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Volume 24 • Number 34

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Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Bunting Corn Harvest to Aid Food Bank



THE PICKING CREW AT THE BUNTING FARM is pictured above. Left to right, Art Bunting, Jason Bunting, Dan Parker, Roland Gantzert, Tom Brady and Jim Wahl. An entire acre of sweet corn was picked and donated to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank.

by Mark Boma

The ears were flying at the Bunting Brothers Farm southeast of Dwight last Thursday.

Family farm members, along with friends and neighbors, used a one-row picker pulled behind an open-cab John Deere tractor to harvest an acre of sweet corn that was “ear” marked for donation to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank, their main office being located in Urbana.

This is the fifth year brothers Lee, Don, and Art have partnered with the Foodbank to donate sweet corn.

The acre of corn takes around 4 - 5 hours to harvest, as progress is slow but steady using the one-row picker.

An acre of corn is estimated to produce about 30,000 ears of sweet corn.

The picking implement is pulled slowly behind the tractor while two men help feed the corn into the conveyer and a team of workers guide the ears into a holding container.

Once the container is full, the process stops until the full pallet of corn is offloaded and a new one is put in its place.

Then ‘round and ‘round again until the plot is emptied.

The full pallets of corn are loaded on a truck and hauled back to the warehouse for distribution.

The labor can be a bit intensive, but ever so satisfying.

The Eastern Illinois Foodbank is the primary food source for food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and other programs working to feed the hungry in 18 counties in Eastern Illinois. The Foodbank acquires millions of pounds of food and grocery product through purchase or donation similar to the Buntings, and distributes it across its network of more than 160 feeding programs. By partnering with EIF, emergency food programs are able to save millions of dollars each year in food purchase and handling costs. These savings allow them to focus their efforts and funds on more effectively working to alleviate hunger in our area.

Locally, the Foodbank helps supply food in the communities of Chatsworth, Saunemin, Culom, Forrest, and Pontiac.

We all know the need is great, the Buntings are just doing their part.

To get more information or donate to the Foodbank, go to www.eifoodbank.org



A YEARLY AFFAIR Schultz family corn canning and bagging.

Keeping It Corny

Schultz family unites yearly with corn canning

by Brandon LaChance

Every house associated with the Schultz family has a day circled on a calendar.

The marking usually doesn't happen until a few weeks before the actual event because the corn has to be just right for picking, but annually the Schultz family gets together for a giant corn canning or bagging.

“It's getting bigger and bigger every year. The family has always canned corn – well, we call it canning, but it's actually put into freezer bags – and we all did it in our own little family units,” said Cindy Schultz, who became family when she married Pete Schultz, who passed away eight years ago from ALS.

“Over the last 4-5 years, the youngest brother Shawn (Schultz) has had it at his house and all the families go over there because it's located between the two Schultz farms in Gardner. It works out nicely.

“When we do it and who attends depends on when the corn is ready. Usually, it's sometime in July. It's a hit or miss to who is working or if they're available. This year, we had Liv (Livia Shoup) who was the youngest one at 2 years old. Emma, who is the owner of the original Schultz farm is 90. She has been there every year.”

Jim and Emma Schultz had six children, five sons and one

daughter, to help them with the farm as they grew up.

Once Jim and Pete passed away, Shawn and his siblings became big contributors to the family farm. Shawn farms Cindy's land which helped put her two daughters through college.

The entire family appreciates farming, what it's done for them, and what they're able to do with it as they use the annual event similar to a family reunion.

Everyone comes together for corn.

“Usually they'll get one of the tractors out. A group of people will go out and go into the field and start,” Cindy Schultz said. “We physically hand pick the sweet corn and throw it into the bucket of the tractor. Tents are set up for different workstations. There is one workstation where you're shucking the corn.

“There is another station where we make sure all of the hair is removed. We have a station where they boil the corn for just a short time. After that, they have to throw it into ice water. We physically cut the corn off of the cob. Another station puts the corn into freezer bags – we call it canning, but we actually use bags – and it goes directly into the freezer.

“From the time it's picked until the time it gets to the freezer, it's all in one day. We

start early in the morning and finish late at night.”

The Schultzes set a record this summer with 331 bags of corn. The average is around 170.

Big fans are set up because it seems to never fail, the day the family decides is the perfect day to come together, it's the hottest, muggiest day of the year.

“All of the corn is for the family. We divide the bags up amongst the families that are there. Shawn and Emma both have a couple freezers,” Cindy Schultz said. “We are welcome to take whatever we want. Throughout the year we'll ask, ‘Who has the corn?’ or ‘Is there corn left?’ and people go and grab it. It's nice and simple. We throw it in the crockpot with a stick of butter and it's like it was picked right off the fields. It's delicious. It's a lot of work, but it's worth it when you get to eat it in the summertime.”

“We always say, ‘In 20 years from now, the little kids are going to remember stories from us doing this.’ That's what makes it neat. My daughters are out of college and live in Chicago. They didn't make it this year, but most of the years, they'll come home just to be with everybody and do the corn again.”

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

‘First Day of School Was Great’ at Gardner-South Wilmington High School

The Board of Education at Gardner-South Wilmington High School held a Regular Meeting August 17.

There was no public comment at the meeting.

Principal Engelman was not present at the meeting, so Mrs. Sue Avery reported:

- Update on first few days – Professional Development sessions were held August 15 and 16 for teachers. They received very positive feedback from their staff. The first day of school was great. Many of their staff utilized their Institute Day training and were welcoming and supportive of all students. They did have one mechanical issue, as their lift broke. It was repaired over the summer, but was not working for the first day of school. Their maintenance staff is aware of this ongoing issue and is handling it.

There was no Director's Report for the month of August.

Mrs. Avery reported on the Building and Grounds, discussing the following:

- Flooring – The new flooring in the main office, Principal's office, teacher workroom, board room and Room 204 is complete and looks amazing. Everyone is really impressed with the new, updated look.

- Cabinets in the STEAM Lab – New cabinets and countertops were built/installed in the STEAM Lab.
- Parking Lot – The new parking lot is complete. There has been some re-routing for better traffic flow, so arrows have been painted and new signs have been installed.

Mrs. Avery presented the Superintendent's Report:

- Return to School Plan – GSW had to submit this to the public per ISBE. It outlines school procedures and protocols for the new year.

- Use of ESSR III Funds – Mr. DeLong wrote this grant before he left and it was approved. GSW received about \$260,000 in funding. This money will pay for custodial and aide salaries, supplies, etc.

- Reunion – The Class of 1970 will be holding their 50th Reunion and has asked for a building tour. Mrs. Avery will open up the building and give them a tour of GSW High School.

- Bookkeeper Update – They have put out the job notice and received two applications. Mrs. Avery will conduct interviews.
- Student Graduate Early Request – A junior student has requested early graduation. He

would like to graduate with the Class of 2023. This was an action item.

- Cameras – Their security cameras are 11-years old. They definitely need to be updated. Their Tech Director is looking at purchasing new ones and will be getting some bids. He will be at next month's meeting to give a presentation on new camera systems for the building. They are looking into leasing the cameras over three school years. Upon the term of the lease the school will own the cameras.

- School Resource Officer – Mr. Ken Briley, Grundy County Sheriff, has implemented a new plan for schools in Grundy County to each have their own Resource Officer. GSW is in talks with GGS, BES, and SWGS to share one officer between all four schools in order to share the cost.

- FY2023 Tentative Budget Presentation – Mrs. Avery gave a detailed presentation to the board of education members.
- Audit – GSW will have its annual Audit this week.

There were no Board Member reports in August.

Action Items included the following:

(continued on page 2)

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

August 11: Marcus D. Stewart, 32, Lexington, MS, driving 21-25 MPH above limit; Sergio D. Sanchez, 18, Bradley, driving 21-25 MPH above limit.

August 14: Anasia M. Williams, 21, Crest Hill, operating a motor vehicle with no valid license, permit, or restricted driving permit, disp. regis. plate/decal/1st, 2nd, carry/display license/permit, operate uninsured motor vehicle, possession of stolen property.

August 16: Leon D. Abington, 57, Calumet City, speeding over statutory limit; Cody T. Bryant, 23, Normal, driving 21-25 MPH above limit.

August 18: Jesse A. Maron-Papaleo, 23, Romeoville, insurance--operate uninsured.

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

7 Written Warnings

Disobey Stop Sign – 4; No Proof of Insurance – 2; No Rear Registration Plate Light – 1.

Dwight Police Blotter

August 12: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of John St. for a Domestic Issue.

August 14: Dwight Police were dispatched to Rt. 47 at Northbrook construction area for an accident. Anasia Williams, 21, of Crest Hill, was issued citations for No Driver's License, Improper Display of License Plates, Driver's License Not On Person, No Proof of Insurance, Possession of Stolen Property, Improper Lane Usage, (Driving through Construction barrels onto incomplete road construction area). Additional charges are being reviewed.

August 17: Dwight Police assisted Grundy in locating a vehicle that fled from a traffic stop. The vehicle was found abandoned in the 500 block of E. Seminole St.

Follow Up; Return Call; 911 Hang Up; Traffic Stop; Burglar Alarm; Suspicious Vehicle; Miscellaneous; Accident; Lockout; Custody Problem; Domestic Issue; Battery; Out With Vehicle; Loose Dog; Transport; Out With Subject; Vehicle Parked Overnight; Assist Agency; Medical Aid; Animal; Suspicious Subject; Extra Patrol; Funeral Escort; Neighbor Issues.

Accident Reports

Friday, August 12, 12:07 p.m., an accident was reported at 102 Watters Dr. involving a Ford utility, driven by Olivia Folkers, Dwight, which struck a parked Ford hatchback, driven by Amber Curry, Braidwood, while attempting to back up from a space.; 2:24 p.m., a single-vehicle accident was reported at 106 Watters Dr. involving a Cadillac four-door, driven by Janice Pfeifer, which struck a meter on the side of a building; 2:48 p.m., an accident was reported at Old Rt. 66 and Mazon (Rt. 17) involving a Ford, driven by Silvano Arditì, Rome, Italy, which struck a Chevrolet, driven by Keith Lackner, Dwight, who had the right of way.

Sunday, August 14, 2:15 p.m., a single-vehicle accident was reported at N. Union St. and E. Northbrook Dr. involving a Dodge AVN, driven by Anasia Williams, Crest Hill, which traveled around construction barrels and onto unfinished road, getting stopped on rebar and concrete.



Weekly Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

August 11: Prairie, trauma, refusal; John St., medical, Morris Hospital; Andrew, medical, St. James; Mazon, trauma, Morris; Main St., Morris, mutual aid – Coal City.

August 12: Watters, fire; Washington, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical.

August 13: 2300 N., medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.

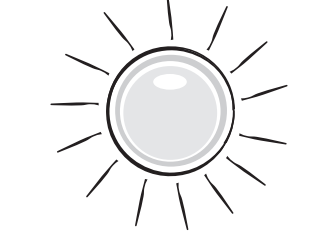
August 14: John St., medical, Riverside; Vermillion, trauma, St. James, mutual aid to Odell.

August 15: Spencer, medical, Morris Hospital, mutual aid from Morris - COQ; Main, medical, Morris.

August 16: Wolf, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; Mazon Ave., medical, St. James, mutual aid – Morris EMS; Prairie St., medical, Morris Hospital, mutual aid Morris - COQ.

August 17: Mazon Ave., refusal; Mazon, medical, St. Mary's, mutual aid – Morris - COQ.

August 18: James St., trauma, refusal; Prairie, medical, Morris; Waupansie, assist; Waupansie, medical, refusal; Bannon, medical, Morris.



Temps - 2022

Aug. 11 – high 79°, low 52°
Aug. 12 – high 76°, low 52°
Aug. 13 – high 80°, low 59°
Aug. 14 – high 73°, low 61° trace precip.
Aug. 15 – high 79°, low 55°
Aug. 16 – high 81°, low 53°
Aug. 17 – high 83°, low 53° trace precip.

One Year Ago – Aug. 24, 2021
high 84°, low 43°



Dwight Fire Incidents 8/12 - 8/19

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:

August 12: Motor Vehicle Accident – Watters Drive.

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

Free Food to Be Distributed August 24

Free food will be distributed to qualifying households in Dwight Township Wednesday, August 24, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, Gothic Church, 201 N. Franklin St., Dwight.

The pantry is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, January through October. The November Food Pantry is held on the third Wednesday, while Love Boxes distribute food in December.

GSW Board

(continued from page 1)

- Approve Early Graduation – Allston Latimer
- Hire Amy Mellendorf – Lunchroom Supervisor
- Approve Chris Halpin, JV Basketball Coach – **Tabled**
- Approve the Threat Assessment Plan and Protocols
- Public Hearing for the FY2022 Budget on September 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- Approve the Resolution Abating the Working Cash Fund of the District
- Approve the Resolution of the District Bookkeeper – Patty Klingberg

Methamphetamine Arrest Made in Streator

Another Suspect Still At-Large

Livingston County Sheriff Jeff Hamilton advised that on August 17, an ongoing narcotics investigation led to the arrest of Dangelo Williams in Streator, Livingston County, conducted by the Livingston County Sheriff's Proactive Unit and Tri County Drug Enforcement Narcotics Team (Trident).

During the investigation, over 263.1 grams of methamphetamine, and a vehicle, were seized as evidence.

Williams was taken into custody by the Livingston County Proactive Unit for delivery of methamphetamine over 15 grams (Class X Felony) and unlawful possession of methamphetamine (Class X Felony). He is currently being housed at the Livingston County Jail on a bond set at \$150,000.00.

Agencies assisting Livingston County Proactive Unit and Trident were the following: Livingston County Detection Section, LaSalle County Detectors and Patrol, Streator K-9 and Patrol, LCSP Patrol, Illinois State Police, ISP Air OPS, Vermillion Valley Regional Emergency Communications (VCOM), and the Livingston County State's Attorney's Office.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Office Proactive Unit and Trident Drug Task Force, along with the LaSalle County Sheriff's Office, are looking for Jerome Alexander, Jr. This is in connection with the investigation where Alexander is suspected of methamphetamine delivery in Livingston County, striking a LaSalle County Deputy with his vehicle (minor injury), striking a squad car (pushing it out of the way), fleeing and eluding, damaging private property (driving through a fence) and then fleeing the scene.

The vehicle was located in the Sylvan Lane area in Streator. Both occupants fled the vehicle, with Williams being apprehended in the area after a brief foot pursuit.

Alexander remains at-large. He is a 25-year old black male from Peoria. He is 5'8", 150 lbs., with long dreadlocks. He was last seen wearing a red shirt and blue jeans.

Thomas Bennett, State Representative 106th District

Legislation introduced to fix shortcomings of recent energy bill

Last fall the General Assembly passed a bipartisan energy bill which will save jobs in our area and make the state's energy grid cleaner and more reliable. Unfortunately, while the bill's long-term effects will be positive, it also contained a number of flaws which are causing difficulties for some Illinoisans in the short term.

This month I have joined in an effort to enact legislation to fix those flaws and make this transition easier for Illinois residents.

A big part of the problem centers on the forced closure of many existing Illinois power plants before newer, clean energy plants are ready to pick up the demand.

House Bill 5781 will repeal the forced 2045 closure date for coal and natural gas power plants that was included in last year's bill. This change will help ensure that the grid is able to continue to meet demand without interruption. House Bill 5782 would also take a step in this direction by getting rid of bureaucratic red tape at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and speeding up the state permitting process for new power plants.

These bills will help to correct some of the problems with the new energy bill and ensure a smoother transition to cleaner, more reliable energy in the future. I hope that we can get these bills heard and passed during the fall veto session in November.

Continued service on the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission. This week I was re-appointed to another term on the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, a state board which "protects the rights and promotes the welfare of persons with disabilities."

Visit to football camp in Dwight. I recently stopped by the Dwight First Baptist Church to visit their week-long football camp and learn more. It is quite an operation! The church has been hosting this camp for many years. More than 300 players and 200 coaches, pastors and support folks from several states attended.

The players were divided into 20 teams from little league through high school. Each team played every day, with the "Super Bowl" coming the last day. Through the course of the week, the coaches, pastors and kids talked about leadership, accountability, compassion and faith!

Thank you Pastors Daniel Woodward and Tim Booth and your host of tremendous volunteers for an amazing week!

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Should You Own Bonds When Interest Rates Rise?

As you know, the stock market has attracted a lot of attention – and for good reason, as we've seen considerable volatility almost from the beginning of the year. But if you own bonds, or bond-based mutual funds, you might also have some concerns. However, it's important to understand why bonds should continue to be an important part of your portfolio.

To begin with, let's look at what's happened with bond prices recently. Inflation has heated up, leading the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates to help "cool off" the economy. And rising interest rates typically raise bond yields — the total annual income that investors get from their "coupon" (interest) payments. Rising yields can cause a drop in the value of your existing bonds, because investors will want to buy the newly issued bonds that offer higher yields than yours.

And yet, despite this possible drop in their value, the bonds you own can still help you make progress toward your financial goals. Consider these benefits of bond ownership:

- **Income** – No matter what happens to the value of your bonds, they will continue to provide you with income, in the form of interest payments, until they mature, provided the issuer doesn't default — and defaults are generally unlikely with investment-grade bonds (those rated BBB or higher). Your interest payments will remain the same throughout the life of your bond, which can help you plan for your cash flow and spending.
- **Diversification** – As you've probably heard, diversification is a key to successful investing. If you only owned one type of asset, such as growth stocks, and the stock market went into a decline, as has happened this year, your portfolio likely would have taken a big hit — even bigger than the one you may have experienced. But bond prices don't always move in the same direction as stocks, so the presence of bonds in your portfolio — along with other investments, such as government securities and certificates of deposit — can help reduce the impact of volatility on your holdings. (Keep in mind, though, that by itself, diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses in a declining market.)
- **Reinvestment opportunities** – As mentioned above, rising interest rates and higher yields may reduce the value of your current bonds, but this same development may also offer you some favorable reinvestment opportunities. If you own bonds of varying durations — short-, intermediate- and long-term — you should regularly have some bonds maturing.

And in an environment such as the current one, you can reinvest the proceeds of your expiring short-term bonds into new ones issued at potentially higher interest rates. By doing so, you can potentially provide yourself with more income. Also, by owning a mix of bonds, you'll still have the longer-term ones working for you, and these bonds typically (but not always) pay a higher interest rate than the shorter-term ones.

It might not feel pleasant to see the current value of your bonds drop. But if you're not selling them before they mature, and you take advantage of the opportunities afforded by higher yields, you'll find that owning bonds can still be a valuable part of your investment strategy.

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

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www.thepaper1901.com

Mark and Mary Boma
• Publishers •

The Paper
is published
every
Wednesday.

Postage paid at
Dwight, IL 60420.

**Out of area
subscriptions
available.**

\$40 Online
\$60 3rd Class
\$110 1st Class

July Video Gaming

Dwight gamblers took a break from their usual \$700,000-plus months, playing only \$673,743 in the town’s 44 little casinos during July.

There are now 43,251 gam-

ing terminals (123 new) in Illinois at 7,981 locations, 16 more than a month ago.

Dwight received \$9,413 of the month’s proceeds.

| Dwight | July | Funds In | Funds Out | NTI* | State | Dwight |
|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|
| | Aly Anne | \$76,830 | 59,479 | 17,350 | 5,031 | 867 |
| | Cherry Red | 3,604 | 2,351 | 1,252 | 363 | 62 |
| | Lili Mae’s | 121,450 | 88,460 | 32,989 | 9,567 | 1,649 |
| | Love’s | 204,156 | 142,940 | 61,215 | 17,752 | 3,060 |
| | VFW | 144,056 | 109,618 | 34,437 | 9,986 | 1,721 |
| | Vic. Lanes | 10,507 | 9,314 | 1,192 | 345 | 59 |
| | Virbapa | 11,596 | 6,945 | 4,650 | 1,348 | 232 |
| | Willy’s | 101,544 | 66,366 | 35,177 | 10,201 | 1,758 |
| | TOTAL | \$673,743 | 485,476 | 188,266 | 54,597 | 9,413 |

| Gardner | July | Funds In | Funds Out | NTI* | State | Gardner |
|---------|-------------|----------|-----------|-------|-------|---------|
| | Buddies (3) | 1,859 | 974 | 884 | 256 | 44 |
| | Marks (5) | 45,140 | 37,442 | 7,697 | 2,232 | 384 |
| | TOTAL: | \$46,999 | 38,417 | 8,581 | 2,488 | 429 |

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

Gambling problem? Call 1-800 GAMBLER.

Well Read Book Club at Fossil Ridge Library Sept. 1

The Well Read Book Club meets at Fossil Ridge Public Library, 386 West Kennedy Rd. in Braidwood, on the first Thursday of each month to discuss a book selected by one of the members. This group discusses material designed to make you question everything.

This month’s selection is a title of your choice from Mark Twain’s written works.

Copies of monthly book se-

lections are available for checkout at the front desk. All readers are welcome to join.

The Club will meet from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Registration is required.

For more information, visit fossilridge.org or call 815-458-2187. Any other questions can be e-mailed to help@fossilridge.org or kclark@fossilridge.org.

Give a Smile Away! It’s Free

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Odell Public Library District has completed our Annual Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal year beginning 7/1/21 and ending 6/30/22. It is now available for review at the library on request.

Featured Business of the Week!

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For Your Personal and Commercial Insurance Needs

Annual Fall Auction
Saturday, Aug. 27
9:00 a.m.

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Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

| 2023 BUDGET – ODELL PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT ORDINANCE 02-2022 | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Beginning the 1st day of July 2022 and Ending the 30th day of June 2023 | |
| WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the Odell Public Library District, Livingston County, Illinois, has prepared or caused to be prepared a tentative form of the Annual Budget and Appropriation for said Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 and the same has been conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to final action thereon; and | |
| WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance on August 17, 2022, notice of which was given at least thirty (30) days prior thereto; and | |
| WHEREAS, all other legal requirements have been duly complied with by the Board of Trustees of the Odell Public Library District; | |
| NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ODELL PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS: | |
| Section 1: That the following sums, or so much thereof as by law may be authorized, be and the same are hereby budgeted, set aside and appropriated for the specified Library Purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; and the objects and purposes for which said appropriations are made, and the amounts thereby appropriated are as follows; to-wit: | |
| FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES (75 ILCS 16/35-5): | |
| 1. For salaries | |
| a. Librarian (some in risk mgmt) | \$26,240 |
| b. Library benefits (Includes IMRF-SS-fed-state) | |
| c. Library assistants | \$28,067 |
| | \$54,307 |
| 2. For library materials & Programs | |
| a. Books | \$12,000 |
| b. Periodicals/magazines | 600 |
| c. DVDs (adults-children) | 2,000 |
| d. Audio Books | 200 |
| e. Programs | 1,500 |
| | \$16,300 |
| 3. For utilities | 5,800 |
| 4. For postage | 350 |
| 5. For staff and board development | 800 |
| 6. For library supplies | 1,200 |
| 7. For publication and printing | 1,000 |
| 8. For contract costs (Ancestry +) | 3,000 |
| 9. For OCLC catalog costs/ circulation | 2,600 |
| 10. For office equipment | 1,000 |
| 11. For Legal services | 500 |
| 12. For Travel expenses & mileage | 800 |
| 13. For computer purchase & maintenance | 2,800 |
| 14. For miscellaneous expenses | 500 |
| | TOTAL \$20,350 (\$90,957) |
| FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FUND PURPOSES (40 ILCS 5/21-110; 21-110.1): | |
| 1. Social Security (Library cost) | \$4,500 |
| 2. Contingency | 500 |
| | TOTAL \$5,000 |
| FOR ILL. MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND (40 ILCS 5/7-105; 7-171): | |
| 1. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund | \$4,600 |
| 2. Contingency | 200 |
| | TOTAL \$4,800 |
| FOR AUDIT PURPOSES (75 ILCS 16/30-45 and 50 ILCS 310/9): | |
| 1. Contractual Services-Audit | \$2,000 |
| 2. Contingency | 200 |
| | TOTAL \$2,200 |
| FOR LIABILITY, WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. (745 ILCS 10/9-107): | |
| 1. Insurance | |
| a. public liability insurance/ bonding | \$ 400 |
| b. property damage (fire) & Officers & Directors Insurance | 3,500 |
| c. Workers' Comp. Insurance | 1,150 |
| d. Unemployment Insurance | 250 |
| Risk management & Loss control Program (includes 3,400 Director's Salary) | 6,000 |
| 3. Legal Fees | 500 |
| 4. Contingency | 200 |
| | TOTAL \$12,000 |
| FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND: (75 ILCS 16/35-5): | |
| 1. Building Maintenance Costs: | |
| a. General maintenance | \$3,100 |
| b. Custodian | 3,800 |
| c. Equipment repair & replacement | 6,000 |
| d. Maintenance supplies | 600 |
| e. Maintenance contracts | 700 |
| 2. Contingency | 400 |
| | TOTAL \$14,600 |
| (continued in next column) | |

| (continued from previous column) | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| FOR SPECIAL RESERVE FUND (75 ILCS 16/40-50): | | |
| 1. Building Fund | \$2,000 | |
| 2. Contingency | 100 | |
| | TOTAL \$2,100 | \$131,657 |
| Section 2: Appropriated for the foregoing expenses from the following estimate of revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the Library District in the fiscal year: | | |
| Projected cash on hand July 1, 2022 | \$ 0 | |
| Miscellaneous gifts, memorials & donations | 1,000 | |
| From the Special Reserve Fund | 2,000 | |
| Income of Interest | 87 | |
| Special grants Per Capita, Herbert) | 2,000 | |
| Photocopies, non-resident, fines & misc. | 970 | |
| Corporate Personal Property | | |
| Replacement Tax | 3,000 | (9,057) |
| Tax for General Corporate Library purposes | 91,925 | |
| Tax for Social Security purposes | 5,000 | |
| Tax for Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund | 4,800 | |
| Tax for Audit purposes | 2,000 | |
| Tax for Liability and Insurance | 9,575 | |
| Tax for Building & Maintenance purposes | 9,300 | (\$122,600) |
| Expected cash on hand June 30, 2023 | 0 | \$131,657 |

Section 3: Any unexpended balances in the General Library Fund, and Maintenance Fund appropriations will be deposited into the Special Reserve Fund pursuant to a plan in accordance with Article 40 of Chapter 75, Illinois Compiled Statutes.

Section 4: The Secretary of the Odell Public Library District is hereby authorized and directed to publish this Ordinance at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the district.

Section 5: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Odell Public Library District and approved by the President the 17th day of August, 2022.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ODELL
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

Lynne Verdun
President

ATTEST:
Sandra Erickson
Secretary

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
COUNTY OF Livingston)

CERTIFICATE

I, Sandra Erickson, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and now acting Secretary of the Odell Public Library District in the County of Livingston and State of Illinois; that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #02-2022 for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

I further certify that the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was duly passed by the Board of Trustees of said Library District at a meeting thereof held on the 17th day of August, 2022; that said Ordinance was duly passed by yea and nay vote thereon with at least a majority of all the Board of Trustees having voted yea on the adoption and passage thereof and approved in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois pursuant to the notice and publication thereof as required by law.

I further certify that said Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance contains an estimate of revenues, by sources, anticipated to be received by the Odell Public Library District in the fiscal year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed my name in my official capacity as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Odell Public Library District, at Odell, Illinois, this 17th day of August, 2022.

Sandra Erickson
Secretary,
Odell Public Library District

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MEMBERS OF THE MAZON AMERICAN LEGION Post 352, along with several Veterans in the crowd, were honored August 4 with the presentation of Veteran Era pins and Welcomed Home before BINGO. Also honored were those in the crowd who had lost a family member during, or as a result of, their service in Vietnam. AllenForce CEO Donna Allen Sebok, CTRS, was the presenter. She assists in successful transitions for veterans and families through health, fitness, and recreation. Congratulations to Morris Legion Riders Steve Peterson and Larry Olson, who received the pin and were welcomed home. Peterson arranged the event.

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Essex Museum Open Across The Street

Southeastern Grundy County Seniors Meet

On August 5, the Southeastern Grundy County Seniors met for their regular meeting at The Gardner Restaurant.

Eleven people were present. Table grace was said by Sharon Pickles, president. Sharon Pickles celebrated an August birthday and provided dessert.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

There was no correspondence.

Events include: August 22 – Mobile Food Pantry at St. Lawrence Church, South Wilmington.

Sharon Ford stated the school supplies that were donated from the community were delivered to the Braceville, Gardner, and South Wilmington Grade Schools, and GSW High School.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be Friday, September 2.

New Books at Piper City Library

Piper City Public Library, 39 Main St., now has the following books available to check out:

Beyond the Desert Sand by Tracie Peterson (Large Print); Written on the Wind by Elizabeth Camden (Large Print); Turn to Me by Becky Wade (Large Print); The Best is Yet to Come by Debbie Macomber; Rising Tiger by Brad Thor; The Big Dark Sky by Dean Koontz; Shattered by James Patterson; Sugar & Salt by Susan Wiggs; The Bourne Sacrifice by Brian Freeman; The 6:20 Man by David Baldacci; Switch Board Soldiers by Jennifer Chiaverini; Hawthorne Legacy by Jennifer Barnes.

In addition, Piper City Library also has Aura of Night by Heather



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, Dwight, held Vacation Bible School August 1-5. The theme was, "The Tree of Knowledge-God's Promise of Salvation."

MVK Seniors Meet

The Mazon-Verona-Kinsman Seniors met August 16 at the Mazon American Legion for lunch provided by the Community Nutrition Network (CNN) and furnished by "The Whistle Stop" in Coal City.

President Sherry McIntosh called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. A silent prayer was said for the military, police, EMTs, and government officials.

Happy Birthday was sung for Carl Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Robert Matzen, and Joe Sereno. Shirley Johnson gave a reading. The door prizes were won by Shirley Sterba, Robin

Homerding, and Frank Sereno.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were read and motioned to be accepted by Joe Sereno and seconded by all.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 20, with Euchre starting at 10:30 a.m. and BINGO following the business meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Shirley Sterba was seconded by Betty Robinson.

Anyone 60 or older is invited to join for a small donation. Call CNN at 815-941-1590 to make a reservation.

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Area Students Make Heartland C.C. Dean’s List

Heartland Community College has recognized the academic achievements of its summer semester students, including the following area students:

- **Blackstone:** Heather Drysdale
- **Odell:** Denise Knight

At the end of each fall, spring, and summer semester, students earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the preceding semester are named to the HCC Dean’s List.

This summer semester, 294 full-time students and 544 part-time students were named to the Dean’s List.

Livingston County Concert Association 2022/2023 Tickets in the Mail

The Board of Directors of the Livingston County Concert Association (LCCA) has announced that the tickets for the 2022/2023 season are in the process of being mailed. If you have not received your tickets by September 1, call Ruth Schlosser at 815-844-6394.

The first concert in Pontiac will be “Brothers” at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 12, at the Pontiac Township High School Auditorium, 1100 Indiana Avenue.

Memberships for the coming season will be available for purchase at the first concert. A fee applies. Memberships are good for four concerts in Pontiac and four concerts in Ottawa. The two associations have a reciprocity agreement.

For general information about LCCA, contact Rod or Dorothy Patterson at 815-844-7833. They may also be reached by e-mail at rod.Hjemme@gmail.com.



STEPHEN GRAEFEN, 22, from Dwight, has been involved in the rodeo since he was in the seventh grade. After no interest in horses or bulls, Graefen has fallen in love with the sport. His saddle broncing skills have earned him \$12,975.60 and an International Professional Rodeo Association world ranking of fifth this season.

Saddle Up Dwight’s Graefen Nationally Ranked in International Rodeo

by Brandon LaChance

When Stephen Graefen was a little kid, he had absolutely zero interest in horses, bulls, or the rodeo.

An interest didn’t spark until he was routinely at horse shows and began talking to people.

“I had nothing to do with horses. I didn’t really care for it. It was my sister (Maddy Graefen, 23) who wanted a horse,” said Stephen, who lived in Midlothian before he moved to Dwight at 2 years old. “My dad (Steve Graefen) bought her one and they started looking into showing horses. They started showing horses at 4-H shows. When we met the guy at Kankakee, he asked if I wanted to do it. His kids were in the rodeo. I started looking at what I could do, and bull riding fascinated me. In high school I began bucking horses and I liked that more.

“I didn’t want anything to do with horses when I was younger. It has kind of grown on me.”

Graefen, 22, who went to school in Herscher because their Dwight address was in the Herscher school district, received his high school education at home.

With attendance requirements, Graefen was either always going to be in trouble or he was going to have to miss rodeos.

He decided he wasn’t missing rodeos and he would combine his home and a classroom so he could obtain an education as well.

“It started in junior high. I think I was in seventh grade,” Graefen said. “My junior and senior year, I switched over to bucking horses. Now, I just ride saddle bronc horses. There are two events in rodeo where horses buck. There is saddle bronc riding, where there is a saddle, and there is bareback

bronc riding where they use a suitcase handle and no saddle. I used to do both in high school, but now my body can only take one.”

“Bull riding is faster. When the bull starts spinning, that’s a faster movement than with horses. It’s more adrenaline also. With horses, there is a stronger feeling. There is more force, jolting, and strain. Bull riding isn’t bad during the ride, but the landing hurts and you have to worry about what the bull is going to do.

“You don’t have to worry about that with horses. There are mean horses out there, but they’re usually tame.”

Graefen became a professional bronc rider in 2019. He had success in his first year, Covid-19 wiped out his second year, and he made the International Professional Rodeo Association finals in 2021.

In the IPRA, the standings are based on earnings. If you’ve made the most, you’re at the top of the standings.

This year, Graefen has made \$12,975.60 and is ranked fifth

in the world in saddle bronc riding.

“I haven’t seen my house in about two months. It’s a lot. We call them cowboy or rodeo hours,” Graefen said. “You go to the rodeo, which is at 7 p.m. You do your thing, get off the horse, and grab the money you won. Then you have to drive halfway to the next rodeo, which makes it about 1-2 a.m. You fall asleep, wake up at noon, and drive the rest of the way to the next rodeo. Then you repeat. You’ll do that all summer.”

Graefen loves competing against rodeo athletes from Canada, Australia, Brazil, and Mexico.

He also enjoys being able to tour the world doing what he loves.


In the last three weeks, Graefen has saddled a horse in New York, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Illinois.

“It’s something else. Not a lot of people get to travel the

(continued on page 7)



STEPHEN AND KYRA GRAEFEN



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Dwight’s Graefen Nationally Ranked in International Rodeo



(continued from page 6)

country. My sister texted me last week and told me I was blessed to be in New York,” Graefen said. “New York is somewhere she wants to go. It’s a blessing to go down the road and see everything in the United States. Words can’t explain what it’s like to do this. We get to go from the Appalachian Mountains to the Great Plains to New York. It’s just something else.

“We only get to do the tourist things once in a while. When we were in New York, we didn’t realize we were just south of Niagara Falls last week. If we would have woken up a little earlier, we would have been able to see it. But we got there at 3 a.m. and didn’t realize exactly where we were until the next morning and we had to get going.”

Just like any other sport, injuries are part of the deal.

When he was bull riding, Graefen suffered two broken arms, a lacerated spleen, a punctured lung, and a couple of concussions.

As Graefen would say, “My insurance company wasn’t happy.”

He says saddle bronc riding has been safe so far, even though he has had a bruised tailbone, a head laceration, and a broken ankle.

The broken ankle came right before last year’s IPRA finals. The doctor didn’t want him to ride in the finals, but he didn’t deny him the opportunity either.

Knowing he was 90 percent recovered, Graefen taped his ankle and hopped on the saddle.

“It’s just the love of the sport. There are a lot of people

that like their adrenaline rush. The people in the rodeo, that’s what we love,” Graefen said. “We love the adrenaline. We love the animals. We love the livestock. Rodeo provides the opportunity to get all of that in one.

“We love being able to travel when we want and how we want. I get to decide the hours of day or the hours in a week that I want to work. I get to decide what I’m doing. We’re not under contract like baseball players. We have to pay our own way. We pay our gas and our entry fees.

“I think that’s what makes the love for it. We are the only sport in the world where we get to do it when we want and how we want.”

Graefen plans to bronc horses until he is 30 and then reevaluate his situation to see if he wants to remain in the rodeo.

Until then, he has goals such as winning an IPRA National Championship and to test his luck in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

“I could quit today. I could quit in 10 years. It depends on how long you want to keep up with the pain and how long your body can go with it,” Graefen said. “Everyone’s cut-off date is different. I know guys that have quit after a couple years. I know guys who are still doing it at 40 years old. I guess it just depends on how tough you want to be with it and how long you want to keep going.”

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

Grundy County Mental Health Court Receives \$148,000 Grant

The Grundy County Mental Health Court has received a grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority in the amount of \$148,000. This grant is intended to fund the continued operations of the Grundy County Mental Health Court.

Additionally, the Illinois Supreme Court has recently recertified the Grundy County Mental Health Court Program for a period of three years. In approving the recertification, the Illinois Supreme Court has reviewed and determined the Grundy policies and procedures and alternative court handbook to be in compliance with the Illinois Supreme Court Rules and best practices.

Grundy County Judge, Scott Belt, was recently assigned to preside over the Grundy County Mental Health Court program. The program was established to allow those charged with non-violent criminal offenses to seek assistance to address their mental health issues.

The Grundy County Mental Health Court was established in 2014, and it has successfully

graduated many individuals who have completed the program. The criteria to complete the program has allowed the Court system to work to restore each person, on an individual basis, to a productive and meaningful life.

Once a participant successfully completes the alternative Court program, the criminal charges that brought them into the program are dismissed. If they fail to comply with the rigorous terms of the program, they are typically sentenced to a Department of Corrections sentence to which they have previously pled guilty to.

Restoring dignity and confidence in the individual mental health participants is a key component to restoring them to graduation and continued success. Mental Court participants are in the program for an average of 2.5 years, and there are significant obligations required of them to successfully graduate.

“By all accounts, the Mental Health Court has been a great asset.” added Judge Belt.

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

The Paper

fax: 815-584-2196
email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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.

Budget Hearing and Availability to View Tentative Budget

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Allen - Otter Creek C.C.S.D. #65 in the county of LaSalle, State of Illinois, that the Tentative Budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at the District Office in this district, 400 S. Lane St., Ransom, Illinois 60470 from and after 9:00 o'clock A.M., on the 21st day of September, 2022.

Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:45 P.M. on the 21st day of September 2022 at Allen - Otter Creek C.C.S.D. #65, 400 S. Lane St. in the gym, in said school district No. 65. The regularly scheduled board meeting will immediately follow the hearing.

Diane Rzasa, President
Board of Education of School District #65
in the Counties of LaSalle and Livingston,
State of Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON
IN THE ESTATE OF
VIRGINIA L. FREUTEL, Deceased, No. 2022-PR-57

CLAIM NOTICE and NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given in the death of Virginia L. Freutel, a resident of Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois, on October 24, 2021. Decedent died at her residence home at 401 East Mazon Avenue, Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois. Notice is hereby given to creditors and unknown heirs of said decedent not named in the Petition for Administration of the Estate of the Decedent, whose names and addresses are not stated in said Petition, of the death of said decedent.

Letters of Office were issued on May 23, 2022, to Kenneth W. Freutel, Executor, whose mailing address is 401 East Mazon Avenue, Dwight, IL 60420, as Independent Executor of the Estate. The resident agent for Claims submission, and the resident agent for Service of Process is Kenneth W. Freutel, Executor, whose mailing address is 401 East Mazon Avenue, Dwight, IL 60420, for any Notice or Demand required or permitted by law to be served on the Independent Executor for any legal purpose. The Attorney for the Estate is Atty. Emmanuel F. Guyon, 5 East Bridge Street, Streator, Illinois 61364. The Estate will be administered without Court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates Independent Administration at any time by mailing or delivering a Petition to Terminate Independent Administration to the Circuit Clerk of Court.

Claims in the estate may be filed on or before February 17, 2023. Any claim not filed by date of February 17, 2023, is barred. Claims may be filed in the Office of the Livingston County Circuit Clerk, Ms. LeAnn Dixon, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Livingston County Courthouse, 110 North Main Street, Pontiac, Illinois 61764-1904, or claims may be filed with the Executor as the estate’s agent identified herein, or both. If filed with the Clerk, the claimant must, within ten days of filing, mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Independent Executor, and file with the Clerk proof of such mailing or delivery.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exceptions. To e-file you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. To learn more and to select a service provider, visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm>. Alternatively, visit <https://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk’s office if you need additional help or have trouble e-filing.

Kenneth W. Freutel, Independent Executor of the Estate of Virginia L. Freutel, Deceased
Emmanuel F. Guyon, Attorney
5 East Bridge Street, Streator, IL 61364
Publication Dates: August 17, 24, 31, 2022.

5 Minutes with Boma

D. B. Cooper

I have written before about how the Netflix algorithm has fully taken my brain and mapped it into its service and only presents me things that I will want to watch. This primarily consists of space and cat documentaries. (Unrelated to the topic at hand today, but there’s a new cat documentary available on Netflix that’s really good if you have a cat, or even if you don’t).

Anyway, the show that recently got shoved in my face was a mini series on none other than D. B. Cooper. I say “none other”, like I had an inkling of who he was even just a few weeks ago. If I’m being truly honest I maybe would’ve recognized the name but didn’t really know what his back story was, or much about him. The event took place on November 24, 1971. I was born in the 90s, so what do you expect?

After viewing the documentary, I was shocked that I had never heard of, nor looked more into his story.

This man hijacked a plane, got a bunch of ransom money, and just parachuted off into the abyss never to be heard from again. The FBI and many other individuals and agencies have tried to identify him over the years, but to this day, there is no verifiable proof of his true identity.

What the show also brought to light, was how many times planes were hijacked, and decades passed before it took something like 9/11 to really change the rules about boarding commercial airplanes.

The show references a few mentions of D. B. Cooper in popular TV culture, and it made me realize that every time I’ve heard that reference, I had no clue what they were talking about.

The mystique that is D. B. Cooper continues today, and I am perplexed that it was never brought up in history class, or that I might have come across a Youtube video of the incident.

Then after a series like this comes out there’s this thought of “well of course they made a documentary about this, it’s an unbelievable story.” It’s a real paradox.

But like Steve Jobs said, customers don’t know what they want until we show them. I guess this is me, I’m the customer.

Thank you for showing me D. B. Cooper, Netflix.

Aaron J. Boma
2016 ISU Grad

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BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff,

vs.

Unknown heirs of GREGORY A. NOVAK a/k/a GREG NOVAK, Special Representative of Gregory A. Novak a/k/a Greg Novak, Deceased, EDWARD NOVAK, Heir, CARLI NOVAK, minor heir, by and through her mother and next Friend, HEIDI NOVAK, and unknown owners and non-record claimants, Defendants.

No. 22-FC-36

NOTICE

Notice is given you Defendants, unknown heirs of GREGORY A. NOVAK a/k/a GREG NOVAK, 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:

TRACT 1:
Commencing at the Southeast corner of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 4 East of the Third Principal Meridian, thence North along the East line of the said West Half of the said Southwest Quarter 267.5 feet to the point of beginning; thence from said point of beginning West 264 feet, thence North 165 feet, thence East 264 feet to the East line of the said West Half of the said Southwest Quarter, thence South along said East line of the West Half of the said Southwest Quarter 165 feet to the point of beginning, Livingston County, Illinois.

TRACT 2:
Commencing at the Southeast corner of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 4 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Livingston County, Illinois, thence North along the East line of the said West Half of the said Southwest Quarter 432½ feet, thence West 128 feet, which is the point of beginning, thence North 130 feet, thence West 136 feet, thence South 130 feet, thence East 136 feet to the place of beginning.

PIN: 02-02-32-300-002

Commonly known as: 27051 N. 725 E. Rd., Manville, IL 61319.

The title holders of record to the above described real estate are the Heirs and Legatees of GREGORY A. NOVAK a/k/a GREG NOVAK, Deceased. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on April 19, 2019 and recorded on April 24, 2019 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2019R-01403. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 22-FC-36 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 heirs of GREGORY A. NOVAK a/k/a GREG NOVAK, 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 September 30, 2022, a default may be entered against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint.

Dated this 12th day of August, 2022.

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

Information Session on Classes for Seniors September 2 at KCC

An information session for fall courses designed for active citizens will be 10:00 a.m. to noon Friday, September 2, in the Iroquois Room at Kankakee Community College.

The special guest speaker on September 2 will be Jim Rowe, the Kankakee County State’s Attorney.

The Lifelong Learning Institute offers affordable, high quality, non-credit classes that take place in an environment that fosters participation. Registration and course information will be available. The event is free and open to the public. The classes are non-credit, continuing education,

open to people ages 50 and older.

The classes focus on different intellectual and cultural topics, and vary from a few hours to several meetings. In-person and live webinar options are offered, and prices also vary.

For more information or to find out the latest course offerings, visit continuingedu.kcc.edu or phone 815-802-8206. To be added to the program mailing list, e-mail mposing@kcc.edu or phone 815-802-8206.

KCC is located at 100 College Drive in Kankakee, south of downtown Kankakee.

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Five Ways to Show Seniors They’re Appreciated

Senior citizens account for a significant percentage of the overall population. Estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau released in 2020 indicate the nation’s 65-and-older population had grown by more than one-third over the preceding decade. By 2050, the number of senior citizens is expected to be close to 90 million. As of 2021, Statistics Canada reported there were roughly 7.1 million persons age 65 and older living in Canada.

People are living longer than ever, and as individuals age, the demand for senior services continues to grow — as does the need to be patient and respect the elderly. There are many ways to show seniors just how much they’re appreciated.

1. Help with chores. Lend a

hand with chores around the house that may have grown difficult for seniors. This can include mowing the lawn, weeding garden beds, shoveling snow, raking leaves, or even taking the garbage pails in and out on collection days.

2. Visit more often. Frequent visits are one of the simplest ways to show seniors you care. Whether seniors live in a private home or managed care facility, visitors brighten their days, especially if they no longer get out and about as frequently as they once did. Spending time together and sharing stories can bring smiles to the faces of older adults.

3. Plan activities with seniors in mind. When organizing parties and special events, consider the needs of seniors on the guest list. Add music from

their era to playlists or DJ requests. Seat seniors with mobility issues near exits and restrooms. Make sure to arrange for photos with the guest of honor to keep family history alive.

4. Thank seniors. Find any reason to thank a senior. Perhaps someone served in the military or volunteered their time with children. Celebrate accomplishments big and small with a simple “thank you.”

5. Prepare a meal. Invite a special senior over for a home-cooked meal with the family. Make it a regular occurrence on the calendar. If he or she cannot get out easily, bring a hot meal over to his or her place, instead.

Simple gestures of gratitude and appreciation can brighten a senior’s day and let that person know he or she has not been forgotten.

Did You Know?

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer mainly occurs in middle-aged or older women. In fact, the median age at the time of a breast cancer diagnosis is 62. Though it’s possible for women far younger than 62 to be diagnosed with breast cancer, the ACS reports that only a very small number of women younger than 45 are diagnosed with the disease each year.

Despite the average age of onset being over 60, breast cancer is highly treatable. The World Health Organization notes that breast cancer treatments routinely achieve survival probabilities of 90 percent or higher. However, those prob-

abilities decline considerably in lower-income countries where access to screening and other medical services is limited.

For example, the WHO notes that five-year survival rates for breast cancer routinely surpass 90 percent in high-income countries like the United States and Canada. However, those rates are as low as 40 percent in South Africa, where


early detection of the disease is less likely than it is in wealthier nations. That disparity in survival rates underscores the need for greater resource allocation in lower-income countries, but also highlights the effectiveness of screening and other measures in high-income countries where women are taught to report any abnormalities with their breasts.



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GSW HIGH SCHOOL'S, EVA HENDERSON, competed in the 2022 GOODE U.S. Water Ski National Championships and came home a champion. She dominated on the water and earned the National Title. Eva is a junior and the daughter of Scott and Jody Henderson.

WAY TO MAKE GSW PROUD! CONGRATS!

Zoe Atwell of Essex, age eight, pictured above with Henderson, took home three medals in the Girls 1 (Under 10) division.

SPORTS

Area Water Skiers Bring Home the Hardware at US Nationals

Eleven skiers from the strip mine lakes area of South Wilmington/Essex/Reddick competed in the Water Ski National Championships August 7-13 in Maize, Kansas. Eleven medals were won in all, including two Gold.

Eva Henderson, a junior at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, was crowned Girls 4 (Under 16-years old) National Champion in the Trick event. Going into the competition as the #4-seed, Henderson had to pull out all the stops to score 3,370 points for the upset win.

Eva also stood on the podium for her fifth place overall placement. Overall represents the total combined scores from all three events: Slalom, Tricks, and Jump.

Eva's dad, Scott Henderson, grabbed the fifth place medal in Tricks.

Janet Madden, Lake Shannon, defended her National

Jump title with a 47-foot leap for the Gold in the Womens 7 (65+) division. Janet also finished second Overall and third in Tricks.

Zoe Atwell, of Essex, won three medals in the Girls 1 (Under 10) division: third in Slalom, fourth in Tricks, and third Overall. Zoe is only eight-years old and has another year to compete in Girls 1. Zoe's borthor, Landon, is only nine, but jumps in the Boys 2 division (no Jump event in B1), and finished in sixth place.

Danny Prochaska, Rice Road Lake, took third in Mens 1(18-25) Tricks and fourth in Jump.

Area Participants: Lake Greenfield (South Wilmington)

Eva Henderson – G4 (U16): 1st, Tricks; 5th, Overall.
Scott Henderson – M5 (55+): 5th, Tricks; 23rd, Slalom.

Lake Shannon (Reddick)

Tessa Cryder – G3 (U14): 7th, Slalom; 11th, Tricks.
Janet Madden – W7 (65+): 1st, Jump; 3rd, Tricks; 8th, Slalom; 2nd, Overall.

Rice Road Lake (Essex)

Bridgett Atwell – W3 (35+): 6th, Jump; 10th, Slalom; 11th, Tricks; 8th, Overall.

Landon Atwell – B1 (U10): 9th, Tricks; 19th, Slalom; 13th, Overall.

Landon Atwell – B2 (U12): 6th, Jump.

Zoe Atwell – G1 (U10): 3rd, Slalom; 4th, Tricks; 3rd, Overall.

Dylin Hammerschmidt – B1 (U10): 8th, Tricks; 23rd, Slalom; 15th, Overall.

Colin Hammerschmidt – B3 (U14): 8th, Tricks.

Chuck Prochaska – M6 (60+): 8th, Tricks.

Danny Prochaska – M1 (18-25): 3rd, Tricks; 4th, Jump.

Mavericks Win Thriller Over Redbirds

**Monday, August 15
MVK vs. Dwight**

Mazon-Verona-Kinsman picked up a big win over their foes from Dwight August 15, 16-14 in a game that took eight innings to decide a winner.

MVK's Landon McDonald was the winning pitcher in relief of Max Sproul, who had seven strikeouts.

For the Redbirds, Matthew Watchinski tossed four innings, striking out five. Trevor Jensen

struck out two in three innings of work, while Michael Leithliter pitched one inning, striking out one.

Brant Roe singled twice, doubled, and tripled to lead the Mavs' offensive attack. Bracken Anderson contributed three clutch singles, with Rayce Aukland adding three RBI on two hits.

Leading Dwight at the dish were Evan Olsen (double, triple), Collin Bachand (2 sin-

gles, HR), and Watchinski (single, triple, BB) with three RBI each. Frank Digilio added two RBI on four singles and a walk. Carson Sandeno supplied a double and a walk, followed by a single and a walk from Leithliter and Cash Carter. Jensen added an RBI single, with Blake Thetard also knocking in one run. Brad Thompson drew a walk.

The Mavericks move to 2-1 on the season.

GSWB Tops IVC Foe, Dwight, 16-6

**Thursday, August 18
GSWB vs. Dwight**

In a crucial IVC match-up August 18, the GSWB Lions picked up a 16-6 victory over Dwight.

The Lions struck early in the first, thanks to a lead-off walk. But the Redbirds were quick to answer, taking a 2-1 lead behind two GSWB errors.

In the second, the Lions were able to tie it up, 2-2, then proceeded to take a 6-5 lead in the third.

Over the next two innings, they would tack on nine more runs – leading to the win.

Hunter Partilla took the ball for GSWB, allowing three earned runs on six hits and two hit batters, striking out four.

For Dwight, Sandeno pitched four innings, tallying three strikeouts, while Collin Bachand struck out one in one inning of work.

The Redbirds defense turned two double plays in the contest.

Offensively for the Lions, Partilla (2-3, BB, 2 R) and Aiden Mack (2-4, 2 SB, 3 R) each had three RBI. Caden Christensen (double, BB, 2 R) and Case Christensen (2-3, BB,

SB, 2 R) each batted in two runs. Grady Phillips walked twice, swiped a bag, and scored a run. Cameron Gray and Tyler Gubbins each drew a walk, stole a base, and later scored. Reed Millete drew a free pass, stole two bases, and scored three runs. Logan Rice walked once and scored a run.

Leading the Redbirds at the plate was Matthew Watchinski, who singled and tripled. Evan Olson and Collin Bachand each doubled, with Trevor Jensen, Michael Leithliter, and Frank Digilio each providing a single.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY – PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

MFA 2017-RPL1 TRUST, MORTGAGE-BACKED NOTES,
SERIES 2017-RPL1,
PLAINTIFF,

vs.

MICHAEL E. ADAMS; JILL R. ADAMS;
DEFENDANTS.

2020 CH 35

Address: 1501 Bethany Lane Pontiac, IL 61764

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 10, 2022, I, Sheriff of Livingston County, Illinois, will on September 29, 2022 at the hour of 10:00 AM at the Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL, 61764, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Livingston, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 9 IN COUNTRYSIDE ESTATES, PONTIAC, BEING LOCATED ON A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS PER PLAT RECORDED APRIL 1, IN PLAT BOOK 11 AT PAGE 10 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 394018, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS AND RIGHTS OF WAY OF RECORD AND APPARENT, IF ANY.

COMMON ADDRESS: 1501 Bethany Lane, Pontiac, IL 61764

P.I.N.: 15-15-28-126-002

The real estate is improved with a single-family residence.

THE JUDGMENT AMOUNT WAS: \$187,708.85

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representations as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State without further notice.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

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

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 230 W. Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60606, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 20 7795.

Sheriff of Livingston County, Illinois
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Seneca, Dwight/GSW Girls Golf Fall to Roanoke-Benson

**Thursday, August 18
Seneca and Dwight/GSW vs. Roanoke-Benson**

In girls golf action August 18, Roanoke-Benson defeated Seneca (237) and Dwight/GSW (243), shooting an overall score of 213. Individual scores are as follows: **Seneca**

Julia Hogan – 50 (medalist); Addison Stiegler – 56; Jessica

Bertrang – 63; Jolena Odum – 68; Shelby Welsh – 73.

Dwight/GSW

Ava Meister – 58; Sophia Anderson – 60; Bella Dinelli – 62; Mary Clare Phillips – 63.

The Lady Irish, now 2-1 on the season, improved as a team in their second match of the season, shooting 22 strokes better.

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DCS REDBIRDS BASEBALL

**Monday, August 15
Dwight vs. MVK**

Dwight's "B" team came out swinging the bats August 15, leading to an 11-6 victory over MVK.

Zack Bumpous went four innings, giving up five earned runs on just two hits, six walks, and two hit batsmen, compiling eight strikeouts.

At the plate, Bumpous led with three RBI on a 1-2 showing that included two walks. Ace Eggenberger went 1-2 with a walk, two RBI, and three runs scored. A. Wiles (4 BB, 2 R), K. Wood (BB), Dalton DeLong (1-3, BB), C. Peters (1-3, R), and Logan Pakula (2 BB, R) each provided one RBI. R. Woodin (2 BB, 3 R)

and K. Delisle (R) added one hit each.

**Thursday, August 18
Dwight vs. Elwood**

The Redbirds went off on Elwood August 18, winning 20-1.

Evan Olson pitched one inning, compiling four strikeouts. Frank Digilio went two innings, fanning five.

Trevor Jensen singled three times, knocking in four runs. Collin Bachand (single, 2 doubles) and Carter (single, HBP) each added two RBI. Sandeno (single), Anderson (3 BB), Thetard (BB, HBP), and Olson (HBP) had one RBI each. Michael Leithliter singled once and drew a walk.

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DCS Lady Redbirds Softball

**Wednesday, August 10
Dwight vs. Odell**
The Lady Redbirds’ “B” team won over Odell, 13-9, when they met August 10.
Mia Franklin and Kenzie Livingston combined to earn the victory.
Leading the offense was Cara Wilson, going 3-4 with a run scored. Leanne Ruth was 2-3, scoring once, while Penny Parker, June Woods, Livingston, Addy Pittenger, Bianca Noriega, Franklin, and Grace Tjelle all added a hit. Nekaylee Nelson-Smith and Breanna Scott each scored one run.

**Thursday, August 11
Dwight vs. Saratoga**
In a match-up with Saratoga August 11, Dwight’s “B” team fell, 12-11.
Pitching for the Lady Redbirds were Kenzie Livingston, Shay Sulzberger, and Mia Franklin.
Grace Tjelle led at the plate, going 1-2 with one run scored. Sulzberger went 1-3, scoring twice, with Livingston also scoring two runs. Kaitlynn Todd, Elizabeth Hansen, June Woods, Penny Parker, Leanne Ruth, and Addy Pittenger each scored once.


**Saturday, August 17
Dwight vs. Pontiac
LCT -**
The Lady Redbirds took a 3-2 lead into the sixth inning against Pontiac August 13 in Livingston County Tournament action, but gave up three runs in the final frame, leading to a 5-3 loss.
Delaney Boucher took the loss, allowing four earned runs on five hits, four walks and a hit batter, striking out seven.
Mikayla Chambers led the

offense, going 2-3 with a triple, a home run, and two RBI. Avery Connor singled in a run, with Boucher also singling. Madlynn Lucus drew a walk, while Adilyn Avilez scored a run.

**Dwight vs. Flanagan
LCT -**
Dwight bounced back against Flanagan August 13, winning big, 17-2, in just two innings.
Mikayla Ely picked up the “W”, giving up just one earned run on five walks, tallying three strikeouts.
At the dish, Mikayla Chambers led with five RBI, coming up with a home run, two walks, two stolen bases, and two runs scored. Adilyn Avilez went 2-2 with a double, a walk, two RBI and a run scored. Kit Connor (3 BB, 3 SB, R), Raegan Brown (2 BB, R), and Ely (double, 2 BB, R) each batted in a run. Olivia Buck doubled, swiped three bags, and scored twice. Avery Connor singled, walked once, stole five bases, and scored three runs. Sienna Burke drew two free passes, was hit by a pitch, stole a base, and scored three times. Avery Crouch walked once, was beamed once, swiped three bags, and scored two runs. Addison Sulzberger stole three bases and scored a run.

**Dwight vs. Streater Woodland
LCT -**
Dwight’s LCT run ended with an 8-4 loss to Streater Woodland.
Delaney Boucher (3 ER, 4 H, HBP, 2 BB, 2 SO) and Cloe Gall (2 ER, 2 H, 3 BB, 2 SO) each pitched in the circle for the Lady Redbirds.
Olivia Buck led offensively, going 2-3 with a home run and two RBI. Avery Connor (dou-

ble, R) and Claire Sandeno (single) each knocked in a run. Mikayla Chambers singled twice and scored once. Madlynn Lucus added a single, with Avery Crouch stealing a base.




DTHS/GSW Trojans Golf

**Monday, August 15
Dwight vs. Pontiac
Varsity -**
In golf action August 15 at Pontiac Oaks at Rivers Edge, Pontiac defeated Dwight/GSW, 173-175. Individual scores are as follows:
Jack Groves – 41; Andrew Gartke – 43; William Trainor – 44; Dawson Carr – 47; Jace Gall – 53; Reid Gall – 54.

**Thursday, August 18
Dwight vs. Tri-Point**
The JV match-up saw Pontiac win over Dwight, 198-223. Individual scores are as follows:
Carlos Castaneda – 52; Tracer Brown – 53; Zander Tarnowski – 55; Maddox DeLong – 56; Zak Kinzler – 57; Ryan Hilt – 59; Jack Duffy – 59; Asher Kargle – 63.

and Ottawa Marquette
Ottawa Marquette and Tri-Point visited Dwight Country Club August 18 on the par-36 front nine, with the Trojans winning the team match versus Ottawa Marquette, 186-192, moving to 1-1 overall. Individual scores are as follows:
Jack Groves – 42; Will Trainor – 44; Reid Gall – 44; Andrew Gartke – 46; Dawson Carr – 51; Jace Gall – 53.




Seneca Fighting Irish Golf

**Wednesday, August 17
Seneca vs. Serena, Hinckley Big Rock and Reed-Custer**
On August 17, the Seneca Fighting Irish moved to 2-1 on the season with a score of 182,

falling to Serena (166), but besting Hinckley Big Rock (191) and Reed-Custer (230).

Seneca’s Kaleb Powell earned co-medalist on the day.



Seneca Lady Fighting Irish Golf

**Monday, August 15
Seneca vs. Plano**
The Lady Irish took on Plano August 15 for their first action of 2022, winning by a score of 259-267. Individual


scores are as follows:
Julia Hogan – 53 (medalist); Addison Stiegler – 59; Shelby Welsh – 70; Jolena Odum – 77; Jessica Bertrang – 79.



MVK Mavericks Baseball

**Tuesday, August 16
MVK vs. Elwood**
The Mavericks cruised to their third consecutive victory August 16, beating Elwood, 20-0, at home.
Owen and Kolten Pfeifer combined on a perfect game that lasted just three innings.
Joey Arnold was the leading hitter for MVK.

**Saturday, August 20
MVK vs. Seneca**
MVK’s Brant Roe assisted his squad in a big way in a 15-3 win over Seneca August 20, reaching base five times and winning the contest on the mound.
Max Sproul knocked in four runs, with third baseman Cooper O’Donovan making some sparkling, run-saving plays.



GSWB Lions Baseball

**Monday, August 15
GSWB vs. Seneca**
GSWB faced off against Seneca August 15 at home, winning 8-2.
Reed Millette had the start for the Lions, going four innings and allowing just one run.
GSWB scratched a run across in the second inning to take a 1-0 lead, but Seneca answered back to knot it up at 1-1.
Millette would then help his own cause in the fourth with a lead-off single, later scoring on a sac-fly by Hunter Partilla to take a 2-1 lead.
Cameron Gray tossed two innings of scoreless relief for the Lions, who would put up six runs in the fifth to take a commanding 8-2 advantage, with the big blast coming from an Aiden Mack two-run homer.
Mack then shut the door on Seneca to secure the victory for GSWB, who improves to 3-1 overall.

**Thursday, August 18
GSWB vs. Saratoga**
The Lions faced a tough test August 18, meeting an undefeated Saratoga team.
GSWB was able to get a lone hit from Hunter Partilla, a single, while Logan Rice, Aiden Bodine, Blake Brassard, and Isaiah Bouwma each walked once.
Case Christensen took the loss, allowing eight runs over two innings.
“The Hawks were tough to get out,” said Coach McDowell, “as they put the ball in play up and down while managing 11 hits.”

**Saturday, August 20
GSWB vs. Streater Woodland**
On August 20, the Lions bounced back from a lopsided loss to take out Streater Woodland, 11-5.
After back-to-back singles to start the game, Caden Christensen got out of the jam thanks to a triple play by Cameron Gray.
GSWB then took a 2-0 lead in the second with consecutive

two-out RBI singles from Grady Phillips and Logan Rice.
However, Streater Woodland had their own answer, coming out swinging to take a 3-2 lead.
In the bottom of the fourth, Gray got the Lions going with a lead-off single, followed by a Reed Millette double to score Gray. Hunter Partilla then singled and Aiden Mack scored Partilla with an RBI double.
With an 8-3 advantage after four, GSWB never looked back. Gray and Wyatt McNally helped hold the Warriors in check while relieving Christensen, who earned the win – tossing four innings and allowing five runs on five hits, fanning five.
Millette and Mack each had two RBI on two hits. Gray singled twice and scored two runs. McNally was a spark plug for the Lions, helping them on the mound while adding a double and a run scored.
GSWB is now 5-2 on the season.

WATCH FOR FALL SPORTS PREVIEW in The Paper next week AUGUST 31



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| '20 F250 Crew XLT, 45K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$59,900 | '21 Escape SEL, 2K, Hybrid.....\$40,900 |
| '20 F150 Crew XLT, 19K, 4WD.....\$47,900 | '20 Escape SE, 7K, FWD, Co-Pilot Assist.....\$28,900 |
| '20 F150 Crew Lariat, 15K, 4WD.....\$54,900 | '20 Escape Titanium, 19K, AWD.....\$37,900 |
| '18 F150 Crew XLT, 27K, 4WD.....\$35,900 | '20 Escape SEL, 21K, AWD.....\$31,900 |
| '18 F150 Crew XLT, 70K, 4 WD.....\$32,900 | '20 Edge SEL, 83K, AWD.....\$26,900 |
| '18 F150 Crew XLT, 56K, 4WD.....\$36,900 | '20 Corsair, 16K, AWD.....\$38,900 |
| '18 F150 S/C XLT, 76K, 4WD.....\$29,900 | '20 Explorer ST, 13K, 4WD.....\$52,900 |
| '17 F150 Crew XLT, 82K, 4WD.....\$29,900 | '20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD.....\$46,900 |
| '16 F250 Crew XLT, 46K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$48,900 | '19 Nautilus Reserve, 13K, AWD.....\$47,900 |
| '15 Ram 2500 Crew Tradesman, 126K, 4WD.....\$25,900 | '18 Grand Caravan SXT, 115K.....Just In |
| '15 F250 Crew XLT, 74K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$41,900 | '18 Escape SEL, 68K, FWD.....\$23,900 |
| '12 F150 S/C Lariat, 120K, 4WD.....Just In | '18 Terrain SLT, 75K, AWD.....\$26,900 |
| '11 F150 Crew XLT, 163K, 4WD.....\$14,900 | '18 Explorer LTD, 62K, FWD.....\$31,900 |
| '11 Silverado 1500 Crew LT, 114K, 2WD.....\$15,900 | '17 Mazda CX-5 Grand Select, 29K, AWD.....\$27,900 |
| '08 F250 Crew XLT, 189K, 4WD.....\$13,900 | '15 Escape SE, 86K, FWD.....\$15,900 |

| CARS |
|--|
| '19 Mustang EcoPremium Conv., 19K.....\$36,900 |
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ORDINANCE # 2022-1

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE ENTITLED

ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE OF THE GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT IN THE COUNTIES OF GRUNDY AND
LIVINGSTON, STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2022 AND ENDING
APRIL 30, 2023

HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM BY AU-
THORITY OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF
THE GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
GRUNDY AND LIVINGSTON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-1

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE BUDGET
AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE
GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING
5/1/22 AND ENDING 4/30/23

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of said GARDNER FIRE PRO-
TECTION DISTRICT have prepared or caused to be prepared in tenta-
tive form, a Budget and Annual Appropriation Ordinance, and the
Secretary of this Board has made the same conveniently available for
public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to the date hereof: and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Budget and Annual
Appropriation Ordinance on July 20, 2022 and as said District lies within
Grundy County, Illinois, notice of said hearing was given at least thirty
(30) days notice prior thereto by published notice within said GARD-
NER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, and all other legal requirements
have been complied with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, in
the County of Grundy and State of Illinois:

SECTION 1: That the following Budget containing an estimate of
revenues available and expenditures and the appropriations contained
therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Budget and Appropria-
tions of said GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for the fiscal
year ending on April 30, 2023, and the following sums of money, or as
much thereof as may be authorized by law, is hereby appropriated to de-
fray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the GARDNER FIRE PRO-
TECTION DISTRICT, for its fiscal year ending on April 30, 2023 for
the respective objects and purposes as hereinafter set forth, namely:

| CORPORATE | |
|--|--------------|
| ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | FYE 4/30/23 |
| Cash on hand | \$67,884 |
| Taxes received in this fiscal year | \$89,141 |
| TIF | \$64,690 |
| Grants | \$35,000 |
| Donation | \$1,000 |
| Replacement Tax | \$5,000 |
| Foreign Fire Tax | \$4,500 |
| Fire / accident recovery fees | \$10,000 |
| Facility Rental | \$125 |
| Other Income | \$1,000 |
| Fundraising | \$ |
| Interest Income | |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$278,340 |
| ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | Appropriated |
| Meals & Entertainment | \$500 |
| Employee Salaries | \$66,500 |
| Health Insurance | \$2,000 |
| Property & Casualty Ins. | \$6,000 |
| Legal Services | \$2,500 |
| Dispatching Services | \$7,000 |
| Firefighter Training | \$4,000 |
| Fire Prevention / Public Education | \$250 |
| Contract Fees | \$2,000 |
| Printing & Publications | \$500 |
| Postage | \$500 |
| Dues & subscriptions | \$2,000 |
| Office supplies | \$1,000 |
| Office Capital Equipment | \$2,000 |
| Office Software | \$1,000 |
| Office equipment repairs | \$500 |
| Interest expense | \$4,500 |
| Hose testing/replacement | \$10,000 |
| Equipment - small tool repair & replacement | \$12,000 |
| Fire Clothing | \$30,000 |
| Uniforms/station wear | \$500 |
| Fuel/oil | \$6,250 |
| Radio/pager repair | |
| Radio / pager replacement | \$10,000 |
| Facility repair/maintenance | \$6,000 |
| Fire Extinguishers test/repair/replace | \$1,000 |
| Vehicle capital payments | \$30,000 |
| Vehicle maintenance & repairs | \$50,000 |
| Natural gas | \$3,500 |
| Electric | \$3,500 |
| Phone/internet/cable | \$2,500 |
| Sewer/water/refuse | \$500 |
| Facility supplies (sundries) | \$2,000 |
| Facility loan payment | \$5,300 |
| Contingency | \$2,540 |
| Fundraising | |
| TOTAL CORPORATE EXPENDITURES | \$278,340 |
| The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for corporate purposes. | |

| AMBULANCE SERVICE | |
|--|--------------|
| ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | FYE 4/30/23 |
| Cash on hand | \$67,885 |
| Taxes received during this fiscal year | \$89,140 |
| Special Tax | \$29,708 |
| TIF | \$64,689 |
| Ambulance billing | \$175,000 |
| Ambulance billing refund | \$2,000 |
| Grants | \$85,000 |
| Replacement Tax | \$5,000 |
| Donation | \$1,000 |
| Facility Rental | \$125 |
| Other Income | \$500 |
| Fundraising | \$ |
| Interest Income | |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$520,047 |
| ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | Appropriated |
| Meals & Entertainment | \$500 |
| Employee Salaries | \$205,000 |
| Health Insurance | \$2,000 |
| Property & Casualty Ins. | \$6,000 |
| Legal Services | \$2,500 |
| Dispatching Services | \$7,000 |
| EMS Training | \$10,000 |

(continued in next column)

| (continued from previous column) | |
|--|-----------|
| Public Education - EMS | \$250 |
| EMS Billing Fees | \$30,000 |
| Reimb Medicare/Medicaid | \$25,000 |
| Printing & Publications | \$500 |
| Postage | \$500 |
| Dues & Subscriptions | \$2,000 |
| Office Supplies | \$1,000 |
| Office Capital Equipment | \$2,000 |
| Office Software | \$1,000 |
| Office Equipment repairs | \$500 |
| Interest | \$4,500 |
| Equipment - small tool repairs & replacement | \$10,000 |
| Medical supplies/Oxygen | \$3,000 |
| Medical Capital Outlay | \$100,000 |
| Uniforms/station wear | \$2,000 |
| Fuel/oil | \$18,750 |
| Fire Extinguishers test/repair/replace | \$500 |
| Radio/pager repair | \$500 |
| Radio/pager replacement | \$10,000 |
| Vehicle maintenance & repair | \$20,000 |
| Natural Gas | \$3,500 |
| Electric | \$3,500 |
| Phone/internet/cable | \$2,500 |
| Sewer/water/refuse | \$500 |
| Facility repair/maintenance | \$6,000 |
| Facility supplies (sundries) | \$2,000 |
| Facility loan payment | \$5,300 |
| Vehicle loan payment capital | \$30,000 |
| Contingency | \$1,747 |
| Fundraising expense | |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| TOTAL AMBULANCE EXPENDITURES | \$520,047 |
| The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for ambulance purposes. | |
| TORT IMMUNITY | FYE 4/30/23 |
| Taxes received during this fiscal year | \$35,215 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$35,215 |
| Workers compensation insurance | Appropriated \$22,771 |
| Liability insurance | \$11,261 |
| Unemployment Taxes | \$1,183 |
| TOTAL TORT INSURANCE EXPENDITURES | \$35,215 |
| The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for tort immunity purposes. | |

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| AUDIT | FYE 4/30/23 |
| Taxes received during this fiscal year | \$1,412 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$1,412 |
| TOTAL AUDIT EXPENDITURES | Appropriated \$1,404 |
| The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for audit purposes. | |

| SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | FYE 4/30/23 |
| Social security taxes received during this fiscal year | \$15,901 |
| Medicare taxes received during this fiscal year | \$3,719 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$19,620 |
| Social security tax expense | Appropriated \$15,901 |
| Medicare tax expense | \$3,719 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS | \$19,620 |
| The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for social security and medicare purposes. | |

SECTION 2: It is estimated that no cash will be on hand at the end of
said fiscal year.

SECTION 3: All unexpected balance of any item or items of any general
appropriation made by this Ordinance may be expended in making up
any deficiency in any item or items in the same general appropriation
made by this Ordinance.

SECTION 4: If any item or any portion thereof of this Ordinance shall
for any reason be held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity
of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

PASSED in lawful session of the Board of Trustees of said Gardner Fire
Protection District, July 20, 2022.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Attest: | |
| Todd Perkins | |
| Secretary, Gardner Fire Protection District | |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON |) |

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is a true and complete copy
of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance adopted by the Board of
Trustees of the Gardner Fire Protection District, Counties of Grundy and
Livingston, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022
and ending April 30, 2023 have been set forth in the attached Budget and
Appropriation Ordinance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed
the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July,
2022.

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | Todd Perkins SECRETARY |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON |) |

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is a true and complete copy
of the Estimate of Revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the
Gardner Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning May 1,
2022 and ending April 30, 2023.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed
the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July,
2022.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | Ken Unland PRESIDENT |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF GRUNDY |) |

I, THE UNDERSIGNED CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER OF THE
GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, DO HEREBY CERTIFY
that the estimated revenues by sources anticipated to be received by the
Gardner Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning May 1,

(continued in next column)

Vlamingen, Friezen,
en Hollanders
Into Kankakee and
Iroquois Counties

Join at the old stone barn at
the French Heritage Museum,
165 N. Indiana Ave. in Kanka-
kee, Saturday, August 27, at
1:00 p.m., for a lecture brought
to you by Mr. Maximiliaan
Michels, a dedicated research
volunteer and local historian.
Mr. Michels will share what
he has discovered about the
area’s Dutch settlement: where
they came from and what they
did when they got there.
This is a free event and all
are welcome. Note, this event
will take place on the second
story of the French Heritage
Museum building and is, unfor-
tunately, not handicap accessi-
ble.

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Gas Prices
For This Week

The national average for a gallon of regular gas fell
15 cents in the past week to \$3.90, due primarily to
stable oil prices and fewer drivers than usual fueling
up. AAA finds that drivers are making significant
changes to cope with high pump prices. In a recent
survey, almost two-thirds of U.S. adults have
changed their driving habits or lifestyle since March.
Drivers’ top two changes to offset high gas prices are
driving less and combining errands. According to
data from the Energy Information Administration
(EIA), gas demand rose from 8.54 million b/d to 9.12
million b/d last week. However, the rate is 307,000
b/d lower than last year. Also, total domestic gasoline
stocks decreased by 5 million bbl to 220.3 million
bbl. Although gasoline demand has risen and sup-
plies have tightened, easing oil prices have helped
lower pump prices. If oil prices edge lower, drivers
will likely see falling pump prices. Today’s national
average of \$3.90 is 67 cents less than a month ago,
but 70 cents more than a year ago.

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| City/Village | Aug. 22 | Aug. 15 |
| Dwight | \$3.99 | \$3.99 |
| Kankakee | \$3.98 | \$3.98 |
| Streator | \$4.20 | \$4.32 |
| Pontiac | \$3.98 | \$4.16 |
| Gardner | \$4.19 | \$4.30 |
| Braceville | \$4.04 | \$4.28 |
| Morris | \$4.21 | \$4.27 |
| Herscher | \$4.09 | \$4.11 |
| Chicago | \$4.66 | \$4.66 |
| Illinois | \$4.25 | \$4.27 |
| U.S. | \$3.90 | \$3.96 |

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

Gasoline price data collected by
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| (continued from previous column) | |
|--|--|
| 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 have been set forth in the attached Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. | |
| IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July, 2021. | |
| | Donald Pfeifer Jr. CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF GRUNDY |) |
| I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is a true and complete copy of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Gardner Fire Protection District, Counties of Grundy and Livingston, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 have been set forth in the attached Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. | |
| IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July, 2022. | |
| | Todd Perkins SECRETARY |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF GRUNDY |) |
| I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is a true and complete copy of the Estimate of Revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the Gardner Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023. | |
| IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July, 2022. | |
| | Ken Unland PRESIDENT |
| STATE OF ILLINOIS |) |
| |) SS. |
| COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON |) |
| I, THE UNDERSIGNED CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER OF THE GARDNER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the estimated revenues by sources anticipated to be received by the Gardner Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 have been set forth in the attached Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. | |
| IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Gardner Fire Protection District on the 20th day of July, 2022. | |
| | Donald Pfeifer Jr. CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER |



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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LIVINGSTON COUNTY – PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

MFA 2017-RPL1 TRUST,
MORTGAGE-BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2017-RPL1,
PLAINTIFF,

vs.

MICHAEL E. ADAMS; JILL R. ADAMS;
DEFENDANTS.

2020 CH 35
Address: 1501 Bethany Lane Pontiac, IL 61764

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 10, 2022, I, Sheriff of Livingston County, Illinois, will on September 29, 2022 at the hour of 10:00 AM at the Law & Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL, 61764, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Livingston, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

COMMON ADDRESS: 1501 Bethany Lane, Pontiac, IL 61764

P.I.N.: 15-15-28-126-002

The real estate is improved with a single-family residence.

THE JUDGMENT AMOUNT WAS: \$187,708.85

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representations as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State without further notice.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 230 W. Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60606, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 20 7795.

Sheriff of Livingston County, Illinois
Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC
230 W. Monroe Street, Suite 1125
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Email: ilpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
Ph. 312-541-9710 / Fax 312-541-9711
JB&A # IL 20 7795
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32-1tf

Dwight Peace Meals

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Monday - Friday
60 and up home-bound- Must make
reservations -**

Wed., Aug. 24:
Tasty tuna salad w/
grapes, copper carrots,
cucumber salad, dried
cranberries, whole
grain crackers or bread.

Thurs., Aug. 25:
Fried chicken, mashed
potatoes w/gravy, Venetian
veggie blend, cantaloupe, whole
grain wheat.

Fri., Aug. 26: Sub
sandwich, broccoli
salad, seasonal fruit
dessert, juice cup, bun.

Mon., Aug. 29:
Tangy BBQ meat-

balls, ranch potatoes,
mixed vegetables,
blushing pears, whole
grain wheat.

Tues., Aug. 30:
Spaghetti w/meat
sauce, Italian seasoned
green beans, beets,
peaches, dinner roll.

Wed., Aug. 31:
Stuffed chicken
breast, Nantucket veggie
blend, corn, apricots,
whole grain wheat.

Thurs., Sept. 1:
Pulled pork sandwich,
baked beans, seasoned
spinach, pineapple, bun.

Milk served each day.

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1-800-543-1770.

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MCARDLE REALTY

211 E. North St., Dwight. 2 bed, 1 bath. Quiet neighborhood. Close to park. \$64,900.

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Bar Manager – Dwight

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Pet of the Week

This is the last time I listen to my brother Wylie. He always gets me into trouble and tells me to be silly. I ended up in a "time out" for a full 10 minutes and my stuffed animals were taken away. He told me having a stare down with a raccoon was acceptably silly. Yes, I let the raccoon in to do the stare down. It's hot outside and the raccoon did dare me. It's not my fault the raccoon ran through the cat room and ate all the food and scared all the cats (I found it hysterical). I'm not the type of dog to back down to a dare or my brother Wylie. I really am a good boy and I do like other dogs buuuuut I much rather stare down a raccoon than live with cats. They freak me out! I'm Mason and no matter what my brother says I'm a good boy and can't wait to be called your good boy.



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COVID-19, Monkeypox Updates in Liv. Cty.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has been reporting increased COVID-19 activity. According to CDC guidelines, 42 counties are now rated at High Community Level for COVID-19. An additional 48 counties in Illinois are now rated at Medium Community Level. Livingston County is currently listed at a Medium Community Level.

The CDC recommends the following measures for people in areas that are rated at High Community Level for COVID-19 transmission:

- Wear a well-fitting mask indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status
- If you are immunocompromised or high risk for severe disease

- Wear a mask or respirator that provides you with greater protection

- Consider avoiding non-essential indoor activities in public where you could be exposed

- Talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to take other precautions
- Have a plan for rapid testing if needed (e.g., having home tests or access to testing)

- IF YOU TEST POSITIVE: Talk to your healthcare provider about whether you are a candidate for treatments like oral antivirals, and monoclonal antibodies

- If you have household or social contact with someone at high risk for severe disease

- Consider self-testing to detect infection before contact
- Consider wearing a mask when indoors with them

- Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters
- Maintain improved ventilation throughout indoor spaces when possible

- Follow CDC recommendations for isolation and quarantine, including getting tested if you are exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms of COVID-19

At the Medium Community Level, persons who are elderly or immunocompromised are advised to wear a mask in indoor public places. Additionally, they should make sure to get up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines or get their second booster, if eligible.

Vaccination continues to be the best way to protect yourself and others. Families are welcome to visit the Livingston County Health De-

partment (310 E. Torrance Ave. in Pontiac) for their COVID-19 vaccinations on **Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.** Appointments are strongly encouraged and may be scheduled by visiting their website, lchd.us.

Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson are all available free of charge, including pediatric doses. All children must be accompanied by a 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, vaccination may be facilitated at your vehicle.

The CDC is tracking an outbreak of monkeypox that has spread across several countries that don't normally report monkeypox, including the United States. The monkeypox virus is primarily spread through close skin-to-skin contact.

People with monkeypox get a rash that will go through several stages, including scabs, before healing. The rash can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy. Other symptoms of monkeypox can include: Fever, Chills, Swollen lymph nodes, Exhaustion, Muscle aches and backache, Headache, Respiratory symptoms (e.g. sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough)

Monkeypox symptoms usually start within three weeks of exposure to the virus. If someone has flu-like symptoms, they will usually develop a rash one to four days later. Monkey

Dwight High School Board Recognizes Students, Reviews Budget

by Mark Boma

The Dwight High School District #230 Board of Education met Wednesday August 17 in the High School Board Room.

Two DTHS students were on hand and were recognized for recent noteworthy accomplishments.

Issy Bunting won first place at FFA Section 10 Creed Speaking Contest last November, and competed in the District 2 Creed Speaking Contest on May 4 at Joliet Junior College, where she also placed first. She was one of the top 10 Creed Speakers in the state and eventually took Second Place at the State Convention June 14 in Springfield. Issy was accompanied at the meeting by her FFA sponsor, Sid Kropfle.

Rachel Heath, a recent graduate, was also recognized. She 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. 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. She gave a demonstration of her website to the Board. Rachel was accompanied by her FCCLA sponsor, Tammy Fritchtnitch.

Stephenie Flott addressed the Board on behalf of the Dwight Education Association, expressing the group's intent to work hard to keep lines of communication open between the Faculty and the Board. She recounted it felt good to finally have a school day that seemed normal after all the upheaval of the last few years.

Principal Andrew Pittinger reported the initial enrollment for the 2022 - 2023 school year will be 220 students.

Athletic Director Cathy Ferguson de-

tailed the following Fall Sports participation numbers: Cross Country, 5; Girls Golf, 5; Boys Golf, 18; Volleyball, 29; Girls Swim Co-op, 2; and Football Co-op, 34. Of the 34 football participants, 11 are from Gardner. She also informed the Board that officiating shortages will be common in the upcoming school season. One football game has already been rescheduled due to this.

Superintendent Josh DeLong reported a Trojan of the Month program will be instituted with a student being honored at each board meeting. He informed the Board that a nationwide teacher shortage exists and filling all positions this summer has been difficult. However, as of the board meeting date on August 17, all faculty positions were staffed.

DeLong also gave an overview of the tentative 2022 - 2023 budget. Projected revenue for the upcoming year is \$6,627,402 with expenses estimated at \$6,809,043 resulting in a slight deficit of \$181,641. However, fiscal year 2021 - 2022 ended with a balance of \$9,070,417 so the finances of the District are solid.

The EAV (Equalized Assessed Value) of the District has risen by 27% over the last four years, increasing from \$131 million in 2017 to over \$166 million in 2021, largely due to wind and solar projects. The Tax Rate over this same period dropped 16% from 2.808 in 2017 down to 2.36 in 2021.

In Consent Agenda items, three resignations were accepted: Jared Steck, Assistant Golf and Baseball Coach; Devi Pappas, English; and Anthony March, Math. Employment was approved for Katy Kaluzny, Long Term Substitute Math; Marnie Jones, Long Term Substitute English; Charles Miller, Band; Marc Gamble, Assistant Football Coach; Rob Caridi, Assistant Golf Coach; Jace Kennedy, Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach; Rob Caridi, Lunch Supervisor; Chad Miller, Split Lunch Supervisor; Anna Ruskin, Split Lunch Supervisor; and Stephanie Weissmann, Assistant Transportation Director. Transportation Charter Routes hourly rate was increased to \$18 per hour.

In New Business, the Football Co-op Agreement with Gardner-South Wilming-



ton was discussed. Some practice time is currently being conducted on the GSW Campus and things appear to be going well. DeLong indicated a \$5,000 amount would be assessed to GSW for their participation, but likely would need to be raised in the future. The first football game will be Saturday, August 27 at Salt Fork.

The date for the Public Hearing for the 2022-2023 Budget is set for September 21 at 6 p.m. just prior to the next Regular Board Meeting.

Board members in attendance were Paul Warner, Joel Sandeno, Eric Scheuer, and Kevin Berta. Absent were Susan Legner and Max Sulzberger.

Joyce Hosts Roundtable to Discuss Future of Ag



To kick off Agriculture Day at the Illinois State Fair, State Senator Patrick Joyce hosted a roundtable with Congresswoman Cheri Bustos along with other agriculture professionals to discuss future ag policy.

“As a fourth generation farmer, I know how important ag policy is for farmers and consumers,” said Joyce (D-Essex). “Farm bills govern nearly 100% of agricultural and rural policy for the next five years, which is why it’s so important for Congress to work with the ag community and our state legislators to get it right.”

The hour-long discussion was hosted and moderated by Joyce and Bustos. Representatives from the Illinois Corn Growers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, Illinois Pork Producers Association, Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Farm Bureau, and Illinois

Department of Agriculture joined the discussion to share their thoughts about different portions of the current farm bill and what changes they believe should be made in the next federal farm bill, set to be filed and discussed in 2023.

The group discussed input costs, preserving federal crop insurance programs, and increasing market access for commodities, among other items important to the Illinois agriculture community.

“Family farmers across our state rely on farm bill programs for certainty and peace of mind during the growing season and beyond,” said Joyce. “We owe it to them to gather their input and use it to bring forth policy that works for growers and producers throughout Illinois.”

The current congressional farm bill was signed into law in 2018 and is set to expire in October of 2023.

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