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Vol. 19, No. 6

# The Prairie News

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## Bradford renovation near completion

By **ANGIE STANGE**

For The Prairie News-

**BRADFORD** – There's a shiny new storefront ready for a business thanks to a renovation project initiated by the Village of Bradford.

Last year, the village purchased 164 W. Main Street, located between the Highlands Restaurant and the Village Hall, with the intent to either demolish or renovate the structure. After a vote to renovate, the plan was to bring the building up to standards so that the

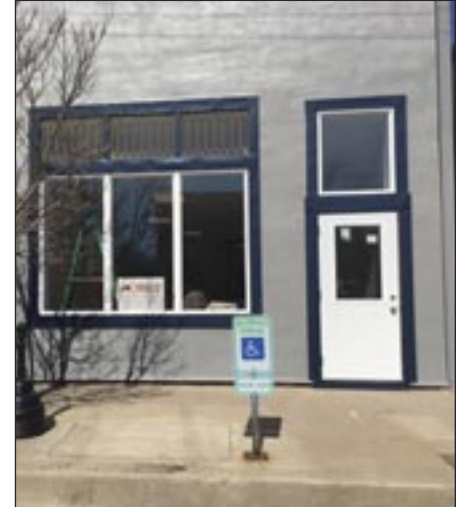
village could either rent or sell the property creating the possibility of another business in Bradford. The Kewanee Company of Hubert Hughes which is called ALLSIDZ has been in charge of the renovation.

Work is very near completion and the building is ready to be purchased or rented, according to Bradford village officials. Anyone interested in renting or purchasing this property should contact the Village Hall at (309) 897-2071 or stop by dur-

ing business hours for further information. Applications to rent are now available upon request.

The building was most recently used as a place of business for Green Gables, but it has a long history.

According to information from the "Bradford History Book" by Brydena Schuneman, the building was built in 1914 and has held a variety of businesses. At one time it was  
*Continued on Page 2*



Before (left) and after pictures show the results of a renovation at 164 W. Main St. in Bradford that the village is close to completing. The village plans to rent or sell the property to help bring another business into town. Photos by Angie Stange.

## SONG DOGS SINGING

### Coyotes searching for mates

By **GRETCHEN STEELE**

For The Prairie News

Song Dogs – or as you may know them better, coyotes – are singing right now, and it's a song of romance. Late February and early March are considered peak breeding season in Illinois for coyotes.

A little like the deer we are so familiar with during rut, the minds of coyotes are occupied by the primal drive to find a mate and their behaviors may be different than their usual stealthy and sneaky selves.

Coyotes can be found nearly everywhere in Illinois, in virtually all types of habitat, including urban and suburban areas. They are most abundant in areas that provide a mix of woodlands,



Coyotes are on the move looking for love in early March, as their breeding season peaks in Illinois. Photo by Gretchen Steele.

grasslands, and farmlands, but often will prefer a mixture of farmland, woodland and grassland. It is not at all unusual for coyotes from

"rural areas" to travel into towns at night in search of easy pickings for food.

An average home range for  
*Continued on Page 2*

## County Board rezoning former Bantz property

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

**TOULON** – The Stark County board of supervisors at its Tuesday meeting approved a request by West Jersey Township to rezone the former Larry Bantz property from commercial to residential. It is located adjacent to Illinois Route 78, in West Jersey.

The property had been foreclosed on and there was a Sheriff's sale where West Jersey Township took possession of that property, according to Stark County Zoning Officer Renee L. Johnson.

"It has always been zoned as C-2 [commercial property] and he [Bantz] brought all the junk and everything in. West Jersey Township took it to court – I think they paid \$18,000 for cleanup of the property – had liens on the property, and so once they [Bantz] got

foreclosed on, West Jersey Township took possession," Johnson said.

"Now it's, 'Try to get him out of there.' He's still living there, still gathering junk – but their [West Jersey Township] intention is to have the property rezoned to R-1 [residential] because I think they are just going to demolish the old garage and the house, once he is removed from the property and it's going to just be a grass lot to where someone in the future could build a home," Johnson concluded.

Also approved was the rezoning of 610 S. Seventh Street, in Wyoming – The former Wyoming Motors property. It is rezoned from commercial to light industrial for BOGAR Enterprises, which will manufacture steel goods at that location.

The board approved the pur-  
*Continued on Page 2*

**Inside**

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# COYOTES: Simple steps to keep coyotes at bay

*Continued from Page 1*  
 a coyote can be 2-10 square miles. Some coyotes that are considered “loners” may have a larger range than a pack group or family. Sizes of home ranges are also influenced by habitat quality, presence of nearby packs and seasons of the year – especially when coyotes are breeding or rearing pups. A “city” coyote often has a smaller range than rural counterparts.

Are coyotes a bit more aggressive during breeding season? Absolutely. Will they attack you or your child? The odds are slim to none that any human is going to be attacked. But it pays to be “coyote aware” and to avoid behaviors that encourage them to visit our homes and areas where we recreate. Coyotes that become acclimated to humans and to a more populated environment tend to be bolder and less fearful. That is where problem encounters occur. With a few commonsense precautions, negative coyote/human en-

counters can be greatly reduced. First, do not feed coyotes, or any other wildlife. Don't leave food outside handy and available – this includes things like pet foods, garbage cans, etc. Providing food, especially as a way to get a coyote closer for photos or in a misguided attempt to pet or tame the animal, increases the risk of being bitten and the odds of neighbors having a coyote issue. When taking smaller indoor pets out for potty breaks or a walk, vary the schedule. Coyotes can notice a distinct pattern. Be aware that if you have an intact female dog, if she is in heat, she will be attractive to a coyote looking for love. Male dogs are not exempt from aggression, either. They may be perceived as a threat with whom a coyote does not want to share his territory, or girlfriend. Many negative encounters between coyotes and pets occur because pets were not adequately supervised or were allowed to roam freely.

If your pet gets in a fight with a coyote, do not use your own hands or feet to separate them. Try to break up the fight with a weapon, such as a walking stick.

Don't corner a coyote, if you encounter one. Make noise, wave your arms, blow a whistle and send it packing.

Keep small livestock secure in houses, coops and shelters that have been predator proofed.

If, despite your best efforts, you find yourself a little too close for comfort with a coyote, make noise, wave your arms, stomp, shout and generally present a threatening stance. Most often, this is enough to send them on their merry way.

If you have a coyote who remains aggressive, contact your local Department of Natural Resources Conservation Police Officer, biologist, or a nuisance wildlife removal service.

In the meantime, enjoy listening to the song dogs sing!

# BRADFORD: Building once an office for doctors

*Continued from Page 1*  
 called the Bradford Exchange Bank and run by Robert and Rosa Thompson until the Bank Moratorium of the early 1930s.

The building later was used as an office for Doctors Ross Hermann and Ed Scholes at separate times. The space was also shared by Greg Owens, Dr. Hermann and beautician Anita Hennessey.

During the 1950s and early 1960s, the building

was a women's and children's clothing store called the Little Shop and was operated by Fern Williams and Helen Hotchkiss.

Bill and Marti Rouse purchased the building in 1972 or 73 and transformed it into a candle and antique shop, the beginnings of Green Gables. After that it was used as a Head Start location and then a video store. It was later used as an office for Green Gables until the



An interior picture of renovations at 164 W. Main St. in Bradford. Photo by Angie Stange.

business moved to a different facility. The building had been vacant since then.

# BOARD: County employees to get panic buttons

*Continued from Page 1*  
 chase from TeamAlert of “panic buttons” for the county employees to utilize in case of an emergency or dangerous situation. The buttons, once pressed, would send an alert to the Stark County Sheriff's Office, who could then respond to the situation. The buttons

would presumably be desk-mounted hardware. A one-time setup fee is \$75 and 10 buttons will cost \$1,390 with a monthly maintenance fee of \$50 for a total of \$1,465 initially.

Four resolutions were passed, first of which was the Peoria Convention & Visitors Bureau to continue being the sole representative for Stark County to promote conventions and

tourism in the county. Second, a resolution passed for the Marshall-Stark [Counties] Downstate Operating Assistance Program (DOAP) to provide public transportation between the two counties. In conjunction with that resolution, another resolution that permits public funds to be expended for said transportation was approved.

Supervisor Robin Nowlan reported that County Engineer Judd Giffin has been working on obtaining funding for the new county highway building. Also, Giffin plans to order and install signs and flashing lights for three dangerous areas of the county's roads. One such area for example, is the West Jersey blacktop west of West Jersey and just west of Walnut Creek.

Vice-chair Kari Bush said during the health board committee report that a huge thank you is owed to Black Hawk East College for allowing the COVID vaccination clinic to be administered there.

# PUBLIC RECORD

## Incidents & Accidents Stark County

**2-22-21** – A two-vehicle accident occurred near the intersection at Main and Peoria Streets, in Bradford. Drivers involved were Clark M. Anderson, 68, of Plattsville, Wis., and Tori A. Lomelino, 20, of Toulon. Anderson was attempting to make a right turn from a stop sign when the rear dual tires of his semi-truck struck Lomelino's parked vehicle. No tickets were issued.

**3-5-21** – Derek E. Joos, 32, of Peoria, was ticketed for speeding 72 mph in a 55 zone.

## Galva Report

Officer dispatched:  
**3-1-21** – to the intersection of James B. Young Road and North Center Ave. for a two-vehicle accident with damage only. A crash report was completed and no citations were issued.

**3-2** – to the west end of town for a reckless driving complaint. As the result, officer conducted a traffic stop. The driver, Joshua Field, 26, Kansas City, Mo., was issued a citation for using a non-hands-free electronic communications device (a cell phone).

**3-2** – to a possible violation of an order of protection violation in the 1000 block of North Center Ave. There was not a protective order in effect.

**3-3** – Officer was notified about a money order scam that was occur-

ring in and around Henry and Stark Counties. Officer contacted convenience stores and banks and warned them. Nobody attempted any transactions in Galva.

**3-3** – to the 500 block of NW 11th Street for a report of unattended children playing in and around the roadway. A parent was notified about the complaint.

**3-4** – Officer spoke to a subject in the 500 block of South Center Ave. about a city ordinance violation involving unlicensed vehicles in a residential area.

**3-4** – to the 100 block of NW 2nd Street for a dog bite complaint. A small child was bitten by a neighborhood dog.

**3-4** – to a residence on SW 5th Street for a complaint involving young children left at home alone. An adult was present at the house. Complaint unfounded.

**3-5** – to the 1000 block of NW 5th Ave. for a loose dog complaint. The dog lived nearby and returned home before the officer could capture him.

**3-5** – to the 00 block of SW 2nd Street for a gas drive-off complaint. Vehicle was not located.

**3-5** – to a fire call involving a possible gas leak just north of town. Ameren arrived and took over.

**3-5** – to the 800 block of NW 3rd Ave. for a suspicious person complaint. Officer located subject and

checked on him.

**3-5** – to the 00 block of SW 4th Street for a loud noise complaint.

**3-6** – to the 100 block of SE 3rd Ave. for a suspicious person complaint. The subject was given a ride to a relative's house.

**3-6** – to a residence on NW 6th Ave. for a welfare check. The resident was fine.

**3-6** – to the 900 block of SE 2nd Street for a 911 call. Officer could not find anyone needing assistance.

**3-6** – Officer notified about a controlled burn in the 200 block of SE 8th Ave.

**3-6** – to the 300 block of Commercial Street for a disturbance complaint.

**3-7** – to a residence on NE 4th Ave. to remove an unwanted subject.

**3-7** – to a residence on NE 5th Street for a welfare check.

## Property Transfers

**3-1-21** – Catherine A. Sullivan to Brynn Mckenzie Meszar - Henderson & Whitaker's Add'n - 110 Greenwood, Toulon - Consideration = \$0.00.

**3-3-21** – Tanya H. Rapone to Carl P. and Jeanne C. Ryan, Co-Trustees. Pt 17-12-6 SW - Consideration = \$723,723.00.

**3-3-21** – Jennee McClard to Jason D. Dykeman - VG of LaFayette, Block 11 Lots 1 - 8. Consideration = \$7,500.00.



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**Notice to Stark County Voters**  
Early voting for the 2021 Consolidated Election begins February 25th and ends April 5th at the office of the Stark County Clerk 130 W. Main, Toulon. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. In addition, the office will be open Saturday, April 3rd from 9-12 p.m. for early voting.  
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— Hosea Ballou

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## GUEST VOICES



## Local growers, grocers should be allies

If you think growing food in rural America is a tough business, you should try selling food – groceries – in rural America.

Just how tough is it? The 2019-20 Minnesota Rural Grocery Survey Report that found 77 percent of the state's rural grocery stores make "an average or lower than average net profit of 1.1 percent after taxes."

As thin as that ice might be, the Minnesota report, conducted by Regional Sustainable Development Partnership of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service, still found many rural storeowners are committed to serving their communities and customers.



Alan GUEBERT

In fact, it identified 250 grocery stores in communities of 2,500 people or less scattered throughout Minnesota. Fifty-five percent of them, or 129 stores, completed and returned the detailed, 2019-20 survey. Some information they supplied was routine, like profit margin.

Other data, however, was both surprising and informative. For example, the 20-page report noted that:

- 85 percent of owners owned or managed a single store and 79 percent lived in the same community as their store.
- 33 percent of today's owners are women and, for owners under age 50, that level increases to 45 percent.
- 96 percent of local storeowners

say they have a personal "responsibility" to their communities and, on average, each store employs two high-school students, three full-time adults, and five part-time adults.

• Surprisingly, 49 percent of the surveyed Minnesota stores say they already buy locally grown food either from farmers directly or through wholesalers, and 41 percent want "increased access to local foods."

• And, equally surprising, "85 percent of rural grocers said that they would potentially (44 percent) or certainly (41 percent) order locally produced foods if their grocery wholesaler highlighted those items as local in their catalogs."

In a mid-February presentation to the Sustainable Farming Association (SFA), a Minneapolis-based group that supports local food growers, Kathryn Draeger, one of the co-authors of the 2020 grocery study, explained that all those numbers add up to solid opportunities for store owners and local farmers to work together.

The fast-growing COVID-19 pandemic last spring, noted Draeger, hammered home that need as national or regional meatpackers, milk processors, and food manufacturers couldn't pivot from suddenly closed institutional customers to thousands more at-home individual customers.

Into the breach, she said, stepped local grocers who saw sales soar 50 percent last spring and still see pandemic-powered sales about 10 percent greater than year-earlier levels.

It suggests, Draeger noted in her SFA address, that government – such "as the Department of Defense or Homeland Security" – could better

promote community "resilience" by underwriting more efforts to boost local food production and sales.

Indeed, there are crucial elements to this local loop that all but require more federal and state involvement, Draeger noted. For example, rural grocers told researchers that one key "barrier" to their buying local was "understanding the rules and regulations for selling local produce."

Government action needs to make plain, and perhaps reform, the tangle of local, state, and federal food inspection and packaging rules that often slow or halt local food efforts – especially meat – by local sellers.

And it needs to hurry. More and more, local grocery owners are under threat from "national dollar store chains" that, the Minnesota survey confirmed, are quickly moving in. Since 2015, in fact, "More than half of grocers (54 percent) had a dollar store move into their community," and "11 percent report... a dollar store is actively being planned to move in..."

Rural America doesn't need more national, mini-everything stores that haul out a fresh batch of greenbacks every day without hauling in green vegetables or fresh meat. It needs more locally owned grocery stores selling more locally grown food to more local friends and neighbors.

That's real food security and that should be a key element in any real Farm Bill in the future.

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The Farm and Food File is published weekly throughout the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, events and contact information are posted at [www.farmandfoodfile.com](http://www.farmandfoodfile.com).

## With Trump, the Grand Old Party may be over

The coffee klatch at Julie's Café Market asks: What's going to happen in American politics over the next few years, now that Trump has declared he plans to be the leader of the Republican Party? Here is my take.

In sum, the Republican Party will survive, if at all, as a distinct minority party, so long as Trump continues being Trump. That is, Trump refracts every action, absolutely every one, through the prism of how it affects the world's view of him, not of how actions affect a political party's fortunes. Not a way to run a party.

Trump has a base of about 30-35 percent of the electorate, largely outside urban areas. His backers are passionately committed to him as

an individual, not to him as a party leader. Unfortunately for him, a similar slice of the electorate, or maybe a bit larger, is opposed to him with comparable intensity. And many of the rest, who are neither for or against Trump, find him and his actions distasteful.

For the coming election cycle, I expect Trumpers to win both primaries and general election races in rural and small-town America. In the vote-rich suburbs, however, Trumpers and anti-Trump candidates will square off in many GOP primaries.

Should a Trumper win a suburban primary, he or she will often lose the general election, as many women there find The Donald objectionable. Should the anti-Trumper win the primary, the Trumpers will often not vote for him or her in the general, ceding the election to the Dem.

This will thus result in a reduction

in legislative seats for the GOP at both the state and national levels. Looking ahead to 2024, Trump will likely win the GOP nod for the presidency, yet once again his base will be insufficient to win the Oval Office.

On the Democrat side, Joe Biden will be 82 in November of 2024. I think he will step aside for Vice President Kamela Harris, who votes liberal yet comes across as a suburban professional.

All the above assumes for my analysis that the Democrats will not shoot themselves in their collective Big Toe along the way. Take inflation, for example.

An enduring weakness of democracies has always been the tendency of politicians to promise to do for voters (spend money) and not do to them (tax voters to pay for the spending). This results in budget deficits.

Continued on Page 5



Jim NOWLAN

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Stark County is seeking bids for groundskeeper for the 2021 season for the courtyard and county cemetery on Wallace Highway.

Anyone interested may pick up job descriptions at the Stark County Sheriff's Office, 130 W. Jefferson St., Toulon, Illinois. Bids must be returned to Stark County Sheriff's Office marked "Attn: Sheriff Sloan" prior to April 12, 2021.

The position will be on contract for services, and applicants will be interviewed.

We reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

We strongly suggest that you read the job description prior to bidding as some specifications for the job description have changed, which are available at the Sheriff's Office.

The Groundskeeper is classified as an independent contractor and will be required to carry, and provide to the Sheriff, adequate liability insurance & workman's comp. insurance copies.

# NOWLAN: GOP could shatter after 2024

*Continued from Page 4*

To wit: The present spending riot by Dems in D.C. comes on top of the GOP's \$2 trillion tax cut in 2017, which itself was painted over wholly with red ink. I was taught in college that if the money supply goes up sharply without a comparable increase in the supply of goods, there will be inflation, possibly of the runaway sort. Think Argentina, the Weimar Republic in post-WWI Germany, and in undisciplined democracies around the world.

Many economists here say, tsk-tsk, not to worry in the U.S.; some others say: worry.

After a Trump loss in 2024, the GOP would be shattered. Without Trump and his base, the Grand Old Party would represent 20-25 percent of the electorate.

In the interim between now and

post-election 2024, anti-Trump Republicans will be rallied by the likes of U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-Illinois) and his Country First political committee. Adam has a positive, uplifting, but unspecific message. Can the likes of the 42-year-old Kinzinger arouse passion? I am hopeful.

Kinzinger appears to have burned his bridges with the GOP in Illinois, with some dismissive remarks he made about local GOP leaders. So, will he transform fledgling Country First into a new party? I have written elsewhere that there is space for a new party, but the challenge of getting one up and running is daunting, and would take two or more election cycles.

The nation may be in for a decade or more of one-party Democratic Party rule, much like the Democratic-Republicans' lopsided major-

ities in Congress from 1800 to 1824.

What our nation needs, in my humble opinion, is a secular Great Awakening. In the 18th Century, emotional preachers brought people to their feet and onto their knees across our new nation.

The disconnect is that the 18th Century phenomenon didn't require pain and sacrifice, indeed revivalists offered a pathway to salvation through faith alone. In contrast, a 21st Century "Awakening" will require broad pain and sacrifice to straighten out our country, its finances and competitiveness. A tall order for Americans, used to the good life, where political parties find spending more successful than challenging us.

*For many years, Jim Nowlan was a senior fellow and political science professor at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.*

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 A live and online auction will be held at 7642 Grain Bin Road Toulon, IL **Saturday, March 20 @ 10 CST**  
 This auction will feature an online only auction for tools and smalls. These items will start closing at 11 a.m. Saturday March 20th  
 Equipment, vehicles, and guns will be live and online at [orwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com](http://orwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com).

Please go to [orwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com](http://orwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com) to see terms and conditions and the complete list of what is being offered. **All gun laws will be strictly enforced.**

**Equipment:** 16' bumper hitch livestock trailer (good floor, light and good rubber), 20' hayrack on heavy duty gear (60mph gear and removable back), 12" cattle gate, 10' bog gate, weed mower, Peck 8"x66" swing away auger, 6"x40" auger, Mayrath 8"x42" w/7.5 hp electric motor, Feterl 10"x60" swing away auger, John Deere 567 6 wheel hay rake, John Deere 230 disc, John Deere 1710A chisel plow, John Deere 400 30" rotary hoe, Yetter sub soiler, John Deere 4650 MFWD duals, front weights, 3 remotes, quick hitch, 8450 hours, 18.4-42 rears and 420 85R28 fronts, 1982 transcraft flatbed trailer, 180 bushel gravity wagon box only, 200 bushel gravity wagon (good gear), Woods 3 point 660RM finish mower, 6'X12' landscapers trailer (single axle w/15" tires, gorilla lift gate, trimmer rack and upfront storage box, like new trailer).

**Tools and shop items:** oxy acetylene torch w/cart (full bottle of acetylene), Lincoln 225 amp stick welder, metal storage cabinet, engine lift, squirrel cage fan, 2 large animal crates, gas powered air compressor (as-is), 4 Quincy 3 phase horizontal air compressors, 3 point work platform, set of bucket mount pallet forks/bale forks, shop stools, shovels/rakes, garden hose, Utilitech 24" barrel fan, Troy Bilt 25cc edger, Troy Bilt 4 hp edger, Husqvarna 224L straight shaft trimmer, electric hedge trimmers, diamond plate ramps, lawn mower lift, extension cords, battery charger, Craftsman Laser Trac, Craftsman upright cabinet, Gladiator floor cabinet (2 doors and 1 door), Large Craftsman tool chest, Craftsman 2 hp 33 gallon air compressor, wheelbarrow, chain saw, Cosco step stool, Werner 6' fiberglass step ladder, Werner 8' fiberglass step ladder, Louisville 16' aluminum extension ladder, Craftsman miter saw, 3 Gladiator 2 door cabinets, Craftsman 3 ton floor jack, Werner 28' aluminum extension ladder, Gladiator 5 drawer cabinet, Gladiator 8' work bench, Snap On 1650 PSI electric pressure washer, Liberty Fat Boy Jr gun safe (like new), large assortment of Craftsman hand tools, 300 gallon fuel tank w/ pump, 1 hp bin spreader, pair of stalk stompers.

**Vehicles:** 1998 Buick LeSabre 4 door, power locks, windows and mirrors, leather interior and 200,000 miles (good work car), **Mowers:** Master Cut riding lawn mower, bachtold high wheel mower, Rear tine tiller, Craftsman 6.75 high wheel push mower, Gravely Zero Turn w/ 52" deck, ROPS, Kawasaki FX 691 motor and 91.4 hours (nice machine)  
**Guns:** 2 Winchester Model 67 22 cal L-S-LR, Chipmunk 22 Magnum w/ scope Ser# 378565, Glock 19 Austria 9X19 Ser # EYM916US w/ 3 clips, Glock 30S Austria 45 auto Ser# VNU284 w/4 clips, Remington Model 6 22 single shot rifle, Savage .17HMR 93R17 Ser# 1996107 w/ sling, Bushnell scope and bipod, 6 full boxes of .17 Hornady Varmint express, 11 full boxes of 9mm ammo, 4 full boxes of 45 ammo, 16 rounds of personal defense.

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**COINS, JEWELRY AND SMALLS:** 1881,96, 99 and 1921 Morgan dollars—1922, 1924 Peace dollars—silver dollar belt buckle—1835 large cent (worn)—Land of Lincoln plaque w/coins—wheat pennies—1941-71 book pennies—books of Jefferson nickels—1946-64 Roosevelt dimes—1945 Mercury dime—1940 and 41 German coins—1986 unc. Denver mint 1/2 dollars, unc. Quarter set, 1999 unc. Mint half dollar set—2 1969 US mint coins—1959 proof set—1901 v nickel—1943 steel penny—1963 Can. Royal mint set—3 1978 Phil. souv. sets—1920 and 63 Can. dimes—Eis. 1776-1976 in money clip—NY, Am. Transit, Purple fair tokens—1909 lg. British penny—2 \$2 1976 bills—Buffalo nickels—foreign coins—1973 & 4 Can. paper bills—G'burg transit wooden nickel—Kennedy's, Susan B's and other misc.—**JEWELRY:** 10k white/yellow gold men's ring—10k men's black onyx ring—10k men's ring w/red stone—10k men's monogram S ring and gold etched wedding band—men's 10k 1958 GHS class ring—vintage garnet 10k cluster ring—many wrist watches—older pocket watches—cufflinks, tie tacks, ant. fob—10k lindy star ring—10k Jade ring—14k necklaces—turquoise—misc sterling pieces of all types—lg coll. of nice costume jewelry of all types—nice brooches, Mosaic, cameos, old Jade Buddha necklace—coll. of old orig. political buttons (1904 Parker/Davis, Hoover, Taft/Sherman, McKinley/Roosevelt, McKinley/Hobart, Harding, Landon, Roos./Garner, Humphry, Ike, Truman, Dewey/Warren, Nixon, Goldwater, McGovern, Clinton, Jessie Jackson, Obama, Kennedy's, Mondale, others)—Indian artifacts (scrapers, points, unique point w/fossil, sm. grinder w/ball, awls, sm. hatchet head, flats of pieces—coll. of vintage eggs, many types—1936 pocket ledger—2 old Williamsfield and 1 old Dahinda postcards, Wolf Covered Bridge, Eagle Livery Barn, boxer and numerous postcards—Victoria, Il. old ruler—many smalls.

**OLD SPORTS COLLECTIBLES:** Nice bats including Louisville Slugger 125 Tim McCarver, Big Stick Greg Luzinski, Louisville Slugger 125th Johnny bench, Advondak 302 Gary Maddox—old Phillies small jacket and straw hat—2 old Phillies helmet banks—plastic bat bank w/9 adv. old bats—old green Phillies hat 7 1/8, green adj. Phil. Eagles hat—Yale plastic cup, pompoms and hat and more—1983 Phillies, Steve Carlton yearbook, 1980's Phillies Today magazines, mini mug, much old Phillies—76er's and Boston 1982 NBA Championship programs—1983 76er's/Bucks NBA champ. and other sports programs—1991 Sports ILL. Michael Jordan mag.—1983 Moses Malone Sports ILL.—old full size vintage helmet collection (Angels, NY Mets, San Diego, Dodgers, Braves, Phillies, St Louis, Yankees, Boston, and many more)—2 1981 Peoria AA Sect. Program including Galesburg team—signed baseballs (Greg Luzinski, Tim McCarver, Larry Bowa, 1978 World Series ball, 1979 All Star Game, 1997 Bob Boone signed ball, team ball w/Steve Carlton, Greg Luzinski, Bake McBride, Dave Johnson and more)—Cornell Souv. Book, 1961 Cornell stuffed dog and old jacket—Randel Cunningham figurine—1985 Bears yearbook—Bears helmet bank—Jim Sandberg signed ball—Castrol rubber footballs of Phil. Eagles, Chicago Bears—Bears toy helmet car—orig. Spuds Mackenzie poster—much more.

**ANTIQUES:** Coll. of Civil War and history items, literature, posters, papers, books, some orig. and some reprod.—Lincoln, generals, uniforms, and other Civil War era pictures and political items—Queen Victoria 1870 orig. stamped framed letter—old English deed? dated 1600's—Civil War horses and riders statues, figurines—lg. framed Generals picture—Ron Craig 1995 Civil War military picture signed #5—1863 Harper Weekly—Amy Smith #3/5 signed Exercise Past the Whitehouse charcoal drawing—metal old Party 1856-1908 Standard Bearers pol. Plate—many Democrat political items, Beam Bottle, paperwork, pins, much Obama, Clinton, etc.—1917-1919 Knox Co. Honor Roll book—Knox Co. early 1900's platbook—Legend Pharmacy old lighted sign—woven baskets—prim. oak wall telephone—old German 1914-19 Union Book—1953 Pres. Inaug. Program—Apollo 8 booklet—1948 GangPlank paper—Galesburg old glass beverage bottle, dairy bottles, unique old fruit jars—Galesburg very old souv. Picture book—set of pottery gnomes—Schrade NB old folding knife set—orig. Nintendo and games—nice Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey circus poster—primitives including sugar buckets, kitchen primitives and utensils, egg crates, rag winder, metal stool, milk stool, nail keg, red tool tote, prim. ladder, porch posts, barber post, blue trunk, adv. tins, coffee grinder, stereo optic viewer w/cards including old cottonfields and plantation—Redwing base pottery butter churn—3 gallon Pittsburg crock—double globe and other kerosene lamps—old Coke ruler—Macomb pottery old fruit jar—Fenton Carnival and more ant. glass—old s & p's—bronze horse statue—old Ambassador brass sax in case—Scandalli old Accordion in case—Italian Concertina accordion—old Hummel—old Dental tooth display samples in wooden cases (Paris Crowns, many teeth examples and files, unusual, salesman samples)—auth. beaded Child's mocassins—child's spurs—old Hubley toy trailer, Smith Miller old alum. semi truck and trailer, old farm toy pieces, other toys—Emmet Kelly old doll—Plamer Peanut glass jar/lid—Football Strategy, Elect. project kit, SuperStar Baseball games—Tonka, trucks, tractors, dozer, matchbox, some JD, Disney and misc. toys, children's books—Disney snow globes—Pyrex—Stetson 7 1/8 Nolton style hat in box—Lawn Boy cardboard adv. lg sign—nice old quilts, nice old woven rugs, linens—old stuffed bear—so much more.

**FURNITURE, MISC:** Beautiful oak drop front ornate secretary—primitive furniture including a 6 tin pie safe, kitchen cupboard, very nice oak drop front ornate secretary—hanging cubby hole cabinet, meal/dough box, green shelf, mule/blanket chest, painted jelly cupboard, wash stand, plate/saucer shelf, dry sink, unusual ornate chair/table combo, food safe cupboard, jelly type cupboard, sm. bench, sm. cabinet, old sewing machine in cabinet—wooden chairs—iron and wood old folding desk and more—old dresser, chests and tables—corner hutch—couch and recliner—Queen bed and headboard w/good mattress—5 drawer metal file—new life smart heater—Ethan Allen buffet w/folding top—Pfaltzgraff canisters—corner hutch—yard items—basic household, dishes, décor and furniture, material, metal outdoor chairs, snow blower, baby bed, new cushions, sets dishes, large artwork and pictures—many NB items—too much to list all.

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**BRIEFS**

**Education Foundation scholarships available**

In keeping with its primary goal, each year the Stark County Education Foundation provides 12th graders with access to several college/post-secondary scholarships. Applications for these scholarships are now available through a link on the Stark County District website and through this link: [bit.ly/3kKuqp8](http://bit.ly/3kKuqp8).

The deadline for submission is March 26.

The foundation plans to review applications and conduct interviews on April 26 and 27. In May, scholarship winners will be announced at the High School Annual Awards Night – date, time and format to be determined.

Many scholarships will be available for 12th graders this year and the Education Foundation urges all interested seniors to check with the Guidance Office for application packet information.

**Irish dance classes offered in Bishop Hill**

BISHOP HILL – Registration for the next five-week session of beginner Irish dance classes offered by the Champagne Academy of Irish Dance is now open. Classes will be offered both online and in-person at Bishop Hill Creative Commons, located at 309 N. Bishop Hill St, Bishop Hill, Ill., from 4-4:45 p.m. on Monday evenings and are open to ages 5 and up. To register please visit [www.champagneirishdance.com](http://www.champagneirishdance.com).



Bradford CUSD#1 raised \$2,916.38 for the American Heart Association with ta Dance and Jump Rope for Heart, Slime the Teacher, and the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. The Student Council and NJHS is donating \$83.62 to make the total an even \$3,000.

For information contact Tréa Champagne at [iowairishdance@gmail.com](mailto:iowairishdance@gmail.com).

**Heritage Association receives local grants**

BISHOP HILL – This year marks the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony.

To celebrate this anniversary, the Bishop Hill Heritage Association has organized a series of lectures, workshops, concerts and festivals.

Two Henry County foundations have donated funds for these programs. The BHHA is pleased to announce a gift of \$2,000 from the Bill and Susan Sherrard Foundation and a grant of \$1,000 from the Geneseo Foundation.

**College graduate**

Emily Wall of Bradford has graduated from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Physiology from Iowa's College of Liberal Arts and

Sciences.

**College Honors**

Elena Haffner of Wyoming (Augie Ages Undecided) was named to the Dean's List (3.5 gpa or better) at Augustana College in Rock Island for the fall 2020 semester.

**Et cetera**

• Sue Lain hs retired from the Abilities Plus organization after 30 years of service. Sue began as a Respite Worker in 1991, then became a Developmental Training Instructor in 1992, before accepting a position as Dispatcher with Henry County Public Transportation (HCPT) in 2010.

• CAMBRIDGE – Quad City Arts has awarded Cambridge School District #227 a grant of \$5,000 for its "School of Rock" program. With this program, CUSD #227 will be contracting performing artists during the 2021-22 school years to visit Cambridge schools.

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# Toulon council struggles with mowing bids

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

TOULON – It took 26 minutes for the Toulon city council to make a motion concerning three bids that were opened from contractors applying to mow the Toulon Cemetery. This was after Mayor Larry Hollis requested three times for a motion to accept one of the bids.

The three contractors were Bock's Lawn Care with a \$17,900 bid for the mowing season, M & M lawn Service for \$19,600 and 360 Home & Lawn Care for \$19,040. The mowing season is from April through October.

After discussion, the council voted on Councilman Rob Finney's motion to accept Bock's bid from Tyler Bock, who was the only contractor present at the meeting. The vote split 3-3 with Connie Jacobson, Ryan Kelly and Donna Lefler voting no, while Art Nutzhorn, Finney, and Jason Musselman voted yes. This left the decision to Mayor Hollis who

voted yes, as well.

Nicole Mercer from the Stark County elementary Parents' Club was present and requested a donation to the club from the City of Toulon. Mercer explained that this year the club decided not to conduct its annual auction of donated items due to COVID-19 concerns. She said that the club still needs donations to fund projects for the elementary school. For example, last year the club purchased air-conditioning units for the elementary school's classrooms. The council agreed to donate \$1,000.

The council approved a \$1,400 quote from Saw-N-Logs to remove a very large tree on city property located at South Miller Street and East Turner Avenue.

Musselman gave a presentation about Diamond Maps, a system to map the city's water lines and shutoffs, etc. City employees would have to locate water shutoffs to enter into this system, but it would be a permanent record of those locations

for the future. The council approved the Diamond Maps system for a \$324 purchase price.

Approved for purchase were 12 new water meters for installation in to residents' homes to replace older meters. This is a continuation of a project begun last year. Also approved was \$1,271.50 purchase, which is half the cost of a jetter nozzle, which would clear roots and debris from sewer lines. Princeville has agreed to pay the other half of the purchase price, because the two communities entered into a sharing agreement last year.

Finally, Julie's Café Market investor Jim Nowlan requested that the council allow Julie's Café to utilize the alley adjacent to that business on Main Street for a garden café on the empty lot just east of Julie's building. The alley would still be accessible for utility vehicles or equipment used to maintain power poles, and for trash hauling. The council took this item under consideration.

# Time is near to plant cool-season veggies

By University of Illinois Extension

URBANA – Across Illinois, experienced gardeners are blocking dates on their calendars based on expected thaw dates and anticipated harvest times.

Hardy vegetables can be planted as soon as the ground can be worked. That typically occurs between mid-March and early April. The Illinois State Water Survey has local spring and fall frost-free dates online at [bit.ly/3uIBQOe](http://bit.ly/3uIBQOe).

Serious gardeners should take this information to heart, says Nancy Kreith, a horticulture educator at University of Illinois Extension.

"Schedule your planting dates based on crop hardiness and days to maturity," says Kreith, who works in Cook County. "Hardy vegetables can be planted in the spring, four to six weeks before the average frost-free date, which is when it's 32 degrees or above."

Since frost-free dates are averages and actual dates will vary each year, she recommends providing early plantings with some protection. One way is by planting one to two weeks later in the spring to avoid late season frost or, for a late harvest vegetable, plant one to two weeks early for protection against an early frost. Another option is to cover plants to protect against early or late season frosts.



Hardy and half-hardy vegetables can be planted in Illinois in early April. Leafy greens such as kale and spinach can be planted early and again in late August for two harvests. Photo by Nancy Kreith.

A few popular hardy vegetables are Brussel sprouts, onions and peas. Broccoli, cabbage, kale, leek and spinach can be also planted again in late August to early September for a successful fall harvest.

In Illinois, half-hardy vegetables such as carrots, lettuce, beets, and cauliflower can typically be planted from late-March to early May. Most of these crops can be planted again in mid-July to early September. Potato and parsnip are the exception, and best planted in the spring.

"In addition to knowing when to plant these vegetables, it's important

to know how to select, plant and harvest them," says Kreith. "Root crops, the broccoli family and leafy greens each require special consideration."

Root crops require well-drained soil with plenty of organic matter. Directly sow seeds 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep. Prepare a shallow trench and spread a pinch of seed along the row. Once seedlings are 1 to 2 inches tall, thin them to the correct spacing, typically 1 to 4 inches apart, depending on the vegetable.

Crops in the broccoli family should be planted by direct seeding or by using transplants. Transplants are preferred with many brassica crops as they establish faster.

With leafy greens, it is more economical to direct seed. Lettuce and Swiss chard can be transplanted, but spinach, mustard and turnip are best direct seeded. Consider planting in two-to-three-week intervals for a harvest over a longer period.

Going into spring gardening, here are a few good practices.

- Prepare the soil well and fertilize as needed. Incorporate organic matter into the soil annually.
- Provide consistent moisture during germination period.
- Water deeply and less frequently when established, at least 1 inch per week.

Learn more about growing veggies at [extension.illinois.edu/veggies](http://extension.illinois.edu/veggies).

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**NOTICE OF TESTING**

The Henry County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for patrol officer testing and lateral transfer. **Due to the pandemic, those who turned in an application last summer will not need to turn in another.** New applicants will have until April 12, 2021 to get applications in. All testing applicants will be contacted with a date/time and place of physical testing.

Applications may be obtained at the Henry County Sheriff's Office, 311 West Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238 or download an application from [henrycty.com](http://henrycty.com) (Sheriff's Office then to Employment)

**Basic Qualifications:** 21 years of age; US Citizen; High School Graduate or the equivalent; or must have two or more years of college with degree or certification from accredited college and/or Honorable discharge from United States Military (copies of all diplomas/certifications and/or DD-214) required with application if you are under 21 years of age; good physical condition; possess a valid Illinois driver license; **MUST NOT** have a criminal record; must reside in Henry County within 6 months of appointment. Components of the testing process include an extensive back ground investigation, power test, written examination, oral examination, psychological examination, and a pre-employment physical. Those candidates whose applications are accepted will receive notification of the testing dates and times. Attendance and a passing score are mandatory for all phases of the testing in order to be eligible for subsequent testing. Deadline for applications will be Monday, April 12, 2021 @ 4:00pm. Only fully completed applications will be accepted. Questions can be directed to Captain Kelan Wells @ 309-937-3902.

**Henry County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

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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

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

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

- LITERATURE: Which 19th-century novel begins with the sentence, "There was no possibility of taking a walk that day"?
- CHEMISTRY: Which element's Latin name is hydrargyrum and goes by the symbol Hg?
- HISTORY: Who was the first female detective in the United States, hired by the Pinkerton Detective Agency in 1856?
- ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product's 1970s advertising slogan was, "I can't believe I ate the whole thing"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Only two Catholics have served as president of the United States. Who are they?
- MOVIES: The "Star Wars" movie series was partly filmed in which African country?
- LANGUAGE: What does the name Boca Raton (Florida) mean in Spanish?
- U.S. STATES: The highest and lowest points in the contiguous United States can be found in which state?
- ENTERTAINERS: Which American actor and comedian was born Eric Marlon Bishop?
- TELEVISION: Which 1950s Western series featured the theme song "Happy Trails"?

**Answers**

- "Jane Eyre"
- Mercury
- Kate Warne
- Alka-Seltzer
- John Kennedy and Joe Biden
- Tunisia
- Rat's mouth (named for sharp rocks where ships docked)
- California: Mt. Whitney and Death Valley
- Jarvis Cooch
- "The Roy Rogers Show"

## ANSWERS ON PAGE 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.

QHPG SPCCUBHAA UA ISHPC  
HBVXFS, MHD SVL JHPQGM LH  
CPM NVQ UDA IVXBDHQNHUJ.  
— SVAHP YPGGVX

### TOP 10 VIDEOS ON DEMAND

- Tom & Jerry (PG)
- The Croods: A New Age (PG)
- The Little Things (R)
- Wonder Woman 1984 (PG-13)
- The Marksman (PG-13)
- Nomadland (R)
- Judas and the Black Messiah (R)
- Monster Hunter (PG-13)
- Land (PG-13)
- News of the World (PG-13)

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## LEGAL ADS

\*\*\*  
**ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stark County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Encompassed, located at 2529 Township Road 1600E, Wyoming, Illinois.  
Dated March 1, 2021  
Heather Hollis  
Stark County Clerk  
Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/21  
\*\*\*  
**CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF )**  
**RAYMOND F. MORRISSEY, )**  
**Deceased )**  
**NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY**  
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Raymond F. Morrissey.  
On February 16, 2021, Letters of Office were issued to Dorothy A. Morrissey, 104 W. Elm Street, Wyoming, IL 61491, 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 Representative, or both, on or before (a) August 27, 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: February 22, 2021

s/s Anne C. Rennick  
Anne C. Rennick  
Anne C. Rennick  
Attorney for: Estate of Raymond F. Morrissey  
P.O. Box 90  
Wyoming, IL 61491  
Ph: (309)-695-4701  
Fax: (309)-695-2119  
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com  
Published 2/26, 3/5, 3/12/21  
\*\*\*  
**MILO TOWNSHIP BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of the Town of Milo in the County of Bureau and the State of Illinois, that the Budget Hearing of said Town & Road District will take place on: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 7:00 P.M. Note: Copies of the proposed Budgets are available for viewing prior to the hearing at the home of the Milo Township Clerk Thomas D. Ashby, 15863 245 North Ave., Bradford, IL, call before coming 309-897-8483 or Supervisor Steve Cowser, 2358 1625 East St., Bradford, IL call before coming 309-238-8044.  
Followed by the Annual Town Meeting at the hour of 7:30 P.M. at the Milo Township Hall for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following: The disposition of excess township property.  
Other items as may be brought before the electors.  
Dated 4th day of March 2021,  
Thomas D. (Tom) Ashby, Milo Township Clerk, Bureau County, IL  
Published 3/12/21  
\*\*\*  
**TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES**

**ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT Milo TOWNSHIP & ROAD DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR ENDING March 31, 2020**

**TOWNSHIP -- REVENUE SUMMARY:**  
Property Taxes - 55,326; Replacement Tax - 1,439; Interest - 417; Dividend -- 728;  
**TOTAL REVENUES - \$57,910.**

**TOWNSHIP -- EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:**  
EB Buildings & Lumber. - 5,394; Ag View FS. - 3,180;  
All Other disbursements less than (2,500) - 10,075.  
**TOTAL VENDORS: \$18,649.**

**TOWNSHIP - COMPENSATION SUMMARY:**  
Range: Under \$25,000.00: Thomas Ashby, Cliff Cotton. Steve Cowser. Rod Grunloh. Dennis Holland, Dan Wright, Glen Wright.,  
**TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$21,469.**

**ROAD DISTRICT --REVENUE SUMMARY:**  
Property Taxes - 77,372; MFT Rental - 5,000. Weight Permits - 5,000, Replacement Tax - 2,292;  
**TOTAL REVENUE \$89,664.**

**ROAD DISTRICT --COMPENSATION SUMMARY:**  
Range: Under \$25,000.00. Rod Grunloh, Dan Longman, Dan Wright, Jake Wright, John Wright.

**TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$9,019.**

**ROAD DISTRICT--EXPENDITURE SUMMARY**  
Hartwig Trucking & Excavating - 17,851; Tri-Con Materials - 3,866, Bonnell Industries - 3,265, AgView FS - 3,180, Carley Carriers 2,896; All Other disbursements less than (2,500) - 12,476.  
**TOTAL VENDORS: \$43,534.**

**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION \***

	General	Special Revenue
Revenues	48,518	99,057
Expenditures	35,013	60,163
Transfer between funds		
Excess of revenues over expenses	13,505	38,894
Previous year fund balance	41,821	243,039
Current year ending balance	55,326	278,460

\*Taken from Comptroller Annual Financial Report.  
Subscribed and sworn to this 15th day of April, 2020  
Steve Cowser - Township Supervisor.

I, Thomas Ashby, Clerk of Milo Township, Bureau County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for this year ending March 31, 2020.  
Thomas Ashby.

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, residents of the Township of Milo in the County of Bureau and the State of Illinois that the regular meetings of the Board of Trustees are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the hour of 8:00 P.M. during April, May, June, July, August, September and October and at 7:00 P.M. during November, December, January, February and March at the Town Hall for the transaction of miscellaneous business of the said town.

Dated March 4, 2021  
Thomas D. Ashby,  
Township Clerk  
Published 3/12/21  
\*\*\*  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of Elmira in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 being the second Tuesday of said month.  
The Town meeting for the

transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:00 o'clock P.M. on said day at Elmira Township Road Maintenance Building in Osceola and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting.  
Dated this 11th day of March 2021.  
Larry Perkins,  
Town Clerk

Published 3/12/21  
\*\*\*  
**MEETING NOTICE**  
Elmira Township board meets on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the township road maintenance building located in Osceola, Illinois, to approve payment of township expenses and consider any other township business.  
John Lane,  
Supervisor  
Larry Perkins,  
Town Clerk



# Park in Time

Compiled by John A. Ballentine

## 10 Years Ago (in January)

- The Stark County Lady Rebels basketball teams go on a winning streak in January with the varsity ranked 5th in the state and the JV team undefeated.
- The Wyoming Fire Department's firehouse suffers a major water main break, which flooded the firehouse. Occurring at 4 a.m. fire personnel were present preparing for their scheduled pancake breakfast.
- Bradford's Betty Moodie celebrated her 87th birthday on Jan. 1 and Wyoming's Mary Helen Gray observed her 80th birthday.

Wind towers travelled through Bradford and had to negotiate the turn at Peoria and Main Streets.

## 25 Years Ago

- The Stark County Rebels boys basketball team wins the Princeville Holiday Basketball Tournament by defeating Princeville, 58-50, in the championship game.
- The Ehnle building is razed and a piece of Bradford's history is demolished. It was over 100 years old and the lot was purchased by Casey's General Store for a parking lot.
- The Toulon Public Library goes "online" Jan. 2, 1996.
- Joel and Anna (Price) Wilson, of Toulon, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married Jan. 31, 1931, in Grand Ridge.

Bradford retires Mike Shipley's No. 33 basketball jersey. Shipley scored 1,948 points while at Bradford High School averaging 20 points per game. He graduated in 1995.

- A new city hall building was constructed, in Toulon, on North Franklin Street.
- Harry and Gladys (Merna) Morse, of Wyoming, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Jan. 28. They were married in 1926.

## 40 Years Ago

- Tombstones were vandalized in the LaFayette Cemetery. The cemetery board offered a \$500 reward for

information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties.

Leland Newman, 62, of West Jersey, passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 8. He was born Aug. 24, 1918, in West Jersey Township, the son of Stanley and Blanche (Beamer) Newman. He married Francis Conner, in 1940. He owned and operated the Ghost Town Café, in West Jersey, for 24 years.

Fire completely destroyed the Ted Webster home southwest of West Jersey. Faulty wiring in the attic of the home was blamed for starting the fire.

## 50 Years Ago

Donna Schaad, of Bradford, is hired as music teacher at Toulon-LaFayette Grade School teaching music vocals in grades 1-6. She replaced Joyce Baskovic, who resigned in December.

Notice about Dogs: Dogs must be toed or confined all year around, according to the Toulon City Ordinance. This ad was placed in the paper after numerous complaints were received about dogs running loose in Toulon.

James and Gladys (States) Walker, of rural Toulon, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 17. They were married at the Toulon Methodist parsonage in 1921.

## 60 Years Ago

The Toulon High School Trojans basketball team lost to the Walnut Blue Raiders, 65-52, at Walnut, during the 1960-61 basketball season. It was the Trojans' first conference loss.

The second issue of the year of The Stark County News dated Jan. 11, 1961 marked the 106th year of continuous publication, first begun in 1856.

Two break-ins netted thieves \$250 cash and cartons of cigarettes from Arganbright's Super Market and Rashid's Food Center. Sheriff Jack Benedict investigated the robberies.

Rashid's Food Center advertised ground beef 3 lbs/\$1, while Arganbright's had a one-pound box of Velveeta for 69 cents.

# State Police sued on gun delays

By SARAH MANSUR

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Four Illinois residents who have been waiting for months for their state-issued Concealed Carry Licenses are suing officials with the Illinois State Police for allegedly depriving them of their right to bear arms and right to due process.

The lawsuit, filed Friday by the four individuals as well as the Illinois State Rifle Association and the gun-rights group Second Amendment Foundation, claims the state's concealed carry law is unconstitutional.

Under Illinois law, the Illinois State Police must either approve or deny an application for a CCL card within either 90 days if the application includes fingerprints or within 120 days if the application does not include fingerprints. The law requires that an individual obtain a Concealed Carry License from the state before he or she is able to carry a firearm concealed.

"But despite this statutory command, the ISP commonly does not approve qualified residents' CCL applications within 90 or 120 days," the lawsuit claims. "Instead, the ISP leaves applicants in limbo for months, with residents commonly waiting many additional months to receive a CCL. That has been true for some time, and it

has only become worse as applications for CCLs have surged in the past twelve months."

The lawsuit argues that this delay by ISP in issuing denials or approvals for licenses amounts to an unconstitutional violation of the Second Amendment right to bear arms, as well as the 14th Amendment right to due process.

The lawsuit asks the federal court to find that ISP's failure to issue CCLs to qualified applicants within the required 90 or 120 days violates the Second and 14th Amendments.

It also asks the court to either order the state to immediately issue CCLs or immediately process the CCL applications for the four individuals named in the lawsuit and for members of ISRA and SAF who applied for CCLs more than the required 90 or 120 days ago, who have not had their applications approved or denied.

The lawsuit is against ISP Director Brendan Kelly and ISP Firearms Services Bureau Chief Jarod Ingebrigtsen, in their official capacities.

An ISP spokesperson said the agency does not comment on pending litigation.

In December, Kelly called the delays "unacceptable" in a news release. At that time, ISP estimated the average processing time as 145 days for new CCL applications.

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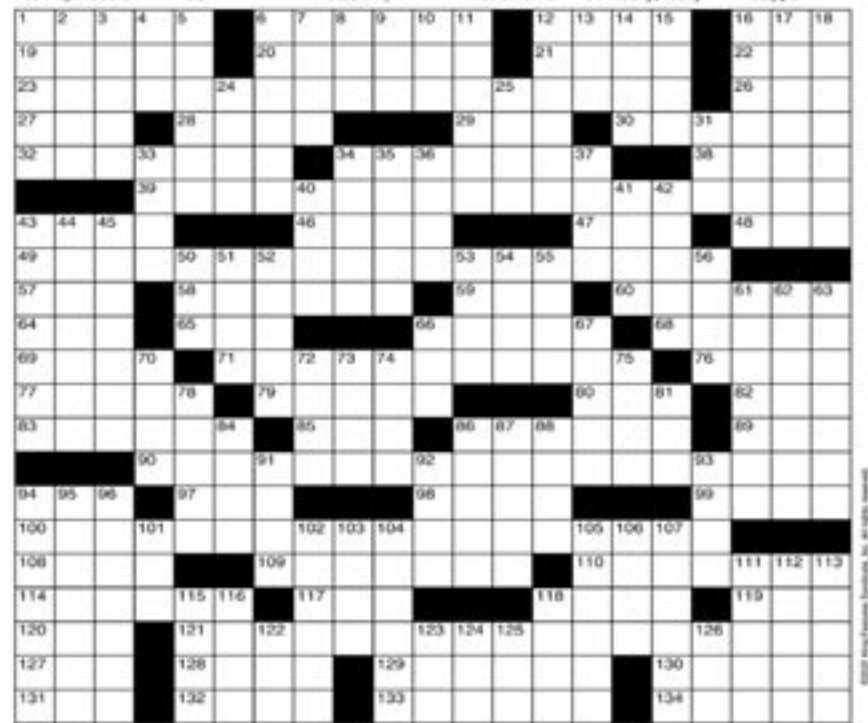
Bert L. Haskell, Jr. - Owner/Funeral Director • Nicole Reed - Funeral Director  
(309) 385-4414 • [haskellfuneral.com](http://haskellfuneral.com)

See answers on pg. 3

## Super Crossword

RIDING ON EMPTY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Veg-o-\_\_\_ (Flonco product)
  - 6 Caesar who played the Joker
  - 12 Stocking material
  - 16 Counterpart of a column
  - 19 Neighbor of Minneapolis
  - 20 Hybrid ride
  - 21 Falco of "Outside In"
  - 22 Dramatist Levin
  - 23 Start of a riddle
  - 26 Engage in, as a trade
  - 27 Chilling Chaney
  - 28 English actress Diana
  - 29 Astronaut Grissom
  - 30 Chariots
  - 32 Like a triangle with three unequal sides
  - 34 Respected
  - 38 Fashion's Wintour
  - 39 Riddle, part 2
  - 43 Emotes, e.g.
  - 46 Pupil locale
  - 47 Young tiger
  - 48 Tijuana "two"
  - 49 Riddle, part 3
  - 57 Earthy hue
  - 58 Chaperones, typically
  - 59 Hot dog roll
  - 60 Part of SWAK
  - 64 Work unit
  - 65 It often follows "Co."
  - 66 Use a kayak
  - 68 Like snakes
  - 69 Untidy type
  - 71 Riddle, part 4
  - 76 Parallel (with)
  - 77 Cake layers
  - 79 "To clarify..."
  - 80 Suffix with Taiwan
  - 82 TV's Longoria
  - 83 Calm
  - 85 Backwoods denial
  - 86 Inventive Edison
  - 89 Male sheep
  - 90 Riddle, part 5
  - 94 Footpaste box org.
  - 97 Memento of Moliere
  - 98 Haughtiness
  - 99 Spots
  - 100 End of the riddle
  - 108 Pot-call call
  - 109 "30 Rock" star
  - 110 Seasons of falling leaves
  - 114 Sneakers brand
  - 117 Hwy. offense
  - 118 Part of SWAK
  - 119 Pot-call call
  - 120 Fellow
  - 121 Riddle's answer
  - 127 LGA info
  - 128 German Mr. Abbr.
  - 130 Rebound on a pool table
  - 131 Comfy room
  - 132 Female sheep
  - 133 Entertainer Charles Nelson
  - 134 Revival shouts
  - 6 Got long again, as a mown lawn
  - 7 Phil of protest songs
  - 8 Bon-\_\_\_ (withiam)
  - 9 Outer: Prefix
  - 10 Match cheer
  - 11 Salem locale
  - 12 Teacher of martial arts
  - 13 Boise locale: Abbr.
  - 14 Peruvian capital
  - 15 Maintain
  - 16 Matured
  - 17 City near Epoot
  - 18 Attacks from ambush
  - 24 Slay of the screen
  - 25 Mongolian lent
  - 31 Shriner of tennis
  - 32 Specially formed, as a committee
  - 33 Final
  - 34 Actor Buchholz
  - 35 Overlooks
  - 36 Humorist Ogden
  - 37 Cato's 750
  - 40 Small brook
  - 41 Actors' aids (Oratorios)
  - 42 Melancholy instruments
  - 43 Certifies (to)
  - 44 Actor (Sheen)
  - 45 Did a slowish ballroom dance
  - 50 \_\_\_ chi chuan
  - 51 Novelist O'Brien
  - 52 Emmy winner Susan
  - 53 Internet auction site
  - 54 StarKot fish
  - 55 In a little bit
  - 56 Confront
  - 61 Shirley's TV roommate
  - 62 Give a lift to
  - 63 Balls of fire
  - 66 Hoodwink
  - 67 Pathological plant swelling
  - 70 Bric-a-\_\_\_
  - 72 Prefix with potent
  - 73 Tie (out)
  - 74 Cry buckets
  - 75 "Phone"
  - 78 Swiped
  - 81 Special ability, for short
  - 84 Fancy pourer
  - 86 Yours, in the King James Bible
  - 87 Equine, in lot-speak
  - 88 Really, really
  - 91 Special ability
  - 92 Street stry
  - 93 Biblical brother of Jacob
  - 94 Humiliated
  - 95 When delivery is expected
  - 96 Nigerian, e.g.
  - 101 Nurtured
  - 102 Bill tack-ons
  - 103 "Movin' \_\_\_" (The Jeffersons' theme song)
  - 104 Shipping container
  - 105 Chieft
  - 106 Cashews and pecans
  - 107 Cornell's city
  - 111 Mother, in Spain
  - 112 Stocking material
  - 113 Appears
  - 115 Tennis star Arthur
  - 116 Whole bunch
  - 118 Actor Ferrell
  - 122 Sooner than, to birds
  - 123 Ending for butyl
  - 124 \_\_\_ Lanka
  - 125 Fa-la linkup
  - 126 Water flow stopper



## CLASSIFIED ADS - Call (309) 286-2185

### FOR RENT

- WYOMING:** Two-bedroom at 102 East Elm, living/kitchen downstairs, bedrooms and bath upstairs. \$450/month includes heat and water. No smoking, no pets. Landlord and employer references required. Call (612) 940-5208.
- RAPATEE:** Two story, 2 BR, large yard, \$450/month plus utilities, deposit and references required. (309) 817-0068.

### SERVICES

- ATV REPAIR:** ATV Repairs, most batteries in stock for all ATVs. Snow plow and winch special! Also tires sold and installed. Free calendars. Charlie's Cycle Supply, 3521 St. Rt. 78, West Jersey. (309) 995-3319.
- MORE HEAT. LESS WOOD:** Central Boiler certified Outdoor Wood Furnace. Prices start as low as \$6,900. Call today (309) 565-4300.
- REMODELING & REPAIR:** All Types of home re-modeling and repair. No job too small! Carpentry, drywall, electrical, ceramic & vinyl, windows & doors, painting. Call Jeff Woith (309) 995-3825.
- TREE SERVICE:** Saw-N-Logs Tree Service. Call (309) 525-0968 or (309) 883-0544.
- REMODELING & REPAIR:** Most types of quality home remodeling and repairs including doors, thermopane vinyl replacement windows, interior painting and electrical, by Denny Miller. Over 25 years of experience. We also do kitchens, baths, decks, steps and

more. Small jobs welcome! Call me at (309) 995-3364, LaFayette.

### FOR SALE

- INCUBATOR:** Incubator - will handle goose and duck eggs, good condition, \$75. Phone (309) 243-5278.
- GRASS HAY:** No rain, on wagons, \$4 bale, (309) 635-4575.
- ANTIQUES:** Baysingar's Used & Antique Furniture: Large selection of Shabby Chic all real wood furniture, cottage white w/ finished top. Always buying older wood furniture. Check out Baysingar's Face-book, 1135 Railroad Ave (Rt. 34, East), Kewanee (309) 883-0164.

### HELP WANTED

- EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** Stahl Lumber/Ready-Mix, 117 S. Galena Ave., Wyoming. Laborers, concrete finishers, truck drivers (CDL Class B), apply in person.
- HELP WANTED:** Nutrien Ag Solutions, Princeville, is seeking a temporary full-time Administrative Assistant for the upcoming Spring 2021 season. This position does have the possibility to become permanent. This person will perform office duties assigned to them including, answering phones, filing, product receivers, etc. Please contact Jeff Gehrig at (309) 385-2178 for more information.
- HELP WANTED:** Spoon River Valley Farms is looking for a full-time farm hand. All duties that apply to a corn and soybean operation will be required. Some of

these duties are planting, harvesting, hauling grain and general maintenance around a shop and grain facility. Experience and a Class A CDL are needed but not required. Spoon River has medical insurance and a retirement plan in place. If you have questions or would like to set up an interview contact Nick at (309) 712-5468.

**HELP WANTED:** Ag-Land FS, Brimfield, seeking part-time/seasonal drivers and plant help for the upcoming Spring 2021 season. Driver position requires a current CDL "B" License. Contact Jason Bird at (309) 446-3318 or (309) 208-2466.

### WANTED

**JUNK CARS:** Highest price paid for junk cars. Call (309) 932-8220. Will pick up.

### NOTICE

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 Mail: PO Box 322  
 Wyoming, IL 61491  
[info@thegathering.life](mailto:info@thegathering.life)  
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

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 The Prairie News; PO Box 240; Toulon, IL 61483-0240.

## OBITUARIES

**Nancy Jane Ingels**  
 GALVA – Nancy Jane Ingels, 81, of Galva, died at 4:29 a.m., Friday, March 5, 2021, at the Kewanee Care Home.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 9, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Fr. Johndamaseni Zilimu officiating. Visitation was held from 9 a.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Burial was in Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to St. John Catholic Church in Galva.



Ingels

She was born May 8, 1939, in Kansas City, Mo., the daughter of Fred and Nancy (Ray) Lord. She married Roger W. Ingels on Aug. 16, 1969, in Galva.

Survivors include her husband of Galva, three children; Kelly Duke of Chicago, Alex (Carol) Ingels of Galva and Brooke (Mike) Fenske of Normal, Ill., her sister, Pat (B.J.) Johnson of Mt. Carmel, Ill. and her grandchildren; Austin, Dexter, John, Ella, Eli, Holden and Harper Ingels and Emma Wallace.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Fred Lord and son, Mark Ingels.

Nancy graduated from Galva High School in 1957, and from the University of Illinois in 1963. She had been a real estate broker owning and operating Nancy Ingels Realty in Galva for many years.

She was a member of St. John Catholic Church and the Chamber of Commerce where she was past president and had been awarded the Citizen of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. She had also been a member and past president of the Galva Rotary Club and the Galva

School Board. She was an avid Fighting Illini fan and enjoyed hosting a yearly holiday open house at her home.

This obituary may be viewed and private condolences left at [www.ruxfuneralhome.com](http://www.ruxfuneralhome.com).

**Teresa 'Gail' Lee**  
 WYOMING – Teresa "Gail" Lee, 63, was born in Kewanee, Ill., on Sept. 4, 1953, to parents Willis D. and Barbara J. Lee. Gail passed to a better place on March 3, 2021, at her home. Gail lived with her cousin and best friend, Crystal McRell, in Toulon, Ill.

Gail is survived by three brothers: Scott (Cindy) Lee of Chillicothe, Ill., Bill (Cindy) Lee of Bloomington, Ill., and John (Pam) Lee of Menominee, Mich. She greatly loved and was loved in return by many nieces and nephews and their children as well.

Gail was a graduate of Wyoming Community High School, Wyoming, Ill. – Class of 1971 – and lived much of her life in Wyoming. After graduation, Gail attended Black Hawk East Junior College and then transferred to Illinois State University. There she was active in her sorority, making lifelong friends.

After college, Gail worked in the restaurant industry managing the Central Station Restaurant, a Denny's location, the Crestwick Country Club Restaurant and later the Elks Club all in Bloomington-Normal area. She also managed the Prime Time Restaurant in Carbondale, Ill.

Eventually tiring of the 7-day work week schedule, she returned to Wyoming to work with her parents who operated the Wyoming Dry Cleaners until their retirement. Gail next worked as a teller at the Wyoming Bank and Trust and then as a Receptionist/Security at multiple Caterpillar facilities in the Peo-

ria area, last working in December of 2020.

Gail was a member of the Wyoming United Methodist Church and a member of the PEO Chapter in Wyoming. She was also a true animal lover and had several dogs over the years which she treated as if they were her kids.

She loved to laugh and loved music and was a member of the Black Knights Drum & Bugle Corps in Kewanee, Ill., for several years.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Gail's interment in a family plot at the Galva Cemetery will be private. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Henry County Humane Society or to the Wyoming United Methodist Church.

Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be left for Gail's family on her tribute wall at [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).

**Robert S. Caldwell**  
 EDELSTEIN – Robert (Bob) S. Caldwell, 84, of Edelstein died March 3, 2021, after a three-year battle with lung cancer.

He was born June 21, 1936, on a farm near Deer Grove, to Gerald and Dorothy (Rasmussen) Caldwell.

Bob is survived by his wife, Carol; two sons, Craig (Jamie) Caldwell of Edelstein and Rodney (Vickie) Caldwell of Clancy, Mont.; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, and 1 on the way; and two sisters Judy Elwell and Helen (Bernie) Rock.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brother-in-law Jerome Elwell; and his beloved son, Doug who passed in 2016.

Cremation rites have been accorded and there will be no public service at this time.

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**NOTICE**  
**GALVA Spring Cemetery Clean up week:**

All grave blankets, artificial flowers, potted flowers, and all other plants are requested to be removed from the Galva Cemetery by Sunday, March 28, 2021 if relatives wish to save them.

No more flowers should be placed on the graves until after Thursday, April 1, 2021.

Galva Cemetery Board

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**NOTICE**

Penn Township is accepting mowing bids for Pleasant Valley & Snareville Cemeteries. Bids should be for the whole mowing season. Bids may be for both cemeteries. Bids should be submitted in writing and returned by March 31, 2021 to:

**Supervisor Mary Groter**  
 9148 Snareville Rd., Wyoming, IL 61491  
*Penn Township board has the right to accept or reject any bid.*

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# History group notes progress on building

By **JIM NOWLAN**

For The Prairie News

TOULON – “The builder is ready to go this spring,” declared Karen Krans at the latest meeting of the Stark County Historical Society (SCHS). Vice president of the SCHS, Krans was referring to the new building for visitor reception and display of the society’s large collection of historical items.

In addition, Krans said the new HVAC system for the society’s century-old Victorian home has been completed, and roof repairs will begin soon. This work is part of a complete restoration of the edifice on the SCHS campus of four buildings, located one block west of the courthouse in Toulon.

“When completed,” Krans said, “these projects will be the foundation for our vision of telling the fascinating story of Stark County and its important roles in American history.”

SCHS president Jeanne Ryan appointed a new fundraising committee to provide residents, as well as those who now live away from Stark County, the opportunity to provide legacy gifts to underwrite specific elements of the two projects. For example, said Ryan, the group will seek a gift for the reconstruction of the porches at the Victorian home. Krans is developing a list of elements that can be under-



Recent Stark County Historical Society president Carol Rice, left, Vice President Karen Krans and current President Jeanne Ryan go over plans for the construction and renovation projects underway at the Society’s campus just west of the courthouse in Toulon.

written, which will be part of the fundraising drive.

Members of this new committee include Meg Webster Cline, Fred Sams, Chris McMillen, Denise Turnbull, Diane Daum Cinnamon, Tom Talbert and Michael Baumann.

Ryan also announced that former SCHS president Carol Lehman Rice will work with members of the publicity committee to further the SCHS theme of “History Comes Alive.” Rice and others will interview a number of older farmers in the county about farming practices in the days of their fathers and grandfathers.

The project will draw for illus-

trative purposes upon the rich array of antique farming equipment in the SCHS collection.

Rice will reach out to the agriculture and history programs at Stark County High School, as well as to students interested in making videos, for collaboration with the SCHS on this project.

The board also elected Don Schmidt and Michael Baumann to the board of the Society, which is now at its maximum of 15 members.

The next board meeting of the SCHS will be March 22 at 6 p.m. at the Toulon Public Library. The public is welcome.

# GIRLS: Hopp hot from free throw line for SC

Continued from Page 12

matchup with Stark County.

Most recently, Stark County traveled to Orion for a 46-40 victory on March 6.

Hopp had 16 points to lead Stark County and was 6-for-6 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter to help the Lady Rebels hold a lead. Berchtold added 14 points, including 8 in the final quarter, while Kylee Frisby tallied 8 and Davis added 6.

“We didn’t shoot well, but defense got it done for us,” Paxson said. “We’ve struggled shooting the ball in this short season, especially since the injury bug bit us. Teams are doing a good job of defending us with the lineup we’re putting out there. When you lose two of your speedsters, it’s tough.”

Out with injuries for the past few weeks have been top scorer Lindley Johnston and Paige Rewerts.

Prior to the Orion game, Stark County had topped Mercer County in a home game on March 5, 46-38. After starting slowly and trailing 13-7 following the first quarter, Stark County rallied in the second half to take control behind 23 points from Hopp, who was 7-for-10 from the line in the final quarter.

Stark County also got 13 points from Berchtold and 6 from Frisby.

### Elsewhere

Princeville (9-2) defeated ROWVA-Williamsfield on March 5, 45-35, to go to 8-1 in the LTC and claim its third straight crown.

# BOYS: JV had 7-game win streak

Continued from Page 12

LTC. After learning some lessons en route to a tough start, the JV went on an exciting seven-game winning streak to finish the season.

This streak was broken against Midland on March 8 in a back-and-

forth game. Even so, varsity coach Dustin Browning notes, “The future is bright for Stark County basketball.”

The Galva boys team was to finish its season with a home game today (March 12) vs. Midland.

“We knew we had to win it for the conference title,” Coach John Gross said.

Caitlyn Thole led with 22 points. On March 3, Princeville beat Galva, 53-33. “It was a bit of a struggle,” Gross said, “They hustled well.”

The Lady Princes also beat Mercer County last Tuesday 69-49. The Galva girls lost March 9 at home to ROWVA-Williamsfield, 64-32. Kali Yelm had 10 points for Galva, Lexi Stone added 9 (all on 3-point shots) and Kendall Rogers scored 5.

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The Village of LaFayette is currently seeking contractor bids for work on the village’s maintenance shed. Work needing done includes: applying spray foam insulation to the sheds interior walls and ceiling, installing light fixtures inside, security lights outside, outlets both inside and out. Electrical bid will also need to include trench work and running an electrical line from the water tower pump house to the maintenance shed for power supply. Contractors must provide a copy of proof of insurance when submitting written bids. The maintenance shed measures 35x24x10. For further information please contact, Christopher Smith at (309) 509-2522, or Dean Rosebeck at (309) 238-3600.

**ROAD DEPUTY**  
The Stark County Sheriff’s Office is now accepting applications for the positions of Part-Time Road Deputies. Only properly Certified Applicants need apply. Must be willing to work holidays, nights, weekends or whatever times assigned. Must be able to pass a criminal background check.  
Applications must be picked up and returned to the Stark County Sheriff’s Office. Wage packets will be available with the applications. Applications should be returned by April 5, 2021.

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THE PRAIRIE NEWS DROP SPOT

**Testing for Telecommunicator Position**  
The Henry County Sheriff’s Office is accepting applications until March 25, 2021 @ 4:00pm. Excellent benefits include health, dental & life insurance for employee, paid holidays, paid vacation, starting salary \$42,411.20 (\$20.39/hour), with anniversary and contractual raises, and IMRF pension (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund) Applications and additional information may be obtained from the  
Henry County Sheriff’s Office  
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www.henrycty.com  
(Sheriff’s Office, then to Employment)  
Henry County is an E.O.E. Testing is required for applicants on April 6, 2021 @ 6:00pm at the Henry County OEM (use door at the jail entrance), 307 W Center St. Cambridge, IL.

**JAILER/DISPATCHER**  
The Stark County Sheriff’s Office is in the process of updating its list of applicants for the position of Jailer/Dispatcher, both full and part-time.  
Applicants must be willing to work any shift assigned, must be willing to work weekends and Holidays.  
Must pass a criminal background check. Computer experience is helpful but not a necessity.  
Must be able to attend and pass any job related school.  
Applications may be picked up in person at the Stark County Sheriff Office, 130 West Jefferson Street, Toulon, IL 61483.  
All applications must be returned to the Sheriff’s office by April 5, 2021  
If you have applied before, you MUST apply again to be considered.

# The Prairie News Sports

THE PRAIRIE NEWS • March 12, 2021

## Strong senior class

Lady Rebels quartet 'will be missed'

By JEFF LAMPE  
For The Prairie News

After a successful four-year run on the basketball court, Stark County High School was to bid farewell Thursday to an accomplished group of four girls players.

Playing their last games as Lady Rebels vs. Putnam County were Kelsey Berchtold, Lexi Davis, Olivia Hopp and Riley Menssen.

"We will miss them a lot. They've put a lot into it," Coach Scott Paxson said. "Whenever you have

a senior class that puts that much in, you'll always miss them the next year."

Paxson said this year's seniors won 63 games in their careers, even though this year's 10-2 mark (prior to Thursday's game) was much shortened due to COVID-19. The Lady Rebels finished 7-2 in the Lincoln Trail Conference to place second behind Princeville, which won its third straight crown despite losing the head-to-head

*Continued on Page 11*



Olivia Hopp was one of four seniors honored Thursday for their Stark County girls basketball careers. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

## Football capacity limits increased

Volleyball season set to open Monday

By JEFF LAMPE  
For The Prairie News

With the start of a unique football season rapidly approaching, local schools are scrambling to come up with admission policies.

The Illinois High School Association recently increased crowd limits from 50 spectators to 20 percent of capacity, a number that will likely differ at every Illinois school.

Stark County opens Saturday, March 20, at 1 p.m. vs. Ridgewood on Gary Johnson Field in Wyoming and expects to allow 500 home spectators and 100 visiting fans.

"There may be some ticketing to make sure kids get their families in," Stark County Athletic Director Scott Paxson said Wednesday. "Information is coming in at the last second ... and it may change."

There will be no admission charge and concessions may or may not be

### Season Preview

Watch for football and volleyball season previews and schedules in the March 19 edition of The Prairie News.

sold. Paxson said fans will be required to wear a mask when they enter the field.

Stark County has 50 players out this spring, up nearly 15 from last year. That includes 28 freshman and sophomores.

Mid-County opens at home in Oneida on March 20 vs. United. Athletic director Grant Gullstrand said Wednesday the Mid-County schools had not set admission policies.

### Volleyball

With the end of one girls sports season, another arrives just as fast. Volleyball games can begin Monday, March 15, and the Stark County High School girls will have their first varsity match on Monday vs. Galva at 6 p.m.

## Murphy ends No. 5 on Stark Co. scoring list

By JEFF LAMPE  
For The Prairie News

Though COVID-19 shortened the basketball season dramatically, Stark County senior Ryan Murphy still made the most of his opportunities to finish No. 5 on the Rebels boys basketball career scoring list.

Murphy averaged 14.2 points per game this year for Stark County, which finished 3-9 overall and 3-5 in Lincoln Trail Conference play to finish sixth.

The Rebels finished the season Monday with a 55-49 home loss to Midland. Leading 36-31 at half-time, Stark County struggled after the break and was outscored 18-5. Midland then held on for the win.

Murphy and Matthew McCauley both scored 16 points apiece to lead the Rebels.

On March 5, Stark County lost at Mercer County, 73-55, as guard Nate Hoffman of the Golden Eagles poured in 37 of his game-high 39

points in the first three quarters.

After a scoreless first quarter, Murphy racked up 23 points to lead Stark County, which also got 8 points from James Groter, 7 points from Ethan Unhold and 6 from McCauley.

Stark County did not play a scheduled game with Annawan due to COVID-19 considerations.

The Stark County JV boys team finished 7-5 and tied for third in the

*Continued on Page 11*

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