

## Santa Came to Town...Again

### Holohan Has Been St. Nick for 43 Years at the Fox Center

by Brandon LaChance

Over 40 years ago, Jerome Holohan was asked by his nephew to be Santa Claus at the Fox Center in Dwight to bring holiday cheer to the patients.

Once he started, Holohan and his family – wife Alta and son Gerald – have been part of Christmas at the Fox Center for 43 years including Dec. 11 when the Claus family went through the halls visiting Fox Center residents and staff.

“Every year it tears me up. I just can’t believe how thankful we are to have our children in good health and for these patients,” Holohan said. “The people that work with them are just unbelievable. They’re sent from God.”

“Walking through the Fox Center is really eye opening. The patients are going through a lot and we should be thankful that we have a place like the Fox Center to take care of them.”

Santa even comes with gifts.

For nearly 35 years, Holohan Heating & Sheet Metal Inc. – once owned by Jerome Holohan’s brother and now by his nephew – has helped donate money for Santa to bring a \$25 gift for each Fox Center patient.

A huge part of the monetary help is the “Seek A Miracle” Golf Outing Scramble hosted by Holohan Heating & Sheet Metal Inc. at the Minne Monesse Golf Club in Grant Park every August.

This year, Santa had additional help.

“Last year, Fox Center Family & Friends, it’s a club that I belong to because I go to the Fox Center, also donated \$25 for each patient. So, this year, each of the 75 patients got a \$50 gift for Christmas. Seek A Miracle and Fox Center Family & Friends were big in giving them a Merry Christmas.”

“I owe them a great big thank you.”

Holohan began being Santa Claus through the Lions Club before joining the Fox Center club.



**JEROME AND ALTA HOLOHAN** have been Mr. and Mrs. Claus for the last 43 years at the Fox Center in Dwight. Every year Santa Claus tears up because of the thankfulness he has for the Fox Center and what they do for their patients. Santa came with \$50 worth of gifts for each patient this year as Holohan Heating & Sheet Metal and the Fox Center Family & Friends Club donated \$25 per patient.

He has been Saint Nicholas for the Cabery Methodist Church for 35 years and he used to do other events until age caught up to him.

Holohan has also been Santa for each of his grandchildren.

But when it comes to the Fox Center, he isn’t quitting or stopping.

He’ll be Santa until he is no longer here.

“When I started with the Fox Center, I promised I’d be Santa Claus until I died,” Holohan said. “I’ve only missed a

couple years, but when I wasn’t there my son took care of being Santa at the Fox Center.”

“I want to thank everyone who has helped me throughout the years. This year, my wife, my son, and I were the only ones there because of the flu and Covid-19. It wasn’t nearly as big as it usually is, but we still went through and spread some holiday cheer.”

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

## The Order of the Towman

by Brandon LaChance

Sometimes we’re figuratively left speechless.

You have the words, but you can’t believe you’re saying them because the reason for the words is mind blowing, never seen coming, or simply just a moment of appreciation that you feel words will never meet the level of appreciation.

Calvin Coleman, owner of Coleman & Son Garage in Dwight, went through this scenario when he found out his garage and towing company was inducted into The Order of the Towman through American Towman Industries.

“I’m absolutely blown away. I didn’t really know that there was an award for this. I hadn’t heard of it before,” said Coleman. “I just come in every day, put my nose to the grindstone and do what we have to do. To be nominated for something this big, it meant everything. When you’re not expecting or looking for an award, it shocks you. It made me think, ‘Maybe, I am doing a good job and people are noticing.’ I am still pretty speechless.”

“The award is a national honor that you have to be nominated for. The only people who can nominate you for the award have to be in law enforcement for the work that you do for your community working closely with law enforcement and emergency services.”

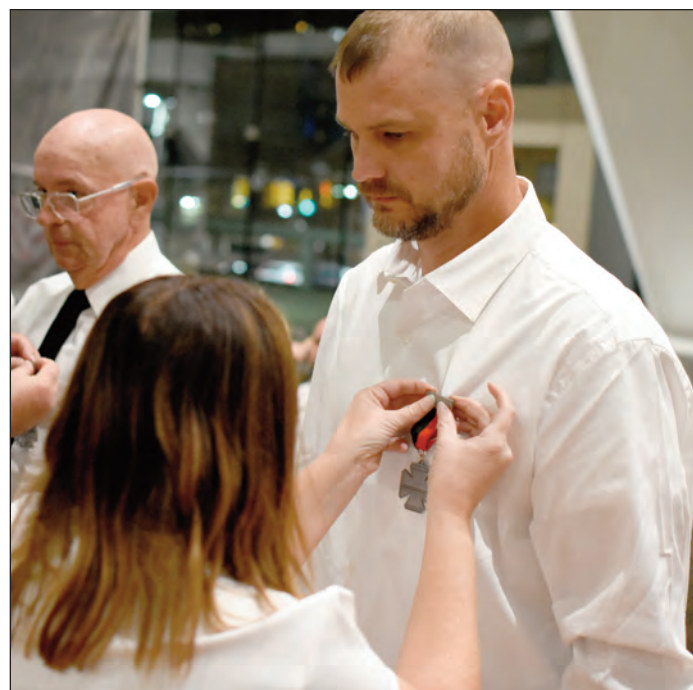
“It’s basically an award for upholding the standards for the towing industry, representing the industry, working well, and going above and beyond the call of duty.”

The nomination has to come from a chief of police or a sheriff.

Coleman, who started his company in 2017 and bought his first tow truck in 2018, tows for the Village of Dwight – who Coleman thanked for the nomination – Livingston County Sheriff, Grundy County Sheriff, the Illinois State Police, private customers, and auto clubs.

The tow man grew up in the industry, but he didn’t know it was going to be his profession until 2013 when he started

(continued on page 12)



The owner of Coleman & Son Garage, Calvin Coleman, was honored with a badge in November after his garage and towing company was inducted into The Order of the Towman. Coleman started working from his home garage in 2013, opened Coleman & Son in 2017, and bought his first tow truck in 2018.



Calvin Coleman and his son Damien await the induction of Coleman & Son Garage into The Order of the Towman. The national honor is awarded to towing companies who go above and beyond to help local law enforcement with their services. Coleman & Son was nominated by the Dwight Police Department.

## FREE Christmas Dinner

Are you looking for a meaningful way to celebrate Christmas?

Share the Christmas spirit by volunteering on Christmas Day to help deliver Christmas dinners to your friends and neighbors in Dwight who may be shut in or just not able to join their families for Christmas. Many people may be alone this season and simply unable to prepare a holiday meal.

Christmas Day dinners will be prepared by local restaurants, and delivered free of charge to anyone who requests.

Anyone in the community is invited to help deliver meals, or if you wish to donate cash to be used to provide the meals, donations are welcome.

If you know of someone in need of a hot meal on Christmas Day, or if you wish to receive a meal, call *The Paper* at 815-584-1901 and provide us the name, address, phone number, and the number of meals

needed. Be sure to leave all the requested information. Meals cannot be delivered if a correct address and phone number is not available.

A volunteer will call each dinner recipient on December 25 to inform them what time the volunteers will deliver their meal so they know when it is coming.

By having the meals supplied by local restaurants, the free Christmas Meal tradition continues in a safe manner, provides an outlet for charitable giving, and helps support the local restaurants.

For more information, to volunteer to help, or to offer a donation, call 815-584-1901.

If you would like to make a donation, make checks payable to *The Paper* or visit thepaper1901.com to donate via PayPal. On the check memo line, put down Christmas Dinners.

The last day to order is Friday, December 18.



**ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS!** Congratulations to the following Gardner-South Wilmington High School seniors for being named Illinois State Scholars – pictured, from left,

Jacob Shaughnessy, Brody Fatlan, Delaney Platt, Avery Williams, Amelia Brock and Allston Latimer.

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**49¢**  
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Cooks or Sugardale  
Smoked Shank  
Portion Ham **LIMIT 1**

Sugardale  
Cook's

FOR THE RECORD

Tickets Issued by Dwight Police

December 2: Jakobi T. Ode-  
neal, 24, Kankakee, driving 11-  
14 MPH above limit, operation  
of uninsured motor vehicle;  
Patrick J. Walsh, III, 21, Bour-  
bonnais, driving 15-20 MPH  
above limit; Kali B. Grindstaff,  
29, Wilmington, speeding over  
statutory limit, driving during  
suspension; Ryan N. Beier, 25,  
Fairbury, speeding.  
December 4: Adam V.  
Mokry, 32, Dwight, no valid  
regis./1st and 2nd.  
December 6: Lori A. Price,  
63, Streator, driving 15-20  
MPH above limit; James D.  
Nicolosi, 56, Minooka, wheel  
& axle loads & gross weights.

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

22 Written Warnings  
Disobey Stop Sign – 7;  
Speeding – 8; Only One Head-  
light – 2; No Rear Registration  
Plate Light – 3; Expired Regis-  
tration – 1; Expired Driver’s  
License – 1.

Dwight Police Blotter  
December 2: Dwight Police  
conducted a traffic stop on Rt.  
47. Cited for Driving While  
Suspended and Speeding was  
Kali Grindstaff, of Wilmington.  
Grindstaff was transported to  
DPD to receive her citations and  
given her mandatory court date.  
Her vehicle was towed from  
the scene.  
December 3: Shawn M. De-  
long was arrested on an In-  
State Warrant. He was  
transported to Livingston Cty.  
Jail.  
December 5: Dwight Police  
were dispatched to the 200  
block of E. James for a Domes-

tic Issue.  
Return Call – 9; Medical  
Aid – 4; Traffic Stops – 36;  
Lockout – 3; Civil Issue – 2;  
Well Being – 3; Out with Vehi-  
cle – 1; Warrant Check – 2;  
Fire Alarm – 1; Unknown  
Problem – 1; Transient – 1; Do-  
mestic Unknown – 1; Mutual  
Aid – 1; Walk In – 5; Burglar  
Alarm – 1; Assist Agency – 2;  
Loose Dog – 1; Miscella-  
neous – 1.

DWIGHT  
EMS

Ambulance Runs  
by Dwight EMS  
December 2: Mazon, med-  
ical, Pontiac; Union, medical.  
December 3: Prairie, med-  
ical, Morris; Mazon, medical,  
Morris; Bannon, medical, St.  
James; Mazon, medical, Mor-  
ris; Scott, medical, St. James;  
Wolf, medical, St. James, mu-  
tual aid to Odell.  
December 4: Mazon, med-  
ical, Morris; Union, fire.  
December 5: Orchard, med-  
ical, St. James; Bannon, med-  
ical, Prairie, medical; Linden,  
fire, mutual aid to Custer Park;  
Chicago, medical, Riverside.  
December 6: Mazon, med-  
ical, Morris; Mazon, medical,  
Morris; Spencer, medical, Mor-  
ris, mutual aid from Coal City  
- COQ; Spencer, medical, mu-  
tual aid to Odell; 2500N Rd.,  
medical, St. James, mutual aid  
to Odell; 2400N Rd., medical;  
Mazon, medical, St. James.  
December 7: Scott, medical,  
Morris; Mazon, medical, St.  
Mary’s; Morris, medical, Mor-  
ris; Scott, medical, Morris;  
Richard, medical, mutual aid  
from Pontiac Fire.

Temps - 2022

Dec. 1 – high 37°, low 14°  
Dec. 2 – high 57°, low 14°  
Dec. 3 – high 30°, low 14°  
Dec. 4 – high 41°, low 19°  
Dec. 5 – high 46°, low 22°  
Dec. 6 – high 42°, low 36°  
trace precip.  
Dec. 7 – high 44°, low 31°  
One Year Ago – Dec. 14, 2021  
high 48°, low 31°

It's history...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2010: THE WEATHER deteriorated by early afternoon causing white-out conditions in all of *The Paper* territory. Schools were closed Monday and many area events were cancelled. Above, Watters Drive in Dwight around 3:00 p.m. The Chicago Bears took to the field 80 miles north some 15 minutes later. The final score was just about as bad as the visibility above.

Dwight Township Meeting Dates for 2023

The regularly scheduled  
monthly meetings of Dwight  
Township will continue on the  
following dates in 2023, and  
will be held in the Dwight  
Township Hall in 2023, 201

North Franklin Street, Dwight,  
at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise  
noted:  
  
January 3; February 7;  
March 7; April 4; April 11 –

ANNUAL TOWN MEET-  
ING; May 2; June 6; July 11;  
August 1; September 5; Oc-  
tober 3; November 7; and De-  
cember 5.

Smoking Cessation Classes  
in Livingston County in January

For many, the start of a new  
year is a chance to make some  
healthy changes. Quitting to-  
bacco is one of the healthiest  
decisions and greatest gifts you  
can give to yourself.  
Within the first 48 hours of  
quitting tobacco, a person’s  
sense of smell and taste im-  
prove and nerve endings start  
to regrow. After the first few  
months of being smoke-free,  
coughing, shortness of breath,  
and sinus congestion decrease;

cilia regrow in the lungs, help-  
ing to clean the lungs and re-  
duce infection; and overall  
energy increases.  
And it’s not just physical  
health that improves, but finan-  
cial health as well. A person  
who smokes a pack a day  
spends on average \$3,276 per  
year on cigarettes (based on \$9  
per pack), which is money that  
can be put towards rent/mort-  
gage, home repairs, or a fun  
getaway.

Quitting is not always easy,  
but you don’t have to do it  
alone. The Livingston County  
Health Department, in partner-  
ship with IHR Counseling  
Services, is offering **free**  
*Courage to Quit* smoking ces-  
sation classes starting in Janu-  
ary. This Respiratory Health  
Association certified course is  
three sessions long and will be  
held at IHR Counseling Serv-  
ices (920 W. Custer Ave., Pon-  
tiac).  
• Orientation and Session 1  
(You have the Courage to  
Quit): Wednesday, January 4,  
5:00-6:30 p.m.  
• Session 2 (Quit Day):  
Wednesday, January 11, 5:00-  
6:00 p.m.  
• Session 3 (Check-in After  
Quit Day): Wednesday, January  
25, 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
This is a great way to learn  
new skills to help kick your  
smoking habit and find support  
with others who are working to  
do the same. Registration is re-  
quired. Call Erin Fogarty,  
LCHD Health Education and  
Marketing Director, at 815-  
842-5908 for questions and to  
sign up.

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Gas Prices For This Week

Since last Monday, the national average for a gallon of regular gasoline has fallen by 14 cents to \$3.26. According to new data from the EIA, gas demand remained low last week. Increasing supply and lower gasoline demand is pushing pump prices lower. As demand remains low and stocks grow, drivers will likely continue to see pump prices decrease through next week. Crude prices have softened this week due to a stronger dollar. Additionally, crude prices were pushed down after the EIA reported that total domestic commercial crude stocks fell 5.2 million bbl last week, a lower amount than the market expected. The domestic commercial crude supply is 19 million bbl lower than the beginning of December 2021.

City/Village	Dec. 12	Dec. 5
Dwight	\$3.48	\$3.71
Kankakee	\$3.71	\$3.89
Streator	\$3.45	\$3.48
Pontiac	\$3.52	\$3.63
Gardner	\$3.85	\$3.99
Braceville	\$3.33	\$3.49
Morris	\$3.55	\$3.76
Herschher	\$3.75	\$4.15
Chicago	\$3.58	\$3.75
Illinois	\$3.42	\$3.60
U.S.	\$3.26	\$3.40

Sources: GasBuddy.com and U.S. Energy Information Administration.  
Gasoline price data collected by  
The Paper and brought to you by Steve's Tire.

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Sat:  
7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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No Dwight  
Food Pantry  
in December

The Dwight Food Pantry,  
normally held the fourth  
Wednesday of the month, Jan-  
uary through October, will not  
be held during the month of  
December, as Love Boxes  
have been distributed.  
The Food Pantry will return  
to its regular schedule in Janu-  
ary, with Thursday, January 26,  
being the first date of 2023,  
held from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the  
Old Town Hall, the Gothic  
Church, 201 N. Franklin St.,  
Dwight.

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Add Layers of Protection to Financial Strategy

To achieve your financial security, and that of your family, you will need to create a comprehensive strategy. But for this strategy to succeed, you'll need to guard it from various challenges – and that means you'll need to build in different layers of protection.  
What are these challenges – and what types of protection can be used to defend against them? Consider the following:  
• **Challenge #1:** Protecting your ability to reach your goals – To achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you'll need to build adequate financial resources. And that means you'll need to create an investment portfolio that's suitable for your objectives, risk tolerance and time horizon. And you'll need to keep your long-term goals in mind when adjusting your portfolio during times of volatility.  
• **Challenge #2:** Protecting your family's future if you're not around – Hopefully, you will live a long life and always be around to support your family. But the future is not ours to see – and if something were to happen to you, how would your family cope? Their chances could be much better if you have adequate life insurance. Proper coverage could help pay off your mortgage, pay for your children's higher education and allow your family to continue its lifestyle.  
• **Challenge #3:** Protecting your income should you become temporarily disabled – If you were to become ill or temporarily disabled and could not work for a while, the disruption in your income could jeopardize your family's living situation, or, at the least, lead to an inability to pay bills in a timely fashion. To protect against this threat, you may want to consider adding disability insurance. Your employer may offer a short-term disability policy as an employee benefit, but it may be insufficient, either in duration or in amount of coverage, so you might want to look at a private policy.  
• **Challenge #4:** Protecting your long-term investments from short-term needs – Life is full of unexpected expenses – a major car repair, a new furnace, a large bill from the dentist, and so on. If you did not have the money available to deal with these costs, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments, such as your IRA or 401(k). Taking money from these accounts earlier than you intended could incur taxes and penalties, and, even more importantly, could reduce the amount of money you have available for retirement. To help protect these investments from short-term needs for cash, try to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in cash or a liquid account.  
• **Challenge #5:** Protecting your financial independence – You would probably do all you could to avoid ever becoming a burden to your grown children – which is why it's so important to maintain your financial independence throughout your life. One potential threat to this independence is the need for some type of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, which can be extremely expensive. A financial professional can suggest protection strategies to help you prepared for these types of costs.  
It can be challenging to keep your financial strategy intact – so do whatever it takes to protect it.

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

# Dwight Backwards Christmas Parade Winners



  
**Dwight Backwards Christmas Parade, sponsored by Dwight ACE Hardware, snaked through town Saturday, December 10.**

**Prizes were awarded:**  
1st place - 305 E William St.  
2nd place - 209 South St.  
3rd place - 222 W Delaware St

**Drive by and take a look!**



## Hines VA Hospital Outreach is Available to Help Veterans

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring the following changes: Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras; Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures; Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation; Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care and helps the VA improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

The Hines Outreach Coordinator, with the support of the

Village of Channahon, will be available to answer questions and provide information about these new benefits **Wednesday, December 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, at the Channahon Village Hall, 24555 S. Navajo Drive, Channahon.

In addition, there will also be an **Outreach event Monday, December 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Community Foundation's South Resource Center at 229 Liberty Street in Gardner.**

These events are free and open to all veterans. No registration is required.

Flu shots are also available for eligible veterans.

You may be eligible to enroll in VA health care if all of these statements are true: You served in the active military, naval, or air service (including being called up from the National Guard or Reserve by a federal order), **and** you didn't receive a dishonorable dis-

charge, **and** you meet at least one of the service requirements for enrollment.

You must meet at least one of these service requirements: You served at least 24 months in a row without a break (called continuous), or for National Guard or Reserve members your full active-duty period, or you were discharged for a service-connected disability, or you were discharged for a hardship or "early out", or you served before September 7, 1980. (**Note:** Time spent on active-duty status for training purposes only doesn't count toward the service requirements.)

There are other criteria that may also make you eligible for VA health care. Take a copy of your DD214 and a photo ID if you would like to enroll.

If you are not able to attend an outreach event, the Grundy

County VAC can be reached at [vac@grundycountyil.gov](mailto:vac@grundycountyil.gov) or 815-941-3152 to schedule an office appointment to discuss these new benefits and all of the benefits and services available to veterans.

The VA Hines Healthcare System provides veterans with outstanding health care, trains America's future health care providers, and conducts important medical research.

Care from the VA through the Hines network is available from seven locations in north-eastern Illinois. To learn more about the services each location offers, visit the VA Hines health care page at [va.gov/hines-health-care/health-services/](http://va.gov/hines-health-care/health-services/).

The VA Hines Healthcare System is one of the leading health care systems serving Veterans in the VA Great Lakes Network.

## Dwight Village Trustee Petitions Requested

Seven potential candidates have taken out petitions for the open Village of Dwight Board of Trustee positions in the upcoming April election.

Residents who have requested petitions are Marla Kinkade, Randy Irvin, Chuck Butterbrodt, Tim McKellar, Josh Jahn, Pete Meister, and Brian Berta. There are three 4-year terms open and one 2-year term.

Whitney Scott has taken a petition for Village Clerk.

Completed petitions must be returned by December 19.

## Help Fill Up LTLD's Mitten Tree

When Limestone Township Library District decorates for Christmas, they also put up a Mitten Tree. They ask the community to help cover the tree with hats, scarves, gloves, and, of course, mittens. It doesn't matter if the items are handmade or store bought. All items donated to be placed on the tree

will be given to the Herscher School district to help those students in need of warm winter clothing.

Any questions? Call them at 815-939-1696, e-mail them at [info@limestonelibrary.org](mailto:info@limestonelibrary.org), or message them at Facebook or Instagram.

## Franklin Corner 162 E. Main St. Dwight 815-374-5080

Join us  
**Friday, December 16**  
*Permanent Jewelry Event*  
**from 3-7 p.m.**

You pick the size and style of the chain, for a custom-fitted bracelet, necklace or anklet, and it's welded together creating a seamless, clap-less chain\*.

Chains are gold filled and sterling silver!



Fun for Everyone!  
Bring your friends and get matching bracelets!

\* Clasps are available if you are not ready for a "permanent" style.

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Danner-Madsen American Legion Aux. #663

## Annual Cookie Sale

**Thursday, December 15**

Danner Madsen Post #663,  
426 Industry Ave., Gardner

**Doors open at 4 p.m.**

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DWIGHT, IL 60420

### Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Gardner South Wilmington High School District #73

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed tax levy increase for Gardner South Wilmington High School District #73 for 2021 will be held on December 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom at Gardner South Wilmington High School.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mrs. Susan Avery, Superintendent, Gardner South Wilmington High School #73, 500 E. Main Street, Gardner, IL 60424. 815.237.2176.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended for 2021 were \$1,460,878.62.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$1,597,500.00. This represents a 9.35% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2021 were \$320,685.20.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 are \$324,507.00. This represents a 1.19% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended in 2021 were \$1,781,563.82.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$1,922,007.00. This represents a 7.88% increase over the previous year.

Want to read more?  
Visit us online at: [thepaper1901.com](http://thepaper1901.com)

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase  
for Mazon-Verona-Kinsman ESD 2C

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Mazon-Verona-Kinsman ESD 2C for 2022 will be held on December 19, 2022 at 6:50 p.m. at the Mazon-Verona-Kinsman ESD 2C Middle School, Community Room, 1013 North Street, Mazon, IL 60444.
- Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mrs. Nancy D. Dillow, Superintendent of Schools, 1013 North Street, Mazon, IL 60444. (815) 448-2200.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$3,922,840.
- The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$4,245,000. This represents an 8.2% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2021 were \$295,003.
- The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 are \$303,632. This represents a 3.6% increase over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$4,217,843.
- The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$4,548,632. This represents a 7.8% increase over the previous year.

Godley  
Park District  
Upcoming  
Programs, Events

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

**Northern Lights Wrestling**

- **Saturday, December 17:** Northern Lights Wrestling presents an entertaining evening that is fun for the whole family. Concessions and drinks will be available for purchase. The show will be held in the GPD gymnasium from 6:00-8:00 p.m., with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. An admission fee applies.
- **Lunch Out & About**
- **Wednesday, December 21:** Join the laughter and fun as they venture to different restaurants, including Great Wall in Kankakee Dec. 21. A transportation fee applies (lunch is on your own) and all trips depart at 10:30 a.m. **Register/Pay by December 14.**
- **“Mocktail” Party**
- **Family BINGO Nite**
- **Friday, December 30:** Join for a New Year’s Eve Eve night of family fun and tasty food. Enjoy some appetizers while you play for prizes (no cash prizes). This event is for those age five to adults. Pre-registration is required and there are no walk-ins. An admission fee applies, which includes food, dessert, drinks, and prizes. Kids ages five to 12 receive a discount. **Register by Monday, December 19.**
- **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.*



THE REDDICK HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1959 held its 63rd class reunion November 15 at the Gardner Restaurant. Pictured, from left, are Gretta (Meece) Giacometti, Joyce (Smith) Hays, Bob Bossert, Judy (Styck) Swartz, Joann (Schultz) Norgaard, Ed Zimmer, Darlene (Forneris) Steichen, and Jim Steichen.

Livingston County Eighth Grade  
Career Fair in Saunemin May 5, 2023

Saunemin Elementary School is inviting area businesses within Livingston County to attend its Third Annual Eighth Grade Career Fair, to be held Friday, May 5, in the Saunemin gymnasium.

The fair will be split into two sessions in order to accommodate all students comfortably. They will host both sessions in the morning. Session 1 will be held from 8:45-10:15 a.m. and Session 2 from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Lunch will be provided for business representatives at the conclusion of Session 2.

SGS requires all eighth graders to take the Career Readiness Course. To conclude their class, they are hosting a county-wide career fair. They invite local businesses and community colleges to set up booths for students to explore career options and begin goal setting earlier in life.

This is a county-wide invitation offering an opportunity to share what your field entails, prerequisites for the job, and inspire future workers.

**Schedule**

**Friday, May 5, 2023**  
**Saunemin Elementary School Gymnasium**

- **8:00-8:45 a.m.** – Doors open at 8:00 a.m.
- **8:45-10:15 a.m.** – Session 1
- **10:15-10:30 a.m.** – Break
- **10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** – Session 2
- **12:00-1:00 p.m.** – Lunch (provided) and Clean Up

**Schools**

**Blue = Session 1**  
**8:45-10:15 a.m.**

Saunemin, Tri-Point Elementary School, Dwight Grade School, Cornell Elementary School, Flanagan Elementary School, Odell Grade School.

**Red = Session 2**  
**10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

St. Mary’s Catholic School, Grace Christian School, Prairie Central Junior High School, Woodland Junior High School, St. Paul Catholic School, Pontiac Junior High School, Rooks Creek Elementary School.

If you are able to join, the following are some suggestions on what to have prepared for the day:

- Provide students with a pamphlet/brochure about your business/field
- Have candy, pencils, post-it notes, etc. to pass out
- Take a sign/banner with business name/logo on it for display
- Prepare a short activity/game/demonstration that the kids can participate in related to your field
- Take a show and tell item (ex: a police car, farming equipment, etc.)
- Be prepared to answer questions such as: who you are, what you do on a daily basis, qualifications for the job, how you got into your chosen field, etc.

What will be provided for you: tables, chairs, WiFi, and lunch.

If you are able to send a business representative on your behalf, RSVP by February 1 by calling Saunemin Elementary School, 815-832-4421, or emailing Brittany Masching at: [maschingb@saunemin.org](mailto:maschingb@saunemin.org)

The Paper – You Can Reach Us  
During our Regular Business Hours 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
204 East Chippewa Street, Dwight, IL 60420  
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'21 F150 Crew XLT, 15K, 4WD.....	\$51,900
'21 F150 Crew XLT, 12K, 4WD.....	\$51,900
'21 F150 Crew XLT, 14K, 4WD.....	\$51,900
'20 F250 Crew XLT, 46K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$57,900
'20 F150 Crew XLT, 19K, 4WD.....	\$46,900
'19 F250 S/C XLT, 15K, 4WD.....	Just In
'19 F250 Crew XLT, 39K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$57,900
'18 F150 Crew XLT, 56K, 4WD.....	\$34,900
'18 F150 S/C XLT, 76K, 4WD.....	\$29,900
'17 F150 S/C XLT, 62K, 4WD, 8' Bed.....	\$29,900
'17 F150 Crew XLT, 82K, 4WD.....	\$29,900
'15 F250 Crew XLT, 74K, 4WD, Diesel.....	\$39,900
'11 Silverado 1500 Crew LT, 114K, 2WD.....	\$14,900
'06 Sierra 2500HD S/C, 166K, 2WD, 8' Bed.....	\$6,900
'00 F150 S/C XL, 115K, 4WD.....	\$8,900

CARS

'15 Mustang EcoPremium Conv., 51K.....	\$23,900
VANS and SUVs	
'20 Escape SE, 7K, FWD, Co-Pilot Assist.....	\$28,900
'20 Escape Titanium, 19K, AWD.....	\$33,900
'20 Escape SEL, 21K, AWD.....	\$29,900
'20 Edge SEL, 83K, AWD.....	\$22,900
'20 Explorer ST, 13K, 4WD.....	\$49,900
'20 Explorer LTD Hybrid, 18K, 4WD.....	\$44,900
'19 Nautilus Reserve, 13K, AWD.....	\$41,900
'18 Escape SEL, 69K, AWD.....	\$19,900
'18 Escape SEL, 68K, FWD.....	\$19,900
'18 Terrain SLT, 75K, AWD.....	\$24,900
'14 Escape SE, 94K, FWD.....	\$14,900
'14 Escape SE, 103K, FWD.....	\$13,900
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'13 Edge LTD, 161K, AWD.....	Just In
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Looking for Lincoln Wins State-Wide Tourism Marketing Award



The Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area/ Looking for Lincoln was proud to be awarded “Best Niche Marketing Budget B” for its work this

past year in promoting the cross-over of Illinois Route 66 and the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area.

‘Flat Lincoln,’ a friendly, diminutive mascot of the organization, visited Route 66 and Lincoln sites along the historic highway, to highlight the ample tourist opportunities that are along Route 66 in Illinois. Visitors could follow the adventures on social media.

The 2022 Illinois Governor’s Conference on Travel & Tourism kicked off Monday, December 5, at Navy Pier in Chicago, with the 2022 Illinois Excellence in Tourism Awards ceremony honoring Illinois tourism leaders’ contributions to the industry. Governor JB Pritzker attended the event to address conference attendees prior to the awards ceremony.

“It is an incredible honor to celebrate and recognize our state’s tourism industry leaders and innovators who work incredibly hard each day to make Illinois a premier travel destination,” said Governor Pritzker. “Their tourism marketing efforts have made an impact in their communities, reinvigorating local economies, and putting a spotlight on what makes Illinois an exceptional destination.”

The Illinois Excellence in Tourism Awards were presented to honor the most successful tourism marketing and advertising initiatives, from convention and visitor bureaus (CVBs) and tourism destinations to attractions and innovators throughout the state who make Illinois shine.

Travel and tourism professionals from across the industry judged submissions in nine categories, ranging from best public relations and social media marketing campaigns to best event or festival, with one exceptional entry receiving best of show.

Each category contained a Budget A for organizations with annual operating budgets of \$750,000 and above, and Budget B for organizations with budgets under \$750,000.



JOEY AND HER MOTHER, Carrie Lovell, volunteered to ring the Salvation Army Bell in Dwight and also provided Christmas music for all to enjoy.

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# Season

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### FAMILY CHICKEN MEAL DEALS!

For Carryout or Delivery Only!

<b>Family Pack #1</b> <b>\$29<sup>99</sup></b>	• 8 pc. Broasted Chicken* • 1 lb. Coleslaw • 1 lb. Mashed Potatoes, 1/2 lb. Gravy	• 4 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread Serves 2 to 4 people
<b>Family Pack #2</b> <b>\$49<sup>99</sup></b>	• 16 pc. Broasted Chicken* • 2 lbs. Coleslaw • 2 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 1 lb. Gravy	• 6 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread Serves 4 to 6 people
<b>Family Pack #3</b> <b>\$79<sup>99</sup></b>	• 24 pc. Broasted Chicken* • 4 lbs. Coleslaw • 4 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 1 1/2 lbs. Gravy	• 10 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread Serves 8 to 10 people
<b>Family Pack #4</b> <b>\$99<sup>99</sup></b>	• 32 pc. Broasted Chicken* • 6 lbs. Coleslaw • 6 lbs. Mashed Potatoes, 2 lbs. Gravy	• 14 Slices of Fresh Baked Bread Serves 12 to 14 people

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

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Fri. 10-1:30, 4-9; Sat. & Sun. 8-2, 4-8:30.

# PLEASE JOIN US

for a

## Holiday Open House

### Friday, December 16th

#### 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Visit with Santa  
at our Dwight Banking Center  
from 3 to 5 p.m.!!



Dwight Staff: (from left) Left to right: Chris Berta, Eric Stewart, Lynne Cain, Sharon Voigts, Jennifer Tjelle, Rae Ann Smith, Dawn Nolan, Kristi Deal, Brian Craft, Christine Leonard, Randy Fransen. Missing from photo: Emily Solis, Andrea Pugh, Sue Roggenburg



Seneca staff: (from left) Amy Johnson, Rebecca Petty, Jennifer Meador, Allison Marshall

### HOLIDAY HOURS

Closed Saturday, December 24th through Monday, December 26th  
Open Normal Saturday Hours on December 31st  
Closed Sunday, January 1st and Monday, January 2nd

## PNB

### Peoples National Bank of Kewanee

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We're always open at [www.pnb-kewanee.com](http://www.pnb-kewanee.com)

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OBITUARIES

Leon F. Schlabowske, age 76, of Pearl, Illinois passed away peacefully on December 4, 2022.

Leon was formerly from Dwight, Illinois, where he worked as a barber for 40+ years, side by side with his late wife, Vicki.

Leon dedicated most of his life to helping others. He was a treasured member of his family and his community. His warmth, compassion, and humor were a gift to all who knew him.

He also loved dancing, hunting, and being outside. He was a husband, a father, a papa, and a friend to many.

Leon is preceded in death by his loving wife of 47 years, Vicki; his parents, Delores Carani and Jerome (Mary) Schlabowske; and his nephew, Nathan Nylander.

He is survived by his wife, Leanna Johnson Schlabowske of Pearl, Illinois; his sons, Steve (Paula) Schlabowske of Morris, Illinois, and Jeff Schlabowske of Morris, Illinois; his grandchildren: Ryan Schlabowske, Hayley and Carli Schlabowske, and Nick Connor.

Also surviving are his siblings: Andrea Dalton, Rodney (Becky) Schlabowske, Donna Offill, Debbie (Bob) Weber, Dave (Judy) Schlabowske, Mary Grant, Teresa Antwine, Mark (Lori) Gibson, Jeff (Vanessa) Schlabowske, and Kim (Mark) Baker; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

In lieu of a funeral service, Leon's memory will be honored with a private family gathering.



Edmonda M. Wilder (Kapala), 71, passed away at her home in Dwight, Illinois on Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

A loving mother, grandmother and friend to many; a nurse for many years, working at St. Pat's and Sunnyhill in Joliet, Illinois, and retiring from Fox Center in Dwight, Illinois.

She was a baptized member and friend to many at the First Baptist Church in Dwight.

Survivors include her daughter, Dawn (Rodney) Platt, and grandchildren, Delaney and Rianna Platt of Braceville, Illinois.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Edmund B. "Eddie" Kapala, Jr.; sister, Janice Binder; and many other family members.

Cremation rites have been made under the direction of Hager Memorial Home in Dwight, Illinois.

May she rest in peace.



A SILENT TEAR  
Just close your eyes and you will see  
All the memories that you have of me  
Just sit and relax and you will find I'm really still there inside your mind.  
Don't cry for me now I'm gone  
For I am in the land of song  
There is no pain, there is no fear  
So dry away that silent tear.  
Don't think of me in the dark and cold  
For here I am, no longer old  
I'm in that place that's filled with love  
Known to you all, as "up above."

Floyd D. Irvin, 82, of Dwight, Illinois passed away Friday, December 2, 2022 at his home.

Cremation rites have been accorded and no services are planned.

Hager Memorial Home in Dwight is handling arrangements.

Floyd was born in Odell, Illinois on January 27, 1940, a son of Hamilton and Francis (Horton) Irvin. He married Betty Miller. She preceded him in death.

Surviving are his four children: Floyd Dean (Jesika) of Campus, Illinois; Penny (Vern) Arnold of Reddick, Illinois; Ed (Tonya) Irvin of Ellsworth, Illinois; and Marion (Sandy) Irvin of Dwight, Illinois.

Twelve grandchildren; 15 great - grandchildren; and brothers, John, Richard and Ronald; and sisters, Betty and Carolyn, also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Robert, William, Jim, Lloyd and Donald; and three great-grandchildren.

Floyd was a member of the Dwight Methodist Church. He served in the United States Air Force; and was a former member of the Masonic Lodge and Shriners.

He enjoyed fishing and spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 6, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Livingston County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as West Chicago Kwik Dry, located at 408 W. South St., Dwight, IL 60420.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2022.


Kristy A. Masching  
Livingston County Clerk

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on November 28, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Livingston County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as Drew Banwart Construction, located at 505 S. 4th St., Fairbury, IL 61739.

Dated this 28th day of November, 2022.

Kristy A. Masching  
Livingston County Clerk



**Nate Bissey**

**Tech-Ni-Kolor AutoCrafters, Inc.**

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

BANK OF PONTIAC,  
an Illinois Banking Corporation,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL QUINN ADAMS, and unknown owners  
and non-record claimants,  
Defendants.

No. 22-FC-54

NOTICE

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

The East 50 Feet of a tract of land described as commencing at the Southwest corner of Block 2 in Ladd and McDowell's Addition to the Town, now City of Pontiac, thence East 120 feet, thence North 156 feet 11½ inches, thence West 120 feet, thence South to the place of beginning, being located on a part of the West half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 23, Township 28 North, Range 5 East of the Third Principal Meridian.

PIN: 15-15-23-162-005

Commonly known as: 609 E. Howard St., Pontiac, IL 61764


The title holder of record to the above described real estate is MICHAEL QUINN ADAMS. The mortgage sought to be foreclosed is a mortgage executed on November 26, 2018 and recorded on December 5, 2018 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2018R-04771. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 22-FC-54 is currently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, unknown owners and non record claimants, file your answer to the complaint in this action or otherwise enter your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, held in the Law & Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before December 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 30th day of November, 2022.

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

8040-928620



**5 Minutes with Boma**

**Christmas Dinner!**


As the holiday season approaches, it's important to remember the true spirit of Christmas: giving and spreading joy to those in need. One way to do this is by volunteering on Christmas Day to deliver meals to friends and neighbors who may be unable to prepare a holiday meal. Local restaurants will be preparing the meals and they will be delivered free of charge to anyone who requests them.

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you would like to donate money to help provide the meals, you can contact The Paper at 815-584-1901. Be sure to leave all the requested information, including the name, address, phone number, and the number of meals needed. This is important because the meals cannot be delivered without a correct address and phone number.

On Christmas Day, a volunteer will call each recipient to let them know what time the volunteers will deliver their meal. This ensures that the recipients know when to expect their meal and helps to spread the joy of the season.

By partnering with local restaurants to provide the meals, this tradition continues in a safe manner and also supports the local restaurant industry. It is a great way to give back to the community and spread joy on Christmas Day. Let's all come together and share the spirit of the season by volunteering and helping those in need.

Aaron J. Boma  
2016 ISU Grad



**The Paper**

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

BANK OF PONTIAC,  
an Illinois Banking Corporation,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL QUINN ADAMS, and unknown owners  
and non-record claimants,  
Defendants.

No. 22-FC-55

NOTICE

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

A part of Block 2 in Ladd and McDowell's Addition to Pontiac, Livingston County, Illinois described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Block 2, and running; thence East 120 feet to the point of beginning; thence East 52 feet; thence North 156.96 feet; thence West 52 feet; and thence South 156.96 feet to the point of beginning.

PIN: 15-15-23-162-006

Commonly known as: 613 E. Howard St., Pontiac, IL 61764

The title holder of record to the above described real estate is MICHAEL QUINN ADAMS. The mortgages sought to be foreclosed are a mortgage executed on December 10, 2021 and recorded on December 22, 2021 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2021R-062622, and an Assignment of Leases and Rents executed on December 10, 2021 and recorded on December 22, 2021 at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Deeds in Livingston County, Illinois, as document No. 2021R-06263. The cause of action initiated by the Plaintiff, BANK OF PONTIAC, an Illinois Banking Corporation, against the Defendants in Case No. 22-FC-55 is currently pending. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Donald R. McClarey, McClarey Law Firm, 313 S. Prairie Ave., P.O. Box 9, Dwight, IL 60420-0009.

Consequently, unless you, unknown owners and non record claimants, file your answer to the complaint in this action or otherwise enter your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Livingston County, Illinois, held in the Law & Justice Center in the City of Pontiac, Illinois, on or before December 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 30th day of November, 2022.

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

8040-928621

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

**The Paper**

email: thepaper1901@sbcglobal.net

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*In memory of*  
**Barbara Kramer**

4-12-47 12-14-11



*When someone you love  
becomes a memory,  
the memory becomes a treasure.*

*Bill*





**Dwight Common School  
2nd Grade  
Mrs. Sulzberger**

Dear Santa,  
I want a new Xbox.

Kian Ahlstrom

Dear Santa,  
I want a drone and a remote control car for Christmas.

Tanner Buchenau

Dear Santa,  
I want a real dog for Christmas. I want dog sheets to sleep on. I want a rubber duck. I want lots of toys. We did a concert last night at school with Christmas music. I want a real reindeer too. I also want a dog pillow. I love dogs and I also want a clean room.

Sadie Burke

Dear Santa,  
I want a drone and I want a bug catcher that sucks up bugs and I want a little remote control truck that moves. I also want a big slinky and tape because I have zero tape. And I want a candy machine like I have in my classroom. And I want some Marvel sets and books.

Lane Carey

Dear Santa,  
I would like some toy horses and a remote control car and a drone. That's it. What do

you feed your reindeer and how many elves are there? I bet there are 3,000 of them.

Merry Christmas,  
Sophianna Derbas

Dear Santa,  
I want an Eevee Pokemon stuffed animal, a remote control car and I want chocolate. And I want a drone. I am gonna fly it in the Spring and I want a camera so I can make a Youtube channel.

Nicole Faulds

Dear Santa,  
I want a Miko robot toy and I want a remote control monster truck. I would probably want some math cards for my brother Jonah. How do you go from house to house to house in one night?

Merry Christmas and hope you like our cookies.  
Dominic Fleming

Dear Santa,  
Can I please have a VR headset and my elf to stay all year long? Please and thank you.

Bren Herlan

Dear Santa,  
Can I get a gymnastics bar for Christmas? It is one of my top things. One of my other top things is to get a ticket to go to Florida to see my friend. I would also like to meet

Rudolph this year. I will see you this year at Cherry Red Roasters. I wanted to know if Mrs. Clause is going to be there too.

Adellyn Krug

Dear Santa,  
I would like the newest Xbox. Android tablet. Pokemon cards. Pokemon stuffed animals. Vbucks for Fortnite. A diamond necklace. The Bayset Charizard made in 1996 Pokemon card and clothes. Happy Christmas and how do you make it to everywhere in the world in one night?

Chase Mays

Dear Santa,  
I want baby dolls, Barbie dolls, and stuffed animals and books. I have books that I don't like and I want ones that are good. New jammies, a new pencil box and new folder. Oh, and a new water bottle.

Charlotte Sassenger

Dear Santa,  
I want a poodle puppy, an orange kitty, LOL doll house and a remote control horse. I also want a rainbow high doll.

Delaney Scott

Dear Santa,  
I want a puppy that isn't too big and I can cuddle with it. And I also want more Lol toys and hatchimals.

Merry Christmas,  
Bristol Seibert

Dear Santa,  
I want a trampoline for Christmas. That's it. My elf is at my house. My elf came on Friday night. What is your favorite cookie?

Madisyn Miller

**Dwight Common School  
1st Grade  
Mrs. Maxard**

Dear Santa,  
My name is Ashton, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a bunch of hot wheels and fidgets. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Landon, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a one of your reindeer, a Gabby doll house, a robot, and pretend antlers. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the trip.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Abbie, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a LOL dolls and rainbow high dolls. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies, milk, and carrots we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Nevaeh, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a barbie camper and tights. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer

enjoy the cookies and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kynleigh, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like an electric car. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the milk, cookies, and carrots we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Matthew, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a choo choo train. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies, milk, and hay we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Brianna, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a new barbie house. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and carrots and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Ben, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like an RC car. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and carrots we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Dax, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a wrestling mat. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Paizlee, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a Gabby's doll house. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Alaina, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a stuffed animal cat. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Charlotte, I am 8 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a hatchicorn. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Brinley, I am 7 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a baby crib and dresser. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and milk we left out for you.

Dear Santa,  
My name is Will, I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a Gabby's doll house. Merry Christmas Santa! P.S. I hope you and the reindeer enjoy the cookies and carrots we left out for you.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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**Season's  
Greetings**

Wishing you a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!

**Nutrien**

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**Merry Christmas**

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a beautiful  
holiday and  
a year filled  
with peace  
and  
harmony.

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**Happy Holidays!**  
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SPORTS

SPORTS

SPORTS



ERIN ANDERSON has signed to continue her academic and softball career at Heartland Community College. Pictured with Erin are all the coaches that have played a big part in her softball journey. Pictured, front row, from left, are Coach Gass, Erin, Coach J; back row, Coach Trainor and Coach Leonard.

GSW Lady Panthers Fall to Hoopeston, Beat Dwight in IW Holiday Hoops Tourney

**Saturday, December 10**  
**GSW vs. Hoopeston**  
**Iroquois West**  
**Holiday Hoops Tournament**  
The GSW Lady Panthers were defeated by Hoopeston, 55-42, in Iroquois West Holiday Hoops Tournament action. Addi Fair had a game-high 20 points, connecting on four three-pointers. Hannah Balcom added 10 points, with Grace Olsen contributing seven. Taeryn Lardi put up three

points, while Kayla Scheuber and Chloe Wells each hit one free throw.  
**GSW vs. Dwight**  
**Iroquois West**  
**Holiday Hoops Tournament**  
In game two, GSW exacted its revenge on rivals Dwight, winning 47-39. Addi Fair went off for 31 points, knocking down three threes. Grace Olsen had 15 points (2 3-pointers), while Aspen Lardi hit a free throw.

The Lady Panthers are now 4-8 on the season. For the Lady Trojans, Kassy Kodat had a team-high 14 points, making good on four three-pointers in the contest. Isabella Bunting and Lilly Duffy (1 3-pointer) added eight and seven points, respectively, while Mikalah Bregin put in six points. Sophie Buck drilled a three, with Ryan Bean making a fourth quarter free throw.

GSW LADY PANTHERS BASKETBALL

**Monday, December 5**  
**GSW vs. Illinois Lutheran**  
The Lady Panthers were dominant in their 61-17 beating of Illinois Lutheran December 5. Addi Fair led with 24 points, connecting on two threes. Grace Olsen added 13 points, knocking down three three-pointers, while Aspen

Lardi put up six points. Taeryn Lardi and Hannah Balcom each provided five points, with Kayla Scheuber contributing four points. Chloe Wells and Madison Wright scored two points each.  
**Thursday, December 8**  
**GSW vs. Donovan**  
In a meeting with Donovan

December 8, GSW won 51-28. Addi Fair hit four threes on the night, en route to a 29-point performance. Chloe Wells followed with eight points (1 3-pointer), while Annabelle Pumfrey put up four points. Grace Olsen and Madison Simms scored three points each. Aspen Lardi and Hannah Balcom each had two points.

TRI-POINT LADY CHARGERS BASKETBALL

**Monday, December 5**  
**Tri-Point vs. Grace Christian**  
Tri-Point was edged out by Grace Christian December 5,

44-40. Kyra Cathcart led with nine points, followed by eight and seven, respectively, from Adriana Hummel (2 3-pointers) and

Lainey Bertrand. Kasi Hughes had six points, with Madison McNeill and Millie Ruiz (1 3-pointer) each chipping in with five points.



Church Dartball League

December 5 Results

New Life	3	0
Tri Parish	0	3
Dwight Meth.	0	3
Zion Luth.	3	0
Emman. Luth.	2	1
Dwight Cong.	1	2
Hers. Meth.	3	0
Trinity Luth.	0	3
Hers. Luth. #2	1	2
Hers. Luth. #1	2	1
Standings		
Emman. Luth.	7	2
Dwight Cong.	6	3
Hers. Luth. #1	6	3
New Life	6	3
Zion Luth.	6	3
Herscher Meth.	4	5
Hers. Luth. #2	5	4
Dwight Meth.	3	6
Trinity Luth.	2	7
Tri Parish	0	9

The next night of play will be December 19 at 7:00 p.m.



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DWIGHT YOUTH FOOTBALL BOARD ELECTIONS

JANUARY 22 @ 5 P.M.

IN THE DEA OFFICE

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DWIGHT TROJAN standout Wyatt Thompson, pictured, above, is swarmed by Midland defenders, while Conner Telford, right, takes it in for two, during their battle December 9.

photos by J7 Images

DTHS TROJANS BASKETBALL

**Monday, December 5**  
**Dwight vs. Serena**  
On December 5, the Trojans hung with Serena for three quarters, trailing by just seven heading into the final frame. But a five-point fourth quarter ultimately led to a 66-47 loss. Wyatt Thompson put up 25 points, hitting two threes and shooting 1-2 from the line. Conner Telford followed with 10 points, including two threes. Dawson Carr came up with six points, while Jace Gall, Luke Gallet, and Jack Duffy each

scored two points.  
**Friday, December 9**  
**Dwight vs. Midland**  
In a match-up with Midland December 9, the Trojans were defeated, 74-51. Wyatt Thompson and Conner Telford led Dwight with 18 and 16 points, respectively. Luke Gallet added six points, followed by three from Jack Duffy. Dawson Carr, Jack Groves, Tristan Larkin, and Will Trainor each scored two points.

GSW PANTHERS BASKETBALL

**Monday, December 5**  
**GSW vs. Woodland**  
A big second half led to a GSW win over Woodland, 56-53, on December 5. “Woodland made us fight hard and hit a lot of shots (13 3-pointers),” commented Coach Wills. “We battled back in the third to tie it up and hung on at the end. We were able to get just enough stops to get the ‘W’.” Cale Halpin (2 steals) and Bennett Grant (8 rebounds) led with 20 and 18 points, respectively. Gabe McHugh had 10 points, eight boards, and six assists, while Dane Halpin added eight points and three steals.

**Friday, December 9**  
**GSW vs. Donovan**  
The Panthers suffered a 69-61 loss at the hands of Donovan December 9. “First half foul trouble, an injury to Bennett Grant, and horrible shooting put us in a deep hole,” said Coach Wills. “It wasn’t until we were down by 21 in the third that we started playing well. We fought back, but still fell short. Hats off to Donovan. They played hard, made a lot of shots, including 24 free throws.” Cale Halpin led with 27 points, scoring all 27 in the second half. Gabe McHugh had 10 points, nine boards, with Brody Fatlan and Logan Conger adding eight and seven points, respectively. GSW is now 5-4 overall and 3-1 in the conference. They take on Ridgeview Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 6**  
**GSW vs. Grace Christian**  
In a match-up with Grace Christian December 6, the Panthers were victorious, 56-33. “After a bad start, we were able to settle in and get a comfortable win,” Coach Wills said afterwards. “After eight straight road games, we are looking forward to our home opener.” Leading with 22 points and nine boards was Cale Halpin. Bennett Grant provided 11 points, four rebounds, with Gabe McHugh (10 rebounds) and Dane Halpin (4 steals) adding six and five points, respectively.



SENECA FIGHTING IRISH BASKETBALL

**Friday, December 9**  
**Seneca vs. Woodland**  
The Fighting Irish remained unbeaten with a 68-38 victory over Woodland December 9. “Another solid performance from the boys,” said Coach Witte. “We caused a lot of problems with our length and did an outstanding job converting on the offensive end. Woodland boys came out and played really, really hard.” Leading all scorers was Braden Ellis with 23 points, including five threes and a perfect 4-4 from the line. Paxton Giertz followed with 17 points (2 3-pointers, 1-2 FT), while John Farcus added seven points (1 3-pointer). Dalton Degrush scored five points (1 3-pointer), with Calvin Maierhofer (2-2 FT), Lane Provence, and Dominic Traina each scoring four points. Brady Sheedy and Given Siegel (2-2 FT) contributed two points each.

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DTHS JV TROJANS BASKETBALL. Pictured, front row, from left, are Drew Anderson, Asher Kargle, Mgr. Gunner Severns, Owen Dunlap, Tracer Brown, Evan Cox, Jack Statler; back, Coach Dennis Dunlap, Coach Cal Vigna, Owen Woods, Joey Starks, Tristan Larkin, Jackson Launius, Wyatt Statler, Brayden Jensen, and Coach Todd Severns.



Seneca Lady Fighting Irish Basketball

**Monday, December 5**  
**Seneca vs. Marquette**  
The Lady Irish came from behind to beat Marquette, 52-48, on December 5.  
“What an effort from the girls,” said Coach Holman. “Marquette really took it to us in the first half and we did everything we could to survive and get to halftime. We’ve got girls playing through injury and

illness, but we toughed it out.” Kennedy Hartwig went off for 23 points, followed by nine and eight, respectively, from Alyssa Zellers and Lainie Olson.  
“Kennedy was back to her old self after struggling for a few games,” Holman stated. “Sophomores Zellers and Olson really stepped up and made some huge shots and free

throws in the second half to help us keep the lead. Extremely proud of how we played.”  
**Thursday, December 8**  
**Seneca vs. Roanoke-Benson**  
After a rough first half, Seneca put up 31 second-half points to help them pick up a 48-43 victory.  
“Another fantastic effort from our girls,” Coach Holman

said. “Contributions from all over and our bench gave us the energy we needed to pull through; Lainie Olson with a great effort on both ends of the floor when we needed it. Tough stretch of games for us but nice to get two big conference wins to start it.”  
Kennedy Hartwig’s 18 points led the Lady Irish, with Faith Baker scoring eight. Cassia Buchanan scored all seven of her points in the fourth quarter.

**Saturday, December 10**  
**Seneca vs. Annawan**  
The Lady Irish were topped by Annawan, 61-29, on December 10.  
“We’ve had a lot of good efforts this year, but this wasn’t one of our best,” said Coach Holman. “We hung with them for a while, but didn’t have the energy and concentration needed from mid-second quarter through the third. Hats off to Annawan for taking it to us, we’ll continue to get better as we go forward.”  
Seneca is now 8-3 overall with a 5-0 conference record.

Village of Odell	
ANNUAL TREASURER’S REPORT	
FOR PERIOD ENDING 04/22	
REVENUE SUMMARY: PROPERTY TAX, \$53,315.40 – UTILITY TAX, \$52,818.40 – LIQUOR LIC/NEV PERMITS, \$1,270.00 – FRANCHISE LICENSES, \$9,312.17 – BUILDING PERMITS, \$271.60 – STATE INCOME TAX, \$147,927.78 – REPLACEMENT TAX, \$17,995.73 – PHOTO TAX, \$34, 306.06 – LOCAL SHARE VIDEO GAME TAX, \$24,718.52 – SALES TAX, \$100,358.13 – ROAD & BRIDGE TAX, \$10,932.59 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS TAX, \$8,979.04 – CANNABIS USE TAX, \$1,500.38 – FINES – COURT/OTHER, \$967.38 – GARBAGE PENALTIES, \$11,736.70 – GARBAGE SALES, \$83,771.52 – INTEREST INCOME, \$2,045.73 – DONATIONS RECEIVED, \$1,036.00 – MISCELLANEOUS INCOME, \$72,921.10 – REBUILD ILLINOIS, \$46,462.75 – PROPERTY TAXES, \$27,736.04 – WATER SALES, \$146,500.07 – FARMER METER, \$8,791.51 – INFRASTRUCTURE FEE, \$93,553.79 – WATER DEBT FEE, \$27,515.70 – TOTAL REVENUES: \$986,744.09.	
COMPENSATION SUMMARY: UNDER \$25,000.00, TISSIERE, MARK D. – MCPEEK, JAMIE E. – LAMBERT, LISA J – BIERNAT, TRISHA – GALL, EMILY E. – PAGEL, RANDALL S. – MORRIS, RODNEY L. – RUSSELL, THOMAS C. – VERDUN, BRIAN E. – WYKES, GARY L. – MASTERS, ANDREW D. – REBHOLZ, JAMES E. – VERDUN, CATHERINE – GRIEFF, EDITH A. – BRANZ, EILEEN M. – MILLS, BRIAN K. – THORNE, IRIS A. – RIBORDY, RICHARD J. – ROBERTS, CODY A. – Between \$25,000.00 and \$49,999.99, LEENDERS, JENNIFER A. – ARMOUR, GROVER T. – BOLEN, JOE T. – TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$192,437.60.	
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY: ACE HARDWARE, \$2,552.83 – ACE IN THE HOLE, INC., \$11,000.70 – AIR DIFFUSION SYSTEMS, \$3,590.44 – ANDREWS ENGINEERING, INC., \$5,921.87 – ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF RE, \$10,201.50 – IRS FINANCIAL AGENT, \$46,584.16 – ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIRE, \$29,479.77 – BOHM’S PST, \$1,096.82 – BANK OF PONTIAC, \$7,648.16 – BP, \$7,764.18 – BRENTTAG MID-SOUTH, INC., \$15,796.20 – ALEX BRADBURY, \$4,499.00 – THE BUSINESS CONNECTION I, \$1,800.00 – CAUGHEY LEGNER FREEHILL E, \$14,400.00 – COMED, \$55,835.39 – CONTECH ENGINEERED SOLUTI, \$1,978.60 – CORE & MAIN LP, \$22,033.67 – CUMMINS INC., \$1,475.12 – DELTA INDUSTRIES INC., \$11,775.72 – FRAHER FORD, INC., \$1,373.17 – FRONTIER, \$5,732.48 – EVERGREEN FS, INC., \$4,407.03 – GD’S SALOON LLC, \$1,742.88 – GOULD BROTHERS, LLC, \$70,949.00 – HARN R/O SYSTEMS, INC., \$4,022.49 – HAWKINS, INC., \$1,233.00 – ILLINOIS DEPT OF REVENUE, \$1,534.00 – ILLINOIS EPA LABORATORY, \$3,773.20 – ILLINOIS FUNDS GENERAL AC, \$40,067.69 – THE ILLINOIS FUNDS MM – M, \$11,489.25; ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE, \$27,551.23 – JOHN T. HARNER, \$2,500.00 – JOE BOLEN, \$1,741.15 – JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, \$763.32 – KELLY ELECTRIC, \$3,654.66 – KANKAKEE VALLEY CONSTRUCT, \$1,018.75 – TREASURER LIVINGSTON COUN, \$1,587.71 – LIVINGSTON COUNTY SOIL AN, \$1,399.00 – LGHP – SHARED SERVICES CE, \$46,119.75 – LIVINGSTON COUNTY SHERIFF, \$20,000.00 – LIVINGSTON COUNTY COLLECT, \$972.36 – LOCUS, \$3,269.75 – LOVELL EXCAVATING, \$660.00 – ANDREW H METZ, \$2,200.00 – MEDIACOM LLC, \$1,079.40 – MICKEY’S LINEN & TOWEL SU, \$1,166.74 – TERRY WASMER, \$1,855.00 – NAPA AUTO PARTS MORRIS, \$2,482.97 – MUG-A-BUG, \$2,573.25 – NCPERS GROUP LIFE INS - I, \$636.00 – NICOR GAS CO., \$3,251.91 – OPPERMAN CONSTRUCTION CO, \$2,757.50 – THE PAPER, \$1,134.00 – PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, \$1,859.48 – PHILLIPS & ASSOCIATES, CP, \$5,901.30 – PONTIAC NAPA AUTO PARTS, \$1,038.73 – PUTNAM COUNTY PAINTING, \$7,300.00 – QUILL CORPORATION, \$1,432.82 – DESTINATION PRODUCTS, L.L, \$896.24 – REPUBLIC SERVICES #366, \$78,250.44 – RAILROAD MANAGEMENT CO, L, \$3, 392.53 – ROUTE 66 ACCESSORIES ATTN, \$662.71 – ROUTE 66 TIRE SERVICE, \$2,511.00 – STATE BANK OF GRAYMONT, \$53,320.02 – STRATEGIC MARKETING SERVI, \$1,066.00 – SEALTITE INSULATION INC, \$1,673.95 – STEFFENS 3-D CONSTRUCTION, \$33,468.19 – STOLLER INTERNATIONAL, \$1,421.99 – THRUSH SERVICES, INC., \$1,735.00 – RICK A TUCKER, \$1,514.00 – USA BLUEBOOK, \$3,182.22 – U.S. POST OFFICE, \$1,334.16 – VALLEY VIEW INDUSTRIES, \$3,015.74 – VARSITY STRIPING & CONSTR, \$5,144.75 – VERIZON, \$1,879.01 – VILLAGE OF ODELL, \$11,258.32 – All other Disbursements Less Than ( 599 ), \$10,033.67 – TOTAL VENDORS: \$765,425.04.	

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION						
	GENERAL FUND	MFT	I.M.R.F. FUND	ODELL TOURISM	WATER/IMPROVEMENTS STATEGRANTF	WALKING/BIKING DEBT CASH ACCT.
Beginning Fund Balance						
Retained Earnings	\$680,569.81	\$72,575.82	\$1,467.06CR	\$5,408.07	\$0.00	\$11,915.17
Revenues	\$583,523.00	\$64,679.30	\$27,736.04	\$24,524.11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditures	\$439,334.27	\$62,313.81	\$31,486.39	\$19,744.52	\$0.00	\$8,668.16
Other Financing Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,648.16CR	\$0.00	\$7,648.16
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance						
Retained Earnings	\$824,758.54	\$74,941.31	\$5,217.41CR	\$2,539.50	\$0.00	\$10,895.17

	CDAP GRANT #07-242029	DCCA GRANT FUND	G.O. BONDS	WATER DEBT CASH ACCT.	WATER FUND	SEWER FUND
Beginning Fund Balance						
Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$813,463.56	\$417,719.91
Revenues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$198,628.32	\$87,653.32
Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$144,646.10	\$85,637.42
Other Financing Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$58,490.00	\$71,031.00
Ending Fund Balance						
Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$798,885.93	\$277,673.96

	GENERAL FIXED ASSETS	GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT
Beginning Fund Balance		
Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenues	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Financing Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance		
Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00



DTHS JV Trojans - #34 Evan Cox, #3 - Owen Dunlap. Below: #23 - Joey Starks  
*photos by J7Images*



Eighth Grade Tigers Top Mavs  
MVK Wins Seventh Grade Game

**Tuesday, December 6**  
**MVK vs. GSWB**  
**7th Grade -**  
The seventh grade Mavs took out GSWB 39-30 on December 6.  
The Mavericks’ Kolten Pfeifer led with 19 points, while Colton Baudino put up 15 points, seven boards.  
Caden Christensen and Cameron Gray led the way for the Tigers with 12 and eight points, respectively. Case Christensen added six, with

Brody Grimes contributing four points.  
**8th Grade -**  
GSWB got its revenge in the eighth grade contest, beating MVK 40-35.  
Cooper Biros had a team-high 16 points for the Tigers, with Holden Grimes adding 13. Reed Millette and Aiden Mack came up with five and four points, respectively. Logan Rice scored two points.  
For the Mavs, Brant Roe scored a game-high 21 points.



GSWB Tigers Basketball

**Tuesday, December 6**  
**GSWB vs. Streator Woodland**  
**5th Grade -**  
The GSWB Tigers hosted Streator Woodland December 6, with the fifth grade squad winning 20-13.  
Kash Olsen had eight points, while Tyler Futia and Kash Kerner added six and four points, respectively. Talon Mack came up with two points.  
**6th Grade -**  
GSWB’s sixth graders won over Streator Woodland, 36-9.  
Ryan Male was high scorer with eight, followed by six points each from Mason Jordan and Chris Titus. David Allen, Kash Kerner, and Kash Olsen all scored four points. Fallon Stein and Parker Thompson scored two points each.  
**Wednesday, December 7**  
**GSWB vs. Seneca**  
**5th Grade -**  
GSWB’s fifth grade team held on to win in overtime over Seneca, 16-14.

Jaxon Pluger had a team-high six points, followed by four from Kash Kerner. Chase Chandler and Kash Olsen each had two points, with Ayden Wzorek hitting the game-winning shot in OT.  
**6th Grade -**  
In a sixth grade basketball match-up between GSWB and Seneca December 7, the Tigers fell, 24-19, in a contest that was tight until the end.  
Mason Jordan led GSWB with eight points, with Chris Titus and Fallon Stein adding four and three points, respectively. Ryan Male and Ty Tjelle each scored two points.  
**GSWB vs. Beecher 7th Gr. -**  
GSWB’s meeting with Beecher resulted in a 37-25 loss.  
Cameron Gray led with seven points, while Caden Christensen and Brody Grimes scored four each. Wyatt McNally, Isaiah Bouwma, and Case Christensen each scored two points.

**8th Grade -**  
The eighth grade Tigers took out Beecher, 42-33.  
Holden Grimes and Cooper Biros led with 16 and 12 points, respectively. Reed Millette scored eight, with Chris Ozee putting up four. Aiden Mack added two points in the victory.  
**Thursday, December 8**  
**GSWB vs. Elwood 7th Gr.-**  
The seventh grade Tigers defeated Elwood 32-20 December 8.  
Case Christensen led with 12 points, with Caden Christensen following with 10. Cameron Gray scored six, with Brody Grimes making a free throw.  
**8th Grade -**  
GSWB’s eighth graders got a big 45-5 win over Elwood.  
Cooper Biros had a game-high 17 points, while Holden Grimes got 14. Chris Ozee put up six points, with Hunter Partilla, Reed Millette, Aiden Mack, and Aiden Bodine each scoring two points.

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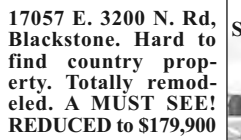
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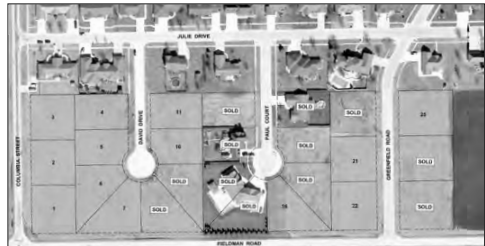
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THE GARDNER-SOUTH WILMINGTON National Honor Society held its annual Fall Food Drive at the end of October. They collected over 16 boxes of food with a homeroom contest. It was donated to the Church of Hope Food Pantry and used for the local Micro Pantries in South Wilmington, Braceville and Gardner. The group plans to have another drive in the spring. The adviser is Terese Kukman.

# The Order of the Towman

(continued from page 1))  
working from his home garage.  
“It has grown a lot. More than I ever anticipated. We’re fortunate to have a good team behind us. The award isn’t just about me; it represents our whole staff. We all play a part in making sure that all of our services follow through and provide what they should. We want people to be happy with our services.  
“I built the company on the community. We give back a lot. We sponsor baseball teams and I’ve coached some of the athletic teams here and there. We work on the ambulances and squad cars on the repair side of things.  
“We’re just honored for the opportunity that Dwight has given us. We’re very appreciative of the business and to get nominated for an award like

this, it was just huge.”  
The coolest part is how Coleman & Son got its name.  
When Calvin Coleman focused on the performance side of things, he went under the name C3 Racecars.  
Until his son scooted under his plastic vehicles.  
“Stephanie (Calvin’s wife who is also a big part of the business) and I had our son (Damien). When he was two, he was out in the garage,” Calvin Coleman said. “I would be working on something, I look over, and he would be in his toddler jammies watching me and then he would crawl under his power wheels. He would turn wrenches and try to work on it to be like me.  
“It then became Coleman & Son Garage.”  
Coleman thanked his wife, his son, his staff, local law en-

forcement, his customers, and the community.  
He also thanked Ryan Scott. Without him, Coleman doesn’t think the business would have been inducted into The Order of the Towman.  
“We were very busy, and I couldn’t do it all by myself,” Coleman said. Ryan stepped in and has been a tremendous asset. It’s to the point now, that I don’t have to do much of the towing because Ryan can handle it by himself.  
“Helped elevate our service. His dad, Mark Scott, was a retired officer and he brought knowledge and little intricate details I didn’t know anything about. Ryan is a big piece of this award.”  
Brandon LaChance can be reached at 815-876-7941, blachance20@gmail.com, or on Twitter @LaChanceWriter.



THE PANTHERETTE SPIRITLINE from Gardner-South Wilmington High School hosted their sixth annual IDTA Regional Championship December 3, where they welcomed 19 other local teams for a great day of competition. The team placed first in Pom and first in Open Pom. They also received state-qualifying scores for both routines, which qualifies them for the IDTA State Contest February 10-11 in Springfield. Seniors Abbey Granger and Katy Wallerich both competed their solos, with Katy placing first. Junior Ava Brassard received a rising star award for her outstanding showmanship in their Pom routine. Coaches Nicole Leigh and Holly Swisher said they are very happy with their team’s performances and are excited to see where the rest of this competition season takes them. “The team is very motivated,” said Coach Leigh, “and eager to continue improving for each competition.” Pictured, front row, from left, are Granger, Wallerich; second row, Madalee Handzus, Hayden Partilla, Emma Simms, Tess Brooks; third row, Nina Siano, Aubree Stein, Hannah Balcom, Brassard, and Madelyn Wilson.

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