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The Prairie News

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GETTING RID OF DEBT



Some of the staff members of the Toulon Public Library pose in front of the building. From left to right are: Ashley Meyer, Janet Kamerer, Crystal McReil and Michael Baumann. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

Toulon Library pays mortgage early

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

TOULON – This fall is going to be momentous for the Toulon Public Library, because the \$350,000 30-year mortgage on the library building will be paid off. That is significant since it only took eight years to accomplish.

“We took the mortgage out in 2011 and the first payment was due in October of 2013,” Library Director Michael Baumann said.

Getting the mortgage paid off so quickly can be attributed to several things, Baumann said.

“It’s been donations, finalizing of pledges and we received two estates from people that totaled about \$100,000 for the estates,” he explained. “We’ve just watched the budget very closely, so that we can pay down additional money on



The doors of Toulon Public Library have remained open for business during the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo by John A. Ballentine

the mortgage. We never had any special levy to raise taxes and we never had a referendum. We’ve only increased to match inflation.”

This marks the 10th year of the current library building’s existence since construction began in 2011. The doors opened to the public in August of 2012.

The doors also stayed open for almost all of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The biggest thing that we were concerned about was surface contamination. If

somebody touches a book and somebody else comes in and touches that same book 10 minutes later, can they get Covid from that? Testing showed that surface transmission isn’t a real worry,” Baumann said.

From July, 2020 to February of this year, there have been 9,323 patrons served and 15,473 books have been checked out from last year to February of this year. That’s up over 5,000 from 2019 and 2020 when 10,000 was the

Continued on Page 2

Few contested races in upcoming election

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

Stark County Clerk Heather Hollis and her staff went through a lot of work to pull together 31 different ballots for the upcoming April 6 election – particularly when you consider that all those ballots show just three contested races.

Voters in Stark County will only have to make a choice in one election that appears on nearly every ballot: picking three trustees out of a field of four for Black Hawk Community College. Candidates are Fritz Larsen, Robert D. Haak, Kimberly L. Stevens and Jeffrey M. Swan.

The other contested races in Stark County show up on only a few ballots. One is to pick two trustees for Illinois Central Community College out of a field of three: Kiran Kumar Velpula, Cindy Byrd and Bettsey L. Barhorst.

The other race is in Bradford, where Independents Bob Boehm and John Cler are running for Village President.

Things are not much busier in Henry County, where a handful of contested races can be found on the ballot. That includes the Black Hawk College trustee race, two Alderman races in Galva and the

Continued on Page 7



The Galva Council approved the painting of a new mural of Hayes Pump and Planter Co. on the wall next to the Most Amazing Harvest mural. The mural will be painted by Michael Clark of the Walldogs and paid for by Galva residents Gary and Shearon Arnel. The plant made pumps and planters in Galva and was in business for 45 years and employed 250 people at one time.

Galva cites junky properties

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Mayor Rich Volkert reported at the latest City Council meeting that there were 120 Galva residences and some businesses that have been cited for junk, unlicensed vehicles, or ordinance violations on their properties.

Volkert said that 110 letters were mailed Monday to violators

and about 10 have been cleared up with police officers speaking to them.

Violators will be given 14 days to comply or a citation will be issued.

Volkert said that 88 letters were sent out last year. He added that his goal is to get several items fixed in the downtown area so that barricades don’t have to

Continued on Page 2

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Troop 1851 sponsored by the Boyd's Grove Methodist Church at the corner of Walnut-Wyanet Road and the Bradford-Putnam blacktop in Bradford is planning to go to Summer Camp at Camp L. E. Phillips in Rice Lake, Wisconsin from June 13-19. The cost is only \$285 (if you get involved before mid-May you will earn enough money to go for free) for the whole week including tents, meals, transportation and the adventure mentioned above.

You can go if you're between 11 and 17 and join our troop between now and then. We meet Mondays at 7:30 PM. Call Scoutmaster Tom Ashby at 309-897-8483 (Home), 309-202-4067 (Cell/Text) for details. We are also planning a weekend camp-out at Mississippi Palisades State Park & Galena in April, and Kayaking/Canoeing the Spoon River in May.

Join us! Be a Scout! It's a blast!

GALVA: Yard waste pickup starts in April

Continued from Page 1
be used for pedestrian safety.

Volkert said that Galva's Wiley Park has also had some "major problems." Police were called to the park three times on Sunday in response to fighting among junior high-aged children.

Volkert said that there are 10-12 trash containers in the park and there was trash everywhere that was picked up Monday.

Volkert reported, for Supervisor Richard Plummer, that yard waste will be picked up the first and third Mondays of each month. It must be in a yard waste bag with a sticker which is purchased at City Hall.

The yard waste pick-up will begin in April and must be on the curb by 6 a.m. Tree branches can be brought to the city maintenance by residents

or will be picked up as time permits by city workers.

It was reported Monday night that the new 5500 snowplow which the city had purchased from Bonnel Industries in Dixon had not been ordered by the company. The city thought it ordered the plow in November and that it was to be delivered in February. But the city was just told by Bonnel that the order had been forgotten.

As a result, the city will have to start over by bidding out a truck and placing another order. They expect the snowplow will cost more, as prices are rising on almost everything.

The police will be checking pools in town, and any pool which has 24 inches of water must have a fence around it.

All flowers and broken statues must be removed from graves at Galva Cemetery by March 28. Items can be put back on April 1.

It was reported that the sewer on N. Center in the 300 and 500 block must be dug up and repaired.

The council approved the Arbor Day Proclamation for April 30 and heard that Galva has been named a Tree City again. Residents are encouraged to plant trees. Anyone who would like trees on their terrace can check with City Hall by March 29 for a shared-cost program.

The council approved April 21 as Junior Achievement Day.

An ordinance was passed to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Galva Township for road work.

LIBRARY: Has been open nearly all of pandemic

Continued from Page 1
average check out.

Before deciding to stay open during the pandemic, Baumann called a staff meeting and asked staff members their opinion. The staff said "yes" and began with curbside service, which quickly turned into allowing people over 65 year of age access to the library. Since approximately May of 2020, the library has been open to everyone.

The staff includes Baumann, in his 14th year as director, lead librarian Ashley Meyer who has been in that position since December of

2020, Crystal McRell who is the children's librarian, Mary McMillen who is part-time librarian, Janet Kameron who retired as lead librarian and is now part-time, and Evelyn Endress who is the bookkeeper the past 24 years.

Besides books, the library provides other services. Zoom meetings can be held in the study room, and the library offers internet accessibility, faxing, printing, tax forms and assistance with scheduling COVID vaccinations at Black Hawk College.

The Summer Reading Program is

presently scheduled to commence in July. The Toulon Public Library also has archived copies of newspapers available online for researching information.

The library is located at 617 E. Jefferson St. and the phone number is (309) 286-5791 for the front desk while the fax number is (309) 286-4481. The email address of the library is toulonlibrary@gmail.com.

"My guiding principle is facilitation. If some patron wants a book, how do we get that to them? Trying to minimize the COVID risk is our goal," Baumann said.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations and Ordinance violations

3-20-21 – Chelsi L. Williams - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.

Incidents & Accidents Stark County

3-17-21 – Roger E. Ingels, 52, Galva, was cited for leaving the scene of an accident. Ingels reportedly notified authorities that his vehicle was missing and or stolen.

Upon further investigation the unoccupied vehicle described as a 2001 Ford F150 was located on Vineyard Road, north of Toulon, near the intersection of 1100N. Ingels was ticketed in the incident.

3-17-21 – David A. Beck, 28, Galva, was cited for leaving the scene of an accident. An unoccupied vehicle in a corn field was reported to authorities by a resident in the area on 1300N. Upon further investigation into the incident, Beck was ticketed and released with a promise to comply.

3-20-21 – Cassel O. R. Taylor, 23, Kewanee, was arrested by the Henry County Sheriff's Department on a Stark County warrant for home invasion and domestic battery. His cash bond was set at \$10,000. Unable to post bond, he was extradited to the Stark County Jail.

3-20-21 – David D. DeWolfe, 38, Pekin, was arrested for driving on a suspended license and for passing in a no passing zone. He was released with a notice to appear in court.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

3-15-21 – along with Stark County Medic and the Galva Fire Department were dispatched to a single-vehicle rollover accident with injury on the Galva-Atkinson blacktop at 400 North. The driver was transported by ambulance. Henry County is handling the crash report.

3-15 – along with the Galva Fire Department, to a tree limb that fell onto several power wires in the 800 block of West Division Street. Ameren was notified.

3-15 – to a motorist assist on Route 34 about two miles west of town. A young driver had driven off the roadway and became stuck.

3-15 – to the 400 block of North Center Ave. for a tree branch that had fallen on utility wires. Mediacom was notified.

3-15 – to a residence on NW 1st Ave. for a disturbance/remove an unwanted subject complaint.

3-15 – to assist Henry County with traffic control for an accident several miles north of town. The driver had a Henry County warrant and was also suspended.

3-15 – to the 400 block of North Center Ave. for a welfare check on a dog that was tied outside. The dog had the necessary items and didn't appear to be in distress.

3-16 – to the 1000 block of SE 2nd Street for an activated panic alarm. It was a false alarm.

3-16 – to the 1000 block of SE 2nd Street again for an activated panic alarm. It was a false alarm.

3-17 – to a criminal damage to property complaint in the 100 block of NW 7th Ave. As the result, Franziska Hurliman, 28, Galva, was arrested for criminal damage to property under \$500. She was released with a notice to appear in court.

3-17 – to the 100 block of SE 3rd Street for a burglary complaint. It is believed to be a civil property dispute.

3-17 – north of town for a juvenile who was refusing to go home and had walked away. The juvenile was given a ride home and arrangements were made for the child to stay there.

3-18 – to the 500 block of SW 1st Ave. for a loose dog complaint. Officer located the dog, but was not able to catch it.

3-18 – to the 500 block of SE 2nd Street for a loose dog complaint. The dog had a name and contact tag on its collar. It was returned home.

3-18 – to a residence on NE 4th Ave. for a 911 hangup call. Upon the officer's arrival, an unwanted subject was removed after a verbal dispute.

3-18 – to the 400 block of NE 1st Ave. for a domestic dispute. As the result, Sage Helton, 23, Galva, was arrested on Henry County warrants for aggravated domestic battery, violation of bail bond, three counts of criminal damage to property, two counts of criminal trespass to property, and for a failure to appear warrant for aggravated domestic battery and domestic battery. He was taken to the Henry County Jail.

3-19 – to the 100 block of NE 1st Street for a suspicious vehicle complaint. An unknown car had been abandoned in a driveway and the homeowner wanted to leave, but couldn't. The vehicle was towed.

3-19 – to a loose dog complaint in the 100 block of SW 5th Street. The owner located the dog and took it home prior to the officer's arrival.

3-19 – to the 00 block of NE 2nd Street for a civil complaint involving the sale of a vehicle.

3-19 – to the east edge of town for a reckless driving complaint. Officer was not able to locate the vehicle.

3-19 – to Route 17 at the Galva Cemetery for a motorist assist. The vehicle was gone upon the officer's arrival.

3-20 – to the 100 block of SE 3rd Street for an civil property dispute.

3-20 – As the result of a traffic stop in the 900 block of SE 2nd Street, Jennifer Jaco, 45, Galva, was arrested for driving while license suspended. She was given a notice to appear in court and released.

3-20 – to the 500 block of SW 5th Ave. for a civil property dispute. Officer completed a standby so the

complainant could get property.

3-20 – to the 400 block of North Center Ave. for a loud noise complaint.

3-21 – to assist a citizen in locating her dog, who had become loose in the 100 block of NE 4th Street.

3-21 – to the 00 block of NE 2nd Street to assist a citizen who was having troubles with the water salesman and machine for water.

3-21 – to Wiley Park for a verbal disturbance involving several groups of juveniles.

3-17 – to the 100 block of SE 3rd Street for a loose dog complaint. The dog returned home.

3-21 – back to Wiley Park for another call involving groups of juveniles attempting to fight.

3-21 – to a theft complaint in the 600 block of NW 3rd Ave.

3-21 – to the 900 block of SE 2nd Street for a city ordinance violation involving a subject cutting down a tree without a permit.

3-21 – to the 00 block of NW 5th Street for a disturbance complaint involving a group of juveniles wanting to fight.

3-21 – to the 100 block of NE 7th Street for a loud music complaint. Resident agreed to turn it down.

Property Transfers

3-8-21 – Steven V. Sloan to Matthew Charles Reynolds - Lt 3 Assr's Sub Sect 35-13-6 SE - 304 N. 6th Street, Wyoming. Consideration = \$54,000.

3-8-21 – Sherol Borden to Fine-mark Nat'l Bank & Trust, Trustee - Pt 12-13-5 NW - Consideration = \$0.00.

3-10-21 – Amy and Barton Snyder to Jeffrey C. and Kathleen M. Nelson - Musselman's Subdivision of SE 1/4 19-13-6 Pt Lots 1 and 2 - 104 S. East Street, Toulon. Consideration = \$33,500.

3-11-21 – James F. Young Jr. Trustee and James F., James W., John R. Young to James D. and Kaitlyn C. Young - Pt 11-14-7 - 16517 N. Bradford Road, Bradford. Consideration = \$0.00.

3-15-21 – Michelle Claeys to John C. Johnson - Pt 20-13-5 SW - 8150 Township Road 100 E. LaFayette. Consideration = \$120,000.

3-15-21 – Stark AG Service, Inc. to Ryan A. Peterson - Vg of LaFayette Pt Block 37 Lots 5,6,7 & 8. Consideration = \$3,000.

3-15-21 – Debbie W. Wyant to Vicky S. Heron - Undiv 1/3 Int. and Gwen J. Wallace - Undiv 2/3 Int. - Pt 11-13-5 SW - Consideration = \$0.00.

3-17-21 – James D. Nowlan to First Shott Estates, LLC. - Original Town of Toulon Pts 7 lots 7 & 10 - 101 W. Main Street, Toulon. Consideration = \$67,500.

3-18-21 – James A. Harris to Douglas Michael and Terry James Harris - Pt 23-14-7 SE - 134 N. Peoria, Bradford. Consideration = \$0.00.

3-18-21 – Stark County Sheriff to Firstbank - Pts 25-14-7 NE NW - 327 E. Main St., Bradford. Consideration = \$0.00.



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Super Crossword

Answers

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FLANK	MOVEMENT	MELINDA
SENSEI	EWEE	ASEA EDEN
PASS	RIBTICKLING	
PROMOTE	KNOT	ANTED
RUMPPARLIAMENT	PSHAW	
IDEAS	BIOME	QUEST OBI
XENA	TIES	ASTRA UPON
SHANK	OF THE EVENING	
AFFAIR	HET	ERASES
ROUND	OF AMMUNITION	
INTO	ARRAY	NEON ZEEES
ADO	STARR	FACED MIDGE
LANAI	EYEE	EXAMINATION
CLARA	LEES	NOSIEST
CHUCK	NORRIS	BERT
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5	7	6	8	1	2	9	3	4
2	4	8	7	3	9	5	1	6
6	1	3	4	7	5	2	8	9
4	8	2	6	9	3	7	5	1
9	5	7	1	2	8	4	6	3

CryptoQuote

answer

No great and enduring volume can ever be written on the flea, though many there be who have tried it.

— Herman Melville

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GUEST VOICES



Of Darla from Dahinda & Pee Wee

Rambling through central Illinois, pondering the power of a dog's digestive system. . . .

Met a nice woman the other day alongside a dusty road in view of the Spoon River. Almost as soon as I made her acquaintance, **Darla from Dahinda** had a request. "I don't really care about sports. Can you go back to writing that column in the other spot of your paper? That's the first thing I read." Then a caller named **Beth Davis** left a message saying basically the same thing. Well, be careful what you wish for, because here we go. ... Actually, this space is more fun than the sports page, where I can't write about trees, turkeys and tomatoes. Plus, there's so much hope in the world again that



Jeff LAMPE

it's time for one more step toward normalcy, if this can be classified as normal. . . .

Some people you can know all your life and really not know. Then there are folks like the late **Pee Wee Duncan**, who you can meet one time and really know. Meredith "Pee Wee" Duncan was one of my favorite interviews. He was full of stories, full of vinegar and full of life. Sadly, he died this past week. It is said of many that they are "one of a kind." For Pee Wee, it was fact. One joy of being involved with this paper was needling Pee Wee by barring him from our annual big tomato contest. Hey, if anybody was going to stick a piece of lead in a tomato to win, I figured it would be Pee Wee. So what did he do? He gave **Jim Nowlan** a tomato plant so Nowlan could win instead. Hah. Nowlan has a brown thumb. So I stole the plant and brought it to Elmwood. Last summer, we ate

plenty off that plant. This year, when seeds grow and bear fruit, I will remember Pee Wee every time we pick one. ... For all the flaws of this prep football season, there was a great sense of pleasant familiarity to watch a game under the Friday night lights last week. Everyone felt it, even crusty coaches like Princeville's **Jon Carruthers** (who is not nearly as grumbly as he sometimes lets on). "It was funny. We were in pre-game warmups and **Hunter Boland** was just smiling. I asked him, 'Why are you smiling?' He said, 'I'm just happy to be out here and playing football.'" Sure there is no postseason. Sure COVID will cancel some games (probably needlessly). But Boland's smiles are a reminder that, at the root of all this, the reason we play is for enjoyment. For fun. As serious as sports can get, that's a great thing to remember.

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

Suggestions for Black Hawk trustee election

To the Editor:

I strongly encourage readers to vote April 6 for Fritz Larsen, Kim Stevens and Jeffrey Swan for trustees of Black Hawk College. These outstanding candidates are all enthusiastically endorsed by Friends of BHC, a group of citizen boosters of the college.

A Black Hawk graduate and Moline resident, Larsen is the present chair of the BHC Board of Trustees and an executive with the Rock Is-

land Arsenal. He has been a strong leader for both BHC and community colleges statewide.

Dr. Stevens, DVM, a graduate of Black Hawk College East Campus, operates her own veterinary clinic from Galva, and has been highly supportive of Black Hawk College in the recent past, as a member of the faculty, and of the East Founda-

Chief Swan is head of public

safety for the Quad Cities Regional Airport Authority. A lifelong resident of Colona, he has benefited from many courses at Black Hawk College. He will work to keep the college affordable and its technology up to date.

Please join me in voting April 6 for Fritz, Kim and Jeffrey.

Mike Bigger, Wyoming

Send letters to: The Prairie News, PO Box 240, Elmwood, IL 61483 or email to news@prairie-news.com. Include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit submissions.



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 Re-Elect
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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.
 Heather L. Hollis
 Stark County Election Authority

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GUEST VOICES

Figuring the odds on Prospective Plantings

If you're a corn and soybean farmer or an ag commodity futures trader, one of the biggest make-or-break days of the year looms: On March 31, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will issue its Prospective Plantings report.

The much-anticipated report is the world's first look at USDA's best estimates for the upcoming year's planted acreage of major U.S. crops like corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton. Market bears and bulls usually find enough news in the report to rattle prices for weeks.

This March's numbers are even more anticipated than usual because key ag markets like corn, soybeans, and wheat – driven by shrinking U.S. supplies and continued high demand globally – are putting in their strongest performances in years.

That means U.S. farmers might be able to do what they do best – plant big acres and deliver big crops without prices falling to knee-shaking levels.

Just how big?

USDA offered a preview of 2021 planted acres in its mid-February Outlook Forum. In round numbers – none tied to actual survey data – it guessed U.S. farmers could plant 92 million acres of corn, 90 million acres of soybeans and 45 million acres of winter and spring wheat. If accurate, the combined acreage for corn and soybeans, at 182 million, would top 2017's record 180.3 million acres.

More importantly, USDA's 2021 soybean estimate is 6.9 million

acres more than what U.S. farmers planted in 2020. While that's an enormous boost, (the overall crop, at an estimated 4.5 billion bushels, would be up nine percent from last year) USDA guesses 2021/22 soybean prices will average \$11.25 per bushel, or "slightly" better than last year, because more farmers will use today's good futures prices to price tomorrow's crop.

Well, it can hope.

Where soy gets the acres is equally hopeful. USDA believes today's strong prices will draw some Northern Plains spring wheat acres to soybeans (likely) and almost 2 million acres of planned cotton will, instead, be planted in soybeans. (Equally likely.)

Also, the "unusually high level" of unplanted acres across the Midwest in the last two years will return to "normal" and soybeans will sprout on many of them. (This is what USDA sounds like when it guesses.)

That's the February, no-farmers-surveyed case.

The March, farmers-surveyed Prospective Plantings report may confirm that bias, say market seers. If so, today's November futures market, dancing around \$12.50 per bushel, appears comfortable with an estimated 90-million-acre soybean crop on the horizon.

Of course, if USDA finds more than a 90-million-acre crop in the offing, futures prices could take a hit.

The silver lining to that cloud, however, is that added soybean acres means fewer corn acres because the acres have to come from somewhere. So, what's bad for beans will be good for corn.

But will farmers give up corn acres to grow more soybeans in

2021?

That might be a hard fight, write Brent Gloy and David Widmar in a March 15 blog for their firm, agricultural economic insights, or aei.

The straightforward math (using 2021 Purdue University crop budgets) show a clear, \$20-per-acre profit advantage to grow soybeans over corn, mostly because variable costs to grow beans (\$249/acre) are considerably less than corn (\$436/acre).

But what happens to that advantage when corn and soybeans are both enjoying strong markets, like this year, and – for argument's sake – you encounter a stellar production year? In other words, what's "the operating leverage" of one crop over the other in good years?

To the aei team, the advantage then falls to corn. They say it this way: "In 48 percent of the observations, or about half the time, corn would generate a larger contribution margin than soybeans, even with soybeans' 'on average' advantage."

Most farmers state this concept differently. They put it this way: "just prefer to plant corn, all things being equal," because, in fact, in years like 2021, all things aren't equal: corn can be a big winner.

But betting on that would be like betting on the Prospective Plantings report.

No thanks, but good luck.

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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.



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BRIEFS

Bradford students earn Dorothy Lord award

BRADFORD – The annual Dorothy Lord Reading awards were presented to the students with the most improved reading skills in grades 1-6, and the best overall reader in the 7th grade at Bradford Community School District #1.

The recipients are as follows: Cory Stotler, First Grade; Ian Cresto, Second Grade; Easton Blake, Third Grade; Isaac Cresto, Fourth Grade; Ryan Paton, Fifth Grade; Mikayla Radowich, Sixth Grade; Halley Peterson, Best Reader.

Tri-County scholarship deadline extended

At least 12 scholarships will be awarded by Tri-County Opportunities Council to income-eligible students in the agency's service area. Scholarships are worth up to \$1,250 and are provided by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development through its Community Services Block Grant funds.

The application deadline has been extended to April 23. All low-income students, racial or ethnic minorities and previous scholarship winners are encouraged to apply.

- To be eligible:
- The applicant must be a member of an income-eligible household.
 - The applicants must be attending an Illinois accredited post-secondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2021.
 - Applicants must be a resident of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark or Whiteside Counties.
 - Students must be considered full-time (minimum of 12 semester hours) to qualify for the full \$1,250 scholarship. Part-time students will be considered, however, scholarship awards will be pro-rated if they are selected as a winner.

Further information and application forms may be obtained by contacting

the office at (800) 323-5434, Ext. 15 or online at www.tcohelps.org.

Lyle Ince Celebrates 50 Years in CSB Banking

KEWANEE— Earlier this month, Lyle Ince celebrated 50 years in the banking industry. Current and former colleagues recognized and helped Ince celebrate his career milestone.

A graduate of Kewanee High School and a Vietnam War veteran, Ince began his career in banking on March 1, 1971, at the former State Bank of Annawan working his way from lending and collections to Vice President. In 1976, Ince moved to the former Kewanee National Bank where he progressed into commercial lending ultimately becoming an Executive Vice President – a role he continued when Kewanee National was sold to First of America in 1993.

On April 30, 1997, Ince started as an Executive Vice President and member of the CSB Board of Directors. Two months later, on June 30, 1997, CSB opened its doors for the first time in Kewanee under Ince's leadership and direction.

Ince was instrumental in several growth initiatives, including purchasing Whaples and Farmers Bank in Neponset in 2004; purchasing Citizens Bank in Galva in 2004; opening a second Kewanee office at 300 North Main Street in 2007; and purchasing the Franklin Bank in 2015.

Cratty Insurance joins Porter-Hay Insurance

Chad Morse, President of Porter-Hay Insurance, is pleased to

announce Cratty Insurance Agency of Galesburg is joining Porter-Hay Insurance.

"While closing the chapter of Cratty Insurance Agency will be bittersweet, the future is bright with Porter-Hay Insurance," Morse said. "I look forward to providing our customers with more timely access to additional insurance carriers and coverage options."

Effective April 1, the business will be relocated inside of Porter-Hay Insurance located at 2558 North Seminary Street in Galesburg. Porter Hays also has locations in Andalusia, Galesburg, Galva, Joy, Monmouth, Oquawka and Alexis.

Gov. Pritzker signs bills for 'economic equity'

SPRINGFIELD – Gov. JB Pritzker signed a package of four bills Tuesday that made up the "economic access, equity and opportunity" pillar of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus.

Pritzker said the bills would go a long way toward addressing the harms caused by "systemic racism" that has prevented people of color from gaining full access to jobs, housing, state contracting and credit.

The bills all passed during the General Assembly's lame duck session in January. Among them was Senate Bill 1480, which restricts the ability of employers to use a person's criminal history in making hiring decisions. Also included was Senate Bill 1608, which raises the goal for state contracting with minority-owned businesses to 30 percent from 20 percent.

Another bill is Senate Bill 1792, which caps the effective interest rate lenders can charge on pay day loans and other small-dollar consumer loans at 36 percent.

The final bill was Senate Bill 1980, which prohibits public housing authorities from considering a person's criminal history when deciding whether to rent or lease a housing unit to an applicant.



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Bradford expects 8 kindergartners for 2021-22

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

BRADFORD – The Bradford School Board met March 22 after a week’s delay due to a power outage on March 15.

The board approved rescheduling the April 19 regular meeting date to April 27 because they will hold an organizational school board meeting on that date, as well. The organizational meeting is set for 7 p.m. with the normal school board meeting to immediately follow.

Recognized during the meeting was board member Jerry Johnston who is retiring in April.

Bradford School District Superintendent Chad Gripp reported that there are 26 students set to attend pre-kindergarten during the 2021-22 school year, and eight students enrolled in kindergarten. Gripp said that for eighth-grade students’ high school selection, 15 chose Stark County High School and two selected Bureau Valley High School.

Gripp updated the board concerning the wind turbines that impact the Bradford School District’s income. There are 33 turbines set for



Congratulations to Jerry Johnston (right) on his retirement from the Bradford School Board after eight years.

decommissioning with new turbines replacing all 33 of the 15-year-old ones. These turbines account for approximately \$100,000 of the school district’s annual revenue.

The board approved a bid from Designs & Signs by Anderson for an 8MM option sign costing \$34,494. Also, approved was a bid from Stan Byerly Sound Systems for a new \$9,625 sound system for the Junior High gymnasium.

Approved was a plan to allow a maximum number of 50 guests to

attend home events, such as eighth-grade promotion and extracurricular activities.

After an executive closed session, the board approved a resolution to rehire all current non-certified staff; to extend the superintendent’s contract through fiscal year 2025 with a 3 percent salary increase each year; the hiring of Tracy Calder as head girls’ basketball coach, Ryan Switzer as head boys’ basketball coach and Brian Sepich as assistant boys’ basketball coach.

ELECTION: New faces on Galva School Board

Continued from Page 1

Kewanee Township for trustee. Running for four trustee seats are the following: Democrats John M. Sovanski, Ted Sturtevant, Tom Kazubowski and John A. Hooker and Republicans Mark S. Quart and Chris Devenney.

The City of Galva will have a race for second and third ward aldermen.

In the third ward, Douglas Anderson is running on the People’s Party and David Trigg is running as an Independent for the four-year seat. The two are seeking the seat that will be left vacant by Wayde Buck.

In the second ward, incumbent James Hartman is running for the four-year seat on the People’s Party with John Wirth

running as an Independent.

The Galva School Board will have a lot of new faces, as four incumbents are not seeking re-election.

There are two two-year seats up for election, left vacant by Tyler Glaser and Aaron King, who were ap-

pointed and opted not to run. Newcomers Eric Bates and Brittany Boston are seeking those seats.

Three incumbent seats outside of Galva township whose seats are up for re-election are those of Andrew Larson, Darcy Jeffries and Gary Ed-

monds. Larson will seek re-election but both Edmonds and Jeffries are not re-running. Newcomers seeking a seat are Kaleena Conrad and Laura Burks.

Carol Townsend contributed to this story.

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Kim Stevens

Jeffrey Swan

- Present chairman of the Black Hawk College Board;
- Past president of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association;
- Continues to represent the Black Hawk College District on both state and national trustee committees;
- Graduate of Black Hawk College in Moline and Western Illinois University;
- Program manager for Command Strategic Initiatives at the Joint Munitions Command, US Department of the Army, Rock Island Arsenal.

- Owns Stevens Veterinary Clinic in Galva, where she attended high school;
- Graduate of Black Hawk College East Campus and The University of Illinois.
- In 2010 Kim received her DVM degree from the UI College of Veterinary Medicine.
- Past president of both the Agri-Business Club Alumni for East Campus and the Mississippi Valley Veterinary Medical Association.

- Public Safety Manager for the Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County; in this role, he works with a team of 12 officers and 9 dispatchers to implement programs, procedures and practices to maintain the safety and security of passengers, employees, airport tenants and the general public.
- Swan has taken numerous courses from Black Hawk College;
- Attended the Police Training Institute at the University of Illinois, and
- Holds a bachelor’s degree in fire science from Columbia Southern University

Fritz Larsen:
If re-elected, I plan to work within the college, with business and the various chamber of commerce to identify skill gaps and to create vocational training opportunities and certificate programs. For many, these type certificate programs can provide the difference between high and low paying jobs, and being able to attract and retain quality business opportunities.

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potential student and the communities in which we are located. First and foremost, we need to develop a strategy to get students back in the classroom for in-person instruction.

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Dr. Kim Stevens:
I will strive to make the focus of both campuses on what needs should be met in the surrounding communities. Our focus needs to be what we can do for each current BHC student, each

Chief Jeffrey Swan:
My objectives include ensuring that Black Hawk offers the latest in technology programs, while keeping the College affordable to all.

Fritz, Kim and Jeffrey are enthusiastically endorsed by Friends of Black Hawk College, a district-wide citizens group of boosters of Black Hawk.

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Card of Thanks

FAMILY OF BOB CALDWELL

GRATITUDE for the kind words to Bob and concerns during his three year battle with lung cancer and all the expressions of sympathy after his peaceful passing at home with his family the evening of March 3rd were deeply felt and appreciated by all the family of Bob Caldwell.

OBITUARIES

PeeWee Duncan

TOULON – PeeWee Duncan, 86, of Toulon, passed away at 12:42 p.m. Thursday, March 18, 2021, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

PeeWee was born on Feb. 26, 1935, in Toulon, the son of Clarence and Grayce (Large) Duncan. He married Mary Heinrich on Dec. 28, 1998. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Merlin Duncan; and step daughter Heidi Heinrich.

Surviving are his wife, Mary of Toulon; two sons, Jeffrey (Chris) Duncan of Galesburg, Ill., James Duncan, of Mansfield, Texas; daughter, Jill Fisher of Knoxville, Ill.; two step-sons, Richard Heinrich of Mooresville, N.C., and Jeffrey (Laura) Heinrich of Kewanee, Ill.; two step-daughters, Theresa (Mike) Rediger of Toulon, Toni Nowlan of Kewanee; 18 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brother, James (Louise) Duncan of Mobile, Ala.; sister, Anita Armstrong-Timmons of Morton, Ill.; and sister-in-law, Pearl Duncan of Toulon.

PeeWee made his living as a farmer and was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting and fishing trips with friends and family throughout the U.S. and Canada. PeeWee could also be found at



Duncan

PeeWee's playhouse enjoying cards. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a member of the Toulon American Legion.

Visitation was held from 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming with a funeral service immediately following at 11:30 a.m. Burial was in Toulon Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Toulon American Legion or to any memorial of the donor's choice. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming, Ill. is assisting the family with arrangements.

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

Arnold George Jacobs

GALVA – Arnold (Arnie) George Jacobs, 92, of Bryan, Texas, formerly of Galva, was reunited with the love of his life and his beloved daughter at 9:53 a.m., Friday, March 19, 2021, at the home of his son. Arnie left a lifetime of wisdom and love for his family and friends for them to carry on into the future.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, March 29, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Scott Miller officiating. Visitation will be held from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, March 28, at the funeral home. Burial will be in Evergreen Memorial Gardens in rural Kewanee where military rites will be accorded by the Galva Fusiliers. In lieu of memorials Arnie would want you to do

something nice or kind for a neighbor or friend. The funeral home will monitor capacity limits to maintain compliance with COVID regulations. The funeral home requires that all guests wear a mask for the safety of all those attending.

Arnie was born Sept. 26, 1928, in Moorhausen, Germany, the son of Hans Carl and



Jacobs

Tini (Peters) Jacobs. He came to Ellis Island on a ship from Germany with his parents when he was a small child. They settled on a farm in Sibley, Ill., and later in Walnut, Ill. Arnie loved this beautiful country.

Due to his love, devotion and desire to serve his country and its people, Arnie faithfully served in the United States Armed Forces from 1951-56. He served in the Korean conflict and was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Korean Service Medal with Bronze star, The United Nations Service Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal.

Arnie met the love of his life, Lois Darlene Goodale, during a fun night of bowling at the Bowling Alley in Walnut. They wed on July 31, 1955. They started their life together in Galva. Their love was unlike any other. Their unwavering devotion and love for each other was something to aspire to. Everyone knew that when Arnie told Lois to

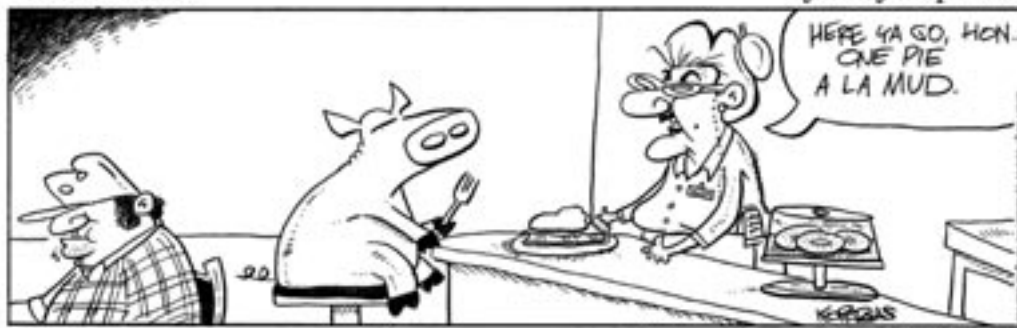
Continued on Page 9

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

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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

- U.S. PRESIDENTS: The poem "O Captain! My Captain!" was written after the death of which president?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the weight of a U.S. quarter?
- MOVIES: What was the name of the skyscraper in the drama "Die Hard"?
- TELEVISION: What city was the setting for the sitcom "Mork and Mindy"?
- SCIENCE: What is the study of knowledge, reality and existence called?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are male blue crabs called?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the highest point in Japan?
- FOOD & DRINK: The acai berry is native to which continent?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the "Winnie-the-Pooh" book series for children?
- MEASUREMENTS: What is an angstrom?

Answers

- Abraham Lincoln
- 0.2 ounces
- Nakatomi Plaza
- Boulder, Colorado
- Philosophy
- Jimmys
- Mount Fuji
- South America
- A.A. Milne
- One ten-billionth of a meter, used to measure very small distances

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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.

GN PORZC ZGM RGMT OEGP

YNFTUR BZG RYRO IR LOECCRG

NG CXR VFRZ, CXNTPX UZGA

CXROR IR LXN XZYR COERM EC.

— XROUZG URFYEFFR

TOP 10 VIDEOS ON DEMAND

- Raya and the Last Dragon (PG)
- Tom & Jerry (PG)
- Chaos Walking (PG-13)
- Boogie (R)
- The Croods: A New Age (PG)
- Jathi Ratnalu (NR)
- The Marksman (PG-13)
- The Father (PG-13)
- The Little Things (R)
- Wonder Woman 1984 (PG-13)

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OBITUARIES

Continued from Page 8

put on her lipstick, he was taking her out for supper so she didn't have to cook. Arnie and Lois created a beautiful family together. It was through their steadfast love that their two children, Rick and Debbie were born. Arnie was a very proud father and always ensured that his children knew how special they were to him and how much he loved them.

Arnie's love and adoration didn't stop at his children. He was a very proud "Papa" and could always be found at any event his grandchildren were in. He loved spending time with his grandchildren whether it was working on tractors, having a meal, taking a shopping trip, or watching an event or game; Arnie was present. He was a role model of what it meant to present for all of his family. His grandchildren always enjoyed their sleepovers at Grandma and Grandpa Jacobs. Grandpa Arnie would always pack them all up in the Buick and drive to Happy Joes for Pizza and ice cream. He had the best advice and gave the best hugs. He never left without telling you how proud he was of you.

Arnie's hands were always busy and he didn't like to sit down for too long. Arnie was a mechanic throughout his life, working at various places including the Galva School District. He also worked for the City of Galva after retirement. He enjoyed helping out on the farm as well. It was through these jobs that he had many interactions with area youth. He was a father and grandfather figure to many who did not have people to fill those roles in their life or he simply acted as an adopted father or grandfather to them. He always wanted people to know that they were important, special, and loved. He could also give the best advice in a gentle and meaningful way.

Arnie wasn't afraid to show people he cared and wasn't afraid to say "I love you." Arnie was not only loving but he was playful and fun. He was always good for a prank or an ornery joke. Arnie was a friend to all. He knew no stranger. He was a good neighbor and was always willing to step up and help anyone who needed it. His family and friends will miss him terribly but know that he is reunited in heaven with his girls.

Surviving family members include his son and daughter in law Richard and Patty Jacobs of Bryan, Tex., son in law Jed Miller of Woodhull, Ill., grandchildren Brad (Britton) Anderson of Oneida, Ill., Heather (Brian) Nance of Galva, Amber (Jared) DeSmet of Dewitt, Iowa, Eric (Mariah) Miller of Bettendorf, Iowa, Bobby (Angela) Siddons of Cape Coral, Fla., Scott (Leslie) Siddons of College Station, Texas, Joyce (Drew) Geick of College Station, along with 27 great grandchildren and 7 great great grandchildren.

Arnie was preceded in death by his parents Hans and Tini Jacobs, his wife Lois Jacobs, daughter Deborah (Debbie) Miller, three brothers Albert, Edward, and Alfred Jacobs, as well as his second wife Arleen (Houtzel) Jacobs.

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

Ruby Jean Turnbull

TOULON – Ruby Jean (DeBord) Turnbull, 94, died peacefully March 11 at the Toulon Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Ruby was a model of living a life of kindness, compassion and generosity toward all people. She lived the ideal of her Methodist faith stated by John Wesley, "Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can."

Ruby was the third daughter born to Irene (Keller) and Charles DeBord on June 28, 1926. Her sisters Ruth (Roland) Webster and Helen DeBord preceded her in death, as well as her parents. She was educated in Toulon schools and graduated from Toulon High School, as well as Brown Business School in Peoria.

Ruby married William O. Turnbull in 1945 and raised their five children on the family farm in Elmira. Ruby was preceded in death by her parents, sisters, a daughter Judy, a son Bill and a grandson Michael.

She is survived by her sons, Ron (Sue), Don (Denise), daughter Kim (Steve) Abel, daughter-in-law Pam Turnbull. Also surviving are her beloved nine grandchildren Adam (Cara) Turnbull, Emily (Kevin) Powell, Brant, Charity, Blaine Turnbull, Stephanie Abel (Marcos Rutiaga), Kylie (Evan) Sanford, Luke and Zach Turnbull. She was also the proud Great-Grandmother of 11 great-grandchildren: Price, Khaiden, Maggie, Amelia, Audrey, Isabelle, Oliver, Brooks, Meredith, Gianna and Scarlett.

Ruby showed great determination to survive great tragedy in her life when her first born child, daughter Judy (14) was killed in an automobile accident.

Ruby worked at Kewanee Public Hospital as a CNA. Many parents remember her for her work in the Obstetrics and Maternity Department, caring for mothers and new babies – especially rocking all the newborns!

Ruby's determination and caring were shown in life from the committees she served on at the Toulon United Methodist Church including assisting her granddaughter in her after-school program featuring much-anticipated treats. Later in her life many of those children cared for her at Toulon Rehabilitation Center. Her family recalls her wonderful baking especially pies, cookies and monkey bread. Sunday dinners at her parent's home with all the extended family were renown for the three DeBord sisters cooking.

Ruby was an incredible card player! She played on many bridge clubs spanning several generations.

She shared that love with her grandchildren with resounding

games of Hand and Foot, Spoons and Kings on a Corner. Ruby loved to babysit taking her grandchildren on many trips across the street to the library to continue their love of reading. Ruby valued how important family was in her childhood and took every opportunity for her children and grandchildren to spend happy times together at her home. She taught them to be responsible for their own actions! Times were spent making cookies, finding the hidden quarters, playing cards and games and later, watching instructional videos.

Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have her gifts of beautiful handknitted personalized Christmas stockings. She also made special crocheted name table runners.

A strong and independent woman many people benefitted from her generosity whether in Toulon or around the world.

Ruby's life was remembered and celebrated by family at the Toulon United Methodist Church, Saturday, March 20, 2021. Burial will be at Evergreen Memory Gardens, at a later date. Funeral arrangements were made by Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Toulon United Methodist Church prioritized to Cunningham Home, Toulon Public Library and the Toulon Nutrition Site.

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

Donald D. Wilson

KEWANEE – Donald D. "Don" Wilson, 89, of Kewanee, died Saturday, March 20, 2021 at OSF Saint Luke Medical Center in Kewanee.

Cremation will be accorded and a memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 30, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Pastor Chet Travis officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services at the funeral home. Inurnment will follow at Galva Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the National Kidney Foundation. The funeral home will monitor capacity limits to maintain compliance with COVID regulations. The funeral home requires that all guests wear a mask for the safety of all those attending.

He was born May 9, 1931 in Van Wert, Iowa, the son of Delbert and Ruby (Woods) Wilson. He married Evelyn E. Farrell on Dec. 8, 1950 in Galva. Survivors include his wife of Kewanee, his son, Steve (Michele) Wilson of Bloomington, a brother, George (Marilyn) Wilson of Galva, a sister, Helen Glasgo of Aurora, three grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Bonnie.

Don graduated from Galva High School in 1949. He had worked as a Ford Automotive Mechanic, as an Assembly Supervisor at Hyster's, had operated Shell Oil in Galva along with his brother, George and worked for Kewanee Auto Supply until his retirement. He enjoyed NASCAR and especially enjoyed being with his family.



Turnbull

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Toulon United Methodist Church

Rev. Leon D. Pomeroy
229 W. Main St., Toulon
PO Box 538
(812) 698-9294
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m., All Ages.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Check us out on Facebook @
Toulon United Methodist Church

Elmira United Presbyterian Church

Rev. Art Blegen
7874 State Route 93, Toulon, IL 61483
(309) 896-3481
Services each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/Elmirachurch1852>

The Gathering Church

Location: The Ely Barn
2403 Township Rd. 100 N., Toulon, IL 61483
40°59'24" N 89°56'20" W
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
Mail: PO Box 322
Wyoming, IL 61491
info@thegathering.life
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

1st Congregational Church of Toulon

Guest Speaker
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon
309-286-7340 Leave Message.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. in-person or
watch us live at <https://facebook.com/fcttoulon>

Galva Congregational Church

Pastor Josh Ryner
211 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Galva, Illinois 61434
(309) 932-3733
Service Time 10 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

"faith in truth"
211 NW 4th Ave GALVA
Main Service: Sun 10:30
New Preacher! Bryan Griem
(309) 932-2713
GalvaBaptistChurch.com

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Snow Removal

NO-5011A



David L. Cover

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107 W. Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483 (P) 309.286.7311
dcover@coverlawgroup.com www.coverlawgroup.com

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

Back in Time

Compiled by John A. Ballentine

10 years ago in March 2011

- Ralph “Chip” Moodie, of Bradford, retires after 38 years of service with John Deere.
- Toulon’s new library is to be built this year after raising the necessary funding.

25 years ago in March 1996

- Mark Wilson is Student of the Month at Bradford High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson.
- Committee begins study of a possible four-year high school for Stark County, which was to consider expanding the existing high school building or the construction of a new high school.
- Duane and Cindy Eberle are the new owners of Wyoming’s Hardware Store.
- Wyoming Betterment Association buys an ambulance to be stationed in Wyoming and utilized by the Stark County Ambulance Service or by volunteers.

40 years ago in March 1981

- Clyde Ham, of Toulon, retires after 32 years with the Toulon Fire Department.
- LaFayette awards a contract for a new water tower to be constructed.
- Toulon-LaFayette Ladies’ Trojan basketball team captures the Lincoln Trail Conference championship with a 17-2 record.

50 years ago in March 1971

- The Toulon-LaFayette High School band received a “Superior” rating in competition at the Illinois High School Association contest. The band was directed by August Johnson.
- A two-pound can of Butter-Nut Coffee cost \$1.29 with a 40-cent coupon at Rashid’s Certified Grocery Store, and Arganbright’s UI Supermarket advertised Oscar Mayer bacon at 69 cents a pound.

60 years ago in March 1961

- A coin changer is ripped off the wall at the Toulon laundromat. It could change 50 cent pieces to dimes. Stark County Deputy Sheriff Jack Lane investigated.
- A county-wide meeting was held at Wyoming’s new gymnasium to discuss the possibility of forming a Stark County school unit, according to County School Superintendent W. S. Perrin.
- Castleton-Camp Grove Grade School is the winner of the Little Illini Conference grade school basketball tournament held at the Duncan gymnasium.
- Don Schmidt, of Toulon, set a new Toulon Township High School basketball scoring record of 1,436 points.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATSY J. HOCKENBURY, Deceased, No. 2021P3
WILL NOTICE AND CLAIM NOTICE-INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION
Notice is given of the death of PATSY J. HOCKENBURY, who died January 23, 2021. Letters of office were issued on March 5, 2021, to CRYSTAL D. OUART of 220 W. 13th Street, Kewanee, Illinois 61443, as independent representative, whose attorneys are Michael Evans Law Offices, 101 West Williams Street, P.O. Box 186, Wyoming, Illinois 61491.

Notice is given to all interested parties who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an order was entered by the court on March 5, 2021, admitting the will to probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in section 6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You also have the right under section 8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Probate Division, Stark County Courthouse, 130 W. Main Street, Toulon, Illinois 61483, or with the representative, or both, on or before (a) September 16, 2021, or 6 months from the first date of publication, whichever date is later, 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, as amended, then the date stated in that notice, whichever date is later, and any claim not filed on or before that date or dates is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative AND to the Attorneys within 10 days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under § 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk of the court. You may obtain a copy of a form of a petition to terminate independent administration from the clerk of the

court at the above address or from the attorneys at the address below.

E-filing is not 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/> or <http://serviceproviders.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/g/ethelp.asp>.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2021.
MICHAEL EVANS LAW OFFICES
Attorneys for the Independent Executor
101 West Williams Street, P.O. Box 186
Wyoming, Illinois 61491
Tel: (309) 397-2907
Email: mevans@melawgroup.com
Published 3/26, 4/2, 4/9/21

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

Estate of WILLIAM H. SWATOS, JR., Deceased – No. 2021-P-41
Notice is given of the death of WILLIAM H. SWATOS, JR. Letters of Independent Executor were issued on March 5, 2021 to Giles S. Swatos, of 9116 Cypresswood Circle, Tampa, FL 33647, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Jordan J. Newell, Massie & Quick, 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 claim not filed with 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 the Estate
115 West Northwest Third Avenue
Galva IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 3/19, 3/26, 4/1/21

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

Estate of ROSEMARY A. ENTAS., Deceased – No. 2021-P-10
Notice is given of the death of ROSEMARY A. ENTAS. Letters of Independent Executor were issued on January 13, 2021, to Thomas Entas, of 6265 E 2370 St., Kewanee, IL 61443, Elizabeth Bisschop, of 8775 E 2700 St., Kewanee, IL 61443, Charles Entas, of 6908 E 2000 St., Kewanee, IL 61443 and Ann Stodgel, of 217 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434 as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Michael E. Massie, of Massie & Quick, 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 claim not filed with 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 the Estate
115 West Northwest Third Avenue
Galva IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 3/19, 3/26, 4/1/21

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Proposed Tariff Changes
Electric Service
Schedule III. C. C. No. 1
To the Electric Patrons of
Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a
Ameren Illinois:

Ameren Illinois (or Company) hereby gives notice to the public that on February 26, 2021, it filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC or Commission) evidence (direct testimony) regarding the reconciliation of revenues collected from its electric customers under the Company’s Hazardous Materials Adjustment Clause (HMCA) Rider, with actual and prudent associated costs from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The HMCA Rider is applicable to Rate Zone III only (formerly Illinois Power Company d/b/a AmerenIP service territory). This reconciliation may result in changes to the Company’s rates and charges with respect to electric delivery services in the Company’s Rate Zone III service area in Illinois. The changes in rates and charges will take effect after hearings and after the Commission issues its final Order.

The Commission docketed the filing as Docket No. 21-0096. A copy of the evidence may be inspected at Ameren Illinois’ offices located at 300 Liberty Street, Peoria, Illinois or online at www.icc.illinois.gov/e-docket/.

All parties interested in this matter may obtain information with respect thereto either directly from Ameren Illinois or by addressing the Chief Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62706.
AMEREN ILLINOIS COMPANY
d/b/a Ameren Illinois
By: Richard J. Mark, President
Published 3/19, 3/26/21

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.

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

• **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 Facebook, 1135 Railroad Ave (Rt. 34, East), Kewanee (309) 883-0164.
• **17.69 ACRES** on Hallock Hollow Road, Edelstein. Perfect for deer hunters. 10 acres possibly tillable. Government set-aside ground right now. Call (309) 249-4781.

HELP WANTED

• **WANTED TO HIRE:** Full-time diesel mechanic for small fleet. We offer health/vision insurance and simple IRA. Call John 309-368-1027.
• **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.

WANTED

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

NOTICE

FIRST Baptist Church of Wyoming Food Distribution Center is open Sundays only 2:30-4:30 p.m. at WyHi Community Center, 401 N. Galena Ave., Wyoming. Elderly and disabled persons call (309) 695-5116 for delivery. Bring boxes.

THANK YOU

• **FREE THANK YOU** notes in this space, call (309) 286-2185 or email ads@prairie-news.com.

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Answers on Page 3

ACROSS

1 Past artifact
6 Steal the scene from
13 “Chicago P.D.” or “Law & Order”
20 Kagan of justice
21 Indignities
22 Euphoric
23 Change in the side of a military formation
25 Dates of philanthropy
26 Karate instructor
27 Female
28 Not docked
30 Perfect site
31 Court throw
33 Really funny
36 Talk up
40 Get tangled
42 Paid to get a hand
43 Body that voted for the trial resulting in Charles’s execution
46 “Baloney”
50 Creative flashes
51 Rain forest, for one

52 Sunset’s direction, in French
55 Tokyo sash
56 TV’s “Warrior Princess”
57 With 77-Across, has a connection
58 “Ad — per aspect”
59 Raising atop
60 Twilight
64 Lusion
68 Excited, with “up”
69 Wipes away
70 Single bullet, blaster
77 See 57-Across
78 Dress up
79 Sign gas
80 Last letters
85 “help” co-star
86 Encountered
88 Gnat’s kin
89 Oahu porch
91 Vision test
94 Bow of firm
97 Wine vat sediment
98 Most snooping

99 “Walker, Texas Ranger” star
103 Ernie’s buddy
104 Dialogue bit
105 — fact
106 Toothpaste tube ints.
108 Louise’s film partner
113 Fatty
115 Old ad question
119 Colonist, e.g.
120 Russia and Turkey’s place
121 Good odor
122 Own
123 Distributing
124 Benefactor

DOWN

1 NFL officials
2 Fanning of “Mafecient”
3 Have a start
4 Quaint hotels
5 Dessert items on sticks
6 Colorful card game
7 Covers with blacktop
8 Hearty dish
9 Noon, e.g.

10 “Hail, Cato!”
11 High mt. rank them
12 Founded, on city signs
13 “Enter”
14 Like many short plays
15 Buddy
16 Safeguards
17 Language of India
18 Limerick writer Nash
19 Strike heavily and loudly
24 Mazda roadster
29 Ordinance
32 Belgrade’s land
33 Vatican City summit
34 Suffix with Wyoming
35 Retained
36 Grand — (race event)
37 Uncouth
38 Premonition
39 Film-rating go.
40 Mail stall
41 Home to Hanoi, briefly
44 Mortgage claim
45 Quick bite
47 Kashira doll carvers

48 Dry as —
49 Birds flap them
53 Prior to, to birds
54 Get for less
57 ENT part
58 Abbr. at the top of a 111-Down
59 Actress O’Connor or Merkel
60 Comic “Cesar”
61 “Jeepers!”
62 Pot-au — (French dish)
63 Suffix with land
60-Down
64 Popular typeface
65 Actress Jane
66 Portable bed
67 Year, in Rio de Janeiro
71 — diavolo (pasta sauce)
72 Unpaid debts
73 Steenburg of “Ink”
74 Peruvians of old
75 Crowl (with)
76 Chemical “T”
80 Tubular pasta
81 Actress Falco
82 “I” problems

83 Email status
85 Lustrous fabric
86 Service costs
87 Wood splitter
88 Editorial page feature
90 Consents to
92 Film director
93 Missouri-to-owa direction
95 Licorice-like seeds
96 People using lassos
99 Bracelet part
100 Baseball’s — Nomo
101 Army squads
102 Used cars
103 Sirk part
106 — Sea (shrinkage Asian lake)
107 Armat of 1950s TV
109 Long Spanish river
110 Spinks of boxing
111 Office note
112 Not nearby
114 Bullfight cry
116 — and cry
117 Noted period
118 Present label

FOOTBALL: Princeville scrambles to play Knoxville

Continued from Page 12

“We didn’t handle the run very well and that’s been a focus of practice this week,” Noard said. “I thought our kids that stepped in did the best they could. It was just a little overwhelming for them. They thought they were playing a sophomore game and then [last Thursday] they found out they were varsity starters.”

Focusing on run defense will be critical vs. Friday’s opponent, Lincoln Trail Conference newcomer Ottawa Marquette (0-1).

“They’re a traditional 1A running team. They want to keep the ball on the ground,” Noard said. “They try to attack you running a couple different ways on the perimeter with some sweeps and then they get their fullback running inside.”

“They played Annawan-Wethersfield very well.”

One positive note for Stark County will be the return of at least one starter.

“Every one we get back is a pretty big deal at this point,” Noard said.

Princeville 12 Mercer County 8

ALEDO – So much for the usual ground-and-pound Princeville attack. For the first time in Jon

MID-COUNTY
(Games 7 p.m., unless noted)
• March 26 - at Princeville, ppd
• April 1 - at Stark County
• April 9 - vs. Mercer County (Oneida)
• April 16 - at Ridgewood
• April 23 - vs. Ottawa Marquette (Galva)

STARK COUNTY
(Games 7 p.m., unless noted)
• March 26 - at Ottawa Marquette
• April 1 - vs. Mid-County
• April 9 - at Annawan-Wethersfield
• April 16 - at Princeville
• April 23 - vs. Mercer County

Caruthers’ career as head coach of the Princes, his team won without scoring on a rushing touchdown.

Instead, Princeville relied on two long scoring passes by senior Sam Streitmatter to get past a physical Mercer County squad that was bent on stopping the Princeville run.

“They were physical up front and definitely took the run away from us,” Carruthers said. “So we had to open it up a little bit and luckily we had the capability to make some big plays.”

Streitmatter’s first scoring pass came at the end of the first half on a rollout play in which he bought time and then lofted a 45-yard bomb to Denver Hoerr in the end zone.

“Denver got behind their cornerback and Sam slung it down there,” Carruthers said. “It was a heckuva coaching job: Just throw it really far and catch it.”

Down 8-6 after the half, Princeville scored again in

the third quarter as Streitmatter again scrambled to buy time, then found Grant Hunt open. Hunt did most of the work on the 74-yard score, running after the catch to put the Princes up for good. Streitmatter finished 6-of-13 passing for 148 yards and one interception.

From there, it was up to the Princeville defense, which limited Mercer County to 239 total yards.

“I was very happy with the defense,” Carruthers said. “Our three down linemen really executed the gameplan well, taking up most of their defensive linemen so our linebackers could run free. They were dead tired by the end, because a lot of our linemen are playing both ways. They just gutted it out.”

“Early in the season like this, defenses are going to be ahead of offenses with the short amount of prep time we’ve had.”

Princeville was also happy to add an opponent this week, since Mid-

County is unable to play while players undergo COVID quarantine.

On Sunday, Carruthers got a call from Knoxville, after the Blue Bombers learned their game with Elmwood-Brimfield was off, since E-B has COVID issues. By Monday evening, the schedule had been altered, bringing Knoxville to Princeville this Friday at 7 p.m. – a precursor to Knoxville’s switch to the Lincoln Trail Conference this fall.

“They are big, strong and physical,” Carruthers said. “We’ve got our work cut out for us.”

Annawan-Wethersfield 24 Ottawa Marquette 6

KEWANEE – Ottawa Marquette scored first, but that was all the Annawan-Wethersfield defense would yield to the newest team in the LTC.

A-W came up with three interceptions and scored the last 24 points to win its opener.

Mid-County

Mid-County’s game with Monmouth United was cancelled for COVID-19 concerns.

Mid-County will also not be able to play Friday against Princeville, but plays its first varsity game on Thursday, April 1, at Stark County.

SCOREBOARD

Ridgewood 48 Stark County 22

Ridgewood 16 12 14 6 - 48
Stark County 8 0 6 8 - 22

Scoring Summary

First Quarter
R - Stahl 7 run (Althaus pass from Stahl)
SC - Porter 30 pass from Groter (Kieser run)
R - Kessinger 1 pass from Stahl (Stahl run)

Second Quarter

R - VanHouten 5 run (run failed)
R - Kessinger 27 run (run failed)

Third Quarter

SC - Newton 65 pass from Unhold (kick blocked)
R - McDonough 14 run (pass failed)
R - VanHouten 19 run (VanHouten run)

Fourth Quarter

R - P.Catour 12 run (run failed)
SC - Porter 8 pass from Unhold (Hil-

lan run)

Team Statistics

	R	SC
First downs	22	13
Rushes-Yds	41-301	32-100
Yds per carry	7.3	3.1
Comp-Att-Int	5-10-0	10-20-2
Passing yds	96	198

Individual Statistics

Rushing - SC: Groter 11-50, Hillan 7-30, Kieser 7-24, Newton 1-12, Unhold 6-(-16).
Passing - SC: Unhold 7-12-1 158, Groter 3-8-1 40.
Receiving - SC: Newton 4-102, Porter 3-49, Rewerts 1-31, Unhold 1-10, Hillan 1-6.
Tackles - SC: Porter 14, McCauley 4, Newton 2, Groter 2.

Princeville 12 Mercer County 8

Princeville	0	6	6	0	- 12
Mercer County	0	8	0	0	- 8

Scoring Summary

Second Quarter
P - Hoerr 45 pass from Streitmatter (conversion failed)
MC - Williams 50 run (conversion good)

Third Quarter

P - Hunt 74 pass from Streitmatter (conversion failed)

Team Statistics

	MC	P
First Downs	10	7
Rushes-Yds	37-163	31-125
Yds per carry	4.4	4.0
Comp-Att-Int	0-0-1	6-13-1
Passing yds	76	148

Individual Statistics

Rushing - P: Boland 14-69, Rice 11-24, Streitmatter 6-32.
Passing - P: Streitmatter 6-13-1 148.
Receiving - P: Hoerr 2-61, Stahl 2-10, Hunt 1-74, Kratzer 1-3.
Tackles - P: Feucht 6.5, Boland 6, DeGroot 5.5, Garcia 5.5

Lincoln Trail

	Overall	Conf		
	W	L	W	L
Annawan-Weth.	1	0	1	0
Princeville	1	0	1	0
Ridgewood	1	0	1	0
Mid-County	0	0	0	0
Monmouth United	0	0	0	0
Mercer County	0	1	0	1
Ottawa Marquette	0	1	0	1
Stark County	0	1	0	1

Last Friday

Princeville 12, Mercer County 8
Ridgewood 48, Stark County 22
Annawan-Wethersfield 24, Ottawa Marquette 6
Mid-County at United ppd.

This Friday

Mercer County at Ridgewood, 7 pm
Annawan-Wethersfield at United, 7
Stark Co. at Ottawa Marquette, 7
Knoxville at Princeville, 7
(Mid-County at Princeville, ppd)



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THANK YOU

There are so many people to say "Thank You" to after my recent surgery!

- Friends and Clients who sent cards and well wishes, along with texts and phone calls.
- Dr. Arunraj for a surgery well done, along with his outstanding surgery crew at OSF/Peoria.
- The great nurses for follow up care at OSF.
- All the local Veterinarians and their clinics who helped Wyoming Veterinary Service "weather the storm".
- Our Great Staff at Wyoming Veterinary Service for continuing with smooth operations during my absence.
- And - for all of our clients for being so understanding during this difficult time.

~ Lynn Keller

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COVID woes for FB teams

Rebels lose opener without 5 starters; Mid-County sidelined

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – Angst replaced excitement last week for the Stark County football team leading up to its season opener with Ridgewood at Gary Johnson Field.

After a Stark County varsity player tested positive for COVID-19 and several others were found to be in close contact, coaches learned they would head into their opener without 10 players – five of whom started on defense and four who started on offense.

What to do?

“We discussed it. We thought, it’s been 500 some days since we last played and we think we can put a team out there that can at least compete,” Rebels Coach Jade Noard said. “We were within one or two kids of probably not being able to play. And the easy solution last week and this week would have been to say we’re not playing. But that’s not good for

Mid-County Still Sidelined

Mid-County will miss its second scheduled game with Princeville due to COVID-19 cases and contact tracing sidelining players. Princeville has re-scheduled to play Knoxville this Friday.

anybody.”

Instead of calling off the game, as was decided at Mid-County and some other schools, Stark County went ahead and played.

“For awhile, we did compete,” Noard said.

Heading into the second quarter down 16-8, Stark County was driving before it was stopped on a fourth-and-one play at midfield. From there, senior-laden Ridgewood went on to score again for a 22-8 lead.

Then, after a Rebels turnover, Ridgewood scored again for a 28-8 halftime lead that basically sealed the decision.

“You can’t be short-

handed and turn the ball over three times in the first half,” Noard said.

It didn’t help any that starting quarterback James Groter – who connected with Raiden Porter on a 30-yard pass for a touchdown in the first quarter – had to leave the game with various injuries.

“He got dinged up a couple different ways and he won’t play this Friday [against Ottawa Marquette],” Noard said.

Even so, replacement Ethan Unhold did come in and pass for two scores in the second half, including a 65-yarder to Keagan Newton on the first possession of the third quarter. Unhold finished 7-for-12 for 158 yards and one interception and also had an 8-yard scoring pass to Porter late in the fourth quarter.

“I was pretty happy with the way Ethan played at quarterback,” Noard said. “And Keagan Newton had a really good game at receiver. I thought he was a



Stark County senior Raiden Porter had two touchdowns last week and was credited with 14 tackles in a loss to Ridgewood. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

bright spot.”

Newton finished with four catches for 102 yards.

But any thoughts of a comeback were dashed in the second half, as Ridgewood ran for touchdowns on three plays of 10 yards or more. Overall, the visitors racked up 301 yards on the ground and a healthy 7.3 yards per carry against a linebacking corps that had to be completely revamped due to COVID losses.

Continued on Page 11

Lady Rebels drop pair to LTC leaders

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

After winning its opening match, the Stark County girls volleyball team has dropped two straight.

The Lady Rebels fell to traditional Lincoln Trail Conference power Annawan on Saturday, 25-16, 25-4.

Marley Hillan had three kills, one block and eight digs for Stark County while Karsyn Rewerts had two kills and three digs, Olicia Hopp had three blocks, one kill and three digs and Lexi Davis had two blocks.

Monday’s match against Wethersfield was more encouraging, despite the 25-15, 15-25 and 25-20 loss.

“Though we came up short, we had a lot of fun competing against Wethersfield,” Lady Rebels Coach Mary Jo Groter said. “They always have a great program over there and we hope to keep competing with these elite teams in our conference.

“I think if we minimize

and clean up the small errors and continue to bring high energy and intensity to our games, we will end up victorious.”

Hillan had 16 digs, 6 aces and 3 blocks vs. Wethersfield, while teammate Kelsey Berchtold had 13 digs and 3 kills, Rewerts had 12 digs and 5 aces and Hopps had 6 digs and 3 tip kills.

Stark County is at Ridgewood Monday.

Galva (0-3) also dropped a pair in the past week, falling on Monday to Annawan, 25-11, 25-13, and on Thursday losing to West Central 25-6, 25-11, in the home opener. Galva is home Monday vs. United.

Elsewhere in the LTC, Princeville (4-0) remains unbeaten after beating Knoxville Monday in a two-game match, 25-17 and 25-19. Princeville won big over Wethersfield last Thursday, 25-14, 25-17.

“We clicked a lot better today than we did on Wednesday,” Coach Charissa Ouart said



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