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Wednesday, November 30, 2022

The Board Needs You Village, School, Library Boards Looking for People to Join the Ranks

by Brandon LaChance

In the 2021 local election, the numbers were not the greatest. In fact, they were the worst Dwight Village Administrator Kevin McNamara has seen since he was a member of the village board in the 1990s and since he has been the administrator since 1999.

"It seems to always be an issue. The election comes and there is no one on the ballot," McNamara said. "The last election, we had three board trustee positions open but we only had two people run for it. After the election, we had to appoint someone. I know our school board has had the same issues in the past where they've had to appoint people.

"In one respect, that must mean people are happy with their local government. In another respect, we'd like to see more people taking an interest in deciding what's going on in our community. We'd like to have enough candidates where we have an election and there is a vote."

The next election, which will be held in the spring of 2023, is closing in on the December 19 deadline of acceptance of election packets and signatures.

Election packets can be picked up at the City Clerk's office for both the village and school board, while packets for the library board can be picked up at Prairie Creek Public Library.

The Dwight Village Board has four open positions this time around as three board members have reached the end of their full-term of four years and one appointed member is at the end of their two-year term since an appointed board member has to run for the position at the next election

"There are things that happen in Washington D.C. and things that happen in Springfield, but it's really the local stuff that we can really have a say in and effect by our participation," McNamara said. "When you're voting for the president, there are 90 million people voting. Your vote counts, but it's slimmer compared to local elections.

"In the village of Dwight, if the 700 or 800 people vote, your vote certainly has more impact. Your participation in day-to-day operations is very important."

WANTED:

LOCAL CANDIDATES

McNamara was correct when he said the school board has had to appoint people for board spots recently.

Josh DeLong is in his first school year as the superintendent for Dwight Common School and the Dwight Township High School, but he has been involved in school systems for almost two decades and has seen the decline in school board candidates.

"I was the superintendent at Gardner-South Wilmington during one election and it was uncontested with incumbents," said DeLong, who was the superintendent at Gardner-South Wilmington High School, Gardner Grade School as well as Braceville Elementary School for three years before taking the role at DTHS. "With Braceville, we had to appoint somebody each time as long-time board members were looking to get off of the board and no one was there to take their place.

"I think it's very important for people to want to be on the board. I think local races have lost their gusto from what I've observed over the last 10-15 years from all boards, not just school boards. I think there is something to be said for running in a race versus being appointed. Running in the race shows that you're very committed – not that being appointed doesn't show commitment – but it shows you want to get on the board for a reason.

"Personally, I think it's a great civic duty, especially in a smaller community where people know who you are, your voice is heard, you're seen out in public and you can help make impactful decisions. That's the whole point of the board, having seven people collaborate with a superintendent to make the right decision locally at the right times."

In the next election, three board positions are open for both the Dwight Common School Board and the Dwight Township High

School Board.

"Being involved helps people understand how a board or a school system runs. I think many times, people may think decisions come simply from a superintendent or a board president. Everyone on the board has an equal vote and they learn a lot more about the governance of a school board and what the superintendent's role is versus what the board's role is."

The Prairie Creek Public Library has seen the same issues as the village and school boards.

Numbers in candidates have gone down and people have been appointed instead of voted in.

"The library board is very important. That is the group that goes through the finances, sets the budget, and enables us to offer what we're able to offer," said Sherrie Rhodes, who has been Prairie Creek's head librarian since Sept. 2014. "Each library board member is very important. The board is also the group that makes the policies and is the governing body of the library.

"People think the library is just books, but we also offer a lot more. There are computers, faxes, E-resources, and other things. One of the most recent additions that has been very popular is Hoopla, which is an electronic resource. One of our board members was actually very influential in getting Hoopla started. The board members help come up with new ideas and help keep the library open and functioning."

A full-term for the library board is six years.

The board has seven seats and five of them will be up for grabs next spring as three members' full-term is up and two appointees have come to the next ballot.

"We actually have some newer people who have been appointed to the board in recent elections," Rhodes said.

"We have a great board. It's a really important role to help keep the library in our community going. Board members are very important and are needed."

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

Holy Day and Holiday Church Services

Holy Day Mass Schedule December 8

On Thursday, December 8, Mass.
(Holy Day of Obligation) – Immaculate Conception – the following Masses will be held:

- **Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Kinsman:** 9:00 a.m., Mass.
- **St. Lawrence Catholic Church - S. Wilmington:** 7:30 a.m., Mass; 12:00-1:00 p.m., Hour of Grace; 7:00 p.m.,
- **St. Mary's Catholic Church - Reddick:** 5:30 p.m., Mass.

Holiday Announcements from the Church of Hope

"Blue Christmas"

The holidays are upon us and while it is a time of preparation and celebration, some have a difficult time getting into the spirit.

Many things happen in our lives over the year, such as losing a loved one, a change in employment, the effects of the pandemic and separation from our family, or other things that affect us and our lives, and we just can't seem to feel the joy.

This service offers an opportunity to gather together with others who are going through those same feelings, to

realize that we are not alone in our feelings, and to just take time to focus in remembrance of the important persons and milestones in our lives.

A gathering will be held at the Church of Hope, 202 N Monroe St., Gardner, for a special service December 18 at 2:00 p.m. to just share and be.

Christmas Eve Service

The Church of Hope will hold its Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m. They will be recording this service and posting it on Facebook for those who wish to stay home yet celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Send your holiday schedules to:
thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

Shop This Week's Inserts:

Family Dollar
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Humana
R.P. Home & Harvest

Some inserts not available in total market area.



RAILWAY EXPRESS BUILDING to welcome Santa Claus to Dwight, Saturday, December 3, following the Dwight Lighted Christmas parade. Meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus, take a Carriage ride and enjoy some hot chocolate. Santa will return December 10, 12-2, to greet children.

It's been great...

After 24 years of weekly publishing and mailing, *The Paper*, Dwight, is announcing the December 28 issue will be its last issue published.

The Paper was formed in 1999 with the belief a small-town newspaper is essential to the purpose of connecting commerce, communities, and civic endeavors. We have worked consistently over time toward this goal.

We thank all the advertisers and readers who have supported us over the years and allowed us to send *The Paper* to 8,000-10,000 homes in 18-21 communities.

An online presence will be maintained at thepaper1901.com so we invite all organizations, clubs, churches and civic organizations to continue submitting items to thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net.

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FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

November 17: Oscar E. Zurawski, 31, Fenton, MO, fail to obey stop sign; Elizabeth A. Johnson, 29, Dwight, insurance--operate uninsured.

November 18: Steven M. Clark, 17, Dwight, expired registration; Jennifer L. Cohns, 37, Park Forrest, speeding.

November 19: Samantha L. Coats, 31, Chicago, speeding.

November 20: Loren T. Ber, 59, Broken Arrow, OK, speeding over statutory limit.

November 23: Adrianna Z. Coleman, 26, Bradley, insurance--operate uninsured.

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

29 Written Warnings

Speeding – 17; Expired Registration – 3; Disobey Stop Sign – 5; No Valid Registration – 1; No Registration Plate Light – 2; Only One Headlight – 1.

Dwight Police Blotter

November 17: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of W. Waupansie for a Civil/Domestic Issue; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of E. Seminole for a Well Being check; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of Prairie for a customer issue; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 300 block of W. Waupansie for a continuing Civil/Domestic issue.

November 19: Dwight Police were dispatched to W. Northbrook for a report of shoplifting.

November 20: Dwight Police were dispatched to the 200 block of E. Delaware St. for Battery. Arrested was Elizabeth Gundlach, 33, of Dwight. She was transported to Livingston Cty. Jail.

November 21: Dwight Police

were dispatched to Northbrook Dr. for a Well Being check; Dwight Police met with a walk-in subject in reference to phone harassment; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of Julie Dr. for Criminal Damage to a Vehicle.

November 22: Dwight Police met with a resident who had been a victim of Fraud; Dwight Police were dispatched to the 100 block of Julie Dr. Arrested for Battery was Johnathon Kolesar, 26. He was transported to Livingston Cty. Jail.

Well Being – 4; Damage to Property – 2; Warrant Check – 1; Traffic Stop – 40; Burglar Alarm – 2; Theft – 1; Walk In – 8; Return Call – 11; Lock Out – 5; Check Area – 3; Extra Patrol – 17; Shoplifter – 1; Found Dog – 1; Reckless Driver – 1; Domestic Physical – 2; Accident – 1; Fire – 1; Threats – 1; Fraud – 1; Suspicious Subject – 1; Unknown Problem – 1; Subject Removal – 1.

Accident Report

Monday, November 21, 2:30 p.m., an accident was reported at E. Waupansie St. and N. Franklin St. involving a 2016 Ford passenger car, driven by David Edmondson, Bloomington, which failed to yield, striking a 2015 Cadillac utility, driven by Noah Scott, Dwight.



Ambulance Runs by Dwight EMS

November 17: Delaware, medical, Morris.

November 18: Bannon, trauma, Morris.

November 19: Prairie, medical; William, medical, St. James; James, medical, Morris.

November 20: Northbrook, medical, Morris; Delaware, trauma, mutual aid from Morris; John, fire.

November 21: Creek Ridge, medical, Morris; 3000 E. Rd., trauma; Prairie, medical; Bannon, medical, Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris.

November 23: Goodfarm, trauma, Morris, COQ from Coal City.

November 24: Mazon, medical, Morris, COQ - CC; Main, medical, Morris, COQ - CC; Bannon, medical, Morris, COQ - CC; Karen, medical, St. James, COQ - Morris; Mazon, medical, Morris, COQ - Morris; High (Odell), trauma, mutual aid – Morris EMS; High (Odell), medical, James; Mazon, medical, Morris.

November 25: Wabash, medical, St. James, mutual aid to Odell; Susan Dr., medical, St. James; Mazon Ave., medical; James, medical; Main, fire.

November 26: Depot, fire, mutual aid to MVK.

November 27: Mazon, medical, Morris; John, medical, Morris; I-55, trauma, mutual aid – Odell; Bannon, trauma, Morris; Spencer, medical; Delaware, medical.

November 28: Bannon, trauma; Main, medical, Morris.



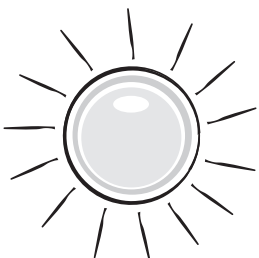
Dwight Fire Incidents 11/18 - 11/25

Dwight Fire Protection District responded to the following incidents:

November 20: Structure Fire – John St.

November 21: Motor Vehicle Accident – Waupansie and Franklin.

Dwight FPD also responded to 12 medical assists with Dwight EMS.



Temps - 2022

Nov. 17 – high 33°, low 22° trace snow

Nov. 18 – high 26°, low 17° trace snow

Nov. 19 – high 29°, low 10°

Nov. 20 – high 36°, low 10°

Nov. 21 – high 48°, low 19°

Nov. 22 – high 55°, low 20°

Nov. 23 – high 60°, low 30°

One Year Ago – Nov. 30, 2021
high 39°, low 23°

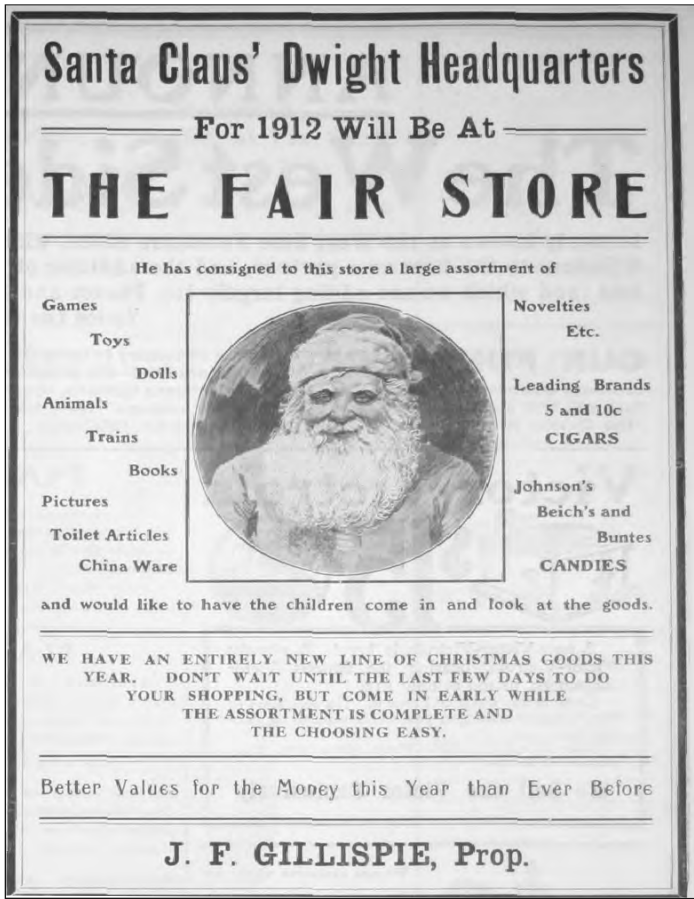
It's History...

From the Dwight Historical Society files, 1912 Holiday Season.

The Fair Store offers Santas a terrific selection of all sorts of gifts and household items.

Take a stroll around Dwight, 2022, and you'll find many items just right for everyone on your list.

There's no place like home for the holidays...



Dwight Township Meeting Dec. 6

The monthly meeting of Dwight Township will be held Tuesday, December 6.

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

Union Pacific Maintains Strong Track Record Amid Challenges

by Daniel Grant
FarmWeek

Union Pacific Railroad has a long history of shipping goods all over the country since its first tracks connected the eastern half of the U.S. to the West Coast.

It started when Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act of 1862. Shortly thereafter, Central Pacific started laying track from the West Coast moving east while Union Pacific broke ground in Omaha in December 1863.

The transcontinental railroad was completed with the implementation of the “golden spike” in Utah in 1869, connecting San Francisco to New York and forever transforming the use of rail as a key form of transportation.

Fast forward to 2022, and Union Pacific connects 23 states, major ports and serves all six gateways to Mexico and is also connected to Canada, providing agriculture and other industries with access to markets around the world.

“We’re a critical link to the supply chain,” Laura Heisterkamp, assistant vice president, bulk marketing and sales for Union Pacific, said at the

Agricultural Bankers Conference in Omaha, Nebraska.

The supply chain, of course, was severely tested in recent years due in part to constraints related to the pandemic, subsequent labor issues and high fuel costs. But Union Pacific maintains a solid track record despite all that and the recent threat of a worker strike.

Bulk shipments on the line increased so far this year. Coal represents 41% of those shipments, followed by grain (40%), fertilizer (10%), and food and beverages (9%), among other products.

“Bulk (shipments) are up 4% led by coal and renewable diesel,” Heisterkamp said. “Drought conditions in the Midwest are going to make it tough to be comparable (to 2021) for grain. Exports were really good last year.”

Some of the grain shipments on rail shifted this year from export destinations to regional movements, she noted. Demand for rail cars for grain also increased recently due to low water levels on key rivers, particularly the Mississippi, thus hampering barge logistics of late.

Union Pacific typically transports about 1.3 billion

bushels of grain annually. Exports typically account for 30% to 40% of those shipments.

Ethanol shipments are also a key part of its business with its tracks connected to 51 plants that produce the renewable fuel.

Looking ahead, Heisterkamp sees increased opportunities to ship renewable diesel by rail. U.S. production of that fuel is projected to reach 6.5 billion gallons by 2025.

Union Pacific, one of the largest users of diesel fuel in the country, also plans to boost the use of renewable diesel for its locomotives from 4% to 20% by 2030.

The rail company has also seen a rise in demand to ship components for wind turbines,” which Heisterkamp believes is a safer and more efficient way to transport turbine blades, which can be as long as three football fields, compared to moving them by truck.

Rail shipments are about four times more efficient than transporting products via truck, she added.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Village of Dwight Planning Commission will be held at the Village Hall, 209 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight, IL 60420, at 6:00 p.m. on December 20, 2022, for the purpose of considering an Application for Special Use being filed by Richard McMahon of Casey’s Retail Company, to wit:

A request for a Special Use permit under Section 8.03 of the Dwight Zoning Ordinance to allow for the operation of a gasoline and diesel fuel station, including truck stops, in a B-2 Service Business District; and

A request in the increase of the Height Limit for a Business Service Ground Sign from 100’ to 120’ at the property of 11 W. Northbrook Drive of the Village of Dwight, Grundy County, Illinois;

Permanent Tax Identification No.: 11-33-400-006

All interested parties are invited to attend the Public Hearing on the set date. After convening, the Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees in favor of or against the granting of the requested Application for Special Use and will provide restrictions and/or regulations if deemed necessary.

Inquiries on this matter should be directed to the following:

Kevin McNamara
Village Administrator
Public Services Complex Building
209 S. Prairie Avenue
Dwight, IL 60420
Phone: 815-584-3077

Dated this 30th day of November, 2022.

Whitney Scott, Village Clerk
Public Services Complex Building
209 S. Prairie Avenue
Dwight, IL 60420
Phone: 815-584-3077



Max B Sulzberger
Financial Advisor

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

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COLA is Sweet for Social Security Recipients

If you receive Social Security, you’ve probably already heard that your checks in 2023 will be bigger – considerably bigger, in fact. How can you make the best use of this extra money?

Here’s what’s happening: For 2023, there’s an 8.7% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security benefits – the largest increase in 40 years. Also, the monthly Medicare Part B premiums are declining next year, to \$164.90/month from \$170.10/month, which will also modestly boost Social Security checks for those enrolled in Part B, as these premiums are automatically deducted.

Of course, the sizable COLA is due to the high inflation of 2022, as the Social Security Administration uses a formula based on increases in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). So, it’s certainly possible that you will need some, or perhaps all, of your larger checks to pay for the increased cost of goods and services. But if your cash flow is already relatively strong, you might want to consider these suggestions for using your bigger checks:

- *Reduce withdrawals from your investment portfolio.* When you’re retired, you will likely need to withdraw a certain amount from your portfolio each year to meet your expenses. A boost in your Social Security may enable you to withdraw less, at least for a year. This can be particularly advantageous when the markets are down, as you’d like to avoid, as much as possible, selling investments and withdrawing the money when investment prices are low. And the fewer investments you need to sell, the longer your portfolio may last during your retirement years.
- *Help build your cash reserves.* When you’re retired, it’s a good idea to maintain about a year’s worth of the amount you’ll spend from your portfolio in cash, while also keeping three months’ of your spending needs in an emergency fund, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Your higher Social Security checks could help you build these cash reserves. (Also, it’s helpful to keep another three to five years’ worth of spending from your portfolio in short-term, fixed-income investments, which now, due to higher interest rates, offer better income opportunities.)
- *Contribute to a 529 plan.* You could use some of your extra Social Security money to contribute to a tax-advantaged 529 education savings plan for your grandchildren or other family members.
- *Contribute to charitable organizations.* You might want to use some of your Social Security money to expand your charitable giving. Your generosity will help worthy groups and possibly bring you some tax benefits, too.

While it’s nice to have these possible options in 2023, you can’t count on future COLA increases being as large. The jump in inflation in 2022 was due to several unusual factors, including pandemic-related government spending, supply shortages and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It’s quite possible, perhaps even likely, that inflation will subside in 2023, which, in turn, would mean a smaller COLA bump in 2024.

Nonetheless, while you might not want to include large annual COLA increases as part of your long-term financial strategy, you may well choose to take advantage, in some of the ways described above, of the bigger Social Security checks you’ll receive in 2023. When opportunity knocks, you may want to open the door.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
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APEX Real Estate Brokerage
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FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, at the corner of Routes 17 and 47 in Dwight, will be having a Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A Continental Breakfast of assorted coffee cakes, coffee, hot cocoa, and hot vassail will be offered. Homemade candy and cookies, homemade baked goods, and handmade gift items will be available for sale.

Kids BINGO at Fossil Ridge Library Dec. 2

Fossil Ridge Public Library, 386 W. Kennedy Rd. in Braidwood, will host Kids BINGO December 2, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Enjoy an hour of everyone's favorite game and candy prizes. Registration is required. Call 815-458-2187 or visit fossilridge.org for more information.

Emington Community Association Presents Christmas Crafts December 3

Children, parents, and grandparents are invited to the Emington Community Association's Christmas Crafts Saturday, December 3, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Jim's Office at the Drach Farm in Emington.

The Dwight Woman's Club is excited to offer their Christmas Cookie Table to the event this year, and Deck the Halls, a small Christmas décor raffle, will add to the festivities of the afternoon.

Christmas Crafts includes a variety of Christmas activities, all free of charge, thanks to donations the Association receives throughout the year. Children will make a Christmas Craft, enjoy hot chocolate and cookies, sign Christmas cards that Operation SOS will be sending to local service men and women, and have their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus in a Christmas sleigh.

Continuing an annual tradition, members of the Dwight Woman's Club will be baking their favorites for their Christmas Cookie Table. A free-will offering for cookie plates will



support the Club's Scholarship and Community Service Funds.

For those ready to begin their Christmas decorating, Deck the Halls, a raffle, will feature a seven-foot Country Christmas-themed tree with over 3,000 light tips and woodland animal ornaments, as well as two Christmas wreaths, a holiday table setting for eight,

and a four-piece dessert plate and latte mug set in a reindeer theme.

Sponsors of the Deck the Halls raffle will donate all proceeds to the Dwight Woman's Club Scholarship and Community Service Fund this year.

Drach's Farm is located at 26521 E. 2200 North Road, Emington, about 15 minutes south of Dwight on Route 47 – watch for signs.





A DWIGHT Christmas

Saturday, December 3

Party with Santa, 11 a.m.-1p.m.

at Cherry Red Roasters, 200 S. Franklin Street
Tickets must be purchased before the event.

Eat, Drink, Shop *Locally*

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Godley Park District Upcoming Programs, Events

Godley Park District, 500 S. Kankakee St. in Godley, is hosting the following upcoming programs and events:

Seniors ALIVE!
• **Tuesday, December 13:** Those 55+ are invited to join for a morning of BINGO and lunch. BINGO starts at 10:30 a.m. A fee applies. Register/pay by November 30.

The Original Secret Pantry
The Original Secret Pantry is free for anyone in any community who may be in need. Located at the Godley Park Barn, on the corner of Kankakee St. and Rt. 129, just across the tracks from The Stumble Inn.

The Secret Pantry is open every Thursday, usually from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Dates and times may vary, depending on availability and when a truck can arrive. For the most up to date information, join 'The Original Secret Pantry' group on Facebook.

‘Joining Saint Nicholas, Sinterklaas, Kristkindl, and Santa Claus’ Presentation in Kankakee December 3

Join at Kankakee County Museum, 801 S. 8th Avenue in Kankakee, Saturday, December 3, at 3:00 p.m., for a presentation regarding the history of St. Nicholas Day and some cultural traditions attached to it.

This presentation and collaboration is provided by Maximilian Michels.

Visitors are encouraged to go early and vote for your favorite tree in their 44th annual Gallery of Trees.

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Saturday, Dec. 3 Dwight Lighted Christmas Parade 6 p.m.

Visit with Santa After the Parade

Hot Cocoa and Carriage Rides

Stay Downtown for shopping and dining.

Operation SOS Collecting Items for Troops During Dwight Christmas Parade

Operation SOS (Support Our Soldiers) will be walking in the Dwight Christmas Parade Saturday, December 3, collecting items for our troops, which will be shipped in their Christmas packages.

They ask that you meet in front of the fire station at 5:45 p.m. They will be walking

right behind the color guard/VFW.

Suggested items for donation are: individually packaged items like rice krispie treats, fruit snacks, candy canes, Slim Jims, beef jerky, power bars, small bags of nuts/trail mix, hot chocolate packets, candy licorice, granola bars,

★★★★

OPERATION S.O.S.
(Support Our Soldiers)

★★★★

cheese/peanut butter crackers, and gum. Christmas cards are appreciated, but don't put them in envelopes. Cash donations are always appreciated.

They currently have 42 names on their list. If you would like to add the name of your loved one serving in the

military to the Operation SOS list, e-mail operationsoldiers@hotmail.com.

After walking in the parade, the packages will be assembled at the fire station. Anyone wishing to walk in the parade or help with the packages is encouraged to attend.



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Dwight, Illinois

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OBITUARIES

Carol M. Gillette

Carol M. Gillette, age 62, of Godley, Illinois and formerly of Silver Springs, Florida, died Sunday evening, November 20, 2022 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, Illinois.



Born November 23, 1959 in Kankakee, Illinois, Carol Marie was a daughter of Robert and Rita (Hurrel) Senesac. She was raised in Kankakee and attended Bradley Bourbonnais High School. On July 11, 1988, Carol married Lester Gillette in Las Vegas, and he survives.

Carol was a member of the South Wilmington Fireman's Club, and most recently worked as a gate guard there, as well as at Coal City Area Club. In addition over the past years, Carol worked various seasonal retail positions, but her primary role was that of wife and mother.

Aside from her family, she lived for her dogs, enjoyed collecting shot glasses and Yankee Candles, and will be most remembered as a selfless soul.

Survivors include her husband, Lester; one daughter, Cristine (Rich) Sinks of Herscher; three grandchildren: Caleb Gudridge of Herscher; Promise Hicks of Danville; and Dakota Bull of New York; one brother, Vernon Senesac (Bonnie) of Bradley; and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Dale

(Gayle) Gillette of Chatsworth, Illinois; Linda Lemen of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Jeannie (Mike) Scott of Fairbury, Illinois; and Rita Scanlon of Bloomington, Illinois; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers: David, Ronnie, and Kenny Senesac; Marilyn Verville, Pat Scanlon, Loren Gillette, Betty Gillette, Gene Lemen, and Mary Beth Gillette in infancy.

The family received friends for a visitation Saturday, November 26, 2022 at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 North Broadway in Coal City from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Cremation rites were accorded, and inurnment will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, at a later date.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Carol's memory to the American Cancer Society.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guestbook, upload photographs, and share Carol's memorial page via social media.

Funeral services and cremation arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City. (815) 634-2125.

Michael Paul Halpin

Michael Paul Halpin, 41, of Buckingham passed away November 23, 2022.



Mike was born in Kankakee on August 31, 1981, son of George M. and Margaret E. (Hills) Halpin. She preceded him in death.

Survivors include his father; two sons, Owen and Colt Halpin; one sister, Amy (Todd) Hoffman; two nephews, Bode and Holden Hoffman; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mike graduated from Tri-Point High School in 1999 and furthered his education at Joliet Junior College. He had a passion for grain farming and showing and judging dairy cattle.

Mike traveled across the United States showing his cattle and cultivating lifelong friendships. He was a member of the American Milking Shorthorn Association, Tri-Point FFA Alumni, and many National Dairy Sale committees.

He was an avid fan of the White Sox, Black-hawks, and always cheering on his son's baseball teams. Mike always had a smile on his face and was a friend to everyone. You could always count on Mike to be there if there was a party or social event happening.

A private ceremony for family and close friends was held Saturday, November 26, at 11 a.m. in St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Herscher. All were welcome to join in a celebration of life at 1 p.m. at Grubbs Farm, 1553 E. State Route 116, Kempton, Illinois. They were remembering our beloved Mike, the man of many nicknames: "Magic Mike, Wheels, Spike, Turtle, Hotshot, Simpleton, and Happy Hour" with food, music, and libations.

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

Verla L. (Cook) Hill-Zimmerman

Verla L. (Cook) Hill-Zimmerman, 98 years old, formerly of Pekin, Illinois died peacefully in her sleep November 19, 2022 at Heritage Health, Dwight, Illinois.



Born October 30, 1924, an only child, to Elmer and Beuhla Cook, she relocated with her parents from Iowa to Pekin, Illinois in 1928, residing there until 2021.

She is predeceased by her first husband, Ova (Joe) Hill 1942-1997; her second husband, Eldon Zimmerman 1998-2013; and son, Blake Hill.

She has one surviving daughter, Janice (Zimmerman) Mc Clean of Braceville, Illinois.

Verla graduated from Pekin Community High School in 1942 and furthered her education in accounting at I.C.C. She was employed in Caterpillar's accounting department and also H.R. Block.

Verla was a member of Pekin First Christian Church, serving on various committees, later becoming an active mem-

ber of Pekin First United Methodist Church, and most recently an attendee of Dwight United Methodist Church. She participated in the Peoria Amateur Radio Club, enjoyed bowling, flowers, Chihuahuas, milk chocolate, and fellowship with her family and friends.

She lived her life as a committed Christian, bringing joy to all who knew her.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 1315 Court St., Pekin, IL 61554 and/or Dwight United Methodist Church, 701 S. Columbia, Dwight, IL 60420.

Per her wishes, cremation rites were accorded with no services planned at this time.

R. W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory is entrusted with arrangements. For more information and to visit her online guestbook, please log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find us on Facebook.

Robert Louis Fisher

Robert Fisher, 87, passed away peacefully with loving family at his bedside on November 18, 2022 in Sierra Vista, Arizona.



Bob was born February 6, 1935 in Dwight, Illinois to Isaac and Helen Fisher. He attended Dwight Township HS, where he participated in many sports and activities including junior class president, editor of the yearbook, Boys State attendee and senior salutatorian.

After graduating in 1953, he attended Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. In 1955, he enlisted in the USAF, serving four years and two months, first as an Assistant Instructor at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas, and later as an Accounting and Financial Specialist at Chanute AFB in Rantoul, Illinois.

Upon his discharge from the Air Force, he enrolled at the University of Illinois and attended until securing a job at A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. (Tate & Lyle) in Decatur, Illinois, where he worked for more than 30 years.

During his time in the Air Force, Bob finally convinced the love of his life, Hazel Hudleston, that he was the one for her. They were married February 3, 1957 in Dwight, Illinois. It turns out he was right, as together they raised four children, and held each other close through life's many ups and downs, celebrating their 65th Anniversary in February 2022.

Through most of his life Bob enjoyed landscaping and gardening, growing everything from roses to radishes in Illinois, and cacti to desert shrubs in Arizona. He was especially interested in creating hospitable conditions for birds and wildlife, earning him two Backyard Wildlife Habitat Certifications from The National Wildlife Federation. He and Hazel were also frequent bird watchers, adding to their list of sightings wherever they happened to be.

They were also frequent travelers, always ready to explore new places, taste new

foods, and meet new people. Some trips were taken with just the two of them, but most were with family or friends to share the fun. Bob's quick wit and sense of humor made him an excellent addition to any gathering, and his presence will certainly be missed by all who knew and loved him. We are truly Blessed to have had him as a part of our lives.

Preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Charles and James, Bob leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife Hazel; their children Robert (Pam) of Tucson, Arizona; Joan Jones (Jeff) of Gulf Breeze, Florida; Janet Wiley (Dan) of San Diego, California; and Jill Black (Gary) of Lexington, Kentucky.

He is also survived by Jamie Bonds of Decatur, Illinois, who he considered to be another daughter; grandchildren, Jaime, Joshua, Rhiannon, Marissa, Rachel, Nathan, Cory, and Hope; great-grandchildren, McKenzie, Skyler, Emory, Jex, Gabe, Grayson, Orrin, Sophie and Rowan; godchildren Katherine and Michael Vercellino; numerous extended family members; and many good friends and neighbors.

The family would like to thank the staff of Haven Health for their professional and compassionate care during the last seven months, and a special Thank You to Cheryl Scruggs, who was with Bob and Hazel for six years before his admission to Haven, and to Martha Cordova who also aided in his home care.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held February 4, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church, Sierra Vista, Arizona, where Bob and Hazel have been members since 2002, with a reception following at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Nature Conservancy, The National Parks Foundation, or SVUMC Helping Hands Tutoring Program.

More obituaries appear on page 6.

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

In the Matter of the Estate of DOROTHY L. ANDERSON Deceased. NO. 2022PR106

CLAIM DATE NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Dorothy L. Anderson. Letters of Office were issued on October 21, 2022, to Richard L. Anderson, 29415 E. 3100 N. Rd., Dwight, IL 60420, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Joan N. Harrop, 220 W. Main Street, Suite 300, Morris, IL 60450.

The estate will be administered without court supervision unless, under 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a Petition to Terminate to the Circuit Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Livingston County Law and Justice Center, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 31, 2023. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Richard L. Anderson Independent Executor

Joan M. Harrop GOMIEN & HARROP, LTD. Old National Bank Building Suite 300 220 West Main Street Morris, Illinois 60450 (815) 942-0071 A.R.D.C. #6237262 joanharrop@sbcglobal.net

5 Minutes with Boma



Costco Visit

At some point everything you have ever done was done for the first time. This goes for walking, eating, riding a bike, driving, pumping gas by yourself. Any task at one point, was the first time you have ever done it.

Obviously this list could and would go on forever, but I want to dial it into something a little more specific and talk about my experience. This first time experience is none other than going to a Costco store.

Costco, until I had visited, felt like something of an urban legend. I had heard about the hot dogs; about how everything is cheap; they have everything; it's like the IKEA of non-IKEA things. People made it sound like if heaven on Earth did exist, it was there.

I will include the disclaimer that it's possible that I let the expectations get a little too high in my head and was expecting too much, but I will go into detail about how my first Costco experience was not what I expected.

When I first walked in, I think it was actually heaven in retail form on Earth. It was big, spacious, it looked like they had everything upon walking in. Then I actually started to look for things to buy.

First off, way too many people, they need to start treating these like bars and venues and have some sort of max capacity. I couldn't look at anything without feeling like I was in someone else's way.

Second, I understand it's a thing to buy in bulk, but they had no normal-sized portions. It was either you're feeding a family of 16 people or you don't get what you want. I know that's Costco's thing, but it feels like maybe there could be some sort of middle ground where they offer normal sizes.

Those two mixed together just made it a very overwhelming experience and it didn't feel like the savings for buying in bulk really offset the circus that was just navigating through the store.

Unless I end up with the aforementioned family of 16, I think I am Team Regular Grocery Store from here on out.

Go, whatever Chicago team doesn't stink at the moment.

Aaron J. Boma DTHS, ISU Grad

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

The Paper

email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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

RHONDA M. LAMBERTH, Plaintiff, And HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF BLANCHE KROLL, Defendants.

Case No.: 2022-CH-8

NOTICE FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BLANCHE KROLL

Take notice that a Complaint for Adverse Possession was filed in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Livingston County, Illinois, to quite title to the property legally described as follows:

Lots 2, 3, & 4 in Block 1 of Entwistle's Subdivision to the City of Chatsworth, Livingston County, Illinois.

NOW, therefore, unless and all whom it may concern, file your answer to the Complaint in said suit or otherwise file your appearance in the office of the Clerk of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court, 110 N. Main St., Pontiac, Illinois on or before Januar3y 10th, 2023, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

First publication date shall be at least thirty (30) days prior to the time of the default. Notice shall be published three (3) successive weeks. (750 ILCS 5/2-206 and 207)

WITNESS: LE ANN DIXON, Clerk of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, and the seal thereof, Pontiac, Illinois

William J. Gerber Attorney at Law Law Office of William J. Gerber, LLC 210 W. Oak Street Fairbury, Illinois 61739 Phone: 815.692.2224 Facsimile: 815.692.8227 Email: will@gerberlaw.net ENC

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.

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'21 F150 Crew XLT, 14K, 4WD.....\$51,900	'20 Escape SEL, 21K, AWD.....\$31,900
'20 F250 Crew XLT, 46K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$58,900	'20 Edge SEL, 83K, AWD.....\$26,900
'20 F150 Crew XLT, 19K, 4WD.....\$46,900	'20 Explorer ST, 13K, 4WD.....\$49,900
'19 F250 S/C XLT, 15K, 4WD.....Just In	'20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD.....\$45,900
'19 F250 Crew XLT, 39K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$58,900	'19 Nautilus Reserve, 13K, AWD.....\$45,900
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'18 F150 S/C XLT, 76K, 4WD.....\$29,900	'18 Transit Connect Titanium, 93K.....\$23,900
'17 F150 S/C XLT, 62K, 4WD, 8' Bed.....\$29,900	'18 Escape SEL, 68K, FWD.....\$23,900
'17 F150 Crew XLT, 82K, 4WD.....\$29,900	'18 Terrain SLT, 75K, AWD.....\$24,900
'15 F250 Crew XLT, 74K, 4WD, Diesel.....\$40,900	'14 Escape SE, 94K, FWD.....\$14,900
'11 Silverado 1500 Crew LT, 114K, 2WD.....\$14,900	'14 Escape SE, 103K, FWD.....\$13,900
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CARS	'10 Escape LTD, 201K, 4WD.....\$6,900
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DCS LADY REDBIRDS BASKETBALL

**Monday, November 21
Dwight vs. Iroquois West
7th Grade -
Regional Championship**

The seventh grade Lady Redbirds had their season come to a close November 21, as they fell to Iroquois West in the regional championship game.

"It was a tough loss, but all the girls put their heart and soul in the game," Coach Stephens stated.

Leanne Ruth and Olivia Buck added points to the board,

with Kaitlynn Todd and Grace Tjelle holding their own against two tall and aggressive post players. Carrigan Crouch, Sienna Burke, and Adilynn Avilez brought the intensity to the game with their strong defense, and Emmalynn Anderson stepped up as a post and with rebounding.

"Ladies, thank you for a great season and all your hard work and dedication," said Stephens. "It was such a pleasure to watch you improve and grow throughout the season."




DCS REDBIRDS BASKETBALL

**Monday, November 21
Dwight vs. Wilmington
7th Grade -**

The Redbirds took out Wilmington November 21, 32-14, using tough defense to hold their opponents to just one first half point.

Evan Olson led the way for Dwight with 12 points, nine boards, and a steal. Kayden Wood added eight points,

seven rebounds, and one steal, with Axel Kargle putting up four points, five assists, and two steals. Rylan Woodin had four points, two steals, and one board, while Jude Hurt (2 rebounds) and Ty Turner (4 rebounds, 1 assist) contributed two points each. Cason Johnson provided three rebounds, three assists, and two steals.



MVK MAVERICKS BASKETBALL

**Monday, November 21
MVK vs. Grand Ridge
7th Grade -**

The seventh grade Mavericks beat Grand Ridge, 28-22, when they met November 21.

Kolten Pfeifer led with 13 points, including eight in the

fourth quarter.

8th Grade -

In the eighth grade game, MVK won, 47-19.

Colton Baudino made five three-pointers, en route to 23 points. Brant Roe scored 12.

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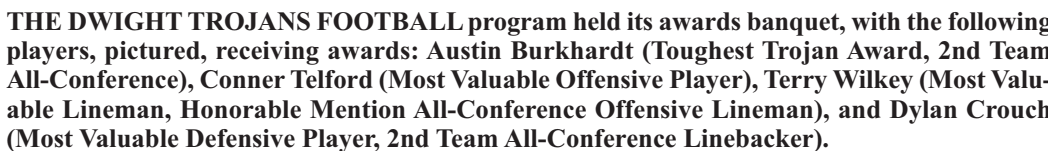
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In speaking to the group, he talked about what he looked for as a coach, and then as a prin-

As a coach, Hamann looked for a player to practice 100%

Hamann used the legendary UCLA coach, John Wooden, in his philosophy while showing the group his pyramid for success.



Kennedy Hartwig and Faith

“Our post play has come a long way in a short amount of time,” Holman adds. “Ella and Faith were great again. Jolena Odum gave us a big spark off the bench when we needed it.”

Kyra Cathcart and Adriana Hummel (13-pointer) led with 12 and 11 points, respectively. Millie Ruiz hit three threes, while Lainey Bertrand scored seven points, including two treys. Kasi Hughes and Kadi Hummel each added a bucket.

Thompson wound up with 22 points, hitting a three and knocking down three free throws. Dawson Carr came up with 13 points, including a three, followed by 10 points from Conner Telford (4-4 FT). Luke Gallet (1 3-pointer) and Jack Duffy (2-2 FT) added nine and six points, respectively.

Friday, November 25
GSW vs. Chicago

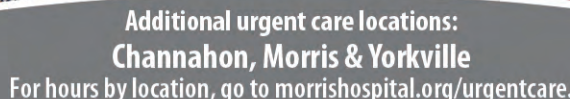
The Panthers begin the season 1-3.

**IN THE DEA OFFICE
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Addi Fair led with 13 points, including a three-pointer. Chloe Wells followed with six points, while Grace Olsen sank a three. Taeryn Lardi and Hannah Balcom had two points each, with Aspen Lardi hitting a free throw.

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DTHS LADY TROJANS BASKETBALL

Head Coach:
Max Sulzberger
Assistant Coaches:
Keli Gall, Joel Sandeno,
Dennis Buck, Justin Fox

The Dwight Lady Trojans have begun the year 2-3, picking up big wins over Flanagan and Henry, and first-year head coach Max Sulzberger has already seen some strong play.

“The kids are playing with great effort,” Sulzberger says, “and opposing teams have complimented on the tenacity and improving skill development from our girls.”

Key returners Kassy Kodat (junior) and Mikalah Bregin

(senior) have stepped up, while freshman Ryan Bean has been playing really well in the starting center role.

“We are very young, playing only one senior at the varsity level,” admits Sulzberger, “and playing three freshmen and five sophomores heavily at the varsity level.”

The young Lady Trojans are already improving and look to be in prime position come postseason time.

“The kids are doing great and making a ton of progress,” Coach Sulzberger adds. “We will look like a much different team at the end of this year.”



2022-23 DWIGHT LADY TROJANS. Pictured, front row, from left, are Dori Wilson, Lily Duffy, Erica Vigna, Njomza Asllani, Harlie Boucher, Mikalah Bregin, Kassy Kodat, Brynn Connor, Ella Legner, Sarah Parker; back row, Coach Keli Chambers, Makayla Wahl-Seabert, Kamryn Folkers, Ellora McCullough, Ava Meister, Ryan Bean, Issy Bunting, Sophie Buck, Emerson Peters, and Coach Max Sulzberger.



#	Name	Yr.	Ht.	Pos.
1	Kamryn Folkers	Fr.	5’4”	G
3	Sarah Parker	Fr.	5’3”	G
4	Erica Vigna	Jr.	5’7”	F
5	Ryan Bean	Fr.	5’10”	C
10	Lilly Duffy	So.	5’4”	G
11	Njomza Asllani	Jr.	5’5”	G
12	Mikalah Bregin	Sr.	5’6”	F
13	Kassy Kodat	Jr.	5’5”	G
14	Sophia Buck	Fr.	5’5”	G
15	Emerson Peters	So.	5’7”	F
20	Dori Wilson	Fr.	5’4”	F
21	Harlie Boucher	Sr.	5’8”	F
22	Ella Legner	So.	5’2”	G
23	Mikayla Wahl-Seabert	Fr.	5’6”	G
25	Ava Meister	So.	6’0”	C
30	Isabella Bunting	So.	5’10”	C
32	Brynn Connor	So.	5’5”	F
44	Ellora McCullough	So.	5’9”	F

DTHS Varsity girls, at right, in action in their recent game against Fieldcrest

ORDINANCE NO. 11-14-22

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE LEVYING AND ASSESSING TAXES FOR THE BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF GRUNDY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR 2022

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF GRUNDY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

SECTION 1: That the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand (\$226,000) Dollars is hereby assessed and levied upon all property subject to taxation within the limits of the BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT as that property is assessed and equalized for the current year, in order to meet and defray all the necessary expenses and liabilities of the fire protection district as required by statute or voted by the people in accordance with the law, for such purposes as fire protection, ambulance service and tort liability for 2022.

SECTION 2: Said taxes hereby levied for the current fiscal year of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT commencing May 1, 2022 and to be applied in liquidation of the appropriations heretofore made by Ordinance No. 11-14-22 passed on November 14, 2022 by the Board of Trustees of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for said fiscal year, for said District purposes, said sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand (\$226,000) Dollars being levied and assessed for the following purposes, to wit:

CORPORATE	\$64,000.00
The foregoing amount is hereby levied for general corporate purposes pursuant to the provisions of 70 ILCS 705/14.	
AMBULANCE	\$64,000.00
The foregoing amount is hereby levied for ambulance expense purposes pursuant to the provisions of 70 ILCS 705/22.	
TORT	\$98,000.00
The foregoing amount is hereby levied for tort immunity purposes pursuant to the provisions of 745 ILCS 10/9-107.	

SECTION 3: That the Secretary of said Fire Protection District is hereby directed to file with the County Clerk of said Grundy County, in the State of Illinois, on or before the last Tuesday in December, 2022 a copy of this Ordinance, duly certified by said Secretary under the corporate seal of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

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

SECTION 5: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and signing.

SECTION 6: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith or any section hereof are hereby repealed.

Passed on November 14, 2022.

(SEAL) Brandon Offdenkamp
President, BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Attest:
Randy Berry
Secretary, BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF GRUNDY)

I, the undersigned secretary of the BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, in Grundy County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, complete and correct copy of Ordinance No. 11-14-22 of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, entitled “An Ordinance for the Levying and Assessing Taxes for the BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT in the County of Grundy and State of Illinois for 2022” which was duly passed and signed on November 14, 2022, according to the law by the Board of Trustees of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT at Braceville, Illinois, in Grundy County, on November 14, 2022.

Randy Berry
Secretary, BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

(SEAL)


CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TRUTH IN TAXATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 35 SECTIONS 200/18-55 THROUGH 200/18-100 ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES

I, the undersigned, hereby certify to the Grundy County Clerk that the Braceville Fire Protection District has complied with all provisions of truth in Taxation, as amended, with respect to the adoption of the 2022 Tax Levy.

The District levied an amount of ad valorem tax that is less than or equal to 105% of the final aggregate extension plus any amount abated prior to extension for the preceding year, therefore the publication and hearing provision of Truth in Taxation are inapplicable.

Brandon Offdenkamp
President, BRACEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Date: November 14, 2022



GSWB TIGERS BASKETBALL

Monday, November 21
GSWB vs. Herscher
5th Grade -

The fifth grade Tigers defeated Herscher, 21-14, when they met November 21.

Kash Kerner led all scorers with nine points, followed by six from Jaxon Pluger. Levi Fink, Tyler Futia, and Kash Olsen each added two.

6th Grade -

In the sixth grade game, GSWB fell, 28-12.

Kash Kerner had three points, with Kash Olsen and John Johnson scoring two each. Mason Jordan made a free throw.

GSWB vs. Odell

7th Grade -

GSWB’s seventh grade boys won over Odell, 50-16.

Cameron Gray led with 15 points, while Caden Christensen came up with 12. Brody Grimes and Case Christensen contributed 11 and eight points, respectively. Isaiah Bouwma and Wyatt McNally scored two points each.

8th Grade -

In the eighth grade matchup, Odell took out the Tigers 46-22.

Holden Grimes was high scorer with 10. Cooper Biros and Aiden Mack added six and four points, respectively. Ryan Dennis put up two points.

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Gas Prices For This Week

The national average pump price for a gallon of gas dropped 11 cents in the past week. It is the steepest weekly decline since early August – nearly four months ago. Meanwhile, the cost of oil edged lower on fears of economic slowdowns elsewhere around the globe. Because of these factors, the national average for a gallon of gas fell to \$3.55. According to data from the EIA, gas demand fell last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks rose. Increasing supply and fewer drivers fueling up have pushed pump prices lower. As demand remains low and stocks grow, drivers will likely see pump prices keep falling. Today’s national average of \$3.55 is 21 cents less than a month ago and 16 cents more than a year ago.

City/Village	Nov. 28	Nov. 21
Dwight	\$3.91	\$3.93
Kankakee	\$4.02	\$4.21
Streator	\$3.64	\$3.77
Pontiac	\$3.60	\$3.84
Gardner	\$3.99	\$4.05
Braceville	\$3.73	\$3.89
Morris	\$3.92	\$4.06
Herscher	\$4.15	\$4.25
Chicago	\$3.94	\$4.18
Illinois	\$3.78	\$3.97
U.S.	\$3.55	\$3.66

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

Gasoline price data collected by
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Livingston Cty. Soil and Water Conservation District Accepting Director Nominations

The Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting nominations from all persons of legal voting age who reside in or own land located within the boundaries of the Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Beginning December 2, nominations will be accepted for the two-year term of the office of Director of the Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District at the

District’s Office located at 1510 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac, during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

To be considered for nomination as a candidate for the office of Director, nominees must provide proof of residency or ownership of land located within the boundaries of the District.

Interested persons must respond by 4:30 p.m. January 2, 2023.

Dwight Christmas for Kids gifts and Dwight Love Boxes will be distributed Saturday, December 10 beginning at 9 a.m. from the Dwight United Methodist Church.

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Tractors & Loader: 1984 John Deere 4650 M.F.D., 15 Speed Power Shift, 2 Remotes, 18.4x42 Rear Tires & Axle Duals, 420/85R28 Front Tires, Front Fenders & Wts., Ser. No.: 7616, (6100 Preharvest Hours); 1983 John Deere 4450 2 W.D., Quad Range, 2 Remotes, 18.4x38 Rear Tires, Rear Wts., Ser. No.: 7707, (5397 Preharvest Hours); 2017 Westendorf WL42 Loader w/ 84" Bucket, (To Be Offered Separately and then as a Unit with 4450); (J.D. 8 Front Wts. & Bracket - Front Fuel Tank off 4450); Set of 18.4x38 Clamp On Duals and Spacers; **Combine & Heads:** 1995 John Deere 9500, Bish BinExt., Newer 30.5x32 Drive & 14.9x24 Steer Tires, Ser. No.: 661838, (3856 Eng. 2639 Sep. Preharvest Hours); 1996 John Deere 693 Cornhead, 6 Row 30", Poly. Ser. No.: 666250; 2001 John Deere 925 Platform, Full Finger Auger, Hyd. Fore & Aft, Ser. No.: 691642; Unverferth HT25 Head Cart with Lights; **Planter & Tillage:** J.D. 1780 6/30" 11/15" Vacuum Planter, No Till Coulters, 3 Bu. Bean Boxes, 1.6 Bu. Corn Boxes w/ Insecticide, Computrak 250 Population Monitor, Ser. No.: 680371; J.D. 980 24-1/2ft. Field Cultivator w/ 5 Bar Spike Harrow; D.M.I. 527 Ecotiger, 5 Shank Disk/Ripper, Hyd. Disk Leveler & Single Bar Harrow; IH 496 Disk, 24-1/2ft., 7-1/2" Spacings; **Vehicles & Wagons:** 1987 Pontiac Firebird Formula, 30,405 Miles, 5.0 Liter V8 Engine, Auto. Trans., Hardtop, "Brilliant Blue"; 1975 Chevrolet C65 Grain Truck, 366 Gas Engine, 88,811 Miles, Single Axle, 9:00x20 Tires, 16ft. Kennedy Box, Twin Post Hoist; 2- M&W Little Red Wagons, 360 BU. 16.5x16.1 Tires; Parker 300 BU. Wagon on P&H Gear w/ Truck Tires; McCormick 100 Steel Flare Box Wagon; Antique Wood Wheel/2 Wheel Wagon with J.D. Seeder; **Mower - Sprayer - Misc.:** Bush Hog 1812, Flex Wing Mower, 12ft., 540 P.T.O., 8 Laminated Tires, Lights; Hardi RM200H, 3pt. Sprayer, 200 Gal., P.T.O. Pump, 20ft. X Fold Boom, Hand Gun (Never Used); Bush Hog 8ft. Rear Blade, 3pt., Mechanical Angle, Tilt & Offset; 500 Gal. Skid Style Fuel Tank w/ Elect. Pump; J.D. 3pt. Head Mover; Clarke 125 EN Portable Mig Welder; 1800 Gal. Upright Poly Tank; Gas Powered Water Pump & Hose; 2- 3pt. Quick Hitchers.

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Tues., Dec. 6:
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Thurs., Dec. 8:
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A Word from Senator Patrick Joyce Give Thanks

We take time each November to give thanks. This year, I am extra thankful in many ways.

I am thankful we have the science and health care to help us turn the corner on the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. I am hopeful our small businesses will continue to rebound and our families will enjoy the time together this holiday season that many have missed these last couple of years.

I am thankful for our democratic election system, where everyone's voice is heard. Thank you to all who came out to vote locally. I appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to represent you in Springfield.

I am grateful for the selfless sacrifice of thousands of Illinoisans like my father-in-law Don Scott, who have bravely served our country in the military. At 97 years old, Don is a veteran of three wars who spent 20 years in the Army – he still lives by himself and is active in the local VFW. Many of us know and love veterans like Don who have devoted their lives to protect ours, and we honor them on Veterans Day and throughout the year.

I am proud to help thankful communities like the Village of Bradley, who will use a \$3 million state grant I recently presented them from the Rebuild Downtown and Main Streets program to transform the area around Route 50. Another \$3 million grant I was proud to present to the Village of Bourbonnais will help make its exciting Community Campus project a reality.

We are thankful locally for a strong partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, which joined me recently at Kankakee River State Park to announce a former prison site on Route 102 will



be redeveloped into a beautiful, usable natural space.

I am thankful for many local families who are giving their children the support they need to become successful. I joined with several of these families recently in Monee for our final pizza party to thank those great kids who participated in our summer reading program.

I am thankful for the many dedicated farmers who are bringing the fruits of their summer of labor to tables here and around the world this fall.

I thank our local business leaders like CSL Behring in Bourbonnais. I joined the Illinois Manufacturers' Association to celebrate our manufacturers, and their growth in the 40th District and across Illinois will create many exciting opportunities for young people to have great careers right here.

As we head into the final weeks of 2022, I ask you to give thanks by showing others in our communities that you care. Contact me anytime I can help: 708-756-0882, or at www.senatorpatrickjoyce.com/. I will continue to share the latest news on my website and on my Facebook page, facebook.com/senPatrickjoyce40/.

Sen. Patrick Joyce
D-Essex, 40th State
Senate District

'It's a Dream Come True' Old Route 66 Family Restaurant Owners Happy with TV Feature

by Brandon LaChance

When Maria Ahmedi received a phone call from a CBS representative in June, she didn't know what the finished product would be based on the over-the-phone interview for a segment on a new show called Destination Chicago Series 1.

The camera crews came, went, and Ahmedi hoped her family's hard work and dedication at the Old Route 66 Family Restaurant would be showcased in a segment designed to highlight businesses in the Chicagoland area that visitors may have not heard of.

The show aired at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27 and the Ahmedi family of Maria, her husband Naser, son Luan "Lu", daughters Brendita and Lindita, daughter-in-law Malia, and granddaughter Leona, couldn't be happier.

"I thought it was really nice. The three minute segment happened really fast, but I feel like they captured most of what we are. It was well done and tailored to our family's dedication and service to our customers," Ahmedi said. "I used to watch my dad, Jim Jashari, cook. All of the recipes stuck in my head. They were never written down. I helped him all of the time and I remembered everything he was doing and teaching me. I decided to open my own

restaurant.

"When you're growing up you don't think anything of it. You just think it's a meal or just helping your father. But then you realize you were learning skills and recipes that people love. You cherish it more as you get older. Now that I've been in business a long time, I truly cherish all of my dad's recipes. I've passed them down to my son and hopefully they're tossed down to his children.

"The video justified all of it. I'm very humbled. Everyone is saying, 'I want your autograph.' I'm not famous yet. It's an inside joke with everyone now. I'm amazed and happy that this opportunity happened to my family."

Ahmedi opened a small restaurant in Odell 30 years ago and opened Old Route 66 Family Restaurant in Dwight on Nov. 5, 2001.

The eatery has become a big piece of Dwight as the community and customers have become a centerpiece of the restaurant.

"I got great reviews from our customers. After it was over, everyone was texting and emailing me. They thought it was nice and a great video," Ahmedi said. "A lot of customers felt that it didn't only put the Old Route 66 Family Restaurant on the map, but it also put the village of

Dwight on the map. It was great advertisement for the whole community, not just our business. We've done well over the last 21 years, but I think being featured on the show is going to help bring more people through our doors and to our community.

"I never thought in a million years that something like this would happen to me. I'm a small-town girl from Seneca and here I am in the big village of Dwight on TV. It's a dream come true for our family. It really is a dream come true. We're still in awe of everything. We still don't believe we were on national TV. We're still pinching ourselves."

Ahmedi enjoyed the process of the making of the program.

She said the cameramen did too. "When they got here they said they couldn't really tell how big the restaurant was or what it would look like inside with our renovations," Ahmedi said. "They told me, 'We didn't know what to expect when we got here, but when we walked in we were blown away. This is by far our favorite place we've shot for a segment. It is beyond our expectations. We weren't expecting anything like this.'"

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



THE GARDNER-SOUTH WILMINGTON Math Team continued its winning streak at the Beecher Invitational, taking first place against seven other local schools. This is the eighth year in a row that the team has won this competition. "Awe-

some job to all team members for working hard these past few weeks to get ready for this competition and getting some great scores," said Coach Nichole Leigh.

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