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NEW GALVA BUSINESS

Oscar's open in Galva

By CAROL TOWNSEND
 For The Prairie News

GALVA – Opening a business in the midst of a pandemic is certainly challenging, but business has so far been busy at Oscar's Body Shop.

Oscar and Kari DePauw opened the auto body shop last fall at 900 SE 2nd Street in Galva. The DePauw's opened the shop after purchasing the building from Tom and Judy Hartman. Part of the building was the former Galva Florist.

After the purchase, the DePauws spent long hours putting in a paint room and necessary exhaust fans.

Oscar has 35 years of experience in the auto repair work. He has worked at Cozadd Die-



Kari and Oscar DePauw stand outside the sign of their new Galva business. Photo by Carol Townsend.

sel in Wataga and the Oneida Body Shop for 17 years.

He doesn't limit his repairs to only cars and trucks, according to Kari. He works on semis, tractors and even helicopters. He also puts on hitches, installs bed liners and does undercoating.

Kari handles the insurance work and estimates for the shop to make it as seamless as

possible for customers.

The shop also has a flatbed truck to transport vehicles to the shop.

Business is “better than they ever anticipated,” Kari said.

The DePauw's live in rural Altona and have three children. Oscar DePauw said he grew up knowing Galva and looks forward to serving Galva and the surrounding area.

Filling storefronts

Toulon council discusses development

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News

TOULON – The Toulon City Council participated in a lengthy discussion and presentation concerning economic development at its meeting Monday.

Kyle Howard, a Toulon native who now lives in St. Charles, gave a presentation outlining the possibility of Toulon developing its downtown with new businesses in storefronts that are currently vacant. Howard has been aiding with management of Julie's Cafe Market on Main in Toulon.

Howard said he would like to obtain locally made products, such as beef, pork and produce, “and take that to build off of.” Besides selling locally, Howard envisions selling Stark County products to other areas of the state.

Howard's proposal is to work with Toulon's city council to develop and implement short- and

long-term economic development plans.

Howard initially was asking the city council what goals they would have to develop the city's economy. He suggested filling every storefront with a business, plus trying to recruit a sizable business to the Toulon area, such as some sort of manufacturing.

Another problem to overcome, Howard said, is to attract people to the businesses and market those businesses to other areas to expand the customer base.

Mayor Larry Hollis said the current project of revitalizing Main Street would help “sell” Toulon to people who would be business owners or customers. Hollis added that a new school building would help attract people to the area to reside here.

After the presentation and discussion, the council initially decided to have Howard concentrate with filling the storefronts with

Continued on Page 2

Owens honored by Stark Co. board

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News

TOULON – The Stark County board of supervisors presented a plaque of appreciation to longtime Stark County State's Attorney James D. Owens Tuesday evening at their monthly meeting. Owens served as Stark's State's Attorney from Dec. 1, 1992 to Nov. 30, 2020 for a total of 28 years.

“I've always enjoyed being in the State's Attorney's office. I have a huge debt of gratitude to the citizens of Stark County for electing me and allowing me this

privilege of being in office for as long as I have been,” Owens stated. “There was never a day that I didn't want to come to work.”

Owens went on to praise the county board members saying that it is a thankless task and may not always be appreciated by the public. “The time that I spent in the Stark County State's Attorney's office are some of the best years of my life,” Owens said. He went on to praise Chair Al Curry and former Vice-Chair Melissa Shipp for doing a commendable job “of

righting the ship” after years of turmoil.

Vice-Chair Kari Bush reported that the health department board has provided all sheriff's office employees, first responders and EMS in the county the COVID vaccine. In addition, vaccinated were funeral home staffs and Aunt Martha's providers residing in Stark County. Teachers and staff of Stark County's school districts are scheduled to be vaccinated in the near future.

Supervisor Robin Nowlan pre-


Continued on Page 3



Vice-Chair Kari Bush presents James D. Owens with a plaque of appreciation on Tuesday for his 28 years of service to the county as Stark County State's Attorney. Owens retired Nov. 30. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

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Galva schools switch to remote learning

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Galva Junior-Senior High School went to remote learning this week due to a staff member testing positive for the Covid virus.

Superintendent Doug O’Riley said at Monday’s meeting of the Galva School Board that students are scheduled to return to the classroom on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

O’Riley said that the Henry-Stark County Health Department called the Galva School District and asked how many vaccines are needed to vaccinate all of the employees under the state’s latest Phase 1B protocols for COVID-19 immunizations.

O’Riley said Tuesday afternoon that no date had been given yet for the school district employees to get

their vaccines. He said that 85 percent of the employees are signed up to receive immunizations and he noted that the district is not requiring employees to be vaccinated.

O’Riley said he hopes to have students back in school on more of a full-time basis starting on Tuesday, April 6, which is the first day of the last nine-week period.

Once students return, masks and the 6-foot social distancing rule will still be in effect, since the students have not been vaccinated and there is currently no plan for the immunization of those 16 and under.

In other business, the board learned that bids are being sought for the installation of new windows for Galva Elementary School, according to O’Riley.

Details on school board candi-

dates were discussed Monday. Seeking the two, two-year seats are newcomers Eric Bates and Brittany Boston. Seeking the three, four-year seats are incumbent Andrew Larson and newcomers Kaleena Conrad and Laura Burke.

Superintendent O’Riley and Jerry Becker, who takes over as superintendent as of July 1, will meet with the new candidates and give them the resources and goals for the Galva School Board and make sure they’ll have materials to make the transition smooth.

Candidates will also be invited to the February and March board meeting, whether in person or online.

The board voted to change the May board meeting from Monday, May 3 to Monday, May 17.

OWENS: Frontier charge being disputed

Continued from Page 1

sented the road and bridge report for vacationing County Engineer Judd Giffin. Nowlan said that the highway department has been busy with snow and ice removal for December.

Nowlan suggested that the county highway pickup truck be allowed to leave the county and stay with Giffin, especially on storm days so that Giffin doesn’t have to drive to Toulon and then go out to check highways and roads.

Also, there was talk of adding a salt spreader for the truck so Giffin could treat especially bad intersections cov-

ered with ice and snow as he conducts his inspections.

Stark County Treasurer Paula Leezer said that the cost of transition from Frontier Communications to Mid Century was \$7,385 for the system. Leezer continued saying that Frontier claims the county owes \$3,000 to cancel the contract with them because of a clause that said the phone system would automatically renew each year and the county missed the deadline.

Frontier says that Stark County notified them after the clause’s date. Leezer disputes that claim because

she sent an email to Frontier prior to the renewal date. This matter has been delegated to Stark’s State’s Attorney Caroline Borden-Campion for review.

In other business, the board approved resolutions appointing Dale Jackson and Jim Robison to the Stark County planning commission. Finally, the employee handbook revision was tabled until next month that deals with employee paid time off accrued and vacation days that may be accumulated. Vacation can be one week rolled over to the next year for a five-week maximum cap.

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TOULON: Tree quotes

Continued from Page 1

businesses. In other action, the board learned that the revised code book still requires some work; the lift station project has permits ready to sign to move it forward for installation;

and the Saw n Logs quote to remove two trees at 515 N. Franklin Street and 103 W. Clinton Street will be revised to include another tree on Turner Avenue.

The original quote for two trees was \$1,450.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violations

1-10-21 – David W. Ensley - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
1-5-21 – Dana C. Mannon - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.

Felonies & Misdemeanors

11-26-20 – Felony - Seirra N. DeLasso - Possession of meth and of a controlled substance.
11-25-20 – Criminal Misdemeanor - Joseph Barks - Criminal trespass to land, disorderly conduct and dog running at large.

Incidents & Accidents Stark County

1-6 -21 – A deer-related vehicle accident occurred on Route 93 near the intersection of 950E. The driver involved was Matthew M. Bruecks, 41, Bradford, who was headed east when a deer entered the roadway and struck the vehicle. No injuries were reported but the 2016 Ford pickup truck sustained damages over \$1,500.
1-5 -21 – A rural Bradford couple residing on 1300N reported being victims of an identity theft. The incident remains under investigation.
1-6 -21 – Kylei B. Clausen, 21, rural Wyoming, reported that someone broke into her van. No items were reported missing but the incident remains under investigation through the Stark County Sheriff's Office.

Galva Report Officer dispatched:

1-4-21 – to the 300 block of NE 2nd Street for a disturbance involving an out-of-control juvenile.
1-4 – to the 100 block of SE 3rd Street for a verbal domestic dispute.
1-5 – to the 100 block of SW 4th Street for a parking complaint involving an occupied vehicle. The driver was checked on.
1-5 – to the 700 block of NW 5th Ave. for a loose dog complaint. As the result, Robert Kremer, 60, Galva, was issued an administrative ticket for allowing a dog to run at large.
1-6 – to a residence on NE 4th Ave. to check the welfare of a subject who reportedly stabbed himself. The complaint was unfounded.
1-6 – to check on the welfare of an overdue motorist in the 400 block of West Division Street. Caller was able to make phone contact and the motorist was fine.
1-6 – to the 200 block of NW 1st Street for a two vehicle accident with minimal damage.
1-7 – to assist Henry County with traffic control for a car vs. semi wreck at Germans Corners due to heavy fog.
1-7 – As the result of a traffic stop in the 200 block of South Exchange Street, Kristina McWilliams, 34, Galva, was arrested for driving while license suspended and operating an uninsured vehicle. She was released with a required court date.
1-8 – to assist Knox County with an abandoned vehicle in their county. Galva officer made contact with the vehicle owner in Galva and made ar-

rangements to have the vehicle removed.
1-8 – to assist a motorist in the 300 block of Front Street.
1-9 – to the 100 block of NE 2nd Ave. for a trespassing complaint involving an off-highway vehicle driving through a yard.

Divorces


1-8-21 – Nora Elizabeth Williams, Toulon and Shawn Michael Williams, LaFayette.

Property Transfers

12-1-20 – Beatrice A. Despain to Beatrice A. Despain, Co-trustee and Paulette R. Six, Co-Trustee - Foster's Add'n Pts block E - 218 Second Street, Bradford. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-2-20 – Alexis S. Simpkins to Candice N. Gill - Vg of Bradford Pt lots 36 and 37 N1/2 - 208 S. Peoria Street, Bradford. Consideration = \$37,000.
12-4-20 – Wells Fargo Bank to Andrew Courtney Burress - Foster's Add'n - Block D lot 1 - 327 First Street, Bradford. Consideration = \$33,333.
12-4-20 – Conrad S. Ingels to Elissa R. Ingels - Orig town of Wyoming - Pts block 9 lots 11 & 12 - 208 S. 7th Street, Wyoming. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-4-20 – Elissa Renee Ingels to Sheena N. Shadley - Pts block 9 Lots 11 & 12 - 208 S. 7th Street, Wyoming. Consideration = \$68,000.
12-4-20 – Racheal McRell to Bryan E. Down and Racheal M. McRell - Pt Sect 19-13-5 NW SW - 8484 Cedar Bluff Road, LaFayette. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-14-20 – Iron Horse Acres, LLC to Ronald D. Elliott - Pts 3-14-6 NE NW SW. Consideration = \$989,400.
12-14-20 – Iron Horse Acres, LLC to Benjamin O. and Kathryn E. Endress - Pts 32-14-7 NW NE. Consideration = \$1,407,600.
12-14-20 – Leslea S., Martha A., Willard H. Carroll, Jill C. Stieghorst to Leslea S., Martha A., Willard H. Carroll, Jill C. Stieghorst. Pts 19 -12-5 SE NE and 20-12-5 NW- 1016 W. Jersey Rd., Toulon. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-14-20 – Jason J. Cresto to Daniel E. Jr. and Trisha J. Berchtold - Pts 3-13-7 NW and 4-13-7 NE. Consideration = \$11,760.
12-15-20 – Allison B. and Kal M. Knowles to Gabriel J. Coile - Pt Lots 25,26,27,28,29,30 - 11559 Modena Rd., Wyoming. Consideration = \$100,000.
12-18-20 – Charles T. and Marilyn L. Wilson to Mary G. Stevens and Floyd W. Sturm - Vg of Bradford Pt Lots 3&4 - 300 W. Main St., Bradford. Consideration = \$25,000.
12-18-20 – Christopher G. Herschleb to Paul Kaare - Pt 5-13-5 SE - 1667 Township Rd. 1100N, LaFayette. Consideration = \$105,821.00.
12-21-20 – Mary L. Sigler to EJJNP Properties, LLC. - Pt 32-13-6 NE. Consideration = \$718,022.
12-21-20 – Janet L. and Robert L. Kameroner to Toulon Legion Memorial Building Assoc. - Orig. Town of Toulon - Pt 12-4. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-30-20 – Collins E. Gibler, Sr. and Kathie J. Gibler to Collins Eugene Gibler, Jr. and Cathryn M. Gibler- Turner's Add'n - block 2 lot 7 - 326 S. Franklin, Toulon. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-21-20 – Luke Shafer to Allison B. and Kal. M. Knowles - Pts 9-13-6 SW - 8041 Township Rd., 1000N, Toulon. Consideration = \$240,000.
12-21-20 – Merle E. Walker, by POA to Richard C. Hardy - Pts 36-13-6 SW - 500 N. Madison, Wyoming. Consideration = \$34,000.
12-22-20 – Kevin R. and Sally A. Hoffman to Catherine A. Sullivan - Hnederson & Whittaker's Add'n. - Block 11 lot 1 - 110 E, Greenwood St., Toulon. Consideration = \$8,500.
12-23-20 – Christine A. Desmit, Elaine I., Joseph E., Kevin M., Randall J. Kutchma, Pamela R. Neirynek to Elmer W. and Lois Guthrie - Pts 11-14-6 SW - 10458 W. Osceola Rd., Neponset. Consideration = \$0.00.
12-24-20 – Sharon L. Murray, Linda Mushrush, Melanie Roberts, Cinda Scott to Cinda Scott - Pt 24-14-7 SW - 232 E. Main St., Bradford. Consideration= \$0.00.
12-31-20 – Brian G. and Scott W. Efnor to Justin Gillespie and Janette M. Jackson - Sect 25-14-6 SE E1/2. Consideration = \$536,000.
12-31-20 – Anne Marieand Michael D. Potter to Jaymes E. Warren - Pt 30-12-7 SE - 1007 Township Rd, 1300 E Speer. Consideration = \$82,000.
12-31-20 – Sadler, Priscilla, A Family Liability Limited Ptnshp to Williamson Family Farms, LLC Sect 24-12-5 NW SE and NE. Consideration = \$0.00.
1-4-21 – Leslea S., Martha A. and Willard H. Carroll and Jill C. Stieghorst to Blake E. and Sarah E. Stieghorst - Pt 20-12-5 NW - 1016 W. Jersey Rd., Toulon. consideration = \$55,000.
1-4-21 – Julie Lynn and William James Greene and Haley Ann Ochoa to Albert and Sharon Fuchs - Pt 27-12-7 NE. Consideration = \$95,000.
1-4-21 – Kenneth M. Snyder, Dec'd by Exec. to Melanie A. Block - Und 1/2 Int sect 18-14-6 NE and Pt 6-14-6 NW. Consideration = \$0.00.
1-4-21 – Ardis A. Snyder, Dec'd by Co-Exec. to Melanie A. Block - Und 1/2 Int Sect 18-14-6 NE. Consideration = \$0.00.
1-4-21 – Allison E. and Nicholas Leezer to Teresa A. Dawson and Kenneth G. Lain - Henderson & Whitaker's Add'n. Block 29 lots 12 & 13 - 329 E. Jefferson St., Toulon. Consideration = \$78,000.
1-7-21 – Julie Lynn and William James Greene and Haley Ann Ochoa to Kari L. and Keith R. Bush - N1/2 27-12-7 NW and Pt N1/2 27-12-7 NE. Consideration = \$1,116,475.
1-8-21 – Robert L. Grant, Jr. to Amber Chasteen - Pts 20-14-6 SE - PARSON'S Sub of Clinton Fuller's Block 2 Lot 2 - 14225 Elmira Rd., Toulon. Consideration = \$58,500.
1-8-21 – Roger B. Jr. and Carolyn R. Potter to David M. Harper - Castle's Add'n Block 1 Lots 16 & 17 S1/2 - 603 N. Galena Ave., Wyoming. Consideration = \$2,000.



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Of new looks, new pups & same old pols

Rambling through central Illinois, pondering the many benefits of life with a dog.

You may have noticed that this issue of The Prairie News looks very different. Then again, having lived through far too many newspaper redesigns over my 36 years as an ink-stained wretch, I'm convinced the only people who care about what font you use in a newspaper are graphic artists and page designers. That being said, our latest changes do include larger type, which is a bit selfish since my aging eyes need all the help they can get. The other big change, which I'm hoping happens soon, is to get this paper back to 12 pages, then to 16 pages and someday even to 20 pages. Unfortunately, the fiscal realities of COVID-19 limit what we can do right now. And without sports and many events going on, there's not nearly as much to report locally.



Jeff LAMPE

Once again, we have stumbled across actual proof that kids are worth having (which sometimes seems more difficult than locating Bigfoot prints). And no, this is not because of the stimulus money that arrived last week, which paid for new tires for the wife's car and deer jerky from Elmwood Locker. No, my latest proof came last Friday when we brought home our long-awaited Labrador pup, **Buck**. He looks like a tiny polar bear and is, without a doubt, a canine genius. My wife, who pretended not to want another dog, spoils the pup more than she ever spoiled the kids. But without those kids, Buck would probably have died by now. Wait, wait. Don't call the animal rights folks. I'm joking. But the wife and I are getting old. "Have you heard him whining?" she asked, the other morning. My response of "No" had the kids incredulous. "Dad, he whined all night." Hmm. I guess dealing with whimpers at 2 a.m. is no longer realistic. But for kids it's no big deal, which is why young people have babies, after all.

Accept my apologies. For some reason Monday, I became excited about the Illinois General Assembly actually meeting. After taking most of 2020 off for various weak reasons, I figured it was time they got back to work and hoped they could make **Gov. JB Pritzker** finally be more accountable. Dumb me. While finding a replacement for **Mike Madigan** as House speaker is a step forward, much of the other legislation so far will create new costs and headaches for much of the state. Mandatory body cameras? Who pays for that at a time when municipalities everywhere are running short due to COVID-19? And why did bills have to be jammed into a lame-duck session when discussion was so limited? Sigh. ... Parting shot: Leaving the IHSA and the IESA twisting in the wind regarding what direction to take with sports is a sad sign of how the Pritzker administration operates. Sure, the governor is in a tough spot handling COVID. But to not make basic information available in a timely fashion is a sign of arrogance, incompetence or disinterest.

Contact Jeff Lampe at (309) 231-6040 or jeff@wklypost.com

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NOTICE

The **STARK COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR, INC.** announces that it will be postponing its annual meeting of the members scheduled for January 21, 2021 due to COVID-19 until such time that the meeting can be held safely and in accordance with all local and state guidelines and regulations. At such time that it is deemed safe to hold the annual meeting of the members, we will publish a notice of the meeting with the time, date, and location. Any questions can be directed to Barbie Allen, Board Secretary, 309-361-8024 or starkcountyjrfair@gmail.com.

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BRIEFS

More COVID vaccines in Henry, Stark counties

The Henry and Stark County Health Department and the Henry County Office of Emergency Management are now rolling out COVID-19 vaccines to Phase 1B recipient groups.

Phase 1B recipients include essential workers such as courthouse and highway employees, education sector employees, utilities and transportation professionals and residents over the age of 65.

Bradford JH students make ILMEA festival

BRADFORD – Several Bradford Junior High chorus students were admitted into the Illinois Music Education Association’s District 2 Junior Chorus Festival for 2020.

Those selected from Bradford are Keagan Hamilton, Chelsey Stotler, Abigail Peterson and Rose Krider.

Over 8,500 students submitted auditions in different areas of music education and, of those submissions, over 6,500 students were selected to

participate in the 2020 Virtual District Festival.

Better Banks director Dick Peterson retires

PEORIA – After a long and distinguished career, Dick Peterson has announced his retirement from the board of directors of Better Banks. Peterson began in 1967 as an Assistant Vice President at Dunlap Bank and rose to President in 1972. It was in that position he joined the board.

“Dick’s contributions to Better Banks have been significant and meaningful. His extensive knowledge of banking has helped guide our growing bank and our expanding footprint,” said Mike Stratton, President of Better Banks, which has a branch in Wyoming. “We will miss Dick’s leadership and collaboration on the board, and I am grateful for the contributions he has made.”

College honors

• Lyla Longabaugh of Wyoming was inducted to the Quad-Cities Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society at Black Hawk College. Phi Theta Kappa is recognized

as the official honor society for community colleges by the American Association of Community Colleges.


To be eligible for membership, students must have completed at least 12 credit hours and have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.

• Briana Meinders of Wyoming was named to the President’s List at Culver-Stockton for the fall 2020 semester. Students on the president’s list have earned a 4.0 grade point average.

• High honors winners (gpa 3.75 or better) at Black Hawk College’s Quad Cities Campus include the following local students: Galva - William Comer and Amy Percifield; Wyoming - Gracie Coats and Anthony Rushing.

• Honors winners (gpa 3.5 to 3.75) at Black Hawk College’s Quad Cities Campus include the following local students: Galva - Drayson Owens; Toulon - Tori Lomelino.

• Honors list full-time students (3.0 gpa or better) at Carl Sandburg College for the fall semester include the following local students: Galva - Cameron Guinnee.



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BROKER: John Leezer / Designated Managing broker
 JimMalooF/REALTOR®
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 (309) 286-2221 cell (309) 335-2221
 john@leezeragency.com

ATTORNEY: Mike Massie
 Massie & Quick LLC
 115 NW 3rd Ave., Galva, IL
 (309) 932-2168

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Thank you to all who donated money/time to help with the Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner, Christmas Tree Tags, Christmas Raffle and monetary donations to support our Bradford Community. Everyone’s generosity was and always is very much appreciated.
 ~ Bradford Beta Sigma Phi



Ron’s Cuts
NEW HOURS:
 SUNDAY - CLOSED
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OBITUARIES

Joanne R. Clow

GALVA – Joanne R. Clow, 86, formerly of Galva, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, at Hillcrest Home, rural Geneseo.

There was a private committal service on Friday, Jan. 8, at the Rock Island National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Joanne Clow Memorial Fund.

Stackhouse-Moore Funeral & Cremation Services, Galva, is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Joanne Ruth Taylor was born Dec. 27, 1934, in Keene, N.H., the daughter of Charles W. and Ruth Barrett Taylor. She was educated in New Hampshire schools. Her marriage to Albert F. Clow took place on Sept. 20, 1959, in Keene, N.H. He passed away on March 16, 2014.

In her early years, Joanne worked as a shoe assembler in a shoe factory and later enjoyed being a mother and homemaker. Her hobbies were knitting and patchwork quilts.

Those surviving are three sons, Albert Clow, Jr., Macomb, Wayne (Debby) Clow, Toulon, and Chuck (Pam) Clow, Des Moines, Iowa; and six grandchildren, Duke, Denny, Donald, and Deandra Clow, Madeline Clow, and Zacharia Clow. Other survivors include four sisters, Bessie Hands, Knoxville, Barbara Reich, Blue Island, Ill., Marsha Staley, Galesburg, and Mary McGunnigal, Fla.

Her parents, her husband, a son, Earl, and a daughter, Paula, preceded her in death.

Condolences may be expressed at www.stackhousemoore.com.

Raymond F. Morrissey

WYOMING – Raymond Francis Morrissey, 85, of Wyoming, passed away at 7:54 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at OSF St. Francis Hospital in Peoria.

Ray was born on May 25, 1935, in Kewanee, the son of Raymond J. and Mary R. (Keough) Morrissey. He married Dorothy Ann King on Feb. 27, 1960, in Wyoming; she survives.

Also surviving are three children, Bill (Karen) Morrissey of Wyoming, Debbie (Rob) Miller of Lakewood Ranch, Fla., and Raymond Joseph (Michelle) Morrissey of Wyoming; eight grandchildren, Matt, Lauren

(Logan), Brandon, Logan, Jake, Ryan (Ashley), Emily (Jake), and Tyler; six great-grandchildren, Brigid, Patrick, Colin, Norah, Vera, and Clara; three sisters, Kay Euchaski of Valmeyer, Jayne (Les) Perrigo of Wyoming, and Margaret Morrissey of Moline.

He was preceded in death by one granddaughter, Jennifer Morrissey, and one brother, Michael Morrissey.

Ray was a member of the United States Navy, serving from 1954 to 1958, during the Korean War. While in the Navy, he learned the refrigeration trade, starting his own business in 1959. He started out installing milk coolers at dairy farms in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. He also did household appliance repair and commercial refrigeration for surrounding grocery stores, restaurants and taverns.

Shortly after Ray and Dorothy opened their appliance store in 1977, his two sons joined the family business where they all worked side by side. There were many late nights and early mornings when Ray was called out on calls but never complained. Ray and Dorothy were the Grand Marshalls of the Moonlight Madness Parade and recipients of the 2018 Excellence in Business Member award from the Wyoming Chamber of Commerce. They also received the Wyoming Lions Club Joe Colgan Community Champion Award in 2019.

His family business received the Wyoming Jaycees Distinguished Service Award. Ray was a member of the American Legion Post #91 and attended the Peoria Honor Flight. He also was a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus and a member of St. Dominic Catholic Church in Wyoming.

Ray enjoyed hunting, fishing and

his annual RV trips to Walt Disney World with Dorothy, where he was the Magic Kingdom Honorary Veteran of the day on Jan. 29, 2013, and helped lower the flag.

Ray will always be remembered for his infectious smile, his kindness to all he came in contact with and his unending love and dedication to his family. His funeral mass was on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Wyoming. Fr. John Cyr officiated. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is in charge of arrangements. Burial was to be in St. Dominic Catholic Cemetery in Wyoming.

Memorial contributions may be to Abilities Plus in Kewanee or the Wyoming 4-H Building Fund.

Condolences may be left for Ray's family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Terry A. Welch

NEKOMA – Terry A. Welch, 75, of rural Woodhull, died at 7:20 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021, at the Kewanee Care Home.

Cremation will be accorded and a Celebration of his Life and inurnment at Davenport Memorial Park will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed

to the Galva Assembly of God Church. Rux Funeral Home in Galva is in charge of arrangements.

He was born July 30, 1945, in Davenport, Iowa, the son of Orville and Lillian Welch. Survivors include his close friends, Ron Hepner and Robert Hook and he was preceded in death by his parents.

Terry was a tax accountant and had Welch's Tax Service in Nekoma and then later sold to Compton Accounting. He was a member of the Galva Assembly of God Church where he was an overhead music projectionist and a member of its board. He was a member of the Galva Food Pantry board and was also executive secretary of the Independent Accountants Association of Illinois.

This obituary may be viewed and private condolences left at www.ruxfuneralhome.com.



Clow



Morrissey



Welch

Welch new speaker; policing bills passes

By JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Rep. Emanuel “Chris” Welch, D-Hillside, will be the next speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives after days of closed-door meetings with fellow Democrats.

Michael Madigan, who has been speaker for all but two years since 1983, issued a statement congratulating Welch as “speaker-elect” minutes before lawmakers were set to vote.

Welch will be the state's first black speaker.

• **Criminal justice bill** – The Illinois Senate passed a criminal justice omnibus bill early Wednesday morning after a grueling 20 hours of politick-

ing during Tuesday's lame-duck session. The House followed suit Wednesday, clearing the way for the bill to head to the governor.

The legislation is made up of several provisions that touch all facets of the criminal justice system. The Pre-trial Fairness Act, a longtime passion project to end cash bail in Illinois by Sen. Robert Peters, D-Chicago, and a complete overhaul of police certification crafted by Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul were both absorbed into the omnibus package.

Many debated aspects, such as ending qualified immunity for law enforcement, were reduced or removed from the bill. The scaled down version was attacked by Republican

lawmakers, who said its changes would negatively impact the safety of Illinois communities.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, all bail bonds and conditions of bail will be replaced by a system of pretrial release to be developed by the Illinois courts. The General Assembly also intends to establish statewide use-of-force standards by 2022.

A police certification provision was also added to the bill. It gives the state more power over who can be a member of law enforcement.

Also, the Law Enforcement Officer-Worn Body Camera Act is amended so that all law enforcement agencies must eventually use body cameras.

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The Gathering Church

Location: The Ely Barn
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40°59'24" N 89°56'20"W
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
Mail: PO Box 322
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Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.



by Mike Marland

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

	7			4	9	2		
	8		6			5		
3			1					6
	4	6	9				8	
9				5		4		
	2				6			1
5			8		7	6		
	1			4				3
		4			9			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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TRIVIA TEST By Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Who was the first African American to win the Academy Award for Best Actor?
- ASTRONOMY: How many phases does the Moon go through each month?
- MEDICAL: What are leukocytes?
- TELEVISION: What are the names of the three animated "Powerpuff Girls"?
- INVENTIONS: Who is credited with inventing the first battery?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the largest country in land area?
- MEASUREMENTS: What does a Geiger counter measure?
- LITERATURE: What item did the crocodile swallow in "Peter Pan"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is grenadine made from?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby goat called?

- Answers**
- Sidney Poitier, in 1964
 - Eight
 - White blood cells
 - Blossom, Buttercup and Bubbles
 - Alessandro Volta
 - Algeria
 - Radiation
 - A clock
 - Pomegranates
 - A kid
- (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

For Answers See Pg. 3

CryptoQuote
AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

CPHY HG BCPMD; CPHY HG
XSD GZV MJYIDGMDYIHYB XJ
XSD DPCXS; FHXSJEX CPHY,
XSDCD FJETI ND YJ THOD.
— KJSY EQIHZD

TOP 10 VIDEOS ON DEMAND

- Wonder Woman 1984 (PG-13)
- The Croods: A New Age (PG)
- News of the World (PG-13)
- Monster Hunter (PG-13)
- Fatale (R)
- Promising Young Woman (R)
- Pinocchio (PG-13)
- The War with Grandpa (PG)
- Alien (R)
- Come Play (PG-13)

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LEGAL ADS

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF WILLIAM E. ABRAMS
No. 2020-P-26

Deceased
NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY

Notice is given to creditors of the death of WILLIAM E. ABRAMS on December 14, 2020.

On December 18, 2020, Letters of Administration were issued to Ruth Ann Durbin, 716 E. Prospect Street, Kewanee, IL 61443, whose attorney of record is Anne C. Rennick, P.O. Box 90, Wyoming, IL 61491.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the Representatives, or both, on or before (a) July 2, 2021 or (b) if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Representative is required by the provisions of Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before the aforementioned date(s) is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated: December 28, 2020
/s/Anne C. Rennick

Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of William E. Abrams
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309)-695-4701
Fax: (309)-695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF:
BARBARA J. CARROLL,
No. 2020p25

Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)
Notice is given of the death of Barbara J. Carroll. Letters of Office

were issued on December 18, 2020, to Bridget Rickard as Independent Administrator whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Stark County, Toulon, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before July 1, 2021. Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit efile.illinoiscourts.gov/serviceproviders.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorney for Executor
P.O. Box 165
Galva, IL 61434
(309) 932-2001
everett@barashlaw.com
Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF:
WILLIAM J. SELF, Deceased
No. 2020P24

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of William J. Self. Letters of Office were issued on December 11, 2020, to Jonathan Hallman, as Independent Representative, whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, Illinois, or with the repre-

sentative - or both - on or before June 30, 2021. Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit: <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local Circuit Clerk's office.

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Executor
211 W. 2nd St.
Kewanee, IL 61443
(309) 852-5555
Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Estate of
JASON P. KUBIAK, deceased
No. 2020-P-135

Notice is given of the death of JASON P. KUBIAK. Letters of Independent Administrator were issued on December 28, 2020, to Ashley Jannie, of 5671 Gainesway Drive, Greenwood, IN 46142, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Michael E. Massie, 115 NW 3rd Avenue, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Henry County Circuit Clerk, Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois 61238, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claims 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.

Massie & Quick, LLC
Attorneys for Estate

115 Northwest Third Avenue
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 1/8, 1/15, 1/22/21

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF STARK COUNTY

Renewal forms for the 2021 assessment year are being mailed to all Stark County property owners who had previously signed up for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze, Homestead Exemption, Disabled Persons and the Disabled Veterans. The deadline for their return is July 1, 2021.

The following is a list of all exemptions. If you have any questions concerning any of the homestead exemptions, or to obtain applications, contact the Supervisor of Assessments office at 130 West Main St., Toulon, Illinois, or call 286-7172.

Owner Occupied Exemption reduces the final equalized assessed value by the amount the current equalized assessed value exceeds the 1977 equalized assessed value up to a maximum reduction of \$6,000. To qualify a taxpayer must own and occupy a property as his or her principal dwelling on January 1st of the assessment year.

Homestead Exemption is for taxpayers who will be 65 years of age or older anytime during the assessment year and who own and occupy their property. This exemption reduces the equalized assessed value by \$5,000.

Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Exemption is for taxpayers who will be 65 years of age or older during the assessment year, have a total household income of less than \$65,000 for the prior year, and occupy their dwelling on January 1 of the taxable year, own the property and be liable for payment of property tax for the taxable year. Applications must be submitted annually to the Supervisor of Assessments.

LAFAYETTE PARK DISTRICT ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2020
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year beginning June 1, 2019 and ending May 31, 2020.

Cash on hand all accounts June 1, 2019	\$53,610.93
RECEIPTS:	
Real Estate Taxes:	\$23,009.12
Interest	\$57.35
Building Rentals	\$225.00
Recreation Programs	\$64.00
Donations	\$0
Loans	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$23,355.47
TOTAL CASH AND RECEIPTS	\$76,966.40
DISBURSEMENTS	
Operational Costs	\$603.80
Building Maintenance	\$7,900.19
Supplies	\$0
Insurance	\$0
Asset Maintenance	\$0
Loan Repayment	\$0
Utilities	\$5,507.38
Recreational Programs	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$0
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$14,011.37
CASH on hand all accounts May 31, 2020.	\$62,955.03

Respectfully Submitted
Keith Knowles, Treasurer
LaFayette Park District

crease in assessed value due to improvements being added to an existing residential structure. The exemption is for four years from the date of completion and is for maximum amount of \$75,000 in market value.

Disabled Persons Homestead Exemption provides a \$2,000 reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying property owned by a disabled person. Applications must be submitted annually to the Supervisor of Assessments office.

Returning Veterans Homestead Exemption provides a one-time \$5,000 reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying veterans who return from active duty in an armed conflict involving armed forces of the United States. To receive this exemption, the veteran must file an application with the Supervisor of Assessments office upon their return home.

Disabled Veterans Standard

Homestead Exemption provided a reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying property owner owned by a veteran with a service connected disability certified by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs. A \$2,500 homestead exemption is available with a disability of at least 30% but less than 50% or a \$5,000 homestead exemption with a disability of at least 50% but less than 70%, and a disability of 70% or more, the property is exempt from taxation. The veteran must file an annual application with the Supervisor of Assessments office.

Disabled Veterans Exemption reduces the Board of Review assessed value by up to \$70,000 in assessed value for homes especially built or remodeled to suit a veteran disabled while serving in the Armed Forces. Applications are processed by the Board of Review. Published 1/8, 1/15/21

IHSA and IESA Sports still on hold

By **JEFF LAMPE**
For The Prairie News

The guessing game continues for school sports in Illinois. While a vaccine is being distributed and some parts of the state appear to be headed for less strict COVID-19 mitigations today, there is still much uncertainty about when and if seasons will start.

At present, all IHSA and IESA sports are on a holding pattern. And though both of the sanctioning bodies met with top officials from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Gov. JB Pritzker's staff on Jan. 6, it is uncertain whether sports can resume any time soon.

"We don't necessarily know that all parts of the state can start at the same time and play at the same time, and we don't have clarification of if we can start, what can start," said Matt Troha, an assistant executive director of the IHSA. "It's like with most of this, we don't have any good answers."

The IHSA Board of Directors was to meet Wednesday, Jan. 13, and may have to start ruling out some sports, since time is running short.

"Our Board of Directors is going to have difficult decisions to make regarding the seasons' for medium- and high-risk sports very soon," said Craig Anderson, IHSA Executive Director. "With no specific IDPH timeline or statistical benchmarks established for the return of sports and the calendar shrinking, putting together a puzzle that allows for all sports to be played becomes increasingly improbable."

Last year when sports were first postponed, the IHSA had talked about basketball season running through Feb. 13, football and volleyball happening Feb. 15 to May 1 and spring sports opening May 3 through June 26.

Delays have made those dates look improbable, though several officials say volleyball appears the most

likely to happen.

As IESA Executive Director Steve Endsley said, "The calendar always wins."

While nobody has said it openly, most observers doubt the IHSA can fit boys and girls high school basketball seasons into the current framework. Football and wrestling seasons also look unlikely, given the present restrictions in place for high-risk sports.

Could football be called off to allow for a basketball season? Or vice versa? Could girls basketball be sacrificed to allow for volleyball, a lower-risk sport?

All those are hard decisions the IHSA board has to face.

"I feel like we're going to play the spring sports [baseball, softball and track and field], and maybe in the next week or two start some bowling and swimming and badminton," Troha said. "But I'm starting to worry about if we are allowed to play football in the fall."

Yes, he said next fall, not this spring.

The IESA had planned to start basketball practice on Jan. 4 and volleyball practice on Jan. 11. Endsley said he expects to get "bombarded" with calls if Gov. Pritzker announces a reduction in mitigations.

"But right now I have no answer," he said.

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Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

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Friday 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Saturday 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM

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The Wyoming Lions Club
HAS REGRETTABLY DECIDED TO CANCEL THIS YEAR'S PANCAKE BRUNCH. THIS EVENT IS WITHOUT A DOUBT OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR, WITH OVER 500 PEOPLE REGULARLY ATTENDING.


The same success that makes this a great event would also make it nearly impossible to hold the brunch safely within COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and public health guidelines. While alternative options were discussed, we didn't feel that any of them would be as successful or enjoyable and still sufficiently keep our community safe.

So, on Sunday, February 7th, rather than gathering for pancakes, we encourage you to support local restaurants by ordering some carry-out. They and all businesses in Stark County have always been very supportive of the Lions Club mission. We hope that you will support these businesses and help to keep them going during this unprecedented time.

While the funds raised during the brunch help fund many of the projects we undertake and support each year, we hope to come up with some smaller alternative fundraisers soon so that we can continue serving our community as we have since 1948.

We know that things are tight for many now, but if you have been fortunate and would like, donations are always welcome to help us continue our community projects.

Any donation may be sent to:
Wyoming Lions Club - 7512 S Castleton Rd. - Wyoming IL 61491



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PUBLIC NOTICE

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Service	Monthly Service Charge
Single Party Residence Service	\$ 22.56
Single Party Business Service	\$ 20.39
Federal Subscriber Line Charge-Single Line	\$ 6.50
Directory Assistance-Local	\$.75

Touch Tone Service – Provided as part of local service rate.
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Emergency 911 Service – Charged according to government assessments.
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Basic services are offered to all consumers in the Mid Century Telephone Cooperative service territories at the rates, terms and conditions specified in the Cooperative's assessments. If you have any questions regarding Mid Century Telephone Cooperative services, please call Mid Century at 309-778-8611 or visit the business office at 285 Mid Century Lane, Fairview, Illinois or our website at www.midcentury.com.

Mid Century Telephone Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

01/2021