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Princeville school resource officer removed from job

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – The Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputy who for a decade has been stationed in the Princeville School District has been removed from that job.

An internal investigation resulted in the action taken against Deputy Crystal Strauss, Sheriff Chris Watkins stated Monday. Strauss, who became the Princeville school resource officer in September 2015, has been re-

assigned to patrol duties.

The Strauss investigation regarded alleged policy violations, according to Watkins. He was not more specific. The Princeville SRO job opening has been posted internally. Watkins expects it to be filled next week.

According to Princeville Superintendent Tony Shinall, the sheriff's office informed the district Jan. 2 that it would be receiving a new SRO. Shinall had no additional comment.

Strauss joined the sheriff's of-

fice in March 2014, according to Watkins. In 2025, Strauss was among 12 statewide finalists from more than 650 nominees for Illinois School Resource Officers Association Officer of the Year. The winner was Officer Candi Buhl of the Canton Police Department.

The school district and village government split the cost of the Princeville SRO. Separately, the village contracts with the sheriff's office for overall police protection in Princeville. Local

government is not involved with the current issues regarding Strauss, according to Village President Jeff Troutman.

Word about Strauss' reassignment spread quickly in the Princeville community, particularly through social media. Most posts supported Strauss.

"I don't even have any kids in the district, but I know she is amazing and those kids loved her," Alicia Vornk posted on the Princeville Families Facebook page. "She doesn't deserve this

at all."

A community meeting regarding Strauss was expected to take place Wednesday night at High Voltage Taphouse in Princeville. The meeting was to be held after The Weekly Post deadline. The next Princeville School Board meeting is scheduled for Jan. 13.

The Weekly Post has filed Illinois Freedom of Information Act requests with the sheriff's office and the Peoria County State's Attorney's Office for documents related to Strauss' reassignment.

CHURCH CHANGE?

New hope for Bradford's Catholic church

Interest from Byzantine

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

BRADFORD – New hope has emerged for the future of Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Bradford.

Slated for permanent closure by the Diocese of Peoria after a final service on April 19, the church has attracted interest from the Byzantine Catholic Church. Working with local supporters, a group is exploring using St. John's to establish a mission church for the Ohio-based Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma.

Residents of Bradford and the sur-



The Byzantine Catholic Church has expressed interest in starting a mission at Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Bradford, which faces closure in April.

rounding area are invited to a community informational meeting on Jan. 18 at 3 p.m. at the Saint John's parish hall to learn about a proposal that could keep the historic church building in ac-

tive use. Also invited are nearby Byzantine Catholics, who would be prospective parishioners.

The meeting will include a short

Continued on Page 2

Positive project for Farmington

Focus on vacant or neglected properties has paid off

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post

FARMINGTON – A concentrated effort to deal with vacant and neglected buildings and trailer homes in Farmington appears to be paying off.

At Monday's meeting of the Farmington City Council, Police Chief Chris Darsham reported he has received responses regarding 21 of 30 vacant or neglected buildings or trailer homes currently in violation of city codes. A few other responses arrived Tuesday morning, the chief said, though he has not processed them yet.

Letters were sent to owners of the properties along with a form now required for vacant structures in the city.

"We just want to know who owns them and what their plans are for them," Darsham said,

Continued on Page 7

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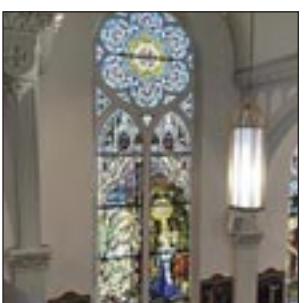
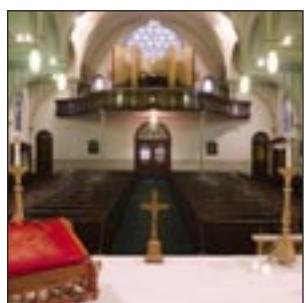
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CHURCH: 'Still working out those details'

Continued from Page 1
presentation followed by time for questions and discussion. Speakers will include clergy and others involved in the transition who will explain the proposal and what level of community interest and support would be required. A light soup and sandwich lunch will be provided.

Saint John's is a part of the newly formed Incarnation of Our Lord Catholic Parish, which also includes Saint Joseph in Brimfield, Saint Mary of the Woods in Princeville and Saint



Views from inside Saint John the Baptist church in Bradford show an intricate stained-glass window and a large pipe organ.

Dominic in Wyoming. The Rev. Corey Kriengel is pastor of Incarnation Parish and said both he and Bishop Louis Tylka of the Peoria Diocese are very supportive of selling Saint John's to the Byzantine

church.

"We're not in formal negotiations yet," Kriengel noted. "Right now we don't know if they're going to buy it or lease it. We're still working out those details."

While all involved say no decision has been made, the plan could involve the Rev. Thomas J. Loya of Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine church in Homer Glen, located about 37 miles southwest of Chicago.

Kriengel is hopeful some deal can be worked out, ideally after the final serv-

ice planned for Saint John's on April 19 at 2 p.m. That service is a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Bradford church's founding.

"We were trying to find a solution to keep the church open and this came up," Kriengel said. "I do see it as a possible answer to prayers."

The Byzantine Catholic church shares the same faith as the Roman Catholic Church and is in full communion with the Pope but has some differences in worship style and liturgy.

"Byzantine Catholic churches are an equally valid option for (Roman) Catholic believers," Kriengel said. "It's a version of Catholicism that's more common in other parts of the world. It's comparable to the Maronites in Peoria" who worship at Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church.

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EHS Scholar Of The Month

Congratulations
Walter Lampe

Birthday: 1/15/2008
Favorite Subject: Probabilities & Statistics.
I like the teacher and the math content.
Parents: Monica & Jeff Lampe
Favorite Restaurant: Mi Ranchito
Favorite Musical Artist: Drake
Role Models: My parents
Favorite Author/Book: "Watership Down"
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor: Moose Tracks
Country You Want to Visit: Spain
College Plans: Attend a four-year college
When Not Studying I Like To: Listen to music, play with my dog, cook food, watch sports and play sports.



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THE WEEK AHEAD

Hot Picks Ahead

• **Mobile Clerk** – Peoria County Clerk Rachael Parker's office will visit Lillie M. Evans Library in Princeville on Monday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., to provide services, including certificates for birth, marriage and death. The clerk's office will accept cash and checks for its services. To learn more, call (309) 385-4540.

• **Native Seed Celebration** – A variety of native prairie seeds will be available for swap or merely to take home on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 10 a.m. to noon at Salem Township Library in Yates City.

This Week's Events

• **Book Group** – Farmington Public Library's second-Monday book group will meet Monday, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "Corrupted" by Lisa Scottoline.

• **Community Luncheon** – Union Church of Brimfield will hold its monthly community luncheon on Tuesday, Jan. 13, from noon to 1 p.m. Chicken pot pie, fruit salad, rolls, dessert and drink. Cost is \$7.

• **Harvest Home** – A Harvest Home fundraiser dinner will be Jan. 15, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Yates City Community Center. Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, roll, dessert and a drink. \$13.

• **Food Pantry** – Farmington has a drive-through food pantry the third Wednesday each month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at New Hope Fellowship Church.

• **Mahjong** – A Mahjong group is gathering to play on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at Morrison & Mary Wiley Library in Elm-

Publicize Your Event

Email information about your upcoming event to us at news@wklypost.com.

wood. Adults are welcome to join.

Future Events

• **Movie Night** – Lillie M. Evans Library in Princeville has interactive family movie night Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m. for a free showing of "Megamind." Goody bags provided.

• **Raccoon Roundup** –

The fourth annual Raccoon Roundup will be Jan. 30-31, with sign-up (Jan. 30, 5-8 p.m.) and weigh-in (Jan. 31, 2-5:30 p.m.) at the Elmwood

Tap. Cost \$25 per person, up to four-person teams. Raffles during weigh-in, DJ after. Call (309) 403-1183.

• **Meals on Wheels** – Meals on Wheels delivered in Elmwood and Yates City on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Call (309) 772-9284.

• **Yoga** – Yoga Thursdays, 6 p.m. at Brimfield Public Library. \$4. Classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. at Princeville's Lillie M. Evans Library.

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- Flip Wilson

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Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Peoria County, Illinois/Wampus Mortgage Loan Trust Plaintiff vs.

Patrick S. Barrett a/k/a Patrick Barrett, et. al.
Defendant
25 FC 154

CALENDAR NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on **February 11, 2026**, at the hour 9:00 a.m., Miller, Hall & Triggs, LLC, 416 Main Street, Suite 1125, Peoria, IL 61602, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 14-34-301-008.

Commonly known as **820 East McClure Street, Peoria, IL 61603**.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a common interest community unit, the purchaser of the

other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection(g-1) of Section 189.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% (or 25% if so ordered in the Judgement of Foreclosure) down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property is sold AS IS subject to all liens or encumbrances. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the circuit court case record, property tax record and the title record to verify all information before bidding.

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

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. (630) 794-5300. 14-25-04337 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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I3279337
Published 1/8, 1/15, 1/22/25

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

CTP FUNDING CORPORATION Plaintiff,

-v.-

HEREJS ENTERPRISES, LLC et al

Defendant

2025-FC-0000066

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on **August 13, 2025**, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on **February 6, 2026**, at the Peoria County Courthouse, 324 Main Street, NE Jefferson St., Main Entrance, PEORIA, IL, 61602, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

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

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

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments

and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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

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

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Case # 2025-FC-0000066
I3279481
Published 1/8, 1/15, 1/22/25

We Cover The News of West-Central Illinois With A Passion



GUEST VOICES



Seniors paying a price for COLA

If you are reading this, you have survived another year and are starting a new one. Congratulations.

Now let's get real. The Social Security Administration sends its Notice of Cost-of-Living Adjustment in early December telling seniors what their Social Security benefits will be for the new year. The news media had been broadcasting that the increase would be 2.8%.

Sure enough, that's what the notice said in its first line. I honestly did not look at the form beyond that until the next day, when my wife said she looked at her benefit sheet and wasn't happy. I took a second look at the benefits to see what had caused my wife's displeasure.

The COLA is supposed to be designed to keep seniors at or near to the same buying power they had when they first retired. There has been much discussion lately that the COLA does not take into account the additional medical costs that seniors incur and the factors of what is the actual cost of living for seniors versus the rest of the population. We will leave those issues aside and just address the form itself.

The form starts with your gross benefit and then deducts what the form refers to as common deduc-

tions. Most people get hit with a deduction for the Medicare Part B and Part C premium. This premium does not include what many pay extra for in either a Medicare Supplement plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan. Then comes the deduction for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, which many people have if they don't have a Medicare Advantage Plan.

After that comes a voluntary federal-tax withholding line if you are using your Social Security benefits to pay income taxes. My wife and I were just looking at the medical deductions and realized we just went in the hole. Ivy's Social Security check goes down \$27 in January and mine goes down \$1.20 per month. Instead of keeping even with the cost of living, we just lost money year over year.

If you are a senior whose source of income in retirement is Social Security, you are losing money in 2026. I am very grateful that we have pension income in addition to that Social Security check, but many do not have that luxury or retirement savings. You can guess which direction our Medicare supplement plans went. I assure you those costs have not decreased.

My family's medical-insurance costs are very small on a national scale. But multiply our net loss by the

millions of seniors on Medicare and that number has major significance. President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi stressed to the American public that we could all keep our doctors and that insurance premiums would go down.

The American public was sold a pipe dream by Obama and Pelosi. The Republicans may not have sold us the pipe dream, but they have yet to present a plan in Congress that truly addresses the medical needs of the American public in a national public-policy format.

The bottom line is the Democrats have billed us to death and the Republicans have stuck their head in the sand. Neither approach works, and yet both parties are blaming the other. Perhaps a little introspection by both sides in Congress is in order.

The American public will pay the premiums for quality service. The problem is Congress has yet to provide that quality plan to the public. The current plans simply have seniors and others going deeper in debt. The current scenario will by its own definitions implode after time. It's time for a little maturity on both sides in Washington. Happy New Year.

Richard Koritz is an Illinois native and former DeWitt County state's attorney.

PUBLIC RECORD

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

Police reports

• **PRINCEVILLE** – A 77-year-old Princeville woman was the victim of a scam, according to authorities.

The scammer absconded with about \$25,000, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office. The theft was reported at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9.

An Asian male is the suspect. The sheriff's office indicated the suspect was impersonating a federal agent.

• **EDWARDS** – A Hanna City man was accused of domestic battery regarding an incident at an Edwards-area residence.

Randy C. Cusack, 58, was arrested shortly before 4 p.m. Dec. 5 in the 11200 block of W. Roseland Lane, according to a heavily redacted Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. A deputy had been dispatched to that address about 30 minutes earlier.

The victim was an 82-year-old Brimfield-area man. Cusack was transported to the Peoria County Jail.

• **TRIVOLI** – A Pekin man was accused of transmitting threatening messages to at least seven people, including children, at a Trivoli-area residence. Christopher J. Blakes, 23, was arrested about 1:30 a.m. Dec. 5 in Pekin, according to a heavily redacted Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The incident in the 16105 block of Illinois Route 116 was reported about 11:30 p.m. Dec. 4.

Victims were 24- and 22-year-old women, a 24-year-old man, two 3-year-old girls, a 2-year-old boy and a female infant. The man was from Pekin, the others were from Trivoli.

Blakes was charged with disorderly conduct and with harassment through electronic communications threatening injury. He was transported to the Peoria County Jail.

• **EDWARDS** – An Edwards man was arrested in connection with an allegation of aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Sergio Delgado Rodriguez, 26, was booked Dec. 1 into the Peoria County Jail on charges of criminal sexual assault and child pornography. He was arrested Nov. 19 regarding an incident that happened about 9 a.m. Nov. 4 at an address on Kickapoo-Edwards Road.

The Peoria County Sheriff's Office report about that incident was redacted almost entirely. The victim is from Minier.

• **ELMWOOD** – An Elmwood woman was arrested in connection with a burglary investigation at the

residence of a Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputy.

Diane L. Malott, 59, was taken into custody shortly before 12:45 p.m. Nov. 30 and charged with burglary, according to the sheriff's office. Illinois State Police assisted with the investigation. No other information was released immediately. The State Police cited an attempt to protect the integrity of the investigation.

• **OAK RUN** – An Oak Run man was accused of multiple crimes related to an apparent domestic dispute.

Robert I. Pfeffer III, 45, was transported to the Knox County Jail in Galesburg following the incident. It happened about 8 p.m. Nov. 30 at a residence in the 2500 block of Oak Run Drive, according to a Knox County Sheriff's Office report.

A 38-year-old woman said Pfeffer yelled at her and two children – a 9-year-old boy and a 5-year-old girl – and threw items around the house. Pfeffer also apparently attempted to knock over a sheriff's-office deputy as he tried to subdue him.

Pfeffer was charged with disorderly conduct and aggravated battery against a peace officer.

• **TOULON** – An Edwards man was driving 61 mph over the speed limit when a Stark County Sheriff's Office deputy pulled him over, according to authorities.

Enrico B. Santos, 18, was detained Nov. 26 for speeding at least 35 mph over the posted limit. He was traveling 116 mph, according to the sheriff's office. It wasn't clear where Santos was stopped. Santos received a notice to appear in Stark County Circuit Court.

• **BARTONVILLE** – No injuries were reported at an intersection west of Bartonville following a two-vehicle crash that involved a Hanna City woman.

At 5:15 p.m. Nov. 25, Kylie N. Summers was driving an eastbound 2013 Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck on Smithville Road when at Cameron Lane it struck a northbound 2018 Chevy Equinox sport-utility vehicle driven by Georgena R. Bitner of Bellevue, a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report stated.

Bitner said she did not see Summers' vehicle before she pulled into the intersection, a four-way stop. Both vehicles were towed.

• **WILLIAMSFIELD** – Law-enforcement authorities found an Edelstein man who crashed his vehicle north of Williamsfield. A Knox County Sheriff's Office deputy was dispatched shortly before 9 p.m.

Nov. 21 to Illinois routes 180 and 167 regarding a reported accident. When he arrived, he saw no vehicles but did find tire tracks and a vehicle mirror, hubcap, front emblem and license plate, a sheriff's-office report stated.

Damage to a fence and a highway sign was noted. The license plate was traced to David M. Marchand II, 54, who admitted to being in an accident in a 2011 Toyota Camry. He said he swerved to miss a deer. He was cited for leaving the scene of an accident.

• **ELMWOOD** – Chief Aaron Bean reported the following Elmwood Police Department activity for November: one arrest, nine traffic stops, one citation, 11 warnings, 25 reports, two notices to appear and two ordinance violations.

• **YATES CITY** – The Yates City Police Department reported the following activity for November: one arrest, 10 reports, six traffic stops, one citation and five warnings.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded between Dec. 14-20: alarm, Dahinda; road hazard, Dahinda; custody dispute, Williamsfield; threats, Yates City; driving complaint, Williamsfield; domestic dispute, Yates City.

• **EDWARDS** – Shortly after 1:45 a.m. Dec. 3, George L. Burrell of Peoria was driving a westbound 2017 Honda CRV sport-utility vehicle in the 13200 block of Illinois Route 8 west of Edwards when the vehicle struck a deer. Burrell was uninjured, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The vehicle sustained damage but was drivable.

• **BRIMFIELD** – At 4 a.m. Dec. 2, Steven S. Ehnle of Brimfield was driving an eastbound 2021 Toyota Tundra pickup truck in the 14200 block of U.S. Route 150 southeast of Brimfield when the vehicle struck a deer.

Ehnle declined medical attention, a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report stated. The vehicle was drivable but sustained damage.

• **PRINCEVILLE** – Shortly after 5:45 p.m. Nov. 28, Lynsy M. Clark of Princeville was driving a 2010 Dodge Avenger south in the 21400 block of Illinois Route 91 north of Princeville when the vehicle struck a deer. No injuries to Clark were noted in a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The vehicle sustained damage but was drivable.

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House fire causes \$150,000 in damages

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD – A house fire in Brimfield caused about \$150,000 in damage, according to authorities.

The blaze at 230 N. Washington St. began about 6:30 a.m. Jan. 3. Nobody was home at the time, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The resident was on

his way to work in Macomb, he told a deputy.

A space heater had been operating in a rear bedroom, the resident said. Most of the damage was closest to that room. Most of the roof and outer walls were damaged, and the interior sustained major damage from fire, water and smoke.

Brimfield fire officials reported

nothing suspicious. The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal was to investigate.

Firefighters from the Akron-Princeville, Elmwood and Logan-Trivoli departments assisted. An Elmwood firefighter sustained a minor cut to one of his hands, but BYE Ambulance Service personnel treated it, the report stated.

Project costs piling up for Billtown board

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – Now that it has some extra cash, the Williamsfield Village Board needs to juggle it a bit.

Replacement of a water-well pump is going to cost as much as \$45,000 more than expected, according to Village President Robert Johnson. Because of that, Johnson suggested Monday night the board delay construction of a new village public-works building.

But trustees hesitated, given the dilapidated state of the current, century-old public-works building. Instead, they'll try to ensure the well work is accounted for in the next fiscal year, which begins in May, instead of the current one.

"We've got that thing holding up with popsicle

sticks," Trustee Kyle Gibbs said about the building. "What do you prioritize? Well, it's both safety and water."

Chris Ebert Company of Washington is in line to handle the well project, which is expected to be in the \$60,000-65,000 range. In addition to the pump, the well casing also needs to be replaced. That helped increase the initial estimate of \$20,000, according to Johnson.

Ebert's schedule probably will push the project into the next fiscal year, anyway, Johnson said. The village could tap financial reserves to pay for the well project and the new public-works building sooner or simultaneously, but he deemed that imprudent.

"I really want that new building, but the well is the priority," Johnson

said.

The board approved a \$6,000 deal with Bruner, Cooper & Zuck, Inc., a Galesburg engineering firm, to prepare paperwork for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regarding the well project.

Earlier Monday was the closing on the sale of the former Williamsfield Retirement Center, which the previous owner donated to the village. All About Houses Inc. of Hanna City purchased the building for just less than \$200,000.

The new owners are to convert the building into a 55-and-older independent-living facility. According to Johnson, 18 people are on a list to move there once it's completed. The new owners have talked with various local businesses about providing services.

"They're very hip on the town," Johnson said.

Money from the sale is to combine with a bank

loan to finance the new public-works building, which is to cost about \$300,000. Progress there has been slowed because of zoning issues, according to Johnson. The Knox County Zoning Board needs to review the plans.

The process prompted Johnson and trustees to discuss creation of a village zoning board. The Knox County board meets too infrequently and inconveniently, they indicated.

During public comment, area resident Mark Ebner asked the board to reconsider its continuation of the 1% grocery sales tax the state terminated as of Jan. 1. He suggested taxes on discretionary items, like alcohol, are different than taxes on food.

"You can choose not to buy a bottle of liquor, but you can't choose not to buy food," Ebner said. "Ethically, is that the right thing to do? Tax people's food?"

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BRIEFS

Brimfield moves forward with water-tank project

BRIMFIELD – The Brimfield Village Board took the next step in its water-tank replacement project on Monday at its first meeting of 2026.

The board unanimously approved the project and directed Village President Dan Fishel to sign off on the Illinois EPA loan papers. An ordinance will be brought to the board for approval at its February meeting with costs attached so all paperwork can be given to the IEPA by March 1.

– *Molly Copher*

Locals among WTPV's 40 Leaders Under Forty

PEORIA – The latest WTPV-TV

class of 40 Leaders Under Forty includes local residents Caleb Aeschliman and Derek Oddo, both of Edwards. Aeschliman is an assistant global trade advisor at Caterpillar Inc. and Oddo is a marketing/CRM manager for Prairie Home Alliance.

New voting machines to tour Knox County

GALESBURG – Knox County has unveiled its new voting machines during an introduction tour that started Jan. 6 in Abingdon and will include several stops in The Weekly Post circulation area.

The tour allows voters to see the new equipment and ask questions before Election Day. The Knox County

Board agreed to spend \$466,559 on the machines last year.

Future visits, all of which will be from 5-8 p.m., include:

- Jan. 14 at the new Copley Township Hall, 1531 Illinois Route 167 in Victoria, for Copley, Lynn and Truro townships.

- Jan. 20 at Yates City Community Center for Maquon, Elba, Haw Creek and Salem townships.

- Jan. 21 at the Watering Hole, 1468 Knox Road 1725 North, Dahinda, for Persifer and Victoria townships.

College honors

• **Jacob Bennett** of Farmington made the Southern New Hampshire University Dean's list (3.5 gpa or better) for the fall semester.

FARMINGTON: OK'd new K-9, training

Continued from Page 1

adding forms are kept on file and properties that continue to be neglected will receive fines for ordinance violations.

The prospect of fines has spurred response, Darsham said. He expects half of the eight vacant trailers at 100 W. Pearl St. to be removed soon. He also anticipates sales of several other vacant properties whose owners said they want to avoid fines.

The city has also been active in acquiring some of the worst properties, demolishing vacant structures and then selling the cleared lots.

On Monday, Mayor Kenn Stufflebeam got approval from the council

to pursue the purchase of two such properties, at 181 E. Court St. and 427 W. Fulton St.

"I've often said I don't think the city needs to be buying property, however, there's a couple nuisance properties coming up," Stufflebeam said. "These may be the worst of the worst."

Stufflebeam said the properties will be available if property taxes are not paid by September.

Alderman Alex Gilles said he wants to make sure the city has plans to sell any new properties it acquires. Stufflebeam agreed and noted that a bid opening is scheduled for Jan. 19 for 165 N. Wall St. Stufflebeam said

if that property sells, the city will own only about six lots, one of which is leased by Mid Century Communications.

In other business, the council approved the purchase of a new K-9 dog to replace Koala, the current K-9 dog, who is well past his service time. Also approved was training for K-9 officer Jeremiah Ulm with Cedar Creek Kennels in Monmouth.

Darsham estimated the total cost of a new dog and training will be \$15,000 to \$18,000. Payment will come from the city's K-9 fund that Darsham said has \$20,000 that has been donated or accumulated at fundraisers.

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126 acres with 122 being tillable ground consisting of Saw-mill Silty Clay, Keomah Silt and Littleton Silt. The farm carries a 124.6 PI, offering excellent income potential. \$1,267,100.

0000 N. Daily Road, Princeville, IL

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1669 Sherwood Rd. Dahinda, IL 61428

235 +/- acres bordering DragonFly Lakes. Enjoy 14 acres of food plots this fall benefiting the trophy whitetail or turkeys running around this farm. Low hunting pressure from neighbors increases the potential for this farm. \$1,715,500.

1841 N. 1400 Rd., Dahinda, IL 61428

4 bed, 3 bath home located overlooking the Spoon River bottoms. Enjoy the peace and tranquility this home offers along with your choice of 36 acres up to 247 acres offering some of the best whitetail hunting in the area. Property offers a lake, 40 tillable acres and 137 CRP acres. Home with 36 acres \$1,395,000 or home with 247 acres \$2,600,000.

0000 RR, Maquon, IL

Large farm consisting of 115 tillable acres, 144 acres in CRP on its 2nd year and hardwoods great food plots. Income is around \$88,000 a year. This area is known for its B&C caliber deer and offers pheasants and fishing the Spoon and Haw Creek. 413 acres \$3,510,500.

00 N. Hardscrabble Rd., Sparland IL

Take the easement back to big timber with multiple white oak ridges perfect for deer or turkey hunting. Want to turn it up a notch? Add your own food plot for wildlife viewing year round. This 50-acre piece offers trails front to back. \$359,900.

17217 N. Dairy Farm Rd., Smithfield, IL 61477

Beautiful homesite overlooking the fields below offering a great trail system and tremendous deer and turkey hunting. 140 acres. \$895,000.

000 Bartholomew Lane, Elmwood, IL 61529

Great sloping pasture offers great build sites with opportunity to make an income with hay or livestock. Lake on property offers water year round that had been used for bird hunting in the past. \$777,443.

0000 RT 24, East Peoria, IL 61611

Located on Rt 24 and Rt 116, this is an amazing location overlooking the Illinois River. Property includes 10 acres zoned commercial off a dead-end road. This piece butts up to Fondulac Park and offers great deer hunting. \$600,000.

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

OBITUARIES

Lyle W. Begner

PRINCEVILLE — Lyle W. Begner, 88, of Princeville, passed away at 4:44 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Lyle was born on Dec. 11, 1937, in Princeville, to Ralph and Helen (Bouton) Begner. He married Barbara E. (Friederich) Begner on Nov. 5, 1960; she survives.



Begner

Also surviving are one son, Lyle E. (Jayme) Begner of Peoria Heights; one daughter, Lisa (Douglas) Brodine of Laura; three grandchildren, Jonathan (Brittney) Lowry, Austin (Victoria) Brodine and Blake Begner; two great-grandchildren, Paisley and Weston Lyle Lowry; one sister, Imogene (Harold) Tanner of Speer; three brothers, Jack (Carol) Begner of Chillicothe, Karl (Debbie) Begner of Dunlap and Nyle (DeAnna) Begner of Elmwood; one sister-in-law, Susan Begner; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Eleanor Meehan; two brothers, Robert Begner and Terry Begner; and one brother-in-law, Mike Meehan.

Lyle proudly served as a Marine. He then worked as a carpenter and was a member of Local 237 union. Lyle enjoyed coaching little league and hunting and fishing with his grandchildren. He was a passionate cattle farmer and loved taking joy rides in the afternoon on the Kawasaki Mule with his wife.

His visitation will be Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026, from 10-11 a.m. at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville. A funeral service will follow the visitation at 11 a.m., also at the funeral home. Pastor David Pyell will officiate. Burial will be in Swan Lake Memory Gardens in Peoria.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Princeville Little League baseball or the Laura United Methodist Church.

Online condolences may be left for Lyle's family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services is assisting the family with arrangements.

Patricia K. Bosley

CANTON — Patricia Kay Bosley, 75, passed away peacefully on Jan. 1, 2026, at The Loft in Canton, with her husband, Richard Bosley, nearby.

Patricia was born Jan. 23, 1950, to

O.R. and Anna Louise Grady. She was raised on the Grady Christmas Tree Farm, where she and her siblings developed a lifelong appreciation for family, hard work and the simple joys of home.

She was preceded in death by her parents, O.R. and Anna Louise Grady, and

siblings Richard Grady, Alan (Carol) Grady, Janet Garcia and Mary Lee Grady.

Patricia is survived by her husband, Richard Bosley; her children, Jason Becker and Jessica Becker; stepdaughter Kasia (Kirk) Trujillo; and her grandchildren, Daisy and Lily Becker and Kylan and Bryce Trujillo. She is also survived by siblings Robert (Emily) Grady, Ella Lou (Larry) Little and Sara (Luke) Starcevich, as well as extended family members and friends.

Patricia graduated from Farmington High School in 1968 and Eureka College in 1973. She built a career in banking, where she was known for her dedication, professionalism and kindness to coworkers and customers alike.

Patricia married Dana Becker in 1973 and had two children. In 1995 she moved to Colorado, where she met Richard. They married Dec. 29, 2001, and shared many wonderful years together, enjoying camping, traveling and spending time with each other. They moved to Illinois in 2015 to be closer to family.

Patricia was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. Her warmth, strength and quiet grace will be remembered by those who knew and loved her.

Family and friends are invited to a celebration of life and meal at the Trivoli Township Building on Cramer Road on Friday, Jan. 9, at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Logan-Tivoli Fire Department. Burial will be in Brunswick Cemetery in rural Tivoli at a later date.

James M. Gutshall

YATES CITY — James Merlin "Jim" Gutshall, 76, born July 25, 1949, to Merlin and Verna (Forney) Gutshall, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 30, 2025, surrounded by the life and land he loved.

Jim grew up on the farm and had fond memories of his grandparents, uncles and family on the farm. He graduated from Elmwood High School in 1967. After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1972, he taught agriculture education for two years along the Mississippi River and then proceeded to return home to the farm.

He married the love of his life, Sue Ann Goedeke, on June 1, 1979, in Maquon, and together they built a life rooted on the farm. Their marriage was a true partnership marked by devotion, laughter and unwavering support through every season.

He was a proud and loving father to three daughters, Cassie (Jeremy) Crouch of Maroa, Rebecca (Chris) Alfrey of Elmwood and Mary Ann (Bill) Sinclair of Columbia, Tenn. He taught them the values of hard work, caring and resilience. Whether in the fields or at the kitchen table, he led by example, leaving a legacy carried on through the lives of his girls.

A lifelong farmer, he devoted his days to caring for his crops and livestock, rising before dawn and working until the sun dipped below the horizon. His hands told the story of a life built on hard work, perseverance and quiet dedication. He believed in honest labor, strong values and loving his girls beyond the days here on earth.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Merlin and Verna, but leaves behind a caring wife; three girls; a sister, Christine Ann (Boyd) Bewley; and a brother, Michael Glenn Gutshall of Pennsylvania.

He will best be remembered by his grandchildren. He loved being in the background of grandma's phone calls to his seven grandchildren — Taylor, Morgan, Delaney, Vincent, Zachary, Mason and Charlotte — and enjoyed getting updates, phone calls and watching them grow up.

Jim will be remembered each day of planting and harvest. His hands are still now, his labor complete and his rest well deserved in the arms of our Lord.

A memorial service was held at Oaks-Hines Funeral Home in Elmwood on Friday Jan. 2, 2026.

Memorials may be made to BYE



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Milliesmeadows3@gmail.com
8210 N Dwyer St
Kickapoo, IL



OBITUARIES

Ambulance Service or to Elmwood Fire Department.

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

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

Robert T. Organiscak

TRIVOLI – Robert T. “Bob” Organiscak, 82, of Trivoli, passed away at 2:02 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, at Carle Health Methodist Hospital in Peoria.

Bob was born Dec. 31, 1942, to



Organiscak

Andrew and Lottie (Handzel) Organiscak in Chicago. Bob married Judith Stevens on Oct. 7, 1967, at Plainfield United Methodist Church. She preceded him in death on Sept. 30, 2025.

Bob is survived by two children, Kristin (Andrew) Luster of North Pekin and Kelly (Ryan) Brewer of Yates City; three grandchildren, Hayley Luster, Caiden Taylor and Ashlyn Brewer; one brother, Thomas “Bud” Organiscak; and three sisters, Lynda (Dave) Leanna, Theresa (Jim) Strasburg and Sharon (Jerry) Kaziak.

Bob was also preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Sandra Organiscak.

Bob served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1970. He was honored to fly on the Peoria Honor Flight on June 12, 2024. Bob worked at ADM for 29 years, retiring in 2010. After retirement, he loved driving the bus for Farmington School District 265. In his earlier years, he enjoyed playing his saxophone and clarinet and was in a polka band called “The Happy Notes.” Bob was a member of the United Methodist Church in Trivoli, where he sang in the church choir and the men’s quartet. Bob was a volunteer fireman with the Logan-

Trivoli fire district and loved hunting, mushroom hunting, fishing and being in bowling leagues.

Most of all, he was very adamant about attending all of his grandchildren’s activities and spending time with his family.

A memorial service with military honors will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, at Oaks-Hines Funeral Home in Elmwood. A visitation will be held prior to the service, from 10-11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial of his ashes will immediately follow in Trivoli Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Peoria Honor Flight.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.oakshinesfuneral-home.com. Oaks-Hines Funeral Home and Crematory in Elmwood is in charge of arrangements.

Imogene Perry

BARTONVILLE – Imogene (Edwards) Perry of Bartonville, previously of Hanna City, passed on to her heavenly home on Dec. 30, 2025, with her family by her side.

She was born July 30, 1926, in Louisville, Ky., to Raymond and Opal (Shields) Edwards. Imogene was a loving, devoted wife, mother, grandmother, daughter and sister.

She married Arthur L. Perry on Dec. 7, 1946, in Elizabethtown, Ky. He passed away Sept. 17, 1984. She was also preceded in death by her parents; her two sons, Edward and Robert; one daughter, Patricia Gibson; one sister, Anna Corrine Perry; and two brothers, Kenneth and Theodore Edwards.

She is survived by one daughter, Joyce (Jack) Williams of Bartonville; and four sons, David “Buddy”



Perry

(Donna) Perry of Metamora, Donald (Carol) Perry of Elmwood, Michael (Brenda) Perry of Hanna City and Richard (Cherie Leezer) Perry of Toulon. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren, Angie, Tony, Kevin, Jeannie, Christopher, Christy, Jeremy, Michael Jr., Eddie, Krystal, Shawn, Matthew and Amanda; and her great-grandchildren, DJ, Steven, Kaitlyn, Zack, Rachael, Johnathan, Cherokee, Harlow, Haven, Logan, Ron, Antonio, Eva, Jacob, Ella, Marley, Dani, Penelope, Layla, Lilianna, Charleigh, Jackson, Rustyn and a sweet girl on the way. She is also survived by a sister-in-law, Joyce Edwards, and many nieces and nephews.

Imogene was a homemaker and stay-at-home mother who raised eight children and also helped to raise her grandchildren. She was an amazing cook and an avid gardener. Her favorite pastimes were reading, crocheting, jigsaw puzzles, playing cards and bingo. In her later years, she loved to watch her hummingbirds.

She will be forever cherished and remembered. Her memory will live on in all the many lives she touched.

The family would like to thank Cheryl and the Carle Hospice team for their care during her time with them. Also Jeff Nelson at Central Illinois Agency on Aging, and the caregivers and staff at Spoon River Home Health.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Davison-Fulton Bartonville Chapel. Visitation will be one hour prior to services. Chaplain Jack Brown will officiate.

Burial will be in Combs Cemetery near Kickapoo and Brimfield.

Memorials may be made to Carle Hospice or the Logan-Trivoli Fire Department. View Imogene’s obituary online at www.Davison-Fulton-BartonvilleChapel.com.

More obituaries on Page 10

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AREA CHURCHES**BRIMFIELD**

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

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Father Corey Krengiel
Father Deogratias Mpewo
314 W. Clay Brimfield
(309) 446-3275
incarnationcatholic.org
Sat. Confession: 4:45 pm
Sat. Mass: 5 pm
Daily Mass: Mon. & Thurs. 8 am
Adoration: Thursday 7 am

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
Rev. Michael Wagnitz, Pastor
204 W. Clay St. Brimfield, IL
(309) 446-3233

The Lord bless your day.

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Divine Service
followed by Bible class

Wednesday

6:45 p.m. Christian Movie Night

Brimfield E-Free Church

Pastor Donald Blasing
11724 Maher Road
Brimfield IL 61517
(309) 446-3571
brimfieldfree.org
Worship: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
AWANA: Wed. 6:15 pm ages 3-12

Union Church at Brimfield

United Church of Christ
Pastor Stephen Barch
105 W. Clay Street Brimfield

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey
1. Is the book of Titus (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Joshua 2, who hid two spies on a roof? Hosea, Ezra, Satan, Rahab
3. What was the first bird released from Noah’s Ark? Raven, Pigeon, Sparrow, Dove
4. From 2 Kings 9, what crea-

tures ate the carcass of Jezebel? She-bears, Dogs, Frogs, Worms

5. Which of these worked seven years to earn a wife? Isaiah, Abraham, Jacob, Joshua

6. From Joel 3, what was the mountain of the Lord? Sinai, Zion, Nebo, Moriah

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Rahab, 3) Raven, 4) Dogs, 5) Jacob, 6) Zion
(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

(Maquon worship: 11 am)
Facebook Live is 11 am at Maquon UM Church page

EDWARDS

Baptist Church
7422 N. Heinz Ln. Edwards
(309) 692-1755
bethanycentral.org
Sun. Worship: 9 & 10:30 am
In person and livestream
(Coffee pastries 8:30-10:30 am)

Wed: 6:15 pm AWANA & youth group

DAHINDA

Dahinda United Methodist Church
Pastor Zoila Marty
1739 Victoria St. P.O. Box 14
Dahinda IL 61428

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am Sunday School during worship

Church: (309) 639-2768

Pastor's Office: (309) 639-2389

Email: williamsfielddahindaaumc@yahoo.com

DOUGLAS

Douglas United Methodist Church
Pastor Kristine McMillan
484 3rd St.
Yates City IL 61572

(NOTE: Church is in Douglas)

Sunday Worship: 8 am

ELMWOOD**Crossroads Assembly of God**

Pastor Don Nuttall

615 E. Ash St. Elmwood

(309) 742-6409

crossroadselmwood.org

TRIVOLI**FARMINGTON**

Farmington Bible Church

Pastor Tony Severine

497 N. Elmwood Rd.

Farmington

(309) 245-9870

Sunday School: 9:30

Worship Service: 10:30

Farmington United Methodist Church

Pastor Austin Miller

187 W. Fulton St.

Farmington

(309) 245-4310

farmingtonmethodist61531@gmail.com

Sunday School 10:15 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Wed. Confession: 7-8 pm

BRUNSWICK**Community Church**

4027 S. Stone School Rd, Trivoli

Pastor Terry England

Sunday School: 9:45 am

Sunday Worship: 10:45 am

Sunday Evening: 6:00 pm

Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 pm

YATES CITY**Faith United Presbyterian Church**

Reverend Marla B. Bauer

107 W. Bishop St. Yates City

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Linda R. Sager

ELMWOOD – Linda Ruth Sager, 86, of Elmwood, passed away on Dec. 31, 2025.

Linda was born on July 25, 1939, in Havana to Raymond and Margaret (McGirr) Hatton. She married Bernard L. Sager on Nov. 22, 1955, in Havana. He preceded her in death on April 18, 2019.

Surviving are four children, Vickie (Richard) Johnson of rural Princeville, Steven (Valerie) Sager of Elmwood, Rhonda Crozier of Yates City and Cheryl (Joe) Harlow of Elmwood. Also surviving are 12 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Linda was a florist for over 50 years at several local flower shops.

She was an active member at Crossroads Assembly of God Church in Elmwood. Over the years, Linda served God as a Sunday School teacher, Women's Joy Fellowship member and Crossroads food pantry team member.

Linda loved decorating her home for every holiday and season, being with family and was appreciated for her sympathetic ear and wise counsel to friends and family alike. It was not uncommon to find Linda and Bernie sitting on their front porch on Main Street, visiting with friends and neighbors and enjoying a glass of sweet iced tea or a cup of hot tea.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, at Crossroads Assembly of God Church, 615 E. Ash St., Elmwood, IL, 61529. Memorials may be made to Crossroads Assembly of God Church in Elmwood. Oak-Hines Fu-



Sager

OBITUARIES

general Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

To leave online condolences please visit www.oakhinesfuneralhome.com.

Jeff Streitmatter Jr.

PRINCEVILLE – Jeff Streitmatter Jr., 97, was welcomed by his Lord and Savior to the family reunion in heaven on Dec. 31, 2025.

He was born on Nov. 5, 1928, near Speer to Jeff and Martha (Siebenthal) Streitmatter and grew up on the family farm. As a young man, he gave his life to Christ and remained a lifelong member of the Apostolic Christian Church. Following graduation from Princeville High School, Jeff farmed and then served two years in the U.S. Army. After his military service, he returned to farming alongside his brother.

On Dec. 4, 1955, Jeff married Ruth Traub in Fairbury. The couple made their first home near Tremont, where they farmed for five years. They later moved to Princeville, where Jeff and his brothers founded Economy Builders. It was here that Jeff developed his talent for design and construction. He designed or built farm buildings, homes and churches and was instrumental in the design and development of the first children's homes in Leo, Ind. During their years in Princeville, Jeff and Ruth welcomed three children.

In 1977, the family moved to Sarasota, Fla., where Jeff was active in residential rentals. He also enjoyed boating, fishing and hunting, and he treated many Sarasota visitors to memorable boating and fishing excursions. His greatest joy was spending time with his family, and he and Ruth went to great lengths to create



Streitmatter

opportunities for family gatherings. His children and grandchildren fondly recall many vacations together.

Jeff is survived by Ruth, his wife of 70 years, and three children, Gloria (Jeff) Fischer, Katrine (Eric) Haeffli and Jeff III (Lynne). Also surviving are 10 grandchildren, Joseph (Emily) Fischer, Mary (Austin) Heavener, Noah (Jessalyn) Fischer, Benjamin (Laura) Fischer, RuthAnn Haeffli, Eric Haeffli II, Jeff Streitmatter IV, Gabriel (Haley) Streitmatter, Caleb Streitmatter and Joshua Streitmatter; two great-grandchildren, Elijah Fischer and Atlas Streitmatter; sisters-in-law, Pearline Streitmatter, Dorothy Martin, Kathryn Honegger and Evelyn Saal; and brothers-in-law, Gary Gundy and Bruce Leman.

He was preceded in death by his parents and all of his 11 siblings, Mildred Huber, Lucille Thomas-Beyer, Sylvia Blunier, Doris Rocke, Geraldine Streitmatter, Paul Streitmatter, Vernon Streitmatter, infant sister Verna Streitmatter, Donald Streitmatter, Alfred Streitmatter and Shirley Kieser. He was also preceded in death by five of his wife's siblings.

The funeral will be held at Princeville Apostolic Christian Church on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, at 10 a.m. Ministers of the church will officiate. Visitation will be Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, from 4-6 p.m. at the Princeville Apostolic Church Fellowship Hall. An additional visitation will be held at the church prior to the funeral service from 9-9:45 a.m. Burial will be in Princeville Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Princeville Apostolic Christian Church or Apostolic Christian Skylines.

Online condolences may be left for Jeff's family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

PUZZLE CORNER

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the name of the festival of lights that's celebrated in some European countries as the start of the holiday season?

2. MOVIES: Which actor played folk singer Pete Seeger in "A Complete Unknown"?

3. SLOGANS: Which company uses the advertising slogan "The Best a Man Can Get"?

4. HISTORY: What was the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention about?

5. TELEVISION: What is the name of Liz Lemon's show in the sitcom "30 Rock"?

6. SCIENCE: What kind of



substance does Boyle's law govern?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient in the Italian dish calamari?
8. LITERATURE: Which Shakespeare play introduces the characters Beatrice and Benedick?
9. MATH: What kind of number is pi (3.14)?

10. MUSIC: What is the name of the house band on "The Tonight Show"?

ANSWERS

1. St. Lucia's Day.
2. Edward Norton.
3. Gillette.
4. The first women's rights convention in the United States.
5. "TGS with Tracy Jordan."
6. Gas.
7. Squid.
8. "Much Ado about Nothing."
9. Irrational.
10. The Roots.

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TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Avatar: Fire and Ash (PG-13)
2. Zootopia 2 (PG)
3. Marty Supreme (R)
4. The Housemaid (R)
5. Anaconda (PG-13)
6. David (PG)
7. The SpongeBob
8. Movie: Search for Square-Pants (PG)
9. Song Sung Blue (PG-13)
10. Wicked: For Good (PG)

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FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 6

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

QJTM UBNLFMZQ FZBLQJCZT

FXM QIL NLFJ B WMAAJR

QUJF JFXMZQ FZBLQJCZT B

WMAAJR QUJF NLFJ FXM QIL.

- UBGAJ UNHBBQJ

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

AUTHORITY,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

JOHN LYDON, SPECIAL REPRESEN-

TATIVE OF KENNETH ANDERSON,

DECEASED; ILLINOIS HOUSING DE-

VELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UN-

KNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF

KENNETH ANDERSON; UNKNOWN

OWNERS AND NON-RECORD

CLAIMANTS,

DEFENDANTS.

NO. 2025-FC-0000221

805 WEST CORRINGTON AVENUE

PEORIA, IL 61604

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Ken-

neth Anderson

Unknown Owners and Non-Record

Claimants defendants, that this case

has been commenced in this Court

against you and other defendants,

asking for the foreclosure of a certain

Mortgage conveying the premises de-

scribed as follows, to wit:

LOT 87 IN SHERIDAN PARK AD-

DITION, A SUBDIVISION OF THE

NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 32,

TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 8

EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL

MERIDIAN, SITUATED IN THE CITY

OF PEORIA, COUNTY OF PEORIA

AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 805 West

Corrington Avenue

Peoria, IL 61604

and which said Mortgage was made

by, Kenneth Anderson Mortgagor(s),

to Mortgage Electronic Registration

Systems, Inc. as nominee for Flat

Branch Mortgage Inc.

Mortgagee, and recorded in the Of-

fice of the Recorder of Deeds of Peo-

ria County, Illinois, as Document

No. 2023017922; and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or

otherwise file your appearance in this

case, on or before February 9, 2026,

A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DE-

FAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Publication Notice of Court Date for Request

for Name Change (Minor Children):

REQUEST OF Marena D. Burdess

TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR CHILD, Case No. 22 MR 196

There will be a court date on a Request for Name Change

(Minor Child) for Lyla Renee Dringenberg to Lyla Faye Bur-

dess. The court date will be held at 10:30 a.m. on 2/9/2026, in

the Peoria County Courthouse, Peoria, Illinois.

/s/ Marena Burdess, Petitioner

Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/26

NOTICE OF ASSUMED NAME BUSINESS

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Peoria County on December 2, 2025, under the Assumed Name of Smart Water Scouts Inc., with the business located at 2000 W. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 5, Peoria, IL 61615. The true name and residence address of the owners is: Jill Larson, 430 S. Ohio Ave. Morton, IL 61550

Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/26

YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

You have been sued. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Notice called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to <a href="http

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

NOTICE OF SALE

of Property Owned by the City of Farmington, IL and Invitation to Bid Thereon

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Mayor and City Council for the City of Farmington, IL will receive bids for the purchase, under the successful bid, of the fee simple interest in the following real property.

Fifty (50) feet off of the South side of Lots One (1) and Two (2) in LITTLE'S ADDITION to the town, now City of Farmington, ALSO, Ten (10) feet of even width off of the North side of Lot Number Three (3) in LITTLE'S ADDITION to the Town, now City of Farmington, which property is generally located at 165 N. Wall Street, Farmington, Illinois 61531 and is currently devoted to vacant residential lot and zoned R-1.

Bids for the purchase of the aforesaid interest in the above-described property are hereby invited and will be received by the City Mayor at City Hall between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the date below for the opening bids. Said proposals shall be addressed to:

City Mayor
City of Farmington
322 E. Fort St. #101
Farmington, IL 65531

and shall bear the legend "PROPOSAL - SALE OF 165 N. WALL STREET" and the name, address, and phone number of the bidder.

All bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud at the regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Farmington at 4:01 p.m. on January 19, 2026.

A contract may be awarded to the highest bidder or the bidder whose bid is found to be in the best interest of the City. The Property shall not be sold for less than the minimum bid amount of \$6,000.00. The Mayor and City Council reserve the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding. The Mayor and City Council further reserve the right to review and study any and all bids and to make a contract award within 30 days after the bids have been opened and publicly read.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained at the office of the City Clerk.

/s/ Kenn Stufflebeam
Kenn Stufflebeam, City Mayor

Published 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/26

Continued from Page 10

833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Notice can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website. ¿Necesitas ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios.

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

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP Attorney for Plaintiff
333 W Wacker Drive, Suite 1820 Chicago, IL 60606-1220 Ph. (312) 346-9088 File No. 25-22809IL-1314993 I3279355 ,12/28/25

Published 1/8, 1/15, 1/22/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEOORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS CTP FUNDING CORPORATION Plaintiff,

-v.-
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on **August 13, 2025**, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on **February 6, 2026**, at the Peoria County Courthouse, 324 Main Street, NE Jefferson St., Main Entrance, PEORIA, IL, 61602, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 83 IN DELMAR GLEN ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF PEORIA, AS SHOWN BY PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "M", PAGE 92, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as **3004 N. SHERIDAN RD, PEORIA, IL 61604**

Property Index No. 14-33-104-002

The real estate is improved with a commercial property.

Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as

P.I.N. 14-34-301-008. Commonly known as **820 East McClure Street, Peoria, IL 61603**. The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a common interest community unit, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsec-

CLAIM NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS
PEORIA COUNTY

In Re ESTATE OF **JAMES W. HART**,

Deceased

CC 2025-PR-0000355

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of **JAMES W. HART** on October 10, 2025. Letters of Office were issued by the above entitled Court to **OLGA D. HART**, of 6960 Michael Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45243, as Executor of the Illinois Ancillary Administration of the Estate, 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 representative or both on or before the **17th day of July, 2026**, or if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representative 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 representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed and the claimant shall file with the Court, proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

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

DATED this 30th day of December, 2025.

OLGA D. HART, Executor of the Last Will and Testament of the Illinois Ancillary Administration of the Estate of **JAMES W. HART**, Deceased.

ASHLEE E. STABLER, Esq.

WHITNEY & POTTS, LTD.

Attorneys for Executor

118 West Main Street

P. O. Box 368

Elmwood, IL 61529-0368

Telephone: (309) 742-3611

ashlee@whitneyandpotts.com

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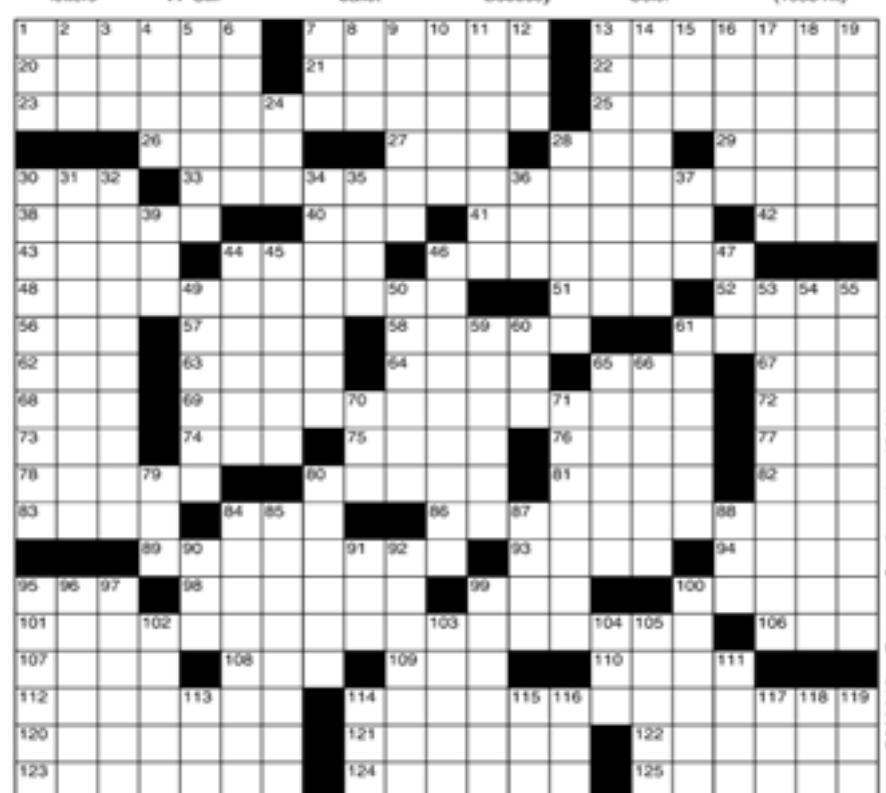
Answers on Page 8

Super Crossword

FAMILY EXPANSION

ACROSS

- 1 It turns
- 4 Gets firm
- 5 It turns
- 6 Produced a napped surface on
- 7 Strip a disguise from
- 13 "— Baby" (#1 U2 album of 1991)
- 20 Arrive like the tide
- 21 Savage
- 22 Less dull
- 23 Rural lumberjack resting after chopping?
- 24 Arrive like the tide
- 25 Lounged around
- 26 Dreamcast producer
- 27 Get as clear profit
- 28 100-yr. period
- 29 Heap (up)
- 30 Trough for toting bricks
- 33 Extended cloth used for messy cold-weather meals?
- 38 Hostile force
- 40 Down food
- 41 Purple spring blooms
- 42 Wide-shoe letters
- 43 Spool
- 44 Gets firm
- 45 Produced a napped surface on
- 46 Chart showing the highs and lows of actress Ellen's career?
- 47 "— see it."
- 48 Chart showing the highs and lows of actress Ellen's career?
- 49 Shot fluids
- 50 LP replacers
- 51 KGB's milieu
- 52 "— all over!"
- 53 Asian dress
- 54 Alex of "The Godfather"
- 55 Unit of work
- 56 "— all over!"
- 57 Asian dress
- 58 Alex of "The Godfather"
- 59 Item pinned on to support a Russian poet's election to office?
- 60 Hostile force
- 61 Unit of work
- 62 Orioles great
- 63 Gp. for Qatar
- 64 Sea in 75-Across
- 65 "Now I see!"
- 66 Matchstick-removing game
- 67 Matchstick-removing game
- 68 Suffix with senior
- 69 Item pinned on to support a Russian poet's election to office?
- 70 Thai tongue
- 71 Choose
- 72 Sarge, e.g.
- 73 Abbr. for a handy-andy
- 74 Mil. missions
- 75 Qatar locale
- 76 Lovers' ditty
- 77 Still
- 78 Revise
- 79 Prepare to give a ring?
- 80 Horse father
- 81 Beijing-to-Shanghai dir.
- 82 Beijing-to-Shanghai dir.
- 83 Shot fluids
- 84 "— see it."
- 85 One of the Skywalkers dressed up as St. Nick?
- 86 One of the Skywalkers dressed up as St. Nick?
- 87 Dutch airline
- 88 Kind of pear
- 89 With skill
- 90 Fir's cousin
- 91 Fir's cousin
- 92 "Ender's Game" star
- 93 With skill
- 94 "Ender's Game" star
- 95 "Ender's Game" star
- 96 "Ender's Game" star
- 97 "Ender's Game" star
- 98 Unmoving machine part
- 99 Troop gp.
- 100 They negate
- 101 Afghan-wrapped football?
- 102 "Help!"
- 103 Guthrie at Woodstock
- 104 They negate
- 105 Afghan-wrapped football?
- 106 "Help!"
- 107 Guthrie at Woodstock
- 108 B-to-F string
- 109 Thai tongue
- 110 Think of — a loan
- 111 Foot lever
- 112 Clean a jack-o'-lantern with a Hoover?
- 113 Figure out the value of
- 114 Clean a jack-o'-lantern with a Hoover?
- 115 Hair hider
- 116 Linda in 1998 headlines
- 117 Rabbit, Run" novelist John
- 118 — Mae (loan provider)
- 119 Graham or Lorne
- 120 More weighty letters
- 121 Alicia of ballet
- 122 Choose
- 123 Aden citizens
- 124 French edict site of 1598
- 125 Nail coater
- 126 Wall St. opportunist
- 127 Singer Rawls
- 128 Dutch airline
- 129 Kind of pear
- 130 Edelweiss
- 131 Probable
- 132 James Fenimore Cooper novel, with "The"
- 133 Monogram in civil rights
- 134 Grow wealthy
- 135 "1 — Male War Bride"
- 136 History unit
- 137 Suffix of enzymes
- 138 Architect Jones
- 139 Alien craft
- 140 Writer Analis
- 141 Not be joking
- 142 "Get Happy" songwriter
- 143 Figure out the value of
- 144 Grab quickly
- 145 Departure
- 146 Most prickly
- 147 Trio less one
- 148 Crustacean such as a wood louse
- 149 Kudos
- 150 Features of cloudless days
- 151 Cuts, as pie
- 152 Far-off distance
- 153 Linda in 1998 headlines
- 154 Jewish mysticism
- 155 "McQ" actor Gulager
- 156 Speed skater Dan
- 157 Of a heart chamber
- 158 Shout of joy
- 159 State east of Colo.
- 160 Big name in shortening
- 161 French edict site of 1598
- 162 James Fenimore Cooper novel, with "The"
- 163 Monogram in civil rights
- 164 Grow wealthy
- 165 Inclined (to)
- 166 Pettion, e.g.
- 167 History unit
- 168 Light refrain
- 169 Disinterest
- 170 Flower organ
- 171 Dry, white Italian wine
- 172 Strips for breakfast
- 173 Hall-of-Fame footballer Mel
- 174 Currency unit of Laos
- 175 Musical exercise
- 176 Lab safety org.?
- 177 Major racket rental
- 178 Capitalize on
- 179 Cal. dozen skater Dan
- 180 Jong-un
- 181 Suffix with chlor-
- 182 Blu Dimoto di Blu" (1958 hit)



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Chipping in on offense

Shriber, Essex boosting Farmington girls

By ANDY LATORA

For The Weekly Post

The improved play of junior Lynsey Shriber and freshman Ella Essex has given a boost to Farmington's girls basketball team.

Farmington (6-8) was consolation champion of the Princeville Holiday Tournament for the second straight year and raced to a 36-10 halftime lead en route to a 51-24 home win over West Central last Saturday. Shriber led her team with 18 points in the win over West Central.

"Shriber has really stepped up with her scoring lately," Coach Donovan Benson said. "She has been shooting extremely well from the free-throw line, and her field-goal percentage is also going up. She has been one of my best leaders and hardest workers this year and to see her scoring output go up is good for our team and her confidence."

Shriber scored 27 in Farmington's finale at Princeville. Essex added 13 in that 61-54 win over Galva and netted a team-high 20 the previous game, a 58-50 win over Bushnell-Prairie City. The freshman has flourished as the team's point guard.

"I have said to her, and others,

that at the halfway point of our season she is starting to play more like a sophomore than a freshman," Benson said. "It appears that the game is slowing down for her and her athletic ability is taking over, which is nice to see."

The Lady Farmers were scheduled to host Elmwood on Jan. 7 and play at Tremont on Jan. 10.

"Our team is playing with more control and more confidence heading into the heart of our conference schedule," Benson said. "This week is going to be challenging with Elmwood and Tremont, but we have a lot of momentum from this three-game win streak that we will look to capitalize on."

• **Elmwood (10-6)** – Suffered a 74-67 double-overtime loss at Peoria Manual on Monday. Brooke Allen scored 20, all in the second half and OT. Gianna Ramirez made one field goal and 16 free throws for 18 points and Andrea Glenn netted 15.

Elmwood was to play at Farmington on Wednesday and to host Knoxville on Thursday and El Paso-Gridley on Saturday.

• **Brimfield (7-10)** – Held visiting Stark County to single-digit quarters in a 45-20 win on Monday. Katie Doe scored a team-high



Farmington junior Lynsey Shriber lifts a jump shot during a girls basketball game earlier this season. Shriber has scored 57 points in her last three games, all wins. Photo by Dave Giagnoni.

13 points and Schyer Meinders had eight points and 15 rebounds.

In other games this week, Brimfield was home vs. ROWVA-Williamsfield on Wednesday and at Bureau Valley on Thursday.

• **Princeville (10-6)** – Has been off since finishing fourth at its own holiday tournament. Scheduled to host Flanagan-Woodland on Thursday (Jan. 8) and play at Peoria Heights on Saturday (Jan. 10).

• **ROWVA-Williamsfield (6-6)** – Beat Peoria Heights 43-29 on Monday. Scheduled to play at Brimfield on Wednesday and at West Prairie on Thursday.

'Weird' win for Indians

Brimfield boys edge Galva 37-32

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD – For Brimfield boys basketball, the new year began better than the old year ended.

Dawson Traphagan had a game-high 15 points to lead Brimfield (12-3) to a 37-32 victory Jan. 3 over Galva. Brimfield lost to Elmwood in the Princeville Holiday Tournament final Dec. 29.

Against Galva (9-6), Brimfield scored the first seven but led only 14-12 at halftime. A 3-pointer midway through the third quarter put Galva ahead 21-18, but Brimfield regained the lead and held it, Indians Coach Scott Carlson said.

"It was like a four- to seven-point lead the rest of the way; it felt like a comfortable lead," he said. "I just never felt we were going to lose it. We had a couple of free throws missed and a couple of turnovers down the stretch. I guess it got their hopes up, but it still felt comfortable to me. It was a weird game."

Galva missed all seven of its free-throw attempts.

"That was the difference," Galva Coach Jake McClintic

ICAC Schedule

At Brimfield

Monday, Jan. 12

6 pm - Brimfield vs. ROWVA-Williamsfield

7:30 - Peoria Christian vs. N. Fulton

Tuesday, Jan. 13

6 pm - Peoria Heights vs. Delavan

7:30 - Elmwood vs. Illini Bluffs

Thursday, Jan. 15

6 pm and 7:30 - Semifinals

Friday, Jan. 16

6 pm and 7:30 - Consolation semis

Saturday, Jan. 17

2 pm - Consolation 3rd place, 3:30 - Consolation championship, 5 - Third place, 6:30 - Championship.

said. "Brimfield is a very good team. I'm not happy we lost, but I'm happy with the way we played with our main scorers out."

One of them, Blake Stahl, hasn't played since the third game, because of a broken right hand. MJ Louck was sidelined with an ankle injury.

Brimfield senior Connor Doe wasn't at full strength after reaggravating an ankle injury in the Princeville semifinals. Brimfield's home game against North Fulton was moved from Friday to tonight (Jan. 8).

• **ICAC Tournament** – Top-seed Brimfield is host to the Inter-County conference tournament Jan. 12-17.

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