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January 4, 2024  
Vol. 11 No. 46

# The Weekly Post

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## More than 300 new Illinois laws now in effect for 2024

**By PETER HANCOCK, ANDREW ADAMS & JERRY NOWICKI**  
Capitol News Illinois

More than 300 new Illinois laws took effect Jan. 1, ranging from a ban on book bans to the regulation of "deepfake porn" and prohibitions on videoconferencing while driving.

Thanks to a law signed in 2019, workers at the lowest end of the pay scale will see a pay raise with the new year as the state minimum wage increases by \$1, to \$14 per hour. Gov. JB Pritzker championed and signed that law after it was approved by lawmakers within his first two months of office. The law gradually phases in a

\$15 per-hour minimum wage starting in 2025.

The minimum wage applies to most workers 18 and older. Teens who work fewer than 650 hours in a calendar year will go up to \$13 an hour while the minimum wage for tipped workers will increase to \$9 an hour.

Also starting Jan. 1, Illinoisans who own guns, ammunition and accessories prohibited under the state's "assault weapons" ban are in violation of the law if they don't register them with the state. A federal judge in late December chose not to temporarily halt the law's enforcement while a broader legal challenge plays out.

The U.S. Supreme Court also recently declined to stay the law.

While permanent administrative rules regulating which guns and ammunition must be registered with the Illinois State Police remain in flux, temporary rules governing registration remain in effect.

Other laws hitting the books include a measure granting paid leave to all workers, indoor vaping restrictions and a ban on youth solitary confinement in state correctional facilities, among others.

- **Paid leave for all** – Starting Jan. 1, anyone who works in Illinois is entitled to earn up to 40 hours of paid leave during a 12-month period, time they can take off

work for any reason, regardless of whether they are full-time, part-time, or seasonal employees.

The Paid Leave for All Workers Act passed during the lame-duck session last January – a session that was called primarily to pass the assault weapons ban. Pritzker signed it into law March 13.

"That is a game changer for many employers, particularly those who have not previously offered any type of paid leave to their employees," Scott Cruz, a labor attorney, said in November.

In particular, he said, the law will be a major change for waiters, waitresses and

*Continued on Page 13*

### NEW ELEVATOR OWNERS

## R&K selling operation to River Valley

**By JEFF LAMPE**  
For The Weekly Post

WYOMING – After 70 years and three generations of family management of Rumbold and Kuhn, Inc., the central Illinois grain merchant will sell its assets to the River Valley Cooperative of Davenport, Iowa.

River Valley announced last week in a press release that it had signed an agreement to acquire the grain assets of Rumbold and Kuhn, Inc. and transportation assets of Ezra Rumbold & Sons. The deal is expected to be completed by the end of June.



**Rumbold**



*Rumbold and Kuhn, Inc. is selling its assets to the River Valley Cooperative of Davenport, Iowa. That includes seven grain elevators and a fleet of semi trucks.*

The decision was not an easy one according to Mike Rumbold, 61, president of the company and grandson of founder Ezra Rumbold.

"It is tough because of the 70 years and the three generations we've had here. We just didn't have the fourth generation coming up," Rumbold said. "It's probably to the

point where we cared enough about our customers and employees that we didn't want to see things fall apart if something happened to a few of us here."

But Mike Rumbold said the only thing that will change in the immediate future is the business name.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Cop cooperation?

### Police-sharing idea in very early stage

**By NICK VLAHOS**  
For The Weekly Post

Police departments in Maquon, Williamsfield and Yates City probably aren't going to operate under a formal resource-sharing agreement anytime soon. But municipal officials are not saying never.

Informal, relevant-issue talks among the presidents of those three Knox County villages have included increased law-enforcement cooperation, according to two of those leaders – Robert Johnson of Williamsfield and Ken Vallas of Yates City. Mark Thomas is village president in Maquon.

No intergovernmental police agreement is imminent, Johnson and Vallas said. Johnson and Williamsfield Village Board members addressed the topic as an agenda item during a meeting last month. Yates City counterparts have not discussed it formally, according to Vallas.

Much would have to be worked out before an agreement is proposed, village and police officials said. Scheduling, liability, jurisdiction and ordinance-enforcement issues appear to be among those points.

"They'd have to align all their things the same, and that would be a monumental undertaking," Johnson said regarding ordinance enforcement.

But hiring and retaining police officers in smaller communities has not been easy, according to officials. Although the Williamsfield and Yates City departments appear to be

*Continued on Page 7*

SAVE THE DATE

Ag Marketing Breakfast

When: Wednesday, January 24, 2024  
Breakfast is served from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. with meeting to follow.

Where: Yates City Community Center

Watch for complete details coming soon!





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# R&K: Family business started in 1952

*Continued from Page 1*  
“We’re still going to have family management and run the business just like we have. Nothing is going to change but the name after July 1,” he said. “They’ve been very flexible with us. We couldn’t have had anything better on our side.”

Rumbold said River Valley will offer contracts to all 55 current full-time employees of Rumbold and Kuhn. That includes Mike Rumbold’s siblings Mark, Gregg, David, Jeff and Marjorie Loudenburg, and his son, Nick.

“He got his economics major at the University of Illinois and is working as a facilities manager, but he said, ‘Dad, I don’t think I want to do what you are doing,’” Mike Rumbold said. “It’s really tough to bring forward generation after generation.”

The family business got its start in 1952 when Ezra Rumbold and John Kuhn bought an elevator in the village of Stark and then another in nearby Duncan. While Kuhn sold out to his partner early on, the business has grown steadily since, first under Ezra, then under his son Elwin and since the late 1990s under Mike.

Mike is the oldest of the six children of Elwin and Loretta Rumbold. He eventually took over the company from his father and started in dispatching after graduating from Wyoming High School in 1980.

Ezra died in 1997 and Elwin passed away in 2001.

Today, Rumbold and Kuhn manages seven commercial grain elevator facilities in Illinois, with locations in Duncan,

Princeville, Putnam, Speer, Toulon and two in Wyoming. The company has revenues of about \$330 million and employs 55 full-time employees, according to Mike.

The payroll increases to more than 90 employees with part-time help during the fall harvest season.

The transportation side of the operation is made up of 13 semi-trucks painted with the familiar red-and-white Ezra Rumbold and Sons logo. Mike said the truck total doubles during harvest with the hire of independent drivers.

In addition to grain storage, trucking for the company and farmers and selling seed and fertilizer, the main business of R&K is buying and selling grain. Much of the grain is trucked to the Illinois River, though a growing percent is sent to ethanol plants.

River Valley Cooperative is a full-service ag cooperative with annual sales in excess of \$1.2 billion. The company traces its roots back to 1906.

Owned by more than 3,100 farm families in eastern Iowa and north-west Illinois, River Valley

Cooperative has 35 locations with more than 400 employees.

In addition to its grain business, River Valley offers products and services in agronomy, energy and feed.

“The culture and values of River Valley Cooperative are consistent with what Rumbold and Kuhn has developed over its 70-year history, and I am excited to know that our customers will continue to get the same great service their loyalty deserves,” Mike said.

“We look forward to working alongside the Rumbold and Kuhn employees within the combined organization and continuing our mutual commitment to excellent customer service,” added Tim Burress, River Valley Cooperative CEO. “Having the ability to bring together two dedicated employee teams, shared culture and values and financial stability is a tremendous opportunity.

This partnership, along with our recent agronomy facility expansions in the area, further enhances our commitment to serving customers in our Illinois trade area.”

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**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.
- **Bingo** – Salem Township Library in Yates City has bingo on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2 p.m., including Jan. 11 and Jan. 25.

**Future Events**

- **Harvest Home** – Fundraiser dinner for the annual Harvest Home festival is Jan. 18 at the Yates City Community Center, 4:30-7 p.m. Cost \$13. Carry out or dine in.
- **Manna Meal** – Monthly Manna Meal Jan. 25 at noon at Elmwood United Meth-

- odist Church. Cost \$8. Eat in or carry out.
- **Food Pantry** – Christ Alive Church in Kickapoo opens its food pantry the first and third Monday each month, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **Food Pantry** – Free food boxes given out the last Friday each month at Elmwood United Methodist Church, 10-11 a.m.

**The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Partly Sunny	Cloudy	Sunny	Cloudy	Showers	Mix	Partly Sunny
<b>36</b> 25 E 4 mph	<b>38</b> 28 SE 8 mph	<b>39</b> 28 N 5 mph	<b>39</b> 31 SW 8 mph	<b>41</b> 34 SE 11 mph	<b>36</b> 20 N 20 mph	<b>27</b> 23 W 14 mph

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# The Weekly Post

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**Quotable** - "May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions."  
- Joey Lauren Adams

Illinois Press Association Member

## GUEST VOICES



### Doubling down on death, taxes & crop insurance

Founding father Benjamin Franklin was spot-on almost three centuries ago when he noted – in print, no less – that two unavoidable facts of life were death and taxes.

Had Ben been in the “Almanack” business today, he might add two, more modern facts of American life to his list: farmers and ranchers’ growing dependency on crop insurance and the growing taxpayer concerns about the increasing cost of that dependency.

Congress’s non-partisan watchdog, the Government Accountability Office, put hard numbers on the widespread use of today’s federal crop insurance program, its rising costs and where most of the federal subsidies wind up. The findings were shocking to taxpayers who, like almost every American outside working farmers and ranchers, have no clue of the program’s growth, functions and costs.

For example, explained the Environmental Working Group, one of crop insurance’s long-time critics, “The top 1% of crop insurance policyholders, farmers with the highest incomes, got over \$2.5 billion in premium subsidies in 2022 – an average of almost \$500,000 per farm.”

By any standard, that’s an incredible sweetener to entice already well-heeled farmers to use a revenue-insuring program many would join anyway because of lender or market pressure. GAO acknowledges as much, noting that shaving

15% off government subsidies to this group would have “minimal effects on participation ... and the program’s financial soundness.”

Without simple fixes such as a graduated subsidy rate based on farm size, says EWG, in 2022 the “19 largest policyholders each received more than \$3 million in subsidies, with the recipient who received the most taking in \$7.7 million ...”

These subsidies aren’t chicken feed: “In 2022, subsidies averaged about 62% of policyholders’ premiums and totaled \$12 billion,” explained the GAO, “comprising the largest portion of the program’s total cost of \$17.3 billion.”

Policyholders aren’t the only players in this federal crop – really revenue – insurance program to receive hefty subsidies to participate. The insurance companies hired by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to deliver the program continue to reel in whopper dollars, too.

In fact, one-third of the program’s annual cost, calculates EWG, “or about \$3 billion per year, goes to insurance companies instead of farmers. This money,” it continues, “goes to just 13 companies, nine of which are publicly traded corporations, worth billions of dollars, whose CEOs make millions of dollars every year.”

Reforming crop insurance, the centerpiece of today’s federal farm program and the still-overdue 2023 Farm Bill, seems impossible. Pressure from farm groups, Big Agbiz and insurance companies keeps Congress on its back foot whenever talk of examining and updating the aging, bloated and deeply arcane program begins on Capitol Hill.

Worse, Republicans on the House Ag Committee now are using the Farm Bill delay to advocate for an expanded – but still unreformed – crop insurance program that would send even more subsidies, say critics, to even more wealthy farmers.

For example, reports AgriPulse, a well-sourced ag news service, “Lawmakers are looking at boosting subsidies for supplemental, area-based crop insurance policies to induce growers to buy higher levels of coverage, which could potentially reduce the demand from farm groups for ad hoc disaster assistance.”

Did you catch all the certain-to-cost-more words in that sentence: “boosting subsidies,” “supplemental policies” and “induce” compared to the single cost-saving hope of “potentially reduce ad hoc disaster ...”?

More to the point, AgriPulse continues, “Economists say the expanded ... coverage could particularly benefit farmers during periods of relatively high prices and input costs when farmers are unlikely to get payments from two (of the biggest crop insurance) programs, Price Loss Coverage and Agriculture Risk Coverage.”

In short, today’s call to expand crop insurance in the face of new efforts to reform it is just like death and taxes: No matter the circumstances, it’s inevitable.

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



Alan GUEBERT

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**GUEST VOICES**

**Some old cows just want to stay put**

Things are finally tucked in for the winter here on our farm. Matt and AJ hauled cows to the Other Place last week.

We keep the coming first calf and second calf heifers here at home, but pretty much everyone else goes to the more sheltered and spacious Other Place for the winter. We keep the younger cows here for a couple reasons, mainly because it is difficult for them to compete with the older, more dominant and generally larger older cows for food, water and snug bedding.

We also want to be certain that even if the weather turns horribly against us and we can't get cows hauled back home before calving starts, which has happened, we have the higher-risk group here at home.

Matt is an expert driver, so hauling four loads of five or six cows each a mile and a half did not take long. First they sorted the cows that would be traveling and secured them in the boarding area of barn. These older cows have some sense that this is a ride they want to take, so most hop into the small trailer without much coaxing.

Any time the trailer arrives at a pasture, it causes excitement. The resident cows never know for sure what may be going to step out of it. In June it's the bull. In December it is these other cows.

They have all been together at one time or another. They are all related to one another to some degree. Some are siblings, aunts, mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and so on. But that does not mean they are always welcomed unconditionally.

This day, 402, the acting boss cow at the Other Place, met the trailer near the gate. 402 will be 10 years old this March and is in her prime.

She is a big black cow with a no-nonsense demeanor. As the first cohort jumped down out of the trailer, 402 let out a bellow and circled around behind one of the newcomers. Down the hill toward the slough she ran, noisily asserting her dominance.

Others soon joined the chase and chaos momentarily ensued. By the time the men had returned with the second load, however, the herd was calm again.

Once they had downloaded the last batch from home, Matt backed up to the barn at the Other Place and they loaded up the little keeper heifers to bring home for the winter. These are the moms-to-be from this year, not quite a year old. They have recently been measured to ensure they can safely deliver a calf, vaccinated as prescribed and had magnets placed to protect against any accidentally ingested bits of metal.

They will spend the winter in the hay lot and old hog house where they get plenty of feed and easy access to water. They need to be in tip-top shape when they meet the bull for the first time in about six months.

Back at the home pasture, the now-smaller herd was rearranging itself. While these are for the most part the younger cows, there were two older cows still in residence. For one thing, it is good to have some experienced cows in the herd. They are familiar with the routines, come when called, and would instinctively lead a charge against danger, such as coyotes.

But the main reason Pet and 5549 are residing at home is because they are non-loaders. They just will not go into the trailer. Nope, no way, not for your fairy kingdom. So they just stay here in leadership positions.

When AJ and Matt went down to the little pasture to check on the herd, there were the two matrons lying side by side, rumps touching, in the prime bedding area. Perhaps

they really just don't want to ride in the trailer; perhaps they know, year in and year out, just exactly what they are doing.

Either way, they are where they want to be, chewing cud in the sunshine and waiting for more food to be delivered. We should all be so fortunate.

**SPICY CHEESEBURGER SLIDERS**

These would be perfect for a Super Bowl party!

*Ingredients*

- 1 pound ground beef (96% lean)
- 9 small whole-wheat hamburger buns, split, divided
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground chipotle chili powder
- 2 slices pepper jack cheese, cut in quarters

*Toppings:*

- Barbecue sauce, lettuce, tomato slices, pickles (optional)

*Directions:*

Tear one hamburger bun into pieces. Place in food processor or blender container. Cover; pulse on and off, to form fine crumbs.

Combine bread crumbs, ground beef, garlic and chili powder in medium bowl, mixing lightly but thoroughly. Lightly shape into eight 1/2-inch thick mini-patties.

Cook's Tip: One-half teaspoon chili powder may be substituted for chipotle chili powder.

Place patties on grill over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, covered, 8-9 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, 9-10 minutes) until instant-read thermometer inserted horizontally into center registers 160°F, turning occasionally. Evenly top with cheese during last minute of grilling.

Place burgers on bottoms of remaining eight buns. Top with desired toppings. Close sandwiches.

*Jeanne Harland is a cow-calf producer in Knox County where she and her husband, AJ, also raise corn, soybeans, oats and turnips.*



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My apologies to anyone who came to see my Christmas Village at Trivoli UMC and the door was closed. Unfortunately, I was in the hospital with pneumonia. It will be open on Friday and Saturday January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm. This is my gift to you.  
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## Double Take Kitchen Announcement

Due to the continuous rising costs of inputs in the food industry, Double Take Bar & Grill in Williamsfield has made the difficult decision to close our restaurant, effective January 13<sup>th</sup> 2024. We appreciate all of our customers over the past 6 years that have allowed us to serve them and that have become like a second family to all of us.

We would also like to announce that in cooperation with Underground Backyard BBQ, opening soon next door to Double Take, we will be allowing carryout orders from their establishment to be enjoyed in the friendly confines of Double Take. So, feel free to order some delicious barbecue and bring it in to enjoy a beverage and watch your favorite team play a game. Once again, we'd like to thank everyone that made the restaurant everything it was over the past 6 years and look forward to seeing you all again soon!

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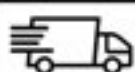
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## PUBLIC RECORD

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

### Police reports

• **ELMWOOD** – A Yates City man was accused of spending \$350 in counterfeit money at an Elmwood business.

The transaction took place shortly after 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at Dollar General, 812 W. Main St. A man later identified at 36-year-old Chance D. Blankers handed the cashier the money to recharge his mobile-payment account, according to an Elmwood Police Department report.

Later, the cashier and store manager realized the three \$100 bills and a \$50 bill were fakes. Elmwood and Yates City officers tracked down Blankers at his residence, where he was arrested Dec. 13.

Blankers said he received the money in a Facebook Marketplace transaction but wasn't home when it happened and couldn't identify the purchaser, the report stated. He was cited for fraud, forgery and counterfeiting and is to appear Jan. 24 in Peoria County Circuit Court.

• **ELMWOOD** – An Elmwood man admitted he grabbed a woman by the throat and forced her onto a bed at a residence north of town.

The domestic dispute happened about 9:30 a.m. Dec. 26 in the 12200 block of Illinois Route 78, according to a heavily redacted Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. Jake A. Callister, 28, said he was attempting to inspect the 30-year-old victim's cellphone. A scuffle reportedly ensued.

Callister was accused of domestic battery/bodily harm and transported to the Peoria County Jail. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services was notified because five juveniles were present during the altercation, according to the report.

• **KICKAPOO** – No injuries were reported following a two-vehicle crash west of Kickapoo.

Shortly before 9 a.m. Dec. 26, Edward J. Dole of Cambridge was driving a garbage truck with one passenger east on U.S. Route 150 when he signaled for a left turn at Philander Chase Lane, per a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report.

An eastbound 2023 Chevrolet Colorado pickup truck attempted to pass the garbage truck and collided with its front driver's-side corner. The other driver was Ronald Draper of Brimfield. He said he believed Dole activated his warning flashers and was pulling over to the right.

The pickup truck sustained disabling damage to its passenger side and was towed. The garbage truck's driver's-side door, cab and front bumper were damaged, but the vehicle was drivable. Draper was cited for improper passing. He passed two other vehicles behind the garbage truck, according to a witness.

• **KICKAPOO** – A domestic disturbance at a residence north of Kickapoo resulted in the arrest of a Princeville woman.

Victoria E. Hawkins, 47, was accused of hitting two men multiple times with her fists and a cup, a Peoria County Sheriff's report stated. The incident took place about 4:15 p.m. Dec. 24 in the 11100 block of N. Evans Mill Rd. The victims were 50 and 21.

Hawkins was transported to the Peoria County Jail and was booked for domestic battery/bodily harm.

• **ELMWOOD** – An Elmwood

man was arrested on a domestic-battery charge in connection with an incident at a local residence.

The Peoria County Sheriff's Office was summoned about 10 p.m. Dec. 23 to the 200 block of N. Knox St. A report about the incident was heavily redacted, but it involved Joshua R. Bateman, 32, as well as a 24-year-old woman and their 10-day-old child.

According to the report, the woman accused Bateman of attempting to take the child without her permission. Bateman was transported to the Peoria County Jail.

• **OAK HILL** – A Farmington woman and two children required hospital attention following a two-vehicle accident on a foggy morning east of Oak Hill.

Amanda T. Gilles was driving a 2014 Buick Encore about 5:45 p.m. Dec. 23 on westbound Illinois Route 8 when her vehicle collided with a 2020 Ram 2500 pickup truck headed the same direction, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The pickup-truck driver was Robert W. Harris of Peoria.

Gilles said she thought Harris activated his right-turn signal at Texas Road, so she attempted to pass him. Instead, Harris turned left, and the vehicles collided. Harris said he activated his left-turn signal; no right turn is possible at the Texas Road intersection. Visibility at the time was about 50 feet, the report stated.

Medical personnel evaluated Harris, who declined additional attention. The two children, a boy and a girl, appeared uninjured, but Gilles complained about chest discomfort. All three were transported to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Both vehicles sustained disabling damage and were towed.

• **FARMINGTON** – A Farmington man was accused of disorderly conduct after police visited his residence three times within two hours because of noise complaints.

Walter P. Albrecht, 71, was scheduled to appear late last month in Fulton County Circuit Court regarding incidents that took place between about 8:45 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at an apartment complex in the 700 block of E. Court St.

Farmington police issued Albrecht public-nuisance citations during the first visit and the second, at about 10:15 p.m. According to police reports, a neighbor complained twice about Albrecht playing music too loud. The total fine was \$150.

Shortly after the second visit, the neighbor called police and said Albrecht banged on a wall between his and her apartments so hard it made her jump and believe the wall was collapsing, per a report. Neighbors saw Albrecht hit the wall.

• **KICKAPOO** – Police arrested a Kewanee man found lying on the pavement at a Kickapoo intersection after he allegedly choked and punched his father while they were in a moving vehicle.

Detric L. Howell, 40, was breathing but not alert when first responders discovered him shortly after 3 a.m. Dec. 17 at U.S. Route 150 and Kickapoo-Edwards Road.

A 61-year-old woman who contacted the Peoria County Sheriff's Office said she, Howell and a 65-year-old man were returning home from a Christmas party in Peoria. Howell became belligerent and attacked the man, according to a sheriff's-office report.

The woman stopped the vehicle, which Howell exited. She drove the victim to a Kewanee hospital, where he was treated for injuries. His face was bruised and swollen, and blood was crusted on his nostrils and mouth, the report stated.

Howell was transported and admitted to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. He was charged with domestic battery and is to appear Jan. 24 in Peoria County Circuit Court.

• **BELLEVUE** – Drivers from Farmington were involved in a two-vehicle crash in Bellevue. The accident occurred about 2:45 p.m. Dec. 14 in the 4900 block of Plank Road.

A 2007 Mercury Mariner driven by Scott E. Thompson collided with the rear of a 2006 Pontiac Grand Prix driven by Jeremy T. Mentzer, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report.

Thompson, Mentzer and a female passenger in his vehicle declined medical treatment, although she complained about neck pain. Both vehicles were towed.

• **GALESBURG** – No injuries were reported in a two-vehicle accident at the southeast edge of Galesburg that involved a Williamsfield man. Shortly before 7:30 a.m. Dec. 11, Austin D. Cirrincione, 24, was driving a 2004 Buick LeSabre east on Knox Highway 10 when the vehicle sideswiped an eastbound 2021 Jeep Compass and landed in a ditch south of the intersection with Knox Road 600 East, a Knox County Sheriff's Office report stated.

The Compass driver, 59-year-old Susan M. Tracy of Aledo, said she was turning north onto Knox Road 600 East when the LeSabre clipped the passenger-side rear wheel of her vehicle. Cirrincione said he didn't realize Tracy was turning left.

Both vehicles sustained disabling damage and were towed. Cirrincione was cited for driving too fast for conditions.

• **HANNA CITY** – Shortly before 9 p.m. Dec. 15, Sydnee E. Barton of Farmington was driving a westbound 2018 Chevrolet Malibu in the 11000 block W. Smithville Rd. south of Hanna City when the vehicle struck a deer. The vehicle sustained front driver's-side and quarter-panel damage but was drivable. The deer was not located.

• **ELMWOOD** – Stephen D. Wiebler, 33, of Elmwood was arrested at 2:45 a.m. Dec. 29 and accused of domestic battery/physical contact, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.

• **BRIMFIELD** – Ryan L. Jackson, 21, of Brimfield was arrested shortly before 6 p.m. Dec. 27 and accused of criminal damage to government property between \$500 and \$10,000, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.

• **PRINCEVILLE** – Ronald L. Potter Jr., 37, of Princeville was arrested about 11:15 p.m. Dec. 19 and accused of unlawful possession of a stolen vehicle, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded between Dec. 10-23: disturbance, Yates City; driving complaint, Dahinda; two animals in the road, Dahinda; trespass, Dahinda; theft, Dahinda; burglary, Yates City; damage, Dahinda; road hazard, Dahinda; abandoned vehicle, Dahinda.

# POLICE: Statewide problems hiring officers

*Continued from Page 1*  
in decent shape numbers-wise, that might not be true in the future.

“Every police department, big and small, in the entire state is having those problems,” Yates City Police Chief Randy Benson said. “We’re not immune to it.”

According to Benson, the Yates City force has six part-time officers, as well as his full-time position. There are five officers in Williamsfield, according to Police Chief James Robertson. He said Maquon has one or two officers who work part time.

Williamsfield and Yates City are about 13 miles apart. Maquon is about nine miles from Yates City and 16 miles from Billtown.

Yates City officials want local police on duty about 55 hours each week, according to Benson. He said his department is able to do that.

But Vallas suggested the overall political climate in Illinois and recent changes in state law might jeopardize the status quo eventually. Those changes include but are not limited to the SAFE-T Act, which among other things eliminated cash bail.

“My philosophy is the liberal government that we live in in the state of Illinois is making it almost impossible for people to hire police officers,” Vallas said. “If it wasn’t for liberals, we wouldn’t have an issue. ... They’re stuffing everything down (our) throat, and you can’t hire anybody.”

Contracting with the Knox County Sheriff’s Office for police patrols is a small-community option, according to Robertson. He said Altona, Oneida and Wataga have joined forces for a sheriff’s-office deal. A deputy patrols each community a few hours at a time.

“I think with these smaller towns, their ideology is to do some patrol and be seen, and vice versa,” Robertson said.

It appears Williamsfield and Yates City don’t want to export patrol responsibilities to the sheriff’s office at this point. But Robertson suggested coordination with the sheriff and with county dispatchers will be necessary

if Maquon, Williamsfield and Yates City decide to combine some law-enforcement functions.

Benson appears to believe it might not be premature to ponder it.

“I think the respective village presidents are trying to get ahead of things,” he said. “That’s pretty progressive thinking, in my opinion. I applaud that.”

*Wishing you a Joyous Christmas and Many Blessings in the New Year*

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**Jan 9** Legion Mtg. 7pm

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# Princeville Village Board may end speculation regarding pool

By **NICK VLAHOS**

For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – The Princeville Village Board might be getting closer to ending speculation about the future of the decommissioned municipal swimming complex.

Supporters of a referendum to create a park district that would reopen and oversee the Princeville Aquatic Center weren't able to fulfill ballot requirements in time for the March primary election. The best chance for that now is the November general election, according to Village President Jeff Troutman.

"They found out it's a lot more detailed than stuff they even thought of," he said about an effort local residents Pat Stahl and Lynda Stone are leading.

During meetings later this month, the board may consider whether it can let the shuttered center lay fallow until at least autumn. Among options that might be discussed are demolition and what to do with the land upon which the three-pool complex sits at 620 Princeville Ave.

After Stone presented her park-district plan to the board in October, Trustee Ron Delbridge said he and his peers didn't want the aquatic center to become an eyesore and spring probably would be a deadline.

Based on his comments during a board meeting Dec. 19, it appears Delbridge hasn't changed his view.

"I think we all know it won't be a popular decision," he said about the board's next move. "If we leave it sit, we'll probably catch grief over that, too." Said Troutman: "It's a Catch-22."

A property-committee meeting to address the aquatic center might be held Jan. 16, immediately before the regular board meeting scheduled that night.

The board voted in September to close the aquatic center permanently, after it did not open for the 2023 season. The facility was projected to have more than a \$100,000 deficit to enter the season.

Among items the board approved during its final meeting of 2023 was hiring the Peoria County Sheriff's Office to patrol the village New Year's Eve.

Under a contract the board approved in late 2022, the sheriff's office provides coverage in Princeville five days a week, eight hours a day. The sheriff's office doesn't plan to charge the village for the additional year-ending shift, Troutman said, but he sought board approval in case that situation changed.

Delbridge and Trustee Donald Peterson Jr. questioned the need for a New Year's Eve police presence. Troutman suggested it was a precaution because of the recent opening of High Voltage Taphouse, a downtown bar. The patrol was scheduled from 6:45 p.m. Dec. 31 until 2:45 a.m. Jan. 1.

The board also authorized the 2022-23 village financial report, the annual audit report and a paid-leave plan effective this month for part-time municipal employees. They'll be entitled to between four hours and one day, depending on workload, of use-it-or-lose-it paid leave per calendar year.

Implementation Jan. 1. of the Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act prompted the new plan.

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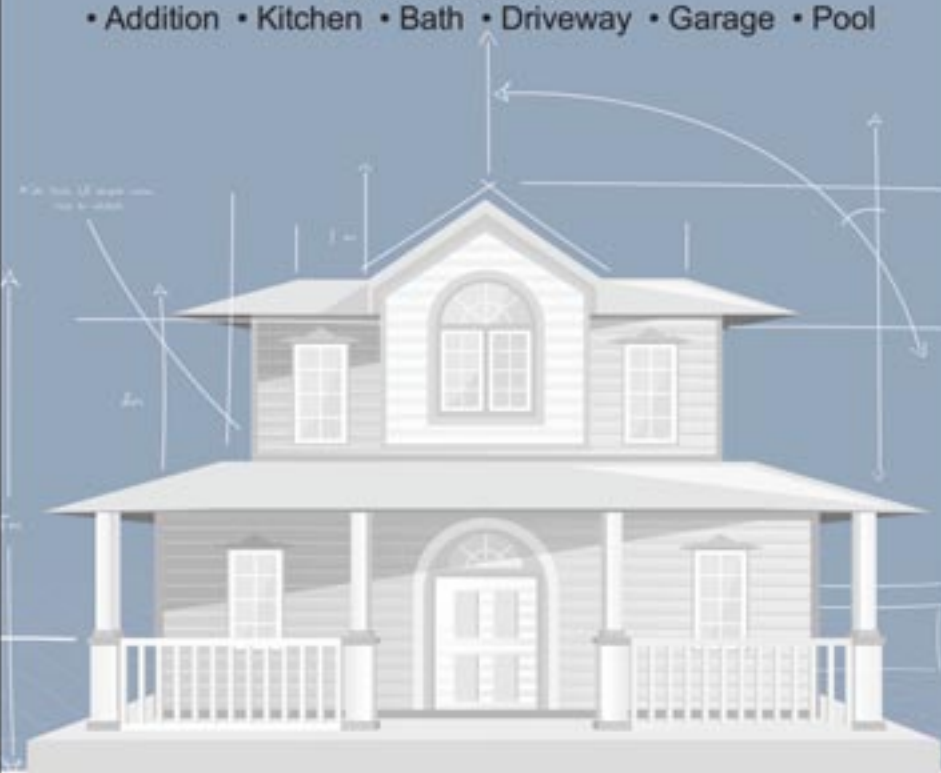

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## POSSUM ON THE HALF SHELL



This dead armadillo showed up on Main Street in Maquon in late December and eventually was placed in front of the post office. Did the armadillo wander north under its own power? Was it a stowaway in somebody's vehicle? Or did someone, after visiting family down south, drop it off as a prank?

## Animal welfare laws may impact Midwestern farmers

By KEVIN BESSLER

The Center Square

A new animal welfare law that took effect in California Jan. 1 mandating space requirements for pigs, cows and chickens has some livestock farmers on edge.

Proposition 12 prohibits sales in California of pork, veal and eggs from livestock whose confinement doesn't meet certain minimum space rules.

The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld the law, ruling 5-4 that "while the Constitution addresses many weighty issues, the type of pork chops California merchants may sell is not on that list."

Tasha Bunting, Illinois Farm Bureau director of commodity programs and food systems, said the law

would be a burden on farmers in Illinois and other large pork-producing states.

The Illinois Pork Producers Association estimates it will cost \$3,500 per sow to upgrade infrastructure to become Prop 12 compliant.

Fourteen other states have passed farm-animal containment laws similar to the one in California.

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**Thank You**

The family of Buck LaFollett would like to express deep gratitude for all who attended his memorial service. He would have been honored. We were overwhelmed by the outpouring of cards, calls, monetary gifts to his charities and meals provided to our family. A special Thank you to Pastor Blasing, Ryan Ruanda, Jerry Peters, Susan Coulter and our Hospitality Team for a wonderful service and meal. We have been blessed by so many during this difficult time of losing our husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be greatly missed.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Carlene M. Hart**

YATES CITY – Carlene M. Hart, 75, of Yates City, passed away at 5:36 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, at her home. She was born June 28, 1948, to Carl and Marjorie (Schulte) Lesones in Quincy, Ill. She married Richard “Dick” Hart Sr. on June 23, 1973, in Bushnell. He survives.



Hart

Carlene is also survived by seven children, Raymond (Judy) Hart of Laura, Charles (Jenn) Hart of Yates City, Margie (Russ) Clark of Elmwood, Kenny (Theresa) Heikes of Elmwood, Kathleen (Brian) Rushing of Elk Mountain, Wyo., Derrick Hart of Washington, Ill., and Teresa Lovel of Canton; one brother, Donald (Norma) Lesones; two sisters, Marcia (the late Willie) Briggs and Carolyn Winans; 18 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren and two on the way; and several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her stepfather, Charles Stark; one son, Richard “Dick” Hart Jr.; and two brothers, Dave Lesones and Danny Lesones.

She was Wonder Woman to all. There was always an open invitation at the table. Her table therapy was the greatest. With a simple phone call, she had the gift of making your worries go away. She could do anything. Her creativity was overwhelming from the kitchen, gardening, decorating, antiquing and fishing. She always out-fished dad. Her unconditional love to all was overwhelming but mostly for her grandchildren. She will be dearly missed.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Elba-Salem Fire Department, Elmwood Fire Department, and B.Y.E. Ambulance.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.oakshinesfuneral-home.com.

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

**John Savage**

GENESEO – John Savage, a ded-

icated farmer who spent most of his life in the Brimfield and Geneseo areas, has passed away at the age of 79. He was born on Dec. 5, 1944, in Peoria, Ill., the son of Harlan and Ruby (LaFollette) Savage. He passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023, at his home in rural Geneseo.



Savage

He was raised and educated in the Brimfield area, graduating from Brimfield High School. He married Cynthia Wirth Stoner in 2017 in Cambridge.

John’s passion for farming was evident throughout his career. He worked tirelessly to cultivate crops and raise various animals on his farm. He enjoyed raising cattle, goats, chickens and guineas and gathering their eggs, as well as raising hay for the animals and bee keeping.

His vegetable and fruit gardens were among his proudest accomplishments, providing fresh produce for himself and others. Even while using modern farming equipment, John enjoyed using old-school techniques, including the use of horses in farming.

Beyond his agricultural pursuits, John found joy in other activities as well. Carpentry was one of his hobbies, allowing him to make many useful projects. He also in his youth had enjoyed baseball and was a lifelong reader during his leisure time. He enjoyed socializing while attending the Kewanee Sale Barn.

In this difficult time of grieving the loss of John Savage, we remember not only a hardworking individual but also a beloved family member and friend. He will be dearly missed by all those who knew him.

John is survived by his loving wife, Cindy. He was also a stepfather to Brad (Ange) Stoner, Andrew Stoner and Austin Stoner, and a stepgrandfather to Rylee Stoner. Other survivors include his sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary (Ron) Knappern and Eleanor (Jim) Murphy; and sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Brenda (Mike) Dean and Angie (Tim) Kincaid; as well as close friends and his dogs, Rosie and Festus.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harlan Savage, mother,

Ruby (LaFollette) Savage, brother William Savage and brother Robert Savage.

A visitation was to take place at Stackhouse-Moore Funeral & Cremation Services in Geneseo on Dec. 29, 2023. This was to be followed by a funeral service at the same location at 11 a.m. The burial was to follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Geneseo. Memorials may be given to Henry County Humane Society, Geneseo.

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

**Sharon K. Phelps**

ELMWOOD – Sharon K. Phelps, 82, of Elmwood, passed away at 12:30 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 30, 2023, at Farmington Village Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.



Phelps

She was born July 3, 1941, in Washington, Ill., to James and Lenia (Black) Menees. She married Bruce Phelps on June 21, 1959, at Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria. He survives.

Sharon is also survived by two sons, David (Becky) Phelps of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Tom Phelps of Elmwood, Ill.; one sister, Shirley Marsh; one brother-in-law, Don (Sue) Phelps; two sisters-in-law, Pat (Dave) Broeker and Nancy Galloway; and four grandchildren, Josh (Lindsey) Faber, Ashley Phelps, Jordan Phelps and Ryleigh Shae.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Edward Menees.

Sharon was a chiropractic assistant at Glover Chiropractic for 44 years. She was also a lifetime member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria. In her earlier years, she was involved with PARC and the frolic fundraisers.

Sharon also enjoyed traveling, vacationing to Minnesota, taking motorcycle trips all over the country and dedicating her life to her family and friends.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Per her request, there will be no services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Freedom Riders.

To leave online condolences, please view www.oakshinesfuneral-home.com.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Carl L. Adolphson**

KNOXVILLE – Carl Leroy Adolphson, 89, of Knoxville, passed away Thursday, Dec. 28, 2023, at OSF St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

Leroy was born on July 7, 1934, near Williamsfield. He was the son of Carl E. and Anna (Johnson) Adolphson. He married Lucille Kitch on July 19, 1953, in the Federated Church, Avon.

Surviving are his wife of 70 years; one son, Kevin (Mary) Adolphson of Knoxville; one daughter, Deanna (Jim) Egeland of Knoxville; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one brother, Raymond (Connie) Adolphson of Avon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister and two brothers.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, at 11 a.m. with a visitation from 10 a.m. until time of services at the Hurd-Hendricks Funeral Homes in Knoxville, with Rev. Katie Gallagher officiating. Military rites will be conducted by the Knox County Honor Guard. Burial will be held at a later date.

Condolences can be left online at [hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com](http://hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com).

**Flora Furgerson**

CANTON – Flora “Ramona” Furgerson, 95, of Canton, mother of an Elmwood woman, died Dec. 30, 2023, at Carle Health Methodist Hospital in Peoria.

She was born in Mount Carmel on Nov. 28, 1928, to Arthur and Della (Payne) Densmore. They preceded her in death, as did her brother Ray Densmore and sister Betty Collins.

Ramona married Jack W. Furgerson I on May 15, 1948. He also preceded her in death in 1974.

Surviving are her two children, Robin (Frank) Donath of Elmwood and Jack W. (Lori) Furgerson II of Chillicothe; five grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and a few great-great-grandchildren.

A private service will be held. She will be buried with her husband at White Chapel Memory Gardens in Canton.

Condolences can be left online at [www.oakshinesfuneralhome.com](http://www.oakshinesfuneralhome.com).

**Kathy L. Gorsuch**

CANTON – Kathy L. Gorsuch, 75, of Canton, mother of a Farmington man, passed away surrounded by her family on Dec. 30, 2023, at her residence.

She was born on May 30, 1948, in Canton, a daughter of Paul and Dot-

tie (Bishop) Sebree. She married Donald Gorsuch on June 4, 1966, in Summum. He preceded her in death on April 17, 2017.

Also preceding her in death were her parents.

Surviving are her children, Curtis (Chris) Gorsuch of Canton, Brian (Amy) Gorsuch of Cuba, Kim (Jorge) Garcia of St. Louis and Daniel (Leslie) Gorsuch of Farmington; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one brother, Mark (Caroline) Sebree of Terre Haute, Ind.; one sister, Debbie (Jim) Cassel of Carmel, Ind.; and her special companion, Joe Stone.

Kathy owned and operated Gorsuch Appliances in Canton with her husband, Donald, for many years.

A funeral service was to be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024, at Sedgwick Funeral Homes & Crematory in Canton, where a visitation was to be from 9:30 a.m. until the time of services. Burial will follow the services, at Brunswick Cemetery in rural Trivoli.

Memorials can be made to the Donald Gorsuch Scholarship Fund in care of Ipava State Bank.

Condolences can be left online at [www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com).

**Barbara J. Green**

BRIMFIELD – Barbara Jean Green, 79, of Brimfield, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, surrounded by her family.

She was born on Dec. 9, 1944, in Panther Creek, Ill., to Marshall and Dorothy (Ogden) Walters. She attended Peoria High School.

Barbara is survived by her two daughters, Cindy Fowler of Brimfield and Becky (Alan) Lee of Dunlap; and four grandchildren, Nick Fowler, Megan Fowler, Shawn Lee and Lauren Lee. She is also survived by her four siblings, Nancy Venzon, Gary Walters, Becky Jordan and Mike (Lyndsey) Walters.

Barbara was predeceased by her parents and brother-in-law, Gene Venzon Jr.

Barbara raised her daughters with their father, Raymond Green (still surviving of Chillicothe).

Per her request, cremation rites have been accorded and a private memorial service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Brimfield Fire Department, 206 E. Knoxville St., Brimfield, IL 61517; or the Jon Denzer Bear Hug Foundation, 14329 Charthouse Circle, Na-

ples, FL 34114.

Condolences can be left online at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

**Arthur W. Ossman Jr.**

CANTON – Arthur Walter Ossman Jr. of Canton, father of a Farmington man, died Dec. 25, 2023, at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

He was born on Oct. 5, 1935, in Chicago to Arthur Ossman Sr. and Martha (Kozak) Ossman. He married Loretta Kaufman on Aug. 1, 1959, at the First Baptist Church in Canton. She preceded him in death on July 9, 2022.

He is also preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Cynthia Ludlum.

He is survived by three children, Jeff (Amber) Ossman of Farmington, Jody (Don Signore) Ossman of Atlanta, Ga., and Lori (Bob) Wages of Canton; one sister, Lynn Hebb; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was a teacher and principal of the Ellisville Junior High School for 12 years. He later worked and retired after 35 years from Abel Monument Company. Arthur was an avid Chicago sports fan.

Per Arthur’s wishes, there will be no services and cremation rites will be accorded. Burial of ashes will take place in Greenwood Cemetery at a later date.

Condolences can be left online at [www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com).

**Sandra G. Powell**

LAURA – Sandra Garrison Powell, 80, of Laura, died Dec. 28, 2023, at Seminary Manor, Galesburg.

She was born June 27, 1943, in Elmore (Rochester), Ill., to Donald and Cleo (Philbee) Garrison. She married Danny E. Powell on July 30, 1967, in Williamsfield. She is survived by her husband, daughter Starla L. (Powell) Yelm, son-in-law Kent Yelm and two grandchildren, Katelynn Yelm and Brandon Yelm.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Sharon Kay Garrison and Bonnie (Garrison) Stevens, her brother-in-law Jesse Stevens and her parents.

She retired from L.R. Nelson of Peoria in 2007.

Services were to be Jan. 1. Burial was at Glendale Cemetery, Elmore. Memorials may be made to Dahinda Methodist Church or to the Williamsfield American Legion Auxiliary.

Condolences can be left online at [hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com](http://hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com).

**More Obituaries, Page 12**

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**Just a quick note to my patrons at the library,**

I know you have noticed that it has been a long time since you have seen me there. I stepped down as Director due to health reasons. I want you to know that I miss you and the work every day! You are so lucky to have great staff still there: Tracy, Eulail & Jennifer. I miss them every day too! To those of you who have made donations to FSB; visited or sent gift cards I want to say a huge THANK YOU! I have so enjoyed spending the past twenty years with you!!

**Always, Michelle**



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	BLAM	YMA	ROTH	
PANACEA	ELOI	NUS	ALMS	
FEATURING	ANCIENT	GREEK		
FRIED	IAM	CEO	ELIDE	
TORA	ION	ABID	STOGIE	
	MATHEMATICIANS	WHAT		
ASA	LON	ETHEL	RET	SSS
TURNEDOUT	TOBE	ONEOF		
ELLOCO	MIAS	NOR	ITCH	
SPENT	SAM	AYE	ATARI	
THEMOST	MEMORABLE	LINES		
SANI	PEI	IRE	ORANGES	
	GAYE	OLD	IRON	
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3	6	7	4	2	5	1	9	8
4	1	2	8	7	9	6	3	5
5	7	3	6	9	4	8	1	2
8	2	4	7	3	1	9	5	6
1	9	6	2	5	8	3	7	4
2	8	1	3	4	7	5	6	9
7	4	9	5	1	6	2	8	3
6	3	5	9	8	2	7	4	1

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## OBITUARIES

**Judith S. Skaggs**  
PEORIA – Judith S. Skaggs, 80, of Peoria, died Dec. 15, 2023, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. She was born on Sept. 11, 1943, a daughter of George Alden and Mabel Philena (Twaddle) Blunk. Surviving Judith are her four children, Troy (Kim) Skaggs, Todd (Kevin) Skaggs of Brimfield, Scott (Teresa) Skaggs of Hanna City and Michelle (Sean) Meehan of Trivoli;

13 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Services will be private. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Jan. 13, 2024, at the Kickapoo St. Mary's School Hall.

**Ann A. Weaver**  
HANNA CITY – Ann Adair Weaver, 86, of Hanna City, died on Dec. 16, 2023, at Graham Hospital in Canton. She was born June 2, 1937, in Peoria, a daughter of Melvin and

Emily (Hodgkinson) Ramige. She married Fred Weaver on Sept. 5, 1954. He preceded her in death on Dec. 12, 2019. Surviving are their three children Rodney (Pam) Weaver of Hanna City, Ward (Tina) Weaver of Batavia and Annette (the late Steve) Williams of Trivoli; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and brother Mel Ramige of Creve Coeur.

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**CLAIM NOTICE**

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

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

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**

**CLAIM NOTICE**

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

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

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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**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

**ADVERTISE! CALL (309) 741-9790**

## AREA CHURCHES

**BRIMFIELD Baptist Church of Brimfield**  
Pastor Doug Seeley  
321 S. Jefferson St. Brimfield (309) 678-2208  
Sun. School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. Worship: 10:40 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
Father John Verrier  
314 W. Clay Brimfield (309) 446-3275  
stjosephbrimfield.org  
Sat. Confession: 3:30-4:45 pm  
Sat. Mass: 5 p.m.  
Sun. Mass: 10:30 a.m. (10 a.m. in the summer)  
Daily Mass: Tues.-Fri. 8 a.m.

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
"Preaching Christ Crucified"  
"Liturgical & Reverential"  
204 W. Clay St. Brimfield (309) 446-3233  
Sun. Divine Service: 11:30 a.m.

**Brimfield E-Free Church**  
Pastor Donald Blasing  
11724 Maher Road Brimfield IL 61517 (309) 446-3571  
brimfieldefree.org  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
AWANA: Wed. 6:15 p.m. ages 3-12

**Brimfield United Methodist Church**  
Reverend James Pernell Sr.  
135 S. Galena St. Brimfield (662) 394-5880  
Sun. Worship: 8:30 a.m.  
Sun. School: 8:30 a.m.

**BIBLE TRIVIA**  
By Wilson Casey  
1. For possible new year's resolutions, Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be \_\_\_\_\_." Resolved, Established, Directed, Bountiful  
2. Likewise, Psalm 37:5 instructs us to, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to \_\_\_\_\_." Nurture, Pass, Action, Light  
3. Which book proclaims the first day of the new year is for resting and a memorial sounding the trumpet? Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers  
4. 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Galatians 2:20 are

**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.

among the verses to focus on what in a new year? Blessings, Moving forward, Grace, Church attendance  
5. In which month of the religious calendar did the new year begin in the Bible? 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th  
6. From James 1:5, what may one lack and if they ask God it shall be given? Love, Wisdom, Truth, Goals  
ANSWERS: 1) Established, 2) Pass, 3) Leviticus, 4) Moving forward, 5) 7th, 6) Wisdom  
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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

**EDWARDS Bethany Baptist Church**  
7422 N. Heinz Ln. Edwards (309) 692-1755  
bethanycentral.org  
Sun. Worship: 9 & 10:30 a.m.  
In person and livestream (Coffee pastries 8:30-10:30 am)  
Wed: 6:15 pm AWANA & youth group

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
Father James Pankiewicz  
9910 W. Knox St. Edwards (309) 691-2030  
stmarieskickapoo.org  
Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 p.m.  
Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.  
Sun. Masses: 7 & 11:00 a.m.  
Daily Masses (Mon. Wed. Thurs. Fri.): 8 a.m.

**ELMWOOD Crossroads Assembly of God**  
Pastor Tim Cavallo  
615 E. Ash St. Elmwood (309) 830-4259  
crossroadselmwood.org

Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.  
Sun. Worship: 10:30 a.m.

**Elmwood Baptist Church**  
Pastor Bill Cole  
701 W. Dearborn St. Elmwood (309) 742-7631 642-3278  
Sun. Worship: 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m.

**First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood**  
Reverend Marla B. Bauler  
201 W. Evergreen Elmwood (309) 742-2631  
firstpresbyterianofelmwood.org  
Sun. Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Sun. School: 9:30 a.m.

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**  
Father James Pankiewicz  
802 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-4921  
Sat. Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
Sun. Mass: 9 a.m.  
Tues. Mass: 8 a.m.  
Tues. Confession: After mass.

**United Methodist Church of Elmwood**  
Pastor James Pernell Sr.  
821 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-7221  
elmwoodumc.org  
Sat. Worship: 5 p.m.  
Sun. Worship: 10 a.m.  
Youth Sun. School: 9 a.m.  
Adult Sun. School: 8 a.m.

**FARMINGTON Farmington Bible Church**  
Pastor Tony Severine  
497 N. Elmwood Rd. Farmington (309) 245-9870  
Sunday School: 9:30  
Worship Service: 10:30

**Farmington Methodist Church**  
Pastor Rick Atchley  
187 W. Fulton St. Farmington (309) 245-4310  
farmingtonmethodist61531@gmail.com  
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

**First Presbyterian Church of Farmington**  
Pastor Cindy Bean  
83 N. Cone Street Farmington (309) 245-2914  
firstpresfarmington.com  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Live on Facebook also  
Fellowship: 11:30 a.m.

**New Hope Fellowship Assembly of God**  
Pastor Tom Wright  
1102 N. Illinois Route 78 Farmington (309) 231-8076  
Sun. Worship: 10 a.m.  
Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.

**PRINCEVILLE Princeville United Methodist Church**  
Pastor David Pyell  
420 E. Woertz Princeville (309) 385-4487  
princevilleumc@mediacombb.net  
Sun. Worship: 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

**St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church**  
Father Corey Krengiel  
119 Saint Mary St. Princeville (309) 385-2578  
Sat. Confession: 3-3:45 p.m.  
Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.

Sun. Confession: 8-8:45 a.m.  
Sun. Mass: 9 a.m.  
Tues. Thurs. Sat. daily Mass: 8 a.m.

**TRIVOLI Brunswick Community Church**  
4027 S. Stone School Rd Trivoli  
Pastor Terry England  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m.  
(309) 403-4626

**WILLIAMSFIELD St. James Catholic Church**  
Father John Verrier  
Legion Road Knox Road 1450 N Williamsfield (309) 446-3275  
stjameswilliamsfield.org  
Sun. Confession: 7:30-8 a.m.  
Sun. Mass: 8 am (8:30 a.m. in the summer)

**Williamsfield United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Zoila Marty  
430 N. Chicago Ave. Williamsfield (309) 639-2389  
Sun. School: during worship  
Hospitality (coffee & finger foods): 10:30 a.m.  
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m.

**YATES CITY Faith United Presbyterian Church**  
Reverend Marla B. Bauler  
107 W. Bishop St. Yates City (309) 358-1170  
Worship: 9 a.m.  
Sun. School: 10:15 a.m.  
Thurs. Choir: 7 p.m.

# LAWS: Vapers will now face same indoor restrictions as smokers

**Continued from Page 1**  
other workers in the hospitality industry who have never received paid leave benefits in the past.

The Illinois Department of Labor has published a list of frequently asked questions to help guide employers and employees: [labor.illinois.gov/faqs/paidleavefaq.html](http://labor.illinois.gov/faqs/paidleavefaq.html).

• **Banning book bans** – Libraries in Illinois will lose access to grants administered by the secretary of state's office after Jan. 1 if they ban books or other material "because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval."

The so-called ban on book bans, House Bill 2789, was an initiative of Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias. The secretary of state in Illinois also serves as the state librarian, which awards millions of

dollars a year in grants to public and school libraries around the state.

Under the new law, libraries must either adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights or develop a written statement prohibiting the practice of banning specific books or resources.

• **Digital forgeries** – Lawmakers this spring approved a new protection for victims of "deepfake porn." Starting in 2024, people who are falsely depicted in sexually explicit images or videos will be able to sue the creator of that material.

The law is an amendment to the state's existing protections for victims of "revenge porn," which went into effect in 2015.

In recent years, deepfakes – images and videos that falsely depict someone

– have become more sophisticated with the advent of more readily available artificial intelligence tools.

• **Zooming while driving** – It is now illegal for Illinois drivers to participate in videoconferencing or check social media pages while behind the wheel.

The law adds the use of any mobile videoconferencing software, explicitly referencing Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Webex, to banned actions under distracted driving laws.

• **Vaping indoors** – People who use electronic cigarettes or vaping devices now face the same restrictions as cigarette smokers.

It's an update to the state's Smoke-Free Illinois Act, which banned smoking in most indoor public spaces and within 15 feet of building entrances in 2008. "Public places" in-

clude restaurants, theaters, offices, stores, libraries, schools, polling places, all government-owned buildings and banks.

Tobacco stores and vape shops are exempt.

• **Youth confinement** – HB 3140 prohibits solitary confinement in youth detention facilities for any purpose other than temporarily preventing immediate risk of physical harm.

• **Grocery aid** – SB 850 created a Grocery Initiative program which will receive \$20 million to fund grants and financial aid to grocery stores opening or operating in "food deserts." It also requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to study food deserts.

• **Underground Railroad** – SB 1623 creates the Underground Railroad Task Force to develop a statewide plan for creating a "cohesive statewide history" of the Underground Railroad and developing new educational and tourism opportunities.

• **Utility shutoffs** – House Bill 1541 prohibits utilities from shutting off gas or electric services due to nonpayment of bills when the temperature exceeds 90 degrees or there is a heat advisory in effect.

• **Rearview mirrors** – It's long been illegal in Illinois to hang an object that obstructs a driver's view from a rearview mirror.

HB 2389 maintains that driving with such an obstruction is prohibited, but it also prevents law enforcement from stopping and searching a vehicle solely because the driver is violating that law.

• **Civil rights** – Under SB 1817, anyone who considers immigration status during a real estate transaction, including purchase

and rental transactions, could be guilty of a civil rights violation.

• **Fentanyl dangers** – HB 3924 requires high schools to teach students about the dangers of fentanyl in state-required health courses.

• **Bears and primates** – SB 1883 prohibits keepers of bears and nonhuman primates from allowing members of the general public to come into contact with them. Violators of the law would be subject to a Class B misdemeanor.

# PRINCES: Defense in 'attack mode'

**Continued from Page 16**  
or four guys that come off the bench are capable of scoring double figures every game."

In the title game, the Morton JV (12-2) was missing one of its top players, Ryan Schaffnit, per Coach Sennett. Still, the Potters hung around enough to cut the deficit to 47-40 late in the third quarter.

But Hunt then had half of a 10-point Princeville streak.

Overall, Coach Sennett credited his team's man-to-man defense.

"We were in attack mode the whole tournament," he said. "Our defense didn't allow anybody to be comfortable and allowed our offense to pick it up."

Princeville also beat Midwest Central 61-30 in a non-tournament game Dec. 19. No Princeville player reached double figures, although nine scored. Logan Olshawsky had nine points, as did Tucker Sennett and Williams.

The Princes travel to Oneida for a Lincoln Trail Conference game Wednesday night against

ROWVA-Williamsfield. They also play Ridgewood again at home Friday night.

Tait Sennett acknowledged a lot of games remain this season, but he likes his team's current trajectory.

"There's not one guy that thinks they're above everybody else," he said. "It's just, 'We're going to be out for each other.' That makes it so much fun to be around. These kids are just jelling and getting along so nicely. It's been a lot of fun. A lot of fun."



## Let's talk about life insurance



David Vaughan, Elmwood (309)742-2411  
Brad Coyle, Peoria (309)689-2981  
Ryan Williams, Princeville (309)385-4396  
Chris Peterson, Hanna City (309)565-7313

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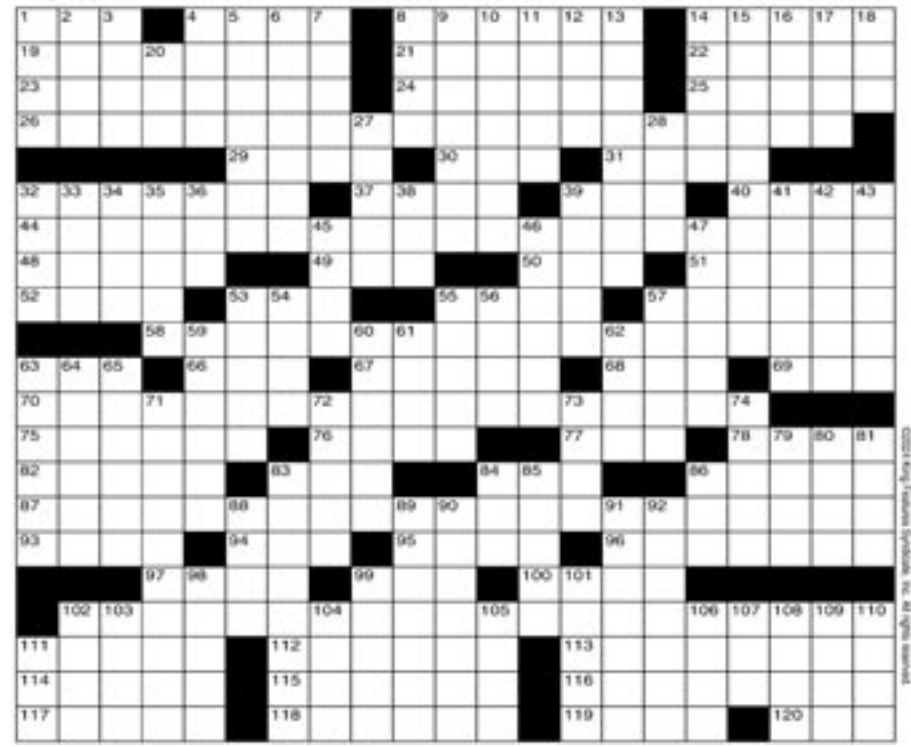
1220-506HC\_18160-1/25/2023

Answers on Page 11

## Super Crossword

CALCULATING CHARACTERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pet doc
- 4 "Come again?"
- 8 Treats maliciously
- 14 Tennis player
- 19 Narcissist's problem
- 21 Actress
- 22 Ate, as prey
- 23 Football Hall of Famer
- 24 Arrive on wheels
- 25 Frankie or Cleo of song
- 26 Start of a riddle
- 29 Noise in a comic book
- 30 Erotica
- 31 "The Human Stain" novelist
- 32 Cure-all
- 37 Face of people in an H.G. Wells novella
- 39 Some sorority letters
- 40 Donations to the destitute
- 44 Riddle, part 2
- 48 Like much greasy food
- 49 See
- 50 Corp. leader
- 51 Skip over, as a vowel
- 52 World War II film, when tripled
- 53 Charged bit
- 55 Place — (be active on eBay, say)
- 57 Cheap cigar
- 58 Riddle, part 3
- 63 Simile
- 66 Chaney of film
- 67 Song belting
- 68 On a pension, maybe: Abbr.
- 69 Military draft
- 70 Riddle, part 4
- 75 ZZ Top album whose name is Spanish for "The Crazy One"
- 76 Hamn and Farrow
- 77 Neither's partner
- 78 Tingly feeling
- 82 Totally tired
- 83 With
- 49-Across, touter of green eggs and ham
- 84 "Yes" vote
- 86 Early arcade giant
- 87 End of the riddle
- 93 — -Flush (bathroom brand)
- 94 Architect
- 95 Made angry
- 96 Florida fruits
- 97 R&B great
- 99 Not at all new
- 100 Golf club
- 102 Riddle's answer
- 111 Stalin-era labor camp
- 112 Polcat's kin
- 113 Urge against
- 114 Muscat native
- 115 Do over
- 116 Office squawker
- 117 Fender dings
- 118 Mimics a mad mutt
- 119 Helper of Frankenstein
- 120 Inventor
- 5 Drunk
- 6 Writer Gogol
- 7 Third-largest city in Israel
- 8 Ride a wave
- 9 Eighth-brightest star in the sky
- 10 Like a hajj's religion
- 11 Second-largest city in Oklahoma
- 12 Charles Lamb's alias
- 13 Bay Area California city
- 14 Equivalent of A sharp
- 15 Lee Tracy's "Bombshell" co-star
- 16 Like praiseful poetry
- 17 Gossipy
- 18 Bakersfield-to-Boise dr.
- 20 Letters before
- 27 Swiss watch brand
- 28 Clueless
- 32 Fuzzle sound
- 33 Sisek, informally
- 34 Hair removal brand
- 35 Top squad
- 36 Mooer's mouthful
- 38 On the — (fleeing)
- 39 "— say more?"
- 41 Actress
- 42 In — res (mid-plot)
- 43 Clay pigeons to be shot, informally
- 45 Three x three
- 46 Frozen spear
- 47 Eats away at
- 53 "Were — it all over again..."
- 54 "It can't be!"
- 55 One of the Three Musketeers
- 56 Nickname for singer Justin, with "the"
- 57 Derisive smile
- 59 One of the three Furies
- 60 R&R alone
- 61 "— boy!"
- 62 Pisa's river
- 63 Nuclear trials, for short
- 64 Class of antimicrobial drugs, in the British spelling
- 65 Actress
- 71 Like animals that don't roam
- 72 So-called "tth taste"
- 73 Apartment near the super's, perhaps
- 74 Mesh veil
- 75 Squancy
- 80 Ontario tribe
- 81 Cat's warning
- 83 Pittsburgh footballers
- 84 "Chances —"
- 85 "Catch my drift, bro?"
- 86 Pie-mo link
- 88 1974 CIA parody film
- 89 More lacteal
- 90 Not cardinal, as a number
- 91 Plundering
- 92 Writer Sebato
- 98 Patronage
- 99 "— Loompa"
- 101 Half-diameters
- 102 Journalist Brit
- 103 Zing
- 104 Lucy Liu's "Kill Bill" role
- 105 Insect traps
- 106 Explorer
- 107 Mongrel mutt
- 108 Frilly material
- 109 Shrine figure
- 110 Moore of "G.I. Jane"
- 111 Shrine figure



# Elmwood boys aiming for higher-percentage shots in New Year

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – The Elmwood boys basketball team has room to improve as 2024 begins. Eschewing lower-percentage shots for higher-percentage ones is one example, according to Elmwood Coach Josh Fugitt.

So there's some irony that long-distance baskets helped spark the Trojans to victory in the consolation-title game of the Princeville Holiday Tournament.

Sirus Nims and Garrett Webster each had two 3-pointers in a second-quarter spurt that gave Elmwood (7-8) a lasting lead in a 48-36 victory Dec. 28 over Ridgewood. The victory made the Trojans 2-1 in the tournament.

Nims, a senior, had a game-high 17 points, including a 3 that tied the game at 14 with 5:23 left in the first half. Webster, a sophomore, then scored eight in a row, including two 3s. Another Nims 3

made it 25-16 Elmwood at 1:14. In the second half, Elmwood led by as many as 14 points.

Webster didn't start but finished with 13 points. His contributions aren't surprising, Fugitt said.

"Statistically, he grades out as one of our better players in every game and on the season," he said. "There are certainly a few games where he looks like a sophomore, and the physicality of some of the seniors on the other team probably still gets to him. But he's been tremendous for us when he's on the court and is definitely that second scorer that comes off the bench that's able to shoot the ball well."

The previous day, Jackson Magee had 18 points, Bo Windish 14 and Oliver Thornton 12 to lead sixth-seeded Elmwood to a 65-52 victory over No. 2 Midland in the consolation semifinals. The Trojans opened the tournament Dec. 26 with a 62-28 loss

to the third-seeded Morton junior varsity.

In that game, Elmwood had only four third-period points. Fugitt lamented such scoring droughts, which have happened periodically. He also suggested his team took too many 3-pointers against Ridgewood.

"We've got to get better as a team understanding how to seek out higher-percentage shots," Fugitt said. "And I saw that a little bit in the second half. I saw our guys turning down looks we've had all season."

"To the casual observer, it's like, 'Shoot the ball. Why aren't you shooting it?' If we can pass up a 22% 3 and get a 58% 2-point layup inside, that's what we need to be doing."

Better rebounding, particularly off opposing free-throw misses, also is a point of emphasis for Elmwood, as is mental-aspect improvement. Fugitt said he's seeing progress.

"There are a lot of things that I'm standing on the sideline thinking, 'Man, we have so much that we still have to work on,'" he said. "But it's nice to come in with two solid wins out of a tournament."

Prior to their Princeville efforts, the Trojans defeated Stark County 61-37 on Dec. 19. Windish had 19 points and Nims scored 16 for Elmwood, which ex-

panded an eight-point half-time lead. Stark County had only one fourth-period point in its second loss to Elmwood.

Elmwood is host Friday to ROWVA-Williamsfield, then begins play Jan. 9 in the ICAC Tournament at Peoria Heights. The seventh-seeded Trojans play No. 2 Peoria Christian at 6 p.m. The tournament runs Jan. 8-13.

**Brimfield** – Connor Doe had 25 points to lead Brimfield to a 70-59 victory over Midland in the Princeville consolation third-place game. The fifth-seeded Indians (5-9) were 14-for-16 on fourth-quarter free throws as they expanded a four-point lead.

Brady Johnson, Jackson Kappes and Drew Kieser each scored 10. The tournament marked the first action this season for Johnson, a junior point guard. He had eight points in a 60-48 consolation-semifinal loss to Ridgewood, in which Kieser scored 15. He scored 14 in a 59-47 tourney-opening loss to Peoria Heights.

"Our two losses were disappointing, but obviously they didn't keep us down," Brimfield Coach Scott Carlson stated. "We're going in the right direction."

In a non-tourney game, Kieser had 25 points Dec. 19 as host Brimfield beat

Deer Creek-Mackinaw 40-32. He scored 10 in a pivotal third quarter.

The Indians are host Friday night to North Fulton and travel Saturday afternoon to Orion before they open ICAC tourney play at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9 against third-seeded Delavan. Brimfield is seeded sixth.

**Farmington** – After an opening win in the Macomb-Western Holiday Tournament, Farmington (6-6) lost its final two games.

The Farmers fell in a fifth-place semifinal Dec. 30 to Illini Bluffs, 54-37. IB broke from a 21-21 half-time tie and led by as many as 20 points. IB senior Hank Alvey had a game-high 26 points and 12 rebounds. Jack Gronewold scored 14 to lead Farmington.

On Dec. 29, Farmington lost 48-36 in the quarterfinals to Rockridge, which won the tournament title. Farmington trailed most of the game and narrowed its deficit to four midway through the fourth quarter but came no closer. Keauntrey Barnes had a game-high 16 points.

Farmington began tournament play Dec. 28 by beating two-time defending champ Eureka, 49-39. It was the seventh consecutive time the Farmers won their tourney opener. Barnes had 17 points, Lan-

don Crawford 11 and Gronewold 10. Barnes was selected to the all-tournament team.

The Farmers played Tuesday night at Havana and play host Saturday night to Chillicothe IVC.

**ROWVA-Williamsfield** – A trip on Dec. 21 to Kewanee resulted in a 79-76 loss for R-W to Wethersfield. The Cougars trailed 44-33 at intermission and by 15 at one point but narrowed the deficit to 61-60 after three periods.

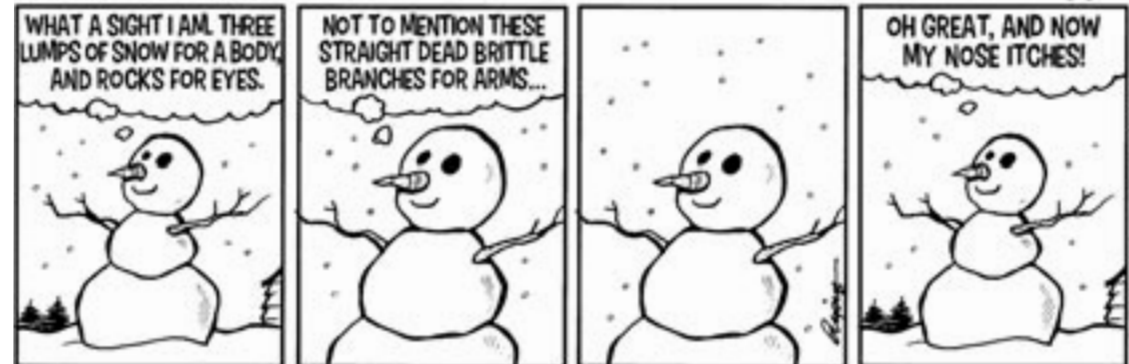
"We had to exert a ton of energy to get over the hump," Assistant Coach Jeff Hannam stated. "Once we got over the hump, some defensive lapses in key situations really hurt us."

Riley Danner had 29 points, including 13 in the second quarter, to lead R-W (8-6, 0-3 Lincoln Trail). Talan Hull had 22 points and Dawson Traphagan scored 11.

Following a game Wednesday night against Princeville and another Friday night at Elmwood, R-W is to begin ICAC Tournament play at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8 against host Heights, the fourth seed. The Cougars are seeded fifth. Illini Bluffs is the top seed.

**FOOSE EXCAVATING**  
**Demolition of Houses and Concrete Foundations - Site Preparation**  
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## Amber Waves



The Spats



## Just Like Cats & Dogs



**Weekly SUDOKU**  
 by Linda Thistle

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

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 11**

**CryptoQuote**  
 AXZDLBAAXR 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.

UB BWOYF IXJ IGS DWQCB QIYF  
 IXB UST WF JYHWSTDYT ZV U  
 FLUJH RJIO USIBCJY LYJFIS.  
 — UDZYJB FMCYWBPYJ

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**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When is Three King's Day celebrated typically?
- TELEVISION: In the drama series "Mad Men," what product is presumed to be Don Draper's last advertisement?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is a chain or collection of islands called?
- MOVIES: To which city is the McCallister family traveling in the holiday classic "Home Alone"?
- LEGAL: What is a moot court?
- LITERATURE: What is the name of the heroine in "The Scarlet Letter"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What kind of nut is used in marzipan?
- MUSIC: What is the gift on the 11th day in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?
- SCIENCE: How much of the Earth's surface is covered with water?
- HISTORY: What are the two Japanese cities that the United States hit with atomic bombs in WWII?

**Answers**

- Jan. 6, the 12th day of Christmas.
- Coca-Cola.
- An archipelago.
- Paris, France.
- A simulated court to give law students a chance to practice what they have learned.
- Hester Prynne.
- Almond.
- 11 pipers piping.
- Almost 71%.
- Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

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**TOP 10 MOVIES**

- Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom (PG-13)
- Wonka (PG)
- Migration (PG)
- Anyone But You (R)
- Salaar (NR)
- The Iron Claw (R)
- The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (PG-13)
- The Boy and the Heron (PG-13)
- Godzilla Minus One (PG-13)
- Poor Things (R)

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# GIRLS: Brimfield 2nd at Heyworth

*Continued from Page 16* half the game. Herman, who recently signed to play basketball next year at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, has been recovering from an illness that had her sidelined entirely in a Dec. 26 first-round win over Galva (48-8) and limited her minutes in a Dec. 27 semifinal victory against Midland (34-32).

With Herman recovering and scoring four points vs. Midland, Tinley Lemmerman scored 10 to lead Elmwood and the Lady Trojans also got eight from Lauren Rushing (who scored 10 vs. Princeville) and seven from Raelynn McClain.

Against Galva, Andrea Glenn led with 12 points, Rushing scored 11, Lemmerman tallied seven and McClain scored six.

"It's always great to have Mae out there. You want to be at full strength," Meyers said. "But when you're not at full strength, you like to take those opportunities to get other people in positions where then can do things in case of foul trouble. We hope this makes us better in the long run."

Elmwood was at Farmington Wednesday and faces a three-game gauntlet next week: at Peoria Notre Dame Monday, at Illini Bluffs Jan. 10 and home vs. Peoria Heights Jan. 11.

**Princeville** – Before suffering their first home loss of the year against Elmwood in the title game, the Lady Princes had to overcome Peoria Heights (14-3) in the semifinals, 37-32.

Princeville won despite not scoring in the third quarter, as a 25-21 halftime lead turned into a 32-25 deficit. But the Lady Princes then flipped the script, turned up their defensive intensity and held Peoria Heights scoreless in the final quarter.

"Peoria Heights is a really good, talented, quick team," Gross said. "I was proud of the way we came back. It was kind of like (the Elmwood game). We settled down a little bit, pounded the ball inside and

got some easy shots."

Brodie scored 7 of her game-high 23 points in the final quarter and Kinley McGinn tallied seven.

"We need to get Kinley going. She's been sick, but I can't afford to do what (Meyers) did with Mae," Gross said.

Princeville beat Bushnell-Prairie City in the tournament opener, 68-14.

Prior to tourney play, the Lady Princes topped Peoria Christian on Dec. 20, 59-16. Brodie scored 25, Paisley Schock tallied 20 and McGinn had six.

Gross said the focus now turns to Lincoln Trail Conference play. Princeville leads the LTC with a 4-0 record and travels to face West Central today (Jan. 4) before a Saturday rematch at Peoria Heights.

**Brimfield** – A busy holiday season saw the Lady Indians (10-7) place second at the Heyworth Tournament and finish 2-2 at the stacked State Farm Classic in Bloomington.

"In our seven losses, we've been in every game except for (a loss) to Bishop McNamara," Coach Josh McKown said. "The girls know we're the type of team that when we come together and we're focus on defense and we're together as one, we're going to be tough to beat."

Brimfield lost to Eureka in the Heyworth title game, 52-47, despite 16 points from all-tournament selection Olivia Kappes. In a game that saw frequent lead changes, Brimfield was up by one with a minute remaining but could not close out the victory.

Also at Heyworth, the Lady Indians topped Families of Faith Academy, 55-39, as all-tourney pick Ava Heinz had 30 points, eight rebounds and four blocks. Ava Simpson added 17 rebounds. Heinz scored 20 and grabbed 15 rebounds in the opener, a 45-33 win over Heyworth. Kappes scored 12 points and Kylee Vaughn scored nine points with three key treys in the third quarter.

At the State Farm Classic, 12th-seed Brimfield

upset No. 5 Rockford Lutheran (49-39), lost to Bishop McNamara (57-39), played poorly in a loss to Olympia (47-45) and downed Paris (46-41) in what McKown called his team's best game this year.

"They pressed us all game and we handled the pressure," McKown said.

Kappes scored 15 vs. Paris, 14 vs. Olympia, 16 vs. Bishop Mac and 13 vs. Rockford Lutheran. Heinz and Simpson also scored 13 vs. Rockford Lutheran. Heinz added 12 vs. Olympia and nine vs. Paris.

"At State Farm, each game was somebody different stepping up," McKown said.

Brimfield is home vs. Stark County on Saturday and played ROWVA-Williamsfield on Wednesday.

**Farmington** – The Lady Farmers (3-14) lost in the consolation championship at Princeville to Tremont, 47-26. Abbie Ackers led with 11 points and Molly Zaborac added five.

Prior to that, Farmington lost its opener to Peoria Heights on Dec. 26 (78-19) and rebounded Dec. 27 with a 41-31 victory against Bushnell-Prairie City. Mariah Hayden led in the win with 11 points and Madilyn Hanlin had 10.

"Usually Madilyn, Mariah or Abbie get around 10 a game for us, but we need to be more consistent with all three of them getting to that mark for us," Coach Brad Whitcomb said. "Molly Zaborac and Laney Pollitt have begun to give us an interior presence which should open up more opportunities for those three guards."

The Lady Farmers face a tough stretch, with a home game vs. Elmwood on Wednesday, a road trip to Tremont Saturday (Jan. 6) and a Jan. 8 home game vs. Brimfield.

**ROWVA-Williamsfield** – Off since a 64-26 loss to Peoria Heights on Dec. 19, the Lady Cougars (4-11) have had plenty of practice to prepare for games Wednesday at Brimfield and today at Stark County.



The Elmwood girls basketball team won its third straight Lee Westerman Girls Holiday Tournament on Dec. 28, topping host Princeville, 37-34. Team members pictured include, Front row (left to right): Katie May, Kaitlyn Noll, Chloe Howerton, Gianna Ramirez, Natalie Babcock and Addi Thrasher. Back row (l to r): Brooke Allen, Kady Head, Mackenzie Caulkins, Lauren Rushing, Corinne Colgan, Andrea Glenn, Tinley Lemmerman, Mae Herman and Raelynn McClain. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

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# Weekly Post Sports

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## Elmwood threeppeat

### Lady Trojans survive rally by Princeville to win tourney

By JEFF LAMPE  
For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – At halftime of the Lee Westerman Girls Holiday Tournament title game, an Elmwood threeppeat looked like a sure thing.

Up 19-8, Elmwood had forced more turnovers (nine) than Princeville had points.

But after the final buzzer, the Lady Trojans (14-2) had to breath a sigh of relief that they survived to win, 37-34, and claim a third straight championship plaque.

“They got us back on our heels. They started dictating tempo, they were the aggressive ones,” Elmwood Coach Gregg Meyers said. “We’ve got to learn how to protect the lead and still be aggressive.”

After making halftime adjustments, Princeville (13-5) outscored Elmwood 26-16 in the final two quarters and had two 3-point attempts to tie in the final 14 seconds.

“We kept trying to enter



Princeville's Brianna Brodie readies for a shot against Elmwood's Lauren Rushing. Brodie led all scorers in the title game with 25 points, but Elmwood won 37-34. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

from the top and we had to move it down and try to get it inside from the side,” Princeville Coach John Gross said. “As it turned out, we did get it inside by moving everybody else outside.”

Princeville senior post player Brianna Brodie led all scorers with 25 points, including 20 in the sec-

ond half. “They were pulling us out to get more space for (Brodie) to try to take our help away,” Meyers said. “We need to sit on her shoulder and make them throw over the top.”

Mae Herman led Elmwood with 15 points despite playing just over

*Continued on Page 15*



The Princeville boys basketball team beat the Morton junior varsity on Dec. 28 to win the Princeville Holiday Tournament for the first time in four years. Team members include, Front Row (left to right): Parker Melick, Tayshaun Kieser, Austin Carruthers, Luke Graham and Landon Allen. Back row (l to r): Elijah Menold, Tucker Sennett, Jake Williams, Josh Hunt, Zach Stalter, Joey Bosch, Logan Olshawsky, Matthew Bowers, Parker Dickinson and Jack Lied. Photo by Nick Vlahos.

## Balance boosting Princeville

### Princes win boys tourney for first time in four years

By NICK VLAHOS  
For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – On balance, the Princeville boys basketball team won a tournament championship last week.

As has been the frequent case on their way to a 13-2 record, the Princes received double-digit scoring from multiple players Dec. 28 to defeat the Morton junior varsity 71-56 in the Princeville Holiday Tournament final. The title was Princeville's first in this event in four years.

Josh Hunt had 18 points, Parker Melick and Jake Williams evenly split 30 and Tayshaun Kieser scored 12 in a game Princeville trailed only in the opening minutes. Points from five players gave the top-seeded Princes a 17-10 lead after the first quarter over the third seed.

“I think tonight showed how we can play when we come out ready to work – when we come out ready to attack the game and we're not flat-footed to start,” Hunt said.

Balanced offense also

helped Princeville win a semifinal Dec. 27 against Peoria Heights, 71-44. Melick had 22 points, Tucker Sennett had 18 and Williams had 11. The previous day, Princeville beat Ridgewood 54-26 in the first round as Kieser had 13 points and seven teammates also scored.

“Every other night, we have a new leading scorer,” Williams said. “We've had so many guys in double figures every game. I think our 1 through 5 and even three

*Continued on Page 13*

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