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 Vol. 19, No. 47

The Prairie News

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COVID case surge will reduce General Assembly session

By **PETER HANCOCK**
 Capitol News Illinois
 SPRINGFIELD – The 2022 session of the Illinois General Assembly will be even shorter than originally planned due to a recent surge in COVID-19 cases, Democratic leaders announced.
 The session was originally scheduled to start this week with three meeting days – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. But leaders announced last week that they will meet only on Wednesday this week and likely will

cancel all in-person meetings the following week, Jan. 11-13.
 In an announcement last week, House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, D-Hillside, said COVID-19 cases in Illinois had increased 130 percent over the previous two weeks while hospitalizations were up 50 percent. “This pandemic is not over,” Welch said. “We must take necessary precautions to mitigate the spread of the virus, reduce the burden on our health care systems and keep each other as safe as possible.”

Inside

- Galva passes tax levy. **Page 5.**
- A Pekin man has been charged in a Dec. 21 arson in Bradford. **Page 7.**
- Obituaries. **Page 10.**

Lawmakers typically meet from January through the end of May, with a short veto session that is usually held in October or November.
 This year, however, they originally planned to meet only from Jan. 4 through April 8 for a session that would focus mainly on

passing a budget for the upcoming fiscal year. That was meant to leave them time to campaign ahead of this year’s primary, which was pushed back to June 28 due to delays in last year’s redistricting process.
 Since late October, however, Illinois has seen a massive surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, driven in part by the new Omicron variant, with daily case counts now far exceeding their November 2020 peaks.
 In January 2021, lawmakers convened a lame duck session

primarily to consider a legislative package of education, criminal justice and health care reforms being pushed by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus. During that session, the House met in a convention center in downtown Springfield, several blocks from the Statehouse, while the Senate continued to meet in the Statehouse under strict testing, masking and social distancing protocols.
 When lawmakers convened the regular session later in January
Continued on Page 2

A SPLASH OF GREEN

Go orchid hunting in the winter

By **GRETCHEN STEELE**
 For The Weekly Post

It’s no secret that I am fascinated by wild orchids that grow across Illinois. Perhaps part of the fascination comes from how hard they are to find. Habitat loss is a real issue for some species, and the ideal conditions for growing can be species-specific.
 That’s why I like to do some of my orchid hunting in the winter. Now, I realize that sounds absolutely nutty. Who in their right mind would expect to find orchids in winter in Illinois? However, winter is when it’s a good time to look for the putty root orchid in the bare, brown, winter woodlands. Let’s be clear, it won’t be blooming, but it will be a splash



The green leaves of the putty root orchid are a striking contrast to the brown colors of the winter landscape. Photo by Gretchen Steele.

of green that makes it easier to spot.
 I keep my eyes peeled during my winter hikes and hunts for those green oblong leaves on the forest floor during the normally gray-brown desolation that we encounter. I can then mark those spots via GPS or field notes, and I know to return in the late spring when conditions are right to find

some putty root orchids bursting into full bloom. A word of caution to avoid disappointment: Like most orchids, habitat and conditions have to be just right, and you may not always find them the following spring. I always keep checking the spot and surrounding area, though – because generally, I have seen at least one or two
Continued on Page 2

‘Screaming bucket’ case settled for \$100K

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**
 For The Prairie News

TOULON – This past December, The Prairie News filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the Stark County School District, a public tax supported entity, asking to be provided with the results of a settlement that occurred on Aug. 7, 2020, between the school district and the Keske family.
 In mid-2019, the Keske family filed a lawsuit against the Stark County School District after becoming aware that their presumed autistic child had been disciplined by having a “bucket” placed over his head and upper body while he rode on a school district bus.
 Barbara and Nicholas Keske originally sought a

\$750,000 judgment against the school district by filing a complaint at law on June 25, 2019, in the Central District of Illinois Court.
 The settlement agreed to by the parties was for \$100,000. In related documentation, the school district’s insurance carrier will pay the amount specified.
 Part of the \$100,000 has been placed in an “estate” for the minor child of the Keske family, with Barbara and Nicholas Keske as guardians of the estate. The Keskes’ law firm of Stephen P. Kelly, of Peoria, received \$25,774.75 from the total settlement.



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We are truly grateful and blessed by such a caring and giving community. May you all have a wonderful and blessed New Year!

God bless you all!

Marilyn Swearingen, Director,

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LAWMAKERS: Seeking to ‘minimize exposure’

Continued from Page 1

ary, both chambers adopted special rules allowing committee meetings to be held remotely and for some members to participate in floor debate and vote on legislation remotely.

“We continue to monitor the situation in an effort to protect our colleagues, our staffs and everyone else who is part of a legislative session day,” Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park said. “We have work to do, and we’ve proven that we can do it, minimize exposure and keep people healthy and safe. I

encourage everyone to take advantage of the vaccines and booster shots available to protect themselves and those around them.”

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide.

ORCHIDS: Green leaves linger into the winter

Continued from Page 1

blooming nearby.

Granted, the putty root orchid is not a particularly abundant species. Still, it is one of the more common orchids in Illinois and is found in Peoria, Henry and Mason counties.

The preferred habitat includes rich mesic woodlands, wooded areas above streams, low damp areas in rocky upland woods, the bottoms of sandstone canyons, areas near the bases of wooded slopes, and the bottoms or lower slopes of ravines. You can find this uniquely adapted orchid in deciduous woodlands where such canopy trees as American beech and sugar maple are present. Most that I have seen are on wooded slopes or in creek bottoms.

Garlic mustard and Japanese stiltgrass, both rapidly spreading and damaging invasive species, present a significant threat to maintaining populations of this orchid within the state.

Flowers of this orchid are muted yellowish-green and burgundy. These muted colors and tones can make spotting it difficult in the late spring woodlands, as it blends in well with the neighboring flora.

Adding to the difficulty in locating this orchid in the spring is part of what makes winter hunting so much easier. The more noticeable basal leaves disappear before the orchid sends up its stalk of multiple delicate flowers. So what we search for in the spring is a longish stalk with flowers running up it – which can be hard to see in the sun-dappled late spring woodland.

But here’s the cool part about this orchid: The large green basal leaf persists during the winter while disappearing during the summer.

This strange maneuver takes advantage of the considerable amount of light available when deciduous trees are leafless. That’s why I keep



A putty root orchid ready to bloom in spring. Photo by Gretchen Steele.

a sharp lookout for crinkly green leaves on the forest floor while on a winter wander.

The Putty Root Orchid is a joy to view. It has an interesting place in history as well. People extracted a sticky, gummy substance from the bulb-like corms in the past. That gummy substance was used to repair pottery and crockery. That use is what contributed to its common name.

Another name for this orchid is Adam-and-Eve. That particular iteration refers to the pair of corms connected by a rhizome in the root system. For some, this seemed to symbolize the connection between Adam and Eve.

In winter, the basal leaf we are looking for often has a dry crinkly appearance and sports white veins/stripes on a green background.

So this winter, when you are out wandering, keep an eye out for a “weird green leaf” on the forest floor, and you may be treated to a lovely stalk of orchids when you return in the late spring.

COVID case surge stresses Illinois health care

By GRACE KINNICUTT

Capitol News Illinois

As omicron surges across the state, Gov. JB Pritzker warned Monday that hospitalizations are about as high as they were last winter before vaccines were widely available. About 85 percent of those hospitalized with COVID-19 across the state are unvaccinated.

“It is frustrating and tragic that two years into the pandemic, with multiple widely available and free, life-saving vaccines, that we are once again in this horrible position,” Pritzker said during a news conference in Chicago.

The Illinois Public Health Department reported 6,294 people were hospitalized with COVID-19 as of Sunday, the most since the pandemic began. Dr. Ngozi Ezike, IDPH director, said an average of 550 people are being admitted to hospitals each day.

With hospital beds for other emergencies “frighteningly limited,” Pritzker joined the Illinois Health and Hospital Association in urging health care providers to postpone non-emergency surgeries and procedures.

“This surge is testing our health resources yet again,” A.J. Wilhelmi,

CEO and president of the IHA said. Though hospitals have become accustomed to managing bed capacity and the needs of COVID-19 patients over the course of the pandemic, Wilhelmi said the best way for people to provide relief for health care workers is to get vaccinated and boosted.

More than 19 million vaccines have been administered with about 60 percent of Illinois residents fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Pritzker also announced that free community-based testing sites will expand operations to six days a week.



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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violations

12-23 - Jamie M. Clark - Speeding 35+ mph over limit.
12-23 - Trevor G. Gould - Speeding 26-34 mph over limit.
12-19 - Jerome W. Kolb - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
12-28 - Hunter C. Easterberg - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
12-25 - Esme M. Vela - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
12-29 - Ricardo Ramos-Avilas - Speeding 26-34 mph over limit.
1-1-22 - Logan W. Wissel - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
12-28 - Alexis S. Perez - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
12-31 - Jersi T. Warner - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
12-31 - Brady P. McQuellon - Speeding 26-34 mph over limit.
12-31 - Deborah J. Dunn - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
12-31 - Jose J. Ramos - Speeding 26-34 mph over limit.

Felonies & Misdemeanors

12-21 - Felony - John H. Cramer - Aggravated arson, arson, and aggravated cruelty to animals.
Incidents & Accidents
Stark County
12-27 - A single-vehicle accident occurred on Route 78 involving driver Deanna L. Shanks, 48, of Pekin. Shanks reported that she observed a deer in the roadway and hit her brakes which caused the vehicle to slide off the road and strike a power pole. No injuries were reported but the vehicle sustained estimated damages over \$1,500.
12-22 - Kimberly M. Marshall, 53, LaFayette, was ticketed for driving without a license and for driving without vehicle insurance.
12-24 - Ronald E. Douglas, 56, Princeville, was arrested for disobeying a stop sign, driving without insurance, and for driving on a suspended license. He was later released with a notice to appear in court.
12-25 - Christopher B. Cade, 23, Bradford, was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident with property damage, disobeying a traffic control device, failure to give aid or information, and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He posted \$297 cash bond and was released with a court date to appear.
12-28 - Joseph B. Leeper, 50, Chillothe, was cited for speeding 82 mph in a 55 zone and for driving without insurance.
12-30 - Juan L. Contreras, 23, Kewanee, was ticketed for speeding, and for illegal transportation of adult use cannabis in a vehicle.
12-30 - Jordan F. Hazelbower, 40, Holmen, Wis., was arrested for driving on a suspended license, driving without vehicle insurance, driving without a valid vehicle registration.

Galva Report
Officer dispatched:
12-20 - to the 100 block of SE 3rd St. for a complaint involving a residential burglary involving a stolen firearm. This case is currently under investigation.
12-20 - to the 600 block of NW 7th St. for a complaint involving an aggressive pit bull having a person cornered. The dog was retrieved by its owner. As a result, Rebecca



Muckey, 33, Galva, was issued a warning ticket for allowing a dog to run at large.
12-20 - to the 700 block of North Center Ave. for a complaint of fireworks going off.
12-20 - to assist Henry County with a suicidal subject who was driving several miles west of town. The subject ended up being located in Knox County.
12-21 - to the 300 block of SW 6th Ave. for a complaint involving the accumulation of trash.
12-21 - to the 700 block of NW 1st Ave. for a complaint involving animal abuse.
12-22 - just north of the high school for a car vs. deer collision. A crash report was completed.
12-22 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 00 block of SE 6th Ave., Jon Humphrey, 57, Galva, was arrested for possession of methamphetamine and issued a citation for operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a required court date.
12-23 - to the 400 block of North Center Ave., for a theft complaint.
12-24 - to assist a citizen with a water leak in the 800 block of NE 4th St.
12-24 - Officer received information about a wanted person in the 300-400 block of NE 1st Ave. Officer saw the subject, who took off running. Subject was located in the 400 block of North Center Ave. As the result, Dustin Miller, 32, Malden, Ill., was arrested on a Henry County warrant for failing to appear on the charge of forgery. He was released with a court date.
12-25 - to the 00 block of SW 2nd St., for a possible sighting of a wanted subject. Officer was not able to locate.
12-26 - to a residence on SW 4th St. to deliver a message in reference to a family death.
12-26 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 100 block of Market St., Scott Kursock, 52, Kewanee, was arrested for driving while license suspended. He was released with a required court date.
12-26 - to the 500 block of NW 3rd Ave., for a loose dog complaint. The owner retrieved the dog.
12-26 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 700 block of NW 1st Ave., Parker Taylor, 20, Galva, was issued a city ordinance violation citation for possession of alcohol by a minor.
12-21 - Madelyn Damron, 21, Galva, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1300 block of SE 2nd St.
12-26 - Madeline Hunt, 25, Rockford, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1000 block of SE 2nd St.
Property Transfers
12-20 - Danny Lee and Sandra K.

Blakey to Richard E. Gunter - Henderson & Whitaker's Add'n - Block 28 lot 1 - 230 E. Main St., Toulon - Consideration = \$20,000.
12-20 - Martha E. Hultgren, Erika J. Unhold, Erika J. Unhold Succ Co-trustee, Ernst P. Unhold, Ernst P. Unhold Succ Co-trustee, Gerald P. Unhold, Gerald P. Unhold Succ Co-trustee and Heidi M. Unhold to Daniel N. Feucht - Pts Sect 2-12-6 NW - Consideration = \$107,448.
12-20 - Hawkeye Investments, LLC to James R. and Tonya M. Sneed - Pt 31-12-5 SE, Sect 32-12-5 SW & NW - Consideration = \$600,000.
12-22 - Marilyn J. Ely to James R. and Tonya M. Sneed - Pt 32-12-5 NW - Consideration = \$160,000.
12-22 - Leitch Limited Partnership to Venette S. Pittman, Trustee - Pts 28-13-6 NE - Consideration = \$2,304,000.
12-22 - Leitch Limited Partnership to Deanna and Ronald Musselman - Pts 30-13-6 NE - Consideration = \$1,836,000.
12-22 - Leitch Limited Partnership to Jeanine Kraft, Trustee (Und 50% Int) and Spoon River Valley Farms, Inc. (Und 50% Int) - Pt 34-13-5 NW & NE - Consideration = \$1,733,750.
12-22 - Leitch Limited Partnership to EJNP Properties, LLC - Pt 34-13-5 SW - Consideration = \$1,208,000.
12-22 - Leitch Limited Partnership to Marilyn J. Ely - Pt 28-12-5 SE - Consideration = \$984,000.
12-22 - John W. Carroll and Bridget L. Rickard to Rachelle M. Dean - Giles C. Dana's Add'n Pt Block 4 - 409 S. 7th St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$ 62,000.
12-23 - Juliann M. Shafer to Emily L. Brodie, Jill J. Shafer, Luke M. Safer and Kevin S. Westart - Pt 6-12-7 NW and 35-13-6 NE (29% Int Pt) - Consideration = \$0.
12-23 - Brenda S., Lance E., Myron L. , Neil A. Knobloch, Gloria L. Moser, and Melody A. Schulz to Knobloch Family Partnership, LLP. - Pt 22-12-6 NE & SE - Consideration = \$0.
12-23 - Knobloch Family Partnership LLP to Loretta M. Rumbold - Pt 22-12-6 NE & SE. - Consideration = \$0.
12-23 - Loretta M. Rumbold to Jane I. and Kurt W. Ehnle - Pt 22-12-6 NE & SE - Consideration = \$765,000.
12-27 - James D. and Linda M. Vierling to Jane I. and Kurt W. Ehnle - Pt 15-12-6 SE - Consideration = \$7,500.
12-27 - Chad A. and Teresa F. Donath to Scott C. Donath - Pt 30-12-6 SE - 6747 Duncan Rd, Toulon, IL. - Consideration = \$165,000.
12-29 - Mary Jo Kellogg to Jeremiah N. Barry - Foster's Add'n Block C lot 2 - 119 South St., Bradford - Consideration = \$6,000.
12-29 - Gloria Perkins to Clifford Lane, Co-trustee, Jeffrey E. Lane, Co-trustee, and Nathan Lane, Co-trustee - Pt 4-14-6 SW & SE - Consideration = \$511,575.
Marriages
12-20 - Alyssa Emily Williams, Princeville and Santiago Miguel Ortiz, Princeville.

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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CryptoQuote

answer

Success is a lousy teacher.
It seduces smart people
into thinking they can't lose.

— Bill Gates

The Prairie News

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MOWING AND TRIMMING, TOULON CEMETERY

The City of Toulon is accepting bids for mowing and trimming of Toulon Cemetery for mowing season of 2022.

This is bid for mowing the complete cemetery grounds. Grass around headstones will be trimmed, rather than killed with Round-Up herbicide. Experience in the past shows that the trimming around the headstones should be done, on the average, at least every other mowing.

For other expectations and questions, may call City Hall, 309-286-5042, Monday-Friday, 8:30-12 and 1-4:30.

Bids are to be mailed to Toulon City Hall, P.O. Box 597, Attn: Larry Hollis - Mowing Bids, Toulon, IL 61483. Bids will be opened at the January 10th city council meeting.

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‘You can only postpone reality for so long’

Despite an honest-to-goodness flood of evidence to the contrary, more than 100 million American adults continue to deny the existence of climate change. That’s roughly one third of the country.

Congress is little better. Currently, 109 House members and 30 senators, or about 26 percent of all members, have cast “doubt on the clear, established scientific consensus that the world is warming,” according to the Center of American Progress, a policy research institution headquartered in Washington, DC.

The good news is that this astonishing total is down from 150 just three years ago; the bad news is that it’s still 139.

The really bad news, however, is that the majority of congressional climate deniers represent rural America, arguably the economic sector with the most to lose in today’s climate upheaval.

Not even 22 “extreme weather events” in 2020, where damage “exceeded \$1 billion each,” turned their heads.

As such, it’s doubtful that 2021, which will be record-breakingly grim again, will thaw their frozen minds. That means another year of unpredictable risks with no plan – other than governmental aid – after disaster strikes for farmers, ranchers and eaters in 2022.

And beyond 2022, in fact, because very few American farmers, ranchers, suppliers, commodity groups, ag lenders, elected officials or government agencies have an idea, let alone an entire plan, on how to deal with the increasing risks climate change will bring each passing year.

Worse, today’s collective inaction means most of the damaging

change for years ahead is already baked in. Indeed, any chance to minimize climate change’s effects, noted delegates to the Glasgow climate summit last November, relies on keeping today’s rising temperatures at or below a 1.5 degrees-Centigrade increase by 2030.

To do so, the Glasgow scientists stressed, will take a radical and massive international effort starting now.

American agriculture needs a similar plan to meet the production challenges it will face in the long-run and, more importantly, limit the rising production risks it faces now.

For example, you’re an ag lender and a farmer or rancher comes to you for a standard, 20-year mortgage on a \$2 million land loan. Do you factor climate change into the loan repayment cost and schedule?

If not, why not because it certainly will impact repayment.

Equally important, if you want to factor climate change into the repayment, how would you do it? How do you price the growing threat of extended droughts, historic floods, warmer winters, hotter summers and, well, who knows what else?

And, remember, your shareholders, as well as your clients, are very invested in your answer.

If you have no answer, you too could be an ag banker today because most ag lenders have no working plan on how to mitigate – or more precisely, price – climate change risk into the massive short- and long-term lending that is agriculture’s lifeblood.

In fact, the \$325 billion Farm Credit System (FCS), American ag’s biggest lender with 42 percent of all U.S. farm loans, is confronting this reality right now. Its regulator, the Farm Credit Administration (FCA), is doing the same.

Neither the regulator nor the regulated, however, have clearly identified the impacts climate change will have on FCS’s enormous ag loan portfolio or their solutions.

These problems, and FCA’s failure to respond to this existential threat, were laid bare in a comprehensive, 19-page letter from the Institute for Agriculture & Trade Policy (IATP) late last year.

The letter, authored by IATP Senior Policy Analyst Steve Suppan, urged FCA to make several rule changes that would, for example, allow it to move swiftly into “climate-stressed capital markets” to improve its “liquidity” position if the need arises.

And the need will arise.

Quoting a U.S. Department of Agriculture economist’s recent view on government foot-dragging over climate change, Suppan pointed out: “You can only postpone reality for so long.”

Then, as every farmer and rancher knows, reality bites. So what’s the cost of that bite?

There’s no way to calculate it, offers Suppan in a telephone interview. But he adds quickly, “It’s a lot less than the cost of doing nothing.”

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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

No one profits from the closing of Julie’s

To the Editor:

People have asked if investors in Julie’s Cafe Market are “cashing out,” now that the store is closing. Don’t we wish.

Investors are losing all their money, and I am losing much more than that. I made a loan to the store that won’t be repaid, and a personal



loan guarantee to a bank that won’t likely be fully covered by the even-

tual sale of the building. We tried; couldn’t make it work. Hope a subsequent creative buyer can do so. A small town needs a Julie’s.

— Jim Nowlan, Princeton

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

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Galva Council approves annual tax levy

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Weekly Post

GALVA – At its last meeting in December, The Galva Council unanimously passed its annual tax levy in the amount of \$5.84 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The total levy is \$584,139, which is down \$646 over last year.

The liquor ordinance was discussed but will be voted on at the January meeting. The council hopes that all liquor license holders will review the proposed ordinance before it is voted on.

The proposed ordinance states that on Saturday and Sunday mornings no liquor can be sold after 1:30 a.m. and everyone must be out at 2 a.m. Only the owner or bartender can stay in the bar after that time.

Mayor Rich Volkert said the next day that the language is still being worked out on closing times during the week and also what time children have to leave a bar if food is served in the establishment.

There are four special holidays that the bars are allowed to be open later.

Volkert is liquor commissioner and can give verbal warnings, written warnings and impose a fine if needed in the proposed ordinance.

Police Chief Kraig Townsend reported that the police department is going around again to residents who have violations on their property such as junk, unlicensed cars etc. He said the police department has made two and three trips to several residences before the problem is starting to get resolved.

Townsend also introduced new officer Alex Wagner to the council. He is in part-time officer training.

Townsend also noted that officer Calib Ingle is now certified with Galva’s police dog. Townsend said he was very happy that the first day back the dog detected methamphetamines and needles during a traffic stop in Galva.

Third ward alderman Jackie Clucas asked Townsend if he could explain the contract the city has with the schools for a police officer. She said she needed to understand the shortage of police in town and how that works with school vacations and school days off.

Volkert thanked all of the city workers for “getting a lot of work done this year.”

Superintendent Greg Thompson reported that there is a leak in the storm sewer near Galva Elementary School. The storm sewer is dumping into the sanitary sewer and causing an overload.

It was also noted that the Super 8 Motel in Galva is scheduled to reopen in the middle of January. Volkert said he only had a last name on who is taking it over at this time. A local bank is working with the individual.

The council went into closed session to discuss real estate and personnel and no action was taken.

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WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. PLAINTIFF,
-VS-
Gloria J. Kitterman a/k/a Gloria Jean Kitterman; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS DEFENDANTS
NO. 21 CH 3
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on December 3, 2021;

Steven Sloan, Sheriff, 130 West Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483, will on February 15, 2022 at 9:00 AM, at Stark County Courthouse Courtroom 1, 130 West Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Stark County, Illinois.

Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.

Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court.

Commonly known as 308 South Galena Avenue, Wyoming, IL 61491

Permanent Index No.: 07-01-107-010

Improvements: Single Family Residential

The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.

The judgment amount was \$61,792.69. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title

records to verify this information.
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One of Plaintiff's Attorneys
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
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Published 1/7, 1/14, 1/21/22



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Online Auction

To help some people downsize and settle some small estates a online only public auction will be held at 7642 Grain Bin Road Toulon, IL.

This auction will run from December 23 to January 9. It will end with a soft close starting at 5 p.m. January 9, 2022. To register please go to **orwigauktionandeventcenter.hibid.com**.

There will be a 3% convenience fee charged on all credit card purchases and there will be a 15% buyer's premium added to the total sale. Please bring your own packing material and help when coming to pickup on January 11 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For pictures and a complete list go to **auktionzip.com** or my **facebook** page.

Items to be sold include: 39 wooden restaurant chairs, king size bed, Schwinn ladies 3 speed bike, LG electric dryer, LG direct drive washing machine, 2 32" flat screen tvs, drop leaf table, 6 month old Frigidaire refrigerator, 5 drawer chest of drawers, wardrobe, 2 wingback chairs, patio table and 2 chairs, Toro self propelled mower, dog crate, commode, Shaeffers display case, Remington chain saw display, tire banner, Dodge Hemi banner, telescope, painters ladders, settee, waste cans, shepherds hooks, floor lamps, handmade lighted gun cabinet, china hutch, kneehole desk, electric fireplace, kid's bikes, wooden 2 drawer file cabinet, 4 pc white wicker patio set, long handle tools, box fans, 1 room air conditioner, Magna Force air compressor, tv stand, squirrel cage fans, 90+ lots of toy tractors and semis (1/64th and 1/16th scale), bird feeders, 12/2 and 12/3 wire, linens, 20+ flats of costume jewelry, like new PSE Stinger compound bow, area rugs, holiday decorations, cool outdoor scene desk lamps, Isabel Bloom figurines, 14 Lladro figurines, bag chair, pots/pans/dishes, new bedding sets, 20+ flats of marbles, electric pressure washer, 60+ die cast banks, VHS tapes, pocket and belt knives, belt buckles, pocket watches, old games, glassware, hand tools, electric blowers, Brother sewing machine, old buttons, Thomas Clark holiday pcs, Wexford pedestal cake plate, enamel canner, wood carvings, puzzles, Hull 2 handle pottery vase.

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BRIEFS

Stark County students named Illinois Scholars

TOULON – Six Stark County High School students have been named as Illinois State Scholars. The State Scholar Program publicly and personally identifies graduating high school seniors who possess superior academic potential. Each student designated as a State Scholar receives a congratulatory letter, a Certificate of Achievement and statewide recognition. The combination of a student’s exemplary college entrance examination scores and record high school achievement indicate an especially high potential for success in college. Stark County’s 2022 scholars are: **Tristan Gerber, Emily Orrick, Kaitlyn Orrick, Blake Orwig, Payton Stahl and Alexander Welch.**

College honors

• **Hunter C. Zielinski** (Senior) of Toulon and **Jordan L. Sparks** (Senior) of Wyoming made the Fall

2021 Dean’s List (3.6 gpa or better) at Western Illinois University. **Stark County students earn band honors**

TOULON – Stark County High School students **Lauren Best** and **Katie Grinnell** have made the Elmhurst University Honor Band. They were selected out of nominees across three states. **Jack Colgan** made two honor bands, Elmhurst University and Purdue University.

Year-round Sunday concerts announced

CAMBRIDGE – An area group has announced the launch of Crossroads Cultural Connections, a new non-profit organization dedicated to the growth and vitality of Henry County and surrounding areas through music and the performing arts. The “Sunday Getaway Concerts Series” is designed to travel between Cambridge, Bishop Hill and Galva coupled with the Levitt AMP Galva to bring live music to the



Pictured are Tricia and Jason Klein of 920 W. Division St. in Galva, winners of the Holiday Property Pride Award from the Galva: Ready to Grow committee for their lighting display. The couple have decorated for several years and plan to add more each year. Photo by Carol Townsend.

area almost every Sunday in 2022. The first Sunday Getaway Concert is scheduled to take place Jan.16 at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons and features the progressive bluegrass group Still Shine. The concert is open to all ages and begins at 7 p.m., and will be preceded by a potluck at 6 p.m. A \$10-20 donation is suggested. To learn more about visit xroadscc.org.

Give houseplants new life with DIY kokedama moss

By University of Illinois Extension
URBANA – Free your houseplants’ roots this winter by creating organic art through kokedama, a form of Japanese bonsai. Many different kinds of plants can successfully be grown as kokedama. Ideal plants would be ones that can grow in drier con-

ditions Kokedamas can be created with any size plant. The size of the ball will vary to accommodate the plant’s root mass. To create this simple, piece of living art, gather a lightweight potting mix or peat moss, akadama, moss (sheet or Spanish), a

plant, string, scissors, and water. Akadama is a coarse clay-like mineral used as bonsai tree soil. Soak the moss in a bucket of water for one hour then, squeeze out the excess liquid and set it aside. Combine the soil mixture of 70 percent potting mix or peat moss and

30 percent bonsai soil to create the ball. Slowly add water to the mixture until it can be pressed into a ball. Remove the plant from its container and break apart the root ball, removing any excess soil to expose most of the roots. Create a hole in the soil ball large enough to fit the roots of the plant inside. Press the moss around the soil ball until it is fully covered. Or, create a thin layer of moss on a flat surface, set the ball in the middle, and wrap the moss around the ball. Use the string to secure the moss. Proper watering is a key to success. To water the kokedama, soak the moss ball in bucket of lukewarm water for 15 to 20 minutes. Drain the water and squeeze the moss ball to remove excess water, and let dry before returning it to its decorative space. Mist the moss ball between watering.

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Pekin man charged in Bradford arson case

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
For The Prairie News

BRADFORD — Charges of aggravated arson (knowing people were present), a Class X felony, arson a Class 1 felony, and a Class 4 felony cruelty to animals have been filed against a Pekin man who it is alleged set a West Main Street residence on fire in the early morning hours of Dec. 21.

John Henry Cramer, 58, was arrested shortly after the incident that



Cramer

had fire personnel respond from Bradford, Toulon and Wyoming. Cramer was in court the following day for a preliminary hearing with Stark County Public Defender Robert McBride assigned as counsel for Cramer. Bail was set at \$175,000 with 10 percent to apply.

During the fire, two people were able to escape from the residence that is located near Douglas and Bonita Avenue, but four dogs died as a result of the fire and smoke. The residence served as a dog grooming business, as well. Other dogs who were in the house were taken to the Wyoming Veterinary Services to be treated.

Cramer has an active order of protection filed against him in Stark County that involves Jamie D. Cramer and is from September of 2021.

A Class X felony is punishable from six to 30 years in prison if convicted, a Class 4 felony brings one to three years in prison, and a Class 1 felony is punishable from four to 15 years in prison. If convicted, Cramer could receive 58 years maximum in prison, if the felony charges are to be served consecutively.

Cramer's next court appearance is scheduled for this Friday, Jan. 7, 2022. No motive has been given for the alleged arson.

Wyoming Marine saw flag raised on Iwo Jima

By DON SCHMIDT
For The Prairie News

On Feb. 23, 1945, Elvin Durette, a U. S. Marine from Wyoming, Ill., observed a small detail of Marines plant a flag at the top of Mt. Surabachi on Iwo Jima.

When the flag-raising was reenacted with a larger flag, photographer Joe Rosenthal snapped one of the most iconic photographs of World War II. The photo was used extensively in war bond campaigns and won a Pulitzer Prize. In 1954 the Iwo Jima Memorial was dedicated by President Eisenhower to all the U. S. Marines who have died for the United States since 1775.

Elvin Durette enlisted in the Marines on March 12, 1943, at age 17.

After boot camp in San Diego he left for overseas duty in December of 1943. During the famous flag-raising, Pfc. Durette was positioned on the beach of Iwo Jima. A short time later he was raked with shrapnel from an artillery barrage from the Japanese. He suffered a compound fracture of the right leg and several other injuries, with eight pieces of shrapnel lodging in his wounds.

Durette visited his parents in Wyoming on a 20-day leave in November, 1945. He returned to Great Lakes Naval Hospital for two more surgeries. He was discharged April 1, 1946.

Elvin Durette later moved to the Quad Cities, where he died June 9, 1991, at age 65. His remains were buried in Rock Island National Cemetery.



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Request for bids
Mowing & Trimming bids for Bishop Hill Cemetery, Municipal lot, baseball field, and (Piatt Cemetery, on Rte 82). Bids should be for all properties in one bid for the entire 2022 season and include proof of insurance. Bids will include trimming and removal of small debris. Mowing should be done once a week or more if needed. Cemetery stones should be trimmed at least every other mowing. Send bids to Village of Bishop Hill, Box 117, Bishop Hill, IL. 61419. Deadline is February 2, 2022. Bidders may also bring bids to the Village meeting on Wednesday Feb 2 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Bldg.
The Village reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Any questions, call the Village Clerk, (309) 927-3583.

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MSW Projects spreads holiday cheer to seniors

The holiday spirit is still being felt by the many senior citizens of Marshall, Stark, and Woodford Counties thanks to the generous “Santa’s Elves”. Due to COVID, the normal Christmas parties weren’t held at the nutrition sites. We put out the bulletin for Santa’s Elves to help spread holiday cheer to the seniors we serve.

The senior citizens were delighted to have the treats along with warm socks.

We would like to thank the following for helping to put a smile on the faces of those we serve: **Chauntelle Biagi-Bruer, Donna Bays, Erica Anderson, Henry Character Counts, Denise Salisbury, Nettie Anderson, Rhonda and Jerry Neuhalfen, Barb Allard, Jean Goldner, Marshall-Putnam Farm Bureau Young Leaders, Tiffany Moodie, Claire Hooper, Jean Quiram, Terry and Dave Leuders** through a

Thrivent Financial grant, and the many elves who snuck the goodies into the MSW Projects’ office.

We also thank those who donated to the Senior Saver Program. The program is a way for people to donate to MSW Projects seniors meals, and helps us to continue this important service. Donations are welcome anytime. To make a donation, please send to MSW Projects, P.O. Box 140, Henry, IL 61537.



Pictured from left to right are the Santa’s Elves who packaged the gifts and delivered them: Traci Dowell, (Henry Nutrition Site Manager and MSW Projects Executive Director), Kim Johnson, (Washburn Nutrition Site Manager & Woodford County Meal Delivery Driver), Cindi Oathout, (Wyoming Nutrition Site Manager & Stark County Meal Delivery Driver), and Jean Goldner (Henry Nutrition Site Manager). Submitted photo.

LEGAL ADS

• • • IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MERLE E. WALKER

Case No. 2021-P-22
Deceased.
**WILL NOTICE AND CLAIM NOTICE
INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION**
Notice is given of the death of
MERLE E. WALKER of Stark
County, Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on **December 10th
2021** to **PATRICIA K. WALKER** as
Independent Representative,
whose attorney is The Rennick Law
Firm, P.C., Box 430, Toulon, IL
61483.

Notice is given to all interested
parties, heirs or legatees who are
named in a petition filed in the
above proceeding to probate a will
and whose names or addresses are
not stated in the petition to admit
the will to probate, including, but
not limited to, the unknown heirs
at law, if any, of the deceased in
the above named estate
proceeding, that an order was
entered by the court on **December
10th 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 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 Stark
County Circuit Clerk, Stark County
Courthouse, 130 West Main, Box
426, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the
representative's, on or before the
later of 6 months from the first
date of publication in this estate, to
wit: **June 17th 2022**, or 3 months
from the date of mailing or delivery
of notice of death and the names
and addresses of the
representative's and their attorney
of record and any claim not filed
within that period is barred.
Copies of a claim filed with the
Clerk must be mailed or delivered
to the representative and to the
attorney within 10 days after it has
been filed.

The estate will be administered
without court supervision, unless
under Section 28-4 of the Probate
Act of 1975 (IL Rev. Stat., Ch 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. You may
obtain a copy of a Petition to
Terminate Independent
Administration form from the Clerk
of Court at the above address.

E-filing is now mandatory for
documents in civil cases with
limited exemptions. To e-file, you
must create an account with an e-
filing service provider. Visit
efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-
providers.htm to learn more and to
select a service provider. If you
additional help or have trouble e-
filing, visit
www.illinoiscourt.gov/faq/gethelp.a
sp, or talk with your local circuit
clerk's office.

Dated this **10th** day of
December, 2021.

PATRICIA K. WALKER,
(Independent Representative)
By /S/ Robert H.

Rennick, Sr.
THE RENNICK LAW FIRM, P.C.
P.O. Box 430
Toulon, Illinois 61483
Telephone: (309) 286-5921
Facsimile: (309) 286-59721
Published 12/17, 12/24/21, 1/7/22

• • •
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS VILLAGE OF WOODHULL, an Illinois municipal corporation, Plaintiff,

Case No. 2021-MR-243
Vs.
MIGUEL GARCIA,
Defendant.
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
YOU, MIGUEL GARCIA, ARE
HEREBY NOTIFIED that this case
has been commenced and is
pending against you seeking to
demolish the nuisance property at
240 W. 4th Ave, Woodhull, IL,
and other relief.

UNLESS YOU FILE YOUR
ANSWER or otherwise file your
appearance in this case in the
office of the Clerk of this Court, in
the Henry County Courthouse at
307 West Center Street,
Cambridge, Illinois, on or before
January 17, 2021, A JUDGMENT
BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN
AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF
ASKED IN THIS COMPLAINT
/S/ Terilyn Motley
Clerk of Court
Published 12/17, 12/24, 1/7/22

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

Case Number 2021MR12
Public Notice is hereby given that
on Feb. 4, 2022, at 9 a.m. in Court
Room No. 1 at Stark County
Courthouse, 130 W. Main St.,
Toulon, IL, 61483, I will have my
petition heard in the said Court for
the change of my name from
Allysah Le-Ann Morris to that of
Vaerminah Zhataea Shakur
pusuant to the statute.

Dated December 14, 2021 at
Toulon, Illinois
/S/ Allysah Le-Ann Morris
Petitioner
Published 12/24, 1/7, 1/14/22

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

Estate of
Aaron Eugene DeMay, deceased
No. 2021-P-178

Notice is given of the death of
Aaron Eugene DeMay. Letters of
Office – Independent Administrator
were issued on December 14,
2021, to Steve G. DeMay of 24299
East 2900 Street, Prophetstown, IL
61277, as Independent
Administrator, 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 within that period is
barred. Copies of a claim filed with
the clerk must be mailed or
delivered to the representative and
to the attorney within ten days
after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC
Attorneys for Estate
115 Northwest Third Avenue
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 12/24, 1/7, 1/14/22

• • • **IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY**

TOULON, ILLINOIS
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
PLAINTIFF,
-vs-
Gloria J. Kitterman a/k/a Gloria
Jean Kitterman; UNKNOWN
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN
OCCUPANTS
DEFENDANTS
NO. 21 CH 3
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public Notice is hereby given that
pursuant to a Judgment entered in
the above entitled matter on
December 3, 2021;
Steven Sloan, Sheriff, 130 West
Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483, will
on February 15, 2022 at 9:00 AM,
at Stark County Courthouse
Courtroom 1, 130 West Main
Street, Toulon, IL 61483, sell to the
highest bidder for ten percent
(10%) at the time of sale and the
balance within twenty-four (24)
hours, the following described
premises situated in Stark County,
Illinois.

Said sale shall be subject to
general taxes, special assessments
or special taxes levied against said
real estate and any prior liens or
1st Mortgages. The subject
property is offered for sale without
any representation as to quality or
quantity of title or recourse to
Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition.

Upon the sale being held and the
purchaser tendering said bid in
certified funds, a receipt of Sale
will be issued and/or a Certificate
of Sale as required, which will
entitle the purchaser to a deed
upon confirmation of said sale by
the Court.

Said property is legally described
as follows:

A PART OF LOTS NINE AND TEN,
BLOCK THREE IN GILES C.
DANA'S ADDITION TO THE CITY
OF WYOMING, MORE
PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND
DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCING AT A GAS PIPE AT
THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT
TEN, SAID BLOCK THREE; THENCE
NORTH ALONG WEST LINE OF
MAPLE STREET, FIFTY-FIVE (55.0)
FEET TO THE GAS PIPE, THE
PLACE OF BEGINNING FOR THIS
DESCRIPTION; THENCE
CONTINUING NORTH ALONG
WEST LINE OF SAID MAPLE
STREET FIFTY-FIVE (55.0) FEET
TO A GAS PIPE; THENCE WEST
NINETY-THREE AND SEVENTY-
FIVE HUNDREDTHS (93.75) FEET
TO A GAS PIPE; THENCE SOUTH
FIFTY-FIVE (55.0) FEET TO A GAS
PIPE; THENCE EAST NINETY-
THREE AND SEVENTY- FIVE
HUNDREDTHS (93.75) FEET TO
THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

Commonly known as 308 South
Galena Avenue, Wyoming, IL
61491

Permanent Index No.: 07-01-
107-010

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE**
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS CAUSE NO. 2019TX1 TO THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS (AND IF DECEASED, TO THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES), AND TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND TO ALL INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES THEREOF, INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL, ILLINOIS DEPTOF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPT OF HEALTHCARE & FAMILY SERVICES (PUBLIC AID) GENERAL COUNSEL AND STARK COUNTY CLERK, STARK COUNTY TREASURER, CITY OF TOULON, STARK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY, AND TO OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED IN THE PARCELS HEREINAFTER NAMED:

Parcel Number	Owners/ Parties Interested	Cert Number	Street Or Common Address
02-26-206-003	WOLFORD, PATRICIA	201800009	301 ARBOR ST.
02-26-206-003	WALL, TIFFANY	201800009	301 ARBOR ST.
02-26-206-003	WOLFORD, TROY	201800009	301 ARBOR ST.
04-19-303-013	DAILEY, RICHARD R	201800031	223 E. GREENWOOD ST.
04-19-303-013	CITY OF TOULON	201800031	223 E. GREENWOOD ST.
04-19-303-013	DAILEY, SAMANTHA	201800031	223 E. GREENWOOD ST.

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE ABOVE SAID PARCELS WERE SOLD ON OCTOBER 22, 2019, FOR GENERALTAXES FOR THE YEAR 2018 AND PRIOR YEARS, AND THAT THE PERIOD OF REDEMPTION FROM SUCH SALE EXPIRES JUNE 1, 2022. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT A PETITION FOR ORDER DIRECTING ISSUANCE OF TAX DEEDS HAS BEEN FILED IN THE ABOVE SAID CAUSE AS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED PARCELS BY STARK COUNTY, AS TRUSTEE, AND THAT ON JUNE 24, 2022 AT 9:00 AM, SAID PETITIONER WILL APPLY FOR AN ORDER THAT A TAX DEED ISSUE AS TO EACH ABOVE SAID PARCEL NOT REDEEMED ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2022. /S/ STARK COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, PETITIONER.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK
ADDRESS: 130 WEST MAIN, TOULON, IL 61483
TELEPHONE: (309) 286-5911

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY — IN PROBATE

In The Matter of the Estate of
Case No. 21 P

21
GERALD W. BOGNER, Deceased
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Please take notice that GERALD
W. BOGNER died on October 19,
2021, in Henry, Illinois. His
residence address was 401 N. 6th
St., Wyoming, IL 61491. An estate
has been opened as Case No. 21 P
21, in STARK County, Illinois. All
claims against the estate should be
made to Michael T. Marincic,

Attorney for the estate, 2337 N.
Taylor Rd., Hanna City, Illinois
61536, telephone number is (309)
645-4012, by July 23, 2022, and
filed at the STARK County
Courthouse under the name of
GERALD W. BOGNER and Case No.
21 P 21.

/S/ Michael T. Marincic
Attorney for the Estate
2337 N. Taylor Rd.
Hanna City, IL 61536
(309) 645-4012
mtmarincic@yahoo.com
Published 1/7, 1/14, 1/21/22

Toulon Community Fire Protection District Annual Report				
September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021				
The Trustees of the Toulon Community Fire Protection District hereby report the following schedule of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning September 1,2020 and ending August 31,2021.				
RECEIPTS				
Balance from 8/31/2020 (Cash & Savings)	\$176,835.71			
Stark County Treasurer (Taxes)	274,621.49			
Henry County Treasurer (Taxes)	3,864.71			
Illinois Controller	5,404.61			
Foreign Tax	3,140.66			
Interest Savings & Checking	176.10			
IL Fire Marshal Grant	26,000.00			
Misc/Refunds	751.00			
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE DURING YEAR	\$490,794.28			
EXPENDITURES				
Payments to Firefighters	18,730.00			
Training	550.00			
Software	1,590.00			
Truck Maintenance	2,295.10			
Equipment Maintenance	2,036.55			
Insurance	11,477.00			
Telephone/Internet	2,767.67			
Incidental/Contingency	3,197.66			
Publishing	473.40			
Building/Hydrant Rental	14,645.79			
Lease payment-Tanker pumper-SBT	43,000.00			
Equipment	44,344.37			
Ambulance Subsidy	157,488.00			
Lawyer Fees	2,496.00			
Trustees fees	525.00			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$305,616.54			
CASH ON HAND 8/31/2021	\$185,177.74			
Respectfully Submitted Trustees	Gary R. Steward			
of the Toulon Community Fire	William S. Foglesong			
Protection District	John Boarman			

OSCEOLA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2021				
Town Fund				
Cash Reciepts Property tax \$69,333, state replacement \$2,664. interest \$371. and TOIRMA refund \$1,018. Total cash receipts \$73,386.				
Cash Disbursements Internal Revenue Service \$7,160. TOIRMA \$6,769, transfers out \$25,714, Compensation under \$25,000: (R. Moodie, K. Logsdon, M. Chamberlain, J Ellis, J. Young, S. Ehrle, W. Ringger) \$20,661, cash disbursements under \$2,500; \$8,163. Total cash disbursements \$68,467.				
	Town Fund	General Assistance	Cemetery Fund	TOTAL
Balance				
March 31, 2020	\$57,284	\$32,290	\$8,657	\$98,231
Cash Receipts	\$63,146	\$7,584	\$2,656	\$73,386
Cash Disbursements	(\$65,825)	(\$1,167)	(\$1,475)	(\$68,467)
Balance				
March 31, 2021	\$54,605	\$38,707	\$9,838	\$103,150
Road & Bridge District				
Cash Receipts: Property tax \$57,415, state replacement tax \$2,250, interest income \$508, Motor Fuel tax \$29,904, transfers in \$70,437, other income \$350. Total cash receipts \$160,864.				
Cash Disbursements Ameren \$2,287, Martin Equipment \$28,090, MTM \$14,820, Ringger Trucking \$4,341, Tri-Con Materials \$4,546, transfers out \$44,723, Compensation under \$25,000 (A. Koelling, J. Stotter, W. Ringger) \$1,129, cash disbursements under \$2,500: \$27,704, Total cash disbursements \$127,640.				
	Road & Bridge Fund	Building & Equipment	Bridge Construction	TOTAL
Balance				
March 31, 2020	\$39,049	\$18,230	\$106,470	\$163,749
Cash Receipts	\$79,716	\$49,558	\$31,590	\$160,864
Cash Disbursements	(\$78,406)	(\$49,234)	(-)	(\$127,640)
Balance				
March 31, 2021	\$40,359	\$18,554	\$138,060	\$196,973
Subscribed and sworn to this 30th day of November 2021, I, Martha Chamberlain, Supervisor of Osceola Township, County of Stark, State of Illinois, do certify that the above is a true copy of the annual treasurer's report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.				
Martha Chamberlain, Supervisor				

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COUNTRY FINANCIAL

We would like to join our entire staff in wishing everyone a very Happy Holiday season.

Mike Morris, Wyoming
309-286-7053

Merle Hall, Kewanee
309-852-2121

Zach Wise, Wyoming
309-286-7053

Dan Kniss
Agency Manager
815-221-3075

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Answers on Page 3

Super Crossword

ACORN-STASHING IN THE SKY

ACROSS

1 Exchanges for paper money

7 Takes too much, briefly

10 Go, concerned with birds

13 Liquid detergent quantity

19 Opera — (in the work already mentioned)

20 International news agency

22 Relaxed

23 "First Blood" actor Richard

24 Pilot Amelia

25 Like magna

26 Start of a riddle

29 930-mile-long Russian river

30 Politico Trent

31 Raw rock

32 Lakers' org

33 Riddle, part 2

43 Styled like

44 Hair, often

45 Be a rambler

46 "I smell —"

47 Defunct Russ. state

48 Riddle, part 3

55 Airline seat pull-down

57 Dir. from N.M. to Ky.

58 "Play it by ear," e.g.

59 — — — state

61 Decora's

65 Dren's

66 For tang

69 Itaq —

74 Facial blinker

75 Cavalier base

76 Menors

77 Oklahoma city

78 Livid

80 Actor Stephen

81 Basketball

83 Riddle, part 5

90 Turner of song

93 Add to the work force

94 Vertene is its capital

95 No, on a map

96 Liquor choice

97 End of the riddle

105 Prefix with 17-Dom

106 Byrnes who was "Kookie"

107 Wayward Gil

108 Family mem.

109 Riddle's answer

117 Mitchell of NBC News

120 Not yet encrypted

121 Is entirely unacceptable

122 Disclose

123 List the particulars of

124 Coop up

125 Officers-to-be

126 Tutu-wearing Muppet

127 D.C. bigwig

128 "— Fidoles" (card)

DOWN

1 Roman

2 Plane wings, e.g.

3 Raw beef dish

4 Disney's Montana

5 Tall Sicilian volcano

6 Fly high

7 Chocolate cookie

8 Shortage

9 Guarantee

10 Bell's nose

11 Mutt's nose

12 Concerning

13 SURL, say

14 Makes amends

15 Against hide

16 Jack Sprat's no-no

17 Function

18 Writer Deighton

21 Jennifer Lopez's "J to — L-O"

27 Dull

28 Homer Simpson's outburst

32 Cruel Roman emperor

33 Male lover

34 Echidnas eat them

35 Once existed

36 Totally lost

37 Squarish, as a vehicle

38 Four minus one, in Italy

39 Great rival

40 Trailing plant

41 — Strauss

42 Wizard of Oz creator

49 Work over

50 Happen next

51 Comes upon

52 "Luther" star

53 Repeated jazz phrase

54 Smoker's puff

56 P-signs link

59 Sport — (off-roader)

60 Your biologically

61 "Billy, Don't Be —" (1974 hit song)

62 Insect egg

63 Beginning

64 Lauder of makeup

66 Seasoned, city salad dressings

67 French buddy

68 Turner of TV

70 Big coffee dispensers

71 Vincent van —

72 Incline

73 Coffee alternative

78 Suited to —

79 Christmas

81 Court barriers

82 Flight staffers

83 Punch sound

84 Old LP player

85 Calf's partner

86 Not stringent

87 Lead-in to "And how!"

88 Suffix with lobby

89 High-pitched warble

91 Nailed the performance

92 Opposite of 83-Down

98 Nuke, as leftovers

99 Standards

100 NFL six-pointers

101 Legendary Manhattan restaurant

102 Pluck, as brows

103 "Staling 17" star William

111 A law — itself

112 Slush Puppie alternative

113 CD —

114 Female youth org.

115 Incline

116 Subjective

117 Circle bit

118 Org. concerned with the three R's

119 Burnable storage device

CLASSIFIED ADS Call (309) 286-2185

FOR SALE

• WHIRLPOOL GAS range, \$250 cash, everything works. Phone (309) 256-8248.

• GRASS HAY: No rain, on wagons, \$4 bale, (309) 635-4575.

• TRUCK: 2003 Ford F250, 4x4, diesel, have \$12,000 in it, lots of new parts, need to sell quick, \$5,000. (309) 657-7155.

• IRRIGATION PIPE: 3" irrigation pipe with 3' tall nozzle head and fittings, (309) 635-4575.

• CATTLE EQUIPMENT: Catching chutes, gates, hay-silage wagon, hay feeder ring, multiple of all items, call (309) 362-2119 or (309) 224-1733 and leave message.

FOR RENT

• ONE BEDROOM, one bath apartment for rent in Galva. Sewer,

water and trash included, off street parking available, \$550 per month. Call (815) 690-2407.

• STUDENTS WANTED! Rental in Toulon available immediately! 1 bedroom, 1 bath shared home available for rent. All utilities and internet included. We have your choice of upper level or main level rooms. Each level has a shared bathroom and kitchen. Laundry available with washer/ dryer supplied. Don't miss this opportunity. \$450 per month/ \$450 deposit. Lease agreement flexibility. Please call 309-258-3107 or go to apartments.com for more details.

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• 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.

• SALVAGE: Buying junk autos & farm equipment. Total farm clean up. Call Doug Lofgren at Spoon River Salvage (309) 299-8531.



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OBITUARIES

Willodean M. Bhear

TOULON – Willodean M. Bhear, 93, of Toulon, passed away at 3:20 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021, at her home. Willodean was born on Aug. 2, 1928, in Knox County, the daughter of Harry and Marie (Ferris) Way.

She married Bernard L. Bhear on Oct. 30, 1947, in Knoxville; he preceded her in death on June 9, 2011.

Surviving are five children, Richard (Karen) Bhear of London Mills, Sandra (Tapu) Matauaina of Fayetteville, N.C., Karen Seckman of Toulon, Marilyn (Jeff) Beamer of Toulon, and Denise (Louis) Todd of Temecula, Calif.; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren, with another on the way; and one great-great-grandchild. Also preceding her in death was one sister, Connie Gray.

Willodean was a former member of the War Mother’s Club in London Mills, was a member of the Old Settlers Association in Toulon and enjoyed working with the senior citizens in Toulon for many years. She loved to sew and cook. She was well known for her fried chicken, potato salad and her chicken and noodles that she would bring to every family function.

Her funeral was at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 3, 2022, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming. Rev. Marty Smith officiated. Visitation was from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022, at the funeral home. Burial was in Toulon Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Toulon Fire Department or the Alzheimer’s Association.

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

Kevin L. Costin

GALVA – Kevin L. Costin, 67, of Galva, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 30, 2021, at Kewanee Care Nursing Home. Cremation has been accorded. This spring a Celebration of Life will be held in Kewanee followed by a gathering in the Boundary Waters for his final resting place.

Kevin took pride in being a loyal animal rescuer and would like for memorials to be made to the Henry County Humane Society in Kewanee or the donor may select their own. Stackhouse-Moore Funeral & Cremation Services, Galva, is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Kevin Lance Costin was born Nov. 7, 1954, in Peoria, Ill., the son of John E. and Elizabeth A. Eisiminger Costin. He was educated in Stark County and graduated from Toulon High School in 1972. He graduated from the DeVry Institute of Technology in Chicago in 1975.

Kevin was an electronic engineer, where he traveled and sold systems to cities and countries all over the world. He last worked for Oracle Corporation, retiring in 2016.

He enjoyed wilderness canoeing, collecting decoy ducks, water skiing and was an avid pinochle player.

Those surviving are his father, John Costin, Toulon; his significant other,

Luellen J. Liebert; siblings, John Costin, II, Kewanee, Karen (James) Kadar, Plain City, Ohio, Eugene (Teresa) Costin, Galva, Yvonne Jannie (Theodore) Meissner, Kewanee, Daniel (Yvelice) Costin, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Jennifer (Kurt) Schmitt, Richland, Mich. Other survivors include several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews along with his precious little loves, Ivy and Chloe.

His mother, a nephew, Cody Jannie, a brother-in-law, William “Tick” Jannie, and a sister-in-law, Sandra Costin preceded him in death.

Online condolences may be expressed at stackhousemoore.com.

Sue E. Eberle

SPARLAND – Sue Ellen Eberle, 78, of rural Sparland, Ill., died on Jan. 4, 2022, at Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria, Ill. Sue was born on Feb. 4, 1943 in Creston, Iowa, to Doctor Leigh and Hazel (Webster) Beamer. She was proud to be raised in Tingley, Iowa, graduate from Princeville High School, and attend Spoon River College.

On March 7, 1965, she married Ron Eberle, and together they had three sons, Kevin, Kreig and Kurt (Amy) Eberle; and four grandchildren, Tyler, Terra, Turner and Aubryn.

Sue worked with her husband and family in their farming, trucking, fertilizer enterprises, and other agricultural interests for many years. She attended Bradford Apostolic Church and volunteered many hours at the Apostolic Christian Skylines retirement community. She was particularly known for her kind and generous spirit and her friendly and helpful nature.

Sue was a member of the Red Hat Society, a former member of the Henry Yacht Club, was very active in the Sparland Boosters when her children attended school and participated in many other clubs and assisted with various activities. Sue enjoyed family reunions, class reunions, dinners out with friends, and especially the annual winter trips to Fort Myers Beach, Fla., with her husband and friends.

She enthusiastically attended virtually every one of her grandchildren’s sporting and school events and was also beloved by her nieces and nephews.

Sue is survived by her husband, her sons, and their families. She was preceded in death by her brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Jackie Beamer; her brother-in-law, Orville Eberle; and her parents.

Her funeral service will be at the Princeville Apostolic Church at 10 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 10, 2022. Ministers of the church will officiate. Visitation will be on Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022, from 2-5 p.m. at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville. Additional visitation will be from 9-9:45 a.m. Monday at the church. Burial will be in the Princeville Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made in Sue’s name to Apostolic Christian Skylines, Illinois Cancer-Center P.C., or the Richard L. Owens Hospice Home.

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

Virginia L. Kuhrts

TOULON – Virginia L. “Ginny” Kuhrts, 93, of Toulon, Ill. passed away on Dec. 25, 2021, in Queen Creek, Ariz.

Virginia was born on June 27, 1928, and raised in Webster City, Iowa, the daughter of Dr. R.E. and Beatrice (Ervin) Savage. She married Delaine “Stub” Kuhrts in 1951. He preceded her in death in 1983.

Virginia graduated from the University of Iowa in 1951. She worked with her husband, Stub, in the fertilizer business for several years. She also worked at the State Bank of Toulon, the Kewanee National Bank, and the Leezer Insurance Co. She was Supervisor of Toulon Township from 1988 to 2013.

She was a member of the Stark County Quilters, American Legion Auxiliary, Toulon Women’s Club, Order of the Eastern Star and Toulon United Methodist Church. Virginia enjoyed playing cards and was a member of several card and bridge clubs. She loved sewing, quilting, and gardening. She enjoyed swimming and playing golf. She especially loved spending time with her friends and family.

Virginia is survived by a son, Kyle (Ruth) Kuhrts of Toulon; a daughter, Lisa (Dan) Glen of Queen Creek, Ariz.; five grandchildren, Amber (Chad) Anderson, Kara (Brian) Kienzler, Jamie (Paul Kolo) Glen, Jennifer Glen and Kevin Kuhrts; eight great grandchildren, Kennady, Camryn and Kyleigh Anderson, Katelyn and Max Kienzler, and Parker, Peyton “Rae” and Piper Kolo. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Robert and Dean Savage.

By her wishes there will be no visitation, but a gathering in celebration of her life will be from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, at the Newsroom Bistro in Toulon. A private burial will be in Toulon Cemetery. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Toulon Senior Nutrition Center and Stark County Food Pantry. Condolences may be left for Virginia’s family on her tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Gary E. Ault and Karol B. Ault

GALVA – Gary E. Ault, 72, of Galva, died Dec. 11, 2021, and his wife, Karol B. Ault, 71, of Galva, died Dec. 14, 2021, both at OSF St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

A memorial service honoring both of them will be at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 22 at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with visitation from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the funeral home. After the service, a luncheon will be held at Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church.

He was born March 23, 1949. Karol was born Nov. 9, 1950. They were married March 19, 1971.

Survivors include their children, Brenda (Jim) Marek of Spring Lake, Mich., and Greg (Jolene) Ault of Cambridge; and five grandchildren.



Bhear



Eberle



Kuhrts



Costin



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Toulon United Methodist Church

Rev. Leon D. Pomeroy
229 W. Main St., PO Box 538, Toulon, IL 61483
(812) 698-9294
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Sunday. Worship: 10:30 am
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Elmira United Presbyterian Church

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Location: 105 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491
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email: info@thegathering.life
web: <https://www.thegathering.life/>
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

1st Congregational Church of Toulon

Pastor Dan Wright, Youth Leader Michelle West
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon
(309) 286-4901, Leave Message.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. in-person or
watch us live at <https://facebook.com/cmfcctoulon>

Galva Congregational Church

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Sunday Worship: 11:00
Wednesday Night TBD
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First Congregational United Church of Christ

Pastor Ross Wyman
204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491
(309) 695-4091
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Check us out on Facebook
First Congregational UCC of Wyoming, Illinois

Toulon First Baptist Church

110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon
(309) 286-4611
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Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.
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OBITUARIES

Calvin R. Fritz
WYOMING – Calvin “Roger” Fritz, 69, of Wyoming, died Dec. 24, 2021 at his home. Roger was born on Sept. 30, 1952 in Toulon, the son of Calvin and Hazel (Cobb) Fritz. Surviving are two sons, Bradley (Mindy) Fritz of Princeton and Jeffrey (Becky) Fritz of Wyoming; three grandchildren; two step-granddaughters; his girlfriend, Rhonda “Roni” Johnson of Wyoming; former wives, Vicky Heron Montgomery, Texas, and Laurie (Anderson) Fritz of Princeton; and his sister, Carol

(Frank) Tisdell of Toulon.
Shirley A. Gustafson
GALVA – Shirley A. Gustafson, 87, of rural Galva, died Dec. 29, 2021, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. She was born Nov. 17, 1934, in Arpin, Wis. She married John F. Gustafson on Jan. 26, 1957, in Annawan. He preceded her in death. Survivors include her children; Julie Bral of Hopedale, Lonnie Gustafson of Galva and Dan (Connie) Gustafson of Hopedale, her brother, William Esser Jr. of Rock Island, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jordan D. Smith
GALVA – Jordan D. Smith, 27, of Galesburg, formerly of Galva, died Dec. 26, 2021 at OSF St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg. He was born Dec. 18, 1994. He is survived by his mother, Janet Tucker, his father, James (Michelle) Smith, all of Galva, grandmother Martha “Marty” Hannah, three sisters; Heather (Brandon) Avery of Bishop Hill, Kati (Brandon) Cady of Pleasant Hill, Iowa, and Mariah (Colton) Miylor of Galesburg, and a step-sister, Allison Reese.

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SPORTS: Galva boys top DePue

Continued from page 12
Rebels fell to Peoria Manual on Dec. 22, 41-18, despite 12 points by Frisby. The girls were to host Brimfield, the No. 2 team in Class 1A, on Saturday, but the Lady Indians had to cancel the contest for COVID-related concerns. Stark County will be home Jan. 10 vs. ROWVA-Williamsfield in LTC action.
Galva Boys Basketball
Competing in the 93rd annual Princeville Holiday Tournament, the Galva boys basketball team topped DePue on Dec. 29, 43-39, to win third place in the consolation bracket. Galva lost to Midland in its first game on Dec. 27, 83-35, and then dropped its first consolation-bracket game to Henry-Senachwine on Dec. 28, 67-48. Ridgewood won the tournament, topping pre-

viously unbeaten Midland, 71-63. Peoria Heights was the consolation champion. In post-tournament play, Galva lost to Kewanee Wethersfield on Tuesday, 49-27, and had Wednesday’s home game with LaMoille cancelled since the visitors were unable to travel. The boys are scheduled to play at West Central today, Jan. 7.
Galva Girls Basketball
The Galva girls team finished 2-3 at the 10th annual Lee Westerman tournament in Princeville.

Galva defeated Bushnell-Prairie City on Dec. 29, 42-32, and also beat Midland on Dec. 27 by the score of 45-28. The Lady Wildcats’ losses were to Princeville (45-23) on Dec. 27 and on Dec. 28 to Elmwood (42-18) and Tremont (63-24). In post-tournament play, Galva fell to Ridgewood on Monday, 56-40. A game at Princeville on Wednesday was called off due to COVID concerns. The girls are scheduled to play Saturday, Jan. 8, at Wilton Community School District in Iowa.



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Ag Loan Analyst/Ag Lender Position
The State Bank of Toulon is seeking an agriculture lender position for their Toulon location. Job duties would include responsibilities involved in the agriculture loan process, including underwriting, doc. prep., servicing, etc. Qualified candidates should possess technical skills, time management and detail orientation skills, as well as, decision making skills. Excellent client services and communication skills required as well as, initiative and having a positive attitude. Ag. lending experience also preferred, but not required. Position and salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include 401K, medical/dental insurance, paid holidays. If you are interested in furthering your career with us, please send your resume to Douglas Blunier, SVP/CLO, PO Box 609 Toulon, IL. 61483, EOE

Full Time Consumer Analyst/Mortgage Lender Position
The State Bank of Toulon is seeking a Consumer Analyst/Mortgage Lender position for their Toulon and/or Kewanee branch. Job duties would include responsibilities involved in the residential mortgage loan process, including underwriting, doc. prep., servicing, etc. Qualified candidates should possess technical skills, time management and detail orientation skills, as well as, decision making skills. Excellent client services and communication skills required, as well as, initiative and having a positive attitude are vital. Mortgage lending experience also preferred, but not required. Position and Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include 401K, medical/dental insurance, paid holidays. If you are interested in furthering your career with us, please send your resume to: Beth Winslow, Human Resources, PO Box 609 Toulon, IL. 61483 EOE

Full Time Marketing Director/Marketing Assist. Position
State Bank of Toulon is seeking a full-time marketing director/marketing assist. to begin immediately. Responsibilities include directing and managing the Bank’s marketing and business development effort to achieve growth goals, managing the Bank’s advertising, promotional & social media activities, and maintaining a marketing budget. Bachelor’s degree in marketing or a minimum of 5-years experience is preferred. Qualified candidates should possess technical skills, time management and detail orientation skills, as well as, decision making skills. Excellent communication skills required, as well as, initiative and having a positive attitude. Position and Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include 401K, medical/dental insurance, paid holidays. If you are interested in furthering your career with us, please send your resume to: Beth Winslow, Human Resources, PO Box 609 Toulon, IL. 61483 EOE

Full Time Bookkeeper Position
The State Bank of Toulon is seeking a full time bookkeeping department position. Bookkeepers must have computer knowledge. LAN/WAN network knowledge a plus, must be able to multi-task, account balancing skills and banking experience preferred, but not required. Scheduled hours will generally be 35-40 hours with scheduled Saturday morning hours. Candidates should be flexible in availability scheduling. Excellent communication skills required, as well as, initiative and having a positive attitude. Position and Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include 401K, medical/dental insurance, paid holidays. If you are interested in furthering your career with us, please send your resume to: Beth Winslow, Human Resources, PO Box 609 Toulon, IL. 61483 EOE

Amber Waves

Out on a Limb

by Dave T. Phipps

by Gary Kopervas

K.F.U.

by Mike Mariand

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

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.

KABBDKK ZK S VTAKI FDSBWDE.
ZF KDHABDK KCSEF XDTXVD
ZRFT FWZRJZRP FWDI BSR'F VTKD.
— GZVV PSFDK



by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: Which Russian city used to be called Leningrad?
- SCIENCE: What is the coldest city in the northern hemisphere?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase 'persona non grata' mean?
- U.S. STATES: Which state's flag is the only one currently that is two-sided?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the first animal to appear on a U.S. coin?
- FOOD & DRINK: How many herbs and spices are in the original recipe of Kentucky Fried Chicken?
- MOVIES: How many movies did Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire make together?
- LITERARY: In the Harry Potter book series, what are N.E.W.T.s?
- TELEVISION: How many children were in 'The Addams Family' sitcom?
- HISTORY: In what year was the first email sent?

Answers
1. St. Petersburg
2. Oymyakon, Russia
3. An unwelcome person
4. Oregon (state seal on one side and a figure of a beaver on the other side)
5. An eagle
6. 11
7. 10
8. Critical examinations (Nastily Exhausting Wizarding Test).
9. Two: Wednesday and Pugsley
10. 1971

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- West Side Story (PG-13)
- Encanto (PG) animated
- Ghostbusters: 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)

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The Prairie News Sports

Conference play ahead

Holiday tourneys yielded few wins for local teams

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Prairie News

Scoring troubles are plaguing the Stark County boys basketball team, which went 1-3 at the Cliff Warkins Memorial Tournament and lost in overtime to Princeville on Tuesday, 53-49.

Stark County (6-9) made just 10 of 21 free throws in the loss at Princeville.

“We definitely had our chances to win,” Coach Dustin Browning said. “Just having trouble scoring.”

James Groter led the Rebels with 16 points, Luke Rewerts scored 14 and Daniel Kieser tallied 13. Princeville was 12-for-18 on free throws and got 12 points from Parker Melick, who was one of five Princes to score 8 or more points.

At the Warkins tournament in Erie and Prophetstown, the Rebels won their opener on Dec. 27, topping Morrison, 57-47. Kieser scored 19 points and made three 3-pointers in the victory, while Groter and Rewerts put up 13 apiece and Ethan Unhold had 10. Overall, Stark County made eight treys.

“We played better and better as the game went on and ended up with a 19-9 fourth quarter,” Browning said. “We shot well from the 3-point-line, which was good to see, because we hadn’t shot well from there for a few games.”

Those long-range woes returned, though, as Stark County dropped its next three matchups at the Warkins tourna-

ment: 72-42 to Fulton on Dec. 27, 61-37 to Erie-Prophetstown on Dec. 29 and 40-29 against Lena-Winslow on Dec. 30.

“We were playing really hard, but we are having trouble sustaining our offense and have been going long stretches without scoring, causing us to always play from behind,” Browning said. “You can’t do that against good teams.”

Groter scored 16 against E-P and Kieser tallied 12 against Fulton to lead Stark County in those games.

The boys are to face Mercer County at home today, Jan. 7, and then travel to Knoxville on Jan. 11 as the Lincoln Trail Conference slate starts to heat up – if the COVID-19 pandemic will allow.

Stark County Girls Basketball

Stark County lost an LTC game on Monday against Wethersfield, 52-13, and was without top scorer Kylee Frisby.

Prior to that, the Lady Rebels dropped four straight games at Monticello’s Holiday Hoopla tournament: on Dec. 27 to Tuscola (60-12), on Dec. 28 to Paxton-Buckley-Loda (46-35) and Ridgeview (50-17) and on Dec. 29 to Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley (48-23).

Frisby was top scorer in all the games and posted her best outing against PBL, when she scored 20 points. Lauren West added 13 and three 3-pointers in that game.

Before tournament play, the Lady
Continued on Page 11



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