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Volume 24 • Number 28 Proudly serving the area since 1999 Wednesday, July 13, 2022

OFF TO THE RACES 14-year-old Dwight Native Advanced to Motocross Nationals

by Brandon LaChance

Gunnar Heikkila is feeling on top of the world right now. But his world could get even better since he's already made it bigger.

The 14-year-old Dwight native finished sixth at the North Central Youth Regional Championship at Motozone in Tigerton, Wis. during the weekend of June 17-19.

After snagging the last qualification spot in Tigerton, Heikkila has advanced to somewhere he has never been before, the 41st Annual Monster Energy AMA Amateur National Motocross Championship August 1-6 at the Loretta Lynn Ranch in Hurricane Mills, Tenn.

"As soon as I got off of the track, I was really tired. It didn't really hit me until later when they announced the results," said Heikkila, who will be racing in the largest amateur race in the world when he turns the key at Loretta Lynn Ranch. "So, it didn't hit me until I saw the results. It was pretty exciting. I had a big smile on my face and I did a fist pump and jump in the air.

"When I calmed down after I saw I made it, I looked back at where I was when I first started and how far I've come. I had flashbacks of being younger and falling off of the bike. It's exciting but it's also scary because you never know what's going to happen competing with the best riders in the country. We're going to see how it goes and hopefully do well."

When he gets to Hurricane Mills, he plans to do what he always does before a race.

He's going to survey.

He's going to map out his route.

He's going to envision what's the best way for his best results.

"After races, I go out, walk the track and see where my lines were at and which ones I could have done better at. That's what

I'm hoping to do at nationals," Heikkila said. "I'm going to go to practice and then walk the track and take a look at my lines to see how good I can do. I'll take the far inside or the far outside and see which is the smoothest and the easiest to get around.

"I'm very worried about the level of competition, but sometimes you just can't be worried because it doesn't go as planned. I just need to go with the flow."

Heikkila attended Dwight public schools until this past year when his parents, Matt and Christine Simeur, decided he should home school so he has more time on his bike.

He has already started his freshman curriculum with Acellus Academy High School based in Kansas City, Miss.

His parents are the same ones who introduced Motocross to a young Gunnar.

"Matt raced when he was a young child. Since Gunnar was showing great athletic ability in every other sport, Matt decided to bring home a trail bike one day when he was 7 years old – a month before he turned 8 – to see if he'd like it and if he could keep it on two wheels," said Christine Simeur, who moved to Dwight in 2006, three years before Gunnar was born. "Trust me, I didn't sign up for it, but one thing led to another and we put him on a race bike and all Gunnar did was laugh and giggle."

"I didn't watch one regional race. I'm very, very, very hesitant. It scares the death out of me, but I'm still proud of him of course. If I took the bike away from him, he would hate my guts because he loves it so much. I have to let him live and he's living life, for sure."

At regionals in Tigerton, she still couldn't watch.

However, her hug and celebration with Gunnar were snuggler, more elaborate as Gunnar had this coming.

The last two times Heikkila took the regional track, he came just short of advancing and didn't have a smile, a fist bump, or a jump for joy.

Christine and Matt were more than happy to see their son excel in the sport he loves.

"I watch practices and local races. When I know it means something so important, I just kind of sit back and am afraid in the camper," Christine Simeur said. "I watched him and I knew bringing him to the regional that he had the ability. This was his



GUNNAR HEIKKILA, Dwight, earned a spot at the Motocross Nationals in Hurricane Mills, Tennessee.

third year at regionals trying to advance to nationals.

"I knew he was always on the cusp. Most of the kids that have qualified ahead of him are trained in training facilities. Gunnar trains, but he has home-trained a couple of times in the last three years. These other riders live at training facilities and are training all of the time.

"For Gunnar to be a weekend warrior, I thought it was a great accomplishment."

(continued on page 10)



Rachel Heath FCCLA National Finalist

Rachel Heath, of Dwight, attended the FCCLA National Leadership Conference June 28 through July 4 in San Diego, CA. While there, she served on the nominating committee and helped select the FCCLA National Officers for 2022-2023.

For those who do not know, FCCLA stands for Family Career Community Leaders of America, where students are able to find a passion, purpose, and a place to belong. They are able to explore a plethora of topics ranging from fashion design, food industries, career development, and leadership opportunities, to name a few. They can create an event that ties into a specified area and take it to the competitive level. The events create a long-lasting impact on the local chapter and

the community it serves.

Rachel designed a website for her local chapter and earned a silver medal at the state level. Her score was high enough to place at the national level. She improved the website with the given feedback from the judges before attending the national conference. Once there, she showcased how her website worked to the judges, offering a 10-minute explanation of its impact and how it will benefit the local chapter for years to come.

Rachel earned a gold medal in the event, which placed her in the top 10 in the nation.

Dwight FCCLA extended its thanks to the board of education for supporting this incredible opportunity.

DTHS' Summer Makeover New Crow's Nest, Lights Added, Wall Reinstalled



CROW'S NEST at Dwight Township High School has taken on a new look this year. A matchable grant up to \$100,000 - whatever the school pays into the project, the value will be matched.

by Brandon LaChance

Trojan pride lasts 365 days a year.

However, sometimes remodels, renovations, fixes, changes, adjustments, or just plain – something new – is needed to refuel the green and white.

This summer is the perfect time as Dwight Township High School is remodeling the football team's press box, "The Crow's Nest"; has installed lights at the outdoor basketball hoops, and is re-installing the Bill Gilkey Memorial Wall.

"We have a lot of projects going on. There are a lot of things happening at the school right now," said Dwight Athletic Director, Cathy Ferguson. "Everybody is on the move and they are working hard.

Crow's Nest

"The Crow's Nest has been in the works for three years. Before I took over as the athletic director, they had actually talked about putting a train box car on the bleachers as the press box," Ferguson said. "The Crow's Nest that we had wasn't safe and it

wasn't large enough. You couldn't go on the roof any longer because the roof wasn't safe. And the roof is where they do all of the filmings."

The last few weeks have seen a brand new press box built into place.

Excitement is rumbling throughout Trojan Nation.

"Right now, we have a 45-foot long, hand-built structure. It's being built by Jack Connor, Rob Caridi, and Eric Hall. They also have some summer workers helping them including Bobby Ruder and Jack Gallet," Ferguson said. "Man, you got to see this thing. It has three sections. The front windows were put in on July 1. You can actually see the field. Before, it was miserable and you couldn't see the entire field from our press box. We now have windows all along the front.

"The backside will have windows so that we'll have access to the field events for track and field. Once it's done, it's going to be sweet."

The Crow's Nest is being built on a

matchable grant. The value of \$100,000 was given for the grant meaning whatever the school pays into the project, the value will be matched by the grant up to \$100,000.

The press box will be split into three sections as the Dwight coaches and the opposing team's coaches will have room to film, watch, and speak to the head coach on the sideline through headsets, while the announcers will have their own wiggle room also.

Stairs are being built on the side of the press box to allow roof access.

"We had so many people packed in the small structure we had before and it was miserably hot," Ferguson said. "You couldn't do anything in there. It was terrible. It's going to be heated and cooled."

Basketball Lights

Before June 24, once the sun went down and the sky turned black, the basketball courts outside of Dwight Township High School were no longer visible.

(continued on page 10)

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police
July 3: Kimberly M. Reiniche, 40, Ashkum, regis. expiration/1st & 2nd.
July 4: Eric E. Torres, 21, Dwight, unlawful use medical can./driver; Mirissa L. Fraher, 33, Steger, driving while driver's license, permit, or privilege to operate motor vehicle is suspended or revoked.
July 5: Zachary R. Nelson, 20, Tinley Park, speeding over statutory limit.

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

8 Written Warnings
Speeding – 5; Only One Headlight – 2; Using Electronic Device – 1.

Dwight Police Blotter
June 30: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of S. Franklin for a subject removal; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of Julie Dr. for a complaint of Domestic Battery.
July 1: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 700 block of E. Mazon for a Mental Health Crisis.
July 4: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 400 block of N. Chicago for Fireworks complaints; Dwight Police conducted a traffic stop on Mazon Ave. Arrested for Driving on a Suspended License was Mirrisa Fraher, 33, of Steger. She was issued a citation and given a court date. Her vehicle was towed and impounded.
Return Call – 6; Follow Up – 4; Traffic Stop – 12; Lockout – 2; Medical Aid – 6; Subject Removal – 3; Battery – 1; Out with Subject – 2; Check Vehicle – 3; Mental Health Check – 2; Loose Dog – 1; Burglar Alarm – 2; Open

Door – 1; Fireworks – 11; Check Area – 3; Fire Alarm – 1; Walk In – 5; Reckless Driver – 1; Miscellaneous – 3; Criminal Damage – 1; Out of Control Subject – 1; Accident – 1.



Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS
June 30: Franklin, medical; Mazon, trauma, Morris; Prairie, medical, mutual aid from Coal City; 2500 N, trauma, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.
July 1: Mazon, medical; Delaware, medical, no transport; Chippewa, medical, St. James; Mazon, medical, Morris; Main, medical, Morris.
July 2: Chicago, medical; Mazon, trauma, Morris.
July 3: Waupansie, trauma, refusal; Braidwood, change of quarters, mutual aid to Braidwood; Prairie, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris; Delaware/Franklin, trauma, St. Mary's; Dewitt, medical, mutual aid to Coal City; Dewitt, medical, mutual aid to Coal City.
July 4: William, fire; Mazon, medical, Morris E.R.; 2600, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.
July 5: Waupansie, medical, Morris; 2500, trauma, mutual aid to Odell; Morris Rd., medical, Morris; Julie, medical, St. James.
July 6: Spencer, medical; Rt. 47/Northbrook, trauma; Mazon, medical, Morris; Chippewa, medical, Morris; Bannon, trauma; Spencer, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical; Chippewa, medical, Morris.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Prepare Yourself for a Long Retirement

We all want to live long lives. We all expect to live long lives. But are we financially prepared for this longevity? Before we get to the issue of preparation, let's look at a couple of interesting findings from a 2022 survey by Age Wave and Edward Jones:
1. The surveyed retirees said, on average, they expect to live to 89, and they said the ideal length of retirement is 29 years.
2. When asked if they want to live to 100, nearly 70% of the respondents said "yes." The main reason for this desire for long life? To spend more years with their family and friends.
Of course, none of us can see into the future and know how long we'll be around. But with advances in medical care and a greater awareness of healthy lifestyles, these aspirations have a real basis in reality.
However, if you're going to enjoy a longer lifespan, and the extra years with your loved ones, you need to ensure your finances are also in good shape. How can you make this happen?
Here are some basic steps to follow:
• *Save and invest early and often.* This may be the oldest piece of financial advice, but it's still valid. The earlier you start saving and investing for your retirement, the greater your potential accumulation. Consider this: If you began saving just \$5,000 per year at age 25, and earned a hypothetical 6.5% annual rate of return, and didn't take any early withdrawals, you'd end up with \$935,000 by the time you reached 65. But if you waited until 35 to start saving and investing, and you earned the same hypothetical 6.5% return – again with no early withdrawals – you'd only end up with \$460,000. And if you didn't start saving until 45, you'd end up with just over \$200,000, again given the same 6.5% return.
• *Be mindful of debt.* You may not want to be burdened with certain debts when you enter retirement. So, while you're still working, try to reduce unwanted debts, particularly those that don't offer the financial benefits of tax-deductible interest payments. The lower your debt load, the more you can save and invest for the future.
• *Keep reviewing your progress.* It's important to monitor the progress you need to make toward achieving your goal of a comfortable retirement. Over the short term, your investment balances may fluctuate, especially in volatile financial markets such as we've seen in the early part of this year. But you'll get a clearer picture of your situation if you look at long-term results. For example, have your accounts grown over the past 10 years as much as you had planned? And going forward, do you think you're in good shape, or will you need to make some changes to your investment strategy? Keep in mind that, if you're 50 or older, you can make "catch-up" contributions to your IRA and 401(k) that allow you to exceed the regular limits. You may also want to adjust your investment mix as you near retirement to potentially lower your risk exposure.
Hopefully, you will enjoy many years of a healthy, happy retirement. And you can help support this vision by carefully considering your financial moves and making the ones that are right for you.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Temps - 2022

June 30 – high 87°, low 64°
July 1 – high 88°, low 67°
.21" precip.
July 2 – high 76°, low 56°
July 3 – high 81°, low 57°
July 4 – high 88°, low 59°
.27" precip.
July 5 – high 86°, low 56°
.15" precip.
July 6 – high 95°, low 69°
One Year Ago – July 13, 2021
high 68°, low 64°
.03" precip.

Dwight
Fire Incidents
7/1 - 7/8

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:
July 3: Mutual Aid to Coal City – Canceled En Route.
July 4: Mutual Aid to Mazon – Canceled En Route; Smoke Detector Activated – E. William; Mutual Aid to Mazon – Fire.
July 6: Motor Vehicle Accident – Rt. 47 and I-55.
Dwight FPD also responded to 12 medical assists with Dwight EMS.

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Hines VA Hospital Outreach Team in Gardner

The Edward Hines VAMC Outreach Team has worked with various veterans organizations and other community partners for years to educate and engage veterans of all generations regarding their VA health care benefits. That work continues in collaboration with the Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission and the Community Foundation of Grundy County in Gardner during the July outreach event.
The Hines Outreach Team and the Grundy County VAC, with the support of the Community Foundation of Grundy County, will be available to answer questions and provide information about a variety of veterans benefits Monday, July 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Community Foundation South Resource Center at 229 Liberty Street in Gardner.
This event is free and open to all area veterans. No registration is required.
You may be eligible for VA health care benefits if you served in the active military, naval, or air service and didn't receive a dishonorable discharge. If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, you must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which you were called to active duty. There are other criteria that may also make you eligible for VA health care. Take a copy of your DD214 and a photo ID if you would like to enroll. If you do not have a copy of your

DD214, the Grundy County VAC can assist you with getting one.
At Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, their health care teams are experienced and guided by the needs of veterans, their families, and caregivers. They are the largest VA in the state of Illinois, where more than a million veterans reside.
"The Grundy County VAC strives each day to assist veterans with a variety of benefits that are available to them from federal, state and local sources. The outreach events in Grundy County help provide additional opportunities for veterans to learn about their benefits," said Ken Buck, Superintendent of the Grundy County VAC.

Last Appointments Available for School Physicals, Immunizations at LCHD

The Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) is preparing for their final 2022 school and sports physicals and immunizations clinics to help families ready their children to head back to school.
Appointments are available from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on July 13 and 20, and August 3 and 10. All appointments are scheduled with an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.
Due to additional testing requirements, the LCHD will not be able to accommodate appointments for students who have had COVID-19 in the past six months.

Charges will be billed to private insurance or Medicaid when available. A basic fee will be charged at the time of service to those without insurance.

The LCHD is located at 310 E. Torrance Ave. in Pontiac. Call 815-844-7174 to reserve your appointment.

Mobile Food Pantry in S. Wilmington July 18

On Monday, July 18, at 4:00 p.m., Catholic Charities' Mobile Food Pantry will be distributing food at St. Lawrence Church (135 Rice Road in South Wilmington) in the church parking lot (rain or shine).
Catholic Charities and the Northern Illinois Food Bank have partnered to deliver nutritious food (meat, produce and nonperishable items) to people in need.

Participants are asked to stay in their cars.

The Mobile Food Pantry will use a "drive thru" method to distribute pre-packed groceries to ensure that all participants are safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
You do not have to be Catholic to participate. For more information, visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org.

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Gas Prices For This Week

Pump prices declined again, falling another 11 cents since last week. The dip in the national average for a gallon of gas occurred despite a slight rise in demand, likely due to robust July 4th holiday automobile travel. AAA forecasted that 42 million people would hit the roads for the holiday weekend, a new record.
Today's national average of \$4.68 is 31 cents less than a month ago and \$1.52 more than a year ago.

City/Village	July 11	July 2
Dwight	\$5.11	\$5.16
Kankakee	\$5.03	\$4.83
Streator	\$5.01	\$5.19
Pontiac	\$4.97	\$4.99
Gardner	\$5.19	\$5.24
Braceville	\$4.91	\$5.23
Morris	\$5.04	\$5.12
Herscher	\$5.19	\$5.29
Chicago	\$5.55	\$5.74
Illinois	\$5.16	\$5.34
U.S.	\$4.68	\$4.79

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

Gasoline price data collected by The Paper and brought to you by Steve's Tire.

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• Publishers •

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A photograph of four bottles of Bee Mead honey wine standing on a metal grate surface. Behind them is a large sign that reads "BOOZE FROM BEES" in orange, distressed lettering, with a stylized bee illustration in the center. The bottles from left to right are: "Bee Mead Honey Wine" (blue and yellow label), "Bee Mead Honey Wine" (white label with a tractor), "Bee Mead Honey Wine" (blue and white label with a bomber plane), and "Bee Mead Honey Wine" (green label with lemons and tomatoes). The bottles are dark glass with orange caps. The background shows a red door and a white wall.

Galbreath won four awards at the Illinois State Fair Wine Competition, which was announced July 1. Then he was awarded two more at the Indiana Brewers Cup on July 9.

Unpossible Mead has now won 13 individual awards and has two more shared awards with Rt. 66 Old School Brewery.

In the Illinois competition, which had 297 entries from 40 different wineries, Mega Meme won Best of Category 509, while Cherry Bomber, Marshmallow Fields, and Love Apple all earned silver medals.

Mega Meme took second place for Best Fruit Mead in Indiana,

Fruit Mead

1st Place Winner
Treehive, Rantoul IL, Melomel, Easier In the B's

2nd Place Winner
Impossible Mead, Dwight IL, Melomel, Mega Meme

3rd Place Winner
Treehive, Rantoul IL, Pyment, Grape Happens

UNPOSSIBLE MEAD earned a second place award for Mega Meme in the Fruit Mead category.

This year's festivities will include a Krafty Kids area, vendors, and visiting historic figures. Entertainment will begin with Shelby Ryan at 1:00 p.m. Admission is **free**.

This year's Mead Day, which will also be celebrated with live music and Lodi Tap House smash burgers featuring tangerine glaze, is also the celebration of Unpossible Mead's fourth-year anniversary.



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- 2 lbs. Coleslaw
- 2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 1 lb. Gravy
- 6 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

Serves
4 to 6 people

Family
Pack #2
\$4999

Family
Pack #3
\$7999

Serves
8 to 10 people

- 24 pc. Broasted Chicken*
- 4 lbs. Coleslaw
- 4 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 2 lbs. Gravy
- 10 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread

- 36 pc. Broasted Chicken*
- 6 lbs. Coleslaw
- 6 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 3 lbs. Gravy
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Serves
12 to 14
people

Family
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*All family chicken packs are served mixed equally
with white and dark meat. Any changes will be upcharged.

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This year's festivities will include a Krafty Kids area, vendors, and visiting historic figures. Entertainment will begin with Shelby Ryan at 1:00 p.m. Admission is **free**.

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St. Paul School to Hold Registration July 26

St. Paul School in Odell will hold registration for the 2022-2023 academic year Tuesday, July 26, from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the school, 300 S. West Street. The first day of school is Wednesday, August 17.

All classrooms, including the three- and four-year old preschool classes, currently have openings, but several are nearing their capacity. Preference will be given to returning students, and other spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis. However, priority will be given to Catholic families who are active parishioners at St. Paul and St. Patrick churches. Next priority will be given to Catholic families who are registered and active in another area parish, and finally, to non-Catholic families wishing to enroll.

St. Paul School is dedicated to offering a safe learning environment featuring a faith-based curriculum, small class sizes, academic excellence, extracurricular opportunities, hot lunch, air-conditioned classrooms, updated technology, and affordable tuition. Scholarships are also available. After discounts are applied, tuition can be as low as \$305 a month for one child.

Beginning this school year, any child enrolled in St. Paul School's preschool program will be able to stay for the school's after care program at no additional cost. A fee applies for the preschool program, charged monthly, making it an affordable option to daycare. Children can arrive at the school as early as 7:30 a.m. and stay as late as 5:30 p.m. with no transportation needed during the day. St. Paul School offers one of the only options for full-day preschool in the area.

Bus transportation is available from Dwight and the Campus/Emington area. Seats are limited, so contact the school for more information. Students residing in Odell School District #435 also have the option of being bused to St. Paul.

Per state guidelines, all students entering preschool, kindergarten, and sixth grade must have a health examination. All students entering sixth grade will be required to provide proof of Tdap and meningococcal vaccination. Children entering kindergarten are required to have an eye exam by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist. Dental exams are required for children entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades. If a child in grade 5-8 will be participating in sports during the school year, a sports exam is required. Athletes will not be allowed to participate until an exam is on file. Transfer students must have health cards and records of immunizations sent to St. Paul. For more information, call 815-998-2194 or e-mail schooloffice@saintpaulodell.com.



BANG UP JOB, DWIGHT! The 4th of July turned into the 9th of July due to weather but the fireworks were equally as loud :) and satisfying to the audience.

Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Returns

by Kay Shipman
FarmWeek

one of two categories:

- Highly erodible riparian areas immediately adjacent to

A federal-state conservation program has returned with incentives and rental payments to improve water quality and wildlife and aquatic habitat.

On June 14, administrators of the two agencies involved announced Illinois farmers and landowners may again enroll in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) first opened CREP enrollment in the Illinois River Watershed in 1998 and expanded into the Kaskaskia River Watershed in 2010. In 2015, enrollment was suspended because the state lacked a budget and IDNR could not offer state options.

Enrollment opened June 15 in 68 counties where the entire county or portions are eligible. A total of 232,000 acres may be enrolled; however, 51,000 acres are currently enrolled under contracts signed before the 2015 suspension.

One major change in the 2022 CREP program is a requirement that landowners must participate in both the federal and state parts of the program – not just one, according to Diebal.

Under the program, a landowner would sign a 14- or 15-year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract with FSA. Once enrolled, the landowner would sign a 15-year contract extension or a permanent conservation easement with IDNR.

“Once the 15-year (CRP contract) effort expires, it transfers to extend the conservation benefits,” Diebal said. “Our CREP goals are to improve water quality and wildlife and fish habitat.”

Eligible land must fall into

the 100-year floodplain of the Illinois or Kaskaskia rivers or

- Flooded or wetland Riparian areas within the 100-year floodplain of the Illinois and Kaskaskia rivers and their tributaries.

Available conservation practices include planting of permanent native grasses, trees, filter strips, riparian buffers, wildlife food plots and permanent wildlife habitat.

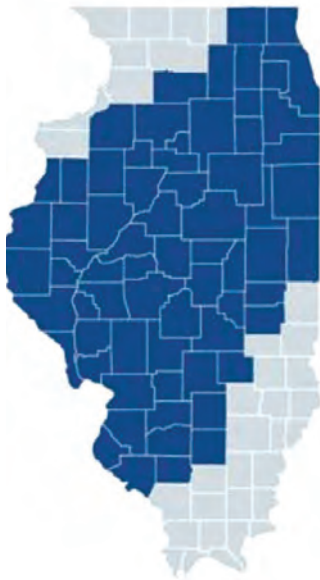
Wetland restoration is another available practice. If a wetland is restored, it must be located in the watershed and either a farmed wetland, a prior converted wetland, or a wetland farmed under natural conditions.

Under CREP, a farmer would receive an annual payment based on the soil type. As a special CREP incentive, a farmer would also receive a 25%-per-acre annual payment. Diebal noted CREP payments, based on soil types, are not capped at \$300 per acre as are CRP payments.

In addition, FSA provides landowners with 50% cost share to establish practices. IDNR will provide participants with another 50% cost share to establish approved practices and a one-time payment for either a 15-year contract or permanent easement.

Diebal advised interested farmers and landowners to contact their local FSA office to start the process. FSA staff will work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and IDNR. FSA handles the contract and is the agency in charge for the first 15 years, she explained.

CREP eligible counties in the area include: Ford, Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, LaSalle, Livingston, McLean, Will, and more.



This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeek-Now.com.

Dwight Preschool Screening August 12

The Dwight Early Learning Program is hosting a birth to six-year old developmental screening Friday, August 12.

This is a play-based screening in the areas of learning, motor, speech, and social development.

Children over the age of three will have a screening of their vision and hearing. It is recommended to have your child screened at least once prior to the start of school. Children 2½ and older must be screened in order to be considered for the preschool program at Dwight Common School.

The screening will be located at the Dwight Methodist Church.

If your child has been screened once before, and you have no developmental concerns, it is not necessary to have your child rescreened. If your child already attends preschool at Dwight, they do not need to be screened again.

To schedule an appointment, call the Dwight Early Learning Team starting Monday, August 1, at 584-6278, 584-6254, or 584-6249.

Plan to Attend!

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'12 Chevy 1500 Crew LT, 148K, 4WD, Lifted.....\$19,900

'12 F150 Crew XLT, 136K, 4WD.....\$13,900

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'20 Escape SEL, 21K, AWD.....\$31,900

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'19 EcoSport Titanium, 13K, 4WD.....\$24,900

'18 Escape SEL, 68K, FWD.....\$23,900

'18 Terrain XLT, 75K, AWD.....\$26,900

'18 Explorer LTD, 62K, FWD.....\$31,900

'17 Mazda CX-5 Grand Select, 29K, AWD.....\$27,900

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LSC Communications/ RR Donnelley Luncheon July 27

A luncheon for any former employee of LSC Communications/RR Donnelley will be held Wednesday, July 27, at noon, at Slammers Bar & Grill/Victory Lanes in Dwight – a perfect opportunity to visit with your old friends and co-workers.

You must make your reservation by July 20 by calling:

- Eileen: 815-822-0549
- Shirley: 815-252-2063

You will have your choice of pizza or Italian beef and salad. A fee applies per person, payable when you arrive. There will be a cash bar.

Remember the old days when they had an RR Donnelley bowling league? Relive the past, because the alley will be open for bowling.

Get reservations in early. They need to give them a number on July 20 so they can prepare for the luncheon.

Southeastern Grundy County Seniors Meet

On July 1, the Southeastern Grundy County Seniors met for their regular meeting at the Gardner Restaurant. Sixteen people were present.

Table grace was said by Sharon Pickles, President. Barb Haus celebrated a July birthday and provided dessert. Happy Birthday was sung.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved. A thank you note was received from the Gardner Area Band and the family of Kali Perkins Croy. A get well card will be sent to Duane Lewis. Events included: Food Truck will be at St. Lawrence, South Wilmington, Monday, July 18, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Party in the Park will be held July 29 through July 31 in South Wilmington.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Friday, August 5.

Their program was by Lori Hibler of Ci Ci and Lala's Boutique in Gardner. Lori displayed several items that are available to purchase from the shop, which is located on Depot Street in Gardner.

News – Ads – Coverage! **The Paper** 815-584-1901

Thank you for your support in the Livingston County Board Primary Election.

Dan Myers

★ ★ ★



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St. Paul School Offering Affordable Option for Daycare to Pre-K Parents



ST. PAUL SCHOOL pre-school students invite you to enroll at **St. Paul School, Odell.** Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, any child enrolled in St. Paul's pre-school program will be able to stay for the school's after care program at no additional cost.

St. Paul School in Odell is offering a new option for parents of children ages three to five in need of daycare.

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, any child enrolled in St. Paul School's pre-school program will be able to stay for the school's after care program at no additional cost. A fee applies for the preschool program (charged monthly), making it an affordable option to daycare.

Children can arrive at the school as early as 7:30 a.m. and stay as late as 5:30 p.m. with no transportation needed during the day.

St. Paul School offers one of the only options for full-day preschool in the area. Children will receive instruction from teachers, have the option of purchasing a hot lunch, and will be able to rest or nap in the afternoon before staying for after care. After care offers kids a snack and supervised play time, including use of the playground if weather permits.

For the convenience of parents, bus transportation from Dwight or the Campus area is offered for an additional monthly fee.

In-person registration for the upcoming school year is July 26 from 10:00 a.m. to noon and also 4:00-6:00 p.m. However, you can contact St. Paul at schooloffice@saintpaulodell.com to register early. Limited openings are available in both the three- and four-year old classes.

Past parents of St. Paul's preschool program have been happy with the academic progress their children have made throughout their year in preschool. Different academic instruction is provided to three- and four-year old students, with an emphasis on learning basic math skills and beginning to read. Plenty of time for play and socialization with other children is also worked into the day.

For more information on St. Paul School's preschool program, e-mail schooloffice@saintpaulodell.com or call 815-998-2194.

VA, Grundy VAC Continue to Support Veterans

The Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission continues to work with the Edwards Hines VA Medical Center Outreach Team to educate veterans about their veterans benefits.

The Hines Outreach Team and the Grundy VAC, with the support of the Village of Channahon, will be available to answer questions and provide information about a variety of veterans benefits Wednesday, July 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Village Hall in Channahon 24555 S. Navajo Drive, Channahon.

This event is free and open to all area veterans. No registration is required.

The Hines VAMC team and the Grundy County VAC can answer questions and assist with enrollment in VA health care, service connected disability claims and burial benefits to name a few benefits available to honorably discharged veterans. They also have information regarding the VA's Vet Centers and the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs benefits.

You may be eligible for VA health care benefits if you served in the active military, naval, or air service and did not receive a dishonorable discharge. If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, you must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which you were called to active duty. Other criteria may also make you eligible for VA health care. Take a copy of your DD214 and a photo ID if you would like to enroll. If you do not have a copy of your DD214, the Grundy County VAC can assist you with getting one.

"We are fortunate to have the federal and state resources to veterans in Grundy County. Having these outreach events is just one way we work to educate veterans and their families," said Ken Buck, Superintendent of the Grundy County VAC.

If you are unable to attend the outreach events, you can learn more about your eligibility by contacting the Grundy County VAC at 815-941-3152 or vac@grundycountyil.gov.

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OBITUARY

Karen L. VanDuyne

Karen L. VanDuyne, age 74, of Essex, Illinois passed away Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at Lightways Hospice Home after a short-term battle with pancreatic cancer.



Essex; two daughters, Kathy (Brian) Eller of St. James, Missouri, and Krista (Bobby) Freeman of Bluffton, South Carolina; six grandchildren: Abigail Eller, Chloe Eller, Sydney Freeman, Peyton Freeman, William Eller, and Savanna Freeman.

Born April 29, 1948 in Kankakee, Illinois, she graduated from Reddick High School with the class of 1966. She married Leonard VanDuyne May 29, 1970 in St. Rose Catholic Church, Wilmington, Illinois. Together they made their home in Essex, where they raised two beautiful daughters.

Karen retired from Caterpillar, Inc. in Joliet, Illinois, after 36 years of employment. She was a very involved and active member of the First Christian Church in Morris, Illinois.

Karen had a passion for cooking and baking. She spread her love to people through her wonderful cooking. She had a niche for crafting of all kinds, one of her proudest crafts was scrapbooking recipe books for her family that they will forever cherish.

Surviving are her mother, Doris (nee Lewis) Hagberg of Essex; husband of 52 years, Leonard “Lenny” VanDuyne of

One sister, Nancy (William) Lundgren of South Wilmington, Illinois; one brother, Jeffery (Monica) Hagberg of Essex; and many dear nieces, nephews and their families also survive.

She was preceded in death by her father, Oliver Franz Hagberg.

Visitation for Karen will be at the R. W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Braidwood, Thursday, July 14, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of funeral services at 1:00 p.m.

Interment will follow in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her name may be directed to the charity of the donor’s choice.

For more information and to visit her online guestbook, please log on to rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find us on Facebook.



HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE students took part in the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference in Chicago, with some placing in the top 10 in the business skills competition. Pictured, from left, are Rodney Billerbeck, Joni Russell, Cade Walder, and Bryce Tuebel.

Heartland Community College Students Place in Top 10 in Nat’l Business Skills Competition

Three Heartland Community College students placed in national competition during the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference.

More than 2,000 students representing 44 colleges and universities from across the country convened in-person for the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL) 2022 National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Chicago. The event connected collegiate-level students through competitive events, leadership sessions, and networking.

Bryce Tuebel of Fairbury, and Cade Walder of Congerville, placed second in the Business Ethics team event.

Joni Russell of Pontiac placed sixth in the Business Communications category.

Veronica Inselmann, HCC Associate Director of Apprenticeships and Work-Based Programs, and Megan Kayfish, Associate Director, Career and Technical Education (CTE).

“We are so proud of the work and effort these students put into preparing for their events. They represent the Heartland Community College in a great way,” said Inselmann. “The state and national PBL competitions provide amazing opportunities for our students to grow professionally. The experiences and relationships they gain from these events will be useful throughout their professional lives.”

At PBL conferences, students compete and attend workshops as well as listen to keynote addresses. Through this event and competition, students apply and showcase the knowledge and skills they’ve developed in the classroom.

Students interested in Heartland’s Phi Beta Lambda organization can discover more about the program and its opportunities at heartland.edu/pbl.

Rodney Billerbeck of Cul- lom also competed in Retail Management and Job Interview categories, having placed in the top three in the PBL state competition.

The students were joined at the conference by advisors

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

The Paper

email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE

The North Central Illinois Council of Governments is soliciting Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) from qualified applicants to provide grant-project Rehabilitation Construction Management services to support the rehabilitation of single-family homes in Braceville, Bureau Junction, Coal City, Henry, Lafayette, Morris and Neponset Illinois.

The RFQ is available at ncicg.org or by emailing info@ncicg.org.

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Words cannot express the deep gratitude we have or the love and support we have felt since the passing of our mother, Doris Lowe. Your outpouring of cards, donations, and kind words and deeds have meant so much to all of us. We also wish to thank Evenglow Inn for the love and care they provided mom for over two years. We thank all of you and our heavenly father for guidance and direction during this difficult time. With heartfelt thanks from all our families,

Don and Deb English
David and Audrey Lowe
Daphne Wepprecht
Robin and Bruce Oldfather
Dean and Tammy Lowe

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
On Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of the Odell Public Library District

Notice is hereby given to the Public that on August 17th, at the hour of 5:00 P.M. at the Odell Public Library, 301 E. Richard Street, Odell, Illinois, a public hearing will be held on the annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Odell Public Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. Any person interested in said budget and ordinance may be present at said time and place and may be heard in regard to the budget and ordinance. The tentative budget is now on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, of the Odell Public Library District, at the Library office and may be reviewed upon request prior to said hearing by the Public.

Sandra Erickson, Secretary Date: June 15, 2022
Board of Trustees
Odell Public Library District
301 E. Richard Street
Odell, IL 60460



Tennis Love

Novak Djokovic won the Wimbledon title on Sunday, winning his 7th. It also brought his major titles win total to 21, pulling one ahead of Roger Federer and one behind Rafael Nadal.

I realize tennis is a little further down the totem pole of things in terms of American sports’ interest but given the current state of how things stand with the total number of major titles, I thought it deserved a little bit of recognition.

Coming into this tournament, Nadal was fresh off two major wins and was a perfect 19-0 in matches prior to the semi final from which he was eventually forced to withdraw due to a torn abdominal muscle which he injured in the previous match. He should almost get an honorary title for winning a 4 and half hour match during which he tore an abdominal muscle.

Given a 3rd of the major titles have come for Djokovic at Wimbledon, it’s fairly safe to say that grass is his strong suit, while Nadal largely dominates on clay at the French Open.

What’s maybe the most incredible or noteworthy piece of this is that the three greatest tennis players of all time played and are playing near their peaks at the same time. There are rumors that Roger Federer is going to hang it up after battling some injuries over the last few years but he and Nadal have been playing against each other since 2004.

This brings into question a few things. How many titles would any of the three of them have if they played in an era without the other two? And will anything like this ever happen again in any sport, let alone tennis?

This would be the equivalent of Barry Bonds, Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron all playing in their prime at the same time, or Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, and LeBron all going head to head over the course of 10-15 years.

I’ve started watching more as I’ve played more tennis and it’s truly great to catch some of the best tennis players in the world at the peak of their powers going against each other. It’s tough to say how much longer it will last, but it’s been quite the run this far.

Go, Cubs!

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

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

BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) No.22-FC-25
)
ROBERTA M. KESLER, and unknown owners and non-)
record claimants,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE

Notice is given you Defendants, ROBERTA M. KESLER and 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:

The South Half of Lot 11 and all of Lot 10 in Block 1 in William Cleary’s Second Addition to Pontiac, except all coal and minerals underlying said premises and the right to mine and remove the same, in Livingston County, Illinois.

PIN: 15-22-216-002.
Commonly known as: 816 N. Plum St., Pontiac, IL 61764

The title holder of record to the above described real estate is ROBERTA M. KESLER. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on October 24, 2002 and recorded on October 30, 2002 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 539091, a Modification of Mortgage executed on July 29, 2013 and recorded on August 2, 2013 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 624587, a Modification of Mortgage executed on November 8, 2013 and recorded on November 14, 2013 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 626345, and a Modification of Mortgage executed on October 19, 2018 and recorded on October 25, 2018 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois as document No. 2018R-04216. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 22-FC-25 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 August 12, 2022, a default may be entered against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint.

Dated July 5, 2022
LeAnn Dixon, Circuit Clerk
Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial
Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois

New Books, DVDs at Odell Library

Adult Fiction

A Duke for Diana by Sabrina Jeffries; Beautiful by Danielle Steel; Blood Trail by C.J. Box; Boardwalk Bookshop by Susan Mallery; Every Cloak Rolled in Blood by James Lee Burke; A Face to Die For by Iris Johansen; The First Day of Spring by Nancy Tucker; The Ghosts of Paris by Tara Moss; The Last Mile by Kat Martin; Looking for Pork Chop McQuade by Darlene Franklin Campbell; Nightwork by Nora Roberts; Our Last Days in Barcelona by Chanel Cleeton; Out of the Clear Blue Sky by Kristan Higgins; Sparring Partners by John Grisham; There There by Tommy Orange; Two Nights in Lisbon by Chris Pavone; The Wedding Dress Sewing Circle by Jennifer Ryan; The Woman in the Library by Sulari Gentill.

DVD

American Horses; The Batman; Blacklight; Death on the Nile; Dog; The Last Kingdom, Seasons 1-5; Licorice Pizza; Ridley Road; Sanditon, Season 2; Succession, Season 3; Thomas & Friends: All Engines Go. Best Friends; Uncharted; YouTube: The Documentary.

Adult Nonfiction

An Extravagant Life: An Autobiography by Stuart Woods; James Patterson: The Stories of My Life by James Patterson; The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible by Shannon Bream; Things You Can Do by Eduardo Garcia; This Is Not a Book about Benedict Cumberbatch by Tabitha Carvan.

Easy/Juvenile

The Bad Day by Frann Preston-Gannon; The Bad Guys in Alien vs Bad Guys by Aaron Blabey; The Bad Guys in The Big Bad Wolf by Aaron Blabey; The Bad Guys in Dawn of the Underworld by Aaron Blabey; The Bad Guys in Do-You-Think-He-Saurus?! by Aaron Blabey; The Bad Guys in Inter-galactic Gas by Aaron Blabey; The Bad Guys in Superbad by Aaron Blabey; Beak & Ally: The Big Storm by Norm Feuti; Coral Reefs: Cities of the Ocean by Maris Wicks; Dogs: From Predator to Protector by Andy Hirsch; Don’t Eat Bees by Dev Petty; Emmett and Jez by Hannah Shaw; Endlessly Ever After by Laurel Snyder; Every Dog in the Neighborhood by Philip C. Stead; The Extraordinary World of Birds by David Lindo; The Invitation by Howard Pearlstein; The Lantern House by Erin Napier; LEGO: Ninjago Masters of Spinjitzu Character Encyclopedia by Claire Sipi; Little Houses by Kevin Henkes; Moonlight Prance by Serena Gingold Allen; Out of the Shadows by Fiona Robinson; Polar Bears: Survival on the Ice by Jason Viola; Rocks and Minerals: Geology by Andy Hirsch; Search for Treasure by Mary Alice Monroe; A Seed Grows by Antoinette Portis; Strange but True! by Andrea Mills; Sunday Pancakes by Maya Tatsukawa; To Make by Danielle Davis; Wait! What? Teddy Roosevelt Was a Moose? by Dan Gutman; Wild Weather: Storms, Meteorology and Climate by MK Reed.

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

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

We welcome your thoughts.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AUDIT
REPORT OF DWIGHT TOWNSHIP AND DWIGHT
TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT

Dwight Township hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the period April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, has been made, and that a report of such audit dated August 21, 2021, has been performed by Groskreutz, Schmidt, Abraham, Eshleman & Gerretse, has been filed with the County Clerk of Livingston County, in accordance with 30 ILCS 15/0.02 et seq. The full report of the audit is available for public inspection at the Dwight Township Hall, 201 North Franklin Street, Dwight, Illinois during regular business hours: Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., or by appointment.

Patricia S. Rosenbaum
Dwight Township Supervisor



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AUCTIONS

Estate Auction

Located At: #612 N. 2nd St., Fairbury, IL 61739
Directions: Take US Rt. 24 into Fairbury, to S. First St., then North (on S. First St.) 9 Blocks to East Columbia Dr., then 1 Block East to N. Second St. **OR:** 1 Block South of the Boys & Girls Club of Prairie Central (on N. First St.) to Columbia Dr. & 1 Block East (corner of E. Columbia Dr. & N. Second St.) (**Watch for Auction Signs**)

Saturday, July 23 @ 10:00 A.M.

See Full Sale Bill & Photos
@ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

Old Gas Pump (To Sell at Noon); Antiques & Collectible Items; Toys; Old Books; Advertising Items; Household Furnishings; Tools.

SEE THE PAPER NEXT WEEK FOR MORE DETAILS

AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: This will be a nice auction with several hayracks full of small antique/collectible items. Maurice was a plumber in the Fairbury area for many years. (*many commercial grade power tools*).

SELLERS:
The Estates of Carol & Maurice Koehl
Fairbury, IL

Auctioneers:
Bradleys' Auction Service, Inc.

Public Auction

Located At: #530 Golf Rd., Streator, IL 61364
Directions: From the Kroger Plaza (Located on IL. Rt. 23 at the Extreme North Edge of Streator), Go South (on Rt. 23) 1/2 Mile to O'Reilly Auto Parts, Then West on Goulding St. 3/10 Mile to "T" at Richards St., Then Jog North to Golf Rd. & Go West 2/10 Mile.
(**Watch for Auction Signs**) (**Off Road Parking Available**)

Sunday, July 24 @ 10:00 A.M.

See Full Sale Bill & Photos
@ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com

2 Compact Tractors w/ Loaders (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); John Deere Lawn Tractor (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); Hustler - Zero Turn Mower (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); 2006 Chev. P.U. Truck w/ Snow Plow (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); Trailers (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); Tractor Attachments (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); Canoe & Kayak (To Sell at Approx. 12:30 p.m.); Lawn & Garden Equipment; Shop Equipment & Tools; Building Supplies & Miscellaneous Items.

SEE THE PAPER NEXT WEEK FOR MORE DETAILS

AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: Wayne is retiring and this will be a nice Auction, with a wide variety of items. Much more than listed. **View photos @ www.bradleyauctionsinc.com & plan to attend!!**

SELLER:
Wayne Fieldman - Streator, IL

Auctioneers:
Bradleys' Auction Service, Inc.

Dwight Peace Meals

Home delivery Monday - Friday 60 and up home-bound- Must make reservations -

Wed., July 13: Chicken tetrazzini, breaded tomatoes, Scandinavian veggie blend, Mandarin oranges, whole grain wheat.

Thurs., July 14: Taco salad w/beans, lettuce, cheese, tomatoes, sour cream & taco sauce, tropical fruit blend, taco chips.

Fri., July 15: Saucy riblet sandwich, au gratin potatoes, Brussels sprouts, sunshine salad, bun.

Mon., July 18: Sweet 'n sour chicken

chunks, stir fry veggie blend, seasoned carrots, pineapple tidbits, dinner roll.

Tues., July 19: Ham and beans, rotini vegetable salad, picked beets, apricots, cornbread.

Wed., July 20: Cabbage rolls, Midori veggie blend, herbed peas, chunky applesauce, whole grain wheat.

Thurs., July 21: Roast beef w/gravy, mashed potatoes, seasoned greens, grapes, whole grain wheat.

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Popejoy, Inc.
www.popejoyinc.com

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Morris Hospital
www.morrishospital.org

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Accolade Healthcare of Pontiac
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PHYSICIANS

Dr. Mark Passerman
Family Medicine
www.morrishospital.org/dwight

Dr. Jennifer Thomas
Family Medicine
www.morrishospital.org/gardner

Dr. Athar Saeed
Cardiologist
www.morrishospital.org

Dr. Jaynee Pendegast
www.morrishospital.org/dwight

REAL ESTATE

Sancken Sole Realty
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FREE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Livingston County Veteran Assistance Commission has the following medical equipment/items available for donation or free to Livingston County residents: folding walkers (10), wheel chairs (6), portable commodes (2), pair of crutches (3), and assorted bathing/ shower curtains. Call 815-844-7378 for information. 28-tf

FREE KITTENS

DWIGHT - 3 Females, 1 Male, 8 weeks old, please text or call - 815-374-0170 if interested 26-tf



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The Paper

AT THE CHURCHES

DWIGHT

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

Emmanuel Lutheran Church LCMS
325 E. Mazon Ave.
584-3433 church
584-1291 fax
Rev. John F. Mueller, Pastor
Sunday Worship, 9 a.m. with Livestream on their Facebook page.
Wednesday Evening Devotions, 6 p.m.

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

First Congregational United Church of Christ
200 W. Delaware St.
584-1260 church
Rev. Grant Speece
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
JUL. 17: Amos 8:1-12; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42; "The Image of the Invisible God"
JUL. 20: Trustees Meeting, 7 p.m.

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

St. Patrick Catholic Church
Mazon Ave. at Prairie
815-584-3522 Office
Father Chris Haake, Pastor

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
326 W. Chippewa St.
815-584-1199
Pastor James Reents (309) 530-7824
Pastor Dave Castner (970) 290-1268
Sunday Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

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

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

CABERY
Cabery United Methodist Church

Ames & Chester
815-949-1681
Pastor John Lyons
815-257-5751 cell

CULLOM
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church NALC
511 W. Jackson
815.689.2120
st.johns@frontiernet.net
Pastor: Gabriel Baumgardner
Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m.
JUL. 14: Text Study Livestream on FB, 10 a.m.
JUL. 18: Friendship Day, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

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

ESSEX
Essex United Methodist Church
114 Waverly St.

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

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

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

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

Herscher Christian Church
30 Tobey Drive
Pastor Sam Stow
Office Hours: Tue.-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
815-426-2908
Staff e-mail: life@herscherschristian.com
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On Facebook: Herscher Christian Church

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

KEMPTON
Kempton United Methodist Church
(cont. on page 8)



GUNNAR HEIKKILA, 14, rode his first trail bike at 8. Now, he's making the most of his six years of experience as he finished sixth at regionals to qualify for nationals in August.

14-year-old Dwight Native Advanced to Motocross Nationals

(continued from page 1)

Heikkila knows what he's accomplished and knows he has a lot of riding left to do.

And as long as the after-effects are not terrible, he'll be able to look at his riding the same way he does now, proudly with a smile.

"Hopefully when I get older I'll be able to still walk and I won't be too torn up," Heikkila said. "Right now, it feels pretty good to be doing this because I'm able to beat people who are older than me because I'm faster than them."

"Soon as I got on when I was younger, I always crashed, but that's part of the process and you just have to keep moving. Through these six years, I ended up here from all of my hard work and training."

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

DTHS' Summer Makeover

New Crow's Nest, Lights Added, Wall Reinstalled

(continued from page 1)

After June 24, the scenario is not the same, as two light poles on the east and west side of the basketball courts were installed to keep the layups, free throws, and 3s raining in, even when it's dark outside.

"Right now, the lights are set to turn on at 8 p.m. and turn off at 10 p.m. They'll probably be moved up to 7-7:30 in the next few weeks, but for the summertime they'll shut off at 10 p.m. for anyone who wants to use them.

"It's a project we had in the works for three years. I was begging for them last year. I asked, 'C'mon, can we get lights out there?' Dr. Richard Jancek (Dwight's Superintendent until June 30 when his retirement went into effect and Josh DeLong took over as the new SI) I had it priced out. I gave my reasoning, the kids need an outside area. They need a safe place that they can hang out and be safe."

One area Ferguson and DTHS want to be known loud and clear: tearing up the property will not be allowed.

If you want to play basketball, awesome, here is an opportunity.

If you want to destroy the school's property, the opportunity will be taken away from everyone.

"We did lock the basketball courts for a week because there was broken glass prior to putting the lights up. That's some-



DWIGHT TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL'S FACILITIES will look a little different for this upcoming school year. The "Crow's Nest" Trojans football team's press box is under renovation, lights have been added to the outdoor basketball courts, and the Bill Gilkey Memorial Wall will be reinstated.

thing we won't tolerate," Ferguson said. "If we find vandalism or broken glass on the courts, I'll lock it until we find out who it is or until they realized, this is something to respect and the area needs to be taken care of."

The lights were installed by Kelly Electric Inc. of Pontiac. Jack Connor and Jeremy Connor, the Trojans boys basketball coach, repainted all of the lines.

"The boys and girls have been using the courts. Right now, our gym is closed because of the yearly floor refinishing. They just finished the court on July 1 and it won't be opened until July 11," Ferguson said. "Any type of open gym before then, or after if they still want to be outside, can now be done

on those courts at night also. Connor has had scrimmages out there and girls basketball players have also been out there.

No price tag has been given to the lights project.

Gilkey Memorial Wall

The tornado that rampaged through Dwight in 2010 didn't leave many buildings or landmarks untouched.

One of them was the Gilkey Memorial Wall in honor of Bill Gilkey, who coached the Dwight football teams to a 92-56 record from 1957-74.

Now, it's being rebuilt to further pay respects to the Trojan.

"Bill Gilkey was a head coach here for years. We had

the Gilkey Memorial Wall, which is all plaques. It's funded by the sport's boosters. You can buy a plaque in memory of anyone you think should be on the wall," Ferguson said. "Maybe it's for a class, Class of 1975. Or, your grandfather loved Dwight football and you think he should be on the wall.

"When the tornado came through, it wiped out the wall. They had put up a different wall, but the plaques weren't adhering to the wall correctly. We kept losing the plaques. They would fall, crash, and break."

The new and improved Gilkey Memorial Wall will be in its initial place near the concession stand.

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\$16⁹⁹

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