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The Prairie News

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State finds budget breathing room amid revenue boom

By **JERRY NOWICKI**

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Sustained higher-than-predicted state tax revenues have in recent months given lawmakers a level of budgeting flexibility that is, at least in modern times, without precedent in a state with a reputation for perilous finances.

For the current fiscal year and the one before it, that's led to another uncommon Capitol occurrence: budget surpluses in the billions of dollars.

Over those two budget years, lawmakers have increased pension contributions by \$500 million beyond required levels, paid off hundreds of millions of dollars in interest-accruing debt and saved nearly \$2 billion in a budget stabilization fund – all while increasing education and human services funding and even providing tax relief for most Illinoisans last year.

"Balancing the budget in Illinois is a relatively new thing, you know, over the last four

years, and so we're proud of the fact that we've focused on that," Gov. JB Pritzker said in a recent media call.

The current-year expected surplus has been driven by the state's "big three" revenue sources – sales tax and personal and corporate income taxes – which have continued to outperform even their robust growth from the year prior even without increases to the base tax rates.

The governor attributed the strong revenue performance at

least partially to conservative initial budgeting estimates, changes to corporate tax exemptions and collection of online sales tax. Others have cited such factors as inflation and wage growth, as well as changes in consumer spending amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pritzker and Comptroller Susana Mendoza have frequently pointed out that recent budgets have not been balanced by the \$8.1 billion in direct federal COVID-19 stimulus funds sent

to Illinois through the American Rescue Plan Act. But the comptroller noted in a recent interview with Capitol News Illinois that the economic effects of broader federal stimulus – such as added unemployment benefits and direct checks to Illinoisans – have been a main driver of state revenue growth nationwide.

"The stimulus that went directly into people's homes was significant in terms of its help," *Continued on Page 9*

Galva schools approve bonds

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Galva School board unanimously approved \$1,300,000 in bonds to be used to improve school sites, and altering, repairing and equipping school buildings, facilities and refunding certain outstanding debt certificates.

The bonds were offered to several banks but were all purchased by our local Community State Bank. The payment on the bonds will be made by using the 1 percent sales tax. This will not increase property taxes in the school district.

Superintendent Joe Becker reported that East Moline Glass had fixed some of the windows that were in the wrong place but there are still eight windows that need to be installed and high school has no shades installed yet but the elementary shades are up.

The board discussed possibly trying 8-man football in the junior high. Coaches are checking on equipment. A decision will be made at a future meeting.

The board approved the following employment items:

- Whitney Fahner as first-year proba-

Continued on Page 2

HALL OF FAMER



Kim Becker of Toulon poses with the three All-American plaques she earned in 1995 as a member of the Augustana College women's outdoor track team. The 1995 team is being inducted to Augustana's Tribe of Vikings Hall of Fame on Saturday.

Becker to be honored at Augustana

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Prairie News

TOULON – Kim Becker will soon have another hall of fame induction to add to her athletic resume.

Toulon native Becker will be inducted to Augustana College's Tribe of Vikings Hall of Fame Saturday as a member of the 1995 outdoor women's track & field team. Becker has already been previously named to the Augustana hall of fame as an individual for winning the 1994 national championship in the hep-

tathlon as a junior.

"I'm most excited just because we are reuniting with all the teammates," Becker said. "There's four of us from that team that still get together every year for a reunion. Lifetime friends. And it will be good to see all the other teammates."

The ceremony will be held Saturday at 12:30 p.m. in the Gavle Room of Augustana's Gerber Center.

As a senior, Becker was part of an Au- *Continued on Page 2*

Toulon's chief also a deputy

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

TOULON – Toulon's appointed police chief Gary Bent, 59, does double duty in the law-enforcement field as a Stark County deputy sheriff and as Toulon's top police officer. Bent has been a full-time Stark County deputy sheriff since 2014 and was hired in 2015 as Toulon's police chief.



Bent

There are eight part-time police officers who help Bent maintain the peace in Toulon. Bent was originally hired in 2003 by former Sheriff Jimmy Dison as the county's animal control officer and then a few years later Dison hired Bent as a part-time deputy sheriff.

In addition to performing law-enforcement duties in Stark County, Bent was working at Caterpillar in management from 1997 to 2014. Prior to that, Bent spent 18 years in the United States Army and Army National Guard from 1980 to

Continued on Page 2

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GALVA: 5 Illinois State Scholars recognized

Continued from Page 1
tionary teacher with a start date of Jan. 4, 2023.

- Matt Bersell as long-term substitute for second semester.
- Medical leave of absence for Jennifer Maertens starting Nov. 21, 2022, until the date determined by a doctor.
- Charlie Gibbons as assistant 8-man football coach.
- Sierra Dunn as assistant 8-man football coach.
- Gibbons as assistant high school baseball coach for 2022-23 season.
- Tim Foley as assistant high school boys track coach for 2022-23 season.

The board also approved Gorenz and Associates for the audit.

Kurtis Smyth, Principal of Galva Junior Senior High School, recognized Sarah Kocan, Liberty Anderson, Jonas Porsche, Olivia Jones and Kali Yelm as Illinois State Scholars.

To qualify, students must be in the top half of their high school class at the end of the second semester of their junior year and/or score in the 95th percentile on the ACT or SAT. In addition, high school counselors must provide the sixth-semester class rank and unweighted GPA.



Superintendent Joe Becker awarded the following students the Wildcat Pride Award at Monday nights school board meeting: (left to right) K'Leighona McGruder, Colin Elgin, Chris Williams and Thomas Funke.



Pictured above are the Galva's Illinois State Scholars from left Sarah Kocan, Liberty Anderson, Jonas Porsche, Olivia Jones and Kali Yelm.

State scholar designation provides honorary recognition awards.

Smyth said that approximately the top 10 percent of graduates at Galva

are announced as Illinois State Scholars each year. He also thanked the families of these students for their dedication to their children.

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BECKER: All-American in 3 events

Continued from Page 1
gustana track team that won a third-straight CCIW outdoor title, took sixth at the NCAA Indoor Championships and placed 15th in the NCAA Outdoor Championships. Auggie went on to win nine straight CCIW outdoor titles.

Becker earned All-American status in three different indoor events, placing sixth in both the long jump and high jump, as well as fourth in the 55-meter hurdles. The Vikings also had eight individual outdoor conference titles in 1995.

Becker, 50, still holds the Augustana record in the high jump and is one of three national track champions at the college.

After graduating from Augustana, Becker spent five years as a professional pole vaulter, competing as a U.S. team member in the Pan-American Games, the World University Games and the Goodwill Games.

She moved back to Toulon after that and currently works as a physical therapy assistant at OSF-St. Luke Hospital in Kewanee. She also volunteers as an assistant for the Stark County junior high track team.

And Becker spends time following the athletic exploits of her daughter, Lena, who hurdles for the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and holds the Stark County school record in the 100 hurdles.

BENT: Drug problem is pervasive

Continued from Page 1
1997. He earned his GED degree while in the Army.

"Drugs are bad all over," Bent said when asked about Toulon's crime rate. "I don't know that with our current lawmakers that you'll ever see it reduced. We need more resources to combat

it." Bent said that he doesn't keep any secrets when he was asked what people would be surprised to know about him.

He grew up in Toulon, the son of Ronald Bent and JoAnn Mooberry. Bent has two sisters, Rhonda from Bartonville

and Kari from Texas.

He is married to Julie and they have four children, Jessica, Nicole, Brittany and Nathan. Gary and Julie have six grandchildren.

"I'm dedicated to Toulon and always will be," Bent responded to a final question.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Incidents & Accidents
Stark County

1-23 - Mina E. Grando, 28, Toulon, was ticketed for operation of an uninsured vehicle.

1-24 - Grace A. Keller, 29, Fiatt, was cited for driving on an expired registration.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

1-23 - to assist Stark County Medic with a medical call on SE 1st St.

1-23 - along with Stark County Medic and the fire department to a single-vehicle rollover accident on Route 34 just east of Galva. Henry County handled the crash report.

1-23 - Officer was notified about a repossession taking place in the 300 block of NW 1st St.

1-24 - along with deputies from Henry County to a residence on SW 3rd St. for an attempted suicide by hanging. It was unfounded.

1-24 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a parking complaint.

1-24 - to a residence on SW 3rd St. to speak to a subject having a mental health crisis.

1-25 - Officer went around to multiple houses to get vehicles moved off the roadway for snowplows to clean the streets.

1-25 - to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of NE 7th St.

1-25 - to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of NE 7th St.

1-25 - to the 300 block of SE 4th Street for a downed power wire. Ameren was contacted for repairs.

1-25 - to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of NE 7th St.

1-25 - to the 100 block of NE 7th Street for a civil property dispute.

1-26 - to the 200 block of NE 3rd St. to attempt to locate a wanted subject. As a result, Pamela Dennis, 54, Galva, was arrested on a Henry County warrant for failing to appear on a juvenile case. She was able to post bond and was released with a new court date.

1-26 - to meet a subject at the Galva Police Department to fill out required paperwork for a FOID card suspension, due to a felony charge.

1-26 - along with Stark County Medic, to a residence north of Galva for a medical emergency involving a subject not breathing. The patient was found deceased. The coroner was contacted.

1-27 - to the 200 block of SE 3rd



Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The dog had been returned to the house prior to officer arriving.

1-27 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 900 block of N. Center Ave., Zachary Nordeen, 35, Galva, was cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a required court date.

1-28 - to the 500 block of NE 3rd St. for a verbal domestic disturbance.

1-29 - Officer saw a subject on an off-road motorcycle driving recklessly in the Galva Park District. The subject fled the Galva area across fields. The officer did not attempt to pursue the subject.

1-29 - to meet with a subject at the police department to report a violation of an order of protection. It was forwarded to the Henry County States Attorney's Office for review.

1-23 - Tiffiney Miller, 45, Louisville, Ill., was issued citations for having expired registration and for operating an uninsured vehicle in the 100 block of SE 3rd Ave.

1-23 - Elijah Sall, 24, Galva, was issued a citation for disobeying a stop sign in the 200 block of S, Center Ave.

1-23 - Andre Gerts, 21, Kewanee, was cited for having an expired driver's license, disobeying a stop sign and operating an uninsured vehicle in the 600 block of SE 2nd St.

Woman arrested after shooting investigation

• KEWANEE - A Galva woman was among five people arrested after a Kewanee-shooting investigation led to discovery of a cache of weapons, ammunition and drugs.

Daphne F. King, 21, was a passenger in a 2005 Chevrolet Malibu police stopped Jan. 21 in the 300 block of S. Cottage St. She was wanted on a valid Stark County warrant, according to the Kewanee Police Department.

The Stark County Sheriff's Office

took custody of King, who was wanted in connection with a 2021 domestic-battery case, according to court records.

Another passenger in the car, 38-year-old Danny H. Stanley of Kewanee, was sitting atop a loaded .380 semiautomatic handgun and possessed about \$2,150 in cash, according to police. The driver, 31-year-old Sara L. Brimhall of Kewanee, was accused of possessing heroin, driving on a suspended license and failure to wear a seat belt.

The vehicle first was spotted near a house at 504 Park Ave. in Kewanee. Inside the house were found four handguns, two shotguns, a rifle, about 350 rounds of ammo, almost 10 grams of suspected methamphetamine, 1.2 grams of suspected heroin, almost 105 grams of suspected cannabis, digital scales, packaging material and a police scanner.

Also found inside the house was Danny Stanley's son Justin K. Stanley, 18. He was arrested and accused of at least nine crimes. Among them were armed violence, aggravated unlawful possession of meth with intent to deliver and unlawful possession of a controlled substance within 500 feet of a school.

The elder Stanley was accused of multiple crimes, including armed violence and possession of a weapon by a felon.

A shooting Jan. 19 in the 100 block of S. Grace Ave. sparked the investigation that led to the arrests of King and the others. Another man, 35-year-old Andrew R. Luce of Kewanee, was arrested on drug accusations and in connection with the shooting, which remained under investigation.

Luce and the Stanleys were being held at the Henry County Jail in Cambridge.

Property Transfers

1-23 - Sheriff of Stark County to Christopher C. Whitaker - Pts 33-12-5 NW - 934 Township Road, 200E, Toulon - Consideration = \$65,000.

1-23 - Samuel E. & Carol J. Rice to Kyle D. & Renee L. Wallace - Pt blocks 6 & 7 - Culbertson's Western Add'n - Consideration = \$0.

1-24 - Leona L. & Willis D. Heaton to Karen S. Cobb, Christine M. Dever, Lisa A. Efnor, & Gary L. Heaton - Pt 25-14-6 NE, Pt 15-14-6 SE, & Pt 3-14-6 SW - 13413 N. Modena Rd., Bradford - Consideration = \$0.

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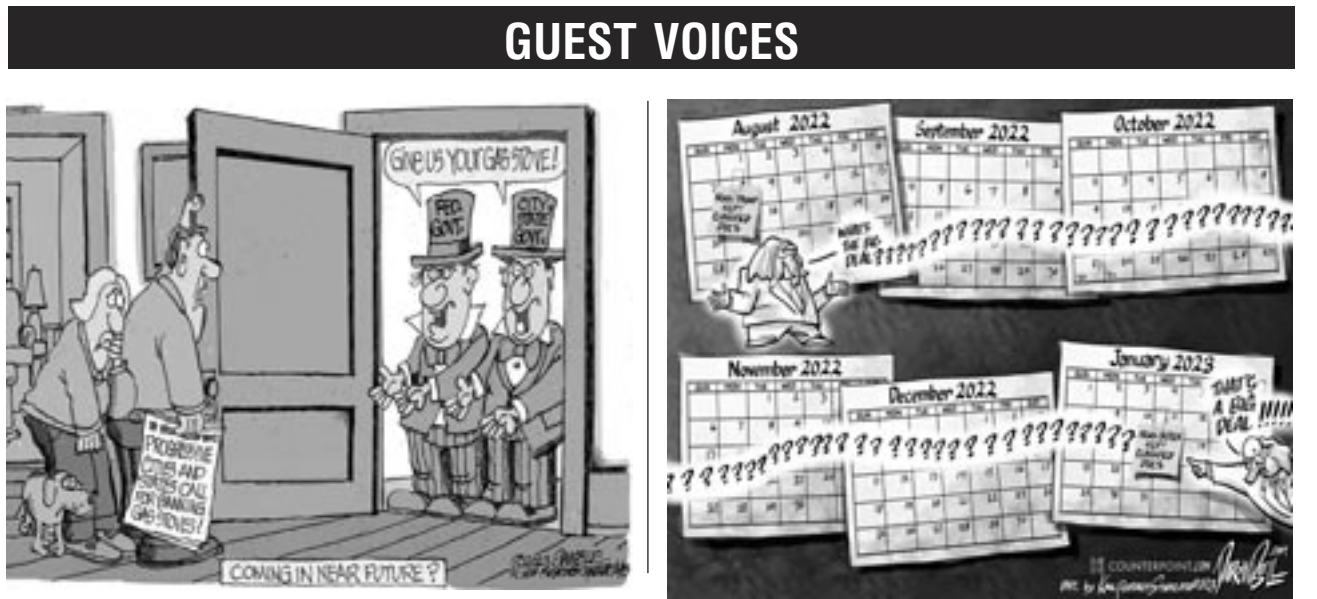
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Goshen Township in accordance with Illinois Vehicle Code 625 ILCS 5/15-316 will impose weight limitations on Goshen Township roads effective for 90 days (Feb. 1, 2023 thru May 1, 2023) due to the deterioration caused by the spring freezing and thawing cycle.

Therefore, no vehicle shall be operated upon Goshen Township Roads having a gross vehicle weight greater than 5 ton (10,000 pounds) upon the posting of road weight limit signs on Goshen Township Roads.

Any questions contact Goshen Township Road Commissioner John Forstrom, or call the Township Building at 309-286-7103 (leave a message).

For further load limitations visit the county website <http://starkco.illinois.gov/highway/>

Bradford Betterment Committee YEAR END FINANCIAL SUMMARY
Email: 1869BBC@gmail.com - Dates: 1/01/2022 - 12/31/2022

INCOME	
Category	Total
BBC Donation Jar & Cannisters	975.72
Fundraising (Bake Sales, Luminaries, Game Night)	1,604.80
Donation Business	2,595.00
Donation Individual	1,905.00
Donations Churches	1,341.48
Donations Organization	3,016.39
Gift Received The family of Byrdena Schuneman	1,320.00
Membership Drive 2022	1,940.00
TOTAL	14,698.39

EXPENSE	
Category	Total
Advertising	-760.75
Beautification Projects	-160.36
Bradford Labor Day	-5,996.66
Bradford's Ole Fashion Christmas	-2,460.99
Bradford Post Office	-159.00
Decorations for Community Parks & Main St.	-500.03
Insurance	-568.00
Membership Drive	-453.07
Movies in the Park	-74.67
Misc. Supplies	-372.70
Music in the Park	-1,128.54
Saturday Market (Banners)	-267.00
Sound System - Cords	-120.38
Stark Ct. Rebels FB/Bradford NJHS Mural	-100.00
Welcome Wagon - Welcome Bags	-15.53
TOTAL	-13,134.38

SUMMARY OF January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

Total Income	14,698.39
Total Expense	-13,134.38
Total UNASSIGNED	0.00
Net Income	1,564.01

Thank you so much for your financial support in 2022. We look forward to working together to bring family friendly events and activities in 2023. Please note that the BBC IS NOT a 501c3 organization so donations ARE NOT tax deductible. If you would like more detailed financial information please feel free to contact us via email or message us on FB. "Small Town Proud - Working together since 1869"

The Great Carbon Boondoggle, Part 2

Bruce Rastetter, Iowa's long-time agricultural and political power center, has a sixth sense when it comes to making money.

In 1984, according to the Des Moines Register, Rastetter "started feeding hogs on contract ... and within two years, 500 head grew to 100,000." A decade later, his Heartland Pork was the 12th largest hog farm in the U.S.



Alan GUEBERT

Ten years after that, with Heartland wallowing in debt and low prices, Rastetter sold it and moved on to ethanol. His timing was nearly perfect; the federal government's Renewable Fuel Standard was about to ignite a massive ethanol boom.

Later, as that biofuel boom faded, "Rastetter ... worked out a deal with Thomas H. Lee Partners," reported the Register in 2015, "which bought 80 percent of Hawkeye Holdings" - Rastetter's ethanol company - "investing \$312 million."

Soon, Rastetter began investing in global ag and local politicians. Today he's a top collector of both: His Summit Agricultural Group reportedly controls 14,000 acres in Iowa, owns several livestock operations and ethanol businesses in Brazil, and has spent millions on federal, state, and local politics over the past two decades, notes the Register.

The latter is important given Summit's current focus, a 2,000-mile, \$4.5-billion carbon pipeline to link more than 30 "biorefineries" in five Midwestern states to gather, then deliver, pressurized CO2 to "deep geologic storage locations" in North Dakota.

But not even Rastetter has deep enough pockets to bankroll this pipe dream. Enter his network of politicians and investors.

As highlighted here last week, and according to a November 2022 report published by the Oakland Institute, a California-based think tank, Summit's payroll includes General Counsel Jess Vilsack, the son of U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. Summit's "chief policy officer" - whatever that is - is Terry Branstad, Iowa's longtime former governor.

A May 2022 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filing, highlighted by Oakland, lists the biggest investors in the Midwest Carbon Express, Summit's cheeky name for pipeline. They include TPG Rise Climate Fund (\$300 million), Continental Resources (\$250 million), SK E&S (\$110 million), Tiger Infrastructure (\$100 million), and Deere & Co., the farm equipment giant whose "size of its 'strategic investment' ... remains unknown."

What is known, though, is that most of these investors have deep ties to fossil fuels and some to oil-producing giants like Saudi Arabia.

One, Continental Resources, notes Oakland, was founded by Harold Hamm, a frack oil billionaire, and "produces crude oil and natural gas" in Texas, Montana, Oklahoma, Wyoming, and North Dakota - the northern terminus of Summit's pipeline.

Coincidence? Not likely because compressed CO2 is an effective tool in "enhanced oil recovery" efforts by frack oil firms to keep their thick crude flowing, writes Oakland, without reducing oil's critical role in climate change.

But the really big money in the Summit pipeline effort - and two other, already-announced compet-

ing pipelines - is yours, the taxpayer. According to terms included in the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the federal government will pay carbon "sequesters" like Summit \$85 per CO2 ton to collect, transport, and store it underground.

If, however, the compressed CO2 is used in "enhanced oil recovery" systems to pump thick crude out of the ground, the per ton rate dips to \$60.

Collectively, Oakland estimates the three CO2 pipelines planned for the Midwest could collect \$45 billion in federal guarantees - all transferable to any taxpayer for cash - over the next 12 years. Summit's share of that juicy federal pie is an estimated \$12 billion.

But that's only one slice. An estimated \$7 billion in federal "pilot program" and "development" money is also on the CO2 table. Additionally, several state programs could, figures Oakland, raise the value of each ton of sequestered carbon to a wallet-bulging \$250 per ton, or three times what is promised today.

And yet, adds Oakland, almost every penny of this lard-laced federal program will prop up "polluting industries ... [and] delay the transition away from dirty energy..."

Little wonder that ag insiders like Rastetter often move from growing actual hogs to nurturing government-fattened porkers like carbon pipelines. These big pigs, after all, could yield massive profits while greenwashing even more frack oil billions.

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

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Assault weapons restraining order upheld

By PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – A temporary restraining order that partially blocks Illinois' new assault weapons ban from being enforced will remain in place after a state appellate court panel's ruling Tuesday.

The restraining order was issued Jan. 20 by Effingham County Circuit Judge Joshua Morrison, but it applies only to the 800 or so gun owners and firearms dealers named as plaintiffs in the suit. The case was filed by southern Illinois attorney Thomas DeVore, the unsuccessful Republican candidate for attorney general in 2022.

In a 2-1 ruling, the justices said plaintiffs in the case made a plausible argument that the law violates their rights to equal protection under the law. Under the law, some categories of people – active and retired law enforcement officers, correctional officers and military personnel on active duty, for example – may purchase and possess those weapons. Other groups, such as retired military

personnel or those who are not on active duty, are barred from obtaining assault-style weapons after Jan. 1, 2024.

Attorneys for the state argued that it was reasonable to exempt certain groups of people who have extensive training in the use of such firearms. But the court majority rejected that argument, saying: "The fundamental rights at stake require lawmakers to 'narrowly tailor' legislation to effectuate its purpose."

"Perhaps, as suggested during the circuit court hearing, some of the plaintiffs' employment render them more or equally qualified to possess and purchase weapons than the qualifications required for the exempted classes," the justices wrote. "Perhaps, some of the plaintiffs' training is equal to, or superior to, that of the exempted classes."

In accepting the argument that equal protection rights are at stake, the appellate court also rejected arguments that the General Assembly violated the Illinois Constitution's requirements that bills deal

with only one subject, that they be read three times on different days in both chambers, and the guarantee of due process.

Justice Barry L. Vaughn wrote the decision. Justice Mark M. Boie concurred in the opinion while Justice James R. Moore dissented in part, saying he would have overturned the circuit court entirely by rejecting the equal protection argument.

The law bans the sale and purchase of a long list of semi-automatic weapons defined as "assault weapons," .50 caliber rifles and large-capacity magazines, as well as various devices that effectively convert other weapons into something identical to one of the banned weapons.

It also allows people who already own such weapons to keep them, but it requires those owners to register them with the Illinois State Police by Jan. 1, 2024, while also restricting where they can be used or stored.

The ruling means that the state is prevented from enforcing the law against the

named plaintiffs in the case. The decision is expected to be appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court.

Capitol News Illinois is a non-profit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide, as well as hundreds of radio and TV stations.



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MSW Projects celebrates 48 years

MSW Projects will celebrate 48 years of service in February. A non-profit group, MSW Projects offers a senior citizen nutrition program, senior citizen outreach program, and public transportation through partial funding from federal and state grants along with community donations.

In February 1974, MSW Projects opened nutrition sites in Marshall, Stark, and Woodford Counties for people aged 60 and over to go for a prepared lunch meal along with socialization and activities.

Nutrition sites now open for dine-in service with a reservation are Henry and Toulon, so long as the county is in medium or low risk of COVID transmission. Other nutrition sites available to open are Wenona,

Washburn, and Wyoming, but due to staff shortage these sites are currently closed.

The nutrition program also offers home-delivered meals to people 60 and over who are homebound, unable to prepare a meal, unsteady, recovering from an illness or injury, or returning home from the hospital or senior living facility. Assessments must be completed by a State of Illinois contractor.

Meals are delivered within city limits of the

following communities: Henry, Lacon, Sparland, Varna, Toluca, Wenona, Wyoming, Toulon, Bradford, LaFayette, Washburn, Benson, Roanoke, and Metamora.

St. John's Outreach formerly St. Mary's Outreach have been the paid caterers for MSW Projects' nutrition program for 48 years.

If you or someone you know may be in need of a prepared lunch, please call MSW Projects, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at (309) 364-2287.

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Answers on Page 3 **Super Crossword** UNBRIDLED ENERGY

ACROSS

- 1 Elevates
- 9 Faithful attendant in "Othello"
- 15 Maritime
- 20 Intensity
- 21 Quark model particles
- 22 Kagan of justice
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Deserves
- 26 Violinists' sub-ons
- 27 Radio's Glass or Flatow
- 28 Fished for morays
- 30 Jostle (for)
- 31 In — (mixed)
- 32 Riddle, part 2
- 37 English diarist Samuel
- 39 Confuses
- 40 Avian homes
- 41 Apple, e.g.
- 43 Next yr.'s alums
- 45 Look after
- 49 Riddle, part 3
- 56 With
- 59 See
- 56-Across
- 60 Supervises
- 61 —

DOWN

- 62 Liquid-emptying conduit
- 65 Bits of land in la mer
- 66 Pollute
- 68 Target of
- 69 Arid or Sure
- 69 Riddle, part 4
- 76 Some purple flowers
- 77 Drifting types
- 78 Home of Club Cal Nava
- 79 Place side by side for contrast
- 82 Ayres of "State Fair"
- 83 Scold
- 86 — out a living
- 87 ID for the IRS
- 88 Riddle, part 5
- 91 Part of MCAT
- 93 Fair-hiring abbr.
- 94 Irate, with "off"
- 95 "The Office" actor Wilson
- 99 Cure provider
- 103 "Como —?" (Spanish greeting)
- 108 End of the riddle
- 113 E. — (bacterium)
- 114 Bagel salmon
- 115 1980s Pontiac
- 116 JVC rival
- 117 Bacterium that requires oxygen
- 119 Shady recess
- 121 Riddle's answer
- 125 Sleep luddy
- 126 Turns out
- 127 Bring back in from another country
- 128 Axed down
- 129 Not wobbling
- 130 Florida city south of Tampa Bay
- 13 Doctors in training
- 14 "Boyfriend" singer
- 15 "You — have worried"
- 16 According to
- 17 Enthusiasm
- 18 Markswoman
- 19 Surgical beam source
- 24 Encircle with a belt
- 29 Sue Grafton's " — for Evidence"
- 33 Pappas' other halves
- 34 Central German river
- 35 Deputy. Abbr.
- 36 Oct. clock setting
- 38 Plan detail
- 42 Choose (to)
- 44 Fishing pole
- 46 Asmara native
- 47 Middy snooze
- 48 Salon supply
- 49 "Understood, dude"
- 50 Farm tower
- 51 Un-, non-, pro- and con-
- 52 Vacation getaway
- 53 Shah's land
- 54 Horse noise
- 55 Boat in Venice
- 56 Theda of silent films
- 57 Describe by drawing
- 58 Potentially offensive, for short
- 63 Disloyal sorts
- 64 Capital of South Dakota
- 66 Throw easily
- 67 Lhasa's land
- 70 Narrow inlets
- 71 African vipers
- 72 Singer Redbone
- 73 Steven, as seeds
- 74 Military group
- 75 "Yes" signals
- 79 Boeing plane
- 80 Hawaiian guitar, for short
- 81 Lamb nurer
- 83 In — (prior to birth)
- 84 Start for eminent
- 85 — one's time
- 89 Chocolate snack cake
- 90 Lone Star State coll.
- 92 Mr. Capote, informally
- 93 Contest competitor
- 96 Fandom's Hitchcock
- 97 Ugandan despot Amin
- 98 Girls in family trees
- 100 Listening accessory for an iPod
- 101 Text written for commercials
- 102 Oahu shindig
- 104 Tiny pieces
- 105 Overly, emphatically
- 106 Writer Camus
- 107 Middy snooze
- 108 Really mark down
- 109 Singer Lena
- 110 "The — incident" (Henry Fonda film)
- 111 Singer with the #1 hit "Royals"
- 112 Bottom point
- 118 Humorist Bombeck
- 120 Metal source
- 122 "That — is!"
- 123 Divs. of days
- 124 "For" vote

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Bradford scholarship fund recognizes seniors

BRADFORD – The Bradford Community Scholarship Fund Senior Recognition Ceremony will be April 23 at 7 p.m. in the Bradford Junior High gym.

The ceremony is held each year to honor graduating Bradford seniors who attend Stark County or Bureau Valley High School. These students must still live in the Bradford Community School District and be qualified for graduation in the current school year.

Students were sent a packet in the mail with the applications and information concerning awards and scholarships available. The deadline for returning the applications is Feb. 17, 2023.

It is the goal of the scholarship fund committee to reunite graduating seniors one last time as Bradford students and reward them for their accomplishments in high school. Students, family, friends and community members are invited to attend the ceremony.

If you are a graduating senior and did not receive a packet, contact Becki Hoffert at b.hoffert@bcusd1.net or call her at (309) 897-2801, Ext. 1003.

Pipeline withdraws ICC permit application

Navigator CO2 has withdrawn a permit application to build its 1,300-mile Heartland Greenway CO2 pipeline that was filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission last July.

According to a company press release, Navigator will file a revised permit application with the ICC before the end of February seeking to expand the proposed pipeline, which was originally to travel through Knox County and 12 other

Illinois counties.

As part of the new filing, Navigator says it will, “accelerate the development of additional permanent storage locations across multiple counties in central Illinois.”

“There continues to be a growing and diverse number of industrial emitters across the Corn Belt recognizing the value carbon capture technology provides for their businesses,” Navigator CEO Matt Vining said. “With the increasing number of shippers participating in the Heartland Greenway and landowners’ collaborative and responsive feedback, refiling allows us to streamline the application process in Illinois for all parties.”

An opposition group, The Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines, said the permit withdrawal is because Navigator has failed to secure easements for sites to sequester CO2.

“Navigator’s initial petition to the ICC was not just incomplete, it was nonsensical,” said Pam Richart, co-founder of the Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines and co-Director of the Eco-Justice Collaborative.

“Without acquiring a sequestration site, there was no way to analyze the proposed route of the pipeline and its potential impact on farmers, landowners, and public safety. A senior staff member with the Illinois Commerce Commission recommended the Commission dismiss the project for that reason nearly two months ago.”

– Jeff Lampe

Glaser appointed to Galva Park board

GALVA – Tyler Glaser was appointed to fill a vacancy left by Patrick Sloan on the Galva Park District board at a recent meeting.

In other business, the board is looking for a pool manager and lifeguards for the 2023 pool season. If

anyone is interested, they are encouraged to get on the facebook page or contact a board member: Pete VanDeVelde, Larry Morse, Katie Lauren, Laura Nordstrom or Tyler Glaser.

The board reviewed salaries but no decision was made.

The pool filter will be looked at for updates and replacements.

The Galva Lions Club donated \$800 for a memorial in the Goodales’ name.

– Carol Townsend

College graduates

• **Shaunta Teague** of Wyoming graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Bradley University in the fall 2022 semester.

College honors

• Two local students made the fall Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better) at Iowa State University: **Jack R. Wilson**, of Toulon, majoring in agricultural systems technology; and **Levi Nusz**, of Wyoming, majoring in materials engineering.


• **Blake Orwig**, of Toulon, majoring in social science education, made the fall Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better) at Monmouth College.

• **Aaron Plotner**, of Toulon, made the fall Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better) at Minnesota State College.

Et cetera

BISHOP HILL – On Saturday Feb. 4, at 10 a.m. the Bishop Hill Heritage Association will host its annual meeting at the Steeple Building Museum, located at 103 N. Bishop Hill St..

The meeting is open to BHHA members only.



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Better Banks celebrates 125 years

PEORIA – Better Banks will celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2023.

The history of Better Banks dates back to 1898 with the founding of Dunlap Bank. The first bank was built on Second Street in the Village of Dunlap and remains the oldest continually running business in the area.

Since then, Better Banks has expanded to nine communities – including Wyoming – and serves customers as an employee-owned community bank.

As an employee-owned community bank, Better Banks officials say they exist to serve the needs of their customers, communities, employees and investors.

Over the past 125 years, banking solutions and services have advanced dramatically. Better Banks has consistently focused on meeting customer expectations while innovating for the future.

Central to that success is the continued focus on the banking philosophy established by Chip Backlund over 50 years ago: “To remain a strong, locally owned community

bank.”
“Being able to celebrate our 125th anniversary is exciting, yet humbling. It is not something we take for granted,” said Mike Stratton, Better Banks President. “We’re immensely grateful to all of the customers who continue to put their trust in us. We want to thank our customers for their loyalty and support over the years and look forward to a long and prosperous future!”

To commemorate this milestone, Better Banks plans to celebrate throughout the year in each community they serve.

“We’ve been providing exceptional banking services for our customers for over a century and are confident in our ability to continue this level of service for many years to come,” stated Steve Backlund, Chairman and CEO. “This milestone anniversary is dedicated to the team members, partners, and customers who got us to where we are today.”

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This full-color special section will be included with the March 9 edition of The Weekly Post and the March 10 edition of The Prairie News. Stories will focus on local farmers, farm businesses and relevant farm-related information.

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LEGAL ADS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 ESTATE OF MARIAN I. FIDLER,)
 No. 2023 PR 2
 Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE
 (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of MARIAN I. FIDLER. Letters of Office were issued on January 13, 2023 to Peggy I. Piper as Independent Executor whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC. Claims against the estate may be

filed in the office of the clerk of court, Stark County, Toulon, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before July 24, 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/ser->

vice-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 1/27, 2/3, 2/10/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 CITY OF KEWANEE, ILLINOIS, an Illinois Municipal corporation, Plaintiff,

all Defendants, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, must file your answer to the Petition for Property Clean-Up and Lien in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, with the Henry County Circuit Clerk, 401 E 3rd St, Kewanee, IL 61443, on or before 30 days after the date of this publication, or 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 1/20, 1/27, 2/3/23

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
DATE: February 3, 2023
SERVICE FOR BID: Bus Leases
LOCATION: Galva CUSD #224, 224 Morgan Rd., Galva, IL 61434
DATE DUE: Sealed bids will be received until 10:00 AM on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at the office of the Galva CUSD #224, 224 Morgan Rd., Galva, IL 61434, and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.

BIDDING DOCUMENTS AND REQUIRED SPECS: The District is looking for five new seventy-one passenger diesel buses, and one new fifty-three passenger bus. The leases for each bus should be for five years, 15,000 mile/year, and contain a five-year warranty with towing. Some required features include: cameras, light indicators, block heaters, and luggage compartments.

To receive a packet with full specifications and bid paperwork, please contact the Galva CUSD #224 Administration office at (309) 932-2108, or by email at svanwassenhove@galva224.org. Published 2/3/23

ELECTION NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that a meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at the Resource House, 102 North 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491. The purpose is to elect one individual to serve on the Board of

ALTONA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PUBLICATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

BEGINNING BALANCE		
01-01-22	\$ 95,790.00	
REVENUE		
PROPERTY TAX		
CORP	\$ 75,771.00	
PROPERTY TAX		
AMBU	\$ 41,874.00	
REPLACEMENT TAX	\$ 13,586.00	
INTEREST	\$ 299.00	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 131,530.00	
TOTAL FUNDS		
AVAILABLE	\$ 227,320.00	
EXPENDITURES		
INSURANCE	\$ 7,327.00	
FUEL & OIL	\$ 824.00	
HEAT & ELEC	\$ 2,712.00	
OFFICE SUPPLIES & POSTAGE	\$ 625.00	
ACCOUNTING	\$ 675.00	
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AMBULANCE	\$ 41,895.00	
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CAPITAL OUTLAY		
NEW EQUIPMENT	\$ 17,843.00	
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MISC EXP	\$ 766.00	
LEGAL FEES	\$ 269.00	
CONTRACT LABOR	\$ 588.00	
SUPPLIES	\$ 86.00	
FIREMEN & TRUSTEES	\$ 8,205.00	
TELEPHONE	\$ 496.00	
INTERNET	\$ 644.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 87,244.00
BALANCE 12-31-22		\$ 140,076.00
EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000		
TECHNOLOGY INS	\$ 1,520.00	
A, O & W		
AMBULANCE	\$ 41,895.00	
PUBLIC RISK		
UNDERWRITERS	\$ 5,807.00	
AMEREN IP - ELEC	\$ 2,711.00	
HOWE OVERHEAD		
DOORS - BLDG MAINT	\$ 1,300.00	
JIM ANDREWS - FIRE CHIEF	\$ 1,500.00	
ALEXIS FIRE - CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ 18,256.00	
ALTONA FIRE DEPT - FIREMEN		
COMPENSATION	\$ 4,830.00	
CERTIFICATON: I, JOHN ANDREWS, TREASURER OF THE ALTONA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ALTONA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 DATED THIS 25TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2022		
		John W Andrews Treasurer Published 2/3/23

Directors for Tri-County Opportunities Council, a Community Action Agency, in representation of those experiencing low income in the Stark County service area. At this time, Stark County will elect one (1) representative. To be eligible to vote in this caucus election the voter must be an adult resident of Stark County and the family income must not exceed the income criteria established by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to determine low-income families eligible to be served by Tri-County Opportunities Council. Affidavits of eligibility will be available for signature. Al Harmon Chairperson Board of Directors Tri-County Opportunities Council Published 2/3/23

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Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

HEY DAD, I HAVE A MUCH BETTER IDEA.
 WE COULD GO BUILD A SNOWMAN AND THEN DO SOME SLEDDING.
 THEN PIZZA AND MALTS AND IF THERE'S TIME THEN WE DO CHORES?
 NEVER MIND IT. SOUNDED BETTER IN MY HEAD.

R.F.D. by Mike Marland

...AND NOW HERE'S DAVE WITH THE FORECAST...!
 NOT SURE I LIKE THIS NEW WEATHER GUY...
 HE SAYS WITH ALL THE ACCESS TO WEATHER DATA WE HAVE THESE DAYS THERE'S NO REASON FOR HIM TO GET TOO DETAILED.
 TODAY: BAD. TOMORROW: NOT MUCH BETTER. WEDNESDAY: SORTA OKAY. THURSDAY: KINDA SO-SO. FRIDAY...

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

"WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU MAKES YOU STRONGER" SHOULD BE THE CAMPAIGN SLOGAN FOR THIS HEALTH CEREAL.

"We've lost communication until after the Super Bowl."

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: Where is Mount Fuji located?
- MOVIES: What is the material used in Captain America's shield?
- MUSIC: Who wrote the lyrics to the 1961 "West Side Story" movie?
- SCIENCE: Which color has the longest wavelength?
- HISTORY: When did the United States outlaw child labor?
- TELEVISION: Who played the leading role in the legal series "Ally McBeal"?
- AD SLOGANS: Which fast-food chain tells customers that "We have the meats"?
- LITERATURE: What is the setting for the "Divergent" novel series?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which animal represents the 2023 Chinese zodiac year?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of butterflies called?

Answers

- Japan.
- Vibranium.
- Stephen Sondheim.
- Red.
- 1938.
- Calista Flockhart.
- Arby's.
- Chicago.
- The rabbit.
- A kaleidoscope.

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Answers on Page 3

CryptoQuote
 AXYLBAAXR 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.

UOXAX QD P MYQRX QSDQGX YE
 ZYH, UOPU TOQDJXAD PVV GPZ
 VYSW, Q EXXV UQQD QD AQWOU
 EYA CX, Q BSYT UOPU UQQD QD
 TAYSW. — DOXV DQVMXADUXQS

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- Avatar: The Way of Water (PG-13)
- Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (PG)
- MO'NANI (PG-13)
- Missing (PG-13)
- A Man Called Otto (PG-13)
- Plane (R)
- House Party (R)
- That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime the Movie: Scarlet Bond (PG-13)
- Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (PG-13)
- The Whale (R)

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REVENUES: Emphasis placed on debt repayment

Continued from Page 1
not just in Illinois, but across the country,” Mendoza said. “These numbers could be replicated in any other state, where instead of collapsing the economies, those states saw that their residents who received this direct stimulus did not save it in most instances, but they actually spent it in the marketplace.”

Low unemployment rates continue to boost revenue performance, she said.

‘Genuinely surprising’
Former Rep. Tom Demmer, the House Republicans’ longtime budgeting point man and the party’s unsuccessful candidate for state treasurer last year, said the revenue trends are something he hadn’t seen in his decade in Springfield.

“It is genuinely surprising to see not just a slight revision upward, but really multiple consistent revisions upward in what we think we’re going to collect this fiscal year,” Demmer told CNI. “That’s really unprecedented.”

For the fiscal year that ended in June, revenues soared past the state’s initial \$42.3 billion approved budget by nearly \$8 billion when excluding ARPA fund transfers.

In the recently concluded lame duck session, Democrats passed a surplus spending plan that allocated an additional \$3.6 billion in unexpected revenues beyond the initial \$46.5 billion budget approved last spring. That included nearly \$2.7 billion in debt repayment and long-term savings and about \$925 million in new, one-time spending.

“I mean, it is weird because we’re not used to seeing this, right?” Mendoza said. “And when I say that, it’s sarcastically because this is a very good thing. If (lawmakers are) going to have new spending, it should be for responsible fiscal measures, and this is a perfect example of that.”

Mendoza specifically

referenced a \$1.8 billion cash infusion into the state’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund that was included in the plan.

Her office last week sent about \$1.4 billion of that to the federal government to repay the last of a \$4.5 billion debt taken on to keep the state’s unemployment system afloat amid the pandemic.

The debt had already cost the state \$60 million in interest. Repaying it saves about \$20 million in interest and prevents greater increases to employer tax rates and a disruption of benefits for individuals claiming unemployment. The recent spending plan also included an \$850 million allocation to the “rainy day” fund, which will bring it to its highest-ever balance of \$1.9 billion – a far cry from its \$60,000 balance when the pandemic hit.

It’s the type of budgeting practice that even some Republicans can support, even if they remain reticent to vote for what they view as spending increases that could prove problematic when recent revenue trends subside.

“I do give credit to the administration for their prioritizing paying down any of the debt that we incurred,” Demmer said.

“On the other hand, I’m still concerned about some

of the spending growth relative to what we expect our economic and revenue growth is going to look like.”

Demmer referenced the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget’s five-year state budget projection. The November report noted after an expected surplus this year and next, Illinois could be in for a deficit of about \$384 million in Fiscal Year 2025 and beyond.

“Unlike some years in the past where we could point to one thing – sometimes it was just pensions or Medicaid growing too fast – I think that by contrast, now there’s spending growth across the board on existing programs,” Demmer said. “And then add on to that any new legislative initiatives that come on, that’s where it gets to be real concern.”

Demmer said he was concerned by the prospect of two new major spending areas floated by Pritzker in his inaugural address earlier this month: an expansion of access to free child care, preschool and college education for Illinoisans.

New expenditures

In the recent supplemental plan, contained in House Bill 969 and Senate Bill 1720, lawmakers authorized about \$925 million worth of spending beyond the debt and sav-

ings measures. That included \$400 million to create a business attraction or “closing” fund under Pritzker’s authority that the administration hopes will help lure new or existing businesses to expand in Illinois. That was part of a broader expansion of several economic incentives.

Other appropriations included \$196 million in temporary payments to hospitals and community mental health providers through the state’s Medicaid program, \$110 million for the Department of Human Services to support asylum seekers, and \$100 million to the Department of Innovation and Technology to pay interest-accruing bills.

The plan also included added funding for DHS-run mental health centers and for the courts to cover costs associated with the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform among other expenditures.

During the lame duck session, Republicans criticized the inclusion of a list of more than 100 violence prevention grants totaling \$45 million that were concentrated in Democratic districts. Demmer cited such perceived partisan spending as another reason many recent spending plans passed without Republican support.

CITY OF TOULON
NOTICE OF CITY'S ACCEPTANCE OF SEALED BIDS FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the City Council for the City of Toulon, Stark County, Illinois, has authorized by ordinance the sale of the City-owned property described below by the public sealed bidding process.

The City-owned parcels are described as follows:
Zoning Classification: Residential
Use: Undeveloped, vacant land Lot Size: 85 feet x 150 feet
Legal Description: Lot One (1) and Twenty-one (21) feet of even width off the East side of Lot Two (2), Block Thirty-one (31) of HENDERSON AND WHITHAKER'S ADDITION to the Town (now City of Toulon).
Common address: East Jefferson St.
Tax I.D. No.: 04-19-342-012

Each parcel of property is vacant and unoccupied and open for public inspection. Each parcel of property being sold in its "as is" condition, and the City makes no warranties regarding the condition of the property. The property will be transferred by quit claim deed at closing to the selected bidder. The minimum bid the City will accept is \$500.00. The winning bidder will be required to pay an additional \$250 for closing costs unless waived by the City, which payment is over and above the accepted bid price. The winning bidder, at the winning bidder's cost, may also obtain a title commitment prior to closing.

All bids must be submitted to the City Clerk for the City of Toulon before 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2023, in the manner provided below at the following address:

Barb Cantwell, City Clerk
Attn: Sealed Bid for Parcel # 04-19-342-012
122 N. Franklin St.
P.O. Box 597
Toulon, Illinois 61483

Bids may be hand-delivered or mailed to the City Clerk, but must be received by the City Clerk before 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2023. The City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids received for this property sale. Any questions can be directed to City Clerk Barb Cantwell by email at tncityclerk@gmail.com.

Dated this 9th day of January, 2023.
Barb Cantwell, City Clerk
City of Toulon, Illinois

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Phone: 932-2008

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Thank You

The family of the late Louie Nelson would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Bishop Hill Fire Department and all of its crew members for dedicating the station to Louie by naming the station "Louie Nelson Fire Station" in honor of all of his accomplishments and his dedicated service for over sixty years on the department.

With Love From 
Babe, her girls & their families

Dedication Ceremony - December 17, 2022




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- **TOULON:** For Rent: Toulon, 308 W. Main St., 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home, detached garage. Call (309) 678-1831 for further information.

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(812) 698-9294
Sunday Worship: LaFayette - 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday
(Pastor), 2nd & 4th Sunday (Lay Speaker);
West Jersey 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday (Lay Speaker), 2nd & 4th
Sunday (Pastor); Toulon Sunday School: 9:15 a.m., All Ages.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
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

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Wyoming Nazarene Church

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309-695-4523 leave message
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Sunday Worship: 11:00
Wednesday Night TBD
Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Pastor Ross Wyman
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(309) 695-4091
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
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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
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St. Timothy Lutheran Church

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threesaints.org

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317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL
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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
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
Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

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OBITUARIES

Donnie R. Greenway

WYOMING – Donnie R. Greenway, 69, of Wyoming, passed away at 11:13 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, at OSF St. Luke Medical Center, Kewanee.



Greenway

Donnie was born on Oct. 13, 1953, in Parsons, Tenn., to Francis and Betty (Roberts) Greenway. He married Wanda Hamilton on Aug. 3, 1974, in Peoria; she survives.

Also surviving are one son, Timothy (Karen) Greenway of Speer; two grandchildren, Evelyn and Emilia Greenway; three brothers, Billy, Robbie and David Greenway; two sisters, Meg (Dave) Hamilton and Tina Johnson.

He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Zoey Greenway; sister, Jean Greenway; and two brothers, James and W.C. Greenway.

Donnie was a 47-year member of the Baptist Church of Brimfield, where he served as a trustee. He loved fishing and vacationing in Florida. His greatest joy was spending time with his grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, at 10 a.m. at Baptist Church of Brimfield. Pastor Doug Seeley will officiate. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Baptist Church of Brimfield.

Condolences for Donnie's family may be left at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Donald C. Hampton

GALVA – Donald C. Hampton, 92, of Galva, formerly of Kewanee, died at 4:24 p.m., Monday, Jan. 30, 2023, at Royal Oaks Care Center in Kewanee.



Hampton

Private services will be held at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Pastor Bryan Griem officiating. Inurnment will be held at St. Anthony's Cemetery in Atkinson at a later date where military rites will be accorded.

He was born May 30, 1930, in Peoria, the son of Wren C. and Lela (Fawcett) Hampton. On Dec. 3, 1950, he married Alma J. Burch in Kewanee and they later divorced.

Survivors include his lady of 30 years, Marilyn Hass; his children, Donya (Dennis) Price of Kewanee, Shirlee (Greg) Fritch of Silvis, Sheila (Dewayne) Willey of Kewanee, Sharon (Dan) Jaques of Limon, Colo., and Chris (Lisa) Hampton of Monmouth; a son-in-law, Mike Wallace of Galva; and Marilyn's children, Missy (Brent) Stewart and Richard

Hass. He is also survived by his grandchildren; Dean (Rachelle) Price, Duane (Torri) Price, Stephanie (Brad) Fritch, Chet Fritch, Brett (Jessica) Johnson, Donald (Stephanie) Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Chris (Brittany) Johnson, Joyce Willey, Stephan Johnson DeRosalyn, Jules (Luke) Quedenfield, Jared Jaques, Alyssa (Dom) Greer and Nicholas Wallace; 21 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren with 1 on the way.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his ex-wife; his daughter, Glenda Wallace; grandsons, Justin and Rex Hampton; a great grandson, Hampton Johnson; his brothers, Wren, Nick, Kenney, Robert, Howard and Fred, and his sisters, Barbara, Sheila, Lela and Alberta, in infancy.

Donald attended Kewanee schools and served his country in the U.S. Army from 1947-50. He worked and retired from John Deere Company. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan.

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

Carl A. Nelson

GALVA – Carl A. Nelson, 87, of Galva, died at 12:23 a.m., Friday, Jan. 27, 2023, at his home.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 1, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Pastor Katie Gallagher officiating. Visitation was to be from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service. Military rites were to be accorded after the service at the funeral home followed by burial at Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to Messiah Lutheran Church.



Nelson

He was born Nov. 14, 1935, in Galesburg, the son of William and Edna (Blomquist) Nelson. He married Barbara L. Kuster on July 18, 1959, at the Bishop Hill Methodist Church. She survives, as do three daughters, Diane Nelson and Sharon Nelson, both of Galva and Lara Medley (Court Monaghan) of Hudson, Colo.; two grandchildren, Spencer Medley of Bishop Hill and Emma Medley of Malabar, Fla.; two brothers, Ivan Nelson of Missouri and Dean (Sandy) Nelson of Michigan; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Dolores Entekin; two brothers, William Nelson and Ralph Nelson; and a son-in-law, Kris Medley.

Carl graduated from the first class of Alwood High School in 1953. He then attended and graduated from Western Illinois University and then from Northern Illinois University. He served his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1954-58. One of his first

stations was at O'Hare Airfield before it was known as O'Hare Airport.

He was a teacher and principal in various school districts including Downers Grove, Galva, Wethersfield, Neponset, Winola and Aurora. He was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church and its choir and the Henry County Beef Feeders.

He was also a member of the Galva American Legion where he had been commander and a member of the Galva Fusiliers. He enjoyed bowling and woodworking and was a St. Louis Cardinal Fan and a Chicago Bears Fan. He was very proud of his Swedish heritage and his family.

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

Michael D. Stairwalt

GALVA – Michael Duane Stairwalt, 74, of Galva, passed away on Jan. 29, 2023, at his home.

Michael was born March 4, 1948, to Lydia Johnson and Frederick "Ted" Stairwalt in Peoria. Michael graduated from Galva High School in 1966.

He was a tri-sport standout as a left hander in basketball, track, and baseball. He then went on to college.

He married Karen Murphy in 1967, and had two children, Troy and Nicole. They later separated. Later on, he met and married Marybeth Seifert in Kewanee and had three children, Zach, Josh and Megan.

His favorite saying was, "Not all who wander are lost." With that perspective, Michael started his career in coal mining in Illinois in the early 1970s at Ken Coal Mining in Kickapoo. His mining career took him across the Western United States and from coal to gold and silver mines. From Wyoming to Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and Montana and then across the ocean to Africa.

He was the operations and maintenance leader for copper mines in Zambia and Ghana. Then to central America to run phosphorus mines in Bolivia, Chile and Mexico.

From all of his travels he collected experiences, friends, knowledge and fond memories. While working in Zambia he met and married Janet Lombe. They eventually moved back to Illinois to help care for his ailing mother.

He was a proud Masonic Member for 53 years, and he held those beliefs close to his heart for all of that time.

Michael was preceded in death by his father, Frederick "Ted" in 1982 and Lydia in 2016. He is survived by a sister, Patricia Mellin and her children Kim, Bryon, and Michael; Troy and his children Anthony and Rhon-



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First Baptist Church of Galva

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Sundays: Noon - 12:30 PM
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First Baptist - 211 NW 4th Ave., Galva
309-932-2713

OBITUARIES

nie; Nicole and her children Caden and Addyson; Zachary Stairwalt, Joshua and his wife Courtney and their children Jacob, Samantha, Hannah, Serenity, and Gavyn [great grandchildren Hope and Joseph] and the baby, Megan Stairwalt.

He is also survived by his adopted daughter, Jo and Don and their children Piper and Marley. Also surviving are several cousins, nieces, nephews and his beloved dog Bob.

Cremation will be accorded and memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 4 at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Pastor Chet Travis officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services at the funeral home with Masonic Rites at 10:45 a.m. Memorials may be directed to the First United Methodist Church in Galva or to the Galva Masonic Lodge #243.

This obituary may be viewed and private condolences left at www.rux-funeralhome.com.

Audrey L. Whittaker

PRINCEVILLE – Audrey L. Whittaker, 87, of Princeville, formerly of Laura, passed away at 6:16 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at UnityPoint Health-Methodist in Peoria.

Audrey was born on Aug. 12, 1935, in Toulon to Robert and Bernice (Scott) Benedict. She married P. Hardy Whittaker on Jan. 28, 1961, in Peoria. He preceded her in death on Oct. 22, 1980.

Surviving are three sons, Doug (Tammy) Whittaker of Laura, Bryan (Marie) Whittaker of Princeville and Marty (Kathleen) Whittaker of Laura; seven grandchildren, John, Chris, Danny, Brian, Megan, Michael and Scott; seven great-grandchildren; sister, Nancy (Myron) Kargel of Reedsburg, Wis.; and several nieces and nephews. She was also preceded



Whittaker

in death by her parents; daughter, Paula Jo; sister, Dori Dunbar; and brother, Phil Benedict.

Audrey was an original member on the Millbrook Community Center Board, serving for several years. She worked as a secretary for Millbrook Grade School and later E.B. Builders, retiring in 2008. She loved working on her homestead in Laura, doing many projects herself. Audrey loved her family and enjoyed going to her grandchildren's school and sporting events.

Her funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023, at Haskell Funeral & Cremations Services in Princeville. Rev. Zach Waldis will officiate. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service also at the funeral home. Burial will be in Princeville Township Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Akron-Princeville Ambulance Service or the Millbrook Community Center in Laura.

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

Thomas L. Galloway

TOULON – Thomas Leroy Galloway, 74, of Toulon, died on Monday, Jan. 23, 2023.

He was born on Dec. 23, 1948, in Kewanee, the son of Russell and Clyde (Singleton) Galloway.

He is survived by four daughters, Amanda (Colby) Gibbs of Dahinda, Stephanie (Jim) Fritz of Wyoming, Constance Zavala of Canton and Alisa Ebinger of Hopedale. He is also survived by 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Surviving siblings include Kenny Galloway and Josephine Herring of Galesburg and Kevin (Jeri) Galloway of Henderson.

He was preceded in death by both parents and four brothers. Gene, Stanley, Chuck and John.

Private graveside services were held on Jan. 28, 2023, at Osceola

Grove Cemetery in rural Bradford.

Regena M. Meaker

WYOMING – Regena M. Meaker, 94, of Wyoming passed away Jan. 29, 2023, at Snyder Village Health Center in Metamora.

Born June 30, 1928, in Peoria to Andrew and Veronica (Sweary) Hancher, she married Robert L. Meaker on June 12, 1949, in Wyoming. He preceded her in death on July 10, 2018.

Surviving are one son, Rucker (Svetlana) Meaker of Wyoming and one daughter, Sally (John) Guth of Washington; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two sisters, Josephine Hancher of Pekin and Marcella (Dale) Rouland of Morton.

Regena was also preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Richard Hancher and Bernard Hancher; and sisters, Ellen Hancher, Valeria Reed and Florance McNeeley.

Regena graduated from Wyoming High School and Bradley University. Regena taught kindergarten in West Jersey and substitute taught in Wyoming area schools for a number of years. As a farmers' wife, she helped in numerous ways with the farm business. She was a devout member of the Wyoming First Congregational Church.

She was the first woman member of the Stark County Board. She was a member of the Stark/Henry Special Education Board, associate member of the Stark County Soil & Water Committee, the Quad County Mental Health Association and helped with the Stark County 4-H Junior Fair for years.

Her visitation will be Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at the First Congregational UCC in Wyoming from 10-11 a.m. Funeral will follow at 11:00 a.m., also at the church. Rev. Ross Wyman will officiate. A private burial will be at a later date.

SPORTS: Stark County girls avenge loss to Galva

Continued from Page 10 they felt like 'We want to win this to move on.' To ultimately win a regional, you have to learn how to play in that game and be successful under a little bit of pressure, maybe from yourself. And a little bit about the circumstance."

In tournament pool play Jan. 26 and 28, Stark County defeated West Central 58-40 and Wethersfield 63-49 to finish first in its three-team pod. Kieser had 17 points against West Central and 21 against Wethersfield.

Galva (1-24) finished last in its LTC pool, with a 77-29 loss Jan. 26 to Mercer County and a 65-30 loss Jan. 27 to Abingdon-Avon. The Wildcats play Princeville about 7:30 tonight (Feb. 3). The winner plays at 1:30 p.m. Saturday for ninth place. The 11th-place game is at 11 a.m.

Following the tournament, Galva is host Feb. 7 to Stark County. The Rebels also play Feb. 6 at Henry.

• **Stark County girls** – On

Monday, the Lady Rebels avenged a 47-16 loss to Galva on Jan. 19, winning 48-33 this time around at Wyoming.

Payten Hillier scored 18 points to lead Stark County (6-20), which also got 8 points from Kylee Frisby, 7 from Lauren Orwig, 6 from Morgan Brooks and 5 from Paige Rewerts.

"Very good win over Galva," Coach Bob Bohm said. "Playing pretty good team defense. Still struggling to score on a consistent basis."

Stark County lost on Jan.

28 to Henry, 40-22. Orwig and Maeve Colgan had nine points apiece for Stark County, which was without Frisby and shot just 10-for-27 from the free throw line and made its only five field goals in the first half.

The regular season is nearing an end and coaches were to turn in seedings by Thursday and regionals can start Feb. 11.

Stark County was to play Annawan Wednesday and closes with a home game Monday against United and a road game at Abingdon-Avon on Feb. 8

In other news, Lindley Johnston will sit out the rest of the season to rest her knee for track season.

• **Galva girls** – In Monday's 48-33 loss to Stark County, Galva (13-14) got 14 points from Lexi Stone, 6 from Kali Yelm and 5 from Ava Strom. The Lady Wildcats were outscored 17-8 in the fourth quarter after being tied at halftime, 18-18.

Galva was to play ROWVA-Williamsfield on Wednesday, then travels to Mercer County Monday and closes at home on Feb. 9

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The Prairie News Sports

R-W avenges loss to Stark Co.

By NICK VLAHOS and JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

KNOXVILLE – The Stark County boys basketball team’s beat was a little out of synch Tuesday night. That was part of why it couldn’t beat ROWVA-Williamsfield for the second time in 11 days.

R-W scored 26 in the fourth quarter, including free throws for its final 14 points, to defeat Stark County 56-45 in the Lincoln Trail Conference Tournament semifinals.

Its first loss in almost a month sent second-seeded Stark County (14-10) to the third-place game, where it plays fifth-seed Knoxville at 3 p.m. Saturday. Following that game, No. 3 R-W (19-6) plays No. 1 Mercer County for the championship.

Mercer County beat Knoxville 61-39 in the other semifinal Tuesday.

On Jan. 20, Stark County defeated R-W 66-47. The Rebels made 10 treys that night but only 3 on Tuesday. According to Stark County Coach Dusty Browning, the Cougars’ early switch to a 2-3 zone defense helped fluster his team this time.

“It just cost us a little bit of rhythm,” Browning said. “The zone changed the course of the game, and to be honest, I never felt like we had any rhythm behind

the arc. We’d hit an occasional 3, but nothing where we could stack up back-to-back possessions.

“We (also) had trouble scoring inside the lane, just getting some easy baskets. They committed to keeping us out of the paint.”

According to R-W junior Riley Danner, who had a game-high 23 points, his team didn’t play much zone in its previous meeting with Stark County.

“It was like our revenge game, almost, for us,” Danner said.

Stark County scored 10 in a row in the first quarter and led 23-21 at halftime. It also led 38-37 after Matthew Bowser’s trey with 5 minutes remaining. But 16 seconds later, post player Graham Wight stepped out to hit a 3 that opened a seven-point R-W streak and gave it a lasting lead.



R-W was 14-for-18 from the line in the final 3:05. That included 3-for-4 from Danner at 1:48 following consecutive technical fouls on Stark County senior Daniel Kieser, his fifth foul of the game, and Browning. Kieser finished with a team-high 16 points.

“We just weren’t good enough to win, so you’ve got to look in the mirror and ask why,” Browning said. “I told them I thought it was the first big game where

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