST 2608 506 S. Old Rt. 66 • 815-584-9807

Morris Hospital Reports Record-Breaking COVID Numbers

U.S. and Illinois are averaging the highest number of new COVID cases a day, Morris Hospital is also reporting unprecedented COVID activity.

Twice this past week, more than 50% of the COVID tests administered through Morris Hospital were positive, the highest positivity rates seen at the hospital to date. On December 29, Morris Hospital reported 44 hospitalized COVID patients, the highest since the start of the pandemic. And the next day, 12 COVID patients were in the ICU, also the highest to date. The hospital's Intensive Care Unit is equipped with 12 beds.

At the same time, Morris Hospital is also experiencing its longest stretch of high overall inpatient volumes. On all but

In the same week that the three days over the past month, the overall inpatient census has been above 70 patients. Prior to November 29, there were only four days throughout all of 2021 with an inpatient census above

> Like most healthcare organizations, Morris Hospital is also experiencing a severe staffing shortage, with the highest vacancies for RNs and CNAs. Coupled with employee illness, the extreme number of staff vacancies only exacerbates an already challenging situation and prompted the hospital to postpone all elective surgeries and interventional radiology procedures from December 29-January 5 in order to re-deploy staff to inpatient care.

When asked what the community can do to help, Mark

Steadham, President & CEO of Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers says the most common plea he hears from physicians who oversee the care of hospitalized COVID patients is vac-

In addition to vaccination, all of the preventive measures that have been instilled since the start of the pandemic continue to be important: wear a mask and keep your distance in public places, carefully consider how and when you gather, stay home if you are sick, and wash your hands frequently, esecially after touching shared surfaces.

Main Entrance

IDPH Notifies Area Health Departments of Changes to Contact Tracing

Public Health (IDPH) is working to centralize COVID-19 contact tracing efforts in order to get information about isolation and identifying close contacts to infected individuals as soon as possible during times when cases are surging, and to decrease the burden on local

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The IDPH has notified area health departments that there will be changes to contact tracing. IDPH will centralize case investigation and contact tracing to the state Surge Center. As of December 28, all positive cases will receive an automated text message that states the following:

"IDPH COVID: There is important info for you. Call 312-777-1999 or click: https://

dph.illinois.gov/covid19/com munity-guidance/confirmed-orpossible-covid-19.html"

Individuals who call the number in the text will be considered as "opting in" for an interview. Those who are 65+ will get an additional text message if the initial message does not result in a response. If

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 Dwight Vision Care Center, located at 110 E. Main St., Dwight, IL 60420.

Dated this 10th day of December, 2021.

Kristy A. Masching Livingston County Clerk

The Illinois Department of health departments across the state. someone has tested positive and they have not received a call or text message, they can call 312-777-

> Most positive cases and close contacts will speak with the IDPH Surge Center staff during the contact tracing process. Area health departments will still be involved in handling some cases, including outbreaks and clusters, and are still

awaiting some details about the logistics of these changes and will keep the public updated as more is

Additionally, local health departments will continue to have oversight of schools, daycares, and congregate setting, including assistance with mitigation strategies and outbreak management.

IDPH Adopts CDC Recommendations for Isolation and Quarantine

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is adopting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation to reduce the number of days for isolation and quarantine for the general public.

The CDC updated its recommendation on December 27, 2021, to decrease isolation for people who test positive from 10 days to five days if they do not have symptoms (may include fever, chills, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, body aches, loss of taste and/or smell) but must continue to mask for five days after isolation

These recommendations apply to all individuals, including those who are unvaccinated or are not boosted even though they are eligible. The CDC also recommended reducing quarantine from 10 days to five days for those who are close contacts to a COVID-19 case and have no symptoms, but individuals should continue to mask for five days after quarantine ends. Individuals who have received two doses of either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech, or one dose of Johnson & Johnson, as well as their booster, do not need to quarantine after close contact with a case, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the expo-

For people who have had close

contact to a case, public health of-

ficials recommend testing at day five after exposure. If a person develops symptoms, they should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not caused by COVID-19. Both updates come as the Omi-

cron variant continues to spread throughout the U.S. and reflects the current science on when and for how long a person is most infectious.

Individuals can visit www. vaccines.gov to find a nearby location to receive a vaccine or booster dose. Testing locations can be found at https://dph.illinois.gov /covid19/testing.html, including information on the days and hours for free Community-based Testing



SUNDAY NIGHTS Beginning January 2

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<u> YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW</u>

• FEBRUARY•

(continued from page 3)

ment, along with Livingston County PD, to an early-morning accident February 20 near the intersection of Verona Road and 3300 North Road.

Upon arrival, the driver was not located. However, the subject was eventually located in a combined effort with all of the agencies. He was in severe hypothermia laying in a snow bank. After being removed from the elements, the subject remained in the care of Dwight EMS until a helicopter arrived on scene to transport the patient to Christ Hospital.

• MARCH•

Time Out for the Sea Turtles

Personnel from Ranch Cryogenics, Inc., Dwight/Blackstone helped save thousands of sea turles which had washed up on Texas beaches due to the windy, freezing weather that struck the gulf coast relentlessly.

The crew had been working at the Space X launch site nearby, when they joined hundreds of other volunteers who waded in to rescue the sea turtles, some weighing hundreds of pounds, which cannot survive in prolonged temperatures below 50°.

Jerry Curtis, Paul Johnson Seek Election as Dwight's Village President

The April 6 Consolidated Election featured two candidates vying for the opportunity to serve as Dwight's Village President: Jerry Curtis and Paul Johnson.

Barickman Works With Local Mead

Producers to Advance Legislation to Grow Jobs State Senator Jason Barickman (R-Blooming-

ton) is working to clear red-tape that is holding back businesses that produce mead – a wine-like beverage made from honey.

Senate Bill 297, legislation inspired by Un-

possible Mead, a meadery in Dwight, allows licensed producers of mead and/or cider to selfdistribute up to 5,000 gallons to local breweries that sell their products directly to consumers. The legislation also updates state law regarding the classification of mead.

"This will help our business to grow and expand," said Brian Galbreath, owner of Unpossible Mead, "and help create additional jobs."

DCS Students Return to the Classroom

On March 17, one year to the day of Illinois Governor Pritzker mandating that all schools (continued on page 6)

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STREATOR ONIZED CREDIT UNION made a generous donation to the Dwight Salvation Army campaign. In the photo, Gene Mortensen, Campaign Chairman, receives a \$2,500 check from Nichole Williams, SOCU employee. Dwight's SOCU Branch Manager Chantell Watenpaugh was on hand for the presentation and willingly took the photo. The campaign runs from Thanksgiving to Christmas and has been blessed with many generous donations. Gene sends his thanks to all who have participated in one way or another to make the campaign a huge success. If anyone wishes to make a last minute donation, send your check, made out to Dwight Salvation Army, to Gene Mortensen at 315 North Clinton Street, Dwight, IL 60420.

Community Fund of Sullivan Township Receives \$4,200 in 2021 Donations

The Unit 122 Community 501c3 charitable organization, project sponsored by Skinner Trost Auxiliary Unit 122, a December 31, 2021.

WWW.FRAHERAUTOS.COM

Fund of Sullivan Township, a has received donations totaling \$4,200.00 for the year ending

ing from these donations are: Livingston County Heart Fund, American Red Cross Blood Bank, Livingston County Cancer Fund, IHR, American Red Cross, The Salvation Army – Pontiac, MS, Cullom Senior Citizens, SHOW Bus, Cullom Food Pantry, Cullom Historical Society, and Cullom Beckman

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'20 F150 Crew Lariat, 9K, 4WD\$53,900	
'19 F250 Crew Lariat, 47K, 4WD, 4" Lift\$58,900	
'19 F150 Crew Lariat, 8K, 4WD, Special Ed\$54,900	
'19 F150 Crew XLT, 14K, 4WD\$43,900	
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 63K, 4WD\$31,900	
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 47K, 4WD, 8' Bed, HD Susp\$37,900	
'18 F150 Crew King Ranch, 32K, 4WD\$54,900	
'05 Ranger XL, 113K\$,9,900	
'99 F150 Reg Cab. 104K. 4WD\$1.900	

MOTORCYCLES	
8 Harley Davidson XL 1200C, 5K	\$4,900



'05 Ranger XL, 113K

CARS

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

VANS and SHVS

<u>vans and suvs</u>			
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'20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD	\$48,900		
'20 Escape Titanium, 8K, AWD	\$36,900		
'20 Explorer XLT, 31K, RWD	\$34,900		
'19 Nautilus Reserve, 13K, AWD	\$49,900		
'19 MKC Reserve, 5K, AWD	\$39,900		
'17 Edge Titanium, 81K, AWD	\$25,900		
'14 Escape SE, 156K, FWD	\$10,900		
'14 Escape SE, 92K, FWD	\$14,900		
'14 Escape SE, 103K, FWD	\$13,900		
'13 Edge LTD, 128K, AWD	\$13,900		
'12 Explorer LTD, 114K, 4WD	\$14,900		
'10 Escape LTD, 201K, 4WD	\$6,900		
'07 FJ Cruiser, 256K	\$8,900		

Tri-Point Board of Education Announces Hiring of New Superintendent

The Tri-Point School Board of Education has announced that it has selected and hired the new superintendent of Tri-Point Board Unit District 6J at the December School Board meeting on December 15.

Current Superintendent Jeff Bryan is retiring after nine years with the school district. Jay Bennett will replace Bryan effective July 1, 2022.

Employed for the past nine years as principal of Tri-Point Upper Elementary/Junior High School, Bennett previously spent 13 years teaching junior high social studies and coaching high school volleyball in Rantoul.

"The Board of Education is excited that Jay will be our new leader for Tri-Point. Great things are happening in our school district and Mr. Bennett has played a vital role in those changes, such as standard based grading and implementing a STEM Lab at the Junior High," said Board President Cherie Smolkovich. "I'm excited to begin this journey with Mr. Bennett as Superintendent. He brings a spirit of teamwork, and a commitment to our faculty, staff and students."

The upper elementary/junior high school where Bennett currently serves as principal happens to also be where he attended school as a student during junior high school and his freshman year of high



TRI-POINT Upper Elementary/Junior High School Principal Jay Bennett was hired as superintendent of the Tri-Point school district, effective July 1, 2022, upon Superintendent Jeff Bryan's retirement, during the school board's December 15 meeting. Congratulating Jay Bennett is School Board President Cherie Smolkovich.

school. During the 1991-92 school year, the Piper City school building was known as Ford Central High School/Junior High School. It would be the final school year for the Ford Central school district, which dissolved in 1992.

A Thawville native, Bennett went on to attend Iroquois West High School, graduating in 1995. He then earned a bache-

lor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in school leadership from the University of Illinois.

The selection is the result of a national search conducted with the assistance of the Illinois Association of School Boards that produced applicants from diverse geographic and professional backgrounds.

LTLD Holding Winter Reading Challenge

Break up the dark and fle baskets that are built on the gloom of winter with a reading challenge at Limestone Township Library District (LTLD).

As of January 3, they are having a Winter Reading Challenge that runs through February 5. They are working their way towards understanding the Danish "quality of coziness and comfortable conviviality that engenders a feeling of contentment or well-being," otherwise known as hygge (hue-gah).

There will be a variety of challenges found on the Beanstack app and log-in sheets at the library. These challenges will help patrons learn about hygge and how they can add these practices into their own lifestyle. As in past summer reading challenges, they are counting the number of minutes read. Every 100 minutes logged earns a

hygge theme. You can place your raffle tickets in whichever of the three baskets you want.

On Tuesday, January 11, at 6:30 p.m., they are having the Adult Book Club featuring Pug Actually by Matt Dunn. They will discuss this British romcom about a pug who decides to help his owner find true love and happiness.

Science Demo will air on Facebook Wednesday, January 12, at 6:00 p.m. with Ms. Faith and Ms. Holly. Watch as they demonstrate a science experiment using items you can find in your home. This program is for kids in first through fifth grades.

Every Saturday, they have a new take-it-and-make-it craft that anyone can pick up. The crafts are geared for children in Facebook or Instagram. Visit first through fifth grades. You ticket for one of their three raf- can always post your finished org, for more information.

product on Facebook or Instagram and tag Limestone Township Library District.

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

Masks are required for all visitors from the age of two and up while in the library building. Contactless Curbside Service is also available for those who want their check-outs taken to their vehicle.

Call the library to schedule your pick-up. Any questions? Call them at 815-939-1696, email them at info@limestone library.org, or message them at their website, limestonelibrary.



YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW

• M A R C H •

(continued from page 4)

would close their doors due to coronavirus, 92% of Dwight Common School students opted in to return to the classroom for full-time in-person

The District will receive \$359,000 in ESSER II Federal grant money to help pay for some additional items and services needed for a safe return to school.

GSW Spiritline Wins State,

Coach Leigh to Hall of Fame The GSW Spiritline team was recognized for

being Illinois Drill Team Association State Champs – winning in two separate categories. Coach Nicole Leigh was also inducted into the IDTA Hall of Fame.

Retirement Announcement of James Eskins

After 58 years of trucking (and over 5 million miles traveled), 44 of which employed with UPS, James "Jim" Eskins announced that he has retired.

Eskins was honored with a retirement cele-

bration in Odell March 27.

Dwight's 7th Grade Redbirds Conclude

Perfect Season The seventh grade Dwight Redbirds went 10-

during their 2021 campaign, shooting over 42% from the field, hauling in 251 rebounds, and swiping 117 steals as a team.

> **Cory Scoles Named Dwight Public Works Director**

Cory Scoles was named the new Public Works Director for the Village of Dwight. Scoles, previously a Dwight Public Works Water

and Sewer Operator, has been filling the position since the retirement of former PW Director Steve Kinkade.

• APRIL•

Streator Onized Credit Union Relocates The Dwight Branch of Streator Onized Credit

Union opened its doors at its new location, 107 East Chippewa Street, on April 12.

The Branch debuted inside the former D & J Foods in November 2007, then moved to 124 East Main Street, before settling in its current location.

(continued on page 7)

OBITUARIES

Kaus,

Elaine Fay Andersen

DWIGHT -Elaine Fay Andersen, 83, of Dwight, Illinois passed away December 31, 2021 at Evenglow Lodge in Pontiac, Illinois.

A private family service will be held at Hager Memorial Home in Dwight with Father Bill Kee-

bler officiating, with burial in Oaklawn Cemetery, Dwight.

Memorials in Elaine's name may be made to OSF Hospice or Oaklawn Cemetery.

Elaine was born January 22, 1938 in Coal City, Illinois, a daughter of Clarence and Ella (Lankers) Red. She married William P. Andersen on January 26, 1958 in Coal City, Illinois. William and Elaine were only separated for a few hours as he passed December 30,

Surviving are her children: Tammy (Scott) Klein of Vincennes, Indiana: Rick (Linda) Andersen of Odell; Debra (Steve) Bennett of Hudson: and Keith Andersen of Bloomington, Minnesota; grandchildren: Melissa Balvich, Katie

DWIGHT

William P. Ander-

sen, 84, of Dwight,

Illinois passed away

Thursday, Decem-

ber 30, 2021 at 8:12

a.m. at OSF St.

James John W. Al-

brecht Medical Cen-

Cemetery, Dwight.

arrangements.

cember 31, 2021.

A private family

Pontiac,

service will be held at Hager

Memorial Home in Dwight

with Father Bill Keebler offici-

ating, with burial in Oaklawn

Dwight, is in charge of

1937, in Chicago, Illinois, to

William John and Phyllis

(Snider) Andersen. He married

Elaine Red on January 26,

1958 in Coal City. William and

Elaine were only separated for

a few hours as she passed De-

Surviving are his children:

Tammy (Scott) Klein of Vin-

cennes, Indiana; Rick (Linda)

Andersen of Odell: Debra

(Steve) Bennett of Hudson;

and Keith Andersen of Bloom-

ington, Minnesota; grandchil-

dren: Melissa Balvich, Katie

(Shawn) Kaus, Megan (Brian)

Krug, Brian Andersen, Emily

Hager Memorial Home,

William was born August 8,

ter in

Illinois.



Also surviving are great-grandchildren: Allison Balvich, Adelaide Kaus. Jackson

Krug, and Charlotte Krug; sister-in-law, Linda Seerup of Mazon; brother-inlaw, Joe Theisen of Irrigon,

nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; identical twin sister, Eileen Theisen; and

Oregon; and several nieces and

brother-in-law, James Seerup. Elaine was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dwight. She graduated from Coal City High School in the class of 1957. She was a homemaker, helped William on the family farm, and decorated cakes for Clapp's Grocery Store in Dwight, Illinois.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Evenglow Lodge and OSF Hospice for all of their love and care given to Elaine.

Bennett and Court-

ing are great-grand-

Balvich, Adelaide

Kaus, Jackson Krug

and Charlotte Krug;

sister, Linda Seerup

of Mazon; brother-

in-law, Joe Theisen

of Irrigon, Oregon;

nieces

William was preceded in

death by his parents; one sister,

Peggy Andersen; brother-in-

law, James Seerup; and sister-

High School in 1955. William

had been a farmer since 1967

in the Dwight area. He was a

member of St. Patrick Catholic

Church in Dwight, played in

the church dartball league for

many years, and was on the

Mt. Olivet Cemetery Board for

rials be made to Evenglow

Lodge Health Care or St. Jude

the staff of Evenglow Lodge

and the Community Cancer

Center in Normal for all their

love and care given to William

Children's Hospital.

for the past 13 years.

The family suggests memo-

The family wishes to thank

He graduated from Mazon

in-law, Eileen Theisen.

Also surviv-

Allison

ney Bennett.

children:

and several

nephews.

many years.

William P. Andersen

Mary Lou Fosnaugh

Mary Lou Fosnaugh, age 75, of Herscher, Illinois passed away Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee.

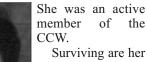
She was born April 30, 1946 in Kankakee, the daughter of Thomas

and Rita (Foley) Finnegan. Mary Lou married Patrick Fosnaugh on November 27, 1982 in Joliet, Illinois.

Mary Lou was the owner, operator and dance instructor of Mary Lou's School of Dance. She attended Mary Crest Business College and Piersols Dance Studio. She conducted private dance lessons both in Chicago and locally for many years.

She was 100% committed to her family and friends. Mary Lou would always pray for those in need. She was a great gardener. Her grandchildren were her life. She loved shopping and could be found shopping with her daughter and family.

Mary Lou was a parishioner of St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church in Herscher.



husband, Patrick of Herscher; two sons and one daughter-inlaw, Thomas (Corrine) Fosnaugh of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Ryan Fosnaugh of Herscher;

daughter and son-in-law, Alicia (John) Johnston of Bradley; six grandchildren: Sofia and Amelia Fosnaugh; Liam, Dylan, Paige and Norah Johnston.

Mary Lou is preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation was held from 9:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. Funeral Mass on Monday, January 3, 2022 in St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church, Herscher.

Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Campus. Memorials may be made to

St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church, Herscher, for Masses. Arrangements by Schref-

fler Funeral Home in Kanka-Please sign her guestbook at

www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.

He graduated

Texas.

Neil D. Hansen

Neil D. Hansen, 69, passed away Friday, December 17, 2021 at his home in Zephyrhills, Florida.

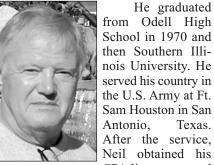
Cremation rites have been accorded and a graveside service will be held at a later date in Odell, Illinois.

Neil was born on Christmas Eve, 1951, the son of Elton and Jeannine (Morse) Hansen. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his sister, Janice (John) Gall of Odell; brothers: Mark (Bambi) Hansen of Pflugerville, Texas; and Paul (Faith) Hansen of Missouri City, Texas; four nephews and a niece; many cousins, aunts and uncles.

He attended the Gateway Church in Austin, Texas.

Neil grew up in Odell, playing sports and riding his bike. He showed a talent for sales when he sold Christmas cards to the neighbors so he could buy a better bike.



Neil obtained his CPA license worked in the accounting field. While in Las Vegas, he started his own business, Downhill Bicycle Tours. A bus took riders up to an 8,000 foot elevation, and they cruised down 18 miles on the bikes, enjoying the beauty of the area.

In Austin, he enjoyed biking around Lady Bird Lake, doing 20 miles daily.

Camping and fishing with Mark were also favorite activi-

Later in his career he worked in auto sales.

Neil enjoyed living in a warm climate - Las Vegas, Houston, Austin and finally,

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

email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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

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

We welcome your thoughts.





Da Bulls

Sometimes the things you want to write about are the things that work their way into the writing ethos and you get to write about them because they won't leave you

That topic that I am speaking of is the 1st place in the East-

ern Conference, Chicago Bulls. I think if you polled most Bulls fans coming into the season and asked where they would've expected to be right now, most would've expected it to be in the 4-6 range in the East. Honestly, that's probably where I would've had them slot-

some teams that are going through some team Covid problems, and missing guys, but at the end of the day, your schedule is your schedule. The real reason I have once again turned to write about the 1st place Chicago Bulls is DeMar Derozan. Over the

ted as well. Some of this is coming on the backs of playing

weekend, he became the first player ever, (as in no one before him ever) to make game winning shots in back to back days on the calendar. There was a lot of chatter that the Bulls overpaid him, this

offseason, that he wouldn't fit within the construct of the rest of the roster and he was past his prime. Basically any speculation that was negative was cast upon the Bulls and DeMar prior to the start of the season. At this point in the season, he's been better than any Bull's fan could've possibly imagined.

It's looking like DeMar will be an All-Star starter, with Lavine being on the team as well with an outside shot at also being a starter. However, at this point I would just bet on him making the team and not the starting lineup.

To really compete for the title the Bulls probably need some small roster tweaks, and hope that Patrick Williams wrist heals at a faster pace than initially thought. Even if neither of those happen, I think they have a real puncher's chance at going all the way this year.

Go, DeMar. Go, Lavine. Go, Bulls.

Aaron J. Boma 2016 ISU Grad

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff,

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

Defendants.

No. 21-CH-37 **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 15, 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

YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW..

• APRIL•

(continued from page 6)

Seneca's Miranda Araujo Recognized as State FFA **Proficiency Winner**

Miranda Araujo, a member of the Seneca FFA Chapter, was selected as the State FFA Proficiency Winner in the area of Environmental Sci-

Miranda is the daughter of Miriam Garibay and Martin Garcia.

Kayla Kodat Makes **ICBA All-State Team**

Lady Trojan Kayla Kodat was selected to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association 1A Girls All-State Basketball Team. Kodat, a senior, averaged 17.4 points, 4.8 rebounds, 3.8 steals, and 2.8 assists during the 2021 season.

Search Continues for Odell Bank Robber

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department is still on the hunt for John W. Beck, the man suspected of robbing the Odell Branch of Bank of Pontiac around noon on April 9.

DTHS FCCLA Earns Gold Medal at STAR Event

DTHS FCCLA members earned a gold medal at the STAR Event for the project, "Say Yes to the Dress". They collected and sold new and gently used formal dresses, with the monies earmarked for the Megan Bugg Foundation – which helps those affected by childhood cancers.

Arrest Made Near Saunemin

On April 5, Reno McMahan, 20, of East Moline, and Ava Barchak, 18, of Palos Hills, were charged with possession of a stolen vehicle, speeding 104 mph in a 55 mph zone, and aggravated fleeing/eluding the police following a stop attempt of a 2019 Ford F250 in the area of Saunemin.

Daly Galloway Helps USF Women's Cross Country Make History

The University of St. Francis women's cross

country team made history in multiple ways April 9, not only capturing the program's firstever NAIA National Championship, but also becoming the first team in the history of USF

(continued on page 8)

'Last This, Last That'

Seneca Athletic Director Steve Haines Set to Retire



because we didn't have a tour-

nament last year. This year we

were able to get back on the

court and crown a champion.

To be able to have the tourna-

ment 21 out of 22 years is one

brings in teams from all over

northern and central Illinois in-

cluding Reed-Custer, Mendota,

Hall, Somonauk, Newman, and

Newark, to name a few, isn't

the only aspect of Haines' job

best moment has to be the state

championship boys basketball

team in 2006. That was awe-

some. It was exhausting, but a

ton of fun," Haines said.

"Memories were created that

(Kayla, 26, and Sarah, 23) go

to school and play sports for

Seneca High School while I

was here is something I cher-

ish. Also, the everyday interac-

tion with the kids. Watching

them play sports, I really enjoy

it. The kids at Seneca High

School have never disap-

pointed me. They are top-

THE SENECA FIGHTING IRISH wrestling squad placed eighth overall out of 60 Class 1A

teams at Abe's Rumble Dual Team Tournament held in Springfield December 29, going 5-0

in their pool duals - beating Sacred Heart Griffin, Knoxville, Robinson, Sherrard, and West

cred Heart Griffin, 66-9, then Knoxville, 55-24. 1-4; 160/170: Brendan Smith, 2-3; 170/182:

Seneca proceeded to beat Robinson, 60-24, then Kyle Hamby, 3-2; 195/220: Chris Peura, 5-0;

SENECA FIGHTING IRISH WRESTLING

"But for me, having my kids

"Everybody will say my

that he'll miss.

you'll never forget.

The tournament which

of the things I'm proud of."

by Brandon LaChance

The hallways, the locker rooms, and the gym at Seneca High School have seen plenty of different faces through the

One that hasn't changed is the athletic director as Steve Haines has held the position for 22 years.

Next year, Haines' facial features will not be seen at Seneca as an administrator, as he is retiring after the school year to spend more time with his family.

"Everything that happens throughout the year, someone is reminding me it's my last this or my last that," said Haines, who was hired by Seneca in 2000 after teaching and coaching at Flanagan. "With us playing in the Marseilles Holiday Tournament Championship (on Thursday), we've never been in that so it's a fun thing to happen as we go through the last year."

"My very first year we started the Seneca Turkey Tournament during Thanksgiving break. Unfortunately, we didn't have a full 22 years of it

Frankfort.

Wednesday, December 29

Team Tournament

Seneca at Abe's Rumble Dual

them that puts on a uniform and represents our school." Haines added he loves how

notch. I appreciate every one of

everyone who puts on a jersey knows they're wearing it to compete.

The same can be said about the coaches. Everyone who grabs a clipboard and a marker dons a green polo shirt with the Seneca logo or leads a huddle of any Fighting Irish squad, they do it to put forth the team's best effort.

"One of the things I'm most proud of and it had little to do with me as much as it's their success and their willingness to keep coaching, is we've just had a lot of longevity with our coaches," Haines said. "Our boys basketball program has had two coaches in 22 years, Doug Evans and Russell Witte, who has a great team this year. Girls basketball had a Hall of Fame coach in Rich Anderson and then followed with Barb Beck, Ted O'Boyle, and Brian Holman, who is going to take over the program and do a great job.

"We've been able to sustain our success because we're not switching our coaches every other year. Todd Yegge has been the wrestling coach for all 22 of my years. Terry Maxwell is coaching football and track now. We've got a lot of great things going on, but one of the best things is the longevity of our coaches. They create programs and pride in what they do and the kids connect and jump on."

The coaches he's had have made his job 100 percent eas-

But, there is always something to make it harder.

In Haine's case, it was most definitely Covid-19 as there weren't any sports from March 2020 to January 2021 and then a weird year as football was in the spring, wrestling and track and field were in the summer and there weren't state tourna-

"The students have handled

Covid the best. We sit around and complain about wearing masks and how it's going to work, where the kids think, 'If this is going to get us to play, OK.' I applaud the kids. It has been rough," Haines said. "I put my name up for retirement four years ago, before any of this happened. I really didn't have a plan to what I was going to do in retirement except play a lot of golf, visit friends and travel. All of those things kind of run out, but now with having these last two years where things were different, I'll find something to do.

"As an adult, I'm not handling it well. I've had Covid this year. I had to come home for 14 days. I know it's real and it can be tragic. It's really changed school. It's changed our kids. I hope it's not changing our educators and administrators, but I'd be naïve to think it hasn't. Hopefully, we come out of this on the other side and find our normal again."

Haines doesn't know what normal will look like, but for him, he hopes it's on a golf course with friends and loved

You may even see his face at the Seneca gym...just not in the same role.

O'Boyle, who was the Seneca football coach (2012-19) and the girls basketball coach (2017-20), will be the new SHS athletic director for the next school year.

Victory Lanes League Results

Commercial League Bowlers

HSG: Josh Gernentz, 259; Terry Wilkey, 233; Doug Gassman, 233; Crazy Hallam, 232; Eric Knobbe, 223 – Paula Watts, 171; Jackie Oelschlager, 166; Brandi Farcus, 159; Jennifer Light, 155; Anne Sporrer, 152. HSS: Josh Gernentz, 709; Crazy Hallam, 593; Eric Knobbe, 586; Chuck Dudak, 584; Terry Wilkey, 582 - Paula Watts, 465; Anne Sporrer, 434; Brandi Farcus, 433; Linda Dunlap, 407; Jennifer Light, 406. HSG: Benson Racing #19, 982. HHG: Cherry Red Roasters, 993. HSS: Benson Racing #19, 2859. HHS: Cherry Red Roasters 2926

Cheffy Red Roasters, 2920.			
League Standings	$\underline{\mathbf{W}}$	L	
Benson Racing	$21\frac{1}{2}$	$10\frac{1}{2}$	
Coleman/Son	19½	12½	
Whiskey Cav.	19	13	
Willy's Pub	19	13	
Victory Lanes	18	14	
Maxwell Truck.	18	14	
Gaston Construct.	17	15	
Agritile	16	16	
Pumpkin Patch	14	18	
Cherry R.R.	13	19	
Dairy Queen	11	21	

Sportsman League Bowlers

HSG: Shawn Delong, Jr.; Randy Battle; Jim Siedentop; Sevin Vargas; JD Gernentz. HSS: Shawn Delong, Jr., 707; Bosco Gassman, 655; Brandon Petry, 653; JD Gernentz, 645; Randy Battle, 630. HSG/HHG: Rockey's Pub, HSS/HHS: LTG Shuttles, 2847.

League Standings LTG Shuttles Star Trucking DeLong Ford New Team Jensens I Rockey's Pub Cafe 110 West Rury's Tap Willy's Pub Rambo Construct. Jensen BP II	w 10 10 9 8 7 5 4 4 4	L 2 2 3 4 5 7 7 8 8 8
	•	_
Jeremy's Barber	2	10



DTHS Trojans Basketball

Monday, December 27 Dwight vs. Serena Marseilles **Holiday Tournament**

The Trojans went up against Serena in first-round action of the Marseilles Holiday Tournament December 27, suffering a heart-breaking 77-75 loss.

"We really struggled with free throws and turnovers," head coach Jeremy Connor stated. "Serena definitely really played at a pace we were not used to, but we get to get back to it tomorrow."

Gavin Wykes led Dwight with 16 points, while Dawson Carr and Jeremy Kapper followed closely with 14 and 13 points, respectively. Conner Telford and Kaleb Duden each scored 11 points, with Wyatt Thompson putting up 10.

Tuesday, December 28 Dwight vs. Wilmington Marseilles

Holiday Tournament Dwight was back at it December 28 versus Wilmington, earning a 50-41 victory in the

Marseilles Holiday Tourney. Wyatt Thompson led all scorers with 23 points, scoring 14 in the third quarter. He connected on two threes and went 1-2 from the free throw line.

'Wyatt Thompson had a 14point third quarter, which really separated us from Wilming-

ton," Coach Connor said. "I could tell we were exhausted from the up-and-down game from the night before, but we did some good things and pulled out the win."

Adding to the stat sheet was Jeremy Kapper with 14 points (2-4 FT). Conner Telford and Dawson Carr chipped in with nine and four points, respec-

Wednesday, December 29 Dwight vs. Earlville Marseilles

Holiday Tournament

The Dwight Trojans earned themselves a spot in the Consolation Championship of the Marseilles Holiday Tournament as they defeated Earlville, 63-52, on December 29.

"We're starting to play with a lot more intensity, and it's showing," said Coach Connor. "Everyone is playing unselfish basketball and we are doing some great things."

Wyatt Thompson led all scorers with 24 points, hitting two threes and going 2-2 from the line. Conner Telford added 14 points, connecting on four three-pointers. Jeremy Kapper contributed 11 points (1-4 FT), with Kaleb Duden putting up six points. Dawson Carr had four points (2-2 FT), with Gavin Wykes and Tyler Frauli each providing a bucket.



GSW Panthers Basketball

Monday, December 27 **GSW** vs. Marquette Marseilles **Holiday Tournament**

The GSW Panthers were defeated 67-34 by Marquette in their first game of the Marseilles Holiday Tournament December 27.

"Not the start of the tournament that we hoped for," stated Coach Wills. "Hopefully we can bounce back tomorrow."

Cale Halpin had a teamhigh 14 points, with Bennett Grant contributing six. Dane Halpin and Ethan Mack scored four points each.

Tuesday, December 28 GSW vs. Earlville Marseilles **Holiday Tournament**

In the Marseilles Holiday Tourney December 28, Gardner-South Wilmington was beaten by Earlville, 75-42.

Allan Wills. "We need to play better, especially on defense.'

Cale Halpin (2 rebounds, 2 steals) and Garrett Grant (5 rebounds) led with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Bennett Grant put up nine points, seven boards, while Dane Halpin and Ethan Mack each put in six points.

Wednesday, December 29 **GSW** vs. Wilmington Marseilles **Holiday Tournament**

In a match-up with Wilmington December 29, GSW took a 61-53 loss in the Marseilles Holiday Tournament.

"We played well for the first three quarters, but totally fell apart in the fourth," stated head coach Allan Wills.

Cale Halpin's 19 points and nine boards led the Panthers, followed by 15 points and eight rebounds from Bennett Grant. Garrett Grant supplied 12 points and two boards, while Ethan Mack put up six points and four rebounds.

Thursday, December 30 **GSW** vs. Indian Creek Marseilles **Holiday Tournament**

In the final game of the Marseilles Holiday Tourney December 30, the GSW Panthers were victorious over Indian Creek, 61-57.

"It was nice to end the tour-"We made a good run be- nament with a win." Coach fore half, but the third quarter Wills stated. "We were a bit was a killer," said head coach short-handed this tourney, so a lot had to step up and give us some nice minutes."

> Cale Halpin went off for 24 points, six rebounds, and four steals. Bennett Grant had 17 points, four boards, and three swipes, with Garrett Grant scoring 12 points to go with two assists and two steals. Dane Halpin added six points and four rebounds.

Gardner-South Wilmington is now 5-11 overall, with a 1-3 conference record.

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YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW

· APRIL •

(continued from page 7)

The Seneca Irish took part in the 60-team

Abe's Rumble Dual Team Tournament Decem-

ber 29 in Springfield, going a perfect 5-0 in their

The #17th-ranked Fighting Irish defeated Sa-

put down Sherrard, 45-27. In the fifth meet of 285: Liam Blue, 2-2.

women's athletics to claim a national title. Daly Galloway (Dwight) led the way, placing

13th in the nation with a time of 18:12.71.

Justin Fox Receives WIAC Max Sparger Scholar-Athlete Award

University of Wisconsin-Platteville's team captain, and former Dwight Trojan, Justin Fox a senior from Emington – earned the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Max Sparger

Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete Award for

the day, in the round of 32, Seneca took out West

Frankfort, 48-34, to secure a spot in the final 16.

4-1; 120: Bill Farcus, 2-0; 120/126: Jaden Casey,

4-1; 126: Nick Grant, 2-1; 132: Robby Nelson, 5-0; 138: Ryan Flynn, 3-2; 145: Owen Feiner, 5-

0; 152: Asher Hamby, 5-0; 160: Aiden Burton,

Individual records on the day are as follows:

106: Kyler Hahn, 5-0; 113: Tommy Milton,

For a student-athlete to be nominated for this award, they must have a minimum 3.5 GPA while in their final year of athletics and have competed for at least two seasons.

> **GSW Math Team** Captures RVC Meet for 8th Consecutive Year

The GSW High School Math Team won the River Valley Conference Meet for the eighth consecutive year.

Under the Water Tower Antiques Opens in Dwight

The building at 120 E. Chippewa St. in Dwight has housed a few different endeavors, and it's now owned by Marc Ellis, of Dwight, who opened Under the Water Tower Antiques on April 30 – the first day of the Red Carpet Corridor event.

 \bullet M A Y \bullet

April 21 in its first in-person session since the

Dwight Village Board Returns to In-Person Meetings The Dwight Village Board of Trustees met

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Downtown Cooking Competition Heats Up Red Carpet Corridor

start of the pandemic over a year prior.

Noses were working overtime in Dwight during the Red Carpet Corridor, as downtown was turned into an outdoor kitchen for the Kansas

The new adventure led to Red Carpet Corridor shoppers and residents smelling and seeing barbeque made by some of the best BBQ cooks in not only the state, but the country.

(continued on page 10)



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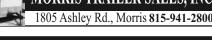
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tions, 6 p.m.

First Baptist Church 401 N. Clinton St. 815-584-3182 Home of Dwight's Christian Radio Station WGVD 97.3 FM Pastor Dan Woodward Wednesday Evening Service & King's Kids Children's Program, 7 p.m. Sunday School for All Ages, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Fanday Evening a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.

Congregational United Church of Christ

200 W. Delaware St. 584-1260 church Rev. Grant Speece Sunday Worship, 10:30 New Life

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

Mazon Ave. at Prairie 815-584-3522 Office Father Chris Haake, Pastor St. Peter's Lutheran Church 326 W. Chippewa St. 815-584-1199

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Trinity Lutheran Church "Goodfarm" 515 E. Stonewall Rd. Rev. William Mitschke 815-725-1341

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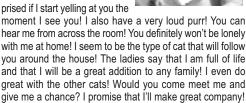
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Part-Time Positions

MVK ESD 2C has the following part-time positions available:

 EC Aide M-F - contact Rusti Hasselbring, 815-448-2471.

· Cafeteria/Custodial M-F - contact Keith Martin, 815-448-5238.

Bus Drivers Regular and Extra-Curricular Routes

M-F - contact Laura McCullough, 815-448-2197 Please contact the above persons regarding each position. MVK ESD 2C is an equal opportunity

Employment Opportunities Available

Γ & E Enterprises of Herscher, manufacturer of custom built motorsport transporters for 41 years, has the following employment opportunities

1. Welder/fabricator/light mechanical 2. Light mechanical/hydraulic/electrical

3. Carpentry/trim/construction 4. General labor/assembly/handyman

Send resume to: T & E Enterprises P.O. Box 237

Herscher, IL 60941

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Contact your respective places of worship for more up-to-the-minute information regarding changes or

> Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. **CABERY** Cabery United Ames & Chester 815-949-1681

CULLOM St. John's Evangelical

ship, 10 a.m. **Cullom United Methodist Church** 103 E. Van Alstyne St. 815-689-2484

ESSEX Essex United **Methodist Church** 114 Waverly St.

Church of Hope (USA) 202 N. Monroe P.O. Box 248 Janet Chandler, Pastor Office hours: T-W, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. 815-237-8312

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

ChurchofHope@

sbcglobal.net

HERSCHER Trinity Lutheran Church LCMS 255 E. Third St. P.O. Box 414 815-426-2262 email: trinityher1@ comcast.net Rev. Eric J. Brown, Pastor

Herscher United Methodist Church 274 N. Elm Street Phone: 815-426-6169 Pastor Kevin Boesen

Herscher Christian Church 30 Tobey Drive Pastor Sam Stow

Office Hours: Tue.-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 815-426-2908 Staff e-mail: life@herscherchristian.com herscherchristian.com On Facebook: Herscher Christian Church

KEMPTON Kempton United Methodist Church 305 Main Street Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell

Kempton Church of the Nazarene 105 E. Main St. 815-253-6250 Rev. John A. Mohler, Pastor

<u>KINSMAN</u> Sacred Heart Catholic Church 219 W. Emmett Street Rev. Stanley Drewniak, swkrcatholics.org

MAZON Mazon United Methodist Church 509 7th Street 815-448-5677 Church 815-483-9343 Cell mazonmethodist.com Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

Congregational United Church of Christ Pastor Tyler Carrell Phone 448-5514

Park Street

ODELL St. Paul Catholic Church Father Chris Haake, Pastor **United Methodist**

Rev. Janeen Tronc

Church 110 Wallace Street Pastor, Fr. Alexander Millar; Parochial Vicar, Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA; DeaSunday Mass: 7:30 a.m. Parish Office: 815-795-2240 (Marseilles) Email: parishgroup3@ gmail.com Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2:30

Ransom United Methodist Church Worship Service 102 E. Plumb St. Phone: 815-587-0488 RansomUMC@gmail. Pastor Andrew King Pastor cell: 815-257-4485

REDDICK Reddick United Methodist Church 35900 E 3200 N Road Pastor Kevin Boesen

815-426-6169 **Zoar Community Church** 18172 W. Route 17 P.O. Box 87 Reddick, IL 60961 Pastor Andrea Boggs Email: Zoarcommunity @yahoo.com Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Rev. Stanley Drewniak 815-237-2230 swkrcatholics.org **SAUNEMIN** Saunemin United **Methodist Church**

90 North Street 815-832-4935

St. Mary's Catholic

Church 216 E. Lincoln Street

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

Pastor Jane Bradford

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

VERONA Verona United **Methodist Church** The Wayside Chapel with a Warm Heart 433 Anne St. Phone: 815-287-2491 Pastor Andrew King Pastor cell: 815-257-4485

AT THE CHURCHES

BRACEVILLE Braceville United Methodist Church 106 W. Goold St. 815-237-8512 Church 815-483-9343 Cell bracevilleumc.com Pastor Donald Batz

Methodist Church Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell

Lutheran Church NALC 511 W. Jackson 815.689.2120 st.johns@frontiernet.net Pastor: Gabriel Baumgardner Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Wor-

Pastor John Lyons 815-257-5751 cell

GARDNER Presbyterian Church

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church Main Street Fr. Ron Neitzke 815-426-2153

Church 109 N. Morgan Street Phone 815-998-2271 **RANSOM** St. Patrick Catholic

The Paper Deadline is Friday at noon.

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SENECA HEAD COACH RUSSELL WITTE gives the Fighting Irish guidance during a timeout of the Marseilles Holiday Tournament Championship on Thursday. Seneca lost to Flanagan-Cornell, 47-39.



Last holiday tournament in Marseilles - -

(continued from page 1)

gain an advantage and fell in its first Marseilles Tournament

"This is the first time we've been in the championship game," Seneca coach Russell Witte said. "I thought it was pretty special for the kids. I thought they played hard. We just didn't make shots.

"When you open up the second half against a team like Flanagan, and you miss three point-blank layups and give them a couple of their own, that completely turns the tide. We lost their shooter (Tyler Pfaff, the tournament MVP) more than I wanted to. That comes down to being able to talk a little more. We were good the first half because our whole bench was saying where he was at. We have to be able to do that better in the second half."

Pfaff led the Falcons with 17 points, while Seneca was led by Cal Maierhofer's 11 points.

Zach Piefer and Paxton Giertz were named to the alltournament team for the Fighting Irish.

Marseilles Holiday Tournament Consolation Championship

Dwight coach Jeremy Connor was proud of how his team played in the holiday tournament, but realizes some games you just don't have it.

St. Bede 70, Dwight 53

One of those games was Thursday's consolation championship as the Trojans ran into a hungry St. Bede squad.

"St. Bede is a good team and they have Paul Hart (who is 30 points away from becoming the Bruins' all-time leading scorer). He's a load," Connor said. "He is one of the better players in the tournament and one of the better players we've seen all season. He was out for the first two games of the tournament, but he played against

"Four games is a lot in a row. We had a lot of illnesses and injuries on our team. They came out firing and we weren't ready. They're a good team. We beat them earlier in the season by three in the third-place game of our Thanksgiving holiday tournament. Things just didn't go our way in Marseilles, said

Connor."

Hart wasn't the only player on the court who Connor called a load as Dwight's Wyatt Thompson had quite a game and quite a tournament as he was named to the all-tournament team.

"St. Bede beat us but Wyatt Thompson had a monster dunk in that game," Connor said. "It kind of made up for the loss. It was a phenomenal dunk right over the top of a St. Bede player. It was worth it to see the dunk. He's a great basketball player. He can do pretty much anything.

"In the first game of the tournament where we lost by two (77-75) to Serena, Thompson only had 10 points because of the Grinnell System Serena plays, which takes away the big man game. But he had eight or nine assists, 15 rebounds, seven blocks, and five steals. Even if he isn't doing all of the scoring, he's always doing something good to help the team."

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



Wyatt Thompson, DTHS Trojan Basketball player. earned a spot on the All-Tournament Team in Marseilles. j7Images

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YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW...YEAR IN REVIEW

• M A Y •

(continued from page 8) **Texaco Welcome Center Opens for the Season**

After being closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dwight's Texaco Welcome Center opened for the year in conjunction with the Red Carpet Corridor Festival.

Over the weekend, 475 people signed the guest book and began to fill up the U.S. map with push pins locating their hometowns.

Dwight Village President Seated Newly-elected Mayor of Dwight, Paul Johnson, was sworn in May 10, stating "We are going to make sure we meet the needs of young and old residents alike."

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Johnson won the 2021 consolidated election with 512 votes.

Illinois State Historical Society Awards Herscher Author in Springfield

Herscher author Jim Ridings was presented with awards from the Illinois State Historical Society at its April 23 meeting in Springfield for the two books he published, "The Illustrated History of the Cherry Mine Disaster of 1909" and "The Society of the Living Dead: The Illustrated

History of Ottawa's Radium Dial Scandal".

Long-Term Board Member Retires from Prairie Creek Library Board

Mr. Alan Mortensen retired from the Prairie Creek Public Library District Board after 30+ years of dedicated service.

Mortensen served as board president for many years before stepping back to a member

DTHS Plans Normal Return to School

Students at Dwight Township High School will be back to normal school days with the start

of the 2021-22 school year, as the Board of Education approved the recommendation at its May 12 meeting.

Patten Found Not Guilty

After repeatedly pleading her innocence for two years, Kathryn Patten, a former teacher at Dwight Township High School, was found not guilty of five Class 1 felonies of criminal assault of a male between 13-17 on May 18 – nearly two years after her arrest - concluding a two-day Livingston County jury trial.

> More 2021 Year in Review will appear next week.