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SOLAR FIELDS KEEP SPREADING

Billtown considering solar array

By NICK VLAHOS
For The Weekly Post
WILLIAMSFIELD – About 20 acres of village-owned vacant land at the north edge of Williamsfield is being targeted for a solar-energy development.

Inside
• Elmwood
OKs 4.5%
water rate hike.
Page 8

Nothing is imminent, but at least one solar-development firm has presented the Village Board with a proposal. To lease the property, Florida-based Bow Renewables has offered to pay the village at least \$40,000 annually once the project is completed.

“If the land isn’t being used by the municipality, we can repurpose it, and if we can bring some benefits, we’re all for that,” said Mike Musso,



While this solar field south of Yates City has been completed, new projects are sprouting in fields across central Illinois. Photo by Jeff Lampe.

a Bow associate developer. Musso and Bow Managing Partner Tom Olenick, both based in their company’s Chicago office, addressed the board during its meeting Jan. 2. According to Olenick, Bow approached Village President Robert Johnson regarding the proposal. Bow is overseeing three solar-farm developments on city-owned land in Galva. The Billtown project, which might cost about \$7 million, has been proposed for an area south of Park Road and west of Illinois Route 180. Construction is estimated to begin

about two years after an agreement is in place, Olenick said. Soil testing and coordination with Ameren Illinois regarding transmission capability would occur before construction. Bow is to pay the village an initial option-period lease of \$5,000 a year. If all goes according to plan and once the project begins to generate power, the lease would be 30 years, with two five-year extensions possible. Lease payments would increase from \$40,000 by 2% each year, for a
Continued on Page 8

Princeville board OKs solar project

By NICK VLAHOS
For The Weekly Post
PRINCEVILLE – Here comes the sun. Or here comes to Princeville a solar-energy project, to be more accurate.

During its meeting Jan. 3, the Village Board authorized Trajectory Energy Partners to transform a 17-acre plot in northwest Princeville into a 2-megawatt solar farm. Construction is expected to begin late this year and finish in early 2025, according to Kiersten Sheets, a Trajectory project-development manager. “I personally think it’s going to be a big benefit, a big asset to our village,” said Jeff Troutman, the

Princeville village president. The solar array along West North Street near Princeville Township Cemetery is expected to generate at least \$16,600 in first-year property-tax revenue, an increase of more than \$14,000, according to Highland Park-based Trajectory. First proposed in 2018 and revived about two months ago, the solar farm received an OK in late December from the Princeville Zoning Board of Appeals. Trajectory contacted neighboring property owners and homeowners, about 60 in all, by mail and/or in person.
Continued on Page 2

Williamsfield OKs new village treasurer

By NICK VLAHOS and JEFF LAMPE
For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – For the first time in 30 years, Williamsfield has a new village treasurer.

In a rare Saturday-night meeting on Jan. 6, the Village Board voted to hire Linda Baker as successor to Mary Rice. Longtime Treasurer Rice submitted her resignation on Jan. 3, according to Village President Robert Johnson.

The decision was 5-0 to approve Baker, a Williamsfield resident who has an accounting background. Trustee Andrew Scott arrived at the special meeting, which

lasted about five minutes, shortly after the vote was taken. None of the three members of the public who attended addressed the board. According to Johnson, Rice resigned rather than learn new financial computer systems the village is acquiring. That includes software for payroll and bill payments. “We really do things the old-fashioned way. We’re doing paper checks, and we don’t do a lot of stuff online,” Johnson said. “The new system is coming out and it’s all-new, modern and online. “I think Mary decided she wanted to resign so she didn’t have to deal

with all that and spend more time doing what she likes to do.” Rice disputes Johnson’s characterization of what happened when she signed the letter of resignation during the Jan. 3 meeting with Johnson. Rice said Trustee Nancy Everett was also present. “The first thing he said when I sat down was, ‘You’re fired,’” Rice said. “And I was willing to learn the upgrade but I was not offered. In the 30 years I’ve worked for the village, I’ve never been treated with this much disrespect.” Rice said she was presented two
Continued on Page 8

SNOW DAY FUN



School closings on Tuesday opened a winter wonderland to youngsters across the area. Snowman builders in Brimfield included (clockwise from upper right) the Savage siblings Hudson, Harlan and Demi.

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PRINCEVILLE: Neighbor voices concerns

Continued from Page 1
son to address potential concerns.

"We do make concessions," said Sheets, whose firm also is developing a solar installation in Brimfield. "We try to be good neighbors. We try to be very transparent and explicative."

None of that necessarily meant Village Board approval was automatic, although Richard Schoenbeck proved to be the only one of the six trustees to vote against it.

One neighbor, Martin Fairchild, expressed concern about six 35-foot poles that abut his residence along Shawn Street, at the northeast edge of the solar development.

Those poles are to facilitate connections between the solar farm and the Ameren Illinois power grid. Each entity is responsible for three poles.

"We want to be clear that we do not oppose the solar farm, but we want to make sure all equipment

is situated appropriately," Fairchild told the board.

Fairchild found a sympathetic ear in Trustee Ron Delbridge. Delbridge said he supported the project, but the poles and connecting wires might be problematic. Ameren requires some wiring to be above ground, according to Sheets.

"That's just unsightly," Delbridge said. "I would not want that in my backyard. ... There's got to be a compromise, somewhere, somehow. If they don't, then where are we left (with)? Unhappy homeowners?"

Sheets said Trajectory will work with Ameren to move the poles farther south, behind a stand of trees, and perhaps try to bury additional lines. She made no guarantees, but

she and Troutman suggested Ameren is open to suggestion.

The board also plans to draft a letter to Ameren that supports moving the poles.

"We're going to rely on Ameren's word," Trustee Donald Peterson Jr. said.

Trajectory estimates the solar installation will provide Princeville subscribers more than \$40,000 in utility-bill savings annually.

Before trustees considered solar-farm approval, Troutman told them the Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputy who is dedicated to 40-hour-a-week patrols in Princeville resigned from the force late last month. Vince Cogdal worked in the village for about a year.

Until a new deputy is assigned to Princeville, others are to work overtime to fulfill the sheriff's-office contract with the village, Troutman said.

Deputies also patrolled Princeville on New Year's Eve at no charge. That shift was in addition to the regular, contracted patrols.

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Correction

In the Jan. 4, 2024, edition of The Weekly Post, Mike Rumbold was listed as the oldest child of Elwin and Loretta Rumbold. Mike Rumbold is the oldest son of Elwin and Loretta. Sisters Marjorie and Connie are older. The newspaper erred.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

This Week's Hot Picks

- **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.
- **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.
- **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.

The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Cloudy	Rain/Snow	Rain/Snow	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny
32 24	33 12	20 1	9 -2	3 -4	8 0	17 10
SSW 14 mph	NW 13 mph	W 14 mph	W 16 mph	WSW 14 mph	WSW 13 mph	WSW 14 mph

This Week's Events

- **Bingo** – Salem Township Library in Yates City has bingo on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2 p.m., including today, Jan. 11, and Jan. 25.
- **Toddler Time** – Toddler play time offered in the Elmwood Community Center gym every Friday when school is in session in Elmwood, 9-11 a.m. Cost \$1 per child.

• **Manna Meal** – Monthly Manna Meal Jan. 25 at noon at Elmwood United Methodist Church. Cost \$8. Eat in or carry out.

• **Chili Cook-off** – Whitney's Walk for Life's 15th annual chili cook-off fundraiser is Jan. 27 at Burnzees Bar & Grill in Brimfield at 5:30 p.m. Register chili 4-5 p.m. Entry fee \$20. Endless bowl costs \$5. Silent auction, live auction and more. Call Janet Fishel at (309) 712-9678.

• **Pancake Day** – United Methodist Church of Farmington, 187 W. Fulton St., has its 67th annual pancake day fundraiser Feb. 3, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. For meat pre-orders call the church office at (309) 245-4310 before Jan. 25.

• **Food Pantry** – Free food boxes given out the last Friday each month at Elmwood United Methodist Church, 10-11 a.m. Visit www.elmwoodumc.com or (309) 742-7221.

• **Free Food** – Food for needy in pantry in northeast corner of lot next to St. Patrick's Church in Elmwood.

Future Events

• **Harvest Home** – Fundraiser dinner for the annual Harvest Home festival is Jan. 18, 4:30-7 p.m. at the Yates City Community Center. Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, roll, dessert and drink costs \$13. Dine in or carry out.

• **Free Movie** – A free showing of "Big George Foreman" will be Jan. 20 at 2:30 p.m. at Elmwood's Palace Theatre. Attendees can win a free George Foreman grill. Movie and free popcorn sponsored by Elmwood Presbyterian Church.

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The Weekly Post

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Quotable - "Life is not the way it's supposed to be. It's the way it is. The way we cope with it, is what makes the difference."
- Virginia Satir

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GUEST VOICES



Of Chinese landowning, sun power & bobcats

Rambling through central Illinois, impressed that the forecasters were close to correct on this storm but pondering what happened to El Nino?

We're heading into another busy election season, which means the Mayor of Oak Hill's pearls of wisdom will be lived out on a daily basis. As in, "Why tell the truth when a lie will do?"



Jeff LAMPE

I mention this because some politicians continue to falsely claim that China is the biggest foreign landowner in the U.S. Some people hear this claim and think it might be true. Well, it's not.

Canada owns the most U.S. forest and farmland, clocking in with 14.2 million acres, or 32 percent of all foreign-owned farmland. That's according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

The other largest foreign investors are the Netherlands (12%), Italy (6%), the United Kingdom (6%) and Germany (5%). China actually owns less than 1% of U.S. land.

Worth noting, also, is that only 3.4% of forest and farmland in the U.S. was foreign owned as of Dec. 31, 2022. Ownership of strictly farmland, however, increased to more than 8% by the end of 2022.

Only 2.6% of Illinois land was foreign owned as of Dec. 31, 2021.

Also worth noting is that China does have major investments in American ag, including ownership of Smithfield Foods, the country's largest producer of pork.

Over the years, I've encountered numerous old people who took pride in odd things. Having joined their ranks, it all makes sense now.

Let me explain. Our Weekly Post headquarters is not really a fancy building, though it has a long history here in Elmwood and was once home to a harness maker, I am told.

That's not the matter that sets me to smiling like a proud father every winter. What is wonderful about this office is that there's seldom a need to turn on the heat thanks to the building's big south-facing windows.

Oh, you may need a sweater for the first few hours or on a cloudy day. But after lunch, if the sun is shining even just a little, the heat in this office will have you fighting cat naps.

The other day was a perfect example. The temperature outside read 33 degrees and inside, the morning started at a relatively chilly 69 (which is still warmer than my wife will allow us to set our home thermostat). The heat was not on and was not needed. Because by 2 p.m., thanks to the wonderful orange orb above, we were basking in a 78-degree sauna.

While dumb luck led us to move into this office, I will forever put extra value on south-facing windows.

Speaking of warm places to visit, the Canton Secretary of State's Office offers plenty of natural warmth owing to its windows and also features short lines and efficient service. Why would anybody would go to Peoria for Secretary of State business? ... Elmwood's search for a replacement for School Superintendent Chad Wagner has attracted a few applicants so far in advance of the Jan. 22 deadline. Finding another super



with financial savvy, a real strength of Wagner, will be even more important given that longtime treasurer Sherry Swindler is retiring and taking with her a great deal of institutional knowledge. ... In this the Year of the Bobcat, we've been arguing about which critter would win in the French Creek bottoms photo above. I'm betting on the bobcat, even more so after watching an Oklahoma video of a black house cat saving a family dog from two coyotes. ... Better footage to look up, though, is woodpecker vs. snake. Those are some epic battles. ... All I want for Christmas next year is someone to invent a phone charger that can be locked into a power source. That way no child can "borrow" the charger and cause me to search for it under wet towels and dirty clothes and between glasses half filled with week-old milk - all that just so I can charge my phone with my charger. ... Parting shot: Those who peruse Facebook and enjoy a little humor injected into their weather reports should check out the Fulton County ESDA page. Lots of mentions of Godzilla, which is a good thing.

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

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GUEST VOICES

How much food assistance is too much?

At the height of the Christmas giving season, the governors of Iowa and Nebraska, two largely rural, heavily agricultural states, chose to play Grinch by turning down tens of millions of federal food assistance dollars “to help feed children who might otherwise go hungry while school is out” this summer, reported the Associated Press.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds rejected \$20 million in federal food aid – or about \$40 per month for every low-income child in the state – for the 2024 Summer EBT Program because, she explained, it “does nothing to promote nutrition at a time when childhood obesity has become an epidemic.”



Alan GUEBERT

Reynolds didn't explain how denying food to low-income Iowa schoolchildren this summer addresses the childhood obesity “epidemic” she sees in her state.

Likewise, Nebraska Gov. Jim Pillen rejected \$18 million in federal money to feed the state's schoolchildren this summer by noting that “COVID-19 is over.” When asked to explain how that altered childhood hunger in Nebraska, Pillen, one of the state's biggest hog farmers, simply noted: “I don't believe in welfare.”

In fairness to the tightwad guvs, the money isn't completely free. According to press reports, each state must pay one-half of the administrative cost to implement summer food aid

programs. For Iowa, that cost is an estimated \$2.2 million – an amount food aid advocates strongly dispute. For Nebraska, the cost would be “an estimated \$300,000.”

That small state cost is a pittance compared to the multimillion-dollar impact the federal program would have on hungry school children, say aid advocates.

For example, Iowa noted that “about 240,000 children” qualified for supplement food assistance under the program when it was implemented during the pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirms the need; One out of every seven children in Iowa lives in what it calls “food insecure households.”

Nebraska's Pillen defends his flinty actions, the AP noted, by saying the state would “help food-insecure children ... at various sites when school is not in session.” But, the AP continued, “not all families have access to on-site programs – particularly in Nebraska's vast rural stretches, where sites can be many miles away from a struggling family.”

Even as two of America's largest food-producing states turn down virtually free federal dollars to expand local food aid for children this summer, 31 other states, “six other U.S. territories and Native American tribes,” explains the AP, have “confirmed their participation” in the supplemental program.

Even at that, however, USDA reported in late November that “federal spending (on its) food and nutrition programs totaled \$183.0 billion in fiscal year 2022, 6 percent less than fiscal year 2021, adjusted for infla-

tion.” The dramatic drop was “primarily due to lower spending on Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer” – the same program Iowa and Nebraska now choose to limit – “and the expiration of the Farmers to Families Food Box Program,” a Trump Administration aid program implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

That program, explained Joseph Glauber, USDA's former chief economist, in an April 2021 opinion piece in The Hill, a Washington, D.C., policy and politics-focused newspaper, was duplicative, costly and often ineffective. According to Glauber, the food box program cost taxpayers “\$4.5 to \$6 billion.”

Moreover, he added, “USDA should be applauded for canceling (the program) and focusing efforts on meeting the food needs of needy families.”

But that's not what the governors of Iowa and Nebraska are doing. Instead, they are choosing to reject additional federal food assistance for schoolchildren for reasons that have more to do with politics than economics or even food.

Jenni Benson, president of the Nebraska State Education Association, asks the right question of Pillen, and by extension, Reynolds: “Why would we even question that people and children deserve food?”

Why, indeed.
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Farmington wants more info on cameras

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Weekly Post

FARMINGTON – The Farmington City Council put off any decision on purchasing FlockSafety cameras at its Jan. 2 meeting.

Farmington received bids from FlockSafety of \$21,750 for three cameras or \$35,050 for five cameras. The council had heard a presentation on the license-plate-reading cameras at its Dec. 12 meeting.

But at the first gathering of 2024, there was no second on Alderman Joey Boggs' motion to purchase three cameras.

"That's going to die where it is today," Mayor Kenn Stufflebeam said.

Prior to Boggs' motion, Alderman Nate Fleming had said he had "civil liberties concerns about the cameras."

Specifically, Fleming said he did not like the standard contract from FlockSafety that called for license plate data to be stored online for 30 days.

"There's plenty of places it can help, but it can be abused," Fleming said.

Fleming said he would prefer data be kept no longer than three minutes.

"I don't see that working in our situation," Boggs said.

Before the 15-meeting ended, council members indicated they

want to be apprised of other data-storage options offered by FlockSafety.

In other business, the council heard from Police Chief Chris Darsham that Farmington had one applicant so far for officer testing to be Feb. 10. Applications can be turned in at the police department until Jan. 28.

Darsham said his department is also working on a state grant to pay for new tasers.

And City Administrator Bettina Bohanan said Farmington has added court dates to city ordinance violations "in hopes they'll have more teeth and people will pay them."

PUBLIC RECORD

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

Police reports

• **MAPLETON** – Public-safety representatives rescued someone who was lost and injured in woods north of Mapleton.

The unidentified male telephoned for help about 3:45 a.m. Jan. 2 in the 9300 block of W. Lake Camelot Drive, according to the Logan-Trivoli Fire Protection District. He had fallen in the woods and injured his leg.

Drones and a computer application helped firefighters and Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputies locate the victim about 5 a.m. He was carried to the road in a basket, then was transported to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. There was no word about his condition.

• **BRIMFIELD** – A single-vehicle accident south of Brimfield resulted in injuries to a Hanna City woman's face and limbs.

About 8:45 a.m. Dec. 29, Kendra I. Dotzert was driving a 2009 Toyota Highlander east on Shissler Road one-quarter mile west of Brimfield Road when she lost control of the vehicle. It veered off the south side of the pavement, struck an embankment and flipped, a Peoria County

Sheriff's Office report stated.

Dotzert was transported to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. There was no word about her condition. Her vehicle was towed.

• **YATES CITY** – A 79-year-old Yates City woman reported no injuries after she backed her vehicle into another that was parked in a driveway.

Beverly K. Boken was behind the wheel of a 2022 Kia Rio shortly after 3 p.m. Dec. 24 when it struck a 2016 Nissan Altima in the 200 block of E. Main St. in Yates City, according to a Knox County Sheriff's Office report. The Altima was unoccupied.

The rear passenger-side bumper of the Altima was damaged, as was an identical bumper on the Rio. No tows were required.

• **KICKAPOO** – Shortly before 5 p.m. Dec. 27, Nathan P. Ingersoll of Germantown Hills was driving a 2022 Ford sport-utility vehicle south in the 9500 block of N. Princeville-Jubilee Rd. northwest of Kickapoo when the SUV struck a deer. Ingersoll was uninjured, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. He was able to drive away the SUV, which sustained moderate damage.

• **ELMWOOD** – Chief Aaron Bean reported the following Elmwood Police Department activity for December: 14 reports, 12 warnings, 11 traffic stops and three notices to appear.

• **WILLIAMSFIELD** – Chief James Robertson reported the following Williamsfield Police Department activity for December: three warnings and one speeding citation.

• **FARMINGTON** – Chief Chris Darsham reported the following Farmington Police Department activity for December: 1,612 business checks, 2,845 building checks, five crashes handled, three property crimes, 18 traffic tickets issued, five ordinance tickets, six crimes against people, eight miscellaneous, 63 traffic stops, four arrests, 22 reports completed, 285 total calls and 14 assists to other police departments.

• **YATES CITY** – Chief Randy Benson reported the following Yates City Police Department activity for November: one arrest, six citations, 12 reports, six warnings, nine traffic stops and one notice to appear.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded between Dec. 24-30: stray dog, Dahiinda; drunk, Yates City.

AUCTIONS & REAL ESTATE SALES

•••
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY PEORIA, ILLINOIS
 Freedom Mortgage Corporation
 PLAINTIFF
 Vs.
 Wilson Johnson; et. al.
 DEFENDANTS
 No. 2023-FC-0000157
 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 11/15/2023, the Sheriff of Peoria County, Illinois will on February 21, 2024 at the hour of 1:00 PM at Peoria County Courthouse 324

Main Street, Courtroom 203 Peoria, IL 61602, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Peoria and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
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amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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ceive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

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Billtown school expenses above average

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – About midway through the fiscal year, the Williamsfield School District has spent 92% of its transportation budget. That’s not as harrowing as it might sound.

The high expenditure was expected, according to Williamsfield Superintendent Tim Farquer. The district’s one-time purchase of electric buses, eight in all, accounted for most of the transportation allotment. The district has been using electric buses on its regular student-transportation routes for about two months.

Other funds are coming in below eight-year averages, Farquer told the Billtown School Board when it met Monday night.

The education fund has exhausted 46% of its budget, lower than the

51% average and the lowest since the 2016 fiscal year. The building fund is at 45%. The average beginning with 2016 is 61%, with a high of 88% in 2018.

“That was due to projects that were front-loaded that fiscal year, rather than back-loaded,” Farquer said. “That’s a similar situation we’re in this year with the transportation fund.”

The transportation-fund average from 2016 through 2023 is 48%. In all, district expenses are 69% of what’s been budgeted, according to the figures Farquer presented. The eight-year overall average is 56%.

“But again, that’s \$2.675 million worth of new school buses that have been paid already,” Farquer said. “We’re in good shape.”

Not much more is expected to be spent on transportation, Farquer

said in response to a question from Board Member Wes Wrage. The superintendent projected the district will be within its budgeted amounts when the fiscal year ends June 30.

Farquer also said the district recently was awarded a \$50,000 Illinois State Board of Education School Maintenance Grant. Funds from the matching grant are to be used to upgrade the exhaust system above welding stations for district shop classes.

Including this one, Williamsfield has received six maintenance state grants since 2014.

After about 10 minutes in open session, the board entered closed session to discuss student discipline and collective bargaining. No votes were scheduled after the board returned to open session, according to Farquer.

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Elmwood seeks input on new superintendent

ELMWOOD – The Elmwood Board of Education is seeking input and opinions on what people in the district would like in a new school superintendent.

Superintendent Chad Wagner announced earlier this winter he will be taking a similar job at the Genoa-Kingston School District in northern Illinois.

Input on what people would like to see in Wagner’s replacement can be submitted online at forms.gle/JZdaBnGvJukDRyFAA.

Application deadline for the position is Jan. 22.

College honors

• **Dylan Lane** of Princeville has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s fall 2023 Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better).

• Three local students were named to the Marquette University fall 2023 Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better): **Megan Bowers** of Edwards, studying biomedical sciences; **Cheyenne Lewis** of Edwards, studying criminology and law studies; and **Carleigh Comerford** of Princeville, studying exercise physiology.

Grants offered to build local food infrastructure

SPRINGFIELD – Millions of state dollars are available for Illinoisans



This has been a memorable archery deer hunting season for the Weaver family of Edwards. Cane Weaver, 9, shot the 10-point Peoria County buck pictured at left and his brother, Corbin, 11, shot the Peoria County 10-pointer pictured at right. They are the sons of Jeff and Tara Weaver of Edwards. Archery deer season concludes Jan. 14 in Illinois. The late-winter, antlerless-only firearm deer season concludes Jan. 12-14 in select counties, including Knox and Fulton.

interested in building out the state’s network of local food infrastructure – from animal processing to trucking and food hubs to community kitchens.

The Illinois Stewardship Alliance has nearly \$2 million in funds to award by Jan. 31 for applicants who have an idea to get more home-grown foods to market. Grants of up to \$150,000 will be awarded through the Illinois Local Food Infrastructure Grant.

The deadline for applicants is Jan. 31. Visit www.illinoislfig.org.

Local LEGO teams earn multiple awards

Brimfield Public Library’s FIRST

LEGO League robotics team, B.U.I.L.T., outscored 15 other teams and won multiple awards at a Dec. 16 regional qualifier at John Deere headquarters in Moline.

In addition to winning the Robot Performance Award for a top score of 330 points, B.U.I.L.T. received the Core Values Award, which recognizes a team that shows exceptional team spirit, respect and teamwork. Bryan Siegel, B.U.I.L.T. coach, earned the tournament’s Coach/Mentor Award.

Elmwood’s school robotics team, the Trobots, placed 11th on Dec. 9 in a qualifier at Liberty Leadership Middle School in Peoria.

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Jan 13 Auction 10am
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Jan 14 NFL Beer & Pizza Specials

Jan 15 Cheeseburger Fries & Apps 5-7pm
 Bingo 6:30pm (doors open at 4:30pm)

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Elmwood council OKs 4.5% water-rate hike

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

ELMWOOD – As expected, water rates for Elmwood customers will rise by 4.5% this year.

Garbage and recycling-collection rates will be increasing, too – by much more than 4.5%, at least initially.

A five-year deal between the city and G&O Disposal of Elmwood begins Monday. For this year, the monthly garbage-recycling bill for a single-family dwelling will be \$19.64. The 2023 monthly charge was \$16.96. The new contract represents a first-year hike of 16%.

Following 2024, the monthly rate is to increase by about 3.5% a year through 2028. In 2025, the charge is to be \$20.35. That rises to \$21.08 in

2026, \$21.84 in 2027 and \$22.63 in the final year of the contract. The fees include a \$2 surcharge the city will collect for administration and billing.

City Council members approved the new garbage-recycling charges during their meeting Jan. 4. The council also OK'd water- and sewer-rate increases for 2024. The figures were unchanged from what was proposed when the council met Dec. 5.

The basic water rate will be \$18.71 per month for the first 1,000 gallons, an increase from \$17.90. The rates rise from that base, depending on use. The new sewer basic monthly rate is \$16.59, up from \$15.87.

Among non-water and non-refuse items the council approved during a meeting that lasted about 15 minutes

was a revision to the city employee manual that gives part-time workers one hour of personal time for every 40 hours worked, in keeping with a new state law.

“We kind of already had a (policy) that kind of covered that, but it didn’t cover part-time workers,” said Alderman Nathan Brunnelson, who is overseeing revisions to the manual.

Part-time employees won’t be able to use personal time until they’ve been employed for at least 90 days. Part-timers are not eligible for sick time or vacation time.

The council also authorized a tax-increment-financing reimbursement of \$143,074.39 to the developers of the Fairground Acres subdivision for engineering, construction, insurance and interest expenses.

WILLIAMSFIELD: Electricity bills could drop

Continued from Page 1

40-year total of \$2,416,079.33, according to Bow.

“The way technology is advancing, after the first 20 years there may be a revamp,” Olenick said about the proposed solar installation. “It may not look exactly the same as it was when it was built, from a technical perspective, but it’ll take up the same boundary.”

The project might lower electricity bills by 10 to 15% for Ameren customers in Williamsfield who subscribe to it, according to Bow. Massachusetts-based Navisun, a Bow partner, is to own and operate the solar farm once it comes online.

Bow proposes to donate \$25,000 to the local park district at the start of construction and \$5,000 a year to the Williamsfield School District

for scholarships. That amount would increase by 2% annually.

In other communities, Bow has helped fund parking lots and agricultural-education programs, according to Olenick. Private capital and state grants are to pay for the project and community-solar contributions.

“With this particular program, I think there’s a lot of options to help the town itself,” Olenick said. “If there’s anything they can think of that maybe they just can’t quite afford or need a little bit of financial assistance with, we’re able to help the municipality in those ways. It doesn’t have to be very clear cut.”

Johnson said the land proposed for the solar project is a potential site for new housing. But not all the undeveloped property in Williamsfield for that purpose has been used.

“In order to develop that land for a housing development, you’re going to have to develop sewer, water and roads. And as everybody knows, we don’t have money for that,” Johnson said. “We could bank the money off this project and develop it (someday) for residential, if that’s what we want to do.”

Johnson said the village probably will solicit a proposal from at least one other solar-development firm before the board decides.

Following the Bow presentation, the board approved a payment of \$8,136 to Core & Main of Washington for five to six water-meter pits. They’re to be installed at local properties that have difficult-to-access water meters, according to Johnson. Meters across the village are being replaced.

TREASURER: Dispute over terms of resignation

Continued from Page 1

options: Resign or sign a letter admitting to charges of misconduct that she disputes.

Rice said when her husband, Tom Rice, came into the meeting room after she called him, Johnson said, “If you don’t leave, I will fire you on the spot.” Tom Rice has run the village’s reverse-osmosis system for 19 years.

Johnson said Mary Rice was not fired and was not asked to resign. Johnson said he typed the letter she signed, and showed the letter to The Weekly Post following the meeting.

On behalf of the village, Johnson thanked Mary Rice for her service.

“Everybody appreciates that,” he said. “We’re sad to see her go, but I

understand.”

Mary Rice did not attend the special meeting but was at the regular board meeting on Jan. 2. In that meeting, the board entered closed session to discuss employee performance. Johnson said the discussion focused on employee training.

A Laura native, Baker works full time for Stratus Networks, a Peoria Heights-based internet service provider. She said she has a college degree in accounting and has worked in the field since 1991.

Initially, Baker applied for a part-time opening the village had regarding water-billing processing.

“I just wanted to do something to help out the town and give back to

the community,” she said. “I put in for the billing position and I had the right credentials for the job, so they asked me to do this.”

Baker said she has experience in helping organizations convert to computerization. She did that for LMT, an industrial-vacuum equipment supplier in Galva.

“Linda had come up several different times on different things, but other people had different skill sets that we needed more,” Johnson said about Baker’s hiring. “She’s been at the top of our list of, ‘Hey, if anything would happen to come open, we would really like to have her on board.’”

Baker was to begin work this week.

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Supreme Court denies weapons-ban appeal

By **CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS**

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The U.S. Supreme Court has denied one request to review the Illinois assault weapons ban, but many believe the court is more likely to take up another challenge to the law later this year.

The high court turned down a request by Republican State Rep. Dan Caulkins, of Decatur, to hear an appeal of the case he lost before the Illinois Supreme Court in August.

In his appeal, Caulkins argued that he was denied a fair hearing at the state supreme court because two of the state justices had received large campaign contributions from Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker, who signed the assault weapons ban into law.

Caulkins also claimed the law is unconstitutional because it allows some people to keep their assault weapons if they acquired those guns before the ban took effect.

The justices at the U.S. Supreme

Court gave no reason for declining to hear Caulkins' appeal. But many people expect the court to take up a separate challenge to the law from the National Association for Gun Rights, which argues more broadly that the ban violates the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

The 7th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against the gun rights group in November. The group is expected to file its appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court within the next several weeks.

Farmington school board OKs personnel items

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Weekly Post

FARMINGTON – The Farmington School Board on Monday approved a SEAPCO Hiring Survey, several personnel matters and recognized several students.

In personnel matters, the board approved hiring Robert German as a custodian and Destiny Ward as a cafe worker, renewed the contract

of Assistant Principal Nick Hoffmann, accepted the resignation of Blake Sondgeroth and approved volunteer softball coaches Emylee Mahr and Paige Vallianatos.

The board also took time to recognize several students, including Illinois State Scholars Evan Sary and Russell Poor and mid-term graduate Caden Record. Other students honored were 6th graders Ari-

ana Hasty and Greyson Sauder, 7th graders Addy Overcash and Joshua Emery, 8th graders Jillian Carpenter and Chase Frye, freshman Reagan Stevens, sophomore Treyven Haroldson, junior Amber Asbury and senior Caden Record.

The monthly Orange Frog award went to Terri Crosby and John Hilbrand.

Brimfield board discusses Illinois paid leave act

By **MOLLY RICHESON**

For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD – The Brimfield Village Board

confirmed its adherence to the new Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act during a brief meeting Monday.

Additionally, the board heard that the village can look forward to some roads being resealed this

summer for a cost yet unknown.

Also, Rachel Landau has started a new business in town next to the post office: Seventeen Taxidermy. Her business appears to offer taxidermy services, honey products, candles, farm-fresh eggs and freeze-dried candies.

Board Member Nathan Schaub also submitted his resignation to the village board because he is moving out of Brimfield. Board members thanked Schaub for his service and for the energy he brought to the board.

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HELP WANTED

- **TRUCK DRIVER:** Wanted full-time truck driver for local farm operation, Class A CDL. (309) 370-1069.

ATTENTION PRINCEVILLE COMMUNITY

The Village Board has scheduled a Property Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 16th at 6PM. Possibly to address the Aquatic Center. A Village Board meeting will follow at 7PM. Both of these meetings will be held at the Village Hall. Your support at these meetings would be greatly appreciated.

SAVE THE POOL COMMITTEE

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

S	I	X	O	S	S	A	H	A	S	A	C	O	W	O	P	E	D			
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CryptoQuote

answer

Don't fight a battle if you don't gain anything by winning.

— Erwin Rommel

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



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Thank You

The family of Margaret "Peggy" Powers would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our family and friends who surrounded and comforted us during the loss of our Mother and Grandmother. For the many texts, calls, visits, food, flowers and memorials, we thank you. To all who attended her services, she would have been as humbled as we were. Sincere thanks to Haskell's, Pastor Pyell, and those that gave of their time to make the dinner so nice for us all.

Bob, Amy, Evelyn, Victoria, Morgan & Andrea Powers



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OBITUARIES

Mary Jane Hammer

ELMWOOD – Mary Jane Hammer, 71, of Elmwood, formerly of Hanna City, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023, at 10:02 a.m. surrounded by the love of her family after a long private battle with bladder cancer.

Jane was born on Sept. 19, 1952, to Lee and Mary (Beamer) Lopeman. They preceded her in death.

She married Larry Hammer on Sept. 22, 2017, after a 20-year courtship. He passed away Sept. 14, 2022.

She is survived by two children, Leslie (Chad) Gavelys and Christopher Zeglen; three grandchildren, Carissa, Carmen and Carter Gavelys; and two stepchildren, Lawrence Hammer and Andrew Hammer. Also surviving are her siblings, Patrick (Jennifer) Lopeman, Susan (Ted) Sarver, Linda (Katsumi) Matsui, John Lopeman and Nancy Lenox; and several nieces and nephews.

Jane started her career working at the FBI in Washington, D.C., and eventually returned back home to settle down and start a family. She last worked as a Senior administrative assistant at Martin Financial Services.

She was a Corvette enthusiast from an early age as she loved that "I can't drive 55 feeling."

She enjoyed Bradley basketball and Chicago Bears football, but her most favorite teams were when her grandkids played as Farmington Farmers. She loved concerts with family and friends and enjoyed crocheting and quilting.

She loved fiercely and always put others before herself. She will be deeply missed by all.

Funeral services were Dec. 29, 2023, at the Davison-Fulton Woolsey-Wilton Funeral Home in Peoria. Committal service was to take place at Princeville Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Compassus Hospice, 799 N. Henderson St., Galesburg, IL, 61401, or to BYE Ambulance Service.



Hammer

and Susie (Mattson) Wick. She married Lincoln F. Huber Sr. on Feb. 12, 1942, in Kahoka, Mo. He preceded her in death on Feb. 20, 2011.

Surviving are one son, Lincoln R. (Amy Cole) Huber of Princeville; three grandsons, Kevin (Jennifer) Casey, Clinton (Jamie) Huber and Nicholas Huber, all of Princeville; and eight great-grandchildren, Ryan, Brandon, Jessamarie, Cody, Ty, Addison, Clay and Hunter.

She was also preceded in death by one daughter, Linda Lou Casey; two grandsons, David Casey and Lincoln R. Huber III; and two brothers, Lester and Roy Wick.

Shirley worked alongside her husband on their family farm raising animals and kids. She enjoyed gardening, canning and cooking for her family, who above all things were the most important to her. She had a great sense of humor, was always smiling and laughing and never had a bad word to say about anyone.

Her funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at Haskell Funeral and Cremation Services in Princeville. Lee Taylor will officiate and Greg Smith will eulogize. Visitation was to be from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024, at the funeral home. Additional visitation will be from 10-10:30 a.m. prior to the funeral service. Burial will follow at Swan Lake Memory Gardens in Peoria.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Condolences for Shirley's family may be left on her tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.



Huber

Shirley A. Huber

PRINCEVILLE – Shirley Ann Huber, 99, of Princeville, passed away at 10:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, at Carle Health Proctor Hospital in Peoria.

Shirley was born on June 7, 1924, in Kewanee, the daughter of Edwin

and Susie (Mattson) Wick. She married Lincoln F. Huber Sr. on Feb. 12, 1942, in Kahoka, Mo. He preceded her in death on Feb. 20, 2011.

Surviving are one son, Lincoln R. (Amy Cole) Huber of Princeville; three grandsons, Kevin (Jennifer) Casey, Clinton (Jamie) Huber and Nicholas Huber, all of Princeville; and eight great-grandchildren, Ryan, Brandon, Jessamarie, Cody, Ty, Addison, Clay and Hunter.

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Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Condolences for Shirley's family may be left on her tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Raymond Kolowski

HANNA CITY – Raymond "Ray" Kolowski, 86, of Hanna City, passed away on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

He was born on Feb. 7, 1937, in LaSalle, Ill., to Martin and Marie (Adamczyk) Kolowski. He married the love of his life, Mary Weber on June 25, 1955, in Peoria. She preceded him in death on Oct. 7, 1982.

Also preceding him in death were his parents; two sisters, Delores Fli-



Kolowski

piak and Jeanette Weitzel; and his beloved dog Cellie.

He is survived by his four sons, Richard (Diana) Kolowski of Hanna City, Robert Kolowski of Bartonville, David (Missy) Kolowski of Peoria and Michael (Beth) Kolowski of Elmwood; 10 grandchildren, Melissa (Jarrod) Hudson, Chris (Kate) Kolowski, Megan (Zach) Waite, Mary Kolowski, Stacy (Keith) Doubet, Nicole Kolowski, Ryan Skaggs, Luke Skaggs, Eric (Haley) Kolowski and Bradley (Kayla) Kolowski; 14 great-grandchildren; one step-great-granddaughter; one step-great-great-grandson; and two siblings, Betty (Ken) Foster and Eugene (Barb) Kolowski.

Ray served in the U.S. Air Force from 1954-58, receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of Airman First Class. Ray worked as a mechanic with Allis-Chalmers for 14 years, then worked at WABCO for a short time and finally worked as a crane operator with Caterpillar Inc. for 30 years before retiring.

Ray was a past member of the U.A.W. Local 974, a member of The Journey Church in East Peoria and a trustee for Pleasant Grove Cemetery. He enjoyed fishing, deer hunting, tinkering in his shop and spending time with his family.

A visitation will be Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at Davison-Fulton Bartonville Chapel. A funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, with visitation one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow the service at Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Hanna City.

Memorials may be made to the Logan-Trivoli Fire Protection District. Words of comfort can be shared with the family at www.Davison-Fulton-Bartonvillechapel.com.

Rev. Ren W. Reed

COLDWATER, Mich. – The Rev. Ren Warner Reed, 89, of Coldwater, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023, at ProMedica Coldwater Regional Hospital.

A private family burial service was to take place at Oak Grove Cemetery in Coldwater.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Eagle Funeral Home-George White Chapel in Quincy.

He was born on Nov. 17, 1934, in Farmington, Ill., to Cyril and Bertha (Alpaugh) Reed, the 12th of 14 siblings. Warner was married for 65 years to Jane Beth (Lounsberry). They met each other in 1957, while they were students at Northern Bap-

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OBITUARIES

tist Theological Seminary in Chicago. Warner and Jane were married on July 12, 1958, in Lansing, Mich.

Throughout his life, Warner was always concerned about the welfare of other people. As a child, Warner could not tolerate seeing larger children bullying smaller children and he often stepped in to help the bullied children. He also displayed his concern for others by the career paths he chose as well as his generosity toward others by gifting tens and possibly even hundreds of thousands of dollars to family and friends, all done quietly, without public acknowledgement or recognition. As a child and young adult, Warner would always keep a small part of any money he earned from his many jobs and give the rest to his mother to help support their family.

Warner's study of Christianity and Judaism led him to the saying, "Never pass up an opportunity to do something good for someone." His life of 89 years affected so many people, it is difficult to know how many.

Warner graduated from Farmington Community High School in 1952, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (bachelor of science degree in health education with a minor in social work and science) in 1957 and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, (Master of Divinity) in 1960, where he was class president. He became an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches USA, at the conclusion of his seminary work, at the First Baptist Church in Berwyn, Ill.

He also completed clinical psychology training at Ypsilanti State Hospital, Mich., in about 1965. Warner was a learned Bible scholar and his knowledge of all things biblical related was unmatched. He learned biblical Greek and Hebrew while in seminary.

Warner served as pastor to several

churches including First Baptist Church, Berwyn (assistant pastor, 1958-60), South Branch Community Baptist Church and Community Baptist Church of St. Helen, Mich. (1960-61), First Baptist Church, Corunna, Mich. (1961-70), First Baptist Church, La Crosse, Wis. (1970-73), and Clear Lake Baptist Church, Clear Lake, Ind. (1981-2002).

In Corunna, Warner led the campaign to build a new church building and parsonage, doing a great deal of the construction and finish work by himself. At Clear Lake, he spent untold hours remodeling the old church sanctuary and led a building project to expand the building to include a new sanctuary and fellowship hall.

Warner worked for the State of Michigan Department of Corrections as a parole and probation officer for the Branch County Circuit Court in Coldwater (1973-81) and as a probation officer for the Branch County District Court (1981-97).

After his retirement, from the courthouse and preaching, Warner taught Adult Sunday School classes at First Baptist Church, Coldwater and Quincy United Methodist Church.

Warner and Jane resided in the same historic house in Coldwater for 50 years. Together, they remodeled and redecorated the house a few times, doing most of the work themselves. They also had many flowers growing around their yard taking up much of their time in the summers. Warner and Jane also took up woodworking as a retirement hobby, turning their basement into a workshop, making clock cases, tables, cabinets and many other things, most of which they gave away to family and friends.

Warner and Jane also traveled throughout the Midwest and eastern U.S., and traveled to Israel with the Zola Levitt Ministries tour group (five times for Warner, four for Jane). Their first trip to Israel was a gift to them by the congregation at Clear

Lake.

Attending activities of their grandchildren also occupied a lot of their retirement time.

Warner is survived by his wife, Jane, their son, Michael Reed, of Spring Lake, Mich., their daughter, Joy (Jeff) Sauser, of Caro, Mich., and their former daughter-in-law, Antoinette (widow of their son Douglas) (Steve) Sandum, of Augusta, Mich. Warner and Jane were proud of all of their family and loved all of them deeply.

Also surviving are grandchildren Drew (Katie) Sauser of Grand Ledge, Mich., Matthew Sauser of Oelwein, Iowa, Grant (Christa) Reed of Rockford, Mich., and Justine Reed of Belmont, Mich.; and two great-grandchildren, Wesley Reed and Violet Reed of Rockford. His large extended family includes 53 nieces and nephews, most of whom are still living.

Warner is also survived by three siblings, sisters Greta Gay (Frank, deceased) Kumlander, of Yates City, Ill., and Alicia Rose (Robert) Aden, of Chesterfield, Mo., and brother, Rudy (Mary, deceased) Reed, of Decatur, Ill.; and brother-in-law Ed (Berrie) Lounsbury, of Oro Valley, Ariz., and sister-in-law Shirley (Ernie, deceased) White, of Portage, Mich.

Warner was preceded in death by his parents and his in-laws, Harry and Doris Lounsbury; one son, Douglas Scott Reed; four sisters, Katherine Elizabeth Reed, Harriet Virginia (Elwood, deceased) Anderson, Barbara Jeanne (Flip, deceased) Osborn and Marcia Lou (Bob, deceased) Little; and six brothers, Quentin (Violetta, deceased), Hubert (Leona, deceased), Willard (Lois, deceased), Phil, Clayton Hal "Sonny" (Donna, deceased) and James, M.D. (Janet, deceased).

Warner's love of his hometown of Farmington was very deep. He had fond memories of his life, his family

More Obituaries, Page 12

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Sun. Worship: 10:40 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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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)
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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 Song of Solomon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who did Zachariah not believe on telling him his wife would conceive? Jesus, Luke, Gabriel, Mark
3. From Numbers 27, who became Moses' successor as leader of Israel? Aaron, Abraham, Elisha, Joshua
4. How many times is the phrase

"holy ground" mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? 2, 24, 37, 64
5. From Mark 11, who did Jesus cast out of the Temple? Armies of Satan, Harlots, Money changers, Lepers
6. What king saw the "handwriting on the wall"? Darius, Belshazzar, Daniel, Solomon
ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Gabriel, 3) Joshua, 4) 2 (Ex 3:5, Acts 7:3), 5) Money changers, 6) Belshazzar
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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
(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

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(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 Don Nuttall
615 E. Ash St. Elmwood
(309) 742-6409
crossroadselmwood.org

Wed. Bible Study: 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.

OBITUARIES

and friendships growing up in a small community. He always had a desire to return to live in Farmington, but as an adult, he was only able to return once a year or so, usually to attend the Reed family reunions.

Because of his love of Farmington, memorial contributions in Warner's name can go to First Baptist Church, 135 N. West St., Farmington, IL, 61531, or to a charity of one's choice.

Mary Lou Anderson

GALESBURG – Mary Lou “ML” Anderson, 94, of Galesburg (formerly Oneida), passed away on Jan. 3, 2024. She was born April 30, 1929, in Oska-loosa, Iowa. She married Andrew B. “Andy” Anderson on March 16, 1952.

Surviving are her daughter, Jan Anderson, of Galesburg; son, Richard (Jenni) Anderson of Da-

hinda; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A fan of community theater, she was a soloist with Zellmer's Dinner Theater in Farmington.

Private services will be held.

Angela R. Bishop

HANNA CITY – Angela R. Bishop, 59, of Hanna City, died Dec. 30, 2023 at her home.

She was born on Sept. 28, 1964, in Peoria. She is survived by her husband, Phil Bishop Jr. They married on Jan. 26, 2015.

She is survived by four children, Shane DeVere (Beth Phillips) Stewart, Dillon Andrew Reissen, Samantha Erlene Reissen and Cody (Hannah Jones) Bishop; two grandchildren; her brother Rick Stewart; and sisters Judy (Kenny) Franken, Lisa Stewart and Shelly Stewart.

Angela worked at Stewart's

Family Restaurant for over 20 years.

Services were Jan. 6. Condolences can be left online at sedgwickfuneralhomes.com.

Lois A. Carroll

LAURA – Lois Ann Carroll (Pud), 79, of Laura (Elmore), died Jan. 4, 2024, in her home.

She was born Oct. 23, 1944, in Kewanee, the daughter of Richard and Lois (Claybaugh) Carroll. She is survived by her brother, Bobby Carroll of Wyoming; her sister, Teresa (Carroll) Hare and husband Bill of Lombard; “nieces” Dawn Stevens of Kewanee and Starla (Powell) Yelm of Elmore; goddaughter, Katie Yelm; many “great-nieces and nephews”; and friend Dee Dee Hubbard.

Lois was a 1962 graduate of Wyoming Community High School, Wyoming. She began

working at Home Comfort, later ALCOA, in Princeville in 1963. She was still working there in 2001 when it closed. She was the longest-serving employee, with 38 years.

Funeral services were to be Jan. 9, with visitation at 10 a.m. at the Hurd-Hendricks Funeral Homes & Crematory in Knoxville. Burial was to be in Glendale Cemetery in Elmore.

Leave condolences online at hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com.

David J. Zimmerman

DAHINDA – David John Zimmerman, 71, of Dahinda, died Jan. 4, 2024, at OSF Saint Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

David was born Dec. 8, 1952, at Saunders Hospital, Avon. He was the son of Noah Lester “Tag” and Helen Marjorie (Williamson) Zimmerman.

He married Shirley Thorp on

July 29, 1973. They divorced but remained friends. He then married Jane Chambers on Nov. 3, 1994.

David served three terms as mayor of East Galesburg, ending in 1994.

David is survived by his sister, Doris (David) Hook of West Burlington, Iowa; children, Christina (Brett Hitchcock) Chambers and Clifton (Jessica) Chambers, both of Galesburg; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Jane.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon today (Jan. 11) at Hurd-Hendricks Funeral Homes and Crematory in Knoxville. Funeral services will be at noon at the funeral home. Burial will be at the Knoxville Cemetery.

Leave condolences online at hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com.

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Freedom Mortgage Corporation PLAINTIFF

Vs. Wilson Johnson; et al. DEFENDANTS

No. 2023-FC-0000157

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 11/15/2023, the Sheriff of Peoria County, Illinois will on February 21, 2024 at the hour of 1:00 PM at Peoria County Courthouse 324 Main Street, Courtroom 203 Peoria, IL 61602, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Peoria and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 121 IN CHARTER OAK VILLAGE SECTION SIX, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14 AND A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED ON JUNE 7, 1978 AS DOCUMENT NO. 78-13438, IN PLAT BOOK “3”, PAGE 35; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. PIN 13-14-153-001

Improved with Residential COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 5502 W Ancient Oak Dr Peoria, IL 61615 Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment

and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

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

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-23-04263. I3235920

Published 1/11, 1/18, 1/25/24

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Lakeview Loan Servicing LLC PLAINTIFF

Vs. Skylar McKnight; Keryssa McKnight; Jazlynn Chandlee; Amaree Sutton; Anastasia Sutton; United States of America - Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Christopher M. McKnight; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Linn Perkins, as Special Representative for Christopher M. McKnight (deceased) DEFENDANTS

No. 2023-FC-0000268

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Christopher M. McKnight Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants

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

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 6031 N Rosemead Dr Peoria, IL 61614

and which said Mortgage was made by: Christopher M. McKnight

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Proposed Change in Schedule of Rates

to Customers of Aqua Illinois, Inc.

Dear Aqua Illinois Customer:

Aqua Illinois, Inc. hereby gives notice to the public that it has filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) a proposed change in its rate schedules for water and wastewater service in certain areas of Kankakee, Vermilion, Will, Boone, Knox, Lake, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Ogle, Winnebago, McHenry, and Champaign counties.

AQUA ILLINOIS' RATE REQUEST

If this rate request is granted, in full as filed, an average combined monthly residential wastewater and water bill (4,000 gallons) would increase by \$29.91 (\$1.00 per day) to \$152.87. The estimated bill impact may vary based on multiple factors, including, but not limited to, meter size, usage volume, and public fire protection charges. The bill impact also will depend upon the nature of the service received and will differ for those customers taking wastewater service only, water service only, or wastewater service on a flat rate charge instead of a usage-based charge. The proposed changes in wastewater rates are set out in Tariff ILL. C.C. No. 50, Section 6 filed with the ICC and the proposed changes in water rates are set out in Tariff ILL. C.C. No. 49, Section 8 filed with the ICC.

The last rate case impacting Aqua Illinois, Inc. customers was filed on May 1, 2017. This request will undergo a review by the ICC for up to 11 months. The approximate date of the change(s), if approved by the ICC within the statutory 11-month process, is December 2, 2024. However, the effective date of any change(s) approved by the ICC will differ for those systems that may not be subject to full consolidated rates as of that date in accordance with the terms and conditions of certain Asset Purchase Agreements approved by the ICC. If the request is approved by the ICC, the changes for all classes of water and wastewater service statewide would result in an increase to base rates of \$19,196,140.

THE RATES YOU PAY DIRECTLY BENEFIT YOUR COMMUNITY

Aqua Illinois' improvements have increased reliability and enhanced process

the Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois, as Document No. 2021011397; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

YOU MAY STILL BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR HOME. DO NOT IG-

improvements for source-of-supply and water treatment. They have included distribution system improvements to enhance water quality. Depending upon the nature of services provided in your community, examples may include:

Wastewater

- Wastewater treatment plant improvement projects to replace aging and deteriorating equipment, which will prevent service interruptions and improve operational efficiency
- Lift station replacement projects to replace undersized and/or aged equipment to reduce and minimize service interruptions and backups
- Infiltration and Inflow reduction projects to extend service life of infrastructure and reduce costs associated with treatment
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) projects to replace obsolete data collection and historian equipment to increase service reliability and operational effectiveness

Water

- Water treatment plant additions to improve water quality, increase capacity and reliability, and accommodate industrial growth
- Improvement of well pumps and equipment to increase reliability and sustainability
- Replacement of aged water meters to improve accuracy of water usage data and reduce non-revenue water
- New and replaced fire hydrants to improve fire protection and water quality due to additional flushing capability
- Replacement of aging and deteriorating water mains to improve water quality, pressure, service reliability, and fire protection services
- Construction of water main emergency interconnects for system reliability
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) projects to replace obsolete data collection and historian equipment to increase service reliability and operational effectiveness

For customers other than single-family residential customers receiving water and wastewater service from Aqua Illinois, an option exists to install a separate irrigation meter to mitigate volumetric wastewater charges on irrigation and other outdoor

uses. Aqua Illinois will provide the irrigation meter; however, customers are responsible for any applicable charges, such as plumbing necessary to accommodate the irrigation meter, proper backflow prevention, and monthly customer charges.

For single-family residential customers receiving water and wastewater service from Aqua Illinois, summer wastewater usage charges generally are based on the average water usage in winter months, a period in which outdoor watering activities are minimized. This methodology for calculating wastewater usage charges is known as historical based consumption and is detailed further in the Company's Tariff.

Customers can receive more information or request an irrigation application by calling 877.987.2782.

ICC ROLE

Please be advised that the ICC may alter or amend the rates or conditions of service after hearings held pursuant to 83 Ill. Adm. Code 200, and may increase or decrease individual rates in amounts other than those requested by the company.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

Any interested party may file a petition to intervene in the hearings pursuant to 83 Ill. Adm. Code 200. Pursuant to Section 8-306 of the Public Utilities Act, 220 ILCS 5/8-306, customers may request that the ICC hold a public hearing related to the company's rate request. A copy of the proposed change in rate schedules may be inspected by any interested party at the business office of the company at 1000 South Schuyler Avenue in Kankakee, IL. All parties interested in the matter may obtain information with respect thereto either directly from Aqua Illinois or by addressing the Chief Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62701.

At Aqua Illinois, water quality and customer service are our highest priorities. We strive every day to listen to you, our customer, and invest in system improvements and enhancements. Our management and staff are always here to assist you. If you have any questions, please contact Aqua Customer Service at 877.987.2782 or visit www.AquaWater.com.

David C. Carter, President
Aqua Illinois, Inc.

Published 1/11, 1/18/24

participate by phone, call (312) 626-6799 and enter the Meeting ID 593-480-2333. To participate by video, go to www.zoom.us, select "Join a Meeting" and use the Meeting ID 593-480-2333. The password is "Courthouse". If you have any problems joining the Zoom meeting, please contact Court Administration at (309) 672-6036.

NOTICE OF MANDATORY MEDIATION. YOU MUST APPEAR ON THE MEDIATION DATE GIVEN OR YOUR RIGHT TO MEDIATION WILL TER-

MINATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Robert M. Spears Peoria County Courthouse 324 Main Street, Room G-22 Peoria, IL 61602 on or before February 13, 2024, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER

Continued on Page 13

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 309, PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO SELL NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000,000 WORKING CASH FUND BONDS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Community Unit School District Number 309, Peoria County, Illinois (the "District"), will hold a public hearing on the 17th day of January, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock P.M. The hearing will be held in the Library of Brimfield High School, 323 East Clinton Street, Brimfield, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds of the District in the amount of not to exceed \$4,000,000 for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the District.

By order of the President of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 309, Peoria County, Illinois. DATED the 27th day of December, 2023.

Katie Kappes Secretary, Board of Education, Community Unit School District Number 309, Peoria County, Illinois

Published 1/4/24

Continued from Page 12

THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-23-07635

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. I3235962

Published 1/11, 1/18, 1/25/24

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY PEORIA, ILLINOIS

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust c/o U.S. Bank Trust National Association PLAINTIFF

Vs. Marvin Schmit; Deborah Livezey; Michael Schmit; Megan Beach; Brendan Schmit; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Sandra S. Schmit; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Linn Perkins, as Special Representative for Sandra S. Schmit (deceased)

DEFENDANTS No. 2023-FC-0000218

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Marvin Schmit Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Sandra S. Schmit Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants

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

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1012 Collins Ct Bartonville, IL 61607

and which said Mortgage was made by:

Sandra S. Schmit the Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois, as Document No. 06-33981; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

YOU MAY STILL BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR HOME. DO NOT IGNORE THIS DOCUMENT.

By order of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, this case is set for Mandatory Mediation on 02/22/24 at 1:30 PM at the Peoria County Courthouse located at 324 Main Street, Room 204, Peoria, IL 61602.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings within the courthouse are being limited. Therefore, you are being asked to meet with our mediation coordinator via ZOOM telephone or video conference. To participate by phone, call (312) 626-

6799 and enter the Meeting ID 593-480-2333. To participate by video, go to www.zoom.us, select "Join a Meeting" and use the Meeting ID 593-480-2333. The password is "Courthouse". If you have any problems joining the Zoom meeting, please contact Court Administration at (309) 672-6036.

NOTICE OF MANDATORY MEDIATION. YOU MUST APPEAR ON THE MEDIATION DATE GIVEN OR YOUR RIGHT TO MEDIATION WILL TERMINATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,

Robert M. Spears Peoria County Courthouse 324 Main Street, Room G-22 Peoria, IL 61602

on or before February 13, 2024, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-22-03973

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. I3235966

Published 1/11, 1/18, 1/25/24

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

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. KATRINA TODD; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CITY OF PEORIA, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION; ONEMAIN FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No.: 2023-FC-0000284 Property Address: 2009 S. Laramie, Peoria, IL 61605

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 Outlot "B" of Limestone Manor, a subdivision of Lot 2 and part of Lots 9 & 15 in the Subdivision of the Northeast Quarter of Section 24, Township 8 North, Range 7 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, as shown on the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "T", page 63, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point in the center of Laramie Avenue, which point is 445 feet South of the Northeast corner of said Section 24; thence West, 33 feet to the North-

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

In Re ESTATE OF DAVID E. CONNER Deceased. 2023-PR-0000338

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of DAVID E. CONNER, on November 25, 2023. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to GERALD R. CONNER, of 2802 6th Avenue, Sterling, Illinois 61081, and LISA A. BAIZE, of 7506 North Honeysuckle Court, Brimfield, Illinois 61517, as Executors, whose attorneys of record are WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD., 118 West Main Street, P. O. Box 368, Elmwood, Illinois, 61529-0368. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Peoria County Courthouse, Peoria, Illinois, or with the representatives or both on or before the 16th day of July, 2024 or if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representatives is required by Sec. 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that Notice. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representatives and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed and the claimant shall file with the Court, proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

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

DATED this 4th day of December, 2023.

GERALD R. CONNER and LISA A. BAIZE, Executors of the Estate of DAVID E. CONNER, Deceased.

ROBERT L. POTTS, Esq. WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD. Attorneys for Executors 118 West Main Street P. O. Box 368 Elmwood, IL 61529-0368 Telephone: (309) 742-3611 becky@whitneyandpotts.com Published 1/4, 1/11, 1/18/24

east corner of said Outlot "B"; thence South, along the West line of Laramie Avenue, 88 feet to the true place of beginning of the premises to be described, thence West, 155 feet; thence South 105 feet; thence East, 155 feet to the West line of Laramie Avenue; thence North, along the West line of Laramie Avenue, 105 feet to the place of beginning; situated in Peoria County, Illinois. Commonly known as: 2009 S. Laramie, Peoria, IL 61605

Names of the titleholders of record: KATRINA TODD. Date of the Mortgage: December 29, 2005.

Name or names of the mortgageors: KATRINA TODD.

Name of the mortgagee: NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF NATIONAL CITY BANK OF INDIANA.

Date and place of recording: December 30, 2005; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois.

Identification of recording: Document No. 05-43367.

NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before February 13, 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: vchavarria@lenderlegal.com EService@LenderLegal.com

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

In Re ESTATE OF KEITH R. FURNISS Deceased. 2023-PR-0000353

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of KEITH R. FURNISS, on November 21, 2023. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to LYNN MIDDLETON, of 604 West Lawndale Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61604, and KRISTEN M. HEATON, of 2818 Cole Street, East Peoria, Illinois 61611, as Executors, whose attorneys of record are WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD., 118 West Main Street, P. O. Box 368, Elmwood, Illinois, 61529-0368. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Peoria County Courthouse, Peoria, Illinois, or with the representatives or both on or before the 12th day of July, 2024 or if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representatives is required by Sec. 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that Notice. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representatives and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed and the claimant shall file with the Court, proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

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

DATED this 18th day of December, 2023.

LYNN MIDDLETON and KRISTEN M. HEATON, Executors of the Estate of KEITH R. FURNISS, Deceased.

STEPHANIE F. SCHMIEG, Esq. WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD. Attorneys for Executors 118 West Main Street P. O. Box 368 Elmwood, IL 61529-0368 Telephone: (309) 742-3611 stephanie@whitneyandpotts.com Published 1/4, 1/11, 1/18/24

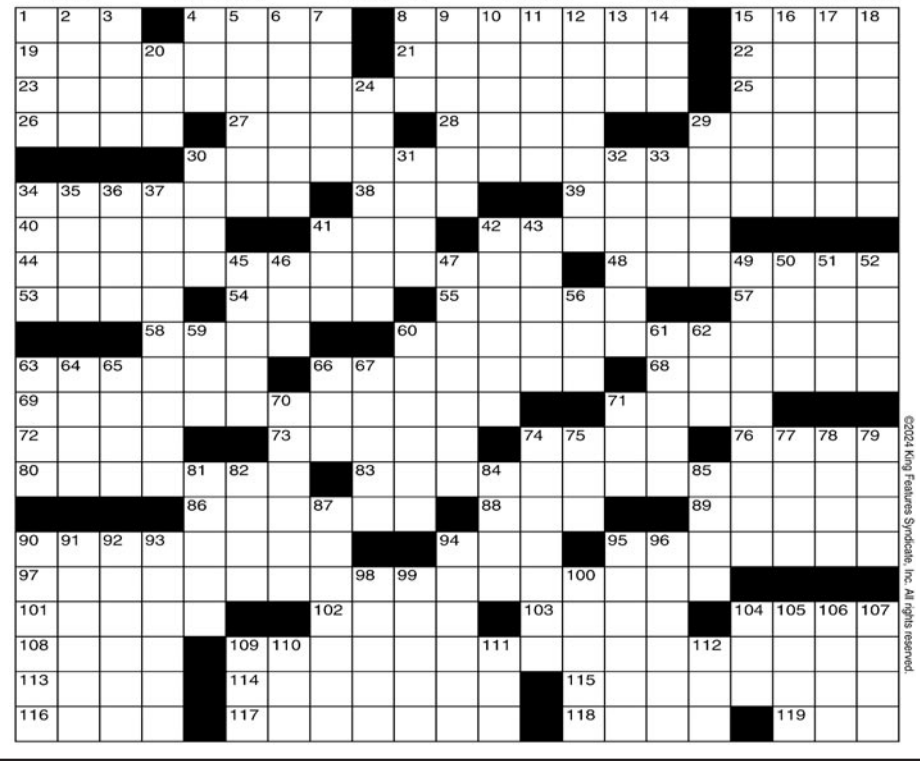
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Sponsor the Crossword Puzzle Call (309) 741-9790

Answers on Page 9 Super Crossword LEGAL THRILLERS

- ACROSS 1 Highest roll of a single die 4 Peak in Thessaly 8 Freaks out 15 Subjective paper piece 19 Never dying 21 Kind of cherry named for its shape 22 sci. (coll. major) 23 Scaled-down symphony group [1994] 25 Mallorca, por ejemplo 26 "King" primate 27 Writer Ferber 28 Anti-bias job agcy. 29 Gown fabric 30 Program interacting with a remote server [1993] 34 Bygone times 38 Nurtured 39 Kids' song with French lyrics 40 to go (gung-ho) 41 "It's ch-chilly!" 42 Whimpered like a baby 44 Place to disclose sins [2010] 48 Coinage for something with no name 53 Beginning on 54 "To — much is given ..." 55 Nantes' river 57 Sets of points on graphs 58 Shallowest Great Lake 60 Waltz or tango [1997] 63 Itinerant band member, say 66 State after wedlock 68 Having more seepage 69 Panels that may reverse decisions [2008] 71 Melody 72 Jungle roarer 73 Ouzo 74 Exact lookalike 76 Brand of rodent killer 80 Horse-man of myth 83 Greeting act conveying confidence [1991] 86 First-rate 88 Flub it up 89 Actress Shire 90 Plant snugly 94 — cone 95 Junk email sender 97 Samoan peak famous for trapping clouds [1995] 101 Italian port 102 Exactly 103 Money won in a game of dreidel 104 Claudius I's successor 108 Getting the job done 109 What the first word of each of seven answers in this puzzle is, when preceded by "The" 113 Stun with a charge 114 Canceled by crossing off 115 Revising, as text 116 Bishops' jurisdictions 117 Prescription amounts 118 Berlin article 119 Meadow DOWN 1 Ailing 2 Texter's "If you ask me" 3 Mutant Marvel superhero 4 Celestial ball 5 Like a cold, hard gaze 6 Manhattan eatery since 1927 7 Isolated 8 Ad — committee 9 Hatchet part 10 Ram or ewe 11 "The Fox and the Crow" storyteller 12 Tabby's scratcher 13 Bobby of hockey 14 Venus Williams' org. 15 Sedative drug 16 Sticky little sheet 17 "Mama" Cass 18 Actress Wiest 20 Texter's "Yikes!" 24 Bolted to escape 29 Riyadh native 30 Sugar source 31 Shore flier 32 "Not yet sure what my answer is" 33 Director Joel or Ethan 34 Killer whale 35 Neighbor of Myanmar 36 Early James Bond foe 37 Not similar 41 Dust jacket write-up 42 Demi and Dudley 43 Departs 45 Cupcake flourish 46 That lady 47 Less spicy 49 Honey-coated Easter entree 50 Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati" 51 Cicero's "Lo!" 52 Cake layer 56 ICU workers 59 Actor Stephen 60 Iran's former name 61 Ball-shaped 62 Put on, as an outfit 63 After-bath powder 64 Andy Taylor's boy 65 Sitting atop 66 Suffix with ball 67 Innocent types 70 President Donald 71 Shallow pan 74 Swarms 75 Huge conflict 77 Sedate 78 Steinbeck migrant 79 Close 81 In — (more than sleeping) 82 Arm bone 84 Eatery list 85 Baseballer Musial 87 Is really mad 90 Grain fungi 91 "Watch Me (Whip—)" (2015 hit) 92 "Apollo 13" actor Gary 93 Bills worth 100 bucks 94 "You got that right!" 95 Meat in a sub 96 Coal-mining guys 98 MMA fighter Rousey 99 Armageddon nation 100 Little laugh 104 Silent "yes" 105 Like villains 106 Russo of film 107 Gymnast Korbut 109 Elly May Clampett's pa 110 Good Grips kitchen brand 111 "— a trap!" 112 Ark.-to-Ill. dir.



Illinois farmers top wheat yield records

By **PHYLLIS COULTER**
FarmWeek

Illinois wheat growers broke yield records for the third year in a row and Knox County was one of five counties to top 100 bushels per acre for average yield.

Farmers not only broke the record in 2023, they "smashed it," according to Mark Schleusener.

Usually when a record is broken, it is by one to two bushels per acre. Last year it was by eight, said Schleusener, Illinois state statistician for USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The new state average wheat yield estimate for 2023 is 87 bushels per acre, up from 79 in 2022.

Illinois wheat farmers also broke county high-yield records. It is the first time a county averaged more than 100 bushels per acre, Schleusener said. This year's results blasted past that, with five counties surpassing that mark.

Tazewell County took top honors with the highest average yield in the state at 108.5 bushels per acre. Stephenson, Knox, Jo Daviess and Gallatin counties all also topped the 100-bushel-county average.

"It was a remarkable year

to grow wheat in Illinois," Schleusener said.

While noteworthy, the high yields weren't a complete surprise. An Illinois wheat tour projected high yields, as did NASS.

"Every time we gave a new forecast, it got higher," Schleusener said.

In both May and June, the forecasts were 78 bushels. In both July and August in more mature crops, estimates leaped to 84 bushels per acre and stayed there. The new number of 87 bushels also comes from a larger sample size, Schleusener said.

Washington County, which has the most wheat acreage in Illinois, had the highest production last year, coming in at more than 6.4 million bushels.

Randolph County came in second in total production, just shy of 3.4 million bushels, and Perry County came in third with almost 3 million bushels.

Earlier in the year, some people scoffed at high yields projected by the Illinois Wheat Association after its May wheat tour.

Tour participants projected an average of 97.1 bushels per acre based on 57 samples from 20 counties, mostly south of Interstate 70. Projections



Illinois wheat growers broke yield records for the third year in a row in 2023. FarmWeek file photo.

were far above anything ever seen in this part of Illinois.

During the tour, IWA used a new method to enhance crop scouting, with more focus on spikelet measurements and tiller counts to make yield projections. The results were greeted with some skepticism because they were so much higher than in the past.

"Everybody kind of laughed at us," said Mark Krausz, IWA president. But no one is laughing now. "I think we were pretty accurate," he said.

Projections in previous years had been considerably lower than the actual final yields, so the IWA sought the help of the University of Illinois for some

tweaks in its forecasting to be more accurate.

The new system proved much more precise, especially taking into consideration the dry weather that followed the wheat tour. A lack of rain brought yields down from the earlier potential, Krausz said.

As for 2024's wheat crop, Krausz said it's looking good so far. Like last year, milder temperatures helped the winter wheat get off to a good start.

"I've been all over the state and it has real good potential," he said.

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

Housing inventory expected to stay low

By **KEVIN BESSLER**
The Center Square

What is in store for the Illinois housing market in 2024 is uncertain, but inventories and interest rates are expected to be a major factor.

One industry analyst says the U.S. is short by 5 million homes. That's one reason homeowners chose to stay put in 2023, leading to a seller's market.

According to Illinois Realtors, year-over-year home sales continued to drop at the end of last year as available housing inventory remained tight. In November, there were only 20,568 homes for sale in Illinois, a 22.2% decrease from November 2022.

Analyst Meredith Whitney is predicting that the supply of homes for sale will go up in 2024, driving home prices down. The reason: a wave of baby boomers will look to downsize and put their homes on the market.

"Americans are sitting on a tremendous amount of equity in their homes," Whitney said. "It's a question of when they tap into it."

Jamie Seale with Clever Real Estate agrees and expects prices to slowly decrease this year.

"They have come down a

little bit but with the housing shortage, they have come down, but not a lot," Seale said. "The median home price right now is \$431,000, which is a lot."

That is compared to a median price of about \$265,000 in Illinois, but that is 9.5% higher than last year.

Added into the mix for home buyers is the fact that Illinois has among the highest property taxes in the country.

"We are trying to help consumers and their communities grow by advocating for the elimination of all types of burdensome property taxes and the creation of incentives for the construction of high-quality new houses that are affordable," said Matt Silver, president of Illinois Realtors.

Interest rates continue to drive the market. According to the Federal Housing Finance Agency, 70% of all mortgages are less than 4%, prompting many homeowners to stay where they are.

Based on the Freddie Mac data, the monthly average commitment rate for a 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage was 7.46% in November 2023, down from the previous month of 7.62%.

Amber Waves

The Spats

Just Like Cats & Dogs

GRIN & BEAR IT

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

ASG'C OMEVC F QFCKI MO
BSH ASG'C EFMG FGBCVMGE
QB PMGGMGE.
— IWPMG WSYYIK

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Trivia test

1. GEOGRAPHY: The Darien Gap separates which two countries?
 2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is Three Kings Day also known as?
 3. MOVIES: What's the name of the supervillain character in the animated film "Despicable Me"?
 4. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "The Kite Runner"?
 5. TELEVISION: What is the name of the motorcycle-riding greaser in the sitcom "Happy Days"?
 6. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which musical instrument does former President Bill Clinton play?
 7. GAMES: In the game Battleship, how many ships does each player have at the beginning?
 8. MUSIC: Which famous rock singer was born with the name Farrokh Bulsara?
 9. HISTORY: What was the name of the first U.S. Space Shuttle?
 10. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Mammoth cave system, believed to be the longest in the world?
- Answers**
1. Panama and Colombia.
 2. Epiphany.
 3. Gru.
 4. Khaled Hosseini.
 5. Fonzie.
 6. Saxophone.
 7. Five.
 8. Freddie Mercury.
 9. Columbia.
 10. Kentucky..
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TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Wonka (PG)
 2. Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom (PG-13)
 3. Migration (PG)
 4. The Color Purple (PG-13)
 5. Anyone But You (R)
 6. The Boys in the Boat (PG-13)
 7. The Iron Claw (R)
 8. Ferrari (R)
 9. The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (PG-13)
 10. The Boy and the Heron (PG-13)
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Brimfield girls win 4th straight

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post

After battling some of the state's top girls basketball programs at the State Farm Classic, Brimfield has surged in a return to area play.

The Lady Indians (13-7) have won four in a row since a tough loss to Olympia at The Classic.

Last week Brimfield beat ROWVA-Williamsfield at home on Jan. 3 (59-19) topped Stark County at home on Jan. 6 (51-22) and then traveled to Farmington Jan. 8 for a 72-37 victory.

Against Farmington, Brimfield had 20 assists on 29 baskets. Top scorers were Ava Heinz with 17 points, Maddie Rust 13, CJ Troxell 11 and Sawyer Drury and Olivia Kappes with nine points apiece.

Heinz scored 19 against Stark County and Brimfield led 24-6 after one quarter. Ava Simpson had eight rebounds and Troxell had seven steals.

Heinz tallied 25 in the win over R-W, including 11 in a second quarter that saw Brimfield outscore R-W, 22-4.

The Lady Indians are scheduled to travel to North Fulton on Thursday.

Princeville – After battling to the end in the title game of its holiday tournament in late December, Princeville dropped two road games in the past week.

On Jan. 4, the Lady Princes traveled to Biggsville and lost to West Central, 48-43. It was the first Lincoln Trail Conference loss for Princeville (13-7, 4-1).

Less than one week after a big win over Peoria Heights (17-3) at its holiday tournament, the Lady Princes suffered a 64-44 loss on the road against the Patriots. After

scoring 23 points in the first meeting, Brianna Brodie was held to 16. Paisley Schock added 11 points, Saraha Streitmatter scored seven and Kinley McGinn tallied five.

The Lady Princes next compete in the Lincoln Trail Conference tournament at West Central. Princeville is the No. 4 seed and was scheduled to play Ridgewood at 7:30 on Wednesday, Abingdon-Avon today at 6 p.m. and then play again next week based on pool play.

Elmwood – Ranked No. 8 in Class 1A in the first poll of 2024, the Lady Trojans (15-3) lost on the road Monday against Peoria Notre Dame, No. 4 in Class 2A. The Lady Trojans trailed 29-10 after one quarter. Mae Herman led with eight points and Lauren Rushing scored seven.

On Jan. 8, Elmwood beat Farmington 67-23 as Andrea Glenn led a balanced attack with 17 points. Raelynn McClain, Rushing and Chloe Howerton each scored eight points.

Elmwood is home vs. Peoria Heights Thursday.

Farmington – The Lady Farmers (1-17) lost three straight last week: to Brimfield on Monday (72-37), to Tremont (55-26) on Jan. 6 and to Elmwood (67-23) on Jan. 3. Farmington is at Bushnell-Prairie City Thursday.

ROWVA-Williamsfield – The Lady Cougars split a pair last week, beating Stark County (44-40) on Jan. 4 and losing to Brimfield (59-19) on Jan. 3. R-W is seeded No. 10 at the LTC tourney at West Central and was to face Wethersfield on Wednesday and Mercer County Saturday at 1 p.m. before pool play next week.



Farmington wrestler Parker Zerfass competes vs. Stanford Olympia earlier this season. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

WRESTLING: Ellis ranked No. 10

Continued from Page 16 standing wrestler award at the Clinton Invitational on Dec. 17.

"He puts in the work. That's one of the keys," Durbin said.

The same is true of sophomore Bradlee Ellis (21-7), who is Farmington's only other state-ranked wrestler, rated 10th at 138 pounds.

Ellis was a state qualifier last year at 126 pounds and won his first match before losing to the eventual state champion.

"He's at a tough weight and getting better every day," Durbin said. "He works hard every day. That's what it takes to win."

Ellis won at the Illini Bluffs tournament in late November and was second at Clinton, helping Farmington place seventh out of 16 teams. Other strong finishes at Clinton came from Parker Zerfass (third), Caleb Showalter (fourth) and Dillon Durbin

(sixth).

A sophomore, Showalter (19-10) was also second at Illini Bluffs at 126 pounds.

"He's doing pretty well," Durbin said. "He's real close to winning some very close matches that would put him into the rankings."

Durbin said another solid performer has been Ethan Shields at 190 pounds, who is out for his first season of wrestling.

"Our team is kind of small, but we're growing," Durbin said. "With the start of a junior high program, the future is looking a lot brighter."

Durbin said there are more than 20 wrestlers out in the junior high program this winter.

Moving forward, Durbin also hopes to have more home duals added to the schedule. This year, Farmington had just two home duals and both were contested early in the season.

Before postseason action starts with regionals on Feb. 3, Farmington has plenty of chances to tune up for its competition at Knoxville.

The Farmers are at the Kewanee Invite this Saturday and will compete at the Orion Invitational on Jan. 20.

BOYS: Kieser hits on 11 3-pointers

Continued from Page 16 place for Barnes to develop and aim for possible Division I play someday, according to Lozier.

"They're a D-1 factory," Lozier stated. "The head coaches love him."

Barnes averages 18-19 points per game for the Farmers (7-7), who lost 63-54 in overtime Jan. 6 at home to Chillicothe IVC. Farmington led by four with 50 seconds left in regulation, but turnovers led to a tie. Jack Gronewold had 20 points to lead Farmington, and fellow sophomore starter Landon Crawford scored 11. Barnes had 10.

Farmington began the new year with a 48-45 victory Jan. 2 at Havana. Farmington led by seven late but survived additional late turnovers. Barnes had 18 points, Gronewold 16. The Farmers were to be host Wednesday night to Canton and are to play twice Saturday at the Galesburg MLK Shootout. They're to face Peoria Quest at 10:30 a.m. and Batavia at 3 p.m.

Elmwood – Despite squandering an eight-point fourth-quarter lead on Jan. 5 and missing six free throws in OT, Elmwood beat visiting ROWVA-Williamsfield, 45-42.

Elmwood (8-8, 1-1 ICAC) had only six points and one field goal in the fourth, to go with four turnovers down the stretch. R-W made a free throw to

tie it with 25 seconds left, but Elmwood couldn't get a basket before the buzzer.

The Trojans held the Cougars to one OT point. Sirius Nims went 3-for-4 on free throws, and R-W missed a 3-pointer to tie.

"We'll have to shoot it better from 3 and from the line to be more successful moving forward, but our relentless effort and pursuit of the basketball was better than it's been throughout much of the season," Elmwood Coach Josh Fugitt stated.

Jackson Magee scored 13 to lead Elmwood. Jimmy Babcock and Bo Windish had 10 each.

Brimfield – Drew Kieser had 43 points Jan. 5, including 11 baskets from 3-point range, as host Brimfield (6-10) defeated North Fulton 63-49. Kieser scored 18 in the first quarter, all on 3s, as his team won its Prairieland North opener and went to 1-1 in the ICAC. Kieser's previous career high was 37 points, set Dec. 12 against Wethersfield.

"He's been comfortable with his shot, full of confidence," Brimfield Coach Scott Carlson stated. "Plus he has a range that is hard to keep track of for defenses."

Kieser was held to only six points in a 58-34 loss Jan. 6 at Orion. Brady Johnson scored a team-high 15.

Princeville – A rematch

Jan. 5 against Ridgewood was a rerun for Princeville, which won this Lincoln Trail meeting 75-54. The Princes (15-2, 2-0) took command in the second quarter, when it outscored its visitor 27-7. Tucker Sennett had a team-high 16 points, 13 in the first half, and Tayshaun Kieser scored 13.

The Princes also defeated Ridgewood in the first round of the Princeville Holiday Tournament, which they won.

Sennett had 17 points and three teammates achieved double digits in a 67-60 LTC victory Jan. 3 at Oneida over ROWVA-Williamsfield. Josh Hunt had 12 points, Jake Williams 11 and Kieser 10 for Princeville, which led 42-33 after three periods.

Princeville is to play Friday night at Galva and be host Saturday night to Roanoke-Benson.

ROWVA-Williamsfield – In a 45-42 overtime loss at Elmwood on Jan. 5, Riley Danner had 15 points for R-W (8-8, 0-4 LTC) and Lewis Sams scored 12. Danner had 27 points in a 67-60 home defeat Jan. 3 against Princeville, including 18 in the second half. Sams had 10.

Junior Talan Hull didn't play at Elmwood because of a head injury he sustained against Princeville. He's out until at least next weekend, R-W Assistant Coach Jeff Hannam said.

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Snow impacts ICAC tourney

By NICK VLAHOS
For The Weekly Post

Current bad weather and the threat of more caused changes this week to the ICAC boys basketball tournament.

The eight-team event that was to begin Monday at Peoria Heights was re-scheduled to start Wednesday at two sites.

First-round games postponed because of snow Monday – North Fulton vs. Illini Bluffs and ROWVA-Williamsfield vs. the hosts – remained at Heights. First-round games postponed Tuesday – Elmwood vs. Peoria Christian and Brimfield vs. Delavan – were moved to Peoria Christian.

Semifinals of the championship and consolation brackets are to be played tonight (Jan. 11), also at Heights and Peoria Christian. Heights will play host to whatever bracket it's in and Christian will host the other, according to Brimfield Athletics Director Kevin Kreiter. Starting times are 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Consolation-bracket games were scheduled originally for Friday. Now, no games will be played that day, because of a forecast that calls for another round of heavy snow. According to



Farmington senior Keauntrey Barnes plans to attend Kirkwood Community College. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

Kreiter, pushing games into early next week was rejected because sub-zero temperatures are forecast.

The original ICAC schedule for Saturday is unchanged. The seventh-place game is to begin at 2 p.m. at Heights, followed by the fifth-place game. Third-place and championship games are to ensue.

In non-ICAC play, a Farmington home game scheduled for Tuesday against Bushnell-Prairie City was rescheduled to tonight (Jan. 11). Princeville's game Tuesday against Knoxville was

moved to Jan. 18.

Farmington – Keauntrey Barnes decided to begin his college career later this year at a school with a national profile.

The 6-foot-6 Farmington senior swingman plans to attend Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, according to Farmers Coach Marty Lozier. Kirkwood has won three junior-college national championships, the most recent in 2019, and was ranked 12th nationally last month.

Kirkwood is a good *Continued on Page 15*

FARMERS WRESTLING



Farmington senior Keygan Jennings has qualified for the state wrestling tournament three times in his career and is seeking a fourth trip later this winter at a new weight class. State runner-up last year at 113 pounds, Jennings is wrestling at 132 pounds this year and is ranked No. 6 in the state. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

Jennings leading Farmington

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Weekly Post

FARMINGTON – Keygan Jennings may be wrestling at a new weight this winter, but he's still aiming for the same goal that has motivated him throughout high school.

"His goal is to be a state champ," Farmington Coach Jacob Durbin said.

A three-time state qualifier, Jennings came

close last year, placing second in Class 1A at 113 pounds. He was also fifth at state as a freshman and sixth as a sophomore at 113.

The road is different this year for Jennings, who has moved up to 132 pounds and is currently ranked sixth in Class 1A. He has a 27-2 record and 21 pins so far this season.

"I think he's at the right weight," Durbin

said. "He's had close matches with the two top kids in the state and both of them were winnable matches. So he's right where he needs to be."

Jennings is the lone senior on a young, 10-member Farmington wrestling team and has provided some of the Farmers highlights so far.

Before Christmas, he placed first at two major invites and won the out- *Continued on Page 15*

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