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 Vol. 19, No. 45

The Prairie News

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Bradford board has issues with Bradford Betterment Committee

By ANGIE STANGE
 For The Prairie News
 BRADFORD – The role of the Bradford Betterment Committee in the community was a topic of discussion on Dec. 12 when the Bradford Village Board met.
 Although not listed on the agenda or new business for the regular monthly meeting, Village Board President John Cler read a letter from the board's attorney, Zachary Lessard of Barash & Everett, LLC. Lessard

then stayed online for any questions and comments concerning the status of the BBC.
 Issues presented in the letter read by Cler were that the BBC "has not been properly established and/or authorized to engage in business in the State of Illinois by our Secretary of State."
 The statement went on to say, "Additionally, if you are collecting donations, and or your donors (sic) are assuming those donations are tax deductible, the

act of collecting those donations may potentially be charity fraud."
 Remedies for non-profit organizations such as this were suggested by the village lawyer.
 The lawyer also stated, "you cannot utilize or perform work on village property without the prior approval of the village board."
 The lawyer explained that this approval is typically "obtained through the passage of a resolution by the board, during a

meeting where the resolution is listed as a topic for discussion on the agenda for that meeting."
 The letter ended with the statement, "Do not exceed any authorization given to you by the village board for any work you perform."
 The BBC is a community group run by volunteers that started after the village's sesquicentennial celebration in 2019. The group raises money to help fund various community events and has sent surveys to res-

idents asking what they want to be done.
 Several of the BBC's activities have taken place on village property, including the group's recent Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration on Dec. 3, which – among many other activities featured horse-drawn carriage rides through town and a stroll through the village park to view luminaries and hear music.
 Other items of discussion at the village board meeting in-
Continued on Page 5

Stark County seats board members

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – A new Stark County Board of Supervisors was sworn in and seated Dec. 13 at the Stark County courthouse. The board is now eight members strong and has a new chairperson and vice-chair.
 Kari Bush, the lone female of the members "will rule the roost" as the new chairperson. She replaces Al Curry, who did not run for reelection. Curry served eight years on the board and replaced Colleen Magnusson after she resigned from the board and as chair in June 2017.
 Robin Nowlan was elected to be vice-chairperson for the next two years. Bush's term as chair is also a two-year stint. Terms of the members were determined by blind draw and for two or four years.
 The result is as follows: District One members Bush and new member Adam Wilson are two years while Tom Howes and new member Jamie Schaffer are four years; Dis-
Continued on Page 2

SANTA CAME TO TOWN



Two-year-old Brinley Hamilton, of Toulon, tells Santa Claus what to bring her for Christmas this year. Brinley is the daughter of Lauren and Dave Hamilton. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

Christmas Walk kicks off season

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – The City of Toulon held its annual Christmas Walk Dec. 10 with various businesses participating.
 Santa Claus was at the gazebo for young children to tell him what they would like to receive for Christmas presents and an auction was held later at the Bistro with proceeds donated to local charities.



Shown are items that were auctioned off Dec 10 at the Bistro in Toulon after the Christmas Walk celebration. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

Toulon preps for Dollar General Council OKs three measures related to store construction

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – The Toulon City Council voted to approve three measures concerning the new Dollar General building at their Monday evening Dec. 12 meeting. The council approved the costs of installing a water line, a sewer line and a water meter for the Dollar General building located on Route 91 at the junction of Route 17.
 Dollar General has quickly constructed their building during the past few weeks and could possibly be done before the City of Toulon has implemented these three requirements to have the building ready for use.
 Approved was an expenditure of \$8,000 to Rotor Rooter to bore a directional line for the water underneath Route 91 from the west to the Dollar General building. Also approved was a one-inch line water meter for \$501. The
Continued on Page 2

Inside
 • Bishop Hill group receives grant. **Page 6**
 • Bradford arsonist sentenced to 12 years. **Page 7**
 • Obituaries. **Pages 10-11**

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Toulon Tap burglarized Sunday morning

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

TOULON – The Toulon Police Department was advised Sunday morning that the Toulon Tap tavern had been burglarized earlier that morning between 1-2 a.m. on Dec. 11.

Initially it appeared that money and alcohol were taken by a single burglar, according to Toulon Police Chief Gary Bent.

The Illinois State Police were called to process the crime scene because Toulon doesn't have a crime lab. Gaming machines were not targeted. Toulon police have a suspect and have issued a warrant for arrest for a Class 2 burglary charge, plus criminal damage to property.

Bent said that the suspect knew where the security cameras were lo-

cated and attempted to stay out of their range so as not to be identified.

Police are attempting to determine if other surrounding counties have had similar break-ins and if so, if they are related. Saturday morning, Dec. 10, taverns in Victoria and Oneida were burglarized.

Toulon's burglary remains under investigation with an arrest pending.

STARK: Castleton water system to be refurbished

Continued from Page 1

trict Two members Nowlan and Bill Loane are two years and new member Joe Orwig and Tim McMillen are four years.

Committee assignments were tabled and will be determined at the next month's meeting. Prior to the February meeting, members will make known which committees they would like to be assigned to and serve on. All members are automatically assigned to the finance committee.

Nowlan gave the County Highway Department report and said that Duncan Road work has been completed, as well as work on County Highway 24. Also, the North Valley Road bridge replacement project has been moved to a

March bid letting and will likely be a summer-time start for construction.

Justin Reiese of Giffin Engineering updated the board concerning the Castleton water system. The 40-year-old system requires refurbishing and could have an estimated cost of \$1.2 million. Grants and low interest loans will be sought to pay for this project.

Under new business, Renée Johnson, Stark County assessor and zoning officer, addressed the board concerning the construction of three meteorological wind measuring towers in three townships of Stark. The construction would tentatively start in 2025, according to Inven-ergy representatives.

Towers would be located in Penn, Elmira and Osceola Townships. Board approval was given on this agenda item.

The yearly appellate prosecutor's resolution was passed and provides said prosecutor to local state's attorneys in counties containing less than three million inhabitants.

Finally, a resolution was approved that sets the board's meeting dates and times for 2023. Monthly board meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. with the exception of April, which will be held on Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. April's date is one day later so as not to conflict with the combined townships' meeting on April 11.

TOULON: Lift station part still on back order

Continued from Page 1

sewer line could cost up to \$50,000 to install and needs an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency permit to be hooked up to an existing sewer line.

Six manhole linings were approved to be refurbished and/or relined to prevent sewer gas from escaping into the environment. The manholes are located near the lift station at the junction of

Prairie Street and Whit-taker Street. The cost is \$16,000.

Stark Excavating requested a payment of \$227,241 that offsets their costs of re-seeding yards and asphaltting roads and driveways damaged due to the new sewer line being installed.

The city has previously paid Stark \$425,447 for work performed. An electronic part back-ordered for the lift station has not arrived and delivery is uncertain.

Also approved were Christmas bonuses of \$300 for full-time employees, \$150 for part-time employees and \$600

for the police department to be divided accordingly among the officers by Police Chief Gary Bent.

The city's insurance was renewed through the Leezer Insurance Agency for \$46,087 – a 12 percent increase from last year's premium of \$42,114.

Approved was a \$20,000 payment to Kenny Musselman for work performed on constructing a new building located at the city's sewer property, southeast of the city.

A culvert that requires replacement on Jefferson Street near Union Street is tentatively scheduled for an April construction date.

The farm lease of the city's farmland was approved with all terms and conditions remaining the same as previously leased. The farm ground is located adjacent to the subdivision property south of the high school, in Toulon.

Screens that control the reverse osmosis system of the city's water supply system are not presently functional. The council approved \$950 to replace the screens so that read-outs are visible.

Also approved was \$2,500 to replace parts on the water supply's chlorinator.

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PUBLIC RECORD

**Incidents & Accidents
Stark County**



11-30 - A deer-related vehicle accident occurred on Route 17 near the intersection of 950E. The driver involved was Venette S. Pittman, 78, of Toulon. No injuries were reported but damages to the vehicle were estimated over \$1,500.

12-9 - A deer-related vehicle accident occurred on the Modena Road, one-quarter mile west of 1000E. The driver involved was Ahern R. Holler, 23, of Henry. No injuries were reported but damages to the vehicle were estimated over \$1,500.

12-5 - Robert L. Dickerson, 31, Wyoming, was arrested by the Stark County Sheriff's Department on a pending Peoria County warrant. He posted \$100 cash bond and was released with a new court date to appear.

12-6 - Miranda M. Holman, of Norman, Ind., reported a theft of some personal items. The incident remains under investigation.

12-10 - Carl R. Girkin, 59, Lafayette, was arrested for driving while his license was revoked, driving on a suspended registration, loud muffler and or exhaust and driving without vehicle insurance. He was released with a notice to appear.

12-10 - Tiffany A. Williams, 33, of Kewanee, was arrested for driving while her license was suspended, speeding 72 mph in a 55 zone, driving without vehicle insurance and illegal transportation of adult-use cannabis. She posted \$250 cash bond and was released with a court date to appear.

12-10 - Jeremy B. Welsh, 33, Kewanee, was arrested for operating an uninsured vehicle, driving on a suspended registration for mandatory insurance and illegal transportation of adult-use cannabis in a vehicle. He was released with a notice to appear.

12-11 - Jeffrey R. Milnes, 59, Bradford, was cited for driving with no insurance.

12-11 - Dustin R. Gorden, 38, was cited for failure to transfer a vehicle title and for failure to surrender and or transfer registration upon ownership. He was released with a notice to appear.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

12-5 - While patrolling, an officer located a semi-truck driving on Chester Street with smoke coming from a locked-up tire on the trailer. Officer stopped the truck and the driver was unaware of the tire issue.

12-5 - to Best Factory for an activated fire alarm. It was determined to be a false alarm.

12-5 - Officer assisted Kewanee Police Department attempt to locate a Galva area resident and vehicle

that was involved in a hit-and-run accident in Kewanee earlier in the day. Officer was not able to locate.

12-5 - to check on a suspicious vehicle parked in the 400 block of SW 4th Ave. Occupant was doing work in the area.

12-5 - to assist a motorist just east of town. The subject was changing a car battery and didn't need assistance.

12-5 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a suspicious activity complaint.

12-6 - to the 00 block of NW 5th St. for a hitch-hiking complaint. The suspect was a runaway juvenile from Kewanee who had ridden his bicycle here and was trying to get to Galesburg to meet a girl. Juvenile was transported to the Galva Police Department and was released to his mother.

12-6 - to a residence on NW 7th Ave. to check the welfare of a subject. They were fine.

12-6 - to the 200 block of NW 3rd Ave for a theft complaint.

12-7 - to the 300 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a report involving two dogs running at large. Officer was not able to catch them.

12-8 - to the Exchange Street railroad crossing for a complaint involving a grain truck that had struck and damaged a gate that was down. BNSF was contacted. Officer directed traffic until the gate was repaired.

12-8 - an officer saw the two runaway dogs along the railroad tracks near Washington Park from the previous night. Officer called the owner, who came and retrieved both dogs.

12-8 - to the 300 block of NE 6th Ave. to assist a motorist that had locked herself out of a vehicle. Tarteletons Service Inc. were contacted and were able to get the door open.

12-9 - to the 800 block of SE 1st St. for a report of a small child (2 years old) wandering around unsupervised. DCFS was contacted and the mother was called two to three hours later to pick the child up at the police department. As the result, Hope Swan, 24, Galva, was issued a notice to appear in court for child endangerment. She was released with a required court date.

12-9 - to a physical altercation in

progress in the 00 block of NE 4th Ave. =Two subjects had left prior to officer's arrival. Charges are pending, as this case is under investigation.

12-9 - to the 600 block of West Division Street for a 9-1-1 call that plotted there. A subject was located that was having phone problems.

12-9 - to the 300 block of SE 5th St. for a complaint involving an attempted break-in of a vehicle parked there.

12-10 - Officer was flagged down to assist a citizen in the 00 block of SW 2nd St.

12-5 - Jose Pacheco-Vargas, 23, Bloomington, was issued a citation for having illegal window tint in the 600 block of SE 2nd St.

12-5 - Jeffrey Beck, 42, Woodhull, was issued a citation for disobeying a stop sign in the 300 block of Front St.

12-6 - Emmanuel Herrera, 21, Kewanee, was issued a citation for having a tinted windshield in the 900 block of N. Center Ave.

12-10 - Shyann Kunkel, 20, Galva, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1000 block of N. Center Ave.

12-10 - Jared Hanneman, 28, Hanna City, was issued a citation for disobeying a stop sign in the 300 block of SW 3rd St.

12-10 - John Puskar, 67, Kewanee, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1200 block of SE 2nd St.

12-11 - Heaven Schlueter, 32, Galesburg, was issued a citation for speeding in the 900 block of SE 2nd St.

12-11 - Zoe Palmer, 18, Knoxville, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1000 block of SE 2nd St.

Property Transfers

12-5 - Charles D. Hall to Daniel Berchtold, Jr. & Daniel Berchtold, III - Pt 35-14-7 SE - 12311 State Route 40, Bradford - Consideration = \$40,000.

12-7 - Christopher T. Jackson to Ash M. Jones - Henderson & Whittaker Add'n - Pt block 3 lots 1, 2, 3 - 103 W. Clinton St., Toulon - Consideration = \$45,000.

12-8 - Glenda R. Murray, Dec'd by Exec to Michael K. Murray - Roger's Sub of PT of Blk 4 Giles C. Dana's Add'n - Lots 1 & 2 - 107 E. Agard & 111 E. Agard, Wyoming - Consideration = \$0.

Marriages

12-8 - Michael James Batey and Jolee Ann Marie Hajny, both of Toulon.

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| CAROL | HANNING | TBILISI |
| STAG | OOP | SOT BAR ACE |
| FLOES | MIKE | DOUGLAS |
| MARCI | ACROSS | ONEILL |
| OMAHA | HYDE | JANCLAYTON |
| NAMATH | ARMENIA | NARY |
| ITOR | ISM | INE EYEPiece |
| CINDY | CRAWFORD | ALS |
| ASA | AKITA | ATARI ATA |
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| 5 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 8 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 3 |

CryptoQuote

answer

Blessed are the curious, for they shall have adventures.
 - Lovelle Drachman

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• • •

It will be fascinating in the weeks to come to delve into apparent issues between the Bradford Village Board and the Bradford Betterment Committee. Seems hard to imagine what could cause friction between two groups whose goal it is to make Bradford a better place. Any thoughts out there? ... Anybody else have Christmas tree debates in their house? My favorites are firs: Canaan, balsam or anything else with soft needles. My wife, who does not hang many ornaments and has even openly discussed the possibility of an artificial tree someday (maybe after I die), prefers cheaper, more prickly options like scotch pine or even blue spruce. This year, rather than argue, we agreed she could stay home while the youngest and I selected a thin Canaan fir that looks regal in our living room, even



Jeff LAMPE

though the middle boy asked if **Charlie Brown** picked it out. ... With Christmas fast approaching, here's my advice: Shop Thursdays if possible. We hit the stores last Thursday and found most other shoppers were older than us (so I could actually out hustle somebody to the checkout counter). Plus, there were not near as many people out as on the weekend. As I am increasingly starting to believe, old people are smart.

• • •

Nothing about deer season went as expected, except for **John Powers** getting some of my money after the boys shot does. That's fine. We really enjoy eating Elmwood Locker's deer jerky, deer sticks and deer sausage and, lately, the dog has drooled over the combination of ground deer mixed with dry food. ... But aside from hunting with the boys and **The Farmer**, my deer season highlight came Sunday morning when I watched a large beaver plop under my tree and eat bark off a half-dozen sticks. He ate it like corn on the cob - chewing quickly, sliding it around a little and then chewing quickly the other way. This made me wonder which bark tastes the best? Is there a sweet corn of bark? Is there a dessert bark? Also made

me wonder if the beaver, who I assume was the father for reasons you will soon understand, was just trying to get a break from his two kits, who swam around making squeaking noises that "Dad" ignored. ... If the beavers would promise to only eat buckeye trees, their hungry presence would be no issue. Problem is, in years past they eventually develop a taste for oaks, walnuts and sycamores - among them some trees I planted. Time to get on the phone. "Hello, **Scot Davis**, feel free to trap once again this year."

• • •

While getting old is a good chance to utilize one's wisdom, there is a downside: Professional people you rely on also get old. Doctors. Accountants. Plumbers. Christmas tree growers. Trappers. We all age and everyone deserves a chance to retire early. Still, it doesn't make things easier when you have developed a relationship of trust and then have to develop a new one. ... Parting shot: Put together your own list of top Christmas crooners, but make sure to include **Nat King Cole**, who arranges and phrases the holiday classics as well as anyone. Ever.

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

Ham road has deteriorated to an unsafe level

To the Editor:

I have been wondering what shape the Ham Road is going to be like come spring. It is going into the winter with many potholes already and by spring they will be a lot worse.

Also, at the west end of Ham Road it is like driving through a strip mine and has been like that for several years. Three eighths of a mile east of



Route 78 is a cement culvert that is deteriorating and the edge is caving in. I hope that some one does not get

too far off the road and drop down about eight feet to the water.

In England they drive on the left. We will be driving on what is left.

- **Larry Meaker**, Toulon

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

Lawmakers hear from assault ban backers

By **PETER HANCOCK**

Capitol News Illinois

CHICAGO – Victims and survivors of multiple mass shootings urged state lawmakers on Monday to pass a ban on assault weapons, arguing that communities throughout Illinois have felt the pain of deadly mass shootings.

“I was shot multiple times on the Fourth of July in Highland Park,” Lauren Bennett said during a legislative committee meeting in Chicago.

She described the “maelstrom” of bullets that tore through a crowd during an Independence Day parade this year.

“As a gunshot survivor, a mom and a citizen of Illinois, I sit before you today to provide my support for the proposal to provide additional protections to communities as it relates to assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and raising the age of gun purchases,” she said. “Something has to change.”

Lawmakers have considered assault weapons bans in the past, and Gov. JB Pritzker has campaigned on what he says is a need for stricter gun laws in the state. But it was the Highland Park shooting on July 4, which left seven people dead and dozens more injured, that vaulted the issue to the forefront and brought pressure on lawmakers to act decisively.

That could happen early next month when the General Assembly convenes a lame-duck session, scheduled for five days from Jan. 4-10. Among the proposals expected to be debated is House Bill 5855, the “Protect Illinois Communities Act,” by Rep. Bob Morgan, D-Deerfield, whose district includes

Highland Park.

“In less than one minute, less than a minute, the assailant shot 83 bullets into the crowd, killing seven and injuring dozens of my neighbors and constituents, people that lived in the district, people who did not,” Morgan said, quoting in part from a resolution he has sponsored mourning those who died in the shooting.

But many other people came to the hearing to remind lawmakers that Highland Park – an upscale, predominantly white suburb north of Chicago – is not the only community in Illinois to experience a mass shooting and that black and brown communities are far more likely to be the scenes of such violence.

“On July 4 of this year, when the tragedy occurred in Highland Park, my heart went out to them. ... I continue to pray for them,” said Jaquie Algee, a South Side resident who lost her only son in a different shooting. “But at the same token, in black communities around the city and state, there were 10 – in this city – 10 black kids that were shot and killed that day. There were 62 that were shot and injured.”

Among other things, HB5855 would make it illegal to manufacture, sell or purchase an assault-style weapon, assault-weapon attachment, .50-caliber rifle, or .50-caliber cartridge. And starting 300 days after the bill takes effect, it would make it illegal to possess such a weapon or ammunition unless it is registered with the Illinois State Police.

Large-capacity ammunition-feeding devices also would be prohibited under the bill.

The bill would also repeal a provision of current law that allows people between the ages of 18 and 21 to obtain a Firearm Owners Identification Card with parental consent, unless the applicant is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Illinois National Guard. And it would require that when people under age 21 are hunting under the supervision of an adult, the adult must possess a FOID card.

Additionally, it would amend the state’s Firearms Restraining Order Act to provide that a petitioner could request a one-year, rather than six-month, restraining order against someone believed to be a danger to themselves or others.

More hearings will be held, including one scheduled for today, Dec. 15.

Meanwhile, Rep. Jennifer Gong Gershowitz, D-Glenview, said more gun-safety legislation could be forthcoming.

“We know that there is not just one measure that is going to make a difference, that is going to begin to turn the corner on the pain that has been expressed in this room today,” she said.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide, as well as hundreds of radio and TV stations. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

BRADFORD: New police officer to start work soon

Continued from Page 1
cluded a follow-up on possible speeding on Bonita Avenue and the safety of the children using that street. No decision was made, but the board agreed further surveillance and investigation into the problem will continue.

An additional police officer will soon be assigned to Bradford. Justin Peterson has completed his necessary requirements and will begin his duties within a few weeks.

The board heard that repairs to the village’s reverse osmosis water system should be completed in the near future. The village is prepared for the winter with plows and salt supplies ready to go.

Also, a street project on North Peoria Street will get under way in the spring. Discussion but no decisions were made on insuring cillage fire hydrants.

A 4.99 percent tax levy in all categories for the village was discussed and passed, 3-2.

Board members are: President John Cler and trustees Tony Carlton, Angie Courtway, Brenda Colgan, Steve Scott, Pat Berlin and Jimmy Harris. Village Board meetings are the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Community members are welcome to attend.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Angie Stange is a member of the Bradford Betterment Committee.

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THANK YOU!
The Bradford Betterment Committee would like to thank all the organizations and individuals who have helped us promote Bradford throughout the past year. We are hoping to make 2023 even better than this past year with your continued support!
 ~ Bradford Betterment Committee

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BRIEFS

Bishop Hill group receives \$111k grant

BISHOP HILL – The Bishop Hill Heritage Association was recently awarded a \$111,000 grant from Henry County, approved by the Henry County Board.

Money for this grant came from America Rescue Plan funds. The BHHA is a private non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the unique heritage of the Bishop Hill Colony and its legacy.

Funding from this grant will be used to enhance Bishop Hill's tourism development in 2023. The grant will be used to create the following new activities in 2023: a Civil War Days festival in May, a summer park concert series, and an ad campaign promoting historic Bishop Hill as a tourist destination.

Other events and programs are also in the works.

For more information, visit the BHHA's website at www.bishop-hillheritage.org or the Bishop Hill Heritage Association Facebook page.

Bradford Food Pantry at new location

BRADFORD – After many years at Leet Methodist church, the Bradford Food Pantry has relocated to the Bradford First Baptist church on Bonita Avenue.

This service remains free to the Bradford community. Entrance to the food pantry can be either through the front door of the church or through the north door on the east side of the building. The new facility is on ground level and will allow for wheelchair accessibility. In addition, cart delivery to your vehicle is available.

The hours will remain the same: every Tuesday morning from 8 a.m. to noon and the first Wednesday of the month from 4-7 p.m. If you have an unexpected need other than these hours, please contact Mary Cork at (815) 878-4152 for assistance.

As an extra service, the facility will offer assistance in finding clothing and house hold items.

Food pantry delivery is once a month and typically at 8:30 a.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. If you are interested in helping with the food deliveries, assisting during regular hours, or have questions,



The Student Council and National Junior Honor Society of Bradford spread some Christmas cheer by caroling on Monday night. The members in attendance sang several songs to each household they visited and even had some people sing along. The night ended with hot chocolate and cookies shared back at the Junior High. Photo by Becki Hoffert.



Bishop Hill is planning new activities in 2023, including a Civil War Days festival in May, and a summer concert series, thanks to a \$110,000 grant from Henry County.

please contact Brittany Endress at (309) 854-3154; Linda Emmons (309) 370-4817; or Mary Cork at the above number.

– Angie Stange

Davis earns financial planner designation

PEORIA – Wealth Advisor Brad Davis of Better Banks recently earned the Certified Financial Planner designation, a standard of excellence in financial planning.

Brad holds the Chartered Special Needs Consultant® (ChSNC®) designation from the American College of Financial Services and has a passion for helping individuals and families navigate complex planning in this area of his practice.

Illinois Supreme Court makes history

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Supreme Court made history when two newly seated members gave the bench a 5-2 majority of woman judges. Justices Elizabeth Rochford and Mary Kay O'Brien were sworn in Dec. 5. The two Democrats were

both elected to the high court in November.

Justice Joy V. Cunningham, who was appointed to replace retired Justice Anne M. Burke, was sworn in on Dec. 1. The new justices join Lisa Holder White, the court's first black woman justice.

The court will be led by Chief Justice Mary Jane Theis, the fourth woman chief in the court's history.

Gorman chief judge of Tenth Judicial Circuit

PEORIA – Circuit Judge Katherine S. Gorman was unanimously re-elected by a group of 10 of her judicial peers to serve as Chief Judge of the Tenth Judicial Circuit. Her term starts Jan. 2 and will run through Jan. 6, 2025. There are 21 judges in the Tenth Circuit, which spans Peoria, Tazewell, Marshall, Putnam and Stark counties.

Et cetera

• TOULON – The Congregational Church in Toulon will hold its Community Christmas Eve candle-light service on Saturday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

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Bradford arsonist sentenced to 12 years

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

TOULON – A former Bradford man, recently of Pekin, was sentenced, Dec. 13, in Stark County Circuit Court to 12 years in prison for a Class X felony he was found guilty of committing during his bench trial on Nov. 14.

John Henry Cramer, 59, must serve 85 percent of the 12 years, or 10.2 years behind bars in the Illinois Department of Corrections [IDOC]. He was also fined \$5,000 and must serve three years of mandatory release [parole] when he completes the 10 years incarcerated.

During the sentencing, Stark County State's Attorney Caroline Borden-Campion asked for a mid-

range of years in prison that Cramer be sentenced with. A Class X felony is punishable from six to 30 years in prison. Public Defender Robert M. McBride countered by asking that Cramer's sentence be six years in prison. Circuit Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher determined that Cramer should serve 12 years because he set a residence on fire with a person present inside the house.



Cramer

Cramer is to make restitution to victims and that court date to determine the amount is scheduled in

Stark's court for January 15, 2023. He likely will be transported to Stark County from the IDOC for the hearing.

Cramer made a statement just prior to be sentenced and said that he was sorry for everything, and that he was responsible. Fehrenbacher stated, "This is a terrible situation. You knew someone was present [when you set the fire]. Four dogs died. You tried to cause as much damage as you could. I don't believe a minimum sentence is appropriate." Fehrenbacher then said Cramer sentence was 12 years in IDOC and the \$5,000 fine. Cramer pleaded earlier to five other felony charges and they will run concurrently with the Class X sentencing.

Breakfast with Santa at the Fire House
Saturday December 17th
 LaFayette Fire House
 200 Commercial Street
 LaFayette, IL
 6:00 am to 10:00 am

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy
 By Donation!

Bring your cameras & take a picture with Santa!

Lafayette Community Fire Protection District
 www.lafayettefire.org

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS



The State Bank of Toulon made its annual donations to local organizations on Dec. 10. According to State Bank of Toulon President Doug Parrott, donations equaled approximately \$45,000. Following are the Stark County organizations: Toulon Faith Baptist Church, Elmira United Presbyterian Church, West Jersey United Methodist Church, LaFayette United Methodist Church, Toulon United Methodist Church, Toulon First Baptist Church, Toulon First Congregational Church, Stark County Nutrition Center, Toulon Fire Company, LaFayette Park District, LaFayette Fire Department, Stark County Food Pantry, Stark County Good Samaritan Fund, Toulon Civic Association, Stark County Education Foundation, Stark County Resource House, Stark County Pregnancy Resource Center, Wyoming United Methodist Church, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Wyoming First Congregational Church, Wyoming First Baptist Church, St. Dominic Catholic Church, The Gathering Church, Wyoming Nazarene Church, Wyoming Fire Company, Wyoming History & Arts Association/ Paramount Theater, and the Stark County Historical Society. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

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Winterfest a hit in Williamsfield

By DALLAS SELF

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – The village of Williamsfield resembled a scene from a Christmas movie for the first time in over a decade this past weekend. Saturday marked the return of Williamsfield's Winterfest, and it did not disappoint.

The Williamsfield Public Library sponsored the event, with director Kelly Goodin at the helm, and Lacey Williams, Eric Bell, Jana Kutkat, Pam Courson and Abigail Gruber all helping.

"2005 was the last Winterfest in town. Plans were made for a fest in 2006 and 2007, but were canceled due to bad weather. In 2020 the library began discussing re-starting Winterfest, but were delayed due to COVID," Goodin said. "In 2022 the library handed off the community Easter egg hunt to the Parks Association and local churches to free up time and resources to bring Winterfest back to Billtown."

Goodin praised the generosity of local businesses, Williamsfield schools and all citizens who donated time and money to help



Santa sets up shop in the train caboose at Veterans Park during last Saturday's Winterfest in Williamsfield. Photo by Dallas Self.

create the event. She said the library plans to make this an annual event to be held the second Saturday in December every year.

The evening kicked off at 5:30 p.m. with a parade that ended at the four-way stop in the middle of town. Most downtown businesses had their doors open and were handing out snacks, cocoa, free gifts and more.

Santa Claus made his entrance in a classic red convertible and then stationed his lap in the train caboose, in Veterans Park.

To visit Santa, you had to pass by Tifanie Self's "Shop Around the Corner,"

where Tifanie was handing out hot cocoa to sip while you waited in line. After seeing Santa, the park was full of activities for kids.

Residents could enter a Christmas-light competition by decorating their homes and the high school had a float competition. People voted on their favorite float by donating to a canned-food drive.

The class of 2025 won with a Winter Wonderland float. Robert and Frieda Johnson won the lighting contest. John and Abigail Gruber and Mark and Susan Ott received honorable mention.



From our family to yours,
happy holidays!



Zach Wise
Wyoming
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U.S. dairy industry poised to grow by 2030

By DANIEL GRANT

FarmWeek

Milk demand is projected to grow by 21 percent globally between 2020 and 2030, according to Matt Daley, president of GEA Farm Technologies. And he believes much of that demand could be met by U.S. dairy farmers.

“With more people, more dairy is consumed,” Daley said this month at the Agricultural Bankers Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. “What’s amazing is we’re doing it with fewer cows.

The world population reached an estimated 8 billion people as of Nov. 15, a new milestone in human development. The rising population and a growing middle class in some areas likely will drive increased demand for dairy products.

But with tighter environmental regulations in Europe, dairy output could actually decrease.

“Who’s slated around the world to produce more milk? It’s us in the U.S.,” he said.

Technology and automation will be critical for U.S. farmers to continue to boost milk output with fewer cows. GEA manufactures about 25 percent of robotic milking technology in North America, according to Daley.

GEA is quoting plans for new dairy plants in Nebraska, Kentucky and Georgia and three new whey distilleries are going up in the U.S.

DEA is also building more concentration facilities, which separate the milk and can lower shipping costs by 70 percent.

A strong appetite for dairy is also

driving local demand, which bodes well for small dairies looking for niche markets.

If you’ve never heard of DEA Farm Technologies, chances are you’ve eaten food produced with its technology or at a plant it built. DEA is one of the world’s largest system suppliers for the food, beverage and pharmaceutical sectors.

“We do food on a small and massive scale,” Daley said.

About a quarter of processed milk in the world comes from GEA or is processed with its equipment.

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

LEGAL ADS

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

HILDA M. ENGLISH

Plaintiff

vs.

Case No. 22-CH-6

FINANCE AMERICA LLC.

Defendant

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The requisite Motion for Authorization to Serve by Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Finance America LLC, all Non-Record Claimants, and all Unknown Owners, Defendants in the above-entitled cause, that the above-entitled action was filed and is now pending.

1. The names of all Plaintiffs, the Court in which this action was brought, and the Case Number are identified above.

2. The name of the mortgage holder of record: Finance America LLC.

3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: Lot Number Twenty-two (22) in Eddy’s Subdivision of Lots Three (3) and Four (4) of Block Three (3) of Sloan’s Addition to the Town, now City of Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois. Except: the South One-Half (S ½) of an alley lying North of Lot Number Twenty-two (22) of Eddy’s subdivision of Block Number Three (3) of Sloan’s Addition to the town, now city of Kewanee, vacated by City of Kewanee Ordinance #3190 generally described as beginning at the Northeast corner of said Lot Twenty-two (22), thence West 60 feet, thence North approximately 8 feet more or less to the center line of said vacated alley and thence East 60 feet, thence South 8 feet to the place of origin, Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois, and Plaintiff is in actual physical possession of this property. A portion of the real estate is improved with a single family residence.

4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 720 Pleasant St., Kewanee, IL 61443.

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Defendants, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, file your answer to the Complaint to Quiet Title filed in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, with the Henry County Circuit Clerk, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238, on or before 30 days after the date of this publication, a default may be entered.

/s/ Terilyn A. Motley
Circuit Clerk

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
211 W 2nd St
Kewanee, IL 61443

Phone: 309/852-5555

Published 12/2, 12/9, 12/16/22

••• IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SUSAN A. WHITMORE

Plaintiff

vs.

Case No. 22-CH-5

SAMBOY FINANCIAL, INC.

Defendant

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The requisite Motion for Authorization to Serve by Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Samboy Financial Inc., all Non-Record Claimants, and all Unknown Owners, Defendants in the above-entitled cause, that the above-entitled action was filed and is now pending.

1. The names of all Plaintiffs, the Court in which this action was brought, and the Case Number are identified above.

2. The name of the mortgage holder of record: Samboy Financial, Inc.

3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: Lots number Thirty-Seven (37) and Thirty-eight (38) in Block Two (2) of O’Neil’s Addition to the City of Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois.

4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 1202 W. 3rd St., Kewanee, IL 61443.

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Defendants, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, file your answer to the Complaint to Quiet Title filed in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, with the Henry County Circuit Clerk, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238, on or before 30 days after the date of this publication, a default may be entered.

/s/ Terilyn A. Motley
Circuit Clerk

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
211 W 2nd St
Kewanee, IL 61443

Phone: 309/852-5555

Published 12/2, 12/9, 12/16/22

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

Estate of MARILYN J. MOSS,

Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE

(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of MARILYN J. MOSS. Letters of Office as Independent Executor were issued on November 22, 2022 to Jill Kelman, 26 Pine Tree Road, Kewanee, Illinois, 61443, whose attorney is Clinton A. Block, 117 S. Chestnut Street Kewanee, Illinois 61443. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Henry County Courthouse, 307 West Center Street Cambridge, Illinois 61238, or with the Executor, or both. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and her attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Any Claims not filed within six

months from the date of first publication of this Notice will be barred.

Published 12/2, 12/9, 12/16/22

••• CLAIM NOTICE

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

In Re ESTATE OF

PAUL R. NOWLAN,

No. 2022-PR-00018

Deceased.

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of **PAUL R. NOWLAN** on October 23, 2022. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to **MILDRED J. NOWLAN**, of 2038 State Route 17, Lafayette, Illinois 61449, 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 Office, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, Illinois, or with the representative or both on or before the **16th day of June, 2023**, 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.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2022.

MILDRED J. NOWLAN,
Executor of the Estate of
PAUL R. NOWLAN,
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 12/9, 12/16, 12/23/22

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

ESTATE OF

No. 2022 PR 131

BETTY LOU MAHNESMITH,

Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of BETTY LOU MAHNESMITH. Letters of Office were issued on December 7, 2022, to Connie Nyert and James Mahnesmith as Independent Co-Administrators whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 17, 2023. Any claim not filed by that date 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. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk’s office. Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor 211 W. 2nd St. Kewanee, IL 61443 (309) 852-5555 Published 12/9, 12/16, 12/23/22

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

(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of BETTY LOU MAHNESMITH. Letters of Office were issued on December 7, 2022, to Connie Nyert and James Mahnesmith as Independent Co-Administrators whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 17, 2023. Any claim not filed by that date 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. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit: <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk’s office. Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor 211 W. 2nd St. Kewanee, IL 61443 (309) 852-5555 Published 12/9, 12/16, 12/23/22

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

Estate of DARC Y J. ROSEBECK, deceased No. 2022PR128

Notice is given of the death of DARC Y J. ROSEBECK. Letters of Independent Co-Administration were issued on December 2, 2022 to Karlie Greene, of 29 SE 4th St, Galva, IL 61434, and Kiersten Howard, of 2014 Midland Rd. Galva, IL 61434, as Independent Co-Administrators 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 representatives, 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 12/16, 12/23, 1/6/22

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

ESTATE OF
Bruce V. Barton
Deceased

NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Bruce V. Barton.

On November 30, 2022 Letters of Office were issued to Sarah K. Barton 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 of Henry County, Illinois, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) June 19,

2023 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 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 December 12, 2022
/s/ Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Robert L. Clarke
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309) 695-4701
Fax: (309) 695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 12/16, 12/23, 1/6/22

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

ESTATE OF
Robert L. Clarke
Deceased

NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Robert L. Clarke.

On December 2, 2022 Letters of Office were issued to Nora K. Hooper 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 of Stark County, Illinois, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) June 19,

••• LAFAYETTE PARK DISTRICT

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year beginning June 1, 2021 and ending May 31, 2022.

Cash on hand all accounts

June 1, 2021 \$74,086.82

RECEIPTS

Real Estate Taxes \$24,247.28

Interest \$82.23

Building Rentals \$120.00

Recreation Programs \$120.00

Donations \$2,095.00

Miscellaneous 0

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$26,664.51

TOTAL CASH AND RECEIPTS \$100,751.33

DISBURSEMENTS

Operational Costs \$713.80

Building Maintenance \$5,115.25

Supplies 0

Insurance \$5,094.00

Asset Maintenance 0

Loan Repayment 0

Utilities \$7,835.78

Recreation Programs 0

Miscellaneous 0

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$18,758.83

CASH on hand all accounts

May 31, 2022 \$81,992.50

Respectfully submitted

Keith Knowles,

Treasurer, LaFayette Park District

Published 12/16/22

•••

ESTATE OF

Robert L. Clarke

Deceased

No. 2022-PR

NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Robert L. Clarke.

On December 2, 2022 Letters of Office were issued to Nora K. Hooper 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 of Stark County, Illinois, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) June 19,

2023 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.

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Dated December 12, 2022
/s/ Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Robert L. Clarke
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309) 695-4701
Fax: (309) 695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 12/16, 12/23, 1/6/22

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

ESTATE OF

Bruce V. Barton

Deceased

No. 2022PR127

NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Bruce V. Barton.

On November 30, 2022 Letters of Office were issued to Sarah K. Barton 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 of Henry County, Illinois, or with the Representative, or both, on or before (a) June 19,

2023 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 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 December 12, 2022
/s/ Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Robert L. Clarke
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309) 695-4701
Fax: (309) 695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 12/16, 12/23, 1/6/22

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

ESTATE OF

Bruce V. Barton

Deceased

No. 2022PR127

NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Bruce V. Barton.

2023 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 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 December 12, 2022
/s/ Anne C. Rennick
Attorney for: Estate of Bruce V. Barton
P.O. Box 90
Wyoming, IL 61491
Ph: (309) 695-4701
Fax: (309) 695-2119
Email: acrennick@yahoo.com
Published 12/16, 12/23, 1/6/22

•••
PUBLIC NOTICE
TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES IN Stark, Unincorporated Tazewell County, IL AND NEARBY AREAS TO THE PATRONS OF AMEREN ILLINOIS:

Ag producing more with fewer workers

By **TIMOTHY EGGERT**

FarmWeek

Agriculture remains a top employer in rural parts of the U.S. but who worked in the industry has changed during the past three years, according to new data released by USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS).

In its annual report, "Rural America at a Glance," ERS found overall population growth in rural or "non-metro" areas "took a dramatic upswing" between July 2020 and July 2021 when it increased 0.3 percent to 46.1 million total residents.

It marked the first time since the mid-1990s that nonmetro areas grew at a faster rate than metro areas and was largely because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Despite those positive shifts, rural America is becoming older, with people 65 years and older making up more than 20 percent of the nonmetro population in 2021 – the first time in history. The size of the working-age population also declined in 2021, with 58 percent of rural residents aged 18 to 54.

While data for 2021 wasn't available, the report found that as of 2019,

the strongest rural job gains came in the real estate, administrative services, education, professional services, health care/social assistance and finance/insurance industries. And in 2019, the four industries in rural America with the highest employment were government, manufacturing, retail and health care/social assistance.

Those industries dovetail with the next highest employed industry – agriculture – as "families on small- to mid-sized farms often depend on nonagricultural jobs in their local economies as off-farm sources of income," the report noted.

Here are three other changes the report found in the rural ag industry:

- Agriculture remains a primary source of employment for rural America, as 7 percent of all nonmetro jobs in 2019 were related to the industry, compared to 1.1 percent of all metro jobs.

- The rural ag industry continues to feature more white workers than workers of color, but the share of minorities employed in the field has increased, the report found. As of 2019, Hispanic workers performed 14.4 percent of rural jobs in agriculture,

while 2.4 percent of the rural ag workers were black.

- While ag still accounts for a higher share of rural jobs compared to other industries, the total number of jobs in agriculture has gone down.

Specifically, the total number of rural ag jobs in 2020 was about 89 percent of the total in 2001. That long-term decline in industry jobs, however, has aligned with a long-term rise in agricultural productivity.

Since 2012, the labor productivity, or output per worker, and the total output, or gross domestic product, of the ag industry have both increased by at least 50 percent. And both measures have nearly doubled since their 2001 levels.

"Due to advances in technology and capital deepening, the rural agricultural industry has thrived," ERS economist and report co-author James Davis said during a webinar about the report. "This industry produces a lot more with the same or fewer workers."

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

Cover Law Group, LLP
 David L. Cover
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 Chris Baumann
 Toulon, IL
 309-238-0665

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 403 South Street • Bradford
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 - Installation & Service for all types of electrical work
 - Generac Generators Sales & Installation
 - Oxygen & Acetylene Tanks
 - Kent Pet Food Supplier

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

 HAPPY CHRISTMAS GRANDPA. MOM'S COOKING, I HOPE YOU'RE HUNGRY.
 I SURE AM, BUT IT'S NOT ABOUT FOOD, I'M HERE FOR FAMILY AND BEING TOGETHER.
 WE'RE STILL HAVING CHERRY PIE THOUGH RIGHT?

R.F.D. by Mike Marland

 DAD, I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY BIG INTO "REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE" ...
 BUT THIS MAY BE TAKIN' IT A BIT FAR!
 REALLY, SIM?! LAST YEAR'S TREE?
 OH, C'MON! LOAD IT WITH DECORATIONS, IT'LL BE FINE!

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

 TO BE FAIR YOU HAVE SHOES FOR EVERYTHING. I HAVE TWO SHOE CATEGORIES...GOOD AND BAD.
 GRIN & BEAR IT.
 "I set the alarm for April."

Weekly SUDOKU
 by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦
 ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!
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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez
 1. MOVIES: What was the name of the fictional kingdom in "Frozen"?
 2. HISTORY: How many people died as a result of the Boston Massacre of 1770?
 3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of Scrooge's business partner in "A Christmas Carol"?
 4. TELEVISION: In what city is the long-running drama "Grey's Anatomy" set?
 5. GEOGRAPHY: Which two cities were the original endpoints of the Orient Express?
 6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many legs does an ant have?
 7. LITERATURE: What is the title of Toni Morrison's first novel?
 8. MATH: How many minutes are in a week?
 9. BUSINESS SLOGANS: Which company's slogan is, "Expect more. Pay less"?
 10. EXPLORERS: What is the home country of Roald Amundsen, the first to reach the South Pole?
Answers
 1. Arendelle.
 2. Five.
 3. Jacob Marley.
 4. Seattle, Washington.
 5. Paris and Istanbul (Constantinople).
 6. Six.
 7. "The Bluest Eye."
 8. 10,080.
 9. Target.
 10. Norway.
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FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 3

CryptoQuote
AXYDLBAAXR
 is **LONGFELLOW**
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.
YDIWWIN FAI JLI ROAGHOW,
CHA JLIS WLFDD LFPI
FNPIMJQAIW.
 - **DHPIDDI NAFRLXFM**
 ©2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

TOP 10 MOVIES
 1. Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (PG-13)
 2. Violent Night (R)
 3. Strange World, (PG)
 4. The Menu (R)
 5. Devotion (PG-13)
 6. I Heard the Bells (NR)
 7. Black Adam (PG-13)
 8. The Fabelmans (PG-13)
 9. Bones and All (R)
 10. Ticket to Paradise (PG-13)
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OBITUARIES

Janita F. Furgerson

GALVA – Janita Faye Furgerson, 59, of Galva, died at 7:22 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Cremation will be accorded and a Celebration of her Life will be held at a later date. Inurnment will be in Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to her family. Rux Funeral Home in Galva is in charge of arrangements.

She was born Feb. 8, 1963, in Galesburg, the daughter of Ralph and Norma “Faye” (Fogle-song) Coad. Survivors include her



Furgerson

son, Stephen (Leona) Swanson of Texas; her siblings, Carolyn Queen and Barbara Gleason, both of South Dakota, Steven Coad of California, Vickie VanAlstine of Moline, Sandra Coad and Joseph Coad, both of Terre Haute, Ind., and Sherry (John) Kelly of Galva; six grandchildren, Preston, Ryker, Dravyn, Killian, Kara and Gatlin Swanson; an aunt, Linda Cooper of Poplar Bluff, Mo.; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Kenneth Coad; two brothers, David and Ronald, and her sister Diane.

Janita had worked at Sherry’s Café and most recently at Dixline Corporation. She enjoyed fishing, camping, crocheting and playing slots and she especially enjoyed her dog, Jasper.

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

John R. Goff

BRANSON WEST, Mo. – John Raymond Goff, 89, Branson West, Mo., died Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, in his home.

He was born Dec. 6, 1932, in Kewanee, Henry County, Ill., to the late Ford Raymond and Ora (Todd) Goff.

John married Cora Belle Wright, April 7, 1956, in Albuquerque, N.M. His bride of 64 years predeceases him in death.

He served in the U.S. Air Force, then went to work at Sandia National Laboratory, Albuquerque, N. Mex., for 24 years.

John and Cora Belle “retired” to the Branson area in 1981, only to purchase Uncle John’s Inn on Indian Point. Later they bought the Top of the Ridge Trailer Park on Highway 265 and after that they finally retired and moved to their present home in Branson West.

John was always a good neighbor to everyone and helpful to anyone who needed it. He was one of the first founders of the FOOOF Club for old guys who met for coffee at Billy Gail’s on Hwy. 265 back in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

His hobby was Ham Radios and his handcall was WB5AZP. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Kimberling City, Mo.

John is preceded in death by his wife, Cora Belle; grandson, Ryan Ledbetter; his parents; his paternal grandparents John Royal and Elizabeth ‘Lizzie’ Gibbs (Ross) Goff; and maternal grandparents John and Emma (Reed) Todd, all from the counties of Henry, Knox and Stark, Ill.; and one sister, Lillian Ora (Goff) Smith Sanders.

John is survived by one daughter, Sandy Rice of Fredericksburg, Texas; one grandson, Ty and wife, Toni Craft of Camp Pendleton, Calif.; and son-in-law Tony Craft of Lubbock. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews from Illinois and California; caretakers Jody and Travis Palmer; and a host of friends.

A memorial service for John was Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, at 3 p.m. at Stumpff Funeral Chapel Kimberling City, Mo. Reverend Tony Blevis officiated. Arrangements are under the direction of Stumpff Funeral Home Kimberling City, Mo.

Harold E. Hall

SAN TAN VALLEY, Ariz. – Harold E. Hall, 74, of San Tan Valley, Ariz., formerly of Galva, died Dec. 9, 2022, at his home.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will be in Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Harold Hall Memorial Fund for a memorial to be established.

He was born May 29, 1948, in Kewanee, the son of Edward and Lois (Dullaghan) Hall. He married Gay (Newell) Thurston on July 7, 2007, in San Tan Valley. She survives.

Other survivors include his stepchildren, Mike (Misti) Thurston of Annawan, Missy Thurston of San Tan Valley and Matt Thurston of Galva; three grandchildren, Dylan (Julissa) Thurston of Bettendorf, Iowa, and Hailey Thurston of Bloomington, Ill., and Maverick Thurston of Galva; a brother, Steve Hall of Dallas, Texas; two sisters-in-law, Valorie Hall and Jackie Hall, both of Galva; a brother-in-law, James (Sheila) Werland of Maricopa, Ariz.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Ron and Stan.

Harold had graduated from Galva High School in 1966 and then from Arizona State University in 1971. He worked as a structural engineer in residential and commercial build-

ing construction. He was an avid ASU football and basketball fan. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family and grandchildren.

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

Noland N. Pettit

Born in Castleton, Ill., on Christmas Day of 1934, Noland was the youngest of five children of Gilbert Ottis and Vera M. (Newton) Pettit.

Following graduation at Wyoming High School, Noland served in Korea with the U.S. Army in the mid-1950s. He married Sandra Jean Van Court, daughter of Raymond and Alma (Nelson) Van Court of Kewanee, Ill., on Valentine’s Day (Feb. 14) in 1959.

They resided in Kewanee for just over a year where they were blessed the following December with their robust little son Bradley Lynn.

Shortly thereafter Noland and Sandy moved to N. Aurora, Ill. where Noland worked for the railroad for several years and was then em-



Pettit

ployed by Caterpillar, where he remained for over 25 years until his retirement.

The arrival of their precious daughter, Lori Ann, happened in April, 1962. Noland and Sandy became grandparents in 1988 when Lori became the proud mother of Ashley Jo Lawrence.

Noland and Sandy spent many winter years after retirement in Florida. Not many years ago and following Sandy’s passing he sold the home in North Aurora and moved permanently to Venice, Fla., where he enjoyed flower gardening, socializing at the local clubs with friends, and volunteering at a local hospital thrift shop where he was the all-round handy man.

Noland, 87, is preceded in death by his wife Sandy; his son Bradley; his parents, Gilbert and Vera; two brothers, Arnold (Erma) Pettit and Howard (Eileen) Pettit; and several nephews. He is survived by daughter Lori and Jeff Wilkinson of Somonauk, Ill.; grandchildren Ashley and Eric Kuhn, Mary and Justin Stoddard and Alex Wilkinson. Surviving also are Noland’s brother, Roland (Bernice) Pettit of Canton, Ill., and sister Carolyn (the late Ben) Blakey of Wyoming, Ill. And, there are still many nieces and nephews that Noland adored.

A graveside service will be Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11:30 a.m. at River Hills Memorial Park, 11650 S River St. in Batavia, Ill., 60510, where Noland will rest with his beloved wife and son. Immediately following there will be a luncheon memorial at Turner’s Club, 1335 Mitchell Rd., Aurora, Ill., 60505.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Toulon, LaFayette & West Jersey United Methodist Church

Rev. Leon D. Pomeroy
229 W. Main St., PO Box 538, Toulon, IL 61483
(812) 698-9294
Sunday Worship: LaFayette - 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday;
West Jersey 9 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sunday; Toulon 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

218 N. Henderson St., Toulon
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Email fcctoulon@gmail.com
website: firstcongregationaltoulon.org

Galva Congregational Church

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

First Baptist Church

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

Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491
309-695-4523 leave message
Sunday School: 10:00, All ages
Sunday Worship: 11:00
Wednesday Night TBD
Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

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
Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.
Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Kid’s Club 5:30-7 p.m.
Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Email: pastor@toulonbaptist.com
www.ToulonBaptist.com
www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon
Call us for Salvation Army Assistance

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491
threesaints.org

Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL
Casual, family friendly
Interim Pastor Randy Swanson
Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Worship (in Luther Hall)
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School/Confirmation Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
Contact: messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com
1-309-932-3346
Facebook: Messiah Lutheran—Galva, IL

Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434
(309) 932-2460
preachinghope@gmail.com
galvafirst@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 9:00

Wyoming United Methodist Church

Pastor Rebecca Klemm
302 North Main Street PO Box 287 Wyoming, IL, 61491-0287.
309-606-9027
Email: WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com
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OBITUARIES

Jamie L. James

PRINCEVILLE – Jamie Leigh James, 39, of Yorkville, formerly of Edelstein and the daughter of a Princeville woman, passed away on Dec. 6, 2022.

Jamie was born on Jan. 1, 1983, in Peoria to Martin Blair and Elsie (Riley) Begner. She married Christopher James on May 16, 2009.

Surviving are her husband Chris; four children, Kaylee, Makenzee, Landon and Cassidy James; father Martin Blair of Edelstein; mother Elsie Begner of Princeville; three sisters, Ashley (Adam) Smothers of Latham, Erika Blair of Peoria and Kelsy (Sean Birchenall) Blair of Edelstein; her parents-in-law Jon and Diane James of Chillicothe; and

brother-in-law, Josh James of Davenport, Iowa.

Jamie graduated from Princeville High School in 2001.

Her funeral service was Dec. 12 at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville. Burial was in Princeville Township Cemetery.

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

SPORTS: Stark County girls top Midland, 32-20

Continued from Page 12 past week, beating Midland, 32-20, on Saturday, Dec. 10.

Kylee Frisby led Stark County (3-7) with 11 points, Payten Hillier scored 9 and Lauren West and Lindley Johnston scored 6 apiece.

The Lady Rebels led 7-2 after one quarter and 11-5 at halftime before taking control with a 13-6 run in the third quarter. Hillier and Frisby each had a pair of field goals in that quarter and West added one of her two treys.

“We didn’t play our best, but we came away with a win,” Coach Bob Bohm said. “The girls are playing hard every night they step on the floor.”

Stark County is home against Lewistown on Monday.

Galva girls – The Lady Wildcats dropped their lone game last week to Peoria Heights, 55-28, on Monday.

Galva (7-3) trailed 18-5 after the first quarter and was down 32-11 in this one.

Lexi Stone led the team with 10 points, while Kali Yelm added 9, Kendall Rogers scored 5 and Sarah Kaiser and Alexis Spivey chipped in 2 apiece.

Galva was at Kewanee Wednesday and then is off until it plays Elmwood Dec. 26 at the Princeville Holiday Tournament.

Princeville girls – Princeville (5-5) won its fourth straight last week, topping Ridgewood 49-35 at home on Dec. 7 to improve to a perfect 3-0 in the Lincoln Trail Conference.

Princeville got out to a fast start as Destinee Harwood racked up 12 of her

team-high 22 points in the first half, boosting the Lady Princes to a 22-7 halftime lead.

Harwood finished with three treys, but Princeville also got nine points from Kinley McGinn, eight from Tessa Gazza and six from Brianna Brodie.

Princeville boys – Princeville (5-4) has lost three straight, falling to Midland on Tuesday (43-38), Elmwood on Dec. 10 (48-40) and Illini Bluffs on Dec. 9 (53-31).

Princeville has been shorthanded due to the suspension of two players and illnesses.

Princeville Coach Tait Sennett said the decision about the playing statuses of the players suspended was made hours before Princeville lost at home to Illini Bluffs.

“I don’t know all the details and in the interest of the kids, families and everybody involved, I think it’s wise that we just leave it as a discipline issue,” Sennett said. “We’re wishing the best for the kids.”

Sennett said he hoped the missing players can return.

Against Elmwood, coach’s son Tucker Sennett had a team-high 13 points and Jake Williams scored 11. Both are sophomores.

IHSA football – The Ill-

inois high school football championship games will be moving back to a renovated Hancock Stadium next fall.

Last week the Illinois High School Association Board of Directors approved a state final hosting contract with Illinois State University and the Bloomington-Normal Area Convention & Visitors Bureau to host the IHSA finals from 2023-2027.

“We appreciate all of the hosting bids that we received for the IHSA football state finals,” said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. “Ultimately, the first-class facilities, amazing support from Illinois State University and the Bloomington-Normal communities, and the central location

proved to be the biggest factors in returning to ISU for the next five years.” Hancock Stadium hosted the inaugural IHSA football state finals in 1974 and more than 100 state championship games from 1974 to 1998.

Hancock Stadium underwent a \$23 million dollar renovation in 2013 that included a new press box, a transformation of the east side of the stadium and new chair-back seating. ISU also broke ground on an indoor football practice facility adjacent to Hancock Stadium

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Answers on Page 3 – Super Crossword – THAT '70s SHOW

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| ACROSS | 53 — a soul | 102 Perfectly | 8 32-Down | 39 "Pest" of | 84 1973 Jim |
| 1 Motion | 54 "Like — not" | 103 "Blue Velvet" | brand since | kiddle lit | Croce hit |
| 7 Porion out | 55 Suffix of | singer | the early | 40 Beet variety | 85 Gourmet |
| 13 Person | 56 Suffix of | 105 "The Color | 1900s | 41 Letter stroke | marshrooms |
| sleeping next | 58 Ending for | Purple" | 7 Curtain | 45 Scoff | 91 Class for tots, |
| to you, often | 59 Ending for | novelist | 8 Actor Holm | 46 — kwon do | for short |
| 20 Like many | 60 Microscope | 109 In — | 9 French wines | 9 Linguistic | 47 Token brute |
| nuclei | component | (initiated) | 10 Linguistic | expressions | 48 TV "Science |
| 21 Surprise | 62 Her first | 110 Habited | 11 Teeth: Prefix | Guy" Bill | 94 Fall to put in |
| attacker | Vogue cover | sister | 12 Work unit | 50 Frontiersman | 96 Cavalry source |
| 22 Nero or | was in 1996 | 111 Slip — | 13 Process by | Wild Bill — | 97 The Doors |
| Napoleon | 66 Green and | (some shoes) | which an | 52 L-P linkup | song with a |
| 23 "Hello, Dolly" | Gore | 112 Links peg | electron is | 56 — Lankan | Calif. city in |
| star | 67 — matter | 114 Postcard | emitted | 57 Tumbler's | its title |
| 25 Capital of | 68 Japanese | 119 Affluent Rio | 14 Involve in | surface | 99 Refrain from |
| the country | dog | neighborhood | contention | 60 Wildlife- | imbruing |
| Georgia | 69 Video game | 122 Sitcom | 15 Print | tracking ID | 100 "Holy" council |
| 26 Doe's dear? | pioneer | associated | resolution | 61 Balletic bend | 103 Gives rise to |
| 27 Alley — | 72 — glance | with nine | abbr. | 63 Thanksgiving | 104 Shiny plastics |
| 28 Sousing sort | 75 Music genre | featured first | 16 Baseball's Ott | side servings | 105 Jungian inner |
| 29 TV's Cheers, | for brooders | names in this | 17 Popular font | 64 Joking type | personality |
| for one | 76 Co-author | puzzle | type | 65 Water barrier | 106 Fictional |
| 30 Top pilot | of the 2006 | 125 Hand-held | 18 Puccini | 70 Tot amuser | slauth Arsine |
| 31 Ice sheets | bestseller | filming | opera | 71 Add up to | 107 Pointless |
| 33 1960s-'70s | "Three Cups | equipment | 19 Inguois tribe | 72 State as fact | 108 Prefix |
| talk show | of Tea" | 126 Soviet | members | 73 City in Ohio | meaning |
| host | 81 Like low-fat | statesman | 24 Liquor, | 74 Luke and | "people" |
| 37 She played | mozzarella | Gromyko | slangly | Lela's father | 113 Spanish river |
| Bree on | 86 Eggs, in labs | 127 Lost lady in | 29 Elton John's | 75 "And on and | 115 Bits of wit |
| "Desperate | 87 Pro's vote | "The Raven" | "— and the | Abbr. | 116 Baseball's |
| Housewives" | 88 Dot in the | 128 Stinging- | Jets" | 77 Architect | Slaughter |
| 42 Al Bundy | sea, to Jorge | tentacle reef | 31 Italian car | Ludwig Mies | 117 Fairland unit |
| portrayer Ed | 99 Actor Baldwin | dwellier | 32 Soft drink | van der — | 118 Shanty |
| 43 Nebraska city | 90 Tunneling | 129 "Already?" | 34 Zen master's | 78 Eden dweller | 120 Pick-up-sticks |
| 44 Jekyl's bad | rodents | question | 35 Suffix with | 79 Actress | math game |
| side | 93 What to do | 130 Got lippy with | form | Greta | 121 Prefix with |
| 45 She played | after hiding, | DOWN | 36 Tony-winning | 80 Jewish month | car |
| the mother on | in a kids' | 1 Pouches | actress Johns | after Adar | 122 Classroom |
| "Lassie" | game | 2 Coup d'— | 81 Baby food | 81 Baby food | aides: Abbr. |
| 49 Football's Joe | 95 "M" star | 3 Comic: Durn | 82 Malted quaff | 82 Malted quaff | 123 Antique Odds |
| 51 Country next | 98 Big snakes | 4 Air pollution | 83 No longer in | the mil., e.g. | 124 Actress |
| to Georgia | 101 — Gras | 5 Iraq export | | | Arthur |

The Prairie News Sports

Galva coach has hope

Though winless, boys team 'has progressed a lot'

By NICK VLAHOS and JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

Galva has lost its first 10 boys basketball games this season. But the Wildcats' first-year coach has seen reasons for hope recently.

The most obvious example was Dec. 10, a 63-48 loss at home against Orion. John Gravitt had 20 points, and Blake Stahl scored 13. The margin of defeat is the narrowest Galva has had. It trailed 27-21 at halftime, according to Galva Coach Jake McClintic.

"I think we have progressed a lot this season, and the score is finally starting to show it," he said in an email. "We have had to go back to some of the basics and doing the small things correctly. It is a work in progress, but we are getting to where we need to be."

Still, more work probably is in the plans. On Dec. 6, Galva lost 59-36 at Bushnell-Prairie City despite 12 points each from Gravitt and Carter DeVenney. The Wildcats also lost 73-26 the following night at Elmwood.

In that game, Stahl had 10 points, including six in the first quarter. But it ended with Elmwood ahead 22-11, and Galva went scoreless in the second quarter.

McClintic has no complaints about how his players are performing during practices. Improvements have been made on defense and in rebounding and

making easy shots.

"I'm excited to see what this team will be able to do once we get into our conference schedule," McClintic wrote.

That Lincoln Trail schedule won't begin until Jan. 3 at Wethersfield. Only one non-tournament game remains until then, Dec. 20 at home against Bureau Valley. Galva also is to play Dec. 26-28 at the Princeville Holiday Tournament.

• **Stark County boys** – Stark County has played only once recently, but the Rebels made it count.

A Saturday matinee on Dec. 10 at Lowpoint-Washburn resulted in a 72-40 Stark County victory. Daniel Kieser had 17 points and Matthew Bowser scored 15. Neither played in the fourth quarter.

Kieser scored eight in the first quarter and Bowser scored six as Stark County led 27-8. L-W cut its deficit to 41-29 by intermission, but Bowser hit three 3-pointers in the third quarter to help Stark County lead by 30.

"They tried to speed the game up and we played well in the open floor, except for a little hiccup in the second quarter," Stark County Coach Dusty Browning stated.

Stark County was 4-3 before it played Thursday night at DePue. The Rebels play Saturday night at North Fulton.

• **Stark County girls** – The Lady Rebels made the most of their lone game in the

Continued on Page 11



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