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The Prairie News

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Pritzker proposing \$1 billion in tax relief in budget address

By JERRY NOWICKI
 Capitol News Illinois
 SPRINGFIELD – Each year in February, Illinois’ governor must propose to lawmakers a spending plan for the upcoming fiscal year. The General Assembly will then spend the next several months negotiating which proposals to include and which to scrap before sending the budget back to the governor for consideration. On Wednesday, Gov. JB Pritzker delivered his fourth proposed budget, this one for fiscal year 2023 which will begin July

1, and outlined spending plans for an anticipated \$1.7 billion surplus for the fiscal year that ends June 30. In the upcoming budget, the governor asks lawmakers to spend \$45.4 billion from its general revenue funds, the main discretionary spending accounts for state lawmakers. Revenues are projected at \$45.8 billion, with about \$41.8 billion from state sources and the rest from the federal government. The budget spends about \$1.6 billion less than the one for the

current fiscal year, based on estimates from the governor’s office. Here are some major expenditures proposed by the governor.
Pension contributions
 Illinois’ largest general revenue fund expenses continue to be K-12 education and pensions. The latter will make up 20.7 percent of the proposed general revenue spending in the upcoming budget, or about \$9.6 billion. The governor has proposed adding another \$500 million to the pension payment beyond what is required by law in fiscal

Delivery Delayed
 For many of you, delivery of this week’s issue of The Prairie News was delayed by one day due to Wednesday’s blowing and drifting snow. We apologize for the delay.

years 2022 and 2023. That’s notable, because previous governors have been widely criticized for shortchanging the pension system – something Pritzker proposed, then quickly abandoned, in his first

year in office. The governor proposed spending \$300 million of the surplus from the current fiscal year to pay down pensions, with \$200 million added in the upcoming budget. The governor’s office estimated the \$500 million increase beyond statutory amounts would reduce unfunded liabilities – which sit at about \$130 billion – by about \$1.8 billion. A pension buyout program previously approved by the General Assembly
Continued on Page 2

DOLLAR GENERAL ON THE WAY

Stark board OKs deal for Dollar General

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News

TOULON – Dollar General is officially coming to Toulon. The Stark County board approved an amendment to a purchase and sale contract between the county and Dollar General at a special meeting on Jan. 26. The amendment specifies exactly how a temporary construction entrance is to be constructed. The new Dollar General store is to be located just north of the existing County Highway building and be accessed to and from State Route 91. The temporary entrance will be located at the northwest corner of the county property to provide egress from Route 91. The purchase and sale of 2.27 acres of county property to The Overland Group, LLC, of Birmingham, Ala. and West Plains, Mo., for



This illustration shows the proposed location of a new Dollar General store in Toulon, at the intersection of Illinois Route 17 and North Union Street/Illinois Route 91. Shown is a new entryway to the Dollar General parking lot from North Union Street. Illustration courtesy Judd Giffin.

the purpose of building a Dollar General store is approximately “90 percent processed”, according to County Board Chairman Al Curry. Price tag for the property purchase is \$100,000. Once the contract is signed by both parties, construction could commence. After years of discussion, the county also has plans to construct a new highway building, though the

location is still being evaluated according to county engineer Judd Giffin. Once a new structure is completed, the existing building will be torn down. Giffin said the intention is also to add a privately-run gas station at the corner where the existing maintenance building now stands. The gas station would be accessed from the relocated Dollar General entry.

Grass is greener

Greenhouses switch to hemp growing

By RON DIETER
 For The Weekly Post
 Sometime back in the 1980s, a guy came to our greenhouse business and asked if we sold “the dirt you grow stuff in”. I pointed to a display of potting soils in small, medium and large retail bags. His brow furrowed and he said, “No, I mean those great big bags like you use yourself.” Then he asked about “those plastic pans and little squares you grow stuff in here.” He paid cash for a few big bales of soil and a box of 100 flats and packs. As we loaded his pickup, I began thinking something wasn’t quite right. A real gardener would ask for potting soil, not dirt, and would know those plastic pans and little squares were called flats and packs. And that’s a lot of potting soil. I suspected this fellow’s garden was going to pot, so to speak. I made note of his license number and mentioned the incident later to our county sheriff at a weekly Rotary meeting. A few weeks later, he told me that the tip paid off nicely. My good friend Roy Holding, publisher of The Galva News, and I would often join a gaggle of farmers and businessmen at the Market Street Cafe for coffee. I told the group about the incident. Jack Hathaway, sitting across the table, laughed and told about an unusual purchase at his hardware store. It seems a fellow came into his store and bought 500 feet of garden hose. Jack knew the man lived on a small lot at the edge of town. Why would he
Continued on Page 6

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The Stark County Sheriff's Office is accepting Bids for Demolition of the garage behind the Stark County Courthouse.

Bids have to be into the Sheriff's Office, 130 W. Jefferson St., Toulon by March 4, 2022.

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

BUDGET: Several temporary tax relief measures

Continued from Page 1

has reduced that liability by about \$1.4 billion, according to the governor's office.

K-12 Education

Approximately 21 percent of the budget is dedicated to Pre-K-12 education, an increase of \$498 million from one year ago. That includes \$350 million for the evidence-based funding formula for K-12 schools.

The budget asks for \$54.4 million to provide early childhood education services to another 7,100 children, and another \$96 million in transportation and special education grants for schools. Ag education funding would increase by \$2 million.

Temporary Tax Relief

The governor cited rising inflation as the basis for creating about \$1 billion in temporary tax relief for motor fuel, groceries and property taxes.

The motor fuel tax relief would not lower gas prices, but it would prevent a hike of 2.2 cents per gallon of gas, according to the governor – a savings pegged at \$135 million. The tax holiday does not appear to affect a \$46.5 billion capital infrastructure budget, mostly an extension of the 2019 Rebuild Illinois plan.

The governor also proposed rolling back a 1 percent state grocery tax, a taxpayer savings pegged at \$360 million. The state would reimburse local governments for the tax holiday.

Illinoisans currently eligible for a 5 percent property tax credit – joint filers earning below \$500,000 and single filers earning below \$250,000 – would be eligible for another 5 percent property tax credit under the proposal, up to \$300.

Public Safety

The budget includes an \$18.6 million increase for three classes of Illinois State Police cadets. Another \$5.4 million will go to a new forensic laboratory in Decatur in August.

The budget also includes \$4.5 million to fund body cameras for ISP with \$10 million for grants to local law enforcement for body cameras.

Revenues

The budget does not call for raising taxes. The state does expect a 4 percent increase in income tax receipts at \$22.4 billion. Corporate income taxes are expected to decline 5.4 percent to \$4.4 billion, with sales tax decreasing 1.3 percent to \$9.9 billion and other sources netting \$3.1 billion: lottery \$754 million, legalized gambling \$157 million, adult-use marijuana \$142 million and federal sources just over \$4 billion.

Higher Education

Pritzker proposed spending \$2.2 billion on higher education, a \$208 million increase from the current year. That includes a \$122 million increase to Monetary Award Program grants to help students demonstrating a financial need attend college.

Musselman jury trial date set for June 6

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
For The Prairie News

TOULON – Jason Musselman, 34, appeared in Stark County Circuit Court last Friday, Jan. 28 with his private counsel, Kevin F. Sullivan, of Peoria, for an attorney appearance. Sullivan informed Circuit Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher that the defense waivers formal arraignment and the preliminary reading of the charges against Musselman.

The case was continued to March 4 for a pretrial procedure and the case was put on the June 6 jury trial schedule.

Both the prosecution, Stark County State's Attorney Caroline Borden Campion, and the defense are to exchange discovery information prior to the March 4 appearance in court.

Musselman has been charged on Jan. 21 with nine counts of felony possession of child pornography after being arrested on Jan. 19, 2022.

In the adjacent hallway to the courtroom after the Friday court appearance, Casey Musselman's mother, Dwanna Lipkowitz, sought and received permission from law enforcement authorities to enter the Clinton Street house of Jason and Casey Musselman for the purpose of retrieving some personal belongings.

BID NOTICE

The Village of LaFayette is currently seeking contractor bids for work on the village's maintenance shed. Work needing done includes, applying spray foam insulation to sheds interior walls and ceiling, installing light fixtures inside, security lights outside, outlets both inside and out. Electrical bid will also need to include trench work and running an electrical line from the water tower pump house to the maintenance shed for power supply. Contractors must provide a copy of proof of insurance when submitting written bids. The maintenance shed measures 35x24x10. For further information please contact, Christopher Smith at (309) 509-2522, or Dean Rosebeck at (309) 238-3600. Bids must be submitted by March 1, 2022.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violations

1-21 - Steven J. Cordle - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-21- Quinton A. Maes - Operating an uninsured vehicle.
1-24 - Jonathan Cid - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
1-21 - Kristin A. Woodbeck - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-23 - Daniel L. Peterson - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
1-23 - Cammille S. Gaspard - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-26 - Logan M. Thayer - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-26 - Corissa A. McLean - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-27 - Eldon D. Sturm - Operating an uninnsured vehicle.
1-27 - Travis D. Crozier - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
1-28 - Chase L. Down - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
1-23 - Trae M. Musgrave - Speeding 35+ mph over the limit.
1-22 - Daniel L. Young - Speeding 35+ mph over the limit.
1-21 - James W. Gregory - Speeding 26-24 mph over the limit.
1-23 - Christopher S. Zimmerman - Speeding 26-34 mph over the limit.

Felonies & Misdemeanors

1-27 - Felony - James A. Gross, Post Falls, Idaho - Possession of meth, unlawful use of cannabis, driving on a suspended license, operating an uninsured vehicle and improper traffic lane usage.
1-27 - Felony - Jacob N. Wells, Peoria - Manufacture/deliver cannabis, other non-narcotic schedule drugs, possession of cannabis, transportation/ carry alcoholic liquor and driving 21-25 mph above limit.
Incidents & Accidents Stark County
1-25 - A two-vehicle accident occurred on East Main Street near the Miller Street intersection. According to the accident report driver Max E. Schelkopf, 28, Elmwood, was traveling east on Main Street when James S. Beer, 76, of Toulon, attempted to pull into the Casey General Store parking lot and was struck. No injuries were reported and no tickets were issued. Vehicle damages were estimated at over \$1,500.
1-28 - A two-vehicle accident occurred on Mallard Street near the intersection of Seventh Street, in Wyoming. Drivers involved were Sherry L. LaPayne, 57, Wyoming, and Jill A. Stottler, 46, of Princeville. No injuries were reported and no tickets were issued. Damages were estimated at over \$1,500.
1-22 - Tanner W. Hall, 28, Toulon, was issued a notice to appear for operating a vehicle without insurance.
1-26 - Mikeala S. Seroka, 34, Victoria, was cited for speeding 77 mph in a 55 zone, and illegal transportation of adult use cannabis in a vehicle.
1-27 - Jacob N. Wells, 20, Peoria, was arrested and charged with illegal transportation of alcohol, speeding 78 mph in a 55 zone, possession of cannabis between 500 and 2,000 grams, possession of a controlled substance between 100 and 400 grams and possession of a con-



trolled substance between 100 and 400 grams with intent to deliver. The following day he posted \$1,000 cash bond and was released with a court date to appear.
1-27 - James A. Gross, 34, Post Falls, Idaho, was cited for improper lane usage, driving without vehicle insurance, driving while his license was suspended and illegal transportation of adult cannabis in a vehicle. Unable to post \$500 cash bond, he remains in custody at the Stark County Jail.
1-28 - Joshua G. Wells, 27, Peoria, was arrested by Stark County authorities on a Bureau County warrant for aggravated battery.
1-29 - Latricia S. Runles, 45, Peoria, was arrested for driving an uninsured vehicle, improper vehicle lighting and for driving on a suspended registration. She posted \$250 cash bond and was released with a court date to appear.
Galva Report
Officer dispatched:
1-24 - to the 1200 block of NW 3rd Ave. for a theft complaint.
1-24 - to the 600 block of SW 4th Ave. for a loose dog complaint. The owner also responded and took the dog back home.
1-24 - Officer flagged down by a citizen in reference to a vehicle being driven without permission.
1-24 - to a residence in the 400 block of NW 11th St. to deliver a message for the Galesburg Police Department.
1-24 - to a vehicle vs. power pole accident in the 1000 block of SE 2nd St. Ameren was contacted for repairs.
1-26 - to the 500 block of SW 6th Ave. for a burglary and theft complaint.
1-27 - to a disturbance in the 00 block of SW 4th St. While investigating this complaint, the officer saw a wanted subject walking in the area. As a result, Rebecca Muckey, 33, Galva, was arrested on warrants: from Knox County for driving while license suspended, from Stark County for resisting a peace officer, and from Warren County for operating an uninsured vehicle. She was taken to the Henry County Jail.
1-27 - to an out-of-control juvenile complaint in the 300 block of NE 2nd St.
1-27 - to the 500 block of SW 3rd Ave. to meet with a subject who surrendered his FOID card to police.
1-27 -to Bonham Road. just west of Galva for a road-rage incident. Henry County also responded and handled the complaint.
1-28 - to a residence on SE 4th Ave. for a welfare check. The subject was found deceased. The Henry County Coroner was contacted.
1-28 - to the 00 block of SE 5th St. for a power wire that had been pulled down by a passing semi truck. Ameren was contacted for re-

pairs.
1-29 - to a residence just east of Galva on Route 34 for a welfare check. The subject was fine.
1-29 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 1000 block of SW 2nd St., Clayton Tolle, 22, Galesburg, was arrested on a Mercer County warrant for nonconsensual dissemination of sex images. He was taken to the Henry County Jail
1-30 - to check on a suspicious vehicle in the 400 block of NE 2nd St.
1-30 - to check on two intoxicated subjects walking home in the 200 block of N. Center Ave.
1-30 - to Wiley Park to assist a citizen who believed they locked their keys in a vehicle. The keys were found in their coat pocket.
1-30 - While patrolling, officer noticed that all Galva railroad crossings were blocked by a stopped train. BNSF was contacted and the train eventually moved along.
1-30 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 100 block of NE 4th St. Madison Palmer, 20, Galva, was arrested for driving while license suspended and no rear license plate light. She was released with a required court date.
1-24 -Jacquelinnn Mitchell, 40, Wonder Lake, Ill., was issued a citation for operating an uninsured vehicle in the 800 block of SE 2nd St.
1-28 - Brett Hallock, 32, Kewanee, was issued a citation for no insurance in the 300 block of SE 2nd St.
1-30 - Joel Brewster, 49, Galva, was issued a citation for speeding in the 900 block of N. Center Ave.
1-30 - David Mock, 18, LaFayette, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1000 block of N. Center Ave.
1-30 - Charles Day, 58, Milwaukee, Wis., was issued a citation for speeding in the 600 block of S. Center Ave.
1-30 - Matthew Taylor, 49, Kewanee, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.
Property Transfers
1-24 - Brynn Meszar to Brynn Meszar and Anthony Wagher - Henderson & Whitaker’s Add’n - Block 11 Lot 1 - 110 E. Greenwood St., Toulon - Consideration = \$0.
1-26 - MFD, LLC to Hawkeye Land Investments, LLC - Pt 29-13-5 NW - Consideration = \$400,000.
1-27 - Andrew T. and Tara J. Rash to Jordan Luthi - Pt Lt 1 Noard Sub. Section 18-14-6 SW - Noard Subdivision - 15049 Twp Rd 650 E. Kewanee - Consideration = \$349,900.
1-28 - John P. and Roxanne F. Owens to James D. Owens - Pts Sect 25-14-7 NW - 157 E. Main St., Bradford - Consideration = \$0.
1-28 - Mark E. Megan, Dec’d by Ind. Admin. to Michelle D. and Paul M. Webster - Pts Sect 22-12- 5 NE - 3660 Sharkey Highway, Toulon - Consideration = \$142,500.

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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CryptoQuote

answer

I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.
- Rosa Parks

The Voice of Stark and eastern Henry Counties

The Prairie News

The Prairie News is published every Friday (except the last week of December and a week in July) by Lampe Publications LLC, 115 W. Main St., Elmwood, IL 61529.

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Deadlines - News due Tuesdays by 3 p.m. Ads due Mondays by 3 p.m. The Prairie News encourages readers to submit news for publication. Email to: news@prairie-news.com

The Prairie News assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors, but will reprint that part of an ad in which the error occurred.

The Prairie News is a member of the Illinois Press Association.

BAC'S Tournament

Sat. Feb.5th at 1:00 PM
Wy-Hi Community Center
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Just show up and brackets will be made out.
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We are hosting our fifth Craft/Vendor Show. All funds raised will be used to help assist families in financial need to help pay their vet bills. (money paid directly to Veterinarian).

Please come join us for shopping with vendors such as Posh, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simply, Pink Zebra, MS Creations, Little Valley Crafts, Pop of the Morning, BV Jewelry Designs, Scentsy just to name a few.

Come have breakfast and lunch with us. Buy chances to win raffle baskets donated by our sponsors, Kew Vet Clinic, Sauk Trail Animal Hosp., Lifestyles Fitness, Kew Park District, OSF St. Luke's, New View Furniture, Rux Funeral Home, Jessie's Closet, SBT, Creative Look, PNB, Farm King, Auto Zone, CSB, O'Reilly's, State Farm Ins., Napa.

The Stark County Sheriff's Office is accepting Bids for Mowing and Trimming the Courthouse Yard, County Cemetery and the Sheriff's Office Yard.

All bids must be turned into the Sheriff's Office, 130 W. Jefferson St., Toulon by March 4, 2022.

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

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Not all climate change solutions are equal

If today’s California is what the rest of America will look like tomorrow, you might want to brace yourself for too little water, too much animal manure, and \$4.65-per-gallon gasoline.

And, weird, too, because in California these too-little, too-much, and too-expensive elements have been combined to create what was thought to be a partial cure for climate change.

The first, water, is precious. The same amount of municipally-supplied water that costs \$23 a month in Nebraska costs \$65 a month in the Golden State. Only 20 percent of all water, however, flows to 39 million Californians; agriculture gulps the other 80 percent.

Thirsty crops, right? More like thirsty livestock: “47 percent of California’s water footprint is associated with the production of meat and dairy,” reports the Sacramento-based Comstock’s Magazine.

Animals and water – no matter the livestock or the state – means manure. In California, that combination also means taxpayer subsidies to build manure handling systems to capture methane generated in anaerobic digesters to be burned by vehicles or put into the natural gas grid.

That recipe sounds like a two-birds-with-one-stone solution to ag’s two growing problems, increased methane pollution from a deepening dependence on CAFOs (confined animal feeding operations) and animal ag’s growing role in global climate change.

Alan
GUEBERT

Or at least it did until manure digesters were built and monitored. Their early results were worse than poor, according to a January report on manure digesters by Reuters. In fact, the results were dismal.

“In 2009,” the story noted, “the Obama administration and an industry group, the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, pledged to reduce the industry’s greenhouse gas emission by 25 percent by 2020 over levels in 2007, in part by expanding federal support for new digesters.”

“Instead, methane emissions in the sector have risen more than 15 percent, in part driven by growth in herd size...” In short, one solution – methane-making manure digesters – led to a second, bigger problem, more manure-making cows.

That’s just basic ag economics, explained Rebecca Wolf of Food & Water Watch, an environmental watchdog group, in the Reuters story: “If you start making money off of pollution, you’re not going to stop polluting.”

Indeed, pollution grows with digesters because livestock numbers grow with digesters.

States like Iowa, however, are choosing to ignore the acrid evidence. Recently, Iowa enacted a digester-promoting law that, according to the Cedar Rapids Gazette, not only doesn’t worry about livestock expansion it “allows Iowa animal feeding operations to exceed confinement capacity if [farmers] install an anaerobic digester to treat all manure...”

Uncle Sam wants in the bigger CAFOs/bigger digester game, too. The Biden Administration’s still-unpassed, \$1-trillion-plus Build Back Better program contains a river of federal subsidies to promote “climate mitigation” strategies like manure di-

gesters in the coming years.

Some ag researchers, however, want to flatten that rising trend.

In a Dec. 14 podcast titled “On biodigesters – are they a real win-win technology?” three University of Iowa research professors, Silvia Secchi, Chris Jones and Dave Cwierny, agreed that Iowa’s new focus on digesters as a solution to the state’s overwhelming livestock manure problem almost guarantees more and bigger CAFOs in Iowa and even more unmanageable manure.

“If this is such a winning proposition for farmers,” noted Secchi, an economist and geographer, in the episode, “why should public money be spent on it; why not private investment?”

Secchi goes on to add, “We are rushing headlong into these so-called solutions because they have this ‘feel-good’ factor like ‘soil health’ but don’t yet have the results to prove it.”

California, however, now faces some digester indigestion. Recently, noted Reuters, “Environmental groups petitioned the California Air Resources Board to make [manure digesters] ineligible for [state] credits, arguing their presumed role in combating climate change was inflated and that the credits encourage making more manure.”

Which California – and the rest of the U.S. and its taxpayers – neither need nor want.

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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.

2022 priorities indicate changes ahead for ag

The icy winter temps in the Midwest mean a slow season for many. But for Illinois farmers like me, it’s the time of year to plan ahead for the spring planting season.

Many in agriculture are already feeling the strain of rising input costs and fractured supply chains due to the ongoing pandemic. Farmers are worried these issues could be compounded by additional water regulations and unreliable fuel standards, which will drastically impact many family farms.

Richard
GUEBERT

The Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors, which represents the largest group of farmers in the state, set new priorities for the organization in January. They’ll focus on supporting members as the ag industry faces the challenges ahead.

Rising input costs

Since the spring of 2020, nearly every person has experienced price fluctuations and supply limitations on products they need. For farmers, fertilizer shortages have made a large dent in business profitability.

Growers are reporting price hikes of more than 300 percent on fertilizer purchases this year. That’s especially significant because fertilizer costs account for approximately 15 percent of the total cash

costs for crops.

And the lack of truck drivers and congestion at American ports mean delivery times are anyone’s best guess.

If these trends continue, consumers might also see rising prices at the grocery. To curb this issue, we’re looking to Congress to help us find solutions.

Changing water regulations

Last November, the Biden administration announced a plan to return to a previous definition of “waters of the United States.” The proposed regulation would repeal the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule and broaden the federal government’s authority under the Clean

Continued on Page 5

FARM: Possible water rule change confusing

Continued from Page 4
Waters Act.

Farmers are frustrated with the federal government’s decision to expand federal jurisdiction onto waterways on private lands.

The revised rule would make it difficult for farmers and property owners to decipher where their property will be impacted and create challenges when implementing conservation practices in those areas.

For people whose properties won’t be affected by the ruling, this issue might seem trivial. But for family farmers who would lose the right to manage parts of their land, it’s a big concern.

As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers considers a final rule, the agriculture community would like to see clear terms that are easy to interpret and apply, with flexibilities for landowners

to conduct innovative and environmentally beneficial projects.

Infrastructure, broadband

As one of the largest producers and exporters of soybeans and corn in the country, Illinois ag has played a critical role in ag trade for decades.

Over time, the transportation of commodities has left the roads, bridges and waterways in our state in desperate need of repair.

The \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill signed into law by President Biden last fall works to address the wear and tear on transportation systems across the nation.

As funds make their way to our state, it’s important that they’re used to rebuild transportation routes that get supplies to farms and, in turn, help farmers get their products to consumers.

Dollars should also be disbursed fairly to rural areas, especially the funds marked for expanding rural broadband.

The need for additional education and telehealth resources has become increasingly important while dealing with fluctuating COVID cases over the past couple of years.

As it stands, many farmers and entrepreneurs in small towns lack the technology they need to improve their businesses.

When large meat packing plants closed their doors early on in the pandemic, small companies stepped up to the plate to fill the need. The situation demonstrated why businesses of all sizes are needed to keep our domestic food supply strong.

Just imagine the innovation and economic gains that would come with access to reliable, affordable and fast internet in all parts of the state, not just the highly populated areas.

With so much on the table for farm families in 2022, it’s critical that they get the tools they need to succeed. The supply of food, fuel and fiber people depend on relies on the strength of agriculture in our state.

Richard Guebert is president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This op-ed was distributed through a cooperative project between the IFB and the Illinois Press Association. Read more at FarmWeekNow.com.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Macklyn Elyce Knowles

Kal and Allison Knowles of rural Toulon are proud to announce the birth of their daughter **Macklyn Elyce Knowles**. **Macklyn** arrived at 2:50 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021, at OSF St. Francis, Peoria. She weighed 7 lbs., 4 ozs. and was 18 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Paul and **Diana Cobb** of Bradford and **George and Alice Horrie** of Kewanee. Paternal grandparents are **Keith Knowles** of rural LaFayette and **Deborah Clarke** of Edgewater, FL. Macklyn is welcomed home by big brothers **Breckin** and **Coleson**.



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The farm contains a total of 93.68 taxable acres, will be sold in 1 tract and represents nearly all tillable, highly productive cropland. Farmers and investors, be sure to check out this Marshall County, IL farm.

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NOTE: This auction is much bigger than the ad appears. Watch for updates on Facebook and our website. 2 lines will be running, so plan accordingly.

ANTIQUES: aluminum Christmas tree and color wheel—Co-op feed sign—Heaton & Dillon wooden box, Victoria, IL—yardstick from Stodgel Chev. Sales, Williamsfield, IL—Inez Switzer plate—old phone books—church plate—Al’s Sporting Goods adv. calendars—Admiral ash tray—local adv. pieces—prim. chicken feeders, crates, egg scales, chicken jar—gray graniteware pieces—variety of glass oil lamps w/ chimneys and lamp bases—Children egg whip—old metal buckets—Standard grease can—other old cans and tins—sugar bucket—quilts and linens—wooden totes and boxes—butter churn—heart dish—wooden apple tray—misc. colored glass—pottery, misc. crocks and jugs—nice ant. toys and children’s items—cast iron kettle, fountain pail and more—Hurricane lamp—coal bucket—old telephones and cameras—cow bell, old utensils, boxes, many misc. primitives—fire extinguisher—RR light—large water jar—shelving—benches and stools—yarn winder—floor humidifier—old red painted trunk—smoke painted immigrant’s trunk—Ball lids—meat grinder, knife—old fan—old candles—2 rare wooden round wash boards—old Fiesta soup bowls, and more—Americana glass bowl—other glass—black memorabilia—metal dishes—old suitcases—nice yard Jarts in orig. box—nice old German steins—wooden canes—bird houses—Presidential glass bottles—Snoopy/ Peanuts items—lg. painted frames—old spice cabinet—bushel baskets—much misc. will be uncovered by sale day.

PRIM. FURNITURE: Prim. corner cupboard—walnut jelly cabinet—painted dry sink—2 door yellow cupboard—ice cream parlor table w/iron feet—pie/jelly cupboard—2 drawer drop leaf table—sm. Hanging cabinet—3 tier table—linen cupboard—child’s wicker vanity, child’s chair—hanging corner cupboard—3 drawer desk—round table w/checkerboard top—oak 2 drawer file cab.—nice 5’8” Wayne’s coating cabinet—bathroom cabinet—old kitchen chairs—misc. furniture.

TOOLS AND OUTDOOR: 1966 20HP Johnson boat motor—trolling motor, fishing poles and other items—16” McCulloch chain saw—18” chainsaw—metal tool box w/ tools—Craftsman drill and tools—sabre saw, 12 v. compressor, 1 gallon sprayer—6 amp battery chargers—cement tools—B & D circular saw—small tiller—electric blower—8’ wooden ladder—gas cans—chain link fence—log chains—shovels, pitchforks and other yard tools—post hole digger—squirrel feeder—car ramps—5 laminated wooden beams—2 10 x 10 wood truck tool boxes—fruit picker—misc. items.

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U.S. Bank National Association PLAINTIFF
Vs.
Francesca S. Wagley; et. al. DEFENDANTS
2019CH8
NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 02/28/2020, the Sheriff of Stark County, Illinois will on March 14, 2022 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Second floor courtroom of the Stark County Courthouse 130 Main Street Toulon, IL 61483, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stark and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
PIN 06-33-100-003
Improved with Single Family Home COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 934 Township Road 200E Toulon, IL 61483
Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is

calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).
If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney.
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will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.
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HEMP: Granville greenhouse top hemp grower

Continued from Page 1

need that much hose? Acting on Jack’s tip, authorities followed the hose from the house out into the neighboring cornfield to a thriving patch of marijuana.

Fast forward to today and greenhouse growers are getting into the business. Some commercial greenhouse operations in the U.S. and Canada have converted from mums and marigolds to medical marijuana. Others have started growing hemp for the production of CBD products.

Taxonomically speaking, marijuana and hemp are identical and are considered varieties of the same

species, Cannabis sativa. The big difference, according to growers and government regulators, is the amount of THC, tetrahydrocannabinol, in the plant tissues.

THC is the compound that produces that marijuana “high.” To be classified as hemp, a Cannabis plant must contain no more than 0.3 percent THC. Marijuana plants typically have five to twenty percent THC. Growing “high” marijuana is very strictly regulated. In Illinois only one grower is allowed per State Police district, of which there are 22.

Most commercial greenhouse growers who con-

verted to Cannabis production are growing hemp for CBD products. One of the largest hemp growers in the U.S. is Mid-American Growers in nearby Granville.

Mid-American Growers started in 1971 as a grower of ornamental annuals, Easter lilies and poinsettias in eight acres of greenhouses. Over the years, the facilities has mushroomed to 3.5 million square feet. That’s over eighty acres under glass. The operation serviced more than seventy-five Lowe’s stores and other outlets throughout the Midwest before it switched to Cannabis.

According to a 2019 survey of the 100 largest greenhouses in the U.S., 13 percent planned to convert some or all of their operations to hemp. That could mean a significantly reduced availability of ornamental plants.

A carload of products can be made from hemp – even

the car. Every part of the plant – seed, flowers, leaves, stalks and roots – can be used for something, whether textiles, biofuels, rope, paper, plastics, or protein supplements, to name a few. Henry Ford even made a plastic car body “stronger than steel” using cellulose fibers from hemp and other plants.

Of course the most popular hemp products are those made with cannabidiol, the hemp extract known as CBD. Cannabidiol is offered as a natural remedy for common ailments like anxiety, pain, cramps, high blood pressure and sleeplessness. Mid-American sells a number of CBD oils, tinctures, salves and soaps.

Science is still weighing the effectiveness of CBD products and I notice that all CBD health claims contain the words “may” and “could.” Meanwhile, for greenhouse growers the grass is getting greener.



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BRIEFS

College honors

• **Aaron Plotner**, of Toulon, has made the Fall 2021 Dean’s List (3.5 gpa or better) at Minnesota State College Southeast

Sign up set for Feb. 7 for Galva Pre-K

GALVA – A sign-up for the 2022-23 Galva Pre-K program will be held Feb. 7-11 at Galva Elementary School between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. To enroll, children must be at least 3 years old by Sept. 1, 2022.

Because of limited enrollment, each child will be screened in March to determine who will be eligible to attend.

Current Pre-K student returning to Pre-K for next year will be automatically registered for the 2022-23 school year.

Parents may pick up paperwork in the elementary school foyer and return it there after completion.

For more information, please call (309) 932-2420.

Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc. meets Feb. 5

BISHOP HILL – The Bishop Hill Heritage Association will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, Feb. 5, at the Steeple Building Museum, 103 North Bishop Hill Street. The meeting starts at 9 a.m. and is open to BHHA members only.

Items to be covered at the annual meeting will include: the election of board members and officers; a review of 2021; and a preview of 2022 events.



Pictured above, local residents enjoyed breakfast at the annual Bradford Lion’s Club Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Jan. 16 at Bradford CUSD #1. The Bradford Student Council, NJHS, Boy Scouts and other community members volunteered at the event.

This will be both an in-person and Zoom meeting. To obtain the Zoom link, email bhha@mymctc.net or call (309) 927-3899. Masks are required if you attend the meeting in-person. Light refreshments will be served.

Toulon’s Becker makes UW-Whitewater track

TOULON – **Lena Becker**, a native of Toulon and graduate of Stark County High School, will compete for the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater women’s track and field team during the 2022 season, which begins this Saturday.

Becker is a freshman at UW-Whitewater.

Tri-County Opportunities offers scholarships

ROCK FALLS – At least 12 scholarships will be awarded by Tri-County Opportunities Council.

- Eligibility requirements include:
- Applicant must be a member of an income-eligible household.
 - Applicants must be attending an Illinois accredited post-secondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2022.
 - Applicants must be a resident of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark or Whiteside counties.
 - Students must be considered full-time (minimum of 12 semester hours) to qualify for the full \$1,250 scholarship. Part-time students will be considered in the competition, however, scholarship awards will be pro-rated if they are selected as a winner.
- Application deadline is March 25. Information and application forms can be obtained by calling (800) 323-5434, Ext.710 or by visiting www.tcochelps.org.

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2022 Pancake, Sausage & Scrambled Egg Breakfast
Due to the rise of COVID cases and since this strain of the virus seems to be more easily spread, the majority of the Wyoming Lions Club board feels that, out of an abundance of caution, it is best to again cancel this year's fundraiser.
We know many people look forward to it, but an event that draws upwards of 500 people just doesn't seem prudent.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STILL SUPPORT THE MANY PROJECTS THE LIONS DO IN OUR COMMUNITY, PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING A DONATION TO:
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LEGAL ADS

CLAIM NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS
STARK COUNTY
In Re **ESTATE OF GLENDA R. MURRAY,**
No. 2021P24
Deceased.
NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of **GLENDA R. MURRAY** on October 4, 2021. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to **GINETTE R. PETTY**, of 3333 Wesleyan Street, Apt. 1136, Houston, Texas 77027, as Executor, 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 Of-ice, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, Illinois, or with the representative or both on or before the **29th day of July, 2022**, or if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representative is required by Sec. 18-3 of the Probate Act of 2075, 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 or 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 representative 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 7th day of January, 2022.
GINETTE R. PETTY, Executor
of the Estate of **GLENDA R. MURRAY, Deceased.**
ASHLEE E. STABLER, Esq.
WHITNEY & POTTS, Ltd.
Attorneys for Executor
118 West Main Street
P. O. Box 368
Elmwood, IL 61529-0368
Telephone: (309) 742-3611
ashlee@whitneyandpotts.com
Published 1/21, 1/28, 2/4/22

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF
No. 2021-P-25
JOSEPH L. BARKS, Deceased
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS AND NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY
TO: Unknown Heir or Heirs, if any, of **JOSEPH L. BARKS**, Deceased, and to all persons unknown who may have a claim or interest in the Estate of **JOSEPH L. BARKS**, deceased.
Notice is given to the Unknown Heir or Heirs at Law, if any, **JOSEPH L. BARKS**, deceased, whose name or names are unknown, and whose addresses are unknown, and that **JOSEPH L. BARKS**, deceased, died a resident of 13650 N. Modena Road, Bradford, Illinois, on August 27, 2021, and that Donna Courtway has been appointed as Administrator by Order of the Circuit Court of Stark County, Illinois.
Notice is hereby given of the death of **JOSEPH L. BARKS** on August 27, 2021, and that Letters of Administration-Independent Administration were issued on January 7, 2022, to Donna Courtway, 309 S. Musselman, Toulon, IL 61483, whose attorney of record is Anne C. Rennick, P.O. Box 90, Wyoming, IL 61491.
Claims may be filed on or before the 22nd day of July, 2022, or 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice of Claim Day, whichever is later, and any claim not filed on or before the date is barred.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) July 22, 2022, or (b) if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Representative is required by the provisions of Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before the aforementioned date(s) is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated: January 13, 2022
/S/ Anne C. Rennick

Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Joseph L. Barks
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309)-695-4701
Fax: (309)-695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 1/21, 1/28, 2/4/22

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
No. 2021-P-23
LINDA D. JOHNSTON, Deceased)
NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Linda D. Johnston.
On January 7, 2022, Letters of Administration-Independent Administration were issued to Matthew T. Johnston, 100 E. Wrigley Street, Wyoming, IL 61491, whose attorney of record is Anne C. Rennick, P.O. Box 90, Wyoming, IL 61491.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) July 22, 2022 or (b) if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Representative is required by the provisions of Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before the aforementioned date(s) is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated: January 13, 2022
/S/ Anne C. Rennick
Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Linda D. Johnston
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309)-695-4701
Fax: (309)-695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 1/21, 1/28, 2/4/22

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STARK COUNTY
TOULON, ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STARK COUNTY - TOULON, ILLINOIS
U.S. Bank National Association PLAINTIFF
Vs.
Francesca S. Wagley; et. al.
DEFENDANTS
2019CH8
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 02/28/2020, the Sheriff of Stark County, Illinois will on March 14, 2022 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Second floor courtroom of the Stark County Courthouse 130 Main Street Toulon, IL 61483, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stark and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS AND BEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESCRIPTION ONLY: BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE NORTH 89°58'00" EAST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 22, A DISTANCE OF 180.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'00" WEST, 411.50 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF AN EXISTING 3.40 ACRE TRACT, THENCE SOUTH 89°58'00" WEST, ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRACT 180.00 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE NORTH 00°00'00" EAST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 411.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; SITUATED IN STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN A

PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS AND BEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESCRIPTION ONLY: COMMENCING AT AN IRON ROD AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE NORTH 89°58'00" EAST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 180.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING FOR THE TRACT TO BE DESCRIBED; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 89°58'00" EAST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 180.00 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF EXISTING 3.40 ACRE TRACT; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'00" WEST, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT, 411.50 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID TRACT; THENCE SOUTH 89°58'00" WEST, ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRACT, 180.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00°00'00" EAST, 411.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; SITUATED IN STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
PIN 06-33-100-003
Improved with Single Family Home
COMMONLY KNOWN AS:
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Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS"

condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-19-09365. I3185877
Published 2/4, 2/11, 2/18/22

Bill to address teacher shortage advances

By PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Two bills aimed at relieving the state’s teacher shortage, at least in the short term, advanced out of a Senate committee Tuesday.

The Senate Education Committee unanimously endorsed two bills that would allow retired teachers to work as substitutes more days in a school year without losing any of their pension benefits.

“We all know that teacher the shortage is significant and it had been prior to COVID, and we were already trying to find a solution,” said Sen. Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood, the Senate majority leader. “But once COVID hit, it’s exacerbated because of the social distancing that’s required. Many school districts have classrooms that have far too many children in them, which is requiring that additional staffing.”

Lightford was speaking in favor of Senate Bill 3201, by Sen. Napoleon Harris, D-Harvey. In its current form, it would extend the return-to-work limit for downstate teachers in the Illinois Teachers Retirement Sys-

tem to 150 days from its current 120 days. But Harris said he intends to amend the bill to drop the proposed limit to 140 days to satisfy concerns from teachers unions.

Allowing retired teachers more flexibility to return to work was one of the recommendations of the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools when they released their annual survey in January in which 88 percent of the districts responding said they had a shortage of full-time teachers, while 96 percent said they had a shortage of substitute teachers.

But that would only be a short-term solution. A similar bill is pending in the House that would extend the return-to-work limit only through June 30 of this year. Harris, however, said he thinks it should be extended through the 2022-2023 academic year as well.

“I’d like to keep it until the following school year due to the fact that this school year is pretty much almost over,” he said. He said extending it through June 2023 would “give the school districts and administrators time to navigate the teacher short-

age” that is happening “all across our state and the country.”

The committee also advanced SB3465, by Sen. Robert Martwick, D-Chicago, which would offer a similar option for teachers who retired from Chicago Public Schools. It would allow those retired teachers to return to work in “subject shortage areas” through June 30, 2024, without losing pension benefits.

Martwick said the bill is identical to one that passed last year that applied only to downstate teachers.

“This extends the same provisions to the Chicago Public Schools,” Martwick said. “It would allow them to hire back retired teachers, but they would have to go through a whole process that would declare them as an area suffering a shortage.”

Both bills advanced out of the committee on 13-0 votes, although Harris said he plans to bring his bill back with an amendment.

Monday’s hearing was held virtually. Although lawmakers had been planning to return to in-person meetings this week, those plans were canceled due

to the winter storm that hit central Illinois Wednesday and Thursday.

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Answers on Page 3

Super Crossword

EATING WITH A SPOONERISM

ACROSS

1 Uncertainty

6 Home to the Taj Mahal

10 Sporty Mazda

15 Pats gently

19 Mistake

20 Co. insignia

21 Turnsmith

22 Opera solo

23 Denim pants that rise up to the navel?

25 Illusions a postman performs with his letters?

27 Astrologer Sydney

28 Small dent

29 Discusses at length, with "lover"

30 Bell taker who's great with guests?

35 Weed-eating tools

37 — (Brit)

38 "— afraid of that"

39 Bluffs a lecherous fellow?

44 Actor Crystal playing a high-ranking policeman?

48 Ship spent

49 Margarine, quantity

50 Pants lines

51 Ump relative

52 Pickle

53 Busy crawler

54 Phone bug

55 Violent guys on a Greek island?

60 "Can — witness?"

62 Abbr. on a bank door

63 Eagle's nest

64 Make anew

65 Add

66 Cornstarch to speed test?

69 Sitarist

73 Appetite

75 Debt memo

76 Invoking

77 Washings

78 Boasted dancer?

82 Genetic helix

84 Sugar suffix

85 Florida Air Force Base

86 Realty unit

87 Uses logic

89 Kingly Norse name

90 Seismic event

93 Romantic song sung with an audience watching?

96 What might result in an octuple bogey?

98 Arizona tribe

99 Oscar — Renta

100 Currency unit of 11-Corn

101 Solution to raise partially closed eyes?

105 Akron native

109 Sale caveat

111 Olive-green songbird

112 Supermarket vehicles within easy reach?

114 Comic

115 Fox being shamelessly bold?

119 Longish skirt

120 Kibbick's waffles

121 City in central Poland

122 Beast of Borden

123 Plumlike fruit

124 Tending to ooze

125 Comply with

126 Ford fiasco

DOWN

1 Cottillion star

2 Mine metal

3 Net address

4 Cowboys' neck cords

5 "Go ahead, I'm listening"

6 Sour-tasting

7 Transmission lubricants

8 "Hellboy" star

9 Partman

10 Beast of burden

11 First lady

12 Eisenhower

13 Persia, now

14 Demourts from a horse

15 — Avie

16 Patriotic songs

17 Lachem spot

18 Shoe part

19 DMV vehicle

20 Give lip to

21 Pantry item

22 Scraping fee

23 Battle, informally

24 Ottawa-based TV network

25 Disconnect, as a door

26 Sullied

27 Barn hooter

28 Elbow creator

29 Thompson

30 Ump's cry

31 Ump's cry

32 Musical period since the 1950s

33 Balm additive

34 Deborah of "Que Pasa"

35 Huge spans

36 Lanth's call

37 Bratty kid

38 Encountered

39 Proof of purchase

40 — 4

41 Make public

42 Public health agency

43 "Drop Dead Fred" star

44 Mayall

45 Infant's cries

46 "Isn't — little old for her?"

47 Jackie's "O"

48 Best-of list

49 countable on one hand

50 Closed hand

51 Actor Carson

52 Possessive

53 — Valley

54 San Francisco

55 Mongrel dog

56 "Anna of Green Gables" town

57 Feudal

58 Dot in la mer

59 Actor Caruso

60 Skyleb org.

61 Aptly named hybrid fruit

62 Custard tart

63 Deer cousins

64 "Annabel Lee" poet

65 Wildlife list

66 Arrest

67 Enter hostily

68 again

69 Europe, Asia and Africa

70 Fear relatives

71 Hagen of the stage

72 Like fugitives

73 — wester (storm type)

74 — Pen

75 Lah-di —

76 Talk to God

77 Command ctrs.

78 Actress

79 Spacok

80 Fluster

81 Previous to

82 Zeligwer of Hollywood

83 Resistance units

84 Salute

85 — Chinese

86 Pooch in "Garfield"

87 Knock off

88 Get mellow

89 Slo — fuse

90 Knock off

91 Ar-tee linkup

92 Fizzle out

93 Costs — Set

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OBITUARIES

Orville J. King
TOULON – Orville John King, 95, of Toulon, passed away Sunday, Jan. 30, 2022, at 4:50 p.m. at OSF Saint Luke Medical Center, Kewanee.
He was born May 15, 1926, in Princeville, to parents Robert R. and Lillian May (Penn) King. He married Virginia Ruth (Stapel) King on Oct. 18, 1953, in Kewanee. She preceded him in death on Feb. 25, 1998.
Surviving are daughter, Karen (Michael) VerShaw of Kewanee, Ill.; son-in-law, Dave Snyder of Neponset, Ill.; three grandchildren, Dalton



King

Snyder of Neponset, Tanner VerShaw of Green Bay, Wis., and Madison VerShaw of Macomb, Ill.; and many nieces and nephews. Orville was preceded in death by his parents; four sisters; six brothers; and his daughter Karol Snyder.
He served in Korea with the United States Army. He was in the 3rd Division Anti-Aircraft Unit from 1950-1952. He was the manager of the former Toulon Grain Company for 40 years, retiring in December of 1988. Orville was a member of the First Baptist Church in Toulon, Toulon American Legion #416 and the Toulon V.F.W. Post #8825.
He enjoyed watching baseball and basketball, as well as spending time with his family. He helped others in his community by driving them to appointments and helping at his church.
A visitation will be from 9:30-10:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming. Services will be at 10:30 a.m., on Saturday also at the funeral home. Rev. Al Harmon will officiate. Burial will be in Toulon Cemetery.
In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Toulon, Toulon American Legion #416, or the St. Jude Midwest Affiliate. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements.
Online condolences may be left for Orville’s family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Card Shower
for
Gene Bogner
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(812) 698-9294
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m., All Ages.
Sunday. Worship: 10:30 am
Check us out on Facebook @
Toulon United Methodist Church

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

The Gathering Church
Location: 105 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
Mail: PO Box 322, Wyoming, IL 61491
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/fcctoulon>

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

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Sunday Worship: 11:00
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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
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Toulon First Baptist Church
110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon
(309) 286-4611
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Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.
Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
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PEKIN

MSW Projects celebrates 48 years in February

By TRACI DOWELL
For The Prairie News

MSW Projects will celebrate 48 years of serving people of Marshall, Stark, and Woodford Counties this month. MSW Projects is a local, not for profit, charitable organization that provides senior citizen nutrition program, senior citizen outreach program and public transportation.

In 1974 MSW Projects opened its doors to provide senior citizen meals for seniors of Marshall, Stark and Woodford Counties. The Henry Nutrition Site, The Toulon Nutrition Site and the Metamora Nutrition Site were the first locations to serve lunch along with providing community members time to chat and participate in different activities. Meals were also delivered in those communities.

At first, meals were prepared by St. Mary's Kitchen. Now known as St. John's Outreach, the same caterer is still serving seniors through MSW.

Local nutrition sites are the Henry Nutrition Site located at St. Mary's Center, The Toulon Nutrition Site located at the Toulon United Methodist

Church and The Wyoming Nutrition Site located at the Wyoming Legion.

Unfortunately, sites have been closed for dine-in service and all the "extras" for almost two years due to the COVID 19 pandemic. MSW hopes to once again offer places for people to come enjoy a delicious lunch while enjoying all the "extras" of the nutrition site while being safe.

Home-delivered meals remain a big part of the program. In order for the meals to be delivered, MSW Projects greatly relies on volunteers to help get meals to those in need.

Currently, home delivered meals are available in Henry, Lacon, Sparland, Lake Wildwood, Varna, Toluca, Wenona, Toulon, LaFayette, Wyoming, Bradford, Washburn, Roanoke and Metamora. To be eligible, an individual must be 60 or over and either homebound, unable to prepare a meal, unsteady, recovering from an illness/injury or returning home from the hospital or senior living facility.

A few years after the nutrition program started it was determined there was a need for transportation for seniors. Currently, Marshall or Stark County residents can be transported within their community, county, or to surrounding cities such as Peoria, Galesburg, Bloomington, Chillicothe, Princeton, Peru, Ottawa, Kewanee, Pontiac and Streator. Transports are available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a reservation.

MWS's newest addition is the Outreach program, available to people aged 60 and over residing in Marshall, Stark, or Woodford Counties. The outreach program can assist in finding a solution to a problem you may have, as well as help obtain a reduced license plate fee.

MSW Projects has experienced many changes over the past five decades, but one thing has remained constant: the ability to help the people of those areas through nutrition, transportation, and outreach services. MSW Projects wouldn't have been able to meet this milestone without the great employees, wonderful volunteers, talented cooks and kitchen crew of St. Mary's and generous community support.

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UNSURE HOW TO APPROACH GOD?

• Join us Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. at the Toulon Methodist Church where we will; "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. for the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalms 100:4

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Amber Waves
by Dave T. Phipps

WE CAN'T PLAY VIDEO GAMES. MY MOM WANTS ME TO GET SOME FRESH AIR.

I DON'T GET IT. THE AIR OUT HERE SEEMS JUST THE SAME AS IT IS IN THE HOUSE.

YOUR MOM SAYS THE SAME THING. I THINK THIS IS SOME KIND OF CONSPIRACY.

WHATEVER IT IS MUST BE EXHAUSTING AS SHE ALWAYS FALLS ASLEEP WHEN I LEAVE.

Out on a Limb
by Gary Kopervas

THE TAN VOLVO...

DOG PARK

R.F.D.
by Mike Marland

...AND NOW HERE'S DAVE WITH THE FORECAST...

NOT SURE I LIKE THIS NEW WEATHER GUY...

HE SAYS WITH ALL THE ACCESS TO WEATHER DATA WE HAVE THESE DAYS THERE'S NO REASON FOR HIM TO GET TOO DETAILED.

TODAY: BAD. TOMORROW: NOT MUCH BETTER. WEDNESDAY: SORTA OKAY. THURSDAY: KINDA SO-SO. FRIDAY...

The Spats
by Jeff Pickering

WHAT'S BETTER THAN TED DANSON?

I GIVE UP, WHAT?

TED SINGIN' AND DANSON!!

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ **HOO BOY!**

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**FOR ANSWERS
SEE PAGE 10**

CryptoQuote
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, K 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.

J BXDO COXAEOR HDOA LBO
GOXAV LBXL SBOE HEO'V YJER
JV YXRO TW, LBJV RJYJEJVBOV
IOXA; QEHSJEF SBXL YTVL NO
RHEO RHOV XSXG SJLB IOXA.
— AHVX WXAQV

Trivia test by Phil Rodriguez

- LANGUAGE: In British English, what is a single?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a mummuration?
- MOVIES: Which 1951 adventure film features a character named Charlie Allnut (played by Humphrey Bogart)?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president campaigned for reelection with the slogan, "Don't change horses midstream"?
- HISTORY: Where did the St. Valentine's Day massacre (murder of seven gangsters and associates) take place?
- TELEVISION: How many seasons did the original "Star Trek" series run?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the basic currency used in Kenya?
- MEASUREMENTS: What is a far-long?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the longest river in Europe?
- ANATOMY: What is the basic component of hair, skin and nails?

Answers

1. An undershirt
2. The flight of a large flock of starlings is a coordinated, swooping pattern.
3. "The African Queen"
4. Abraham Lincoln, 1864
5. Chicago
6. Three
7. Kenyan shilling
8. An eighth of a mile
9. The Volga
10. Keratin

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TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Spider-Man: No Way Home (PG-13)
2. Scream (R)
3. Sing 2 (PG)
4. Redeeming Love (PG-13)
5. The King's Man (R)
6. The 355 (PG-13)
7. American Underdog (PG)
8. The King's Daughter (PG)
9. West Side Story (PG-13)
10. Licorice Pizza (R)

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The Prairie News Sports

Stark County split

Rebels top Galva, fall to Knoxville in LTC tournament

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Prairie News

The Stark County boys basketball team split their first two games in the Lincoln Trail Conference tournament.

In their Jan. 28 opener, the Rebels topped Galva, 52-43. Last Saturday, Stark County fell to top-seed Knoxville, 56-22.

“We didn’t shoot the ball particularly well in either game but we did what we had to against Galva,” Stark County Coach Dustin Browning said. “We were never in the Knoxville game. They jumped out 9-0 and we never got closer than that.

“We’ve got to regroup and work on some things in practice this week and play ROWVA-Williams-field on Friday.”

James Groter led Stark County with 16 points in the win over Galva, while Daniel Kieser tallied 15 and Luke Rewerts added 11. Cayden Morse led Galva (0-19) with 17 points in the loss.

Kieser led with eight



Galva’s Cayden Morse scored 17 points last week in a 52-43 loss to Stark County in the Lincoln Trail Conference tournament. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

points against Knoxville, which allowed the Rebels just seven points in the second half.

Knoxville (21-5) also topped the Galva boys on Jan. 27 by a score of 64-38.

Stark County faces R-W on Friday at 8 p.m. Galva lost to West Central on Tuesday at home in league play.

Knoxville and Abingdon-Avon, both in their first year of LTC play, ad-

vanced to Saturday’s tournament title game, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Galva.

Knoxville beat Mercer County 52-35 on Tuesday and A-Town topped United, 54-43.

Saturday’s other games start at 11 a.m. and the schedule will be determined in part by Friday’s results.

Girls Basketball

The Galva girls won a Jan. 31 clash with rival Stark County, 41-12, and held the Lady Rebels scoreless in the second quarter while building a 25-4 halftime lead.

Galva was led in scoring by Ava Strom with 12 points, while Kali Yelm added 9, Kendall Rogers scored 7, Sarah Kaiser tallied 6 and Lexi Stone had 5.

The Stark County girls lost to Henry-Senachwine on Jan. 29, 41-28. Kylee Frisby led SC with 14 points and Sarah Kraklow added 5.

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• Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.

• Wed. Midweek Adult Bible Study - 5:30 p.m. - FREE MEAL

• Wed. Awana - 5:00 p.m.

We, the folks at the First Baptist would like to invite you and your family to come and be a part of our Church.

COME & DINE, the table is spread:

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