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 Vol. 9, No. 43

The Weekly Post

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More than 300 new Illinois laws take effect Jan. 1

By **PETER HANCOCK**
 Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Minimum wage workers in Illinois will see a boost in their hourly pay to \$12 per hour starting Jan. 1, while tenants in affordable housing units will be allowed to keep pets.

Those are just some of the more than 300 new laws that take effect in the new year.

The minimum wage increase is actually the result of a 2019

law that phases in a state minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2025. This year, it will increase by one dollar to \$12 an hour.

The law allowing public housing tenants to keep pets is the result of Senate Bill 154, by Sen. Linda Holmes, D-Aurora, and Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego. It provides that tenants of multifamily housing units that are acquired, built or renovated with money from the Illinois Affordable Housing Trust



Fund may keep up to two cats or one dog weighing less than 50 pounds.

It applies to residents of housing units that are designated as

affordable housing for low- and very-low-income families. The bill passed both chambers in its final form on May 30 and Gov. JB Pritzker signed it into law

Aug. 6.

Other new laws include:

- **Vehicle taxes:** SB58 raises the private vehicle tax, which is a sales tax paid on the purchase of vehicles, by \$75 for each model year where the purchase price is less than \$15,000 and by \$100 for vehicles priced above that amount. However, the registration fee for trailers weighing less than 3,000 pounds will drop to \$36 instead

Continued on Page 11

CEMETERY FUNDRAISER

Volunteers helping Trivoli cemeteries

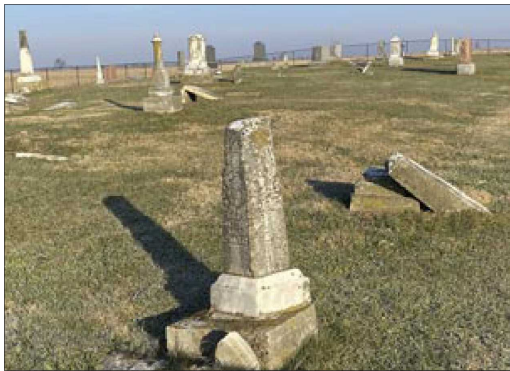
By **JEFF LAMPE**
 For The Weekly Post

TRIVOLI — Jen Andrews never used to spend time pondering cemeteries. Then she started burying family members and visiting their graves. That's when the Trivoli resident began to realize how much work needed to be done in the cemeteries she visited.

So Andrews approached the Trivoli Township board with an idea: If we raise money and generate volunteer labor, will you let us help with upkeep and improvements at your cemeteries?

Faced with the challenge of managing five cemeteries — only two of which are still active — and a limited budget, the board was happy to accept Andrews' offer.

"It's exciting to hear people ask that," said township board member



Even in well-tended Concord Cemetery south of Farmington there are headstones in need of repair and cleaning. Concord Cemetery is one of three inactive burial grounds maintained by the Trivoli Township Cemetery District. Photo by Jeff Lampe.

Reid Harman. "It's really a win-win. The citizen gets to help better a very visible part of our community and, at the same time, the board is given new resources they have not had in a very long time."

Fundraising efforts started at the annual chili supper held by the Logan-Trivoli Fire Protection District. Since then, a donor has

emerged who offered to match the first \$5,000 raised before Dec. 31.

"Right now is a time when a lot of people are coming out and putting memorials on the graves," said Andrews, who moved back to Trivoli 12 years ago after she and husband Mark retired from jobs in Peoria. "Our hope is that by Me-

Continued on Page 2

OSF committed to Brimfield facility

By **JEFF LAMPE**
 For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD — Though two major issues remain to be resolved, plans are moving forward for the construction of an OSF HealthCare complex on the east edge of Brimfield.

"OSF is committed to the project, with the donation of land and a specified amount of philanthropy," said Christine Bare-Kemper, the strategic philanthropy officer for OSF.

"This is a project that's been going on for two years."

Rita Kress of Brimfield said Tuesday that she will donate 3.5 acres on the southeast corner of Maher Road and U.S. 150 for construction of a new health care facility. The property was formerly home to various restaur-

rants, but the building there was torn down and the land has sat vacant for several years.

"The location is good for the community," said Kress, owner of Kress Corporation. "We're making it better to meet the community's needs. That's key for me. I like to do the projects that affect a lot of people."

Kress said she is working to raise \$1 million to make the project happen and has several donors lined up already. She said OSF has committed \$3 million to the project.

In addition to fund raising, another main issue is finding funding to extend water lines from the Village of Brimfield east along Route 150 to the proposed location.

Dave Donaldson, chair-

Continued on Page 2



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HOLIDAY HOURS

Princeville State Bank will be closing at noon Christmas Eve and will remain closed Christmas Day, December 25th

Princeville State Bank will also be closing at noon on New Year's Eve and will remain closed Saturday, January 1st for New Year's Day

TRIVOLI: Tax money used to pay for mow-

Continued from Page 1
morial Day, when they come back, they are going to see a big improvement."

Andrews is joined on the fundraising committee by Lyle Ray, Jill Booth and Harman. Donations can be made at Trivoli Hometown Bank, by calling Andrews at (309) 362-2480 or by mailing checks to: Trivoli Township Cemetery District, PO Box 83, Trivoli, IL 61569.

"Once you notice something that needs to be done and put the word out, that's what's so nice about a small town, people are willing to donate their time and talents and efforts," Andrews said. "It makes you think you're doing something worthwhile. You remember the dead that sacrificed so much and now we're here enjoying the benefits."

Andrews said the money is needed because Trivoli Township annually receives about \$16,500 in taxes for cemetery care – all of

which is used for mowing and basic maintenance.

That leaves almost nothing for improvements at the township's five cemeteries: Trivoli Cemetery, Brunswick Cemetery, Harkness Cemetery, Concord Cemetery and Brooks Parker Cemetery.

As a result, many headstones are in disrepair, trees are impeding on others and access to all the cemeteries is generally lacking. To combat those problems, the fundraising group has various goals.

Short-term goals include fixing and cleaning fallen gravestones, removing diseased and downed trees, thinning underbrush, improving access roads, erecting a memorial stone for war veterans and replacing a flagpole at Trivoli Cemetery.

Andrews said she recently learned the Veterans Administration will help replace some fallen stones that can't be repaired.

"Long-term, we're really hoping

to do some research and find the Civil War headstones," Andrews said. "We want to preserve what our forefathers have done."

Andrews said two families have stepped forward to fund the Veterans Memorial and another has offered to pay for the new flagpole. She also hopes to spend this winter researching grants.

Local civic groups, Boy Scout troops, Eagle Scouts and others are welcome to assist on cemetery projects. To volunteer, call Lyle Ray at (309) 291-9508.

"To have a resident step up and say, 'Let's really help improve and restore the cemeteries,' it's a bit of a spiritual relief that people still care about cemeteries and want to preserve them," Harman said. "We're hoping this is not a short, one-time thing, but more of an ongoing rejuvenation of that connection between the current residents and the past residents of the township."

OSF: Physical therapy may also be offered

Continued from Page 1
person of the Rural Route 150 Water District, said the cost of the water line is estimated at \$500,000. Due to state law, the water district can't borrow money to pay for the lines until a revenue source is established. But no development can happen without water.

"It's a chicken-and-egg situation," Donaldson said.

One possible source for funding is the Peoria County Board, which Donaldson said has received \$32 million in COVID-related federal money that is designated for infrastructure projects, including water supply.

While half of those federal dollars have been spoken for, Donaldson plans to make a presentation to the county board about the benefits of extending Brimfield's water lines beyond Burnzee's Bar and Grill, which is the current eastern edge of village water service.

The water district has already spent more than \$15,000 to have the

Famsworth Group prepare a survey for the proposed water lines.

Kress said the facility would provide a new, up-to-date work area for Dr. Robert Bevill and Dr. Mark Baylor. Both are OSF health providers who currently work out of the Brimfield Health Services building at 111 E. Knoxville St.

"Our doctors are established and they need a new facility to operate out of," Kress said. "We have an excellent location."

A new facility could be helpful in recruiting doctors in the future, Kress said.

OSF is also planning to provide physical therapy at the proposed facility, which could cut down on travel time for patients who are now traveling to Peoria or elsewhere for those services.

"St. Francis can do whatever they so chose and expand in the future," Kress said.

Once water lines are run east, Kress said the Rural Route 150 Water District could expand east to the Fox Creek and Timber

Bridge subdivisions. Village water would also be made available to the Dollar General store and to the Esquire Estates Mobile Park.

"It's an exciting opportunity for the village,"

Brimfield Mayor Dan Fishel said. "I just think it serves many purposes for the village. A medical facility draws traffic and interest and it can increase property values as services increase, making life better in our community."

The Village of Brimfield has been working on several water-related projects in the past year that were designed to eliminate dead ends in its water delivery system and to solve leaking issues.

Fishel said if water lines are extended, the village would sell water in bulk to the Rural Route 150 Water District, which would handle delivery and billing for additional customers.

"We would be merely a provider of a product that we would sell in bulk, but there is income potential for the village, that's for sure," Fishel said.

Correction

In the Dec. 16 issue of The Weekly Post, Senior Deputy Ryan Maricle should have been listed as one of the officers who stepped up to run for the job held by retiring Fulton County Sheriff Jeff Standard.

The newspaper erred.

Come Family. Come Friends. Come All!

Christmas Eve Service

7pm.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

This Week's Hot Picks

- **Wrapping Station** – Princeville's Lillie M. Evans Library has a wrapping station through Dec. 23. The library will supply wrapping paper for gifts, but you must do the wrapping.
- **Bingo** – Salem Township Library in Yates City has bingo the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2 p.m., including Dec. 23.
- **MANNA Meal** – Monthly MANNA Meal is Dec. 30 at noon at Elmwood United Methodist Church. Ham loaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, salads and dessert. Bring own table service.

This Week's Events

- **Yoga** – Yoga classes Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Brimfield Library Activity Room. \$4.
Classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. at Princeville's Lillie M. Evans Library.
- **Boredom Buster** – Meet friends at Morrison & Mary Wiley Library while school is out for a day of fun, 1-5 p.m. on Dec. 23, 27-30. Prizes for top readers in Dec. 29-30 reading marathon.

Future Events

- **Food Pantry** – Elmwood United Methodist Church food pantry is open the last Friday each month, 10-11 a.m. Free bread ministry is second and fourth Friday, 10-11 a.m. Call (309) 742-7221

for an extra food box.

- **Food Pantry** – Princeville Community Food Pantry is open the first and third Thursday of each month at Princeville Presbyterian Church from 5-6 p.m. for residents of Princeville and Peoria County. Located at 339 S. Santa Fe, Princeville. Come to back door.
- **Library Outreach** – Farmington Area Public Library does outreach to Hanna City on the last Monday of each month from 10-11 a.m. A librarian will be on hand at Hanna City Community Center, 511 N. Main St. with books and materials.
- **Free Food** – Food for needy in pantry in northeast corner of lot next to St. Patrick's Church in Elmwood. Sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul and local churches.

Publicize Your Event

Call us at (309) 741-9790 or email information about your upcoming event to us at news@wklypost.com.

The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast

| Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | |
| Partly Sunny | Showers | Partly Sunny | Partly Sunny | Partly Sunny | Partly Sunny | Partly Sunny |
| 49 39 | 57 30 | 47 31 | 47 34 | 45 24 | 37 27 | 41 26 |
| SSW 14 mph | SW 16 mph | NW 9 mph | SE 11 mph | NW 12 mph | SW 11 mph | SE 12 mph |

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The Weekly Post

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Quotable - "One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don't clean it up too quickly."
- Andy Rooney

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GUEST VOICES

Of Christmas music and memories

Every year about this time I get a severe case of nostalgia. Late in the evening, I sit on the couch in the living room. My lovely wife goes to bed so only the Christmas tree lights up the room.

As I gaze at the tree, memories of Christmases past come to mind, many of them from six and seven decades ago. I recall the family gatherings at my Grandmas' houses, with my aunts and uncles, parked on couches and folding chairs, digesting dinner and watching us kids open gifts. Visions of Aunt Geraldine's cookies - Wheaties covered with chocolate - dance in my head.

I remember my brother Ray and me being thrilled to find a Lionel electric train beneath the tree. And I recall traveling home from Fort Leonard Wood with him years later for the Christmas holidays. Pleasant recollections indeed.

I recall some bittersweet memories too. Fresh in my mind to this day is the disappointment on our kids' faces when a blizzard canceled our trip to Grandma's for the big family Christmas. And I remember the last Christmas with my father-in-law, who died of a heart attack just a few days later.

Christmas music evokes all sorts of memories and emotions for me. I

remember my daughters Kathryn and Rebecca singing along with Elvis Presley's "Blue Christmas" in the back seat on the way to Grandma's. I recall the beautiful music at Midnight Mass, the one time of year when the congregation would actually open their mouths and sing along with the choir.

I remember when I was in the fourth grade my Aunt Irene gave Ray and me a 45 rpm phonograph along with some Christmas records. The player had a fat spindle in the center of the turntable. You could stack 8 or 10 records on the spindle. The machine would automatically drop a record down onto the turntable, play it, then drop the next record down and play it, working its way through the stack. I can still see Gene Autry's "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" spinning around on that thing.

That record player wore out long ago. Now I have a CD player that holds 100 CDs. The first 34 are all Christmas CDs. I fire it up around Thanksgiving and it plays until after New Years Day. My CDs are real Christmas music - Bing Crosby, Andy Williams, Roger Whittaker, Karen Carpenter, Burl Ives and, of course, Gene Autry. No Mariah Carey or John Lennon.

Two Christmas carols in particular tug at my heartstrings. The lyrics of the first one, "I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day," are actually a poem written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Suffering deep depression after his wife died in a fire and

his son was wounded in the Civil War, Longfellow wrote the poem about the despair of the war. In the final verse, however, he expresses a hope for peace. This somber carol recorded by Bing Crosby in 1956 was written by Johnny Marks, the composer of more festive tunes like "Rudolph" and "Holly Jolly Christmas."

Today, Longfellow's words are especially meaningful in light of the ongoing crisis of America's second Civil War. "For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth." We all pray that "The Wrong shall fail, the Right prevail, with peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Another carol, "I'll Be Home For Christmas," is especially meaningful to those serving in our Armed Forces and their loved ones. This carol too was written during wartime. Composed by J. Kimball Gannon and recorded by Bing Crosby in 1943, the lyrics talk about the anticipation of Christmas with all the trimmings - mistletoe, presents, being together.

But in the last lines it takes a somber turn: "I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams." Wow. Unless you have a heart of stone, you feel the sadness and loneliness of loved ones far apart at Christmastime.

There is a YouTube video of this carol sung by Josh Groban. Take a moment and give it a listen. Have tissues nearby. A Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year to you and yours.



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GUEST VOICES

Howard's priceless gift of simple giving

The Christmas tree was a scrub cedar hacked from the edge of the woods that bordered the farm. Big-bulbed lights, strung in barber pole fashion, generated almost as much heat as the nearby wood stove. Yellowed Christmas cards, saved over the years and perched like doves in the untrimmed branches, served as ornaments.

"I believe this is the prettiest tree I've ever had," Howard proclaimed as we stood in its glow. "And it smells good, too."

The only scent evident to me was a mixture of wood smoke and the remains of a fried pork supper but I lied and said, "Sure does."

Howard beckoned me to sit. We had shared Christmas Day in the dairy barn and it was his request that we share a bit of the night, also. He knew I was alone because my family, his employer, was visiting relatives. I knew he was alone because he was always alone, a bachelor for nearly 40 years.

"I'll get us some Christmas cheer," he offered as I sank into the sofa. In untied work shoes he shuffled toward the kitchen. A minute later, he returned with two water glasses filled with rhubarb wine.

"It's been a good Christmas, ain't it Allie-Boy?" he asked as he sat in a ladder back chair by the stove.

He had called me Allie Boy for as long as I could remember. I had taken to call him Hoard the Dairyman, after the title of a farm magazine my father subscribed to.

I nodded. It had been a good day. Two wobbly newborn calves greeted

us when we arrived at the dairy barn early that morning. Wet and shivering, we dried them with the past summer's straw before showing them how to find breakfast at their mamas' side. One was a bull, the other a heifer.

"We ought to name 'em Mary and Joseph," Howard now said as we re-hashed the day, "on account of them being born today."

Mary and Joseph?

Generally, Howard had only one name for all cows: Succum. None of us knew what it meant or where it came from, but from the time he arrived on the farm in 1965 every cow was always Succum and every heifer was always Little Succum. A group of cows or calves were simply Big Succums or Baby Succums.

"Mary and Joseph they will be," I said approvingly.

Silence hung in the stale air. I reckoned that if you had bached it for 40 years, silence wasn't a void that needed to be filled so I sipped my wine and said nothing. Howard reached for his pipe and the big, red can of Velvet tobacco that had been my Christmas gift to him that morning.

"You want to roll yourself a smoke, Allie? I got some papers here."

I shook off the offer.

"Yep," Howard said as if to him-

self, "that's the prettiest tree I've ever had. And this is shaping up to be the nicest Christmas I've ever had because you came by."

I looked at the tree and then at the old man ringed in tobacco smoke staring at it and I felt sad. Not for him. I felt sad for me. I had agreed to come to his house to accommodate him, a favor for a hired man.

But he had not wanted a favor. All he had wanted was the chance to share his Christmas good fortune with me. He had some new wine, a warm fire, his best Christmas tree ever, and a week's worth of tobacco. He was happy and he wanted to give me some of that happiness.

As I stared at the silhouette of Hoard the Dairyman in the glow of the Christmas lights I saw a man of great warmth, vast wealth and pure honesty. He didn't have a checking account or credit card, but he was far richer than the condescending college boy on his sofa.

"Well Hoard," I said a very quiet minute later, "I better go. We both need to be at the barn early tomorrow."

He led me to the back door. "Don't forget," he said as I headed for the truck, "we'll call those calves Mary and Joseph."

Almost 30 Christmas Nights later, I have not forgotten two calves named Mary and Joseph and Howard's priceless gift of simple giving.

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The Farm and Food File is published weekly throughout the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, supporting documents, and contact information are posted at farmandfoodfile.com.



Alan GUEBERT

Peril at the top of the Illinois GOP ticket

Candidates for one elective office can affect the outcomes for others on the same party ticket. For example, an unattractive or goofy candidate at the top of the ticket can depress turnout of the party faithful, thus depriving all candidates down the ballot of their votes. That is what scares the dickens out of Illinois Republican Party leaders, who appear thus far impotent to do anything about such possibilities.



Jim NOWLAN

At the top of the 2022 ballot in Illinois is the office of U.S. senator, held by Democrat Tammy Duckworth, who seeks reelection. As I have written elsewhere, who would want to run

against an unobjectionable woman who had her legs blown off while piloting an Army helicopter in Iraq, defending her country?

I have not heard of any credible types who are willing, most likely, to fall on their swords in a race against Sen. Duckworth. This increases the chances that a nut case could file petitions and become the GOP nominee. It has happened before. In 1986, Illinois Democrats nominated two unknown radicals with good ballot names (Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild) to the state ticket, which assured the defeat of former U.S. Senator Adlai Stevenson in his bid for governor.

Next on the ballot is governor. The incumbent JB Pritzker has more money than Croesus, and is willing to spend it to be reelected.

At this time, there are four GOP

candidates:

- Darren Bailey, a folksy, very conservative downstate, anti-vax lawmaker who has the passionate support of the important home school and Christian school network, probably more effective than any GOP network.
- Successful, suburban businessman Gary Rabine (last name pronounced with two "long" vowels), a Trump supporter.
- Paul Schimpf, a retired Marine JAG officer and former state senator from the Metro East St. Louis region, and
- Jesse Sullivan, a 35-year-old, telegenic All-American sort who has made some money in the Silicon Valley, yet trumpets his roots, home and family in picturesque rural Petersburg.

Continued on Page 6

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PUBLIC RECORD

NOTE: Charges are merely an accusation. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Police reports

- **TRIVOLI** – A 24-year-old Canton woman died Tuesday morning after a single-vehicle accident in the 18200 block of Smithville Road, south of Trivoli and northwest of Glasford.
- At about 6 a.m. on Tuesday, Peoria County Sheriff's deputies reported finding a vehicle that had struck a power pole and was overturned.
- The driver was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the sheriff's office. At press time, the Peoria County Coroner's Office had not yet released information about the accident.
- **Randy R. Knussman, 61, of Tri-**

- **voli** was charged with violation of the Animals at Large Act on Nov. 30 according to a report from the Fulton County Sheriff's Office.
- **Dustin R. Maples, 37, of Farmington** was arrested for aggravated assault of a peace officer and threatening a public official on Dec. 10, according to a report from the Fulton County Sheriff's Office.
- **LAURA** – Dan H. Goodin, 57, of Laura was held for another law enforcement agency on Dec. 16 for two counts of failure to appear in court, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's report.
- **GALVA** – As the result of a traffic stop on Dec. 1 in the 600 block of SW 3rd St., Stephanie Kash, 34, Williamsfield, was cited by Galva police for improper use of registration, and operating an uninsured ve-

hicle. She was released with a required court date.

- **Jacob D. McBride, 29, of Princeville**, was cited by the Stark County Sheriff's Office on Nov. 30 for driving without insurance, speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone and operating a motor vehicle without registration. He was also found wanted on a Henry County warrant. McBride posted \$375 cash bond on the pending warrant and was released with a court date to appear on the traffic violations.

Marriage license

- **Mary Catherine Rockwell of Hanna City and Jake Christopher Kellock of Peoria Heights.**

NOWLAN: Will billionaire Griffin fund a candidate

Continued from Page 5

At present, Bailey appears far ahead of the other three, yet the primary isn't until late June. I see quite a few Bailey yard signs in my travels around central Illinois. Yard signs spread across downstate are a decent indicator of a strong network of supporters, good organization, and the potential to raise some money.

My insider lobbyist, legislator and political junkie friends say the only type who has a chance against Pritzker is one who can appeal to women in the suburbs. In 2018, the 6½ suburban counties around Chicago cast a total of 2.1 million votes; those in the 95 counties "downstate" cast 1.5 million. Surveys report that college-educated women, though not enthusiastic about abortion, strongly oppose (around 75 percent; various polls) overturning Roe v Wade, as a women's rights issue. The four GOP aspirants are all pro-life.

And then there is the matter of

money to go up against "Croesus," who spent \$175 million of his own moolah to win the top state office in 2018. The state GOP lacks two nickels to rub together. So, all political junkie eyes are on billionaire Ken Griffin, who has more money than even Croesus, and who has declared he will spend it to beat the guv. But Griffin's political people have found no candidate as yet. I am told Griffin prefers newcomers to old politicians.

I think the ideal GOP candidate would be a credible, law-and-order prosecutor (think Jim Thompson in the 1970s), because law and order will be a leading issue in 2022. Suburbanites are scared witless by the violence in the city.

Lacking such, or a consolidation of Sullivan, Schimpf, Rabine into one candidacy, Bailey wins the primary, at least as of right now. But in the November general election, Bailey would likely be the darling of downstate, while falling flat in the 'burbs, winning an enthusiastic 40

percent of the total vote.

So, a possible doofus at the top, with Bailey just below, could spell disaster for other races down the long ballot, because of depressed GOP turnout. For example, I have an interest in two, important Illinois Supreme Court races, located in mostly suburban districts. But voters do not go to the polls, or not, because of unknown Supreme Court candidates. Thus, these competitive races, found at the very bottom of the ticket, could be determined at the top of the ballot.

Illinois GOP leaders should get on their knees to top-drawer citizens who might be willing, out of a sense of noblesse oblige, to take on a likely losing U.S. Senate race, and hope that a candidate who can appeal in the suburbs will emerge from the gubernatorial primary.

Jim Nowlan is a former state legislator and aide to three unindicted Illinois governors. A retired professor of American politics, he writes a newspaper column on Understanding Illinois.

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| | |
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| February 3 & 15 | August 3 |
| March 3 & 15 | Sept 8 & 20 |
| April 5 & 19 | October 4 & 22 |
| May 4 & 17 | November 8 & 22 |
| June 7 | December 6 |

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Yates City woman earns leadership scholarship

GREENVILLE – Greenville University is pleased to award the Women in Leadership Scholarship to **Bailey Kennelly** of Yates City. This \$19,500 scholarship is offered for fall 2022 and is renewable annually.

Kennelly exhibits all the leadership qualities the university and scholarship sponsors look for when choosing a recipient for this program that promotes empowerment and development for female leaders.

College graduate

LINCOLN, Neb. – **Brooke LeAnn Parrish** of Elmwood was among 1,316 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during commencement exercises Dec. 17 and 18 at Pinnacle Bank Arena.

Parrish earned a Master of Science from the Office of Graduate Studies.

The graduates are from 41 countries, 43 states and the District of Columbia, and more than 150 Nebraska communities.

College honors

• **Cory Alcaraz**, from Hanna City, was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Honors List (3.2 gpa or better) for the 2021 Fall Quarter. Alcaraz is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

Spain's Diaper Drive nets 12,000 diapers

PEORIA – "The cost of diapers for many families in central Illinois is a real household budgeting problem and source of great stress," said Rep. Ryan Spain (R-Peoria) about delivery of more than 12,000 diapers and 8,000 wipes collected as part of his 5th Annual Holiday Diaper Drive. "Many people don't realize that programs like WIC and SNAP do not pay for diapers, rash creams or other infant supplies.

"Short of assistance through food and diaper pantries, there is practically no help available to families to



Members of the Prairie Quilters of Central Illinois recently traveled to Galesburg to present 87 Comfort Quilts to the employees of Galesburg Center for Youth and Family Solutions. These quilts will be distributed to foster children in the surrounding area served by the agency. Comfort quilts are one of the "give-back" projects the quilters participate in during the year.

help purchase diapers. This is not only an overlooked need, but a public health problem."

Spain has attempted to bring awareness and community support to this issue with deliveries of diapers and supplies to area food and diaper pantries over the past five years. In this time, more than 56,000 diapers have been collected and distributed to area families through crisis centers, food pantries and other community-based organizations.

Collections ran from Nov. 11- Dec. 11. Advanced Medical Transport employees contributed nearly 6,000 diapers to this year's effort.

Diapers and supplies were distributed to pantries throughout the 73rd Legislative District, which includes all or parts of Peoria, Woodford, Marshall, Stark, Bureau and LaSalle counties.

Legislators seeking nursing home reform

SPRINGFIELD – Several Illinois lawmakers said last week they are determined to pass a bill in the spring that would overhaul the way nursing homes are paid through the state's

Medicaid program to address critical staffing shortages, but the state's largest nursing home industry group is still pushing back against the proposed changes.

"We need to have something happen this spring, for the sake of the most vulnerable in our state," Rep. Anna Moeller, D-Elgin, said during a committee hearing. "And the point of these hearings is to bring that to light to bring the reality of what people are living through to light."

Illinois has many of the most understaffed nursing homes in the nation. According to a report by the state Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Illinois consistently ranks last among states in staffing, as measured using the national Staff Time and Resource Intensity Verification, or STRIVE Project, with 47 of the 100 most understaffed facilities in the country.

DHFS Deputy Director Andy Allison said the plan calls for roughly a \$400 million increase in nursing home funding that would be tied to reaching staffing benchmarks, increasing wages for CNAs and achieving higher quality standards.

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Elmwood school board OKs \$2.2M HVAC project

By **JEFF LAMPE**
For The Weekly Post
ELMWOOD — After years of discussion, and plenty of warm August school days, the Elmwood School Board on Monday approved the installation of a new heating and cooling system for the grade school building.

Cost of the HVAC project is estimated to be \$2.29 million. Warner Mechanical LLC of Edwards had the low base bid of \$2.02 million (before additions and \$109,200 for contingencies) and will be awarded the project after the board voted unanimously to move ahead. Other bidders were O'Brien Brothers Inc. (\$2.16 million base bid), Mechanical Service Inc. (\$2.3 million) and The Pipco Companies, LTD (\$2.438 million). Original estimates presented to the board six months ago pegged the cost of the project at closer to \$1.664 million.

But board member Mark Davis, a member of the building committee, said several factors led to the increased price.

"There's labor that's going up, material costs, all kinds of things," Davis said. "And everybody and their brother in the education world has the ESSER funds, so there's lots of work right now."

The building committee also made three additions to the project since the original estimate: adding a third boiler for heating redundancy (\$82,000), filling a ventilator wall opening with brick and block (\$10,000) and putting new LED lights in grade school classrooms (\$70,000).

"Once we get this done, the school from the north end to the south end will have the same lighting and the same infrastructure," Davis said.

To pay for the project, the district will use \$722,340 in federal ESSER funds and \$414,623 from the Peoria County School Facility Sales Tax. That leaves \$1.156 million to be borrowed as part of a bond issuance.

Board member Claude

Keefer noted that taxpayers will not have to pay more, as the board intends to use the county school facility tax to repay the bonds.

"Having the facility all up to date puts us at the best air quality we can provide students," Keefer said.

Several years ago, the board opted to put window air conditioning units in classrooms. Those units will be removed and the grade school's 30-year-old heating system will also be replaced, Davis said.

Work is slated to be done this summer, if materials and equipment can be obtained in time.

The board also voted to give Superintendent Chad Wagner authority to accept and execute electricity and natural gas price agreements with Nania Energy for a term not to exceed 36 months when the timing is best.

The board also discussed the next round of bidding for bus service and directed Wagner to continue to seek options for gas-powered school buses, as well as the diesel models currently being leased.

In a previous meeting,

the building committee also had discussion about possibly creating an outdoor classroom space.

The board also approved Option No. 2 for the 2022-23 school calendar after that option received the most votes (47.7 percent) from certified staff members. The first day of the 2022-23 school year is Aug. 16, 2022, with winter break from Dec. 22, 2022, to Jan. 2, 2023. Spring break will be April 5-10, 2023, graduation is set for May 21, 2023, at 1 p.m. and the tentative last day of school would be May 23, 2023.

In other action, the board approved:

- Hiring Traci Whitney as elementary administrative assistant for the rest of the 2021-22 school year at \$15 per hour.
- Josh Begner, Grant Strom, Jeremy Anderson and Seth Hart as fifth and sixth grade volunteer basketball coaches pending certification.
- Hiring Haley Carter as learning loss paraprofessional for the rest of the school year at \$13 per hour.
- The 2022-23 SEAPCO Hiring Survey.

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Answers on Page 12 **Super Crossword** **BROODING SEASON**

ACROSS

- 1 Examined by leaching
- 9 Smart — (know-it-all)
- 14 Alphabet opposites
- 20 All across the region
- 21 Indian city on the Yamuna River
- 22 "Old Elias" novelist Alan Rans —
- 23 Steamish-resistant bar seat?
- 25 Male flower part
- 26 Earth lighter
- 27 Autumn chill
- 28 Scenty allowing nobody to resist?
- 30 Monet, say
- 34 Intertices
- 35 — roll (flg)
- 37 Shoulder-hugging, hom-honking driver?
- 42 Thin and supple
- 47 Duck cousin
- 48 Actress
- 49 Mow starchy
- 50 L.L.'s inferior
- 53 "I see mice!"
- 56 Ear-related
- 58 Indian city on the Yamuna River
- 59 Vehicle in a chase scene
- 63 Decorative pins worn by rockers?
- 68 19-Down, to Jacob
- 69 Flagged auto
- 70 Mao — tung
- 71 Bit of pasta that's really hard to find?
- 77 Bodily grouch
- 79 Spanish for that
- 80 Big pet food brand
- 81 "Infinte" rapper
- 84 Have pain from bending forward too sharply?
- 89 The type
- 90 Tolkien
- 91 Up — (stymied)
- 92 — Larkin
- 94 Butter holder
- 95 More heinous
- 97 — liver (meat)
- 98 — (meat)
- 100 Harvestable
- 104 Work layout, stangly
- 105 Dive to attack with perfect form?
- 111 Teater's "I think —"
- 113 Heason of "Darkman"
- 114 GMC pickup
- 115 Decide on Domino's for dinner?
- 122 Taylor of "Chippin' in"
- 124 Los Angeles! Playa — Ray
- 125 Regular practices
- 126 Stoching an April 1 prank?
- 131 Crops up
- 132 Icky sticky
- 133 Enlarge
- 134 Quick
- 135 In any way
- 136 Sarcasms of supplying socket
- DOWN**
- 1 Volkswagen model
- 2 Maestro
- 3 Toscanini
- 4 Simple shed
- 4 — grow
- 43 Apple option
- 44 Close, as a community
- 45 — to you"
- 46 Pub lo.
- 49 Person rubbing it in
- 8 Blueprint
- 9 TV spots
- 10 "Show me!"
- 11 College town in North Carolina
- 12 Toy train, when doubled
- 13 Quantity in a race's bust
- 14 Former
- 15 Annual ritzy NYC fundraising event
- 16 Biblical brightlight seller
- 17 Explorer Vasco da —
- 18 Antiquing aid
- 19 Ship off, say
- 24 Petty quarrel
- 25 Sarcasms of the screen
- 31 "— so you!"
- 32 Hain, e.g.
- 33 Lited syllable
- 35 Prof's dog
- 36 United
- 38 Israel's Abba
- 40 Opiate, e.g.
- 41 Flaiment
- 44 Close, as a community
- 45 — to you"
- 46 Pub out
- 49 Person rubbing it in
- 99 — it movie
- 101 Elections, say
- 102 Greek letter
- 103 She baas
- 106 Swab
- 106 Film score composer
- 107 leg's wife
- 108 Hard trial
- 109 Bully's threat ender
- 110 Warehouse platform
- 113 Handy sdy
- 115 Cartoonist
- 116 Celestial instrument
- 117 Off-Broadway prize
- 118 French river or department
- 119 TV actress
- 120 — suit (1940s duds)
- 121 Reformer
- 122 L.L.'s alphabetical order
- 127 Olive of "Poppye"
- 128 L.L.'s inferior
- 129 "Chaparral" Mat' villain
- 130 Dewy, e.g.

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New law ends parental notification in Illinois

By **BETH HUNSDORFER**

Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker signed a law last Friday that ends parental notification, a requirement that doctors notify the parents of a minor seeking an abortion.

“With reproductive rights under attack across the nation, Illinois is once again establishing itself as a leader in ensuring access to health care services,” Pritzker said. “This repeal was essential; because it was the most vulnerable pregnant minors who were punished by this law; victims of rape and physical abuse in unsafe homes.”

A 1995 law required doctors to notify a pregnant minor’s parent within 48 hours before an abortion procedure, but it did not take effect until 2013 due to litigation. An exception could be made if the minor was a victim of physical or sexual abuse or neglect by an adult family member, if the minor was emancipated or married, if a medical provider determined there was a medical emergency,

or if an adult family member waived the notice in writing.

A judge could also waive the requirement.

Supporters of the 1995 law argued that parents deserve to be informed of medical procedures performed on their children.

“Today’s bill signing by the governor strips parents of their basic right to know what is happening in their minor daughter’s life,” state Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Morrisonville, said in a statement. “Even more concerning, removing this common sense protection will increase the likelihood of sexual abuse, exploitation and allow the trafficking of minor girls to continue unchecked.”

But those who supported the repeal of parental notification argued this provides access to medical care to the most vulnerable minors.

“Access to sexual and reproductive health care starting at a young age is crucial,” state Sen. Melinda Bush, D-Grayslake,

said in a statement. “By providing resources and education, we are giving young girls vital information and bodily autonomy.”

But Amy Gehrke, executive director of Illinois Right to Life issued a statement saying Pritzker “usurped the right of Illinois parents to be involved in their children’s health care, and endangered countless minor girls by signing HB 370, repealing Illinois’s Parental Notice of Abortion law.”

The new law creates a Youth Health and Safety Advisory Working Group to identify laws and policies related to parenting and pregnant minors. The group will address topics such as consent to medical care, treatment, pregnancy and post-pregnancy health provisions.

The Reproductive Health Act established in Illinois law a fundamental right to reproductive health care, including abortion, in 2019.

Nearly 1,100 Illinois mi-

nors had abortions in 2018, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health’s website.

The repeal of parental notification is scheduled to go into effect on June 1, 2022.

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The Greatest Story Ever Told
St. Luke, Chapter 2, Verses 1-20

1. And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
2. And this taxing was the first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.
3. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.
4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David);
5. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
6. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
7. And she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
12. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us.
16. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger.
17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
19. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.
20. And the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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 Let me be full, let me be empty.
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
 I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
 And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours.
 So be it.
 And the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it also be made in heaven.
 Amen.
John Wesley
 (Founder of the Methodist Church) 

Economist: Value-added key to export growth

By DANIEL GRANT
 FarmWeek

Michael Swanson, senior vice president and ag economist with Wells Fargo and Co., often had a one-word answer when describing ag export growth in recent years — China.

And for good reason. An uptick in Chinese imports helped boost USDA's current projection for U.S. ag exports in fiscal year 2022 to a record \$175.5 billion, down \$3 billion from the August forecast.

U.S. ag exports to China are forecast at \$36 billion as of November, down \$3 billion from the August forecast, but still a record if realized.

But, looking ahead, Swanson believes growth opportunities for U.S. ag exports lie in other countries, with a focus on value-added products.

"China will continue to be a big, premier market. But will it be a growth market in the future?" Swanson said at the Agricultural Bankers Conference hosted by the American Bankers Association. "I see good growth opportunities (elsewhere). It's all about the money."

And, when it comes to getting the most bang for the buck, Swanson believes some of the best opportunities for exports involve shipping

value-added products, such as meat, as opposed to bulk commodities.

U.S. beef and pork exports are on a record pace through the first three quarters of the year, the U.S. Meat Export Federation reported. U.S. beef exports from January through September totaled 108 million metric tons valued at \$7.58 billion, up 7% in volume and 24% in value compared to the record in 2018.

Pork exports through September were 1% ahead of last year's record pace at 2.24 million metric tons, while the value climbed 9% to \$6.23 billion.

"Where's the best value-added opportunity for U.S. ag?" Swanson said. "Protein represents a lot more opportunity. Hopefully we see more concentration on livestock."

But, what about labor issues when it comes to boosting livestock output and processing? There's an estimated 8.5 million to 10 million open jobs in the U.S.

"Labor costs are going to be a difficult factor," he said. "We need more technology and automation."

Swanson points to the Dutch as an example as they face similar hurdles as the U.S., such as regulations and labor, but still have the highest per capita imports of raw commodities, which are then turned into the highest per capita exports of food and beverages.

"We are always strong in bulk

(exports of commodities)," he said. "Can we become a net exporter of consumer oriented, ready-to-eat products," the economist said. "It takes a commitment. It's not going to happen by itself."

But, that's not to say the U.S. will lose market share in the sale of bulk commodities, such as grain and oil seeds. Corn yields are rising about four times the pace of U.S. population growth.

"We're going to need global exports," Swanson said. "But to the degree we focus on producing more (value-added products), we're doing ourselves a favor."

The top 10 importers of U.S. ag products are China, Canada, Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Netherlands, Taiwan, Philippines and Indonesia.

"Where's India? They have 1.4 billion people and they're not even in our top 10 export markets," Swanson said. "Clearly, there's a lot of opportunities out there."

Swanson also views Mexico, with a population of about 130 million people and a higher per capita GDP than China, as another key potential growth market, along with Vietnam.

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

Illinois jobless rate falls to 5.7% in November

By PETER HANCOCK
 Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The unemployment rate in Illinois fell three-tenths of a point in November to 5.7 percent as employers added 19,500 payroll jobs to the economy.

Preliminary data released by the Department of Employment Security and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics showed the biggest job gains during the month were in the leisure and hospitality sector and trade, transportation and utilities, with each adding an estimated 8,200 jobs. The construction industry added 3,800 jobs.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

| | Nov-21 | Oct-21 | Nov-20 | 3-month Moving Average | Over-the-Month Change | Over-the-Year Change |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Illinois | 5.7% | 6.0% | 8.1% | 5.9% | -0.3 | -2.4 |
| U.S. | 4.2% | 4.6% | 6.7% | 4.5% | -0.4 | -2.5 |

Those gains were partially offset by job losses in professional and business services, which was down 5,500 jobs, and the category known as "other services," which was down 200 jobs.

The jobless rate in Illinois is 1.5 percentage points higher than the national rate, which stood at 4.2 percent in November. That was down four-tenths of a point from the

previous month. Compared to a year ago, when the state's jobless rate stood at 8.1 percent, employers have added back 230,200 jobs, with gains across nearly all major industries. Over the year, the leisure and hospitality industry, which was hit particularly hard by the pandemic, has added back 94,200 jobs while trade, transportation and utilities have added

back 41,600 jobs. The financial activities industry, which is down 1,100 jobs from November 2020, is the only industry sector to lose jobs over the course of the year. *Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*

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LAWS: No more SAT, ACT require-

Continued from Page 1
of \$118.

- **College admissions:** HB226, establishing the Higher Education Fair Admissions Act, prohibits public colleges and universities from requiring applicants to submit SAT, ACT or other standardized test scores as part of the admissions process, although prospective students may choose to submit them if they wish.



Gov. JB Pritzker signed more than 300 bills that became law on Jan. 1. Photo by Capitol News Illinois.

- **Drug prices:** SB1682 requires pharmacies to post a notice informing consumers that they may request current pharmacy retail prices at the point of sale.
- **FOID card changes:** HB562 enacts several changes to the Firearm Owner Identification card law. Among other things, it provides for a streamlined renewal process for FOID cards and Concealed Carry Licenses for people who voluntarily submit fingerprint records. It also allows the Illinois State Police to issue a combined FOID card and Concealed Carry License to qualified applicants, and it establishes a new Violent Crime Intelligence Task Force to take enforcement ac-

tion against people with revoked FOID cards.

- **Student mental health:** HB576 and SB1577 allow students in Illinois up to five excused absences to attend to their mental or behavioral health without providing a medical note.

Those students will be given an opportunity to make up any work they missed during the first absence and, after using a second mental health day, may be referred to the appropriate school support personnel.

- **Official flags:** HB605 requires state agencies and institutions to purchase Illinois and American flags that are made in the United

States.

- **Hair styles:** SB817 prohibits discrimination in schools against individuals on the grounds of wearing natural or ethnic hairstyles, which include dreadlocks, braids, twists and afros.
- **Lemonade stands:** SB119 prohibits public health authorities from regulating or shutting down lemonade stands or similar operations that are operated by children under the age of 16. Known as "Hayli's Law," it was inspired by 12-year-old Hayli Martinez, whose lemonade stand in Kankakee was shut down by local officials.
- **Juneteenth:** HB3922 recognizes June 19, or "Juneteenth," as an official state holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. In June, President Joe Biden also signed a bill designating Juneteenth as a federal holiday.

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Illinois pensions still face financial pressures

By JERRY NOWICKI
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD—The state saw its unfunded pension liability decrease in fiscal year 2021 for the first time in four years, due in large part to investment returns exceeding 20 percent, according to a new report from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability.

Measuring by the current-day values of the pension fund assets, unfunded liabilities — or the amount of debt the state pension funds owe that they can't afford to pay — dropped by nearly 10 percent, to \$130 billion in FY 2021 from \$144 billion in the previous fiscal year. That put the state's five pension funds at 46.5 percent funded, up from 39 percent the previous year.

It's the best funding ratio since 2008 and only the third decrease to unfunded liabilities in the last 15 years, the last occurring in FY 2017 at 0.5 percent, the other in FY 2011 at 2.9 percent. Otherwise, unfunded liabilities have risen annually from \$42.2 billion in 2007.

But the report also noted that not much has changed to alleviate the underlying financial pressures that have caused unfunded liabilities to triple since the financial crisis of 2007-08, meaning the good financial news was more anomaly than trend. The returns of 22.9-25.2 percent for

FY 2021, which ended June 30, far exceeded the anticipated 6.5 percent to 7 percent returns, according to the report.

Aside from the good investment news, the report was substantially similar to countless other pension reports in recent years, particularly because it once again called on the state to revamp the much-maligned 1994 "Edgar Ramp" plan for paying down pension debt.

That's the name commonly used to refer to Public Act 88-0593, or the state's 50-year plan to bring the its five pension funds to 90 percent funded by 2045.

The actual target for that ramp should be a 100 percent-funded pension system within the next 25 years or preferably sooner, according to a letter attached to the COGFA report from its actuary, Segal Consulting.

The letter also faulted the Edgar Ramp for "backloading" pension payments, providing for smaller contributions in the early years leading to the current reality which sees 20 percent of the state's discretionary spending going to pension payments each year. It also highlighted other times the pension system was short-changed, including during the tenure of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

Only after the target is increased to 100 percent, the report noted, would the state begin to see sustained reduc-

tions to its unfunded pension liabilities.

But increasing pension payments is easier said than done, Alexis Sturm, director of the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, said.

Her letter to COGFA's co-chairs said consideration of changes to the current 90 percent target "needs to be reviewed carefully within the context of the impact on the state's budget."

The \$8.6 billion pension payment in FY 2021 was 20 percent of the state's \$42.9 billion General Revenue Fund budget, and pensions are routinely the state's largest GRF expense outside of K-12 education. In fiscal year 2022, COGFA estimated the GRF payment at \$9.4 billion, or over 21 percent of the operating budget.

FY 2023's Edgar Ramp-mandated GRF payment is estimated at more than \$9.6 billion, or nearly \$10.8 billion including other state funds.

"An increase to the goal would result in higher payments, but eventually lead to a reduction in the unfunded liabilities in the systems," Sturm wrote. "Given the current fiscal pressures facing the state, this too is inadvisable to consider until Illinois can eliminate the unpaid bill backlog, borrowings undertaken to pay off the debts remaining from the budget impasse and the COVID-driven recession and address the underlying structural deficit."

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CLAIM NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS
PEORIA COUNTY

In Re **ESTATE OF ERIC R. STURM, Deceased.**)
) No. 21-P-00479

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of **ERIC R. STURM**, on October 3, 2021. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to **SAMANTHA M. KINSEY**, of 5823 Swanston Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina 28269, and **RACHEL E. CLARY**, of 710 Brown Street, Bloomfield, Missouri 63825, as Executors, whose attorneys of record are **WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD., 118 West Main Street, P. O. Box 368, Elmwood, Illinois, 61529-0368**. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Peoria County Courthouse, Peoria, Illinois, or with the representatives or both on or before the **17th day of June, 2022** or if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representatives is required by Sec. 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that Notice. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim and other relief sought. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representatives and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed and the claimant shall file with the Court, proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

DATED this 23rd day of November, 2021.

SAMANTHA M. KINSEY and RACHEL E. CLARY, Executors of the Estate of **ERIC R. STURM, Deceased.**

STEPHANIE F. SCHMIEG, Esq.
WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD.
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OBITUARIES

Marjorie E. McDonough
 BRIMFIELD — Marjorie Elizabeth McDonough, 95, of Peoria, formerly of Brimfield passed away Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021, at 2 a.m. at Grand View Alzheimer's Special Care Center in Peoria. She was born July 7, 1926, in Peoria County to parents Milton and Ruth (Graves) Shaw. She married John McDonough in 1949. He preceded her in death in 1981.

Surviving are 4 children; Tom McDonough of Brimfield, Chuck McDonough of East Peoria, Jean (Bill) Kenney of Peoria, and Dan McDonough of Morton; 1 son-in-law, Donn Damos of North Henderson; 10 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. She is also preceded in death by her daughter, Marsha Damos and a daughter-in-law, Victoria McDonough.

Marjorie was the Brimfield Township tax collector for over 40 years. She enjoyed helping her husband John on the farm, playing cards with him, and dancing at the former Hub Ballroom in Edelstein. She loved hosting family dinners, tending to her vegetable and flower garden and attending her children and grandchildren's activities as often as she could.



McDonough

Marjorie was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Brimfield, where a funeral mass will be Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021, at 11 a.m. A visitation will be one hour prior, also at the church. Father John Verrier will preside. Burial will be at a later date in Calvary Cemetery in rural Brimfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to Apostolic Christian Timber Ridge. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville is in charge of arrangements.

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

H. Michael Meehan

PEORIA — H. Michael Meehan, 82, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021, at OSF St. Francis in Peoria, Ill.

Mike was born on April 5, 1939, in Peoria, a son of William J. and Mabel Frances (Denman) Meehan.

He was a graduate of Spalding Class of 1957. Mike proudly served in the U.S. Reserves from 1950-1962.

On May 16, 1964, he married Joan Erickson at St. Luke's in River Forest, Ill., and together they celebrated 57 years of marriage. She

survives. Also surviving are their children, Sean (Michelle) Meehan of Trivoli, Colleen (Doug) Tomlinson of Elmwood, Tracy Brooks (Lloyd Norris, fiancé) of Edwards, Ryan Meehan of Edwards, Erin (Chris) Milliman of Brimfield and Shannon (Brett) Baker of St. Johns, Fla.; 20 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, one granddaughter and one great-grandson.

Mike owned and operated Ted's Barber Shop in Peoria. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Kickapoo, Ill., where he was a eucharistic and pastoral minister. He was a member of the Charismatic Renewal and his faith was very important to him.

Visitation was Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Kickapoo. Mass of Christian Burial was to be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021, at St. Mary's Catholic Church with a one hour prior visitation, also at the church. Fr. James Pankiewicz was to officiate and burial was to follow at St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Right to Life Resource Center, 109 N. 8th St., Quincy, IL 62301 or the Women's Care Center, 7620 N. University St. Suite 106, Peoria, IL 61614.

Friends and family may sign the online guestbook by logging onto



Meehan

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Weekly SUDOKU
 Answer

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OBITUARIES

www.wrightandsalmon.com.

Daniel W. Richardson

ELMWOOD – Daniel W. Richardson, 69, of Elmwood, passed away at 6:08 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, at Richard L. Owens Hospice Home, in Peoria.

He was born April 2, 1952, in Peoria, to Donald and Rosemary (Ausmis) Richardson.

He married Connie Eldridge on Dec. 3, 1995. She survives. He is also survived by two children; five step-children; and many grandchildren.



Richardson

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Daniel served in the Navy. He retired from Buhs Truck 'n Trailer in 2014. He enjoyed fishing and camping. He also loved life and never met a stranger.

Cremation rites have been accorded. There will be no services.

To leave online condolences please visit www.oakshinesfuneral-home.com.

Melvin L. Siegel

EDWARDS – Melvin L. Siegel, 77, of Peoria, father of two Edwards residents, died Dec. 18, 2021, at Methodist Medical Center in Peoria. He was born April 12, 1944,

in Peoria, to Elwood and Helen (Moon) Siegel. He married Frances Traver on July 6, 1962, in Peoria. She survives.

He is also survived by three children: Justine (Mike) Morefield of Edwards, Melvin L. Siegel, II, of Edwards and Jack (Debbie) Siegel of Peoria; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; one son, Tommy L. Siegel; and two deceased granddaughters. Melvin was a truck driver for over 40 years, most recently for Interstate Brands. He enjoyed working on cars and motorcycles.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A private graveside service will be held at Cottonwood Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Fannon Anemia Foundation, in honor of his grandson, Caleb.

To leave online condolences please visit www.oakshinesfuneral-home.com.

Oaks-Hines Funeral Home and Crematory in Elmwood is in charge of arrangements.

Mary P. Harper

TRIVOLI – Mary Patricia Harper, 87, of Trivoli, passed away at 6:12 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, at her residence with her loving family by her side.

She was born on June 20, 1934, in

Thompsonville, Ill. She married Robert Dean Harper on Jan. 1, 1954, in Pontiac, Mich. He preceded her in death on Sept. 16, 2019.

Also preceding her in death were one brother, David Burlison, and one sister, Diane Hand.

Surviving are her loving family: daughter Teresa Lynne (Charles) Crowell of Trivoli and two grandchildren, Kyle and Claire Crowell. She very much loved her daughter and grandchildren, and is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Mary graduated school early, and started her journey to the St. Louis area, then off to Pontiac, Mich., to start working with Michigan Bell where she became the youngest supervisor telephone operator with Michigan Bell. She had met Robert while in high school, and after marriage they moved to the Peoria area. Robert worked at Caterpillar, and Mary transferred to Illinois Bell Telephone Company, where she worked until 1961, when it was time to take care of her family.

She loved animals, was a great seamstress, avid gardener, enjoyed cooking and reading and was blessed with wonderful neighbors everywhere they lived.

Graveside service and burial were Dec. 21, 2021, at Trivoli Cemetery.

Condolences can be left online at www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com.

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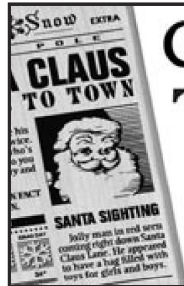
FARMINGTON MOOSE

December 31st

New Years Eve Party
Band The Gama Brothers
8:30-Midnight
No Meal

January 1st
New Year's Day

**Come as you are... even in
your PJs.**
Bloody Mary Bar
Other Drink Specials



**Christmas Vacation
The Weekly Post**

**Will not publish a newspaper on December 30.
Our office will be CLOSED Dec. 27 - 31.
We will reopen again on Monday, January 3
and will publish a January 6 edition.**

AREA CHURCHES

BRIMFIELD
Baptist Church of Brimfield
Pastor Doug Seeley
321 S. Jefferson St., Brimfield
(309) 678-2208
Sun. School: 9:30 am
Sun. Worship: 10:40 am
Wed. Bible Study: 7 pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Father John Verrier
314 W. Clay, Brimfield
(309) 446-3275
stjosephbrimfield.org
Sat. Confession: 3:30-4:45 pm
Sat. Mass: 5 pm
Sun. Mass: 10:30 am (10 am in the summer)
Daily Mass: Tues.-Fri. 8 am
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
"Preaching Christ Crucified"
"Liturgical & Reverential"
Pastor Michael Liese
204 W. Clay St., Brimfield
(309) 446-3233
Sun. Divine Service: 10 am
Brimfield E-Free Church
Pastor Donald Blasing
11724 Maher Road
Brimfield, IL 61517
(309) 446-3571
brimfieldefree.org
Worship: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am

AWANA: Wed. 6:15 pm, ages 3-12
Brimfield United Methodist Church
Pastor Roland Millington
135 S. Galena St., Brimfield
(309) 573-1833
Sun. Worship: 9 am
Sun. School: 9 am
Wed. Bible Study: 7 pm
Union Church at Brimfield United Church of Christ
Pastor Stephen Barch
105 W. Clay Street, Brimfield
(309) 446-3811
brimfieldunionchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 am
Tuesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm
• First Sunday each month is Communion Sunday (gluten-free communion offered)
• Youth group meets 2nd Sunday each month, 12:30-2 p.m.
DAHINDA
Dahinda United Methodist Church
Pastor Teri Shane
1739 Victoria St., P.O. Box 14
Dahinda, IL 61428
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
(NOTE: Due to COVID-19, cancelled until further notice are:
Fellowship & Coffee
and Sunday School)
Church: (309) 639-2768
Pastor's Office: (309) 639-2389
Email: williamsfielddahinda@yahoo.com

daumc@yahoo.com
DOUGLAS
Douglas United Methodist Church
Pastor Kristine McMillan
484 3rd St.
Yates City, IL 61572
(NOTE: Church is in Douglas)
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
(Maquon worship: 10:30 a.m.)
Facebook Live is 10:30 at Maquon UM Church page
EDWARDS
Bethany Baptist Church
7422 N. Heinz Ln., Edwards
(309) 692-1755
bethanycentral.org
Sun. Worship: Inside services at 9 & 10:30 am
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Father James Pankiewicz
9910 W. Knox St., Edwards
(309) 691-2030
stmmaryskickapoo.org
Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 pm
Sat. Mass: 4 pm
Sun. Masses: 7 & 11:00 am
Daily Masses (Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.): 8 am
ELMWOOD
Crossroads Assembly of God
Pastor Tim Cavallo
615 E. Ash St., Elmwood
(309) 830-4259
crossroadselmwood.org
Wed. Worship: 7 pm

Sun. Worship: 10:30 am
Elmwood Baptist Church
Pastor Bill Cole
701 W. Dearborn St., Elmwood
(309) 742-7631, 642-3278
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sun. Worship: 10:30 am, 1:15 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 pm
First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood
Reverend Marla B. Bauler
201 W. Evergreen, Elmwood
(309) 742-2631
firstpresbyterianofelmwood.org
Sun. Worship: 10:30 am
Sun. School: 9:30 am
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Father James Pankiewicz
802 W. Main St., Elmwood
(309) 742-4921
Sat. Mass: 5:30 pm
Sun. Mass: 9 am
Tues. Mass: 8 am
Tues. Confession: After mass
United Methodist Church of Elmwood
Pastor David Pyell
821 W. Main St., Elmwood
(309) 742-7221
elmwoodumc.org
Sun. Worship: 9 am, 10:30 am
Youth Sun. School: 9 am
Adult Sun. School: 8 am
FARMINGTON
Farmington Bible Church

Pastor Tony Severine
497 N. Elmwood Rd.
Farmington
(309) 245-9870
Sunday School: 9:30
Worship Service: 10:30
First Presbyterian Church of Farmington
Reverend Andy Sonneborn
83 N. Cone Street, Farmington
(309) 245-2914
firstpresfarmington.com
Sunday School: 9:15 am
Worship: 10:30 am
Live on Facebook also
Fellowship: 11:30 am
Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm
New Hope Fellowship Assembly of God
Pastor Tom Wright
1102 N. Illinois Route 78
Farmington
(309) 231-8076
Sun. Worship: 10 am
Wed. Worship: 7 pm
PRINCEVILLE
Princeville United Methodist Church
Pastor Zach Waldiss
420 E. Woertz, Princeville
(309) 385-4487
princevilleumc@mediacomb.net
Sun. Worship: 9 am
Sunday School: 10:15 am
St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church
Father Corey Kregiel

119 Saint Mary St., Princeville
(309) 385-2578
Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 pm
Sat. Mass: 4 pm
Sun. Mass: 8 and 9 am
Tues and Thurs. Daily Mass: 8 am
WILLIAMSFIELD
St. James Catholic Church
Father John Verrier
Legion Road Knox Road 1450 N
Williamsville
(309) 446-3275
stjameswilliamsfield.org
Sun. Confession: 7:30-8 am
Sun. Mass: 8 am (8:30 am in the summer)
Williamsfield United Methodist Church
Pastor Teresa Shane
430 N. Chicago Ave.
Williamsville
(309) 639-2389
Sun. School: 9:30 am
Hospitality (coffee & finger foods): 10:30 am
Sun. Worship: 11 am
YATES CITY
Faith United Presbyterian Church
Reverend Marla B. Bauler
107 W. Bishop St., Yates City
(309) 358-1170
Worship: 9 am
Sun. School: 10:15 am
Thurs. Choir: 7 pm

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 (Come to the back of the church)

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Tiber Creek welding
MOBILE IN-FIELD REPAIR
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Kevin McCarthy-Owner
517 N. Magnolia St. Elmwood 61529

GIRLS BKB: Princeville has won three straight

Continued from Page 16 since I can remember," Coach Meyers said. "We've got to keep playing like we did in that game, even when our shots aren't falling."

Ranked 15th in the latest MaxPreps Class 1A poll, Elmwood joins Tremont as the favorites heading into the Lee Westerman Tournament at Princeville, Dec. 27-29. Elmwood has two games on Dec. 27: vs. Midland at 10:30 a.m. and vs. Bushnell-Prairie City at 3 p.m.

"We're playing some teams that have already seen us and some teams that are better quality, so it's going to be a challenge," Coach Meyers said. "And Princeville is playing much better, so it will be interesting."

Princeville
 Speaking of the Princes, they rattled off an impressive 76-48 win over Lewistown at home on Dec. 13, the third straight win after an 0-3 start.

"The whole team played really well," Coach John Gross said. "And Caitlyn Thole finally came out of her funk and played really well."

Thole led Princeville with 25 points, while Jesenia Horton-Meza added 18 and Destinee Harwood tallied 15. Princeville shot 10-for-20 on 3-point attempts and was strong on

defense, Gross said. "We finally played like we thought we would," he said. "We didn't really press. We just stayed back in our 2-3 zone and shut them down."

Princeville lost Monday at Illini Bluffs (11-4), 41-39, which has won 11 straight including a Knoxville Tournament title.

"A lot of teams got off to a slow start just like us for various reasons," Gross said. "We need to find out who we are: The team that started 0-3 or the team that's 3-4 now."

Next up for Princeville will be play in its own Lee Westerman Tournament, Dec. 27-29.

"Right now, Elmwood and Tremont are in the championship game, so we hope to do something about that," Gross said.

Farmington
 Farmington (6-8) got a needed win over Monmouth United sandwiched between losses to Knoxville (56-42) and Eureka (51-42) in the past week.

The Lady Princes were playing without senior point guard Emma Evans, who is sidelined with a bad ankle sprain.

"She plays 32 minutes a game for us, is our point guard and she guards the other team's best player," Coach Brad Whitcomb said. "We tried to fill all those, but it's a lot to ask."

Lee Westerman Tournament

PRINCEVILLE – Here is the girls tournament schedule:
Monday, Dec. 27
 9 a.m. – Princeville vs. Galva
 10:30 – Elmwood vs. Midland
 12 – Tremont vs. Bushnell-Prairie City
 3 p.m. – BPC vs. Elmwood
 4:30 – Galva vs. Midland
 6 – Peoria Heights vs. Tremont

Tuesday, Dec. 28
 9 a.m. – Galva vs. Princeville
 10:30 – BPC vs. Elmwood
 12 – Tremont vs. Midland
 3 p.m. – Midland vs. BPC
 4:30 – Galva vs. Tremont
 6 – Elmwood vs. Princeville
Wednesday, Dec. 29
 9 a.m. – Galva vs. BPC
 10:30 – Princeville vs. Midland
 12 – Tremont vs. Elmwood

Reece Putrich led Farmington with 13 points, Delaney Foster had 10 and Anna Webel scored 10.

Against Knoxville, Foster had 14, Putrich 10 and Riley Jansen scored 9. Farmington was down just 22-20 at halftime before yielding several 3-pointers. "We played well against Eureka and for the most part against Knoxville, they just hit some big shots down the stretch," Whitcomb said.

Farmington lost just 42-38 at Havana on Monday, as Putrich scored 13 and Foster and Webel tallied 10 apiece against the team MaxPreps ranks No. 3 in Class 1A.

"Really happy with how we played and I am pleased with how the girls are stepping up in Emma's absence," Whitcomb said.

The Lady Farmers were home vs. Knoxville Wednesday, then are off until a Jan. 3 home game vs. Deer Creek-Mackinaw.

Brimfield
 Brimfield (9-1) bounced back from a loss to Morton with a 65-23 win over Eureka back on Dec. 13.

"I thought we had control of the game the entire time," Coach Maribeth Dura said. "I thought overall we had a better start and better defense, before scoring and better team play."

The Lady Indians were to play at Dunlap on Tuesday and then are off until a Dec. 27 game against El Paso-Gridley at 9:30 p.m. in the State Farm Holiday Classic. The game will be at Normal Community High School.

Brimfield is seeded No. 2 in the small school girls division of the tournament, which runs through Dec. 30.

Winnebago, ranked No. 1 in the MaxPreps Class 2A poll, is top seed. MaxPreps has Brimfield ranked No. 3 in Class 1A behind Havana and top-ranked Okawville.

Amber Waves

THIS IS DEPRESSING. CHRISTMAS WILL BE OVER BEFORE WE KNOW IT.

WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT ELEVEN MORE MONTHS BUT I HAVE A PLAN.

HEY DAD, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY GREAT IDEA?

I TOLD YOU, THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS MONTHLY CHRISTMAS.

by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

KICK BOXING

SLAP BALLET

by Gary Kopervas

K.F.D.

NICE TREE, SIM!

S'OKAY, I GUESS. I WANTED TO CHANGE THINGS UP THIS YEAR...

NO!

BUT I WAS OVERRULED.

by Mike Mariand

The Spats

YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU'RE YOUNG... YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO BE ANYONE YOU WANT.

ISN'T THAT CALLED IDENTITY THEFT?

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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FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 12

CryptoQuote
 AXVYLBAAXR IS LONGFELLOW
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, R 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.

L INKKNV SGXDD XVKDE: ON
 SGD XLPGS SGLZP. ON SGD
 RDES HNV FBZ, BZQ KBUBHE
 EGVNU ODNOKD HNV FBXD.
 - KNV GNKSY

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: What is the name of the department store where Kris Kringle works in the 1947 "Miracle on 34th Street"?
- LANGUAGE: What is the English equivalent of the Latin phrase, "Cui bono"?
- TELEVISION: Why do the other reindeer tease Rudolph in the Christmas TV movie?
- AD SLOGANS: Which family restaurant advertises itself as a place "where a kid can be a kid"?
- ASTRONOMY: What is a sunspot?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was a classically trained pianist?
- THEATER: What musical features a group of women called The Schuyler Sisters?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is a smorgasbord?
- GEOGRAPHY: In what body of water does the island of Barbados lie?
- LITERATURE: Which famous 19th-century novel begins with the line, "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents."

- Macy's
- Who benefits?
- Rudolph has a shiny red nose
- Chuck E. Cheese
- A cooler, darker area on the surface of the sun
- Richard Nixon, who also could play four other instruments
- "Hamilton"
- A buffet with a variety of dishes
- Caribbean Sea
- "Little Women," by Louisa May Alcott

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- West Side Story (PG-13)
 - Encanto (PG) animated
 - Ghostsbusters: Afterlife (PG-13)
 - House of Gucci (R)
 - Eternals (PG-13)
 - Resident Evil: Racoon City (R)
 - Clifford the Big Red Dog (PG)
 - Christmas With the Chosen: The Messengers (NR)
 - Dune: Part One (PG-13)
 - Venom: Carnage (PG-13)
- © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

BOYS BKB: R-W wins on late layup by Malek

Continued from Page 16
really well. We just weren't going to lose that game."

Oliver Heinz scored 21 points and Jakob McKown added 9.

The only negative for Brimfield was a sprained ankle suffered by center Caleb Tyre, who missed Friday's game against Payson-Seymour (4-3), which had been ranked No. 18 in Class 1A by MaxPreps.

Even without the 6-foot-6 Tyre, Brimfield prevailed over Payson, 49-40.

"They got up and down the court better than anybody we've faced and we had to adjust to that," Kreiter said. "I've talked quite a bit about getting to the offensive boards. But it got to the point where I had to tell them we're not going to crash the boards as much as we need to get back."

The score was knotted at halftime and after the third quarter before Brimfield went on a run in the fourth behind hot shooting from Heinz, who finished with a team-high 19 points. McKown added 11 and Levi Moon scored 10.

"And without Caleb, Frank Kelch really stepped up for us rebounding," Kreiter said.

Brimfield is off until Jan. 4, when it plays at Elmwood.

Ranked No. 16 in the latest MaxPreps Class 1A poll, the Indians earned the No. 2 seed for the ICAC Tournament, which starts Jan. 10 at Illini Bluffs. Peoria Christian is seeded first, Elmwood fourth and ROWVA-Williamsfield was fifth.

ROWVA-Williamsfield

Carson Malek helped end a five-game losing streak and boost R-W to a two-game win streak last week, instead.

After trailing for the entire game at Princeville on Dec. 14, R-W (5-6) got a last-second layup from Malek with 1.4 ticks left to win, 51-50.

"We had the ball down one and I took a timeout. I've always kind of believed in that, even though it let's them get their defense set," R-W Coach Bob Anderson said. "We just set a little pick and roll on one side for Malek and Graham Wight, hoping they would get a shot."

The plan worked well, as Wight's screen allowed Malek to reach the hoop. Malek had 6 of 11 points in the fourth, while Wight tallied 17 and Dylan Tucker added 13 points and four 3-pointers.

"Big win for us. Huge win after losing five in a row," Anderson said.

The Cougars followed that with a 66-36 win over Annawan at Oneida last Saturday. Malek led with 24 points, Tucker had 17 and Wight scored 13.

"They never did get much going against us," Anderson said. "The kids played pretty well, probably as good as we've played all year."

R-W was hoping to have started Adam Kohl from COVID quarantine for Tuesday's game at North Fulton.

After that, R-W gets a long Christmas break before returning to action Jan. 4 at Ridgewood.

Farmington

The Farmers (8-2) faced one of this year's Class 1A elite teams on Saturday at the Great Western Shoot-out and Coach Marty Lozier left the game impressed with opponent Scales Mound — and his own team.

While Farmington lost, 65-54, the Farmers were down just five late in the fourth quarter before Lozier called for an aggressive jump trap to get steals.

Scales Mound was able to navigate through most traps and made free throws down the stretch to widen its lead. Senior-dominated Scales Mound (7-0) also hit 10 of 18 3-pointers in the game, according to Lozier.

"That's the best team I've seen since I've been coaching in high school," Lozier said. "They are pretty impressive. And we were in that game until the end. It was so good for our kids. Both teams knew they had a battle."

Ethan Evans and Logan Morse scored 14 points apiece to lead Farmington. Scales Mound is ranked No. 3 in the latest MaxPreps Class 1A poll. MaxPreps had Farmington at No. 25 in Class 2A.

On Dec. 14, the Farmers beat North Fulton, 60-21.

The Farmers are off until Monday, Dec. 27, when they face Illini West at 1

ICAC Tournament

GLASFORD — This year's ICAC Tournament will be held at Illini Bluffs from Jan. 10-15. Here are first-round pairings. The full bracket will run in the Jan. 6 issue:

Monday, Jan. 10
6 p.m. — Peoria Christian (1) vs. North Fulton (8)
7:30 p.m. — Elmwood (4)

vs. ROWVA-Williamsfield (5)
Tuesday, Jan. 11
6 p.m. — Brimfield (2) vs. Peoria Heights
7:30 — Delavan (3) vs. Illini Bluffs (6)

Jan. 13-14-15
Pairings printed in Jan. 6 issue of The Weekly Post.

p.m. at the Macomb-Western Holiday Tournament.

Farmington was not seeded in the tournament and faces a possible second-round game against top seed Rockridge on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 6:30 p.m.

Elmwood

Senior Andrew Marincic led Elmwood (6-5) to a gritty, much-needed win over Havana last Friday, 48-41.

Marincic suffered a sprained ankle in practice last Thursday but battled through pain to score 29. He also tallied 13 of Elmwood's 15 points in the fourth quarter, including 6-for-7 free-throw shooting.

"Pretty gutsy performance from Marincic on an ankle he turned Thursday night in practice," Coach Josh Fugitt said. "You could tell he was conscious of the way he landed and he took two or three really hard hits in that game and some were probably a byproduct of how he was landing on one foot."

Even so, Marincic also took two charges in the game and Fugitt credited him for stepping up to help rebound.

"It was one of his better games this year, for sure," Fugitt said.

Brayden Lehman also drew two charges and Michael Seibert drew one. Havana's Wandel Campana was called for four offensive fouls and finished with 8 points.

"That probably had a bigger impact on the game than any other factor, that arguably their best player was not in the game for a lot of it," Fugitt said.

"Some of our guys are putting their body on the line and seeing the rewards for that. Hopefully that's something that continues."

Elmwood was to face Stark County on Tuesday and then plays Monday, Dec. 27, at 3:30 p.m. vs. Peoria Heights in the Princeville Holiday Tournament. Elmwood is

seeded No. 3.

Princeville

A young, inexperienced Princeville team is learning the importance of finishing games after dropping a third straight contest in the final quarter.

"We're right in the thick of things, we just can't quite get over the hump," Coach Tait Sennett said.

The most recent setback for the Princes (0-4) was a 48-37 decision at Midland (9-0), the top seed in the upcoming Princeville Holiday Tournament.

"We played right with them and we were down one at the end of three and just kind of ran out of gas," Sennett said. "They hit a couple shots in the fourth quarter and we had to kind of scramble to catch up, and that's not our game."

The Princes were outscored 12-2 in the fourth at Midland. Torence Kieser had 12 points and Marcus Daily added 10.

Princeville suffered an even tougher loss on Dec. 14 to ROWVA-Williamsfield on a Carson Malek layup with 1.4 seconds left gave R-W its only lead.

"He got away from one of our defenders on a nice screen and just got to the basket and our help defense was a little late," Sennett said.

Princeville had led the entire way prior to Malek's shot.

"At the mask timeout with about 3:30 left we were up 6 points and I said, 'Don't turn it over and we'll be alright,'" Sennett said. "I think we stopped attacking and turned the ball over. When you play timid, that's what happens. It was a learning experience for us."

Will Haskell led the Princes with 14 points, Tayshaun Kieser had 9 and Torence Kieser added 8.

No. 4 seed Princeville returns to action Monday, Dec. 27, to face No. 5 Henry-Senachwine at the Princeville Holiday Tournament.

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Elmwood girls lose Knoxville title game

Princeville posts third straight win

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post
KNOXVILLE – While winning easily is enjoyable, teams need to be in close games to learn how to win the hard ones.

The promising Elmwood girls basketball team experienced that this weekend, falling just short of winning the Knoxville Tournament.

After topping the host team last Saturday morning, 51-35, Elmwood (9-3) fell to Illini Bluffs in the title game, 36-29.

Elmwood led IB 27-26 after three quarters, but was outscored 10-2 in the final quarter.

“Early on we had a lot of good looks at the basket and they just weren’t falling,” Coach Gregg Meyers said. “We haven’t had a close game since the Thanksgiving tournament against Midwest Central. And I think we just got a little tight.”

“It’s one of those things

where we need to be in games like that where we need to execute down the line. Hopefully that’s something we can learn from.”

Mae Herman had 13 points to lead the Lady Trojans vs. IB.

Elmwood was much better offensively in its win over Knoxville Saturday morning, jumping to a 17-9 lead after one quarter as Melody Glenn and Bre Turner each sank a pair of 3-pointers.

“The morning game was the opposite. We got off to a pretty hot start,” Meyers said. “Then they made a little run at us, but we just kept going.”

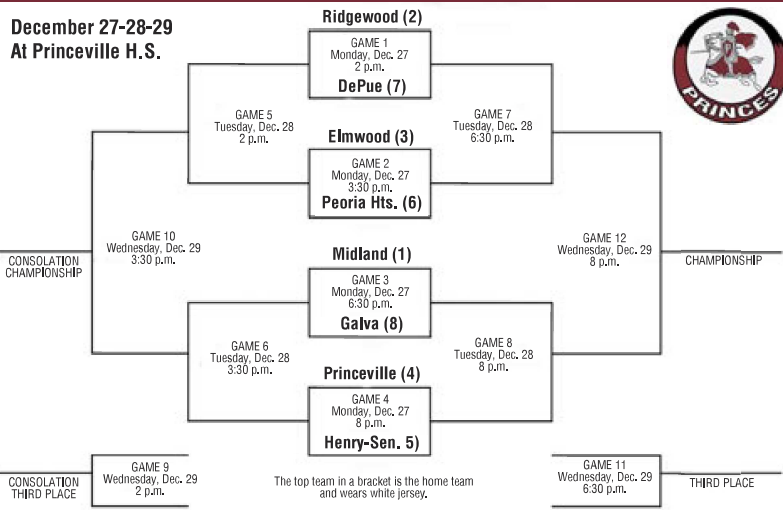
Glenn led Elmwood with 19 points and got support from Liv Meyers (10 points) and Herman (9 points), who returned after missing several games with a back injury.

“That’s the first time we’ve beat [Knoxville]

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93rd ANNUAL PRINCEVILLE HOLIDAY BOYS TOURNAMENT

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Brimfield boys ride emotions to 2 wins

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post
BRIMFIELD – The Brimfield boys basketball team successfully navigated an emotional week to record two wins before heading into an extended break.

Three days after packing the high school gymnasium for a memorial service for teammate Jacob Look,

who died in a tragic hot tub drowning, Brimfield was back in action at home against Stark County.

And instead of a moment of silence in honor of Look, the Indians took part in a moment of loud – with the blessings of the Look family.

“It was about as loud as I’ve ever heard that gym,” Coach Kevin Kreiter said.

Fans had plenty to cheer all night, as Brimfield (5-1) rolled to a 51-25 victory that saw the Indians jump to a 20-9 lead and outscore Stark County 12-0 in the fourth quarter.

“There was so much emotion I was concerned we weren’t going to do all the little things we needed to do,” Kreiter said. “But they just played”

Continued on Page 15

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