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 Vol. 19, No. 44

The Prairie News

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Graham will keep clinic in Billtown

By **NICK VLAHOS**
 For The Prairie News
 WILLIAMSFIELD – Graham Health System officials like Williamsfield so much they've decided to put down roots.
 The Canton-based health-care organization now owns the building at 120 E. Gale St. where Graham Medical Group opened a clinic about two years ago. The purchase from previous owner Matt Tonkin and his MLKT, LLC became final about six weeks ago, according to Bob Senneff, the Graham president and CEO. According to Knox County records, the property sold for \$55,000.
 Open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the Graham facility in Williamsfield serves anywhere from 10-24 patients per day on average, Senneff said. It replaced a medical office Peoria-based OSF HealthCare once maintained in Billtown, although the building had been vacant for a while.
Continued on Page 2

OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES



This lake is one of eight available for youth to fish at the Cozzi Ranch. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

Cozzi Ranch caters to youths

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**
 For The Prairie News
 WYOMING – Youngsters who enjoy fishing and hunting have another good place to pursue their outdoor passions. Michelle Cozzi and Andy McGava provide opportunities of the outdoors for developmentally disabled youth, or for any youths who are 18-years-old and under. Cozzi Ranch, begun in 2017, provides eight bodies of water and acres of timber for fishing, hunting and exploring the land. There are 177 acres of land that comprises Cozzi Ranch.
 Cozzi is CEO and oversees the operation of the ranch while McGava is the land manager. They've been a couple for 14 years and they work continually on keeping the ranch a viable property available for youths and youth groups, such as the Boy Scouts and 4-H.
 The ranch began as a way for Cozzi to honor Jamie, her adult son, who had intellectual disabilities and autism, who passed away in 2016 at the age of 22. Cozzi Ranch is a 501 (C) (3) not for profit entity and was originally known as Jamie's Crew 22.
 "It's Jamie's Crew 22 doing business as Cozzi Ranch because my son loved
Continued on Page 2

Gun ban? Legislators pass a few laws; assault weapons ban ahead?

By **PETER HANCOCK**
 Capitol News Illinois
 SPRINGFIELD – Illinois lawmakers last week passed significant legislation dealing with electric vehicle manufacturing incentives and the availability of hygiene products for prisoners in the state's correctional system.
 But some weightier issues, including a possible assault weapons ban, will wait until a lame duck session scheduled for early January.
 Last week, lawmakers wrapped up a five-day fall veto session that focused mainly on changes to the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform package first adopted in 2021 and a \$1.8 billion infusion of cash into the state's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.
 But several other bills passed as well, including an expansion of tax credits and other incentives aimed at promoting electric vehicle manufacturing in Illinois.
 Last year, lawmakers passed the Reimagining Electric Vehicles in Illinois Act, or REV
Continued on Page 5

Inside
 • Stark County Historical Society open house is on Saturday. **Page 7**
 • SAFE-T Act amended. **Page 8**
 • Obituaries. **Page 10**

Stark weight room donors recognized

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – Stark County athletes are getting another boost from local boosters.
 On Dec. 2 a special ceremony at the new Stark County High School was held to honor donors who have contributed to an ongoing fundraiser for the weight room. The ceremony occurred during halftime of a varsity basketball game.
 Two Stark County parents, Leslie Bowser and Joni Kinsella, brought the idea of a \$100,000 fundraising effort to the school district to purchase equipment for the weight room and other athletic gear. So far, \$47,000 has been raised toward that goal and funds have been applied to purchasing the new equipment for the school's weight room.
 Various levels of sponsorship exist for donations as follows: Entry Level up to \$499; Bronze \$500 to \$999; Silver \$1,000 to \$4,999; Gold \$5,000 to \$9,999; Platinum \$10,000 to \$49,999; and a special level – Naming Rights (of the weight room) \$50,000+.
 If interested in being a sponsor, contact Superintendent Brett Elliott, Leslie Bowser or Joni Kinsella.



Shown are pieces of new equipment purchased with donated funds for the new weight room at the Stark County High School, in Toulon. Photo by John A. Ballentine.


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COZZI RANCH: Inspired by Cozzi's late son Jamie

Continued from Page 1
 the outdoors. We just wanted other kids like him or just youth to get out and do some fishing and hunting," Cozzi said.

Jamie's Crew 22 is the first property that was set aside for this purpose of providing opportunities for the outdoors for youths. Cozzi was able to purchase additional property and the entire operation became known as Cozzi Ranch.

"Anybody – it's the youth – so we want adults to bring their children and grandchildren to fish and hunt and explore the outdoors," Cozzi said. "Youths are considered to be 18-years-old and under, and it's free. It doesn't cost anything."

Cozzi asks for people to get permission to be on the property. Permission slips are issued that accompanies some rules. Once permission is secured, a tour of the land is provided to show people where fishing is available.

There is "youth turkey and youth

deer" hunting offered. A limitation of three hunters is in place.

"Hunting is strictly for the youths," Cozzi said. "Adults are not allowed to hunt with their children or grandchildren, although they can accompany them."

Cozzi is originally from the Chicago area, having grown up there.

"Everybody asks, 'How did you get here, Michelle?' and it was Andy. I moved here in 2010," Cozzi said.

"I went to Rich South High School, in Richton Park, and graduated in 1985. I earned my bachelor's degree in education from National Louis University, in Aurora," Cozzi stated. "I taught Pre-K at Redeemer Lutheran, in Peoria."

Cozzi says that last year was their busiest with the 4-H youth and Boy Scouts using the ranch's lakes for fishing and camping. She said Stark County High School is welcome to contact her about the school using the ranch for the bass fishing team and their "home" lake.



Above are Andy McGava and Michelle Cozzi at their ranch north of Wyoming. Submitted photo.

"We want the kids to get out and put the video games down. I think the families are trying to do that. That family time is very important," Cozzi concluded.

Call (309) 981-9977 to contact the Cozzi Ranch office. The ranch is located north of Wyoming on Wyoming Road at 9275 N., approximately three miles away.

Cozzi Ranch's fourth annual Hunter Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast is scheduled for Dec. 10-11 at the Wyoming American Legion from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days. Silent auctions and a rifle raffle will be available for participation.

CLINIC: More hours possible in the future

Continued from Page 1
 According to Tonkin, he purchased the building from OSF about three years ago and undertook an extensive renovation.

"I hope it sends a signal that we're there for the long term," Senneff said about the Graham purchase. "Having ownership of the building, we can put a little more money into it than we could as a tenant."

Initially, that investment might become evident in new landscaping and signs.

But so far, all signs point to a prosperous practice in Williamsfield, according to Senneff.

Medical staff there have seen about 2,700 patients from 90-some ZIP codes, including Kewanee and Monmouth, Senneff said. The main medical personnel – Dr. Mark DeYoung and advanced-practice registered nurses Kristen Jackson and Dara Wagner – are based at the Graham clinic in Elmwood.

Graham Hospital is in Canton. In addition to Elmwood and Williamsfield, the health system has medical offices in Canton, Farmington, Galesburg, Havana and Lewistown. Another facility is expected to open next year in Macomb.

Williamsfield's proximity to the Elmwood clinic, about 13 miles, helped lead Graham to nudge north its footprint, according to Senneff.

"It was close enough to Elmwood that those folks would come this way (to Canton) when they would need hospital care," Senneff said. "It's kind of an in-between market between Galesburg, Peoria and Canton. And we felt good about the way we deliver health care in a family environment."

Senneff also mentioned persuasion from Tonkin, who is Williamsfield village president, and his wife, Lora Kutkat. In and out of his official role, Tonkin has helped undertake improvement initia-

tives in his community of about 600 residents.

"I was very excited, both as village president and as a private citizen, that Graham wanted to buy the clinic building and make this a permanent arrangement," Tonkin said in an email.

Unlike the Graham clinic in Elmwood, the Williamsfield office has no imaging equipment. But Senneff foresees an inevitable expansion of service there, probably starting with office hours four or five days a week.

Senneff even suggested Graham might need a bigger building someday in Billtown.

For now, he and Tonkin appear satisfied with a more permanent status quo.

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for the City of Galva, Henry County, Illinois.

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for the City of Galva for tax year 2022 will be held on 19 December 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 311 N.W. 4th Avenue, Galva, Illinois 61434. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Debbie VanWassenhove, City Clerk, 311 N.W. 4th Avenue, Galva, IL 61434 phone number (309) 932 - 2555.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for tax year 2021 were \$53,568.69. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for tax year 2022 are \$64,165. This represents a 19.78 percent increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission lease for tax year 2021 were \$108,730.67. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for tax year 2022 are \$118,351.00. This represents an 8.85 percent increase over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for tax year 2021 were \$570,747.21. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for tax year 2022 are \$697,463. This represents a 22.20 percent increase over the previous year.

Any notice which includes any information not specified and required by this Article shall be an invalid notice.

All hearings shall be open to the public. The corporate authority of the taxing district shall explain the reasons for the proposed increase and shall permit persons desiring to be heard an opportunity to present testimony within reasonable time limits as it determines.

PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violations

11-28 - Lucas A. Clayes - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.

Felonies & Misdemeanors

10-14 - Felony - Zachary D. Jacobson was arrested for unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

11-26 - Domestic violence - Collin P. Murphy was arrested for domestic battery/physical contact and criminal damage to property.

Incidents & Accidents Stark County

1-9 - A deer-related vehicle occurred on Grain Bin Rd. approximately a half of a mile east of 900E. The driver involved was Izach Miller-Schipper, 22, of Toulon. No injuries were reported but the vehicle sustained over \$1,500 in estimated damages.

11-10 - A deer-vehicle accident occurred on Route 93 just east of 950. The driver involved was Linda L. Rhodes, 80, of Dahinda. There were no damages reported, but the vehicle sustained over \$1,500 in estimated damages.

11-26 - A 17-year-old Bradford teen was cited for driving on a suspended registration, due to a mandated insurance violation, and for driving without vehicle insurance. She was released with a court date to appear.

11-27 - A 16-year-old Kewanee teen was ticketed for driving without vehicle insurance and for speeding 83 mph in a 55 zone. He was released with a notice to appear in court.

11-28 - Kaleb Mason, 25, Yates City, was arrested on an out-of-county warrant following a traffic stop by the Stark County Sheriff's Department. Mason was transported to the Henry County Jail.

11-29 - An abandoned vehicle was located on 1700E near the North Valley Blacktop and was towed to the Stark County impound lot.

12-1 - Apryl R. Ptashnik, 32, Kewanee, was cited for driving without vehicle insurance. She was issued a notice to appear in court.

12-2 - A Wyoming resident in the

100 block of E. Henderson St. in Wyoming contacted authorities to retrieve some bullets found in an item purchased from a garage sale.

12-2 - Jennifer A. McFadden, 34, Bradford, was cited for driving a vehicle with a suspended registration. She was issued a notice to appear.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

11-28 - to the 00 block of SE 1st Ave. for a complaint involving a young child (2 years old) walking around without supervision. A parent immediately arrived and was very frantic. It was learned that a door had not been secured and the child may have gotten out about 10 minutes earlier.

11-28 - to the 300 block of Front St. for a theft complaint.

11-28 - Officer saw an intoxicated pedestrian walking into traffic in the 300 block of SE 1st St. As the result, Nickolas Leverette, 42, Galva, was issued an administrative warning ticket for public intoxication. He was taken home.

11-29 - to the 1100 block of NW 5th Ave. for a 9-1-1 hang up call. It was believed to be due to phone issues.

11-30 - to the 100 block of SE 6th Ave. for a complaint involving items located hidden on complainant's property. Items were determined to have been placed out for trash in neighborhood. They were returned to trash pile.

11-30 - to the 200 block of NW 4th Ave. for a theft complaint.

11-30 - to the 00 block of SW 4th Street for a loud-noise complaint.

12-2 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. for a complaint involving damage to property.

12-3 - to the 00 block of NE 4th St. for a complaint of dogs being left outside in the cold weather. The dogs had been taken inside prior to officer's arrival.

12-3 - Officer was advised of a repossession taking place in the 100 block of NW 7th Ave.

12-3 - Officer attempted to locate a vehicle that had been reported driving erratically on Page Street near the Galva-Atkinson blacktop. Officer did not locate.

12-3 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 300 block of SE 1st St., Datin Newman, 24, Galva, was ar-

rested for operating a vehicle with suspended registration. He was released with a required court date.

12-3 - As the result of a traffic stop near the intersection of James B. Young Road and North Center Ave., Cody Sherbeyn, 33, Moline, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, speeding, not having a rear registration light and having expired registration. He was released with a required court date.

12-4 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 300 block of S. Center Ave., Joshua Smithson, 44, Wyoming, was arrested for operating a vehicle with suspended registration. He was released with a required court date.

12-4 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 900 block of SW 2nd St., Tharen Walters, 20, Galesburg, was arrested for driving under the influence of drugs, possession of adult use cannabis in a motor vehicle and speeding. He was released with a required court date.

11-28 - Amanda Kirkhove, 35, Neponset, was issued a citation for having an illegally tinted windshield in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

12-3 - Aaron Griffin, 31, Peoria, was issued a citation for speeding in the 1200 block of SE 2nd St.

12-4 - Richard Hass, 55, Geneseo, was issued a citation for speeding in the 800 block of N. Center Ave.

Property Transfers

11-28 - Douglas A. & Sandra C. Milby to Amanda M. Efnor, James D. Lauri M. & Ryan P. Young - Pt Sect. 3-14-7 SW & SE - Consideration = \$0.

11-28 - Glenda L. & John A. Swank to Glenda L. & John A. Swank, Co-trustees. - Pt Lt 22 Assr's Sub Sect 19-13-6 SW - 211 E. Turner Ave., Toulon - Consideration = \$0.

Marriages

12-1 - Molly Mary Carlton, of Bradford and Jacob David Goodman, of Castleton.

12-2 - Lawrence Gene Horrie and Nancy Kay Martin, both of Bradford.

Notice is hereby given that the office of the Wyoming City Clerk located at 108 E. Williams, Wyoming, IL has Candidate Petitions ready for circulation for the Consolidated Election to be held on April 4, 2023.

The office will be open 7:30am to noon and 12:30 to 4pm on weekdays for the period of December 14th-19th, 2022 for the purpose of accepting candidate petitions for the following offices:

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- Aldersperson Ward 2 (4 year term)**
- Aldersperson Ward 2 (unexpired 2 year term)**
- Aldersperson Ward 3 (4 year term)**

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Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

CryptoQuote

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- Mark Twain

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NOTICE: CITY OF TOULON SNOW REMOVAL PARKING

The City of Toulon will begin enforcing a parking ban on motor vehicles parked on city streets when 2 or more inches of snow has fallen. Any person violating this ban will be fined in accordance with the City's ordinance on snow removal parking. Vehicles may be moved back once the street has been cleared. Parking during snow removal is permitted in the parking lot behind City Hall on Franklin Street. For more information please contact City Hall at (309) 286-5042

Of gun laws, Xmas Guardians & postal issues

Rambling through central Illinois, remembering **Yukon Cornelius**.

• • •

Should someone under age 21 be allowed to own a gun or ammunition? Isn't that a constitutional right? Or is it only OK for people under 21 to touch guns while toiling in the military and putting their lives at risk? And when will we finally decide what age constitutes adulthood? 18? 21? 75? Those are among many questions worth asking in regards to House Bill 5855, which will generate plenty of headlines between now and its appearance during the Jan. 4-10 lame-duck session of the Illinois legislature. Worth noting is that the bill was pushed out of the recent veto session – when passage would have required a two-thirds majority – to the lame-duck meeting, when it needs only a simple majority to become law. ... HB 5855 would take away the right to own guns or ammunition for any residents under 21, unless they serve in the U.S. military or National Guard. The bill would also outlaw the manufacture, delivery or sale of an "assault weapon," an "assault weapon" attachment, a .50-caliber rifle or a .50-caliber cartridge. Even possession of those firearms would be illegal within 300 days of passage, unless the firearm is registered with the Illinois State Police. ... Gun owners should read the bill's full text, which is available online and lists firearms that would be outlawed – including AR15s.

• • •



**Jeff
LAMPE**

Every family has holiday traditions,

some of which center around watching a favorite movie or TV program. In our house we watch "It's a Wonderful Life" every year, and I still remember every scene from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and the animated "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" show featuring **Burl Ives** as a singing snowman. Add another must-watch to the list. After struggling to get in the Christmas spirit last weekend, my wife wisely suggested watching "The Guardians of the Galaxy Holiday Special." The new 44-minute special available on Disney+ was, for me, an instant classic. The premise of the special is funny and, except for some cursing and a little violence, it offers heart-warming fare. If you enjoy the Guardians you will like this show – which will be replayed every year for decades in our household.

• • •

While readers may not have noticed a recent change in the distribution of our paper, we are now mailing The Prairie News out of Elmwood, instead of Toulon. Why the change? Well, the Toulon Post Office told us they could no longer guarantee when our paperwork would be done and that the earliest we could drop off papers was 9 a.m. That's a significant change from past practice and creates problems, since we must deliver papers to numerous other post offices in order to get them delivered in a timely fashion. Many of those post offices have limited hours, an unfortunate trend in rural areas. Unfortunately, our decision could impact the future of the Toulon post office. It's no secret the U.S. Postal Service is not a money-making operation. It's also no secret the Postal Service is increasingly closing rural post offices or cutting their hours. Often, the deciding factor is volume. In other words, how much money does your

post office generate? The bad news for Toulon is that because of a policy change, the post office will lose more than \$1,200 in "volume" every week. If that worries you, I suggest you speak with your postmaster.

• • •

Black squirrels were a hot topic recently after a cold day of deer hunting. My buddy **The Farmer** asked if Elmwood had imported our black squirrels from Galva, which apparently also has a population of the rodents. My guess is Elmwood's population migrated east from Yates City. Furthermore, I've seen several skinny little black squirrels on the eastern outskirts of Elmwood, which means they are likely headed east to Brimfield in search of greener trees. ... Speaking of squirrels, the other day, we had a fat black squirrel in the yard – unusual since they are typically scrawny. Not this one, which looked like it must have some fox squirrel in its family tree, even though some "experts" say the species do not interbreed.

• • •

Parting shot: Here's a list of the most and least conservative state legislatures in the U.S. as compiled by the Center for Legislative Accountability based on lawmaker votes for "the conservative position." Most conservative = 1. Alabama, 2. Tennessee, 3. Indiana, 4. South Dakota, 5. Arkansas, 6. Florida, 7. Idaho, 8. Wyoming, 9. Iowa, 10. West Virginia. Least conservative = 50. Massachusetts, 49. Hawaii, 48. Rhode Island, 47. California, 46. Maryland, 45. Vermont, 44. New York, 43. New Jersey, 42. Connecticut, 41. Oregon, 40. Nevada. Amazingly Illinois checked in at No. 36.

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BILL: Would make it illegal for anyone under 21 to own a firearm

Continued from Page 1
Illinois, that provided tax incentives for electric vehicle manufacturers, or companies that manufacture certain component parts for electric vehicles, to locate or expand in Illinois.

Under that program, companies receiving the breaks could receive a state income tax credit of 75-100 percent of payroll taxes withheld from each new employee and 25-50 percent for retained employees. The law also provided a 10 percent credit for training expenses.

The stated goal of that program was to make Illinois a hub for electric vehicle manufacturing. But other states have been getting into the game as well, including Indiana and Michigan, which some people have argued offer better incentives than Illinois.

The first and only contract under the REV Act thus far was signed between the state and T/CCI Manufacturing in Decatur in September to create an estimated \$2.2 million in value for the company to retool its facility that manufactures compressors.

House Bill 5189, which cleared the General Assembly Thursday, Dec. 1, expands the incentives to be available to the makers of more component parts, and raises the maximum tax credit to 75 percent of the incremental income tax attributable to retained employees. That amount can also go to 100 percent, de-

pending on where the jobs are located.

That language was part of an “omnibus” tax bill that also includes a five-year extension of tax deductions for contributions to ABLE accounts, a savings program for people with disabilities; an expansion of the Live Theater Production tax credit to make more productions eligible for the credit; and a provision stating that any student loan forgiveness that may be approved by the federal government will not count as taxable income for Illinois taxes.

Inmate hygiene

Lawmakers also passed a bill ensuring that inmates in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections will have free access to underwear and menstrual hygiene products.

House Bill 4218, by Rep. Barbara Hernandez, D-Aurora, follows other bills lawmakers have passed recently that seek to end what advocates have called “period poverty.” In 2021, lawmakers passed a series of bills to expand the availability of such products, including requirements that they be made available in college and university restrooms and homeless shelters.

Another bill called on the Department of Human Services to apply for a federal waiver so the products would be eligible for purchase through the SNAP and WIC food assistance programs in Illinois.

Lame-duck session

State elections board certifies 2022 results

By JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois State Board of Elections certified its election results Monday, putting the final stamp on another Democratic sweep of statewide offices.

The board reported that 4,142,642 out of 8,115,751 registered voters cast ballots in the election, a turnout of roughly 51 percent. That’s down from a turnout of more than 57 percent in 2018, but up from 49 percent in 2014.

The final margin of victory for Gov. JB Pritzker over Republican challenger state Sen. Darren Bailey was a resounding one, about 12.54 percentage points. Pritzker notched more than 2.25 million votes to Bailey’s 1.74 million.

The lead vote-getter for Democrats was Comptroller Susana Mendoza

in her third successful statewide election, with 2.33 million votes.

She assumes the mantle of most successful statewide Democrat that has for over two decades been claimed by Secretary of State Jesse White. White didn’t run this year, paving the way for Democrat Alexi Giannoulias to win a contentious primary.

Giannoulias, the former state treasurer, received about 2.2 million votes to just under 1.8 million for state Rep. Dan Brady, of Bloomington, the Republican nominee. Last week, Giannoulias and Brady announced that the vanquished Republican would join the winner’s transition team.

An amendment to the state’s constitution passed with 53.42 percent of the ballots cast in the election. The amendment guarantees workers a right to unionize in Illinois.

Some of the weightier issues lawmakers hope to deal with before the next General Assembly is sworn into office are being deferred to a lame duck session that is scheduled for five days between Jan. 4 and 10.

That’s because the Illinois Constitution requires that any bill passed after May 31 of a calendar year must receive at least a three-fifths majority to have an immediate effective date. Otherwise, they do not take effect until June 1 of the following year.

But bills that pass after Jan. 1 – even during lame duck sessions that occur before newly-elected lawmakers are sworn in – need only a simple majority to have an immediate effective date.

Among the issues expected to be debated is a

proposed ban on the sale or possession of assault-style weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines.

Those are the same types of weapons and ammunition systems that have been used in multiple mass shootings in the United States. But calls for banning them in Illinois intensified after a mass shooting at an Independence Day parade last summer in Highland Park that left seven people dead and dozens more injured.

On Thursday, Dec. 1, the final day of the veto session, Rep. Bob Morgan, D-Deerfield, filed HB 5855, the “Protect Illinois Communities Act,” which would make it illegal to manufacture, deliver, sell or purchase an assault weapon, assault weapon attachment, .50-caliber rifle or .50-caliber cartridge.

It would also make it illegal for anyone to possess such a weapon or ammunition 300 days after the effective date of the act, unless it is registered with the Illinois State Police.

The bill would also remove the ability of people under age 21 to own firearms and ammunition, with an exception for those serving in the U.S. military or National Guard.

And it would amend the state’s Firearms Restraining Order Act by allowing state’s attorneys and assistant state’s attorneys to act as a “friend of the court” in restraining order petitions while extending the maximum length of those restraining orders to one year instead of six months.

Morgan, whose district includes Highland Park, served as leader of the Firearm Safety and Re-

form Working Group that House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch appointed earlier this year.

“Gun violence is destroying families and communities from East St. Louis to Highland Park to Chicago, and this moment demands urgency,” Morgan said in a statement.

Chief cosponsors of the bill include Reps. Maura Hirschauer, D-Batavia; La Shawn Ford, D-Chicago; and Barbara Hernandez, all of whom have backed similar legislation in the past.

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.

AUCTIONS

ANYTHING BUT HOUSEHOLD AUCTION

Saturday, December 10 @ 11 a.m.

Taking consignments of good tools, farm equipment, vehicles, mowers and more. Already consigned items include: Snap On tool box, hay rakes, sickle mower, high wheel weed mower, square bales of hay, tillage equipment, Atlas Copco XAS 185 CFM diesel powered air compressor w/ air hose, jack hammer and several bits, wire panels, radial arm saw, John Deere rear mount roto tiller, poly tanks, used barn steel, 3 section harrow, Trail Master 50' sprayer, DMI 2800 fertilizer applicator, John Deere 5 bar dolly wheel hay rake, 5 26' 4 pitch trusses, 5 2 bar horse jumps in really good condition, Hardy lawn sprayer, ladder jacks, tool boxes, 3 heavy duty shop shelving units, John Deere 5' 3 point mower, long handle tools, corn sheller, pushmower, Atlanta Stove Works wood burner, 6' aluminum stepladder, 4 pcs 4' angle iron, hydraulic bottle jacks, antique Thor washing machine, New 225/75R15 tire, cordless tools, snow fence, John Deere X540 riding mower hydrostat, 6' 3 point blade, Mayrath 10"X50' pto auger, metal shop cabinet, large animal crate, 250 gallon poly water tank, Little Wonder Pro Vac SP, shop fan, 8' truck topper, Huskee lawn edger, US Grain Grader and Cleaner, Brinley Hardy disk, Sears Suburban 12 lawn tractor with rear tine tiller, primitive farm pcs, Stihl chainsaw, Cyclone seeder, 2 225/75R15 tires on rims, Craftsman radial arm saw, coil of heavy cable, and other farm related peices. Call soon to get your items advertised and put online.



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Public Auction

To help settle the family estate a live public auction will be held at County Highway 22 Annawan, IL (6 mile east of Atkinson on County Highway 22 or take route 6 between Annawan and Atkinson to 2500 East and go north 3 miles to the sale site)

Saturday, Dec. 17 at 10 a.m.

This auction will feature live simulcast bidding on Hibid.com please go to orwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com to register and view the catalog. For a complete list and pictures go to auctionzip.com or my facebook page.

Items to be sold include: Fox 3000 silage chopper with 2 row head and forage attachment, 2 Farmhand Mechanized Muscle silage wagons, Allis Chalmers silage wagon, Heider auger feed wagon, antique feed wagon with wood spoke wheels, Winpower PTO generator, John Deere 6500 silage blower, John Deere 620 NF gas (as-is), unload auger electric, John Blue 750 gallon 11 blade fertilizer applicator with Yetter attachments, Farm and Fleet gravity wagon on 10 ton gear, Bradford Big Boxer gravity wagon, Killbros Ease A Way 350 grain body gravity wagon with unload auger, Ficklin 231 gravity wagon, PTO auger (as-is), PTO swing away auger (as-is), Farm King auger (as-is), Tiger Mate 40' field cultivator with 3 bar harrow, 1995 Mack 9 speed Model CH 613 semi Vin# 1MZA1348TW060503, 1994 Wilson Model DHW 400C hopper bottom w/ tarp Vin# JW1SAFYAXSA220805, 2003 Ford F-150 4X4 extended cab 5.4 Triton, tri axle lowboy equipment trailer, Fiat Allis 16-B crawler dozer 3077 hours 4 way blade, Transcraft Model TX-40 tub trailer GVWR 60,000 Ser# TO 6459, Eversman 4012 leveler, John Deere 8650 4 wheel drive tractor 3 point, quick hitch, 3 remotes PTO, 20.8-38 tires, 1590 hours (as-is), Farmall H NF, gas, trip loader, Wheatheart drive over dump, John Deere 520 20' no till drill with Yetter no till and markerts, John Deere 9200 4 wheel drive tractor 20.8-42 tires 4 remotes, Ecolo Tiger 530 5 shank vertical tillage, M&W 7 shank vertical tillage, 5 bottom plow, Glencoe Soil Finisher SF 4500 26' 3 bar harrow, Case IH 22' disk w/ 7" openings, 3 bottom plow, 8'X25' flatbed, Kewanee 26' field cultivator, Cal Challenger 65 C 4540 hours, tracks, John Deere 3010 NF gas with loader (as-is), Exmark Lazer ZXS Triton 72 diesel zero turn mower 990 hours, 500 gallon fuel tank w/ pump, Ford F-150 4X4, Owatonna 100 mix mill, Case 7 bottom moldboard plow, Oliver 5 bottom moldboard plow, Trail Eze gooseneck trailer, 1986 Fruehauf Model DC5 M2-27 dump trailer GVWR 70,000 Vin# 4D02727GF077801, International S series semi (as-is), International cab over semi (as-is), several piles of scrap metal.

There will be items at 3 locations. These will be items we are not able to move and some piles of scrap. The location of these items will be made available on the bidding platform. We accept cash, check or credit card with a 3% convenience fee. Announcements day of auction supercede any other information either printed or oral. A lunch stand and restroom will be onsite. There will be very few small items so please be on time. Semi access will be better if you come from the east or west. A loader will be available. All items will sell in as-is condition so bid accordingly.

Hugh Pritchard estate owner



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Galva Area Chamber of Commerce

Galva Bucks expire December 31, 2022.

Businesses, please submit your Galva Bucks to State Bank of Toulon by December 31, 2022.



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Please join us for our Christmas service to celebrate Jesus' birth.
December 23 @ 6:00 pm
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BRIEFS

Bradford's Christmas event well attended

BRADFORD – The Bradford Betterment Committee with the cooperation and help of many community organizations and individuals announced that the “Old Fashioned Christmas” was a success, from the arrival of Santa and lighting of the park to the closing hymns at the Baptist Church.

Various businesses remained open for the event. There were carriage rides and tours of St. John's Church, and activities at the library. Leet and Boyd's Grove Methodist Churches provided free refreshments. The Baptist Church graciously opened its doors to the public for vendors, and holiday activities.

Bradford Betterment Committee Citizen of the Year recipients were Kate and Jim Hewitt, honored in appreciation of their time volunteering throughout the past year in so many ways that helped improve Bradford.

Decorating winners included the Bradford Snack Shack, for the Best Decorated Business; Mike and Katie Price, for Classic Christmas; Savannah Beckelman, for Kids Favorite; and Angie Stange, for The Reason for the Season.

– Angie Stange

Galva People's Party held caucus on Dec. 5

GALVA – The People's Party Caucus was held Monday night in Galva. Results were as follows:

- First ward alderman - No candidate
- Second ward - Incumbent Rick Otterstrom
- Third ward - Incumbent Jackie Clucas
- Mayor - No candidate
- Clerk - Incumbent Debbie Van-Wassenhove
- Treasurer - newcomer Melissa Halsall.

Those who are running independently are Mayor Rich Volkert and Jeff Olson, who was recently appointed as a First Ward alderman.

Election packets can be still picked up from Clerk Debbie Van-Wassenhove at City Hall and filed by Monday, Dec. 12.

– Carol Townsend

Colony church hosts annual Julotta service

BISHOP HILL – A tradition since



Pictured above is the home of Mike and Katie Price (also pictured), winner of the Classic Christmas category of Bradford's Christmas decorating contest. Photos by Angie Stange.



Other winners in Bradford's Christmas decorating contest include (above left) the winning Kids Favorite submission by Savannah Beckelman and (above right) winner Angie Stange in The Reason for Season contest category.



Pictured above (left to right) are Stark County Treasurer Paula Leezer, Sheriff Steven Sloan and County Clerk/Recorder Heather Hollis being sworn into office for another term on Dec. 1, 2022



Pictured above (left to right) are Stark County Board members Joe Orwig and Tom Howes being sworn into office for their four-year terms by Circuit Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher on Dec. 1.



Pictured at left are Bureau Valley students who were recently designated as Illinois State Scholars. Three of the group are from Bradford: In the front row is Lily Atteberry (fourth from the left) and Violet Krider (far right). In the back row is Samuel Rouse (third from the left).

1970, the Colony Church at 101 Maiden Lane in Bishop Hill will host its annual nondenominational Julotta service at 6 a.m. on Christmas Day.

Lit entirely by candlelight, the service will include traditional readings and hymns. Coffee and rusks will be served following the one-hour service.

College Graduate

• Gregory Knowles of Toulon will graduate this month from Western Illinois University with a degree

in construction and facilities management. Knowles is also the Construction and Facilities Management Departmental Scholar.

Work progressing on new Dollar General

TOULON – Construction of a new Dollar General store at the Routes 17 and 91 junction is moving ahead quickly. The building's outer framework and walls have gone up within the past week.

– John A. Ballentine

Toulon Civic Association's Annual Christmas Walk

Saturday, December 10th from 5-7pm
Downtown Toulon

Santa Arrives at 6pm to greet the children at the Gazebo
(In Case of Inclement Weather, Santa will be at Connie's Country Kitchen)

Stop by participating businesses and sign up to win free Toulon Bucks! Winners will be drawn after 7pm

Annual Live Charity Auction, 7:30pm at The Bistro. Donated auction items can be dropped off at Connie's Country Kitchen or at the State Bank of Toulon prior to the auction.

Come enjoy some holiday cheer along with us and make it a special evening for the kids!

Stark Co. Historical Society to hold open house Saturday



The Stark County Illinois Historical Society's Victorian house (pictured at far left) is ready and decorated for its second annual Tours of Christmas Past event, which will be held Saturday, Dec. 10, from 3-5 p.m.

At near left, Historical Society President Jeanne Ryan shows one of two bear skin gloves displayed in the society's Agricultural building, while Lorie Watson displays her antique purse.

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Holiday displays back at State Capitol

Satanic Temple included in rotunda

By JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The Satanic Temple of Illinois debuted a new display in the Illinois Capitol rotunda Tuesday, taking its place next to the annual Christmas and Hanukkah displays.

For Christmas, that means the Springfield Nativity Committee has once again placed a manger scene featuring Mary, Joseph and Jesus. It was dedicated in a Nov. 30 ceremony that included an appearance by state Sen. Darren Bailey, the unsuccessful Republican candidate for governor in last month's election.

For the Hanukkah display, the Lubavitch Chabad of Illinois placed a menorah, with one light bulb to be lit for each day of Hanukkah. Their organization plans to have a ceremony with public officials in Chicago just before the holiday this year.

On Tuesday "Minister Adam" of the Satanic Temple of Illinois, who declined to share his last name for security purposes, was joined by about 15 Temple members to dedicate this year's display. It consists of a crocheted snake sitting on a book and a pile of apples crocheted by Temple members.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #100

- I. A Public Hearing to approve a proposed property tax increase for Stark County Community Unit School District #100 for 2022 will be held on December 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at 300 Van Buren, Wyoming, IL 61491.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mr. Brett M. Elliott, Superintendent, 300 Van Buren, Wyoming, IL 61491; Telephone (309) 695-6123.

- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended for the year 2021 were \$6,106,014.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$6,410,806. This represents a 4.74% increase over the previous year.

- III. The property taxes extended for debt service for 2021 were \$1,047,430.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service for 2022 are \$1,046,000. This represents a decrease of .14% from the previous year.

- IV. The total property taxes extended for 2021 were \$7,153,443.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$7,456,806. This represents a 4.07% increase from the previous year.

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for BRADFORD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Bradford Community Unit School District No. 1 for 2022 will be held on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Bradford Grade School, 345 Silver Street, Bradford, IL 61421.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mr. Chad Gripp, Superintendent, 345 Silver Street, Bradford, IL 61421, telephone number 309-897-4441.

- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$3,345,738.01.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$3,710,000. This represents an 10.9% increase over the previous year.

- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2021 were \$0.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 are \$0. This represents a 0.0% increase over the previous year.

- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$3,345,738.01.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$3,710,000. This represents a 10.9% increase over the previous year.

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NO-5011A

SAFE-T Act amended on last legislative day

By **JERRY NOWICKI**

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker on Tuesday signed a follow-up measure to the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform, the third such amendment since the law's initial passage in January 2021.

The changes approved by lawmakers last week in the fall veto session center on the law's provisions which will end the use of cash bail beginning in January.

Changes approved by lawmakers last week in the fall veto session center on the law's provisions which will end the use of cash bail beginning in January. The cash bail system, which in most cases allows offenders to post a dollar amount to be released from custody pretrial, will be replaced by one in which a judge weighs the individual's risk to the community and potential for fleeing prosecution in determining if pretrial release will be revoked.

The measure expands the list of crimes for which a judge can order pretrial detention, adds to what a judge can consider when determining if a defendant is a risk of willful flight from prosecution, and standardizes language regarding a defendant's danger to the public safety among several other

changes.

The amendment was the product of months of negotiations following the original SAFE-T Act's January 2021 passage. In the end, several state's attorneys and law enforcement groups, as well as pretrial justice advocates who were on the other side of the issue, adopted a stance of neutrality.

The bill didn't receive any Republican support, although several members of the minority party in the Senate acknowledged what they believed were considerable but insufficient improvements to the underlying law.

The measure is slated to take effect as planned next year, barring a pending lawsuit from more than 50 state's attorneys challenging it on state constitutional grounds.

Most of the latest changes, contained in two amendments to House Bill 1095 that totaled more than 300 pages, addressed several concerns cited by state's attorneys and others, including worries that the original law's vague wording could lead to mass release of individuals being held in lieu of bail on Jan. 1.

The new measure clarifies the changes that will apply to those charged with crimes after that date. Those who were held in lieu of bail

before 2023 will be able to petition to have their case moved to the new system.

It adds clarifying language regarding part of the bill which some had read as preventing police from arresting a trespasser.

While it maintains language instructing officers to issue a citation in lieu of custodial arrest for cases below Class A misdemeanors, it also specifies that police maintain discretion to make an arrest if the person is a threat to the community or they continue to break the law. Lawmakers also clarified language regarding the standard of proving a defendant is a danger to the public.

It clarifies and defines that all people charged with "forcible felonies" and non-probationable offenses may be detained under the dangerousness standard.

It adds hate crimes, felony animal torture and various DUI charges as detainable offenses.

The bill states residential burglary or burglary "where there is use of force against another person" are detainable. But if a burglary doesn't meet those criteria, such as someone stealing change from an unlocked car, it's not detainable based on an offender's risk of danger to the community.

LEGAL ADS

•••
ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on November 18, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stark County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the businesses known as BRYNER'S MARKET located at 16847 Elmira Rd. Toulon, IL 61483
Dated November 18, 2022
Heather Hollis, County Clerk
Published 11/25, 12/2, 12/9/22

•••
NOTICE
All personal property belonging to Kevin McCurdy, and any additional property, stored in unit 19 located at AD Storage, 516 S. Peoria St., Bradford, IL, will be disposed of December 13, 2022 if the balance due is not paid in full by December 12, 2022.
Published 12/2, 12/9/22

•••
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 1/2) 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
(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

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MSW can still use help for senior citizens

MSW Projects is seeking your help to assist local senior citizens.

Last year Santa's elves were so successful in spreading holiday cheer to the senior citizens that Santa thought the elves might be able to help again this year.

Santa needs individual Kleenex packets, individually wrapped Christmas Candy, travel size hand lotion, peppermint candies or candy canes, Little Debbie Christmas treats, gloves, large print word searches or crossword puzzles.

Donations can be dropped off their to the MSW Projects office located at 1013 Western Ave., Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. There is a Christmas box in which the items can be placed.

Donations can also be

dropped off at the Toulon Nutrition Site, Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The last day for donations is Monday, Dec., 23 at 4 p.m.

Christmas lunch will be available for dine in or pick up on Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Toulon Nutrition Site. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (309) 286-6861 by 9 a.m. the day you would like a lunch.

And while the MSW Projects fall fundraiser is over, you can still donate. Due to low attendance, raffle prize drawings were extended to today, Dec. 9. Raffle tickets are \$1 for one or \$5 for six tickets.

Stop in to view the raffle prizes and buy your tickets at MSW Projects' office. If you are not able to come to the office you can view the prizes on

MSW Projects Facebook page, message what raffles you would like your name in and pay by Venmo (MSW Projects of Henry) or PayPal.

Another way to support MSW Projects is the Senior Saver Program which helps to ensure the senior citizens meals will continue for years to come. MSW Projects is partially funded by federal and state grants and many senior citizens are not able to make a donation for lunch

due to their financial hardships.

To make a donation to help Save a Senior Citizen's lunch: \$4 will save one lunch, \$20 will save a week's worth of meals, or \$100 will save a month of meals.

Donations can be made by check to MSW Projects and mailed to MSW Projects, Attn: Senior Saver Program, P.O. Box 140, Henry, IL 61537 or online via Venmo (MSW Projects of Henry) or PayPal.

Card of Thanks

King Family

A great big thank you for all of the cards, flowers and memorials sent in respect to Leo. To the person who left a memorial but no name, I wish we could write you a personal note. A special thanks to the folks who had done tree clearing, ran errands and mowed for us.

The Family of Leo King

Card of Thanks

Wilkinson Family

Thank You does not seem adequate for all the expressions of sympathy that have surrounded us during this difficult time of our lives! All the food, memorials, phone calls, visits etc. show us how many lives Wes touched through the years. He truly never knew a stranger and was loved by many.

Sincerely,

*Denise
Corey and Rachel
Ian and Paige
Harrison
Caleb and Breanna
Kylee*

*Lexi
Phil and Patty
Travis and Amanda
Taylor
and all the great
grandkids*

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Chris Baumann
Toulon, IL
309-238-0665

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by Mike Marland



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN & BEAR IT



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 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.

YVS WMESRY KATYVMEF OZCS
MR Z HSLRTE'R RDME, IJY, TW
KTJLRS, RTKMSYB CSOZECR
RTOSYVMEF OTLS YVZE YVMR.
— OZLD YPZME

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: What does Susan Walker want as a gift from Santa in the movie "Miracle on 34th Street"?
- MUSIC: Which famous rock band once called itself The New Yardbirds?
- GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Thar Desert located?
- TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom's theme song was "Thank You for Being a Friend"?
- FOOD & DRINK: When was frozen food invented?
- MOVIES: Which Disney princess is modeled after a real person?
- ANATOMY: What is the only human organ capable of natural regeneration?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are male and female swans called?
- U.S. STATES: Which state's motto is "Excelsior"?
- HISTORY: How many people signed the U.S. Declaration of Independence?

Answers

- A house.
- Led Zeppelin.
- India and Pakistan.
- "The Golden Girls."
1924. Clarence Birdseye invented the quick freezing process.
- Pocahontas.
- The liver.
- Cobs and pens.
- New York ("Ever upward!").
- 56.

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (PG-13)
- Strange World (PG)
- Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery (PG-13)
- Devotion (PG-13)
- The Menu (R)
- Black Adam (PG-13)
- The Fabelmans (PG-13)
- Bones and All (R)
- Ticket to Paradise (PG-13)
- Homecoming (NR)

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OBITUARIES

Gertrude F. Appenheimer

TOULON – Gertrude F. Appenheimer, 87, of Toulon, passed away at 8:07 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at the Toulon Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

Gert was born on July 27, 1935, in Kewanee, the daughter of Arlo and Doris (Carlson) Felt. She married Sherwyn Appenheimer on June 10, 1956, in Kewanee. He preceded her in death on Sept. 26, 2006.

Surviving are 3 daughters, Crystal (Terry) Peterson of Toulon, Lisa Ellis of Kewanee and Lori (Chris) Smith of Kewanee; 2 sons, Van (Lucy) Appenheimer of Galva and Bruce (Dawn) Appenheimer of Toulon; 9 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by one son-in-law, Ed Ellis; one grandson, Noah Ellis; two brothers; and one sister.

Gert graduated from Kewanee High School. She worked as a CNA at the former Kewanee Hospital for 25 years, then worked in home health care for a short time.

Christmas was Gert's favorite holiday. She was crafty and loved making holiday decorations for her family. She enjoyed working on plastic canvases, word searches, reading and square dancing. She also enjoyed camping and the yearly trips in July and August to visit her niece in Florida.

Gert was a member of the Toulon United Methodist Church.

Her graveside service was at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2022 at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Kewanee. Rev. Leon Pomeroy officiated. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Susan G. Komen or the Toulon Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

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

Phyllis J. Cantwell

WYOMING – Phyllis J. Cantwell, 88, of Wyoming, passed away at 4:40 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, at Toulon Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

Phyllis was born on April 23, 1934, in Kewanee. She is the daughter of Harvey and Velda (Flinner) Hegwood. She married Martin D. Cantwell on June 2, 1951, in Peoria; he survives.

Also surviving are 2 daughters, Crystal (Dean) Rosebecke of LaFayette and Tara Cantwell of Wyoming; 2 sons, Brett (Flo) Cantwell of Chillicothe and Marty (Barb) Cantwell of Toulon; 10 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, DeeAnne Smith; and three stepbrothers.

Phyllis worked as a kitchen aid for the Wyoming Elementary School and as a machine operator for Elecsis, retiring in 1999.

She was a Girl Scout leader for over 10 years in Wyoming. Phyllis loved listening to rock-n-roll, solving crosswords, reading and tending to her flowers. She cherished time spent with her family.

Her funeral service will be at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9, 2022, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming. Pastor Tammy Shane will officiate. Her visitation will be from 4-6 p.m., also on Friday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Susan G. Komen.

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

Mildred I. Peck

GALVA – Mildred I. "Millie" Peck, 91, of Galva, died at 8:11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022, at Hillcrest Home, rural Geneseo.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at Rux Funeral Home with Galva with Pastor Rebecca Gearhart officiating. Visitation will be held from 4-6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9, at the funeral home. Burial will be in Galva Cemetery.

Memorials can be directed to the First United Methodist Church or the American Cancer Society.

She was born Feb. 19, 1931, in Monmouth, the daughter of G. Harold and Mabel (Ischer) Browne. She married Robert D. "Bob" Peck on Nov. 23, 1952, in Berwick, Ill., and he preceded her in death on Aug. 27, 1999. She was also preceded in death by her parents, a sister and two brothers.

Survivors include her two sons, Dennis (Christine) Peck of Geneseo and Marv Peck of Bishop Hill; five grandchildren, Gregory, Bradley, Olivia, Carlisle and Emma; and nine great-grandchildren.

Millie graduated from Abingdon

High School in 1949. She had worked as a secretary at F.U. White School in Galva.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Galva and had been active in several of the church circles. She was a Red Cross blood drive volunteer and an election judge in Bishop Hill and had also been an American Cancer Society drive collector and she was named Galva's Volunteer of the Year in 2008.

She enjoyed her dogs, golfing and especially her family.

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

Helena Westefer

WYOMING – Helena "Denise" (Corn) Westefer, 66, of Wyoming, passed away at 10:40 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

Denise was born on May 5, 1956, in Kewanee. She is the daughter of Harold "Pat" and Ida Lee (Pierce) Corn. She married Dr. Patrick J. Westefer on June 28, 1975, in Bradford. He preceded her in death on Jan. 4, 2021.

Surviving are her parents, Pat and Ida Lee of Bradford; three children, Christian, Courtney and Alexandra Westefer; a granddaughter, Presley McMorrow; two brothers, Harold Dean (Candi) Corn and Hugh Darin (J.P. Cano) Corn; sister Hazel Dana (Dan) Howes; and several nieces and nephews.

Denise worked alongside her husband, Patrick, as owner and operator of their chiropractic office in Wyoming for 40 years.

She was a charter member and past president of P.E.O Chapter NL in Wyoming. Denise enjoyed gardening, vacationing at the beach, and was an avid Duke fan for 31 years. Above all else, she loved spending time with her family. Her children and granddaughter were her world.

There will be no public services for Denise at this time. Her burial will be at a later date in St. Dominic Catholic Cemetery. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the P.E.O Chapter NL in Wyoming or The Denise Westefer Memorial Fund care of Princeville State Bank for Presley's college fund.

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



Appenheimer



Cantwell



Westefer



Peck



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
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Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Worship (in Luther Hall)
Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Worship (in the sanctuary)
10:15 a.m. Sunday School classes
(none Memorial Day thru Labor Day)
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
Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

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THE PRAIRIE NEWS WILL NOT PUBLISH A PAPER ON DEC. 30

SPORTS: Stark County girls post best game

Continued from Page 12
Bowman tallied 30 points in the win. "Our varsity team played hard. We had difficulty stopping Bowman, and when we did her teammates hit shots. She is a great player," Galva Coach Daniel Russell said. "We had trouble getting going offensively. Turnovers hurt us."

Lexi Stone led Galva with 12 points, Kali Yelm had 9 and Sarah Kaiser and Ava Strom chipped in 6 apiece.

Last Friday, Galva won easily over DePue, 51-20, as Strom had 13 points to lead a balanced seven-player scoring attack. Kendall Rogers and Yelm added 8 apiece, Kaiser had 7, Stone 6, Alexis Spivey 5 and Maddie Bates 4.

Galva beat Wethersfield on Nov. 30, 53-45, thanks to a strong first half and 7-for-13 free throw shooting in the fourth quarter.

Stone led with 20 points, Strom added 14 Yelm scored 9 and Rogers tallied 7.

• **Stark County girls** – The Stark County girls put together one of their best games so far with a 57-48 win over Mercer County on Monday.

Stark County jumped to a 15-2 lead after one quarter and then held its lead throughout and was able to play reserves in the fourth quarter.

"We have been competing. We have had all our chances to get a few more wins. We are trying to learn how to finish games," Coach Bob Bohm said. "Best game of the season came against Mercer County, with seven players scoring."

Lindley Johnston led with 25 points, Kylee Frisby added 6, Lauren West had 5, Lauren Orwig scored 4, Payten Hillier tallied 3 and Morgan Brooks and Paige Rewerts added 2 apiece.

On Saturday, the Lady Rebels lost to Kewanee, 51-43, after getting behind by 10 at halftime. A 25-23 second-half rally was not enough to make up for the

early deficit. Frisby led with 18 points, Hillier and West added 6, Rewerts had 5 and Johnston and Madison Blumblough scored 4 apiece.

A road game at Illini Bluffs on Dec. 1 ended in a 50-12 loss. Frisby scored 6.

Stark County lost at home to Princeville on Nov. 30, 46-32, as the Lady Princes rallied from a 22-18 halftime deficit. Rewerts and Hillier scored 9 points apiece, Frisby had 6 and Johnston scored 5.

• **Princeville girls** – The Lady Princes (4-5) won their third straight on Monday with a 47-38 win over ROWVA-Williamsfield.

"Our defense has been pretty good all year. We held Elmwood to 31 and Brimfield to 41 (in earlier losses)," Coach John Gross said. "Scoring has been our problem. But we've been working on our shooting a lot and we're getting better."

Princeville beat Stark County 46-32 on Nov. 30 as Kinley McGinn stepped

up to lead the way with 16 points. Usual leading scorer Destinee Harwood tallied 14 and Brianna Brodie added 9.

Against Farmington on Saturday at home, Harwood poured in 33 points, but the Lady Princes also got 8 points apiece from Brodie, McGinn and Paisley Schock.

On Monday, Brodie and Harwood led with 12 apiece, but Schock and Leah Wieland had 8 apiece.

Timing for the improvement is good, since Gross believes the Lincoln Trail Conference is wide open.

"Whoever gets hot and has home court could have a good shot," said Gross, whose team is 2-0 in LTC play.

• **Princeville boys** – Princeville (4-1) won its fourth in a row, 61-37 on Dec. 2 at Peoria Heights. The Princes led 20-4 after the first eight minutes, thanks to nine points from Marcus Daily. He finished with a team-high 16.

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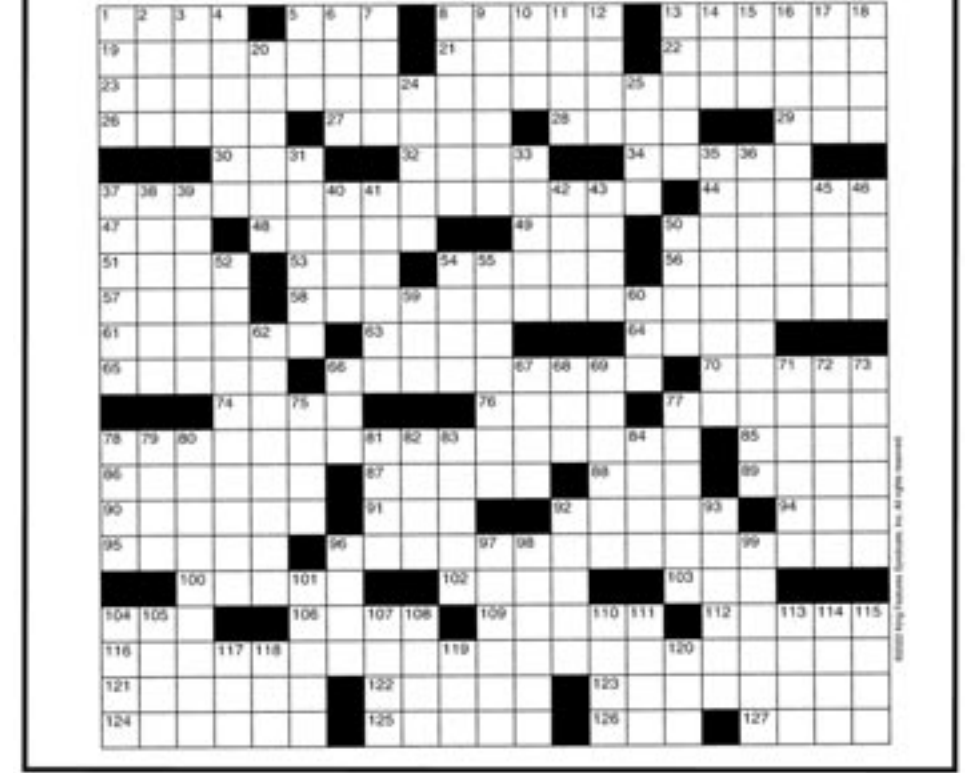
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Answers on Page 3 - Super Crossword - ZERO CHECKING

- ACROSS**
- 1 James of "Allen Nation"
 - 5 Lead-in to hazard
 - 8 "My opinion is..."
 - 13 Tried very hard
 - 19 Tumblers, e.g.
 - 21 Address
 - 22 Fatal
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Strong metal
 - 27 Vertical line on a graph
 - 28 Attack like an alligator
 - 29 Land north of Mex.
 - 30 --country (music genre)
 - 32 Peruvian of yore
 - 34 Toronto
 - 37 Riddle, part 2
 - 44 Wild party
 - 47 Battle (for)
 - 48 See 60-Down
 - 49 Triumphed
 - 50 "Right now!"
 - 51 First class for painters
 - 53 City loc: Abbr.
 - 54 Sea predator
 - 56 Actor Mickey
 - 57 Paint crudely
 - 58 Riddle, part 3
 - 61 Bognine of Hollywood
 - 63 Gulf country
 - 64 Sandler of "Spanglish"
 - 65 Refine, as metal
 - 66 What a hot rod may race on
 - 70 Words on an apartment rental sign
 - 74 Strong metal
 - 76 City near Provo
 - 77 Purple
 - 78 Riddle, part 4
 - 85 Composer
 - 86 Apple app for importing video
 - 87 "I suffer so!"
 - 88 Pan coverer
 - 89 Gave for a while
 - 90 Sole servings
 - 91 Buddhism branch
 - 92 Just kills time
 - 94 Two, in Spain
 - 95 Occupied
 - 96 End of the riddle
 - 100 For the -- (temporarily)
 - 102 Blow a hom
 - 103 Stephen of "Blackthorn"
 - 104 Flower holder
 - 106 Kailua Bay locale
 - 109 Creator of Tom Sawyer
 - 112 Gave a monetary penalty
 - 116 Riddle's answer
 - 121 Nogales rap
 - 122 How figure skaters skate
 - 123 Of financial matters
 - 124 Rich, eggy cakes
 - 125 Entertained lavishly
 - 126 Boogie woogie
 - 127 Court dividers
 - 9 Utter failure
 - 10 Sever
 - 11 Competitor of Ben & Jerry's
 - 12 Yard feature
 - 13 Place to ski
 - 14 Vietnamese holiday
 - 15 Road sign
 - 16 "Banjo on my knee" song
 - 17 Winery tubs
 - 18 "Frozen" snow queen
 - 20 --
 - 21 Hollywood "Screen Kiss" (1998 film)
 - 24 Be alive
 - 25 Fifty percent ruling
 - 31 Talk show
 - 33 Egg's "Gackt"
 - 35 Formally
 - 36 Displayed
 - 37 Gives the slip to
 - 38 Aviation military branch
 - 39 Fix the pitch of again
 - 40 Architect
 - 41 Sierra Nevada evergreen
 - 42 Blister, e.g.
 - 43 Like GIs peeling potatoes
 - 45 Flower holder
 - 46 Santa's bagful
 - 50 Egg on
 - 52 "Yes, if memory serves"
 - 54 Benefit bagful
 - 55 Chewbacca's companion
 - 59 -- la la
 - 60 With
 - 68 Across, record of arrests, slangily
 - 62 Put in financial distress
 - 66 Gene-splicing
 - 67 Verifiable
 - 68 No longer practicing: Abbr.
 - 69 Marcos of the Philippines
 - 71 Texas city
 - 72 Post Wylie or novelist Glyn
 - 73 Double cluck of reproach
 - 75 Some 98 bills
 - 77 Sweetie
 - 78 LP player of old
 - 79 Uganda's id
 - 80 Donator of services
 - 81 Old TV clown
 - 82 "Fer--" ("Like, totally")
 - 83 Take responsibility for something
 - 84 Easter flower
 - 85 Spot's jingler
 - 83 Tennis player Edberg
 - 86 Fava --
 - 87 Catch sight of
 - 88 Dressed for a ball
 - 89 Serve, as at a restaurant
 - 101 Concluding musical parts
 - 104 "You, over there..."
 - 105 Dayton locale
 - 107 Horse foot
 - 108 -- Reader (eccentric)
 - 110 "Oh, sure!"
 - 111 Part of a vase
 - 113 Alaska city
 - 114 Revise text
 - 115 "EIT" folk
 - 117 Marshall Plan prez
 - 118 Swallowed
 - 119 Big success
 - 120 Overly



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The Prairie News Sports

Waiting game for Rebels

Stark Co. boys top Brimfield, 52-45, after fast start

By **NICK VLAHOS** and **JEFF LAMPE**
For The Prairie News

Stark County is in a bit of a hurry-up-and-wait pattern as its boys basketball season progresses from its opening week.

Following five games in six days at the Wally Keller Invitational in Kewanee, the Rebels (3-3) have only two games in the first two weeks of December. The first game, Dec. 2 against Brimfield, was a 52-45 victory. The second game is to begin about 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Lowpoint-Washburn.

The lack of recent games is OK with Stark County Coach Dusty Browning. The Kewanee tournament can reveal what his team needs to address during practices.

“You have kind of a couple of slow weeks where you can get stuff worked on, see what it looks like and the steps you’re taking to get better,” Browning said.

Improvements on defense and expanding the offense beyond stalwarts Daniel Kieser and Luke Rewerts have been points of emphasis, according to Browning. It appears the latter effort paid dividends against Brimfield (3-4).

Matthew Bowser hit three 3-pointers and Xander Swank had another in the first quarter, which began with Brimfield playing a triangle-and-two defense that keyed on Kieser and Rewerts, Browning said. The Indians abandoned that as the Rebels took a 23-14 lead.

“Swank and Bowser just made them pay

for being in that defense,” Browning said. “We were on pace to score 100 at one point. They were hot.”

Then, Stark County went cold. Brimfield held the nonconference hosts to two second-quarter points, but Kieser scored nine in the third quarter. He finished with a game-high 21 points. Bowser scored 11.

As the schedule becomes more consistent, Browning hopes his team does, too.

“I don’t think that we’ve played our best basketball yet,” he said. “It seems like it’s all guard play or it’s all post play. And at times, we’re kind of cold in between. We’re prone to have a two-point quarter or a little scoring drought.”

“I’m racking my brain trying to find the ways we can use each of these kids’ talents and blending them all together. That’s the fun part and the puzzle of coaching.”

• **Galva boys** – Jaxson Willer and Blake Stahl each had eight points, but Galva lost a nonconference game Dec. 2 at North Fulton. That loss followed another one Nov. 29 at home to Midland, 65-28. John Gravitt had 10 points for the Wildcats.

Winless in its first seven games, Galva played Wednesday night at Elmwood. A home game is scheduled Saturday against Orion.

• **Galva girls** – After two straight wins last week, Galva had trouble containing West Central’s Shelby Bowman in a 66-20 loss on Monday.

Continued on Page 11



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happy holidays!



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