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Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Col. Wando Retires After 40 Years in Marines He Thanks Dwight's SOS for Support



Col. Will Wando, wife Cyndi, and son Lance Cpl. Mitchell Wando, USMC

By Brandon LaChance

The year is 1983.
Two days prior, Will Wando had graduated from Dwight Township High School.
Now he was on a bus to solidify his decision to join the Marine Corps and form the life he continued to live for over 40 years.
“Two days after graduation, I was on my way down to the Marine Corps processing center in St. Louis. I signed up be-

tween my junior and senior year of high school,” said Wando, who was born in Chicago but moved to Dwight when he was three because his father was hired by R.R. Donnelley. “Originally, I had planned to go into the Army. I did not find out until I pinned on Lt. Col. that my dad had connived with the Marine Corps recruiter to have him stop by to get me into the Corps because he knew the Army wouldn't straighten up my be-

havior.

“I wasn't the best kid in high school and had some challenges. My dad (Steve Wando) spent a couple of years in the Army during the draft days and realized the Army probably didn't have the structure and discipline that I needed. He had seen the Marine recruiter come through town for a band award presentation. He talked to him and they hatched a plan for me to get called to the guidance counselor's office.

“Magically, I bumped into the recruiter in his full-dress blues. The guy got me. I asked him what kind of uniform that was. He said, 'It's a Marine uniform and you probably won't earn it.' Oh. Oh. Oh. It was on. It became a challenge. I didn't realize that was one of our key recruiting tactics and he got me.”

Wando did wear the Marine Corps blues as he moved up the ranks. And he wore them for quite some time.

Thursday, May 19, 2022, was Col. Wando's retirement ceremony after 40 years, 2 months, 24 days of service.

His retirement comes after too many deployments as he can't give an actual number (continued on page 7)



REMEMBERING On Memorial Day, the American flag is to remain at half-staff until noon only. Then raised to the top of the staff.

Dwight Village Board Defers Prison Purchase Resolution

by Mark Boma

The potential purchase of the Dwight Correctional Center was once again on the agenda at the Dwight Village Board Meeting held Monday May 23. A resolution by the Village Board in support of legislation that would allow purchasing the grounds and affiliated buildings by the Village was proposed, but after discussion, some on the Board felt the wording was too definitive.
Item two of the resolution read "That if the aforementioned legislation is successfully passed, the President and the Village Board of Trustees agree to purchase the Dwight Correctional Center property and shall enter into and agree to the terms and conditions contained in said Agreement." Even though the document was only a resolution and since no Agreement had yet been drafted, it was determined best to

update the wording to something less restrictive before approving.

Resident Stephen Tock was on hand to inquire about potential costs to manage and maintain the property.

Mayor Paul Johnson pointed out that the water line and the water tower on the prison site, if usable, can have a positive impact on economic development on the west side of Dwight. New companies looking for potential locations need a high level water capacity in order for a site to be attractive. Currently there is only one residential customer connected to the watermain running to the prison site.

Johnson said regarding the Correctional Center, "We have a lot of due diligence to do before we go any further. If the water tower is garbage that's kind of a downside to us. When we started having this discussion it was 'what can we do to

bring the prison into something the community could use and make it nice'." He added, "We are not going to do this if it is going to be a detriment to our budget or if it is not going to benefit our town."

He also added, "The first conversation was 'can it (purchasing the grounds) even be done?' The second conversation is 'what is the cost to us', which is where we are right now?" Johnson went on, "Once we have those costs, and know where we are at, then do we have them (legislature) push this legislation for a dollar purchase?" There currently has been no cost estimate developed regarding maintenance of the prison site. The process will begin with an estimate to inspect the Correctional Center water tower and it will be presented at a future meeting.

One key provision in the proposed agreement is that the 40 acres of tillable farmland cannot be

sold by the Village to any third party. However, revenue from the farmland, estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year, can be collected by the Village.

Chief of Police Mike Nolan reported that new recruits Jace Kennedy and Hunter Kenney are in the first week of the academy training. Once all certified officers are actively on the force, due to attrition, the department will be down to four veterans and four new recruits. Some new leads on the recent Old World Liquors break-in have become available and are being investigated

On August 2, a first-ever National Night Out will be hosted by the Dwight Police Department. Activities will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on East Main Street. The annual Buzz the Gut Car Show will have East Main Street closed on June 25 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.

(continued on page 9)

Shipmate Sent Ashore for the Last Time Captain Neitzke Retires as Deputy Force Chaplain

by Brandon LaChance

If you've been to the Catholic churches in Herscher, Goodrich, or Irwin, you've seen Father Ron Neitzke deliver sermons every Sunday since 2019.
What you may not know is he has spoken the gospel to many people around the world as Captain Neitzke and the Deputy Force Chaplain of the Navy Region Southwest.

“I wanted to do something beyond parish work and I wanted to do something for our country,” Captain Neitzke said. “I picked up the phone and dialed an 800 number for the recruiter back in the fall of 1995. It all snowballed from there.

“I think the leadership training in the military is something that I've brought back to the civilian church as well. I think it made me a better leader, a better pastor in the church because of that experience.”

The Chicago native graduated from Marist High School and St. Xavier University in



Captain Neitzke asking LT Wolfe for permission “to go ashore” for the last time.

Chicago before finishing his schooling at University St. Mary of the Lake, a seminary college in Mundelein.

As the Navy Chaplain, Neitzke used his schooling and

desire to serve the country not only with the Navy but also with the Coast Guard and the Marine Corp.

The commissioned, non- (continued on page 12)



Livingston Cty. Real Estate Tax Bills Mailed

Nikki Meier, Livingston County Treasurer, has announced that the Livingston County real estate tax bills were mailed on Friday, May 27, 2022. A total of 25,900 tax bills were mailed. The estimated total tax revenue to be collected is \$76,313,928.10 which will be distributed to the 223 taxing bodies within the County.

The first installment will be due on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 and the second installment will be due on Tuesday, September 13, 2022. Payments may be put in either of the two payment drop boxes at the Historic Courthouse in Pontiac. One is located next to the south entrance at the top of the stairs

and the other is located on the west side next to the elevator. Payments may also be paid by mail or paid at most banks within the county.

Payments using a credit or debit card or E-check can also be made on the County's website. Please go to www.livingstoncountyil.gov and click on the Treasurer's page. The credit card companies do charge a 2.25% convenience fee and the fee will appear separately on both your receipt and monthly statement. The fee for processing an E-check is a flat rate of \$2.00. Online payments using a credit or debit card will be accepted up through Friday, November 4, 2022.

After September 13th, payments will not be accepted at area banks and MUST be made directly to the Treasurer's office. Personal checks will not be accepted after October 17, 2022 and payment after that

date must be made with a cashier's check, money order, credit card, or cash. Delinquent Notices will be mailed on approximately October 17, 2022. The names of delinquent property owners will be published in the local newspapers during the week of October 24, 2022.

Several items are printed on the reverse side of the tax bill which may answer most taxpayer questions. For further information please call between 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Monday-Friday:

Questions regarding:
Exemptions/Assessments/
Name or Address Changes
= Assessor's office
@ 815-844-7214

Tax rates/Prior Year
Redemptions = County Clerk
@ 815-844-2006

Payment questions =
Treasurer's office
@ 815-844-2306

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police
May 19: Connor J. Telford, 16, Dwight, seat belt required/ driver; Amanda J. Morrison, 38, Chatsworth, speeding over statutory limit.
May 21: Ian G. Miller, 37, Bradley, registration expiration.
May 23: Dustin M. Flynn, II, 20, Mazon, speeding over statutory limit.
May 24: Ruggles Carmen E. Trillo, 19, Bolingbrook, speeding over statutory limit.

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

11 Written Warnings
Disobey Stop Sign – 2; Speeding – 3; No Rear Registration Plate Light – 1; Only One Headlamp – 3; Only One Tail-light – 1; Improper Display License Plate – 1.

Dwight Police Blotter
May 20: Dwight Police were dispatched to 100 Waters Dr. Arrested for a Warrant out of Kane Cty. was Raul Hernandez, 37, of Harvard. Hernandez was transported to Livingston Cty. Jail; Dwight Police were flagged down on E. Main St. to be advised of Vandalism on Village-owned garbage cans, as well as a bridge on E. Delaware; Dwight Police were notified of a subject traveling N/B on I-55 in need of possible medical intervention. The subject was located in an area on Northbrook Dr. and transported to a hospital.

May 21: Dwight Police were advised of a possible interference of an Order of Protection; Dwight Police were notified of a theft from a business in the 100 block of S. Franklin. On May 23, Julius Smith was arrested for theft and obstruction while on a traffic stop.

May 22: Dwight Police were dispatched to 300 Spencer for a Domestic issue; Dwight Police were dispatched to 300 Spencer for a dog bite; Dwight Police conducted a traffic stop in the area of Rt. 66 and Morris Rd. Andre Shorter, 20, was arrested for an invalid driver's license, as well as two out of county warrants. Shorter and another subject, Julius Smith, were both transported to Livingston Cty. Jail. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

May 24: Dwight Police met with a walk-in to DPD. The resident advised they had been a victim of ID theft; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of W. Chippewa for a Domestic Issue; Dwight Police met

with a walk-in to DPD. The resident advised someone had fraudulently used their information to file tax returns.
Medical Aid – 7; Return Call – 10; Lockout – 4; Traffic Stop – 22; Theft – 1; Hit & Run – 2; Warrant – 1; Assist Agency – 3; Miscellaneous – 1; Out with Vehicle – 2; Suspicious Vehicle – 2; Found Item – 1; OP Violation – 1; Burglary – 1; Accident – 1; Solicitor Complaint – 1; Illegal Dumping – 1; Domestic – 2; Dog Bite – 1; Check Vehicle – 2; Follow Up – 1; Out of Control Subject – 1; Property Retrieval – 1; Juvenile Issue – 2; Security Alarm – 1; Domestic Verbal – 1; Extra Patrol – 13; Loose Dog – 2; Burglar Alarm – 2; Dog Bite – 1; Suspicious Activity – 1; Motorist Assist – 1; Information – 1.

Accident Reports
Saturday, May 21, 5:17 p.m., an accident was reported at 324 W. Mazon Ave. involving a 2015 Mazda four-door, driven by Domingo Ramirez, of Dwight, which struck a parked and unoccupied 2018 Toyota, owned by Nestor Rosales.
Monday, May 23, 3:59 p.m., a hit-and-run accident was reported at 12 W. Northbrook Dr. involving a 2012 Nissan hatchback, driven by John Baumgartner, of Addison, which was struck by a semi-tractor trailer which left the scene.

Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS
May 19: Bannon, medical, St. James; Elm, medical, St. Mary's, mutual aid to Campus; Prospect, assist; Elm, medical, St. Mary's, mutual aid to Campus.

May 20: Prairie, medical, refusal; Mazon, medical; Main, medical, Morris; Prairie, medical, refusal; Northbrook, medical, St. Mary's; Delaware, medical, Riverside; John, medical.

May 21: Elm, medical, St. Mary's; I-55, trauma; Wolf, medical, St. Mary's.

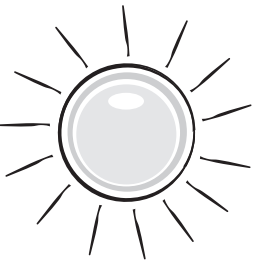
May 22: 3200, medical, St. Mary's; Mazon, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris.

May 23: I-55, fire, mutual aid to Odell; James, medical, Morris; John, trauma, Morris.

May 24: Prairie, medical, Morris; Philmar, medical, St. Mary's; Northbrook, trauma, Morris; Union, medical, Morris.


May 25: Eisenhower, medical, Riverside; East, medical, refusal; Mazon, medical, Morris.

May 26: Mazon, medical, Morris.



Temps - 2022

May 19 – high 86°, low 57°
May 20 – high 85°, low 55°
.65" precip.
May 21 – high 60°, low 48°
.22" precip.
May 22 – high 61°, low 44°
May 23 – high 64°, low 47°
May 24 – high 73°, low 50°
trace precip.
May 25 – high 83°, low 58°
.39" precip.
One Year Ago – June 1, 2021
high 71°, low 45°
.02" precip.



Dwight Fire Incidents
5/20 - 5/27

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:
May 22: Mutual Aid to Seneca – structure fire.
Dwight FPD also responded to 12 medical assists with Dwight EMS.

Latex, Oil Paint Recycling Event in Morris June 11

The Grundy County Land Use Department will be having a paint recycling event for both latex paint and oil based paints/stains. This event will be held at the north parking lot of the Grundy County Animal Control Facility located at 310 East DuPont Road off Lynn Road in Morris Saturday June 11, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
They will be partnering with Earth Paints Organization as they will recycle the paint and make useable paints.
Paint must be in its original container with its original label and be non-leaking and covered with a lid.
All paint accepted will be charged the following by Earth Paint:



Dwight Township Meeting June 7

The monthly meeting of Dwight Township will be held Tuesday, June 7.
All regularly scheduled meetings are held in the Dwight Township Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

COVID-19 Updates in Livingston County

Livingston County, IL – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recently announced support for the recommendation by the CDC that children aged 5 to 11 years receive a booster dose at least five months after completion of their primary series (first two doses) with the Pfizer vaccine.
In recommending the booster dose for children aged 5 to 11, the CDC noted that since the pandemic began, more than 4.8 million children ages 5 through 11 have been diagnosed with COVID-19, 15,000 have been hospitalized and, tragically, over 180 have died. According to the CDC, as cases increase across the country, a booster dose will safely help restore and enhance protection against severe disease. While COVID-19 tends to be less severe in children than adults, the omicron wave has seen more kids getting sick with the disease and being hospitalized. In addition, children may also experience long term effects, such as long Covid syndrome, even following initially mild symptoms. These vaccines, which were authorized for children in November 2021, help protect children from both serious complications and long Covid syndrome.

Vaccination continues to be the best way to protect yourself and others. Families are welcome to visit the LCHD (310 E Torrance Ave, Pontiac) for their COVID-19 vaccinations on Mondays from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Appointments are strongly encouraged and may be scheduled by visiting their website www.lchd.us. Moderna, Pfizer, and J&J are all available free of charge to the public for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and booster doses, including Pfizer pediatric doses for ages 5-11. All children ages 5-17 must be accompanied by legal guardian. Adults must have their driver's license/ State ID as well as their vaccination card for all doses except the first. Masks must be worn when interacting with LCHD staff.

For those with limited mobility, your vaccination may be brought to your vehicle.

Mobile Pantry in Dwight, Odell Monthly

St. Nicholas Mobile Pantry, 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, usually on the second Thursday afternoon of each month.
However, this month, the date is **Thursday, June 16** – the third Thursday of the month.
Individuals are given items such as blankets, socks, clean-

ing products, personal hygiene products, and baby products. 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 Charities.

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EARLY VOTING, VOTE BY MAIL, and GRACE REGISTRATION DATES
General Primary Election – June 28, 2022

Early Voting, Vote by Mail, and Grace Period Registration and Voting is conducted in the County Clerk's Office on the following dates prior to the June 28, General Primary Election. **Regular Voter Registration closes on Tuesday, May 31. (Office is Closed May 30 for Memorial Day Observed and June 20 for Juneteenth Independence Day Observed)**

Dates	Location	Hours
MONDAY-FRIDAY May 19-June 27	Livingston County Clerk's Office 112 W Madison St – Pontiac	8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
SATURDAY June 11, 18, 25	Livingston County Clerk's Office 112 W Madison St – Pontiac	9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON
WEDNESDAY June 22 (Extended Hours Voting)	Livingston County Clerk's Office 112 W Madison St – Pontiac	8:00 AM to 6:00 PM
TUESDAY June 28 ELECTION DAY	Livingston County Clerk's Office 112 W Madison St – Pontiac	6:00 AM to 7:00 PM

What is Early Voting? Early Voting starts May 19 and ends June 27, 2022. This process allows any registered voter in Livingston County to use the above location to cast their ballot prior to Election Day. Early voters must be registered Livingston County voters. No excuse or reason is necessary to apply to Early Vote.

Vote by Mail Voting: Starts Thursday, March 30 and continues through Tuesday, June 23, 2022. A person may request a Vote by Mail ballot by USPS no later than June 23 without specifying a reason. In order for the ballot to be counted, it must be postmarked no later than midnight on Election Day or be returned in person by 7 PM to the County Clerk's Office on June 28.

Grace Registration and Voting: Begins June 1 and continues through June 28. This is for new registrants and those who have transferred or moved and did not update their voter registration before May 31. Voting takes place at the same time registration is made in the County Clerk's Office. Two forms of ID are required to register to vote, one showing current name and address.

Find additional election information, as well as Applications for Ballots and Sample Ballots on the Livingston County official website at: www.livingstoncountyil.gov (Click on "County Services", "County Clerk", and "Elections").

If you have any questions regarding voter registration, or the above information, contact
County Clerk Kristy Masching (815-842-9313)
Or Elections Deputy Gail Smythe (815-842-9318).

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St. Paul School to Host Annual Golf Outing



Moyemont golf foursome.

St. Paul Catholic School in Odell will host its annual event, 2022 Golf “Fore” St. Paul School – Mike Moyemont-Juli Sullivan Memorial Outing, on Sunday, June 12, at Wolf Creek Golf Course in Cayuga. Proceeds to benefit the students of St. Paul School.

For this year’s event we memorialize and honor the memory of Juli Sullivan, our former teacher and dear friend of St. Paul School. She loved St. Paul School with all her heart and soul and we are forever grateful for her years of dedication and service to our students and school family. A portion of the proceeds from this event will go to the Juli Sullivan Memorial Scholarship Fund.

We also continue to memorialize our friend, Mike Moyemont, father of Morgyn. We honor his memory and show appreciation for his many years of service to St. Paul School as well. Tee time reservations are available beginning at 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.

The cost is \$60.00 per golfer and includes green fees, golf cart and a meal for golfers on the course. In addition to a fun day of friendly competition, there will be chances to win great prizes. Sponsorships for area businesses and memorials are available beginning at \$100.00. Donations will be accepted in money or gift card form, as well as raffle items.

For more information or to reserve a tee time, call/text Kathleen Stadel, outing chairperson, at 815-674-4088.

Free Church of Hope Community Vacation Bible School

The Church of Hope in Gardner is once again offering free Vacation Bible School, June 20-24, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. They invite all children ages four (must be potty-trained) to fourth grade to join for Community VBS.

There will be crafts, music, storytelling, recreation and just plain fun. The Church of Hope is located at 202 North Monroe (corner of Monroe and Jefferson Streets).

VBS is free every year. Registration forms will be available at the following locations: South Wilmington Post Office, Gardner Post Office, Casey’s in Gardner, the Gardner Laundromat, and CiCi and Lala’s. You may also call the church at 815-237-8312 or Pastor Jan’s home at 815-577-9119, if you would like one. There is a drop-off box for registration forms located on the alley side of the church by the red door. You can e-mail the church at churchofhope@sbcglobal.net and they will send you a form.

They ask that your child/children be pre-registered by June 13. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, feel free to call the church or Pastor Jan at 815-577-9119. They can always use volunteers and will give community service hours to junior high and high school students.

Morris Hospital Patient Care Technician Brings Positive Vibe to Emergency Dept.

If you are ever in the Emergency Department at Morris Hospital and hear someone singing, there is a good chance the voice belongs to Patient Care Technician Terri Warning. Breaking out in random songs is just one of the ways the bubbly, high-energy Mazon resident lifts the spirits of everyone around her. For all that she does to make a difference in the lives of her patients and co-workers, Warning was selected as Morris Hospital’s May Fire Starter of the Month.

“I don’t think there are words to describe Terri Warning – she’s just fabulous,” says Ana Banuelos, Charge RN in the Emergency Department at Morris Hospital. “She comes to work with a smile in her eyes and a spring in her step and always brings a positive vibe to our department. Everybody gravitates to her. She’s a great person to have in the ED.”

Warning joined Morris Hospital in 2017 as a CNA on the 2-East medical/surgical nursing unit and transferred to the Emergency Department last August. Her patient care experience also includes working at long-term care facilities in Rockford and Morris.

When asked why she chose a career in healthcare, Warning shared that she was working at a retail store in Rockford when she decided to pursue her CNA certification.

“Someone had mentioned that I would probably be pretty good at being a CNA, so I decided to try it out and really like it,” shares Warning.

Warning has a continuous desire to learn and grow, which has brought her from long-term care, to the inpatient hospital setting, to the Emergency Department where she is recognized for creating an upbeat, positive work environment day



PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN, Terri Warning, Morris Hospital’s May Fire Starter of the Month.

in and day out.

“Patients come to the ER sometimes feeling their worst and always seem to improve as soon as Terri enters the room,” said co-worker Stefanie Koehler. “She goes above and beyond for each and every one of her patients, radiating positivity even in the worst of situations. Patients always seem to enjoy the pizzazz that she adds, which keeps them coming back for their care. Watching her with patients makes others want to be better.”

Warning’s contributions go well beyond patient care. Referred to by Banuelos as a “breath of fresh air” who is “calm, cool, and collected,” Warning is always stepping up and taking on additional roles, including serving as unit secre-

tary in the ED when needed and serving as a preceptor to help train new employees.

When asked what she likes best about her job, Warning was quick to praise the people she works with.

“They are amazing,” says Warning. “All of the nurses, the other techs, the management, the doctors...they’re all so nice and helpful. I cannot stress what a great team we have. Everybody works as one whole unit.”

In early civilizations, fire starters were individuals who had the important job of keeping the flame alive. With over 1,400 employees, Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers is the largest employer in Grundy County.

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Things are always there that appear

Early Voting/Vote By Mail For June 28 Primary Underway in Grundy

Early Voting for the June 28 Primary Election is underway. Voters will cast ballots in either the Democratic or Republican primaries to determine which candidates will advance to the November 8, 2022 General Election. Candidates for Federal, State and local races will appear on the primary ballots.

Early Voting takes place at the County Clerk’s Office, located in

the Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St., Morris. (Note: cell phones are not allowed inside Courthouse).

Early voting hours are Monday - Friday, now through June 27, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Clerk’s Office will also be open for additional Early Voting hours. Additional hours are: Sat., May 28, 8:00 a.m. to noon; Tues., June 7, 4:30 to 6:00

p.m.; Thurs., June 9, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Tues., June 14, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Thurs., June 16, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Sat., June 18, 8:00 a.m. to noon; Sun., June 19, 8:00 a.m. to noon; Tues., June 21, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Thurs., June 23, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Sat., June 25, 8:00 a.m. to noon.

(NOTICE: IN ORDER FOR EARLY VOTING AND VOTE BY MAIL TO BEGIN ON THE DATE DETERMINED BY IL STATUTE, BE AWARE THAT TWO PENDING OBJECTIONS ARE NOW IN JUDICIAL REVIEW. THESE PENDING OBJECTIONS INVOLVE THE CONTEST FOR GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR ON BOTH DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN BALLOTS.)

Current election law states that voters are not required to present an ID to early vote. Voter’s identity is verified upon registration as well as by using a signature match, as on Election Day. Note that once a voter casts an early ballot, the vote cast is

final and may not be revoked. Election law prohibits a person who voted during the early voting period from voting at the polls on Election Day. Votes cast during the early voting period are not counted until after the polls close on Election Day.

May 19 was the first day the Clerk’s Office could mail official ballots to those registered voters who have applied for a Vote By Mail ballot. Voters who wish to cast a Vote By Mail ballot in the upcoming Election should contact the County Clerk’s Office at 815-941-3222, #1, to obtain the necessary application, or they may find the application under ‘Election Information’ on the Grundy County website at grundycountylil.gov. The last day a ballot may be mailed is Thursday, June 23.

Voters with questions or wanting more information should contact the Grundy County Clerk at 815-941-3222, #1, or by e-mail at: elections@grundycountylil.gov

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

What Investors Can – and Can’t – Control

As an investor, you can easily feel frustrated to see short-term drops in your investment statements. But while you cannot control the market, you may find it helpful to review the factors you can control.

Many forces affect the financial markets, including geopolitical events, corporate profits and interest rate movements – forces beyond the control of most individual investors.

In any case, it’s important to focus on the things you can control, such as these:

• Your ability to define your goals – One area in which you have total control is your ability to define your goals. Like most people, you probably have short-term goals – such as saving for a new car or a dream vacation – and long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. Once you identify your goals and estimate how much they will cost, you can create an investment strategy to help achieve them. Over time, some of your personal circumstances will likely change, so you’ll want to review your time horizon and risk tolerance on a regular basis, adjusting your strategy when appropriate. And the same is true for your goals – they may evolve over time, requiring new responses from you in how you invest.

• Your response to market downturns – When the market drops and the value of your investments declines, you might be tempted to take immediate action in an effort to stop the losses. This is understandable – after all, your investment results can have a big impact on your future. However, acting hastily could work against you – for example, you could sell investments that still have solid fundamentals and are still appropriate for your needs. If you can avoid decisions based on short-term events, you may help yourself in the long run.

• Your commitment to investing – The financial markets are almost always in flux, and their movements are hard to predict. If you can continue investing in all markets – good, bad or sideways – you will likely make much better progress toward your goals than if you periodically were to take a “time out.” Many people head to the investment sidelines when the market tumbles, only to miss out on the beginnings of the next rally. And by steadily investing, you will increase the number of shares you own in your investments – and the larger your ownership stake, the greater your opportunities for building wealth.

• Your portfolio’s level of diversification – While diversification itself can’t guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help greatly reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. Just how you diversify your investments depends on several factors, but the general principle of maintaining a diversified portfolio should govern your approach to investing. It’s a good idea to periodically review your portfolio to ensure it’s still properly diversified.

The world will always be filled with unpredictable, uncontrollable events, and many of them will affect the financial markets to one degree or another. But within your own investment world, you always have a great deal of control – and with it, you have the power to keep moving toward all your important financial objectives.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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Future and Early Career Teachers Are Celebrated

Alpha Beta Chapter members of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society met at the El Paso Golf Club on May 17 to celebrate the accomplishments of future and early career teachers with awards.

The Alpha Chapter Grants of \$200 each were awarded by Marcia Wahls (Chenoa) to two high school graduates. Recipient Emma O’Lone from Pontiac High School will be pursuing a degree in art education at Illinois State University. Lynette Edelman of Prairie Central High School will be majoring in elementary education. First, she will attend Heartland Community College and then transfer to ISU.

Louann Harms (Fairbury) awarded \$100 Early Educator Grants to six teachers. Chapter member Margaret Dietz who teaches middle school language arts in Batavia plans to invest in some contemporary literature books. Carly Bolliger teaches Family and Consumer Science at Eureka High School and is purchasing non-stick pots and pans for the kitchens. Erin Blucker, a counselor at Eureka High School, will buy sensory items to help students calm down when they are talking with her along with games to help them learn to cope with difficult situations going on in their lives.

Gina Gerber, who teaches at Roanoke-Benson Junior High, also offers an elective 9-week art class for which she will purchase new materials. Brooklyn Vogel, Roanoke-Benson High School, will use funds to display students’ narratives in Walgreens photo books that future students may reflect on. Shannon Schumacher, Roanoke-Benson High School, will purchase a couple of curriculum bundles through Teachers Pay Teacher which include presentation materials, worksheets, tests, and fun projects.

Louann Harms reported on a change at the luncheon at the state convention. Members could choose to sit at a table which met an interest of theirs such as travel, cooking, and teaching levels. Those attending convention were Lou Ann Jacobs (Normal), Louann Harms, Marcia Wahls, Connie Rich (Fairbury), Karen Harms (Fairbury), and Janet Kilgus



BROOKLYN VOGEL, Caryl Bolliger, and Erin Blucker celebrate their receiving Early Career Educators’ grants.



SHELLY O’LONE, Emma O’Lone, Lynnette Edelman and Myra Edelman are pleased about their daughters receiving chapter grants and they look forward to their years of training to become teachers.

(Fairbury).

Two Alpha Beta members were recognized with certificates and a red rose for their years of membership in DKG. Carol Hughes (Roanoke) has been a member for 55 years and Janet Kilgus, 45 years. Elaine Cunningham (Minonk) led the members in singing “Celebrate” which coordinated with the evening’s events.

Co-President Lou Ann Jacobs reminded members to vote in the Illinois primary scheduled for June 28. Also, the legislature has designated 550 million dollars to education.

Officers for 2022-24 were installed. They include President Marcia Wahls, 1st Vice Pres. Louann Harms, 2nd Vice Pres. Carol Hughes, Recording Secretary Connie Rich, and Treasurer-Correspondent Janet

Kilgus.

Marcia Wahls encouraged all members to attend the planning meeting for next year’s programs to be held on June 9 at the Chenoa Family Restaurant. On September 11 Carol Hughes will lead the discussion of The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, one of the books recommended by the State Literacy Committee.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) promotes professional and personal growth and excellence in education. The Society has chapters in 17 countries and provides grants for educational projects, scholarships, leadership training, mentoring, and global networking opportunities. For more information, visit www.dkg.org or contact Carol Hughes at chughes@mtco.com.

South Wilmington Grade School 2022 Graduates



CORRECTION! The graduating Class of 2022 at South Wilmington Grade School, pictured, front row, from left, are Amia Colclasure, Madeline Simms, Josephine McElroy, Isabella Dinelli, Maya Rice; back row, Roman Faletti, Ayden Roge, Gavin Bafia, and Brock Enerson.

Church of Hope to Begin Summer Hours

The Church of Hope in Gardner will begin its summer worship time of 9:00 a.m. starting Sunday, June 5.

The service will be recorded and posted on their Facebook page, Church of Hope, on Sunday afternoon.

Morris Hospital Nationally Recognized with an ‘A’ for Patient Safety

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers received an ‘A’ on the spring 2022 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade that was released May 10, the hospital’s eighth consecutive ‘A’ since the fall of 2018. This national distinction recognizes Morris Hospital’s achievements in protecting patients from harm and error in the hospital.

“As our health care system continues to feel the strain of the pandemic, I thank the workforce and leadership of Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers for their sustained commitment to patient safety, day in and day out,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “This community should be proud.”

To see Morris Hospital’s full grade details and access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit hospitalsafetygrade.org.

Grundy County Government Day 2022



South Wilmington student Adi Slush recently participated in the Grundy County’s Government Day activities hosted by the University of Illinois Extension Office. Students in grades 5th-8th from all of the schools in Grundy County were encouraged to write an essay pertaining to Grundy County governmental offices. The essays were then reviewed by the governmental officials and students selected by the officials were then invited to participate in the event. Pictured are Adi Slush, Grundy County Health Dept. and Leah Olson, Regional Office of Education.

*Congratulations to the 2022
8th Grade & Senior Graduates!*

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All Classic Cars – Trucks Welcome!
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A new primary care provider for your family!

Dr. Mark Passerman and Kathy Ulivi, F.N.P.-B.C., welcome **Amy Bohland, F.N.P.-B.C.**, as the newest primary care provider at the **Dwight Healthcare Center of Morris Hospital**. As a certified family nurse practitioner, Amy provides care for patients of all ages. She is committed to listening and building trust with her patients to foster an open and honest relationship, serving as an excellent resource for:

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Doctor Andrea Elizabeth Flynn Graduates from UMSL School of Optometry

Dr. Andrea Elizabeth Flynn graduated on May 13 at 2:00 p.m. from UMSL – University of Missouri - St. Louis School of Optometry. The commencement ceremony was held at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on the University of Missouri - St. Louis campus.

Andrea was one of 37 doctors who graduated that afternoon. During the ceremony, Andrea was awarded The William Feinbloom Low Vision Award. This is given to a graduation student who, by study, interest and performance, has demonstrated aptitude in the clinical care of Low Vision Patients. The award honors William Feinbloom, O.D. Ph.D., a pioneer in the development of Low Vision Devices. This award is a 10,000 dollar award for the purchase of Low Vision Equipment. Andrea was also a member of The National Honor Society Beta Sigma Kappa.

Andrea is a 2014 graduate of Dwight Township High School where she was an Illinois State Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and class Salutatorian. She went on to attend Wesleyan University in Bloomington. While there, she was a member of the National Honor Society, the American Red Cross Blood Drive coordinator for Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society, a Mortar Board recipient and she graduated magna cum laude, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a minor in Psychology in 2018.

Andrea, along with her fiancé, Dr. Mason Schiltz, will begin her career in Wray, Colorado. She will have her optometry practice in Wray. Mason will have his practice in Yuma, CO. They will be married at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Odell in October 22, 2022. They will make their home in Wray, with their dogs Gus and Sonny.

Andrea is the daughter of Mike and Julie Flynn of Odell, and the granddaughter of Roger and Bonnie Austin of Pontiac, and Ron and Dana Flynn of Verona. Her family is beyond proud of everything she has accomplished these past eight years and are looking forward to seeing everything she accomplishes in Colorado.



Dr. Andrea Elizabeth Flynn



Dr. Andrea Elizabeth Flynn, her fiancé, Dr. Mason Schiltz, with Gus and Sonny



U.S. SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, CARLOS DEL TORO, was on hand as Scott A. "Bubba" Schultz was commissioned as an officer May 16. Scott Schultz, left, and Mary Schultz, right, are "Bubba" Schultz's parents.

Scott 'Bubba' Schultz Commissioned Into U.S. Navy

Scott A. "Bubba" Schultz, a 2018 Dwight Township High School graduate, commissioned into the United States Navy as an officer May 16 in Washington, D.C.

Ensign Schultz was part of the Capital Battalion Class of 2022, including students from The George Washington University, Georgetown University, Howard University, and The Catholic University of America. Carlos Del Toro, the U.S. Secretary of the Navy, was on hand

for the event and issued the oath to the candidates.

Next, Ensign Schultz will relocate to Pensacola, Florida, where he will attend the Naval Flight Evaluation Program at Naval Air Station Pensacola. He graduated cum laude May 14 from The George Washington University with a degree in chemistry.

"Bubba" is the son of Scott and Mary Schultz, both of Dwight.



Ensign Schultz

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St. Paul School, Odell, 4th Quarter Honor Roll

St. Paul School, Odell, announces fourth quarter honor roll students.

Straight A's:
7th grade: Joe Duffy, Luke Josefik

5th grade: Emma Eggenberger, McKenna Lovell

High Honors:
7th grade: Addison Eggenberger, Hunter Paulsen, Evan Wolf

6th grade: Stella Turner

5th grade: Mike Josefik, Lilly Wolf

Honors:
7th grade: Noah Davis, Coe Peters

Way to go, Izzy!

JUNE is Adopt-a-Cat Month!

Wish This Guy a
Happy 60th Birthday
May 31!



SIUC Students Earn Dean's List Honors, Graduate

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's 2022 spring semester degree candidates and Dean's List honorees have been announced, featuring the following area students:

Graduate
Daniel R. Muller, Dwight –

BS in Electrical Engineering.

Dean's List
Daniel R. Muller, Dwight – 4; Isabella J. Burkhardt, Gardner – 2; Carson E. Halpin, South Wilmington – 3 (straight A grades).

Area Students Grace KCC Honors List

The following area students have been named to the Honors List at Kankakee Community College for the spring 2022 semester:

- **Braceville:** Cassandra Hooks.
- **Buckingham:** Alyssa Rattin.
- **Dwight:** Anna Murphy.
- **Essex:** Brandi Sorensen.

- **Herscher:** Benjamin Elzinga, Justin Wagner.
- **Odell:** Maria Bahena.
- **Reddick:** Connor O'Brien.

To be named to the Honors List, a student must maintain a grade point average between 3.25 and 3.79 and be enrolled in six or more semester hours.

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OBITUARY

Margaret L. ‘Peggy’ Fogarty

DWIGHT – Margaret L. “Peggy” Fogarty, 91, of Dwight, Illinois passed away at 2:09 p.m., Monday, May 23, 2022, at Heritage Healthcare in Dwight, Illinois.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 1, 2022 in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Dwight.

Memorials in honor of Peggy may be made to St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dwight, Disabled American Veterans, or a charity of the donor’s choice.

Peggy was born January 10, 1931 in Dwight, Illinois, daughter of Louis and Lucille (Chamness) Fogarty.



She is survived by a large family of cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

Peggy was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church and the Altar and Rosary Society.

She graduated from Dwight Township High School. She worked for the Dwight VA Hospital and Hines VA Hospital in Chicago as a medical secretary for 37 years. In retirement, she spent her time caring for family and friends and helping others.

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

Support Groups, Training Courses

Morris Hospital Announces Stroke Support Group

A Stroke Support Group will meet Wednesday, June 15, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. at the Diagnostic & Rehabilitative Center of Morris Hospital, 100 Gore Rd., Suite H, Morris. The support group facilitator is a speech pathologist from Morris Hospital.

The Stroke Support Group is for individuals who have a history of stroke or any neurological event, as well as their caregivers, spouses, and loved ones. The session typically includes a guest speaker who provides education and is available to answer questions.

Register online at morrishospital.org/events, or call Morris Hospital’s Speech Therapy Department at 815-705-7440.

Morris Hospital Announces Babysitter’s Training Course

A Babysitter’s Training Course is set for Friday, June 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1 on the lower level of Morris Hospital, 150 W. High St., Morris. The class will also be offered on July 8 and August 5.

The Babysitter’s Training Course is designed for youths age 11 and older who are interested in acquiring the information and education needed for a safe babysitting experience. Participants should take a doll to class along with an e-mail address so their certificate can be sent to them by the American Red Cross upon completion of the class. Face masks must be worn during class.

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



Technology and how it intertwines with our day to day lives is forever evolving. Sometimes it’s really beneficial, sometimes it’s too intrusive (see the Facebook lawsuit that was just settled with residents in Illinois), and sometimes it’s entirely detrimental (see basically all of social media.)

There is one segment of technology where I’m very bullish and that is in the health sector, and specifically the wearable technology health sector.

There are countless brands and subsections of wearable technology, with the Apple Watch probably being the biggest and most prominent. And then there’s Fitbit. However, I am partial to the Whoop, which is sort of a hybrid between the Apple Watch and the Fitbit.

The Whoop captures basic biometric facts about your day to day vitals. Some being resting heart rate, your respiratory rate when you sleep, your peak heart rate through the day, skin temperature, and your oxygen level.

Now, each of those individually won’t tell you that much of a story, and even those collectively don’t tell you everything, but when you start to see a baseline of what your numbers usually are they start to paint a fairly descriptive picture each day.

When I contracted Covid this past winter I did not feel well, but the first day before it really hit me, my resting heart rate and respiratory rate were noticeably higher than normal, which sort of raised my antenna, and sure enough I was actually sick. Even this past week I had blood pressure taken and even before it was taken I already had a general frame of reference for what it would be.

I think this is just the tip of the iceberg for how much we will begin to know about our bodies on a day to day basis. I think eventually it will save lives by helping people be proactive with long term illnesses that may initially fly under the radar but would be caught by a fluctuation in your body’s daily numbers.

I am a big proponent of anything in this medical realm and would recommend investing in any of them. It’s just more items in the tool belt to make sure our bodies are running like well-oiled machines.

Go, Cubs!

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

★★

Col. Wando Retires After 40 Years in Marines

(continued from page 1)

when he’s asked how many times he was deployed. But, he can tell you most of the over 50 countries he’s been to.

Col. Wando, who graduated from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1993 while in the Marines, took his first deployment to Beirut, Lebanon, and Israel in 1983-84. Then over the years he saw, Spain, Italy, Libya, Egypt, the Persian Gulf, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and went all around the Mediterranean Sea.

Col. Wando helped escort Iraq tankers during the first days of the tanker wars, has a Golden Shellback (which means he crossed the equator and the International Dateline at the same time aboard ship), has a Blue Nose for being aboard ship when it crosses the Arctic Ocean (he was going to Norway), was involved in Iraq during the invasion, was part of the effort that cut the bridge between Kuwait and Iraq, was at Camp Fallujah in Iraq during those battles, and helped prepare troops for Afghanistan with running live-fire training in California.

“When I first came in, the Sergeants and above were all Vietnam veterans, so I learned a lot of lessons from that era, generation of Marines. It paid dividends when I went into Iraq in 2003,” Col. Wando said. “Nobody else in the unit had thought to do a live-fire test of all of the crew-served and the vehicle-mounted weapon systems. I told my operations officer that we were stopping and turning all of our guns north and shooting them so we knew which ones worked and which ones needed to get fixed because I wasn’t about to cross the line of departure in hostile territory without test firing the weapons.

“That had been instilled

from that generation of Vietnam veterans. I made sure that we had a test fire range before you went outside of the operating base. There were pits set up just outside of the gates so that enemy forces would see us firing weapons and they knew that we were serious and loaded. No one wants to tackle a porcupine.”

From 2003 and on, Col. Wando’s bad days during employment were turned into good days and the good days were made great as he received a little piece of home six times a year – Valentine’s Day, Easter, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans Day, and Christmas – in the form of SOS packages.

“We have supported Col. Wando for his services during his career,” said Annette Riegel, who joined Carol Dippon and Marcia Drach to form Support Our Soldiers (SOS) in 2003. “His dad Steve lives in Dwight. He has a brother Tom, who actually graduated from the Naval Academy. At first, Steve didn’t want to put Will on the list because he’s an officer and thought the packages should go to the younger, enlisted guys.

“My son was an officer also. He told me that he’d open the packages and give them to his guys. Some people don’t know somebody who is going to send them anything. By sending packages, they can share and support other people who didn’t get support from home.”

Col. Wando enjoyed every package whether he kept it or shared it with his men.

The support helped him continue every mission knowing the people back home appreciated his efforts.

“When I first joined the Marine Corps, I got spit on and was called all kinds of names,” said Col. Wando. “I hadn’t even

been to boot camp yet. When I flew out to California, the group of us recruits was standing on the sidewalk waiting for a bus to take us from the airport to the recruiting depot, people were driving by and throwing bottles and cans at us while calling us, ‘Baby killers.’

“That all changed after Granada and Beirut. We lost all those service members. Ever since then, especially with organizations like Support Our Soldiers in Dwight, the support has been phenomenal. I can’t say enough about the morale boost that those people provide. It means a lot to me when organizations like SOS care enough to have kids write heartfelt letters and send us gifts. It doesn’t matter how big or how small, just the thought that someone cares about us, means the world.”

Now the question is, what’s next for Col. Wando?

After 40 years of service, is there anything else he would like to do?

“I got caught up in the vibe of the Marine Corps. Most people get a high or an adrenaline rush doing certain things and mine is when I’m training or working with a group of Marines to develop them and a team,” Col. Wando said. “All through my career, I developed high-performance teams and I’ve been on some special projects, very neat assignments.

“One of my bosses when I was at a low point in the Pentagon, said, ‘If you’re not having fun, it’s time to move on.’ I’ve always tried to have fun in what I did. I told myself, ‘When it stops being fun, I’ll leave.’ Now, I have to find something else that’s fun.”

The Col. mentioned spending time with his wife of five years, Cyndi Wando, in their home outside of Huntsville, Alabama, and their four children

as Cyndi has two girls from her first marriage – Ashley (28) and Haley (25) – and Col. Wando has two boys from a previous marriage with Mitchell (19, who is a Lance Cpl. in the Marines) and Kai (17, who will be a senior in high school this fall).

There is also the possibility of his applications being answered and accepted.

“I would like to stay in defense or I have a couple of applications to NASA,” Col. Wando said. “I would like to do something bigger than regional conflicts, so I’ve reached out to NASA because reaching out to Mars or the Moon would excite me. I had applied during the shuttle program days, but I had a good friend whose father just happened to be the director of NASA at the time and said it was a bad idea because they were shutting down the program.

“I’m glad I listened and stayed in the Marines.”

Whatever he’s doing. Wherever he’s going. He has a great story to tell and it all starts with Dwight.

“Dwight was a great place to grow up. In my generation, we were the kids that drank out of a water hose and stayed out until the street lights came on to know when it was time to go home,” Col. Wando remembers. “We played in the woods and all around Renfrew Park. Where the high dive at the swimming pool is, is where our treehouse used to be. We were a little sad when they tore down our treehouse, but we were happy when they built a swimming pool. Dwight is wonderful and has a lot of great people.”

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

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

The Paper

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
MAZON/VERONA/KINSMAN
RESCUE SQUAD DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for the 2022-2023 fiscal year for the Mazon/Verona/Kinsman Rescue Squad District, Grundy County, Illinois, at 6:00 P.M., on Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Mazon/Verona/Kinsman Rescue Squad District, at the District’s headquarters station located at 606 Front Street, Mazon, IL 60444.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a tentative form of said Budget and Appropriations Ordinance will be on file and available for public inspection at the District’s headquarters station located at 606 Front Street, Mazon, IL 60444 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday beginning on June 8, 2022.

McClarey Law Firm
Donald R. McClarey
and Donald John McClarey
313 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight, IL 60420
(Also Engaged in the General Practice of Law)

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with 35 years experience in representing clients
filing chapter 7 or chapter 13 Bankruptcy Petitions.

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We help people file for bankruptcy relief.

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.

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CHRISTY STANTON, and unknown owners
and non-record claimants,
Defendants.

No. 22-FC-26
NOTICE

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

Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block 9 in D.S. Myers’ First Addition to the City of Pontiac, and a parcel of land in Lot 1 in Block 1, in E.M. Schrock’s Addition to the City of Pontiac, described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Lot 1, thence extending South along the West line of said Lot 1 to the North line of the first alley South of Wabash Street, thence East to the line of the right-of-way of the Wabash Railroad, thence Northwest along the line of the right-of-way of the Wabash Railroad to the Place of Beginning, all situated in Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-15-487-017

Commonly known as: 1228 N. Walnut St., Pontiac, IL 61764.

The title holder of record to the above described real estate is CHRISTY STANTON. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on June 13, 2018 and recorded on June 14, 2018 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2018R-02334, and a Modification of Mortgage executed on November 12, 2021 and recorded on November 15, 2021 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 2021R-05708. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 22-FC-26 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 July 1, 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.

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



American Legion Outstanding Citizen:
Samuel Edwards and Ella Kargle.



Military: Carter Butterbrodt: Marine Corps.
Kaleb Duden: Marine Corps, Scott Harkenrider: Marine Corps.



Ivan "Zeke" Zimmerman Scholarship
Presented by Pat Halloran to Rachel Heath.



American Legion Honorable Mention:
Kaleb Duden and Rachel Heath.



Steiniche Scholarship
Ella Kargle, Leticia DeLara, and Jordan Schultz.



Dwight Woman's Club Scholarship
Presented by Chris Myers: Jordan Schultz and Ella Kargle.

A list of ALL the awards and recipients is at right.

Dwight Township High School Holds Senior Awards Night



JERRY CURTIS, left, and **David Taylor**, right, of **Livingston Masonic Lodge #371** presented three \$1,000 scholarships at the DTHS Awards Night May 22. The DTHS seniors receiving the scholarships are, left to right, **Jordan Schultz**, **Alayna Airgood**, and **Ella Kargle**. This is the first year that Livingston Masonic Lodge has presented scholarships and plans to continue this program in the future. Livingston Masonic Lodge #371 provides the first \$1,000 scholarship and The Grand Lodge Of Illinois in Springfield provides a \$1,000 matched and \$1,000 unmatched scholarship. The scholarships are approved for a four-year university/college, a community/junior college, or technical school.

On May 22,, Dwight Township High School hosted the 12th annual Senior Awards Night in the Auditorium. Thirty-eight students were recognized for academic, athletic and vocational accomplishments. High school faculty also presented department awards. In addition, seniors received over \$34,000 in scholarships presented by community based organizations and businesses in our community/county, who generously offer scholarship opportunities each year.

DTHS extended its thanks to all their scholarship donors. They are so appreciative of the relationships they have made over the last 12 years to be able to honor and recognize their students

SENIOR AWARDS 2022
Academic Awards (Earning 3.5 GPA for 2021-2022 School Year)

Landon Brown, Ashton Burkhardt, Carter Butterbrodt, Jeremy Kapper, Kyle Kosek, Keegan Krug, Daniel Petree, Dillon Sarff, Justin Seabert, John Chronister, Jacob Mac-cani, Ryan Turner, Darien Guyer, Blake Peet, Orren Webster.

Board Scholars (Earning 4.0 GPA for 2021-2022 School Year)

Alayna Airgood, Eric Bermudez, Leticia DeLara, Kortney Dyer, Samuel Edwards,

Emmett Emmons, Rachel Heath, Ella Kargel, Shawn Romanetto, Jordan Schultz, Emily Scott, Alexis Thetard, Brooke Vigna

President's Award

Alayna Airgood, Eric Bermudez, Carter Butterbrodt, Leticia DeLara, Kortney Dyer, Emmett Emmons, Nathanael Granby, Daniel Petree, Jordan Schultz, Emily Scott, Alexis Thetard, Brooke Vigna.

Illinois State Scholars

Alayna Airgood, Ella Kargle, Emily Scott.

Department Awards

Agriculture

Justin Seabert

Art

Katelyn Erickson

Chorus

Dalton Galloway

English

Ella Kargle

FACS

Rachel Heath

Industrial Arts

Jack Denker

Math

Alayna Airgood

Physical Education

Samuel Edwards

Science

Brooke Vigna

Social Studies

Kyle Kosek

Spanish

Jordan Schultz

Technology

Rachel Heath, Ella Kargle, Brooke Vigna

Band Awards

Martin N. Nelson

Emily Scott

Carlie Whitson

Kortney Dyer

American Legion Awards

Honorable Mention: Rachel Heath and Kaleb Duden.

Outstanding Citizen: Ella Kargle and Samuel Edwards.

Band: Dalton Galloway.

Athlete: Rachel Heath, Samuel Edwards and Emmett Emmons.

High School Heisman School Award

Ella Kargle

Military

Carter Butterbrodt: Marine Corps.

Kaleb Duden: Marine Corps.

Scott Harkenrider: Marine Corps.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2022

Bank of Pontiac—Dwight Scholarship

Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz

Cathy & Lee Nelson Educational Scholarship

Alexis Thetard

Chesebro/Cushman/Kyser Scholarship

Jordan Schultz

Constellation Energy Group Scholarship

Emily Scott

DAR Good Citizen Award

Rachel Heath

Dr. J Leadership Award

Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz

Dwight Education Association Scholarship

Alexis Thetard

Dwight Lions Club Scholarship

Rachel Heath

Dwight Lions Club-Keith Lauritzen Memorial Student/Athlete Scholarship

Jordan Schultz

Dwight Music Boosters Scholarship

Kortney Dyer

Dwight Woman's Club Scholarship

Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz

Livingston County Farm Bureau/Ethel K. Hoerner Scholarship

Justin Seabert

Gertrude K. Terwillegar Nursing Scholarship

Leticia DeLara

Ivan "Zeke" Zimmerman Scholarship

Rachel Heath

Jerry Beier "B+" Scholarship

Rachel Heath

Joliet Junior College Foundation Scholarship

Kortney Dyer

Livingston Masonic Lodge Scholarship

Alayna Airgood, Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz

Nate Severson Family Memorial Scholarship

Justin Seabert

Roger B. Gomien Memorial Scholarship

Rachel Heath

SOCU Scholarship

Kyle Kosek

Steiniche Scholarship

Leticia DeLara, Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz

Vicki Briner Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Leticia DeLara

Warren Herter Memorial Scholarship

Ella Kargle and Jordan Schultz





the residences at

EVENGLOW



You're Invited

Friday, June 10

Dwight Country Club

31577 N. 2400 E. Rd., Dwight, IL 60420

11 a.m. ~ Lunch is provided

Please RSVP to 815-844-6131

LEARN ABOUT exciting changes

The Residences at Evenglow will be a perfect choice for residents who prefer an ideal location in the heart of downtown Pontiac close to all that matters.

Our 22 new, independent-living apartments range from 700 to 1,060 square feet and feature full kitchens, large bedrooms, expansive balconies and more.

Join us Friday, June 10, to learn about senior living options, making a plan for the future and answers to specific questions about the Evenglow expansion.



PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail)

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

Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life You are with me. I want in this short prayer to Thank You for all things 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.

KMR



DCS AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS. Pictured, front row, from left, Jack Statler - Outstanding Male Citizenship, Paitlyn Schmidberger - Outstanding Choral Member, Sophie Buck - Outstanding Female Athlete, Sarah Parker - Outstanding Female Citizenship Runner-up. Back row, from left, Katy Dolan - Outstanding Female Citizenship, Outstanding Band Member, Joey Starks - Outstanding Male Athlete, Ryan Bean - Outstanding Choral Member Runner-up, Jackson Launius - Outstanding Male Citizenship Runner-up, and Mikey Groves - Outstanding Band Member Runner-up.



DCS GRADUATION
held May 25
in the DTHS
Kresl Gymnasium



DCS BOARD SCHOLAR. Pictured, front row, from left, Makayla Wahl-Seabert, Jack Statler, Sophie Buck, Sarah Parker; back row, Taylor Heath, Ryan Bean, Katy Dolan, and Marissa Betsworth.



DCS HIGH HONOR ROLL. Pictured, front row, from left, Natalia Brown, Dori Wilson, Kamryn Folkers, Zander Tarnowski, Indira Bradley, Madison Ely; back row, Ethan Zappa, Gavin Leach, Joey Starks, Jackson Launius, Mikey Groves, Maddox DeLong, Taylor Frobish, and Paityn Schmidberger.



DCS PERFECT
ATTENDANCE –
Dori Wilson.



DCS HONOR ROLL. Sam Clocksin, Filemon Ortiz, Ben Squellati, Evan Cox, Jake Wilkey, Asher Kargle, Brooklynn Todd.

Cap and Gown

by Brandon LaChance



Recently, I moved from a two-bedroom apartment to a three-bedroom house with a fully finished basement.

As a journalist who needs quiet time away from the family to get some work done, the basement has become my domain. In the moving process, I've gone through many boxes, saw many items I forgot I had, and the memories began to flow.

One box marked Christmas didn't have a single winter festivity ornament, stocking, light, or anything red or green. Instead, it was full of high school memorabilia.

There was the purple and gold tassel with the Class of 2004 medallion connected to it. The tassel was intertwined with jacket patches – 2004 and an M with a basketball in the middle – representing my time on the Mendota basketball team. They never did make it to a jersey jacket...not my style.

Photo books flipped open with faces I've seen in the last week and ones I haven't seen since graduation day. The yearbook, which I only have my senior year, still freshly reads each of the five signatures I collected.

Then there is the cap and gown.

I still remembered what I wore under the purple garb even though some of the pictures I mentioned would have reminded me anyway. I wore a gray button-up my mother, Lisa Lingelbach, purchased for me for Homecoming sophomore year. Since I wanted to be a stud, I wore a black tie, black slacks, and black dress shoes.

As we lined in alphabetical order in the hallway prior to walking across the stage, two of my closest childhood friends and I yelled over the rest of the graduating class as I'm an L and they were a D and a W. It didn't matter, we had made it even though some of the very same people we were yelling over thought we would be dropouts.

Although the superintendent had been told how to properly pronounce my name (La-Shance), he still said La-Chance when I walked across. I remember turning my head around when half of the basketball team yelled Chauncey. Then I looked in the crowd and saw my mother, my stepfather, my sister, my uncle, my aunt, my cousins, and my grandparents beaming with smiles.

The only other memory I have of the ceremony besides

checking my watch to see when we would be leaving, is of throwing the cap, which had my name written on it, toward the rafters in celebration that high school was over.

The outfit I described wasn't for graduation itself, but for my party afterward with the guest list including almost my entire family, a love interest, a few of my teachers, and neighbors who were probably happy I was leaving for Southern Illinois University in three months.

We lived in building N, which was the last letter of the Mendota southside complex. Instead of renting a room in an unfamiliar hall, we set up card tables in the backyard and shared cheers while we watched a game of soccer in the middle of the complex and smelled a few different cookouts.

We had our own great food and our own tunes as my friend backed his car between M and N, opened his trunk, and showed off his new sound system.

My aunt said, 'There is no reason for all of that bass.' Everyone at the party laughed. I was hugged and congratulated by everyone invited and a few who needed a break from the soccer match. I still thank all of them for helping me realize I did something special.

And just like that, I'm 36, moving into a house remembering my time in high school, college, and everything else between.

Those pictures made me smile.

The jacket letters made me think about a more athletic time.

The cap and gown made me feel proud of how far I made it and helped me realize it all started on high school graduation day.

For those of you who just graduated, congratulations!

I hope you cherish what you've just accomplished!

And in time, I hope you find a box of all of those memories and feel the same kind of pride you had when you walked across the stage and hugged your parents on what will be one of your crowning achievements in life...high school graduation.

Dwight Village Board Defers Prison Purchase Resolution

(continued from page 1)

An Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village and Dwight Common School #230 was approved with some minor revisions from previous agreements.

A resolution was passed to re-establish the Dwight Economic Development Commission. The group will initially begin with five members but will be expanded as deemed appropriate.

The 4th of July fireworks, sponsored by the Dwight Economic Alliance, will again be launched at Garrett Park. The T-Ball field across the street will be available for activities and family viewing.

A resolution was approved to present to the State of Illinois for the 2022 Dwight Harvest Days parade route and road closures. Street closures and a sound amplification permit for the Dwight Harvest Days Committee were also presented and approved. The Harvest Days committee will not have the need for Park Street to be

closed this year.

Trustees present at the meeting were Marla Kinkade, Randy Irvin, Chuck Butterbrodt, and Jenny Johnson. Absent were Pete Meister and Justin Eggenberger. The next village meeting will be Monday June 13 at the Public Services Complex.

Congrats,
Graduates!

Queen of hearts RAFFLE
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Prize Pool \$25,500
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
NEW RULE: Winner need not be present to win 70% of pot or 50/50 Raffle.
Food available with limited seating and capacity. Casual Dress.
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closed this year.

Trustees present at the meeting were Marla Kinkade, Randy Irvin, Chuck Butterbrodt, and Jenny Johnson. Absent were Pete Meister and Justin Eggenberger. The next village meeting will be Monday June 13 at the Public Services Complex.

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Victory Lanes, Wednesday Night Men’s League Champs



CHAMPIONS! Victory Lanes, Dwight, crowned the new Wednesday Night Men’s League Champs recently. Team members, pictured, front row, from left, are John Airgood, “Speedy”; back row, Brandon Petry, Chris Cook, and Jeff Gallup.



THE DWIGHT TROJANS boys track team ended the 2022 season at Eastern Illinois University in the Class A state finals. The 4x400 relay team (Jack Duffy, Ayden Roff, Sam Edwards, Emmett Emmons) competed in the preliminary round on May 26. The two alternates, Austin Burkhardt and Carter Butterbrodt, made the trip to Charleston and supported their teammates. The squad entered the race ranked 25th with a sectional time of 3:36.79. Their prelim performance went well, as they improved their season best time to 3:35.23, which put them in 20th place out of 30 teams. “Improving their rank by five spots against this level of competition is awesome,” said Coach Lane. “The coaches were very happy and proud of their performance. Thanks to the family and friends who supported the boys in Charleston. Congratulations, Trojans!” Pictured, from left, are Burkhardt, Edwards, Emmons, Roff, Duffy, and Butterbrodt.

NEW

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GSGB’S TYLER GUBBINS earned the top spot at state in the 400m dash, running a time of 55.60.

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Maddie

Tyler

Maya

1600-3rd
800-7th

800-8th

100-4th
400-1st
200-2nd

High Jump-2nd

THE GSGB TIGERS took part in the IESA state meet May 13-14. Pictured, from left, are Maddie Simms (1600, 3rd; 800, 7th), Christopher Ozee (800, 8th), Tyler Gubbins (100, 4th; 400, 1st; 200, 2nd), and Maya Rice (high jump, 2nd). Story appears on page 11.

Coaching a Summer League?

Send your results to *The Paper!* thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

28th Annual Children’s FISHING DERBY

Saturday, June 11

REGISTRATION: Begins at 9:00 a.m.

FISHING: starts at 10:00 a.m.

LUNCH: 12 noon Awards to Follow. Fee: FREE

AGES: 2-16 YEARS*

* Parents must attend and sign waiver.

Godley Park District
500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley
www.godleypark.com or call 815-458-6129

Children ages 2-16 will enjoy the sunshine as they try to catch the most fish or the biggest fish in our stocked pond.

Tri-Point’s Mogged Closes Out HS Career in Impressive Fashion

Bobby Mogged, of Tri-Point High School, advanced to the state finals for the second straight year on May 26 – this time in two events (110 hurdles and 300 hurdles).

Mogged won his heat in the 110 hurdles with a time of 15.23 (new school record) and placed second in his heat of the 300 hurdles with a time of 41.85.

T-P’s senior standout would then cap off an incredible high school career with a fifth place finish in both the 110 hurdles (15.45) and the 300 hurdles (41.72) in the state finals.

After an injury that held him out for about a month, Mogged fought an uphill battle and made it back to the big blue track to find success.

He will be continuing his academic and track and field career the next four years at Illinois Wesleyan.

“Stay tuned,” said Coach Matt Mogged. “The best is yet to come!”

GSWB Athletes Compete at State Gubbins Crowned State Champ

On May 13 and 14, seven Gardner-South Wilmington-Braceville athletes competed at the IESA State Meet in nine different 2A events, collectively taking home seven state medals in individual events and emerging with a state champion from the Tigers team.

“They worked so hard and did so well this weekend in some very hot conditions,” said Coach Anne Simms.

The 4x200 7AA fell short of placing but continued to set a new school record. Christopher Ozee, Logan Rice, Aiden Mack, and Tyler Gubbins ran a time of 1:54.13.

Gubbins ran an outstanding 400 dash to win the state championship title with a personal best time of 55.60. This time also clinched the school record.

Additionally, Gubbins placed second in the 200 with a time of 24.71. He also continued his award-winning day by placing fourth in the 100 dash with a time of 12.60.

Ozee, after competing in the 4x200 relay, went on to run the 800, running a personal best time of 2:25.41 to secure an eighth place medal.

Maya Rice ran a great race in the 100 dash with a time of 14.32. She also competed in the high jump, which she clinched a second place medal with her jump of 4’7”.

Maddie Simms delivered a great race in the 1600 to secure a third place finish with a time of 5:52.31. Simms also ran a personal best time in the 800, running a 2:33.70 to earn a seventh place finish.

With the performances by Gubbins and Ozee, the Tigers seventh grade boys team finished fifth overall out of a total of 47 2A teams competing at the state meet.

The girls team, consisting o Rice and Simms, took the 12th spot for 2A eighth grade girls out of 51 total teams competing.

“Overall, it was a fantastic weekend for our Tiger track team,” Simms stated. “We are so excited for these amazing team results and to have a state champion on our team.”

Grundy County SWCD Rain Barrel Sale

Looking into conserving water or a healthier way to water your garden?

The Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District is starting a Rain Barrel Sale, running until June 9, with the pick-up date being June 16.

The sale includes different colored rain barrels, as well as attachments for the barrels.

If you would like an order form mailed or e-mailed to you, call their office to let them know at 815-942-0359, ext. 3. Order forms are also available on their website, grundycountyswcd.weebly.com or the link can be found on their Facebook page by searching Grundy County Soil & Water Conservation District.

If you have any questions or would like help in the selection process, fell free to contact them at the phone number listed.



GARDNER AREA BAND Director Michael Leone leads the band in its Spring Concert May 10. Because of COVID restrictions, the band hasn’t been able to host its annual Spring Concert since 2019. The band performed a wide variety of music for the large audience in attendance. After performing at GSW’s graduation, the Gardner Area Band will be performing a live concert at Mount Rushmore Amphitheater Saturday, June 4, at 11:30 a.m.

Family activities to get kids off the couch

Thanks to increasingly busy weekday schedules that have families running in different directions, weekends are an ideal time to recharge. Too often, however, family members retire to their respective rooms, devices in hand.

Kommando Tech says people spend an average of three hours and 15 minutes on their phones each day, with Americans spending 5.4 hours a day using phones.

A sedentary lifestyle can lead to weight gain, loss of muscle strength, weak bones, diminished immune system response, and poor blood circulation. These fun activities can get kids and parents off the couch on weekends.

- Take a family bike ride**
Inflate those tires and tighten your helmet chin straps. A family bike ride is an ideal activity for the family because it is something that can be enjoyed by all age groups.
- Wash the cars**
It’s a chore, but it’s one that has the potential for lots of laughs along the way — and possibly a suds fight.
- Engage in sports training**
Whether the children participate in organized sports or not, set up an obstacle course or fitness circuit in the backyard. Everyone takes turns going through the course.
- Do a walking tour**
Educational attractions are great to visit on weekends. The family will see new sights and learn important information about exhibits, all the while walking a few miles.
- Visit an amusement park**
Research the nearest amusement park and take a road trip for the day.
- Check out a driving range**
Practice golf swings at a driving range or a virtual driving range. The possibilities for physically active family engagement are endless and beneficial for the body in myriad ways.

Kankakee Kultivators Present Garden Tour and Faire June 23

“GARDENS!—All Shapes, All Sizes, All Colors” will entertain, educate, and inspire “garden walkers” this year when the Kankakee Kultivators present their 28th Annual Garden Tour and Faire. From a hidden haven in the woods, to a garden filled with memories of beloved Italian ancestors, to a community garden designed especially for seniors—this year’s garden walk will affirm that gardening can be for everyone.

The Walk will take place Thursday, June 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For information call 815-954-3914. Tickets for those who want to visit the featured gardens are available at outlets listed below.*

Creators of the eight unique and beautiful gardens being shared

this year include the following gardeners: Steve and Lois Call, Michaela Celot, Alan and Wendy Clodi, David and Gayle Fischer, Father Dan and his parish garden club at St. George Catholic Church, Rick and Patti Manuel, members of the Westwood Oaks senior community, and the Column Garden’s three-member team—Kankakee County Museum, Kankakee Park District, and Kankakee Kultivators.

Near the Vendors’ Faire on the grounds of the Museum this year, the Column Garden will spotlight Kultivator docents who will be on duty to teach visitors about all the shade-loving plants which make the Garden so lovely—a special offering for all who are interested in learning about gardening.

The Museum has recruited KVT actors who will appear in costume to chat with visitors and help immerse them in

Kankakee’s history. There will be multiple food trucks/booths for a variety of taste treats. All members of the public, with or without tickets, are welcome to enjoy the indoor and outdoor presentations plus shopping at vendors’ booths on the grounds around the Museum and the Civic Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Tickets for visiting the eight gardens featured on this Garden Walk are for sale in six nearby areas: Aroma Park—Ryan’s Pier; Bourbonnais—Tholens’ Garden Center; Grant Park—Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse; Manteno—Made for Me; Momence—Off the Vine; and Kankakee—Benoit’s Greenhouses, Busse & Rieck, Joy’s Hallmark, Love Christian Center.

GSW HS Main Office Summer Hours

Starting Monday, June 6, and running through Friday, August 12, Gardner-South Wilmington High School’s Main Office summer hours will be Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The office will be closed on Wednesdays and Fridays.



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Gas Prices For This Week

Since last Monday, the national average for a gallon of regular gasoline has increased by a penny to \$4.60. The softening of gas demand has helped minimize price increases going into Memorial Day Weekend. However, gas demand may spike over the weekend, as American drivers take to the roads for the holiday. If demand slows again following the holiday weekend, pump price increases could be limited as crude prices remain volatile.

City/Village	June 1	May 23
Dwight	\$4.78	\$4.77
Kankakee	\$4.81	\$4.86
Streator	\$4.74	\$4.79
Pontiac	\$4.68	\$4.49
Gardner	\$4.89	\$4.81
Braceville	\$4.62	\$4.69
Morris	\$4.75	\$4.79
Herschler	\$4.75	\$4.72
Chicago	\$5.28	\$5.37
Illinois	\$4.99	\$4.81
U.S.	\$4.60	\$4.59

Sources: GasBuddy.com and U.S. Energy Information Administration.


Gasoline price data collected by
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’19 F150 S/C XLT, 25K, 4WD.....\$38,900	’20 Explorer ST, 18K, 4WD.....Just In!
’19 F250 Crew Lariat, 47K, 4WD, 4” Lift.....\$56,900	’20 Explorer ST, 13K, 4WD.....Just In!
’18 F150 Crew XLT, 70K, 4 WD.....\$32,900	’20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD.....\$47,900
’18 F150 Crew XLT, 27K, 4 WD.....\$37,900	’20 Escape Titanium, 2K, AWD.....\$37,900
’18 F150 Crew XLT, 45K, 4WD.....\$37,900	’20 Explorer XLT, 31K, RWD.....\$34,900
’18 F150 Crew XLT, 56K, 4WD.....\$36,900	’19 Explorer Platinum, 56K, 4WD.....\$40,900
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’18 F150 S/C XLT, 47K, 4WD, 8’ Bed, HD Susp...\$37,900	’19 Nautilus Reserve, 13K, AWD.....\$48,900
’16 F250 Crew XLT, 46K, 4WD, Diesel.....Just In!	’18 Escape SEL, 68K, FWD.....Just In
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’11 F150 Crew XLT, 163K, 4WD.....\$17,900	’18 Explorer LTD, 62K, FWD.....\$33,900
’11 Silverado 1500 Crew LT, 114K, 2WD.....\$16,900	’17 Mazda CX-5 Grand Select, 29K, AWD.....\$28,900
	’14 Escape SE, 94K, FWD.....\$14,900
	’14 Escape SE, 103K, FWD.....\$13,900
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Shipmate Sent Ashore for the Last Time

Captain Neitzke Retires as Deputy Force Chaplain



IN HONOR OF RETIREMENT David (COL USA Ret.) and Ellen Emling presenting Captain Neitzke with a flag flown over the Capitol.

(continued from page 1)

combatant officer performed his selected occupation and mission until his birthday, April 22, 2022, when he turned 60 years old. On his birthday, the Navy sent him retirement papers as his duties with the military were complete after 26 years.

“Djibouti is our main base in Africa. At any given time, there are about 5,000 service people there from all branches of the military. Plus, you have some foreign military there and local civilian workers are on base,” said Captain Neitzke, who was in Iraq at the beginning of the war in 2003 and he spent a year in Djibouti as the Command Chaplain at Camp Lemonnier. “I’ve been on aircraft carriers and destroyers. I built roads on a Native American reservation with the Marines. I did a ceremony with President Barack Obama on Memorial Day in 2010.

“It was at the Abraham Lincoln National Veterans Cemetery in Elwood. I had often done the Memorial Day service and we didn’t know the president was coming. I started getting calls from the cemetery asking what my social security number was, what’s my driver’s license number, and my birth date. They said to be there three hours early and the Secret Service is going to go through your vehicle. I knew what was going on then. I got to shake the president’s hand, share a few words with him, and stand behind him during the ceremony.”

Ordained as a priest in 1989 (he will celebrate his 33-year

anniversary on June 3), Fr. Neitzke began as a civilian priest.

However, he wanted to be in the Navy to help his own faith grow and give him more experience in helping soldiers and the entire country with their relationship with God.

“For the first time in my life, I was doing sacraments for people who were going into harm’s way. It was about the importance of faith in combat situations,” Fr. Neitzke said. “There is an old saying, ‘There isn’t an Atheist in a fox hole.’ A lot of people came back to their faith as they were facing the prospect of crossing into Iraq and going into combat.

“The other privilege I had was the Chaplain’s word to brief the Marines on how to treat non-combatants and civilians as we went into Iraq. The Chaplain is on the front line. You have an enlisted person assigned to you with a gun, but the Chaplain is on the front line in combat. As we went in, we had talks with them that not everyone in Iraq is an enemy. It’s just those in uniform who take arms against us.”

As he would say, the Chaplain is the moral voice of the military during combat.

With his retirement, Fr. Neitzke is now the moral voice of the community. And for the first time, he is a rural priest (Herscher, Goodrich, and Irwin) as he started at St. Jude Catholic Church in Joliet before going to St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church in Hinsdale, St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Joliet, and St. Mary Nativity Catholic Church in

Joliet.

“This is my first rural assignment. All of my other destinations were urban or suburban,” Fr. Ron Neitzke said. “There are things that are different and there are things that are the same. I like the sense of community and family out here. This is my first assignment without a school, which gives me the opportunity to focus on other areas.

“What I preach is still the same. It’s still the message of the gospel whether I’m in an urban environment or in a country environment. Being in the country is great. I asked to be here. I have no regrets. Same with the military...no regrets.

“The people here have been very supportive of me as a Father and as a Chaplain. The veteran community has always been behind me and the parish. I like being in the country and the farmland.”

When asked when he is going to retire from being a civilian priest, Fr. Neitzke says it’s not his place to decide.

That retirement will be decided by the man upstairs.

“I’m going to stay with these churches until the Bishop tells me otherwise,” said Fr. Neitzke. “Whether that means I stay here for the rest of my career or that I have to move somewhere else down the road, so be it. I’ll go where God wants me to go.”

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



LIVINGSTON MASONIC LODGE #371 held a blood drive at St. Patrick’s Parish Hall on May 17. Pictured, from left, are Jerry Curtis, Dave Taylor, and Mark Dabbs.



A BENEFIT WAS HELD for Chase Becker, son of Aimee and Todd Becker, May 21 at Victory Lanes in Dwight. Chase is currently battling Epilepsy. Friends and family came together to donate and support Chase and his family. Pictured above are, Eloise Becker, Aimee Becker, Amber Tarnowski, Chase Becker, Ru. Standing in back, Dan Tarnowski and Todd Becker.



HERSCHER FFA CHAPTER donated a tool box to auction for the benefit.



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Mon., Jun. 6: Breakfast casserole, warm fruit crisp,
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Tues., Jun. 7: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes w/gravy, Venetian veggie blend, apricots, dinner roll.
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Thurs., Jun. 9: Taco salad w/beans, lettuce, cheese, tomatoes, sour cream & taco sauce, blushing pears, taco chips.
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Pet of the Week

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Thank you

On behalf of Chase and our family, we would like to thank Amber and Dan Tarnowski, and our friends and family that donated their time and talents to make this event happen and run flawlessly. Also, those that donated items and those that attended/donated to Chase’s event.

We are completely blown away by the generosity and outpouring of support during Chase’s Benefit and throughout his journey with Epilepsy.

The proceeds from the benefit will be used to pay outstanding medical debt that he has incurred during his fight, care for his best friend and service dog “RU” and be put aside for other events/costs that he may incur as he continues his fight with Epilepsy.



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HELP WANTED

Deputy Clerk Assessor

Livingston County is accepting applications for a Deputy Clerk position in the Assessor's Office. The position performs clerical duties and field assessments in the Assessor's Office. Training will be provided.

For more information, the requirements for this position and the application, you may go to the Livingston County Human Resources office located at 112 W. Madison Street, Room 202, Pontiac, IL 61764 or download the application at www.livingstoncountyil.gov, click on "About Livingston" and then click on "Employment". Return applications to Livingston County Human Resources at the address above no later than June 10, 2022.

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The Braceville Elementary School PBIS team is made up of the following team members: left to right: Susan Avery, principal and PBIS Internal Coach; Kailey Smith, Special Education teacher-junior high; Crystal Aukland, PBIS facilitator and 4th grade teacher; Cody Blue, Special Education teacher-elementary; Laura Loica, GCSEC School Psychologist and PBIS External Coach; Holly Swisher, 2nd grade teacher; and Michelle Fisher, GCSEC School Social Worker.

Midwest PBIS Network Recognizes BES

Braceville Elementary School District #75 (BES) has recently been recognized by the Midwest PBIS Network for their work toward fully and successfully implementing a school-wide framework that, according to national research, leads to improved student outcomes both with social-emotional competence and academics. BES is being recognized for their implementation efforts by the Midwest PBIS Network. To earn this achievement, schools must meet specific criteria which changes and evolves each year as determined by the Midwest PBIS network. BES has been recog-

nized consistently since the 2014-2015 school year.

By establishing this framework, BES increases consistency of effective instruction, builds staff knowledge and skills to support all learners, uses data to proactively identify and support students, and creates a culture that supports stronger relationships with students, their families, and community. This framework is aimed at increasing the number of students who graduate ready for a career or college.

Schools that have received training in this framework, have adopted evidence-based practices, and have shown

progress on implementation are honored through Midwest PBIS Network's Recognition process. This recognition program encourages schools and districts during the construction of their framework and helps them celebrate progress toward full implementation. As schools continue the work, they map out how to sustain their previous work and continue to build increasing levels of student supports in additional subject areas until the system is fully in place. To learn more about the Midwest PBIS Network's Recognition process, visit <https://www.midwestpbis2.org/recognition>.

DTHS Service as a Requirement - Dogs in School - Could be Paw-sible

Service may become a graduation requirement at DTHS if Principal Andrew Pittenger's proposal is adopted. At the May 25 Dwight Township High School Board of Education meeting, Pittenger presented to the Board the fundamentals of a program that would incorporate school and community service hours as a graduation requirement. The Principal gave the Board his observation that students are increasingly reluctant to become involved outside the classroom and that he felt students needed to be exposed to service so they learned how to give back to the community and school. The Board agreed and authorized him to proceed with developing a formal program.

In another, somewhat unique concept, the Board gave Pittenger the authorization to proceed with looking into a program called "Paws Giving Independence" or "PGI". The program provides service dogs to assist with a variety of disabilities while providing support to encourage independence.

In a school setting, it would help with the emotional needs of students, which seem to be increasing. The dog would be assigned a volunteer handler from DTHS staff and would always be attached to that person. If the handler should happen to retire or leave the District, the dog would go with them. It was shared that at least two other schools in the area also had canines from PGI. The Board saw the program as having positive potential and gave their approval to investigate further.

Dr. Richard Jancek reported to the Board that the individual who had damaged school grounds with their vehicle last



fall had failed to appear in court so the Livingston County State's Attorney was going to proceed with further prosecution steps. This Board meeting was Jancek's last as his final official day will be June 6. His extended insurance paid by the District will end in October.

In Consent Agenda items resignations were accepted for Bree Bartlett, Classroom Aide, and Justin Eggenberger, JV Assistant Baseball Coach.

In addition, Justin Eggenberger was also approved as volunteer JV Assistant Baseball Coach while position increases were approved of .5 to 1.0 for Mitch Thompson and Dan Edwards as Assistant Football Coaches.

Food Service Director Sharon Soto from Arbor Management was in attendance to address questions the Board had regarding menu offerings. At the last meeting, the Board discussed investigating alternative food options. She pointed out to them difficulties the entire industry had encountered with supply chain issues this last school year and how that impacted the program offerings. Next year, the individual Point of Sale system will be back in operation which will allow for more individualized selection. After discussion, a one year food service contract was approved for Arbor Management for 2022 - 2023.

The Board authorized Principal Andy Pittenger, along with Band Director Eric Hall, to proceed with ordering new band uniforms providing the expenditure did not exceed \$90,000. New uniforms will be necessary in the near future and there had been suggestions to delay the purchase or do it in increments, but substantial increases were predicted, so the Board felt best to act now.

A pay increase for the Guidance Office Registrar was increased to \$16.50 which would encompass a school session of 216 days. It was felt many of the duties that were being handled in this office warranted the increase.

The following items were approved in New Business:

- Employ Extra-Curricular Personnel, 2022-2023
 - Approve Graduating Seniors Pending Successful Completion Of All Requirements
 - Approve Substitution List For Continuation Of Employment, 2022-2023
 - Approve Parent / Community Member Volunteer List, 2022-2023
 - Approve FFA Summer Activity Trips
 - Approve Revising Activity Funding Policy
 - Approve Prairie State Insurance Cooperative, 2022-2023
 - Approve Art Room Electrical Update, Kelly Electric, \$3,750
 - Approve Tennis Court Lighting Proposal, Kelly Electric, \$11,050
- Present at the May 25 meeting were Tim Henson, Max Sulzberger, Paul Warner, Joel Sandeno, Eric Scheuer, and Susan Legner. Kevin Berta was absent. The next scheduled meeting of the DTHS Board of Education is June 8 at 6 p.m.

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