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The Weekly Post

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Billtown fully plugged into e-bus era

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – Plugging in an electric school bus for a recharge might not be much different than plugging in a cellphone, as Jeremy King is discovering. He just has to make sure he does it.

"Driving a diesel for so many years, you come in, you shut it off and you're done for the day," said a smiling King, a Williamsfield School District driver. "With these, you've got to remember there's one more step – I've got to plug it in. I've been guilty of not plugging

them in."

With its progression to electric buses almost 100% complete, Williamsfield is more plugged in with the new technology than probably 99% of its peers.

Electric buses have been operating on Williamsfield student-transportation routes for about a month, but their official launch was Dec. 8. U.S. Rep. Eric Sorensen joined district and environmental leaders and

others to celebrate something eight years in the making, based on a classroom project.

"I don't know if anybody realizes it, but we're living in the future. This is the future," Sorensen, a Democrat from Moline, told about 50 people in the Billtown bus barn. "Williamsfield, Illinois, is the model for what's going to happen across the entire country? That's huge."

Among more than 13,000 school districts nationally, only 463 are using electric buses, according to
Continued on Page 2

Inside
• Auditor praise finances of Williamsfield schools.
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U.S. Rep. Eric Sorensen cuts a ribbon at the dedication of the Williamsfield School District's new electric-bus fleet. Also pictured are (left to right) Talan Hull, Lori Secrist, Gina Strom, Alexis Hosna, Susan Mudd, Tony Maietta, Tim Farquer, Sorensen, Tim Sprout and Jeremy Placher. Photo by Nick Vlahos.

CHRISTMAS TRADITION

Village of memories Smith's final Xmas display at Trivoli UMC

By MOLLY RICHESON

For The Weekly Post

TRIVOLI – In a big white church, in the middle of a tiny town, sits an even tinier village all ready for the Christmas season. Jo Ann Smith of Elmwood has spent the last 31 years creating this little town one building and one citizen at a time, and it sits proudly on display in the Trivoli United Methodist Church.

Smith's Christmas display all started with a miniature schoolhouse she saw at Aldi while shopping 31 years ago. She immediately thought of her mother, who taught in a one-room schoolhouse in the 1920s.

"She taught all eight grades, and she had to stoke the fire, give plays, go out and clean the outhouse, and



Jo Ann Smith of Elmwood has her collection of Christmas villages on display at Trivoli United Methodist Church. Photo by Molly Richeson.

do all those menial things like keeping it clean and swept," Smith said. "And she received about \$33 per month."

With that vivid memory of her mother, a tiny little schoolhouse and one \$9 purchase, Smith's passion to visualize her memories was born.

As your eyes travel across her much expanded Christmas town, Jo Ann shares the story of her life with you – and every experience shared is tied to a miniature on display.

Pause to admire tiny stables with

their horses and you can hear a story about how Jo Ann's family showed Tennessee walking horses or how her husband, Paul, showed the high-point horse of Illinois back in the 1960s.

A band performing in a gazebo brings back memories of Smith's school band in Farmington, which always played in the gazebo. If you look closely, you'll see a single drummer off a little to the side of the gazebo. Smith played the drums

Continued on Page 7

Rate increase likely

Elmwood may raise water rate 4.5%

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

ELMWOOD – A second consecutive 4.5% annual increase in Elmwood water and sewer rates appears likely.

During a City Council meeting Dec. 5, Alderman Nathan Brunnelson suggested city water and sewer expenses remained out of balance with revenues, given the rising costs of chemicals and labor, among other things.

"Last year, inflation was high, but we tried to minimize the rate increase," said Brunnelson, who helps oversee city water and sewer operations. "We're still not quite where we need to be.

"I'd like to stay at 4.5% for another year and help catch up with some of the negative cash flows we've

had the past few months. Four-point-five percent, that's a big number. But it's still less than current inflation rates, or around current inflation rates."

The new proposed monthly rate for use of 1,000 gallons of water or less is \$18.71, an increase from the current \$17.90. Between 1,001 and 3,000 gallons would rise from an additional \$4.66 per thousand to \$4.87. From 3,001 to 6,000 gallons would increase from \$4.42 per thousand to \$4.62.

From 6,001 to 11,000 gallons, the per-thousand rate would be \$4.36, a 19-percent increase. Between 11,001 and 20,000 gallons would cost \$3.61 per thousand, up from \$3.45.

Above 20,000 gallons, the new per-thousand rate

Continued on Page 9



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WILLIAMSFIELD: Total cost so far over \$3 million

Continued from Page 1
 the World Research Institute, a global not-for-profit organization. Fewer than 10 of about 850 Illinois school districts are using them.

Williamsfield still has one diesel-fueled bus – primarily for long, sports-related trips. But it has six buses built by Lion Electric Co., a Canadian firm that has a manufacturing facility near Joliet. Another Lion bus is to be delivered this week, according to Williamsfield Transportation Director Adam Doubet.

“There were a couple of bugs at first, but the last three weeks to a month, we haven’t had any trouble,” he said. “Everything



The console of one of Williamsfield’s electric buses includes a screen with details on how much charge is left in the vehicle. Photo by Nick Vlahos.

seems to be working good so far.”

Total cost so far, including installation of charging equipment, has been \$3,040,810, according to Williamsfield Superintendent Tim Farquer. Most has been paid through federal grants, including those designed to promote electric-bus use.

At full strength, the Williamsfield electric fleet is

to be eight buses. The district is poised to save about \$6,000 per bus annually in fuel, Farquer said. In November, about \$700 in per-bus fuel savings was achieved, a 93% overall decrease compared to diesel.

The new buses have a range of about 120 miles, although terrain and weather can reduce that. Of the five routes Wil-

iamsfield operates each school day, the longest is about 40 miles. Farquer said most of the buses have about 80% of their charge remaining when they arrive back at school.

Excess energy from the batteries of idle buses will be available for offloading to help power the Williamsfield campus, among other uses, according to Farquer.

“We’ve turned our big yellow school buses from energy consumers to energy assets,” he said.

King said those assets handle well on the road and tend to be more powerful than diesel buses when it comes to acceleration. The new buses’ interior aisles are wider.

The buses also are quieter, so much so that King said he can hear the radio without turning the volume to 11.

But aside from aesthetics, King appears to believe the electric buses are a worthwhile investment. Even when not fully charged, perhaps.

“I think that it really is a benefit to not only the school but the community,” King said. “I was a little skeptic at first, but honestly, I’m all aboard. I think it’s a good thing.”

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THE WEEK AHEAD

This Week's Hot Picks

- **Free Movie** – Elmwood Kiwanis offers free showing of "Happy Feet" on Dec. 16 at 2 p.m. at The Palace Theatre in Elmwood. Free small popcorn or soda. Santa will be in attendance at 1 p.m.
- **Cookie Walk** – Union Church in Brimfield, located at Galena and Clay streets, has a Cookie Walk on Dec. 16 from 8:30-11 a.m.
- **Santa Bounce** – A Children's Christmas Festival Santa Bounce will be held Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Farmington YMCA. Admission is a canned good or cash donation.

This Week's Events

- **Open House** – Celebrate Pastor Tim Cavallo's retirement at an open house on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2-4 p.m. at Crossroads Assembly of God Church in Elmwood.
- **Yoga** – Yoga classes Thursdays, 6 p.m. in Brimfield Library Activity Room. \$4. Classes also on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. at Princeville's Lillie M. Evans Library.

Future Events

- **Harvest Home** – Harvest Home Festival fundraiser dinner Dec. 21 at Yates City Community Center, 4:30-7 p.m. Country

fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, roll, dessert and drink. Cost \$13.

- **Meals on Wheels** – Meals on Wheels delivered in Elmwood and Yates City every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. \$5 per meal. Call Gerri at (309) 742-3303 or 251-7006.
- **Food Pantry** – Christ Alive Church in Kickapoo opens its food pantry the first and third Monday each month, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **Food Pantry** – Free food boxes given out the last Friday each month at Elmwood United Methodist Church, 10-11 a.m.

The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
49 29 S 7 mph	51 36 S 8 mph	46 33 SSE 7 mph	47 30 WSW 9 mph	46 28 NNW 8 mph	45 31 SSE 8 mph	46 32 S 9 mph

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The Weekly Post will not publish on Dec. 28
Ad deadline for the Jan. 4 edition will be Friday, Dec. 29, at noon.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Public Works Positions

The Village of Yates City is currently accepting resume's for a part-time or full-time position in the Public Works Department. All candidates for this position must have a valid drivers license. The duties of this job include (and are not limited to) working with the Water/Sewer department, Streets, Alleys, and Public Grounds.

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- Maurice Roucel

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SCATTERSHOTS



Of windmills, CAFOs and the cost of progress

Driving in the dark through northern Iowa last week, our senses were still under constant assault.

Most obvious on the landscape were blinking red lights for miles in all directions.

Those flashing lights mark are indicators of wind-turbine fields that since 1983 have spread steadily across Iowa.

The lights are noteworthy, but not as intrusive as the smells. All the way across U.S. Route 20, our noses were buffeted by the scent of animals living in confined buildings: hogs, dairy cattle, chickens and turkeys, stinky all of them.

My youngest son was with me for the drive west to our annual Lampe pheasant hunt, some of which takes place on farmland that has been in the family well over 100 years.

Many stories are told of pheasant hunts of old and forays into the gold-red prairies of fall and winter. But blinking lights and stinky hogs are not a part of those tales about the pastoral joys of farm country.

So it goes in an Iowa landscape that bares little resemblance to the one I once knew. Gone are so many of the old farmsteads. In their place,

confinement buildings keep spreading. A 2020 EPA study showed Iowa led the country in concentrated animal feeding operations with 3,896 permitted CAFOs - 18 percent of all such facilities in the U.S. Iowa's lead remains safe, as the total today is well over 4,000 such facilities.

Yes, I know: The pervasive stink of hogs is the smell of money. Many rural Iowans rely on CAFOs to keep farming operations running and to stay on the farm.

But allowing CAFOs comes with a cost, as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources outlined last month with a new cost-benefit analysis on CAFOs. Thanks to runoff waste from all those confined critters, also called nitrate pollution, the DNR report predicts Iowans will spend up to \$333 million on nitrogen removal in drinking-water systems over the next five years.

Worse still, the Iowa Cancer Registry's 2023 report found that the state ranks second in the nation for overall cancer incidence, behind only Kentucky. And Iowa is the only state where cancer rates are still increasing.

Nitrate exposure is linked to some of those cancers, as well as to several other health problems ranging from asthma to birth defects.

Wind power is another Iowa claim to fame. The state ranks second only

to Texas in the U.S. in terms of net generation of electricity from the wind. More impressive still is that the Hawkeye State ranks first in the country by deriving 62 percent of its electricity from windmills.

Criticism of wind power is less prevalent and focuses mostly on the impacts on aesthetics and property values caused by giant turbines and their flickering blades.

But wind power does share something very basic in common with CAFOs. The biggest support for huge energy-generating towers comes from people who do not have to live next to them.

What strikes me in Iowa is how much of the infrastructure investment comes from elsewhere. Industry giants in the meat-packing and energy markets are happy to use Iowa's open space for the gain of corporations and investors who live thousands of miles away.

Maybe that's one reason Iowans, like Illinoisans, were not particularly eager to invite CO2 pipelines into their state.

Maybe, like me, they remember an Iowa where you saw more stars at night than flashing red lights and could drive through the countryside without wrinkling your nose every few miles.

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



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GUEST VOICES

The more things change, the more they change

The old maxim “The more things change, the more things stay the same” might ring true for some facets of our lives, but it’s not true for climate change. In fact, when it comes to our now fast-changing climate, the more things change, the more everything changes.

That’s especially true in agriculture, as almost every farmer and rancher – as well as every taxpayer and food buyer – knows. Moreover, we see it daily in global food and commodity markets.

But we haven’t seen the worst of it yet, according to two reports on the ag impacts of climate change. The first, by the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), examines what U.S. farmers will experience in the coming generation. The second, by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, offers a global analysis.

Both studies are eye-opening and heart-stopping.

For example, the CSIS report opens with this jolt: “In 2021, agriculture and food-related industries contributed 5.4% of U.S. GDP and provided 10.5% of U.S. employment. Worldwide, almost 45% of the population lives in households where agricultural activities represent the primary source of employment.”

So, yes, “If agriculture can make global prosperity, it can also break it.” That’s especially so with the U.S. because it “is the largest exporter of

agricultural commodities in the world: foreign markets absorb about one-fifth of U.S. agricultural production.”

What makes the CSIS report so revealing is its detailed look at how climate change will impact individual state crops. For example, it notes that all Iowa counties’ corn yields will likely drop 5% by 2030 and “over half of the (state’s per-county) yields will experience burdens of more than 10%.”

The good news, it goes on to report, is that Iowa’s “wheat yields are projected to see an increase of 17% in this time period as (wheat’s) growing range is expanded due to higher temperatures.”

Well, it’s good news if you have the machinery, skill, and local markets to bring wheat back into your generations-long crop rotation that’s included little more than corn and soybeans since Grandpa plowed with the old Johnny popper.

The CSIS report takes similar looks at dairy, wheat, soybeans and corn and then examines how climate change will affect today’s conservation policies and Farm Bill legislation. That data reinforces the plain fact that almost no one on either the political or production side of American agriculture is preparing for the immense change farmers and eaters face with climate change.

A big share of that responsibility lies with Congress where “the current debate around the farm bill seems to be focused on redirecting climate-related funding” – ag’s portion of the green-as-spinach Inflation Reduction Act – “rather than enhancing it.”

There will be a future price to pay

for that present short-sightedness. In fact, we’re already witnessing that growing cost, according to the FAO’s deep dive into the impact of weather disasters on global agriculture and “food security.”

The “increasing severity and frequency (of weather disasters), from 100 per year in the 1970s to around 400 events per year in the past 20 years, affect agrifood systems across multiple dimensions, compromising food security and undermining the sustainability of the agriculture sector.”

That impact, “an average loss of USD (\$)123 billion per year,” estimates the FAO, hits everyone in the global food chain but its “highest relative losses (are) on lower- and lower-middle-income countries.”

War and crises “such as the COVID-19 pandemic” hammer both sides of the food equation – food growers “as well as input and output markets” that “result in negative effects on the wider agrifood system ...” to bring more instability to an already wobbling international food market.

Both reports all but beg for immediate international action to reduce climate risk while developing “more scalable farm-level” solutions to address the looming food crisis.

What neither analyzes, however, is if anyone is listening.

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Contest is open to all business and residents within the Elmwood City Limits.

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Judges will be driving by December 18th, 2023 starting at 5pm so make sure your lights are on!

To enter: send your Name, Address and Phone number to: adavis.elmwoodil@gmail.com or ksparks@fsbelmwood.com

Questions? Call 309.742.8000 or 309.742.3711
Winners will be announced 12/19 9am



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NOTE: Charges are merely an accusation. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Police reports

• **FARMINGTON** – An employee of a Farmington laundromat-bar admitted to stealing more than \$500 in cash and goods from it.

The thefts attributed to Carrie A. Denniston, 50, of Gilson took place between Sept. 18 and Nov. 29 at Spin City Laundromat, 217 S. Main St., according to a Farmington Police Department report.

Security footage showed Denniston taking money from the cash register and inserting it into video-gambling machines while she worked, Spin City owners reported. Video also revealed Denniston absconding with pizzas, toilet paper and air freshener, among other items. Total value was \$522.37.

Denniston told police she has a problem and wants help, the report stated. She was charged with theft of more than \$500 and is to appear Dec. 26 in Fulton County Circuit Court in Lewistown.

• **YATES CITY** – As of late last week, police were searching for suspects in two vehicle break-ins in Yates City. The incidents were reported early Dec. 5 – one on North Kellogg Street, one on West Ames Street, according to Yates City Police Chief Randy Benson. Clothing items were among minor amounts of property taken.

An investigation was ongoing, Benson said. He reminded Yates City residents to lock their vehicles.

• **YATES CITY** – A Yates City woman declined medical attention after her vehicle slid off an ice-covered road and struck a utility pole south of her hometown.

Bobbi J. Clark, 18, was driving a southbound 2008 Toyota Tacoma shortly after 8 a.m. Dec. 5 in the 400 block of Illinois Route 78, which was covered with black ice, per a Knox County Sheriff's Office report. The Tacoma spun off the northbound lane, struck the pole and came to rest in a ditch.

The vehicle sustained minor damage and was towed.

• **ELMWOOD** – An Elmwood woman was accused of battery after she and another woman exchanged punches outside a local residence.

The fight happened before 12:45 a.m. Dec. 4 in the 300 block of N. Walnut St. According to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report, 24-year-old Allyssa R. Cole drove to the residence and honked her vehicle's horn until the 33-year-old victim emerged. A verbal dispute regarding social media then turned physical.

Cole admitted hitting the woman but also said the woman hit her.

Cole then fled in her vehicle. Both women declined medical attention.

Cole received a notice to appear Jan. 17 in Peoria County Circuit Court.

• **FARMINGTON** – A Canton woman was accused of backing her vehicle into a utility pole, which resulted in a power outage in Farmington.

Cassandra M. Harper, 56, was implicated in the incident, which happened about 9 p.m. Nov. 30 at Spoon River Home Health Services, 48 N. East St. Harper said she could not see the pole as she was backing the 2015 Nissan Sentra. Parts of a transformer attached to the pole fell upon impact.

A witness said Harper was a Spoon River Home Health employee, a Farmington police report stated. Harper said a worker there told her she could leave after the accident and the company would handle the situation.

The vehicle sustained damage to its left-rear taillight, parts of which were found near the utility pole. Part of the transformer was found on the vehicle. Harper was cited for leaving the scene of an accident with property damage. She is to appear Dec. 29 in Fulton County Circuit Court in Lewistown.

• **KNOXVILLE** – A Brimfield man backed a farm tractor-trailer into a vehicle stopped behind it on a road east of Knoxville, according to authorities.

Myles G. Spring, 20, was piloting a Case FE tractor at 3 p.m. Nov. 30 on northbound Steakhouse Road at U.S. Route 150 when he backed to make room in the intersection for a turning vehicle. His trailer hit the front of a 2023 Toyota RAV4 driven by Marcia A. Heitz, 68, of Cuba. She had one passenger, a Cuban man.

The front bumper, grille and hood of the RAV4 were damaged, and it was towed, a Knox County Sheriff's Office report stated. Spring was able to drive away the tractor. No injuries were reported.

• **EAST GALESBURG** – A Dahinda woman blamed a panic attack for a single-vehicle accident in East Galesburg. Randi J. Johnson, 37, was driving a westbound 2021 Honda CR-V shortly after 8 a.m. Nov. 28 in the 600 block of W. Main St. when the vehicle left the roadway to the south and struck a tree, according to a Knox County Sheriff's Office report.

Johnson refused medical treatment. Her vehicle sustained disabling front-end damage and was towed.

• **FARMINGTON** – A Farmington man admitted to breaking a window and bending an awning at his former girlfriend's residence.

Trent L. Johnson, 24, said he visited the residence in the 300 block of S. Ciardi St. about 11:30 p.m. Nov. 23 and became upset when he

saw the 21-year-old victim there with a man, a Farmington police report stated. Johnson said he didn't intend to break the window when he knocked on it.

Damage was estimated at \$480. Johnson was accused of disorderly conduct and criminal damage to property. He was scheduled to appear earlier this week in Fulton County Circuit Court in Lewistown.

• **WILLIAMSFIELD** – Jermaine Davis, 50, of Silvis was arrested on an outstanding Knox County warrant about 8 p.m. Nov. 19 following a traffic stop on westbound Interstate 74 south of Williamsfield. The rear registration lamp wasn't illuminated on the vehicle Davis was driving, a 2012 silver Chevrolet.

Davis was wanted for failure to appear in court regarding a traffic offense in a construction zone, according to a Knox County Sheriff's Office report. He was transported to the Knox County Jail.

• **PRINCEVILLE** – Shortly before 11:30 a.m. Dec. 3, Zachary J. Bischler of Chillicothe was driving a 2012 Toyota Camry east on Legion Hall Road about one-quarter mile west of Mendenhall Road south of Princeville when the vehicle struck a deer. Bischler was uninjured, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report.

The vehicle sustained front-end damage and was towed. A deputy dispatched the deer.

• **EDELSTEIN** – Krystopher R. Williams, 32, of Edelstein was arrested about 9:15 p.m. Dec. 4 and accused of aggravated assault/use of a deadly weapon, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.

• **ELMWOOD** – Chief Aaron Bean reported the following Elmwood Police Department activity for November: four stops, four warnings, 13 reports.

• **WILLIAMSFIELD** – Chief James Robertson reported the following Williamsfield Police Department activity for November: one sex-offender verification and one threats complaint.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded between Nov. 26-Dec. 2: prowler, Oak Run; attempt to locate, Williamsfield; barking dog, Douglas; burglary, Dahinda; domestic disturbance, Oak Run.

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• McKayla Lynn Martin and Mark Ansel Deckard II, both of Princeville.



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VILLAGES: Final year for display

Continued from Page 1
in school and that is incorporated into the village in several other places as well.

Her tiny car is parked next to the Barn Dance, where she and her husband would square dance. There's a tiny version of Smith and her husband leaving one of the three churches in the village in wedding clothes in honor of their Dec. 22 wedding. Her husband also stands in uniform near the train after coming home from the Navy.

In some of Jo Ann's stories, the train is also the one that took her to California to visit her husband while he was stationed there. You can see Paul driving a John Deere that he loved to use to mow the grass and Jo Ann's mother standing outside the schoolhouse with an apple in her hand, the out-house she was responsible for cleaning nearby.

Her late father Gerald's business, a gas station and Chevrolet dealership that operated in Trivoli, is still serving its customers in this stationary memory, cars driving away down the streets of her village. She even modified the name of the little dealership building to "Huffman's Sales and Service" in honor of her father.

A mother of five children, Smith's three sons and two daughters can all be found in the village if you know where to look. One son's log home is there, the wood he is always cutting and splitting neatly stacked nearby.

Another son's semi truck is driving away from the gas station. Her remaining son spends his time in the fire station, just like his real-life counterpart who volunteers in Trivoli and won awards as a fireman in Canton.

Her daughters? Well,



Jo Ann Smith poses with a portion of her Christmas villages at Trivoli United Methodist Church. Photo by Molly Richeson.

they are both in the hospital taking care of patients, just like in reality.

"It just has such meaning to your heart," Jo Ann says. "And my children have become connected with it through the years, and they know how much it means to me."

You can figure out some of Smith's favorite hobbies too, if you pay attention. There's a movie theater where she and her husband would go watch Westerns as well as the flagpole just outside the high school where they would meet after school. Her favorite places to shop are represented by the bookstore, the cobbler and the tiny old-fashioned Walmart.

"I take mega pictures. I mean, I'm a crazy person about pictures. I'm picture-poor," she laughs as she points to the camera shop with tiny paintings actually displayed inside the little shop window.

A bakery represents her short career as a cake decorator at a grocery store as well as the dozens of cakes she has decorated for her children and grandchildren. Most importantly to Jo Ann, there are churches and nativity scenes.

"Church life has been very important all my life.

I've never not attended church. Churches are very important to me, so it's a good thing my village has three of them," she said.

The hospital has a second extra-special story behind it, though. Jo Ann had been searching for a reasonably priced miniature hospital for about 10 years. She found a few that ranged up to \$1,000, but she was not looking to spend that kind of money.

Then, husband Paul passed away in January 2007 and she did not have the heart to put her village out that year.

The next year, in October, Jo Ann was shopping at Menards and, in her own words, "Lo and behold, there was a beautiful village hospital, and to top it all off, it was named the Smith Memorial Hospital. I believe and always will that God and my husband, Paul, sent me that village hospital to finish my village."

The hospital became the final piece in her town of memories.

Jo Ann said this is the last year she will display her Christmas villages. At 88 years old and with 15 tote boxes comprising the collection, she said it is becoming too difficult to put together and take apart each year. But don't worry, the village will be well taken care of.

"I will happily give each piece to one of my five children, 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren," she said.

If you, too, would like to see Jo Ann's villages, she will be displaying them at Trivoli United Methodist Church Dec. 22-23 and Dec. 29-30 from 3-5 p.m. She does hope you will come join her.

"I guess because you love it so much you want to share it," she said. "And that's what I'm doing."

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Communion Service



Joy to the World, the Lord is Come!

About 20% of U.S. Christmas trees are real

By **RON DIETER**

For The Weekly Post

Seeing all the fresh Christmas trees offered for sale at big-box stores and other retailers, you might think that nearly every home enjoys a real tree at Christmastime. But you'd be dead wrong. In fact, close to 80% of Christmas trees displayed in U.S. homes are fake, mere polyvinyl impostors.

To be sure, artificial trees have come a long way since they first appeared in the 1800s in Germany. Those trees were obviously fake, being made out of wood and feathers. It took more than 150 years for artificial trees to get prettied up enough that folks would display one in plain sight.

In the 1950s Americans developed an appetite for shiny aluminum trees. My grandmother bought one of those monstrosities and proudly displayed it in the picture window of her living room for all the world to see, much to the dismay of her children and grandchildren.

To make matters worse, she illuminated the tree using a floodlight aimed through a rotating color wheel so that the shiny tree slowly changed colors from red to blue to yellow to green. In a futile attempt to make the tree more palatable to the family, she had it flocked, coating the aluminum needles with fluffy white artificial snow. It was a slight improvement.

For ornamentation, she hung a couple dozen red satin apples from the branches, each the size of a baseball. By the way, those color wheels are

on sale right now at Kohl's for \$67.99.

During the arboreal aluminum craze, a struggling American Brush Company in New York decided to make artificial trees using green plastic bristles to simulate conifer needles. As the aluminum-tree craze mercifully died down, the brush company's trees began to take hold.

While those first trees looked more like toilet brush displays than evergreen trees, today's artificial trees are pretty convincing. You have to get up close to know for sure. If they have a fault, it's that they look too perfect. Search Amazon and you'll see what I mean. Their pyramidal shape is too pyramidal.

Artificial trees take the hassle out of Christmas, their purveyors tell us. No scrambling to the tree farm, traipsing around to find just the right tree, tying it to the car, getting it into the stand, keeping it watered, sweeping up needles and disposing of the thing.

Instead, just take the fake tree out of the box and set it up, simple as that. There's even a contraption called a Flip Tree that almost sets itself up. Only \$1,500, lights included.

I look at it another way. I've always enjoyed the pleasure and excitement of a family activity on a bright chilly day, the thrill of the hunt for the perfect tree, the smell of fresh evergreens and the making of memories. I'm a traditionalist and I'm not alone, judging by the crowded parking lot at the tree farm near me.

According to a survey by the

Christmas Tree Promotion Board, folks who purchase a real tree place a higher value on Christmas traditions when compared to the buyers of artificial trees. Participants said the expedition to get a real Christmas tree was one of their favorite holiday traditions while they were growing up and one they enjoy sharing with their children.

The Nature Conservancy tells us real Christmas trees are better for the environment than their artificial counterparts. Christmas trees sequester carbon as they grow, keeping it out of the atmosphere. Christmas-tree farmers plant as many as three seedlings for every tree harvested, further increasing carbon capture.

Most folks recycle their trees, either through a community recycling program or by using them in their backyards as mulch, another environmental benefit.

On the other hand, artificial trees are not recyclable or biodegradable and eventually end up in a landfill. There they remain entombed for centuries. Consider also that most artificial trees are made in China and shipped to the U.S. and elsewhere, resulting in even more carbon emissions.

When you buy a real Christmas tree at a local tree farm, you're not just enjoying a happy experience with your family. You're also providing vital support to your local community.

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BRIEFS

IHSFCA names Hollis to 2024 hall of fame

ELMWOOD – Elmwood-Brimfield football coach **Todd Hollis** has been named to the 2024 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame class.

Hollis will be honored with fellow inductees on March 23 at the I Hotel and Illinois Conference Center in Champaign.

Hollis has a record of 150-94 in 25 seasons as head coach for E-B.

• In other football news, Farmington linebacker **Jack Wheelwright** will play in the 2024 Shrine Bowl all-star game on June 15 at Illinois Wesleyan University.

College graduate

• **Anthony Le** of Hanna City has earned a master of science in computer science from the Georgia In-

stitute of Technology in Atlanta.

Elmwood student wins VFW speech event

ELMWOOD – **Riley Malone** of Elmwood was the winner in the District #9 competition for the annual VFW Voice of Democracy contest. Malone will now advance to the Illinois finals for the annual audio-essay contest.

Other Elmwood students competing at the district competition were **Killian Madeley** and **Lauren Feller**.

Firearm deer hunters shot 76,232 deer

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois shot a preliminary total of 76,232 deer during the seven-day Illinois firearm deer season that concluded Dec. 3. Comparatively, hunters harvested 76,854 deer during

the 2022 firearm season.

Preliminary harvest for second firearm season was 22,884, compared with 24,500 deer harvested in 2022.

Preliminary harvest for the first firearm season was 53,348 deer.

Randolph County led Illinois with a 2,174 deer shot during firearm season. Hunters in Fulton County shot 1,296 first season, 529 second season and 1,825 total. Other local county totals were: Henry 321-138 – 459; Knox 821-357 – 1,178; Peoria 581-267 – 848 and Stark 150-45 – 195.

Remaining deer hunting opportunities in Illinois include:

• Late-winter antlerless-only and chronic wasting disease season, in designated counties only, Dec. 28-31 and Jan. 12-14. Fulton and Knox counties are open to the late-winter firearm deer season.

• Archery hunting through Jan. 14.

ELMWOOD: City levy will increase by \$14,966

Continued from Page 1

would be 10 cents higher than the current \$2.22.

The new sewer basic monthly rate would rise from \$15.87 to \$16.59 up to 1,000 gallons of water used. The new fee for each 1,000 gallons beyond that would be \$3.04, up from \$2.91.

Water and sewer hikes typically were around 3% annually in recent years until this one, Brunnelson said when the 2023 increase was approved. New rates for 2024 would take effect Feb. 15 if the council approves. A decision is possible Jan. 4.

Among items the council approved last week were the property-tax levy for the fiscal year that began July 1. As was proposed last month, the final levy is \$315,700, an increase of \$14,966. That's \$72 short of an increase that would trigger a state-required Truth in Taxation hearing.


The new tax rate is 1.165%, a decrease from 1.19% the previous year. That's attributable to about a \$2 million increase in property valuation.

"Even though the rate's lower, you're still going to be paying more tax," City Attorney Bob Potts said.

A vote was anticipated Nov. 21,

but it required affirmation from at least three-fourths of the six council members. Mayer JD Hulslander and Aldermen Walt Avery and Adam Duvall were absent from that meeting. Duvall was absent again last week.

The council also authorized about \$149,000 in state motor-fuel-tax money for fog-coating and sealcoating. Parts of Lakeview Avenue and Ash, Harrison, Lynn, Magnolia, Main, Poplar and Rose streets are to be included. Hulslander said road work probably will take place sometime in the summer.



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 Bingo 6:30pm

Upcoming Event

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Dec 31 New Years Eve - Kasino 8:30pm

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

B	A	N	J	O	B	O	D	E	G	A	L	A	V	A	L	A	M	P		
A	L	O	U	D	R	A	I	N	O	N	O	N	E	L	I	N	E	R		
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CryptoQuote
answer

The demand to be loved is the greatest of all arrogant presumptions.
— Friedrich Nietzsche

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

OBITUARIES

Ralph W. Bacher

ELMWOOD – Ralph W. Bacher, 91, of Elmwood, a lifetime resident, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, at Red Oak Estates in Canton. He was born Aug. 12, 1932, in Elmwood, to Ralph and Vivian (Masters) Bacher. They both have preceded him in death.

Ralph is survived by three children, William (Michele) Bacher of Minnesota, Kevin (Barbara) Jaggard of Cass Lake, Minn., and Peg (the late Tom) Evans of Elmwood; one sister, Vivian “Joan” (the late Francis) Barton; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

Ralph served in the Army during the Korean War from 1952-54. Then he farmed and worked at Shissler’s Seed Company. He also was a laborer at Gates Rubber Company in Galesburg, where he retired from after 25 years.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A graveside service with military rites will be held at 11 a.m., on Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, at Elmwood Township Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to B.Y.E. Ambulance.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.oakshinesfuneralhome.com.

Oaks-Hines Funeral Home and Crematory in Elmwood is in charge of arrangements.

James L. Forney

BRIMFIELD – James L. Forney, 86, of Brimfield, passed away at 8:45 a.m. Monday, Dec. 11, 2023, at his home.

James was born on July 17, 1937, in Peoria to parents Maynard and Gayle (McKown) Forney. He married Evelyn Fae Broadfield on Sept.

25, 1959. She recently preceded him in death on Sept. 23, 2023.

Surviving are two daughters, Jamma Brannan of Kickapoo and Jerri (Dennis) Rhoads of Sheridan; one son, Jeffrey (Lily) Forney of Chandler, Ariz.; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Lauren Forney; and two brothers, Kenneth and Clif Forney.

James was a pipefitter for the former CILCO, gas service division, retiring after 35 years of service in 1992. He enjoyed showing Hampshire sheep at various fairs over the years. In retirement he and Evelyn loved to travel to Florida, participating in many flea markets during their time down south.

There will be no public services and memorial contributions may be made to BYE Ambulance Service or the Alzheimer’s Association. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville is assisting the family. Condolences may be left on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Joyce M. Hevland

DUNLAP – Joyce M. Hevland, 75, of Dunlap, passed away on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at her home.

Joyce was born on July 9, 1948, in Galesburg, Ill., to Gale C. and Gladys M. (Morgan) Weir. She married Paul W. Hevland on Feb. 17, 1968, in Yates City, Ill. He preceded her in death on December 10, 2018.

Also preceding her in death were her parents; her brother, Dale Weir;

and her infant sister, Janice Weir.

Surviving are her son, Paul C. Hevland of Galesburg; her daughter Kristina (Joe) Elias of Dunlap; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; her sister, Karen (Duane) Siegel of Missouri; and her nieces and nephews.

Joyce was an avid reader and she loved spending time with her family, especially her grandbabies.

Cremation rites will be accorded and a celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023, from 1-4 p.m. at her home, 310 Copperfield Drive in Dunlap.

Memorials in her name may be made to OSF Home Healthcare Services. Arrangements are under the care of Weber-Hurd Funeral Home in Chillicothe.

Benjamin P. Johnson

PEORIA – Benjamin P. Johnson, 37, of Peoria, a 2005 Elmwood High School graduate, passed away at 6:51 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2023. He was born Nov. 4, 1986, in Peoria to Phil and Cathy (Novotny) Johnson.

He is survived by his parents; two sisters, Jessica (Brady) Sammis and Katrina (Nick) Craven; one brother, Bobby Johnson; and five nieces, Elyse, Anika and Vera Craven, Lucy Ana and Ophelea Sammis.

Benjamin worked as a paraprofessional. He was a huge sports fan.



Forney



Hevland



Johnson



Ross and Patti Streitmatter's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Come celebrate with us on Saturday, December 23rd from 2 PM- 4 PM at Curry's located at 614 South 7th St. in Wyoming. The couple request no gifts.

Thank You

To everyone who has supported us following the death of Diane Thompson.

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation. Your many acts of kindness and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us.

The Ken Thompson Family



Because We Care



Thinking of Estate Planning?
Pre-arranging your funeral is an important part of this process.

We Now Have Our Own Crematory
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Call Debbie to discuss cremation, which can be more complex than traditional casket burial. Explore your options and decide. It's a loving act of kindness you can give your family.

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OBITUARIES

He was an avid Boston Red Sox, New England Patriots, Boston Bruins and Boston Celtics fan. He enjoyed playing football at Elmwood High School, along with baseball and hockey in high school and as an adult.

He was also a huge Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd fan. In addition, Ben was a huge history buff, and loved to chat with his dad about all things history. He loved watching Adam Sandler and Kevin James movies, in which he memorized most of the lines. Benjamin was very protective of his family and friends. He was fiercely loyal in all respects to his teammates. He loved helping people. He really loved his nieces and his dogs.

Private services were held to cele-

brate Benjamin's life. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Epilepsy Advocacy Network.

To view Benjamin's DVD or to leave an online condolence, you may go to www.sedgwickfuneral-homes.com.

Gerald L. Fabish

EDWARDS – Gerald Leon "Jerry" Fabish, 71, of Edwards, passed away on Dec. 5, 2023, at his home. He was born on March 22, 1952, in Peoria, a son of Edmund Fabish and Irene L. (Jackson) Fabish. Jerry married Beth Ann Koehl on Aug. 18, 1973, in Edwards. She survives.

He is also survived by 10 children, Rachel (Nick) Hausam of Washington, Joshua (Erin) Fabish of Orlando, Fla., Elizabeth (Rey) Sanchez of San Antonio, Jacob (Hannah) Fabish of

Louisville, Ky., Benjamin (Rachel) Fabish of Louisville, Ky., Jesse (Samm) Fabish of Phoenix, Abigail Fabish of Peoria, George (Lyla) Fabish of Shelbyville, Daniel (Alexis) Fabish of Phoenix, and Michael (Olivia) Fabish of Mesa, Ariz.; 20 grandchildren; one brother, Charles (Pam) Fabish of Edwards; one sister, Patty Chockley of Lewistown; and one sister-in-law, Ann Fabish of Fairview.

A private service will take place at Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery in Edwards. Jerry's memorial visitation will be from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16 at Davison-Fulton-Woolsey-Wilton Funeral Home in Peoria.

Condolences can be left online at www.Woolsey-Wilton.com.

Peoria Co. plat books on sale

PEORIA – The Peoria County Farm Bureau is selling a new 2024 Peoria County Plat Book.

The soft-covered color plat book is 8½ inches by 11 inches, is spiral bound and has 124 pages.

The book details names of landowners and amount of acreage owned in each of the 19 townships encompassing Peoria County. The last plat book sponsored by the Peoria County Farm Bureau was in 2018.

Cost is \$25 for Farm Bureau members and \$35 for non-members.

A unique addition to this book are vintage 1923 plat maps of the 19 townships that illustrate the names of landowners of 100 years ago.

Plat books are sold at the farm bureau building located at 1716 N. University St. in Peoria.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Christmas Holiday Candy
 Order candy: turtles, divinity, chocolate fudge, pralines, peanut butter fudge, chocolate peanut butter fudge, crèmes, dixies, caramels, and peanut brittle.
 Karen Megan 309-446-3619



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Harvest Home Festival FUND RAISER DINNER
 December 21st • Dine In or Carry Out
Yates City Community Center
 Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Roll, Dessert & Drink.
 \$13 • 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. or Sold Out

Peoria FLEA MARKET
 Exposition Gardens (Peoria)
 December 17th 7:30am - 3pm
 For info call Aaron (309) 825-1223

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 "Remember if it's not poured in concrete it's your own asphalt."
 • Drives • Winter Rock Special
 • Patio • All types of rock available, including millings
 • Sidewalk • Free professional grading with skid loader, no tailgating.
 • Bobcat & Dump Truck Services

AREA CHURCHES

BRIMFIELD Baptist Church of Brimfield
 Pastor Doug Seeley
 321 S. Jefferson St. Brimfield (309) 678-2208
 Sun. School: 9:30 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 10:40 a.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Church
 Father John Verrier
 314 W. Clay Brimfield (309) 446-3275
 stjosephbrimfield.org
 Sat. Confession: 3:30-4:45 pm
 Sat. Mass: 5 p.m.
 Sun. Mass: 10:30 a.m. (10 a.m. in the summer)
 Daily Mass: Tues.-Fri. 8 a.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
 "Preaching Christ Crucified" "Liturgical & Reverential"
 204 W. Clay St. Brimfield (309) 446-3233
 Sun. Divine Service: 11:30 a.m.
Brimfield E-Free Church
 Pastor Donald Blasing
 11724 Maher Road Brimfield IL 61517 (309) 446-3571
 brimfieldefree.org
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 AWANA: Wed. 6:15 p.m. ages 3-12
Brimfield United Methodist Church
 Reverend James Pernell Sr.
 135 S. Galena St. Brimfield (662) 394-5880
 Sun. Worship: 8:30 a.m.
 Sun. School: 8:30 a.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA
 By Wilson Casey
 1. Is the book of Bethlehem (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi
 3. With perhaps two different biblical answers, who was the father of Joseph? Jacob/Heli, Gideon/Ishmael, Solomon/Nahum, Samuel/Pilate
 4. Which Old Testament prophet predicted
Union Church at Brimfield United Church of Christ
 Pastor Stephen Barch
 105 W. Clay Street Brimfield (309) 446-3811
 brimfieldunionchurch.org
 Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
 Tuesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm
 • First Sunday each month is Communion Sunday (gluten-free communion offered)
 • Grief & Loss Group meets Tuesday afternoons 3-4:30 p.m. until further notice.
DAHINDA Dahinda United Methodist Church
 Pastor Zoila Marty
 1739 Victoria St. P.O. Box 14 Dahinda IL 61428
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School during worship service
 Church: (309) 639-2768 . Pastor's Office: (309) 639-2389
 Email: williamsfielddahindaumc@yahoo.com
DOUGLAS Douglas United Methodist Church
 Pastor Kristine McMillan
 484 3rd St. Yates City IL 61572

Jesus would be born in Bethlehem? Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum
 5. For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary and Joseph travel? Bible not specific, Cart, Rode donkey, Small raft
 6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense
 ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Nazareth, 3) Jacob/Heli (Matthew 1:16, Luke 3:23), 4) Micah, 5) Bible not specific, 6) Silver (c) 2023 King Features Synd. Inc.
 (NOTE: Church is in Douglas)
 Sunday Worship: 8 a.m.
 (Maquon worship: 11 a.m.)
 Facebook Live is 11 a.m. at Maquon UM Church page
EDWARDS Bethany Baptist Church
 7422 N. Heinz Ln. Edwards (309) 692-1755
 bethanycentral.org
 Sun. Worship: 9 & 10:30 a.m.
 In person and livestream (Coffee pastries 8:30-10:30 am)
 Wed: 6:15 pm AWANA & youth group
St. Mary's Catholic Church
 Father James Pankiewicz
 9910 W. Knox St. Edwards (309) 691-2030
 stmaryskickapoo.org
 Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 p.m.
 Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.
 Sun. Masses: 7 & 11:00 a.m.
 Daily Masses (Mon. Wed. Thurs. Fri.): 8 a.m.
ELMWOOD Crossroads Assembly of God
 Pastor Tim Cavallo
 615 E. Ash St. Elmwood (309) 830-4259
 crossroadselmwood.org
 Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.
 Sun. Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Elmwood Baptist Church
 Pastor Bill Cole
 701 W. Dearborn St. Elmwood (309) 742-7631 642-3278
 Sun. Worship: 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood
 Reverend Marla B. Bauler
 201 W. Evergreen Elmwood (309) 742-2631
 firstpresbyterianofelmwood.org
 Sun. Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Sun. School: 9:30 a.m.
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
 Father James Pankiewicz
 802 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-4921
 Sat. Mass: 5:30 p.m.
 Sun. Mass: 9 a.m.
 Tues. Mass: 8 a.m.
 Tues. Confession: After mass.
United Methodist Church of Elmwood
 Pastor James Pernell Sr.
 821 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-7221
 elmwoodumc.org
 Sat. Worship: 5 p.m.
 Sun. Worship: 10 a.m.
 Youth Sun. School: 9 a.m.
 Adult Sun. School: 8 a.m.
FARMINGTON Farmington Bible Church
 Pastor Tony Severine
 497 N. Elmwood Rd. Farmington (309) 245-9870
 Sunday School: 9:30
 Worship Service: 10:30

Farmington Methodist Church
 Pastor Rick Atchley
 187 W. Fulton St. Farmington (309) 245-4310
 farmingtonmethodist61531@gmail.com
 Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Farmington
 Pastor Cindy Bean
 83 N. Cone Street Farmington (309) 245-2914
 firstpresfarmington.com
 Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Live on Facebook also
 Fellowship: 11:30 a.m.
New Hope Fellowship Assembly of God
 Pastor Tom Wright
 1102 N. Illinois Route 78 Farmington (309) 231-8076
 Sun. Worship: 10 a.m.
 Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.
PRINCEVILLE Princeville United Methodist Church
 Pastor David Pyell
 420 E. Woertz Princeville (309) 385-4487
 princevilleumc@mediacombb.net
 Sun. Worship: 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church
 Father Corey Krengiel
 119 Saint Mary St. Princeville (309) 385-2578
 Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 p.m.
 Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.

Sun. Confession: 8-8:45 a.m.
 Sun. Mass: 9 a.m.
 Tues. Thurs. Sat. daily Mass: 8 a.m.
TRIVOLI Brunswick Community Church
 4027 S. Stone School Rd Trivoli
 Pastor Terry England
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m. (309) 403-4626
WILLIAMSFIELD St. James Catholic Church
 Father John Verrier
 Legion Road Knox Road 1450 N Williamsfield (309) 446-3275
 stjameswilliamsfield.org
 Sun. Confession: 7:30-8 a.m.
 Sun. Mass: 8 am (8:30 a.m. in the summer)
Williamsfield United Methodist Church
 Pastor Zoila Marty
 430 N. Chicago Ave. Williamsfield (309) 639-2389
 Sun. School: during worship
 Hospitality (coffee & finger foods): 10:30 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11 a.m.
YATES CITY Faith United Presbyterian Church
 Reverend Marla B. Bauler
 107 W. Bishop St. Yates City (309) 358-1170
 Worship: 9 a.m.
 Sun. School: 10:15 a.m.
 Thurs. Choir: 7 p.m.

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF, VS. WESLEY KING; BRITTNEY KING; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.

NO. 23 FC 000071
1612 NORTH KNOLLWOOD COURT PEORIA, IL 61604

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on September 20, 2023, Sheriff of Peoria County will on 01/08/2024, in ROOM 203 OF THE COURTHOUSE, 324 MAIN STREET, PEORIA, IL 61602, at 8:30 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

LOT 112 IN ENCHANTED FOREST SECTION THREE, AS SHOWN BY THE PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "Y", PAGE 119, SITUATED IN PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP, SITUATED IN PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

TAX NO. 17-02-253-004
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1612 North Knollwood Court Peoria, IL 61604

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family.

The Judgment amount was \$153,105.38.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 23-145461L

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required

to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

13230282

Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS.

STEPHEN H JONES; EILEEN K JONES A/K/A EILEEN K MILLER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.

NO. 22 FC 0000255 6404 NORTH GREENMONT ROAD PEORIA, IL 61614

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on November 8, 2023, Sheriff of Peoria County will on 01/08/2024, in ROOM 203 OF THE COURTHOUSE, 324 MAIN STREET, PEORIA, IL 61602, at 8:30 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

LOT 156 IN IDYLLBROOK FOUR, A SUBDIVISION OF A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 30, 1959 IN PLAT BOOK, "Y", PAGES 20 AND 21, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA, AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

TAX NO. 14-18-127-009
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 6404 North Greenmont Road Peoria, IL 61614

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has a two car garage. The garage is attached. The exterior is brick. The color is white. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. I am unable to verify that the water is on or off. The property has a fence. The property is vacant.

The Judgment amount was \$156,686.58.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce,

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

JULIA A. ANDREWS,
MICHAEL W. HIGH,
Deceased.

Case No. 2023-PR-0000313

NOTICE OF CLAIM DATE AND NOTICE TO HEIRS, LEGATEES AND CLAIMANTS OF PROBATED WILL

TO: HEIRS AND DESCENDANTS, IF ANY, AND ALL OTHER UNKNOWN

HEIRS AND CLAIMANTS OF JULIA A. ANDREWS, DECEASED
Notice is given of the death of JULIA A. ANDREWS on October 14, 2023. Letters of Office were issued to JESSICA M. STOVALL, Executor, 116 Highview Terrace, East Peoria, Illinois 61611, whose attorney is William R. Kelly, Attorney at Law, 7817 N. Knoxville Avenue, Peoria, IL 61614.

Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of Court of PEORIA County, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 30th day of May, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975 (75 ILCS 5/18-3), the date stated in that notice. Filing with the Clerk is to be in accordance with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 9 respecting electronic filing which was effective January 1, 2018, for proceedings in the Circuit Court.

Any claim not filed on or before the above-referenced date is barred. Within 10 days after filing a claim with the Clerk, the Claimant must mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Representative and to the Representative's attorney of record and file with the Clerk a proof of mailing or delivery of said copy.

Dated: November 22, 2023.

JESSICA M. STOVALL, Executor of the Estate of JULIA A. ANDREWS, Deceased
William R. Kelly, Attorney at Law
ARDC No. 1440144
7817 N. Knoxville Avenue
Peoria, IL 61614
Telephone: (309) 685-9001
Facsimile: (309) 685-9008

LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088.

Please refer to file# 22-100991L PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

13232760

Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS CHANCERY DIVISION

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. CORY J. BROWN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No.: 2023-FC-0000238

Property Address: 5315 W SUMMIT AVENUE, PEORIA, IL 61607

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FURTHER DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD MARKING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF BLOCK "A" IN THE CITY OF ORCHARD MINES, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14 AND PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS;

THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 02' 38" EAST A DISTANCE OF 411.77 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 2 DEGREES 08' 37" WEST A DISTANCE OF 209.66 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 83 DEGREES 14' 08" WEST A DISTANCE OF 227.67 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 9 DEGREES 56' 11" WEST A DISTANCE OF 161.13 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 15' 23" EAST A DISTANCE OF 122.19

FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 82 DEGREES-18' 37" EAST A DISTANCE OF 124.72 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES-02' 38" SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 438.66 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 52 DEGREES 44' 00" EAST A DISTANCE OF 37.72 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AS SET OUT IN PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "11" AT PAGE 132 IN THE PEORIA COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA.

Commonly known as: 5315 W SUMMIT AVENUE, PEORIA, IL 61607

Names of the titleholders of record: CORY J. BROWN.

Date of the Mortgage: October 28, 2009.

Name or names of the mortgagees: CORY J. BROWN.
Name of the mortgagee: HERGET BANK, N.A..

Date and place of recording: November 3, 2009; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois.

Identification of recording: Document No. 2009033313.
NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before January 8, 2024, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. 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://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org.

For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to www.illinoislegalaid.org. You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Lender Legal PLLC
1800 Pembroke Drive, Suite 250
Orlando, Florida 32810
Tel: (407) 730-4644
Service Emails:

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

JULIA A. ANDREWS,
MICHAEL W. HIGH,
Deceased.

Case No. 2023-PR-0000313

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS / HEIRS WITH NO POST OFFICE ADDRESSES - WILL ADMITTED

Notice is given to heirs, including unknown heirs, whose names or addresses are not stated in the Petition, of the death of JULIA A. ANDREWS on October 14, 2023, in the above proceeding to probate a will, and that an Order was entered by the Court on November 8, 2023, admitting the Will to probate.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of admission, you may file a Petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court, or by other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (75 ILCS 5/6-21).

You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (75 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within six months after admission of the Will to probate.

A copy of the Petition to Admit Lost Will to Probate, and a copy of the Order opening the estate and appointing JESSICA M. STOVALL as Representative can be requested from the Peoria County Circuit Clerk or William R. Kelly's law office at the addresses below:

Filings are to be made with:

Peoria County Circuit Clerk
Attn: Probate Division
324 Main Street
Peoria, IL 61602

William R. Kelly (ARDC No. 1440144)

Attorney at Law
7817 N. Knoxville Avenue
Peoria, IL 61614
Telephone: (309) 685-9001
Facsimile: (309) 685-9008
Email: billkellylaw@yahoo.com

Dated: November 22, 2023.

JESSICA M. STOVALL, Executor of the Estate of JULIA A. ANDREWS, Deceased
William R. Kelly, Attorney at Law
ARDC No. 1440144
7817 N. Knoxville Avenue
Peoria, IL 61614
Telephone: (309) 685-9001
Facsimile: (309) 685-9008
Email: billkellylaw@yahoo.com

Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

PRINCEVILLE ZONING BOARD MEETING

The Princeville Zoning Board will meet on Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 7pm at Princeville Village Hall, 206 N. Walnut Ave., Princeville, Illinois. The Zoning Board will meet to discuss and vote on a Special Use Application for 500 W. North Street, to permit a 2MWac Ground Mounted Solar Farm.

Dated this 30th day of November, 2023.

Dan Huss, Zoning Board Chairman

Published 12/7, 12/14, 12/21/23

cwinters@lenderlegal.com
EService@LenderLegal.com
LLS12034-IL - BROWN
_s/ Colin Winters, Esq.
Colin Winters, Esq.
Counsel of Record for Plaintiff
ARDC # 6297980
13234065
Published 12/7, 12/14, 12/21/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Plaintiff,
-v.-
CHRISTOPHER LEISTIKOW
Defendant

2023 FC 0000135

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 2, 2023 and amended on November 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on January 9, 2024, at the Peoria County Courthouse, 324 Main Street (South Door), PEORIA, IL, 61602, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 29 IN WOODALE FIRST EXTENSION, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 16, 1959 IN PLAT BOOK "Y", PAGE 26, (EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE THEREOF AND THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE THE SAME), IN PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 1916 S GREENWOOD CT, PEORIA, IL

61607
Property Index No. 17-23-104-017
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$152,161.57.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-

GREENWOOD CT, PEORIA, IL

Continued on Page 13

Billtown school finances praised

By MOLLY RICHESON

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – The Williamsfield School Board reviewed this fiscal year’s financial profile rating at its Monday meeting, and heard the school has received a perfect final score of 4.0.

Galva is the only other school in the area to receive a 4.0 rating.

Three findings from the audit report conducted by Gorenz and Associates of Peoria were discussed, including two regarding internal controls. The auditors made a recommendation that the district hire additional personnel in order to have an additional set of eyes on the district’s finances.

The third finding addressed negative balances currently carried by the municipal retirement/social security and tort funds and the interfund loans required to fund them. However, the district has instituted a strategic deficit-reduction plan in order to get those funds into the positive by 2027.

Williamsfield was also found to have the least amount of long-term debt of

any school in the area with 90% of its longer-term debt margin remaining. The district also has the lowest tax rate in the area, coming in at 4.34%.

The board says it is highly likely to remain the lowest tax rate in 2023, although in 2024, an increase of 7.99% is planned to solidify the Education Fund, making the tax rate for 2024 an anticipated 4.42%. This is the highest anticipated tax rate through 2027 with remaining years at a lesser rate than 2024.

With this plan, the Bboard predicts more income than expenses in the education fund by 2025 with an anticipated balance of \$1.7 million by the end of 2027 while maintaining the lowest tax rate in the area with no need to borrow.

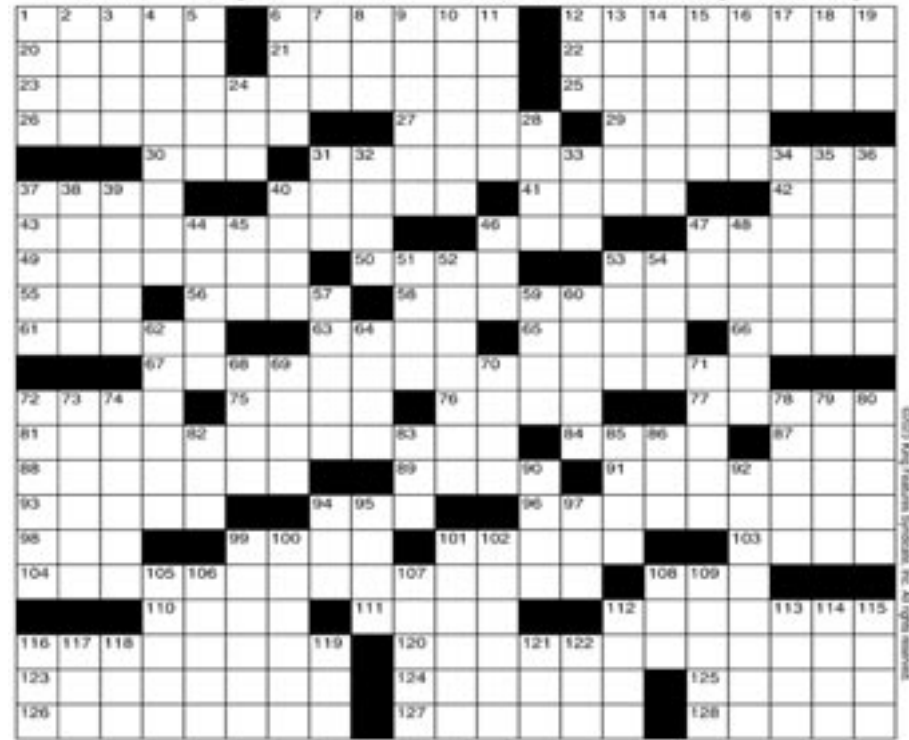
The new electric school buses and charging stations are also already saving the district money. In November, the district was able to reduce route fuel costs by 93% with its new fleet of electric buses.

Answers on Page 10

Super Crossword

LOVE OF SOLVING

- ACROSS**
- 1 Picked instrument
- 6 Type of small grocery store
- 12 Blobby light source
- 20 Viva voce
- 21 Spoil, as "my parade"
- 22 Roast joke
- 23 Like baggy clothes
- 25 Winter wreath ornament
- 26 Gave away temporarily
- 27 Money informally
- 29 Jagger of the Stones
- 30 "Flagged" doll
- 31 Monty Python tune about a logger
- 37 Adams who created Morlica
- 40 Quick attack
- 41 Cover girl
- 42 "— gratia" (by the grace of God)
- 43 Dwell in the company of
- 46 Outer Prefix
- 47 "— the Night" (2007 Joaquin Phoenix film)
- 49 Had to admit a goof-up
- 50 "Behold," to Caesar
- 53 Totally bummed out
- 55 Stuff in a sty
- 56 Avian hooters
- 58 Texas banner
- 61 Big hitch
- 63 Safari sight
- 65 Envoy's asset
- 66 "There — comparison"
- 67 Chinese black tea with a smoky flavor
- 72 Anta of jazz
- 75 Env. notice eight times in this puzzle?
- 76 Estrada of TV
- 77 Ones staring
- 81 Best Actress winner for "The Farmer's Daughter"
- 84 Grammy winner
- 87 "And how!"
- 88 German city on the Elbe
- 89 With 115 Down, "Piece of cake!"
- 91 Web page
- 93 Slacks
- 94 Extra charge
- 96 Pea-souper in England
- 98 Anticavity goop
- 99 Supreme Norse god
- 101 "I love you," to Luisa
- 103 Jane in an 1847 novel
- 104 Go bankrupt, say
- 108 Del.-to-VI. direction
- 110 Bakery treats
- 111 Snootiness
- 112 Noisy tigers
- 116 Cite famous people as friends
- 120 Method for calculating a quotient — or what occurs eight times in this puzzle?
- 123 Accepted, as conditions
- 124 Made flush
- 125 Maggot, e.g.
- 126 Sailor's dining place
- 127 Shows as an "encore"
- 128 Cliffike
- 6 Liverpool or Leeds native
- 7 Horse bit
- 8 Morse bit
- 9 Conundrum
- 10 Of yore
- 11 Trig measure
- 12 Slice (off)
- 13 Zoo attraction
- 14 Gondola city
- 15 Smart — (cocky sort)
- 16 Guitar rifts
- 17 Year, in Brazil
- 18 Roughly half of all adults
- 19 Beginning to mature?
- 24 Amusement
- 28 Frightful dino
- 31 Chilling Chaney
- 32 Strong desire
- 33 "Selena" actress, to her fans
- 34 Nonalcoholic beer brand
- 35 Georgia city near Atlanta
- 36 Ornamental street tree
- 37 Brave mollusks
- 38 Ask for moola
- 39 Brand of skin care and cosmetics
- 40 Turkey, e.g.
- 44 Pheasant odor
- 45 Do some yard maintenance
- 46 Poe's twilight
- 47 Major battle
- 48 Crude model of a despoised person
- 51 Choke up
- 52 Give the OK
- 53 Strong desire
- 54 Big mil. alliance
- 57 Dull, dark bluish-gray
- 59 Decorative sewing case
- 60 Burlap bags
- 62 Most cunning
- 64 — uncertain terms
- 68 Pricy liver spread
- 69 Superhero creator Lee
- 70 Agcys., e.g.
- 71 "Hilly"
- 72 Churn from way back
- 73 El — (treasure city)
- 74 Vying venues
- 78 Uplift
- 79 Whirlybird blade
- 80 Drawn-out battle
- 82 Six-pt. scores
- 83 Driver's 180
- 85 Year, to Caesar
- 86 Garnet, e.g.
- 90 Ladd of "Shane"
- 92 Shows lip-curling contempt
- 94 Holiday tree
- 95 "Orinoco Flow" vocalist
- 97 Textor's "I'm shocked!"
- 99 Carry to excess
- 100 Spanish explorer
- 101 Grew vigorously, old-style
- 102 Former Disney exec
- 105 Sword types
- 106 Duck type
- 107 Mosaic maker
- 108 Autumn mo.
- 109 Manicurists file them
- 112 Divests (of)
- 113 Ireland, in
- 114 Be a duffer
- 115 See
- 116 "Flambo" setting, briefly
- 117 Era or eon
- 118 "— Doubtless"
- 119 Fluffy lap dog, for short
- 121 Safari sight
- 122 Safari sight



LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

Continued from Page 12 OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact CHAD

LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 23-119719.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810

CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 23-119719 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Case Number: 2023 FC 0000135 TJSC#: 43-4385

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

13234289 Published 12/7, 12/14, 12/21/23

•••

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN & BEAR IT



"Deck the halls with more cameras."

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		3		6				7
	6				9	3		
5			7				6	2
		6	5					1
1	8				4			7
2				7		6		
3					6			1
	4		3				2	
		7	9	5				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 10

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.

AOJ RJHQMR AN FJ TNBJR UC

AOJ IYJQAJCA NV QTT QYNYIQMA

KYJCZHKAUNMC.

— VYUJRYUXO MUJADCXOJ

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Trivia test

- GEOGRAPHY: Which famous highway that stretches across the United States is sometimes known as the Will Rogers Highway?
- MUSIC: Which country did the pop group ABBA come from?
- TELEVISION: What article made Frosty the Snowman come to life in the popular TV special?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is colcannon?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Volcanoes National Park?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the acapella group that Anna Kendrick joins on "Pitch Perfect"?
- INVENTIONS: Who invented the Barbie doll in 1959?
- MATH: How many tablespoons are in 1 cup?
- LITERATURE: What is the title of the sequel to "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which elected president is the only one to fail to gain his party's nomination for a second term?

TOP 10 MOVIES

- Renaissance: A Film by Beyoncé (NR)
- The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (PG-13)
- Godzilla Minus One (PG-13)
- Trolls Band Together (PG)
- Wish (PG)
- Napoleon (R)
- Animal (NR)
- The Shift (PG-13)
- Silent Night (R)
- Thanksgiving (R)

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CLASSIFIED ADS

SERVICES

• **GIACOBBAZZI'S INCOME TAX INC.:** Est. 1990 In Person or Remote Services (309) 685-8003 or email office@giacobbazzitax.com. Office in Peoria or drop-off location in Farmington.
• **More heat. Less wood.** Classic Edge Titanium HDX EPA certified OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. 26% Tax Credit. Prices start as low as \$9,525. Call today (309) 565-4300.
• **SALVAGE:** Buying junk autos farm equipment grain bins and also doing total farm clean up. Call Doug Lofgren at Spoon River Salvage (309) 299-8531.

FOR SALE

• **WET GRAIN BINS:** Cone type 18 ft. Butler 5,000 bushels \$5,000; 16 ft. Behlen 3,200 bushels \$3,200. Ready to haul on trailer (309) 635-4575.
• **MISC. ITEMS:** Outside Christmas ornaments, tons of lights, generator 500 KW, electric dryer (220V), dining table & 5 chairs, electric smoker, small dorm fridge, two seat baby stroller, baby swing, stainless steel metal shelving (5x5), 24 ft. fiberglass ladder, power washer. Call (309) 360-2162.
• **STRAW BALES/CATTLE CHUTE:** Round net wrapped bales, \$50 each; Countyline Squeeze Chute, \$2,500. (309) 224-2565.

GIRLS HOOPS: Brimfield struggles at line

Continued from Page 16

15 in the first quarter alone. Schock finished 16-of-23 from the field.

The junior forward has stepped up considerably since Coach John Gross lamented a lack of secondary scoring at the Brimfield Thanksgiving tournament.

"She shot 16 for 23 and most of them were layups. They didn't really stop her," Gross said, noting that Knoxville did sag in on Brodie some. "We're starting to play a lot better and passing the ball better so we're getting a lot of easy shots right now."

Brodie put up 18 points against Knoxville after having tallied 29 in three of the five previous contests.

Princeville is home against Lewistown today.

Brimfield – The Lady Indians (6-



Schock

4) head into a break with plenty of time to practice free throws after going 1-for-9 from the line in a 41-31 road loss to Deer Creek-Mackinaw on Dec. 9.

CJ Troxell and Olivia Kappes each had 12 points to lead Brimfield, which was 1-for-6 on free throws in the final quarter while Dee-Mack (6-1) made 9-of-10 from the stripe.

Two days earlier, Brimfield had played very well in a 60-29 win at Midwest Central on Dec. 7. Ava Heinz had 27 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks in the win, while Kappes scored eight and Sawyer Drury added seven points.

"We played solid defense and offensively we had 17 assists, so I was really pleased with our unselfishness and how we shared the ball," Brimfield Coach Josh McKown said.

Brimfield is off until it faces Heyworth at that school's tournament on Dec. 18 at 5:30 p.m. Other

games are against Channahon Families of Faith Academy on Dec. 20 at 5:30 and TBA on Dec. 22.

ROWVA-Williamsfield – The Lady Cougars (3-9) dropped a sixth straight game Monday at home vs. Kewanee Wethersfield, 79-31.

Prior to that, R-W had lost to Anawan on Dec. 6, 73-26.

"We're going through a rough stretch right now," R-W Coach Michael Weitekamp said. "We are relying heavily on sophomores. Injuries and illness are forcing them to play significant varsity minutes."

R-W was home vs. Macomb on Wednesday and plays Bushnell-Prairie City on Saturday.

Farmington – The Lady Farmers lost a pair of games at the United Tournament on Saturday, falling first to Payson Seymour (38-32) and later in the day to Elmwood (56-34).

The Lady Farmers (1-8) were to play at the United Tournament on Tuesday and today.

AUCTIONS & REAL ESTATE SALES

•••
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF, VS. WESLEY KING; BRITNEY KING; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
NO. 23 FC 000071
1612 NORTH KNOLLWOOD COURT PEORIA, IL 61604

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on September 20, 2023, Sheriff of Peoria County will on 01/08/2024, in ROOM 203 OF THE COURTHOUSE, 324 MAIN STREET, PEORIA, IL 61602, at 8:30 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

TAX NO. 17-02-253-004
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1612 North Knollwood Court Peoria, IL 61604
Description of Improvements: The property is a single family.
The Judgment amount was \$153,105.38.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpilc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 23-145461L

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.
I3230282
Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

•••
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS. STEPHEN H JONES; EILEEN K JONES A/K/A EILEEN K MILLER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
NO. 22 FC 0000255 6404 NORTH GREENMONT ROAD PEORIA, IL 61614

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on November 8, 2023, Sheriff of Peoria County will on 01/08/2024, in ROOM 203 OF THE COURTHOUSE, 324 MAIN STREET, PEORIA, IL 61602, at 8:30 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

TAX NO. 14-18-127-009
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 6404 North Greenmont Road Peoria, IL 61614
Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has a two car garage. The garage is attached. The exterior is brick. The color is white. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. I am unable to verify that the water is on or off. The property has a fence. The property is vacant.
The Judgment amount was \$156,686.58.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpilc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-100991L

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.
I3232760
Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff, -v- CHRISTOPHER LEISTIKOW Defendant
2023 FC 0000135

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 2, 2023 and amended on November 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on January 9, 2024, at the Peoria County Courthouse, 324 Main Street (South Door), PEORIA, IL, 61602, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1916 S GREENWOOD CT, PEORIA, IL 61607
Property Index No. 17-23-104-017

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$152,161.57.
Sale terms: 25% down of the

highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 23-119719. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CHAD LEWIS
ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810
CHICAGO IL, 60601
561-241-6901
E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM
Attorney File No. 23-119719
Attorney ARDC No. 6306439
Case Number: 2023 FC 0000135
TJSC#: 43-4385

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used

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Charles T. Goff and Becky L. Kreppert are offering the tract of prime Knox County farmland located 1¼ mile West of Victoria on Route 167 generally described as:

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FOR SALE BY PRIVATE BID

Description of Real Estate: The entire farm contains 35± acres of prime cropland. The primary soil types are Ipava, Sable and Osco Silt Loam. The **average PI is 141.8** for the 34.18± acres of the land in production.

Terms of Bidding: The farm will be offered for sale as one 35± acre parcel. Sealed written bids setting forth the total purchase price and the name and address of the bidder shall be delivered to **Seller's Attorneys, WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD., P.O. Box 368, 118 West Main Street, Elmwood, Illinois 61529-0368, no later than 4:00 P.M., Friday, December 15, 2023**, at which time and place the sealed bids will be opened and the highest bid announced. The bids must be in the possession of Seller's Attorneys by the time and date above specified. **The written bids are final and no further bids will be considered once the bids are opened at the above place and time.** Sellers reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

Terms of Sale: The successful bidder will be obligated to enter into a Purchase Agreement and pay a deposit of 10% of the purchase price within 48 hours after the bids are opened. The Purchase Agreement provides for a final closing on or before February 2, 2024, at which time a Warranty Deed and an Owner's Title Insurance Policy in the amount of the purchase price insuring merchantable title and possession of the farmland shall be delivered to the Purchaser in exchange for the balance of the purchase price. Sellers shall give Buyer a credit for the 2023 Real Estate Taxes. Sellers are retaining the 2023 farm rent. **A bid package, containing the bid form, purchase agreement, title commitment, and detailed information about the farm, may be obtained from the Attorneys for Sellers.**

ATTORNEYS FOR SELLERS

ROBERT L. POTTS, ESQ.
and
WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD.

SELLERS

CHARLES T. GOFF
and
BECKY L. KREPPERT

P.O. Box 368
118 West Main Street
Elmwood, Illinois 61529-0368
Telephone: (309) 742-3611
Email: cori@whitneyandpotts.com
Website: www.whitneyandpotts.com

vised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used

for that purpose.
I3234289
Published 11/30, 12/7, 12/14/23

BOYS HOOPS: Farmers win two

Continued from Page 16

visitors defeated Abingdon-Avon 60-56.

A-Town led by four in the fourth quarter, but Jack Gronewold's 3-pointer midway through the period gave Farmington a lasting lead. Keauntrey Barnes finished with 19 points, Zac Taylor scored 14 and Gronewold scored 12.

Despite shooting only 8-for-23 on free throws Dec. 7, visiting Mercer County beat Farmington 66-62. Farmington had 24 points from Barnes, 12 from Russell Poor and 11 from Taylor but lost despite making 11 3-pointers and having a chance to tie with about 25 seconds left, according to Lozier.

"We were just flat," he stated. "Mercer County shot almost 70%. They had a great night. (They're) the best team we've seen this year, in my opinion. Great athletes."

Farmington came back from Macomb with a 57-56 overtime victory Dec. 5. Previously undefeated Macomb hit a 3-pointer with 1 second left in regulation to force OT. Barnes made a put-back basket with 7 seconds left in the extra period, then Taylor took a Macomb charge just before the buzzer sounded.

"Keauntrey came out of nowhere," Lozier said. "I thought he was going to dunk it, but he laid it in. Zac was gutsy. We put everybody in, and everybody contributed."

Gronewold finished with a team-high 19 points, including three 3-pointers in the opening quarter. Barnes had 16 points and Taylor scored 10.

Farmington faces Sherard at about 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the Great Western Shootout at Abingdon.

Princeville – Tucker Sennett had 15 points to lead three on his team in double figures as Princeville (6-2) rebounded from a loss Dec. 8 at Illini Bluffs with



Farmington's Jack Gronewold goes up for a layup against Mercer County. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

a 60-41 victory the following evening over visiting Elmwood. Josh Hunt had 11 points and Parker Mellick scored 10, including six in the first quarter.

Against Illini Bluffs, Princeville fell behind by five after a quarter and by 10 after a half in a 51-40 defeat. Only three Princes scored – Tayshaun Kieser (20 points), Sennett (13) and Hunt (seven). Hank Alvey had 13 points to lead a balanced IB attack.

Princeville began the week with a 64-49 victory Dec. 5 at Lowpoint-Washburn behind 14 points from Sennett, 12 from Kieser and 11 from Hunt. Joey Bosch hit two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and Jake Williams scored six as Princeville expanded a six-point lead.

The Princes were at Midland on Tuesday. Other road games are set for tonight (Dec. 14) at Henry

and Saturday at Delavan.

Elmwood – In a 60-41 loss Dec. 9 at Princeville, sophomore Garrett Webster had a team-high 11 points for Elmwood (3-6), which trailed 30-22 at intermission.

Things were better for Elmwood offensively Dec. 2, when they beat visiting Bushnell-Prairie City 67-35. Sirius Nims, Jackson Magee and Webster made first-quarter 3s as Elmwood led 19-8. After that, Bo Windish had 13 of his game-high 15 points. Magee finished with 12 points and Nims had 11.

Elmwood traveled Tuesday to Abingdon-Avon and is host Friday night to Havana.

Brimfield – For the first time since the opening night of the season, Brimfield won a game, 51-48 at home Dec. 8 over Havana.

Drew Kieser's 3 with 11 seconds left gave the Indians (2-7) a one-point lead. He set the final score on two free throws with less than a second remaining. Kieser finished with a game-high 20 points, including 12 in the fourth quarter.

Teammate Connor Doe scored 16, all in the first three periods.

Kieser also scored 20 on Dec. 5, but Brimfield lost 54-43 to R-W at Billtown. Doe had 12 points, including two of the Indians' three in the fourth quarter, when the Cougars broke a 40-40 tie.

Brimfield traveled Tuesday night to Kewanee to face Wethersfield.

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Elmwood wins 10th Starts 2-0 at United girls tourney

By **JEFF LAMPE**
For The Weekly Post

Sometimes during a basketball season, you have to grit your way through some games. So it went for the Elmwood girls team Saturday, as the Lady Trojans won two games at the Monmouth United Holiday Tournament but did little to please Coach Gregg Meyers. “We did not play very well Saturday,” Meyers said. Elmwood (10-1) topped host United 38-34 in the first tourney game as Mae Herman scored 13 points and led Elmwood with six rebounds and four assists. Andrea Glenn added 11 points. Elmwood then increased its win streak to 10 games later that day with a 56-34 win over Farmington. The Lady Trojans used balanced scoring to oust Farmington, as Herman led with 13 points and five re-

bounds, Glenn scored 10 and grabbed five rebounds, Tinley Lemmerman scored 11 points, Lauren Rushing tallied eight and Kaitlyn Noll had five assists and five rebounds. On Dec. 7, Elmwood topped Bushnell-Prairie City 50-4 without Herman, who missed the game with an illness. Rushing scored 12 points, Raelyn McClain tallied eight and Kady Head had six points and six rebounds. Elmwood was to face Payson Seymour on Tuesday at United and has a game today (Dec. 14) in tournament play vs. a foe to be determined. **Princeville** – The Lady Princes (9-3) won a sixth straight game Monday, topping Galva 56-18 at home. Brianna Brodie led Princeville with 29 points on 11-for-19 shooting from the field and 7-for-11 from the free-throw



Paige Stevens of Farmington goes up for a layup against Peoria Heights in a loss on Dec. 6. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

line. Brodie also grabbed 13 rebounds. Paisley Schock provided scoring support with 14 points on 7-for-13 shooting. Kinley McGinn tallied seven points.

On Dec. 6, the Lady Princes won 62-35 at Knoxville. Schock had her best game of the season, leading Princeville with 35 points, including

Continued on Page 14

R-W enters A.B. era Cougars 2-1 since Anderson retirement

By **NICK VLAHOS**
For The Weekly Post

The ROWVA-Williamsfield boys basketball program “A.B.” – after longtime Coach Bob Anderson retired – appears to be holding its own. R-W received 11 points from Jaxson Strom and 10 each from Riley Danner and Lewis Sams for a 59-32 victory Dec. 9 in Williamsfield against Midland. Strom had three 3-pointers in the third quarter, when the Cougars (7-3) expanded a three-point lead to 17. The previous night, however, was almost a reversal. Aledo Mercer County rolled over R-W, 61-37 despite 14 points from Danner and 10 from Sams. Mercer County led 25-15 at intermission. “They’re very physical and athletic, and they kept us from getting into our offense,” R-W Assistant Coach Jeff Hannam stated. “We struggled from the perimeter and could never get anything going.”

R-W broke from a tie after three quarters Dec. 5 at Billtown to defeat Brimfield 54-43. The Cougars held the Indians to only three fourth-quarter points after the third ended 40-40. Danner had 13 points, Jack Godsil 11 and Talan Hull and Sams 10 each. The Brimfield game was the first R-W played after Anderson announced his retirement the previous day. Anderson was beginning his 45th season in Williamsfield before a bout with COVID-19 following his team’s first game helped convince him to step down. R-W played Tuesday at North Fulton. This weekend, the Cougars host games at two sites – Friday at Williamsfield against Peoria Heights and Saturday afternoon at Oneida against Annawan. **Farmington** – The Farmers (5-3) sandwiched two victories around one loss last week. The second win came Dec. 8, when the

Continued on Page 15

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