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Vol. 14 No. 7

The Weekly Post

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DROUGHT BUSTERS

Well digging a family affair for Cosbys

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post

The early-March day was chilly and windy, cold enough to bring to mind the old idiom about a well digger.

The cold didn't bother Doug Cosby, who was in fact digging a well near London Mills on that chilly day. But mud is another matter. So a prediction of incoming rainstorms had him working in the cold.

"I love digging wells, but I hate mud," Cosby explained. "I don't like to work in muddy conditions just because it's a lot of extra work and, from a safety standpoint, you can slip."

There's not much else Cosby, 61, dislikes about digging wells. Actually, he enjoys the process so much he went full time after retiring in 2022 following a 33-year career as a Caterpillar Inc. engineer.

"I like meeting new people. I love the thrill of getting them water," he said. "And I love to work on stuff. We make a lot of our own tooling."

Not long after he expanded his business, Cosby was joined by his son Josh, 26, the fourth generation of Cosbys to drill wells. Doug and wife Terri have three children, but eldest son Max and daughter Anney pursued other careers.

So it's up to Josh and Doug to follow a path blazed by the father-and-



Above, Doug Cosby (right) dumps a bucket full of clay with help from his son Josh Cosby. The father and son, also pictured below, represent the third and fourth generation of Cosby well diggers in the Elmwood area. Photos by Jeff Lampe.



son duo of Edward Leo Cosby and Edward Leo Cosby Jr., the former longtime mayor of Elmwood.

"Believe it or not, my grandpa Ed started this when he bought a house out in the country (near Brimfield) and it needed a well," Doug said. "He wanted to drill his own well, so he bought a Cable Tool drill rig mounted on an old school bus."

Ed Jr. followed in his dad's footsteps and, after working in the Air National Guard and at the Peoria Journal Star, got enough wells to dig so he could leave other jobs behind.

During high school and college, Doug helped his father and also worked at Jordan's Mobil in Elmwood, where he learned plenty about customer relations from the late Dave Jordan. After graduating from Bradley University with an engineering degree, he took a job with Cat. About 12 years ago, he started digging wells on weekends.

And while his 87-year-old father now lives in a Peoria assisted-living

Continued on Page 7

Buses could power Williamsfield school

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

WILLIAMSFIELD – Electric buses have been a contentious subject among some Williamsfield School District officials. But once the school buses are retired, they might have a use even their biggest detractors can support.

The district fleet of seven electric buses could be used to store energy from solar panels on school property, according to Superintendent David Mills. A 3.9-megawatt solar field exists behind the bus barn. Installation of panels on the school roof is to be finished

this summer.

All of it could make the district almost self-sufficient energy-wise, Mills told the Williamsfield School Board when it met March 9. The district uses about 650,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually. Under this scenario, it can produce about 500,000 kilowatt hours.

The Billtown electric-bus fleet has a storage capacity of 1.47 megawatts, accord-

Continued on Page 2

Inside

• Power-surge problems in Yates City. Page 5

Carlson retiring

Longtime Brimfield basketball coach says this time he's leaving for good

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD – Scott Carlson is retiring again. This time, it appears he means it.

Last week, Carlson told his players and Brimfield administrators he will not return for a 29th season as boys basketball head coach. The fourth season of Carlson's second stint in that job ended earlier this month with Brimfield advancing to a Class 1A sectional semifinal.

"I've asked a few other coaches, who were also at



Scott Carlson is retiring as Brimfield's boys basketball coach for the second time.

it for a long time, how they knew it was time to retire, and the only response I got was 'You just know,'"

Carlson, 64, said in a state-
Continued on Page 5

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BUSES: District obligated 2.5 more years

Continued from Page 1
ing to Mills. That's the equivalent of 2½ years of the school's electricity needs. The bus batteries could be used to store power generated during summer, when solar activity is at its highest and district energy use is at its lowest.

"We have seven batteries. They're just on wheels," Mills said about storage. "... One-point-five megawatts, that's an insane amount of energy."

The plan could save the district at least \$100,000

each year on electricity, according to the superintendent.

"All of this technology is so incredibly expensive, but we have it all," Mills said. "We need to maximize it, and we need to get as much out of it as we can. If everything I'm told can happen that should happen, this will work. All the numbers work."

It probably won't have a chance to work for at least another 2½ years. That's about how much longer the district is obligated to use

the electric buses, according to the terms of a federal grant it received to help purchase them and associated infrastructure.

The buses have been working fine so far, Mills said. But insurance for electric buses is significantly higher than it is for diesel buses. The Canadian company that manufactured the electric buses is bankrupt and no longer provides customer support. Similar buses in Canada have caught fire.

"I am terrified as to how long these are going to last," said Mills, whose district still uses diesel buses for sports-team transportation.

Depending on budget, the district might purchase

three diesel buses next year, according to Mills, then two more in 2028. The purchases would give the district enough diesel buses, probably used models, to run its student-transportation routes.

The plan would require an electrical engineer to determine how to connect the retired electric buses to the solar grids, among other moving parts, Mills said. But board members appeared receptive to the possibilities, considering the potential electric-bus pitfalls they've been debating for a while.

"Even if we parked one and stored energy, it could save us a huge amount," Board Member Paul Bosnich said.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Hot Picks Ahead

• **Author Fair** – Two dozen local authors will be on hand Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an Author Fair at Brimfield Public Library. Authors will be signing and selling books. Free admission. A coffee/beverage truck will be on hand. There will also be a book bonanza for kids.

• **Sports Legends** – Brimfield Area Museum has a presentation by Brimfield sports figures Brad Sloan, Scott Carlson, Ed Mathews, Maggie Carroll Butterfield and Chris Sherman on Sunday, March 22, 1-3 p.m. at 106 E. Knoxville St.

The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Sunny	Partly Sunny	Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny
65 38	73 44	78 44	63 30	49 31	57 41	66 49
E 7 mph	SW 12 mph	11 mph	N 16 mph	ENE 13 mph	SSE 9 mph	S 15 mph

This Week's Events

• **Harvest Home** – A Harvest Home fundraiser dinner will be held today, March 19, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Yates City Community Center. The menu is lasagna, green beans, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. \$13.

• **Story Time** – Animal mania is the theme of story time today, March 19, at 6 p.m. at Morrison and Mary Wiley Library in Elmwood. Open to ages 0-8 and caregivers. Children welcome to dress up as their favorite animal.

• **Fish Fries** – Kickapoo Sportsman's Club has fish fries Friday, March 20, and April 3, 4:30-7 p.m.

– Brimfield American Legion has catfish fillets and shrimp on March 27, 5-7 p.m.

• **Historical Meeting** – The Elmwood Historical Society has two meetings in the next week. The first is March 24, at 7 p.m. at 102 E. Main St. The second meeting is March 31 at 4 p.m. at the Lorado Taft Home, 302 N. Magnolia St. Cleaning will

be the focus.

• **Bee Program** – Master Gardener Trudy Yazujian will discuss beekeeping on March 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Brimfield Public Library. Free program for ages 18 and over. No registration required.

Future Events

• **Medicare Seminar** – Farmington Public Library has a free Medicare education program March 26, 5-6 p.m. RSVP lori-searshealthrep@gmail.com.

• **Musical** – St. Mary's of Kickapoo students will perform "Frozen, The Broadway Musical" on March 27 at noon (special needs classes get preferential seating) and March 27-28 at 7 p.m. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Tickets sold at the door, \$10 adults, \$5 for children.

• **Elmwood Alumni** – Elmwood High School has an alumni social gathering April 4 at 6:30 p.m. at Maple Lane Country Club. No tickets needed. All Elmwood graduates welcome, but honoring graduating classes ending in 1 and 6.

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SCATTERSHOTS



Of new vehicle controls that make us 'safer'

Rambling through central Illinois, pondering how soon reality will mirror those scary futuristic movies in which we have little control.

The used-car market looks more appealing than ever. And not newer models, either.

As a story Monday in Yahoo!news put it, "Your driving privacy expires with your current car's lifespan."

That message became clear to me Monday morning after chipping ice off most of the windshield of my new-to-me 2024 Silverado.

"Front camera obscured," the truck informed me when I got inside.

Front camera? Ah yes, that's the one that can see if I'm staying between the painted lines or getting too close to another vehicle at a stop sign. That's the camera that will direct the car to correct my line or even make the vehicle stop. Best of all, that's the camera that I can still disable from being in control.

But not for long.

Federal legislation passed in 2021 as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requires all new passenger vehicles to include surveillance technology that will monitor you as you drive.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is tasked with developing rules requiring vehicles to have "advanced impaired driving prevention technology."

The original deadline for rules was November 2024, but automakers have some time to implement the changes. Expectations are that starting in late 2026 or 2027, infrared cameras in new vehicles will track your eye movement, pupil dilation and drowsiness patterns.

If the vehicle's AI system decides you are impaired, it can prevent you from starting the vehicle or can limit your speed.

The goal is to prevent alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, which the NHTSA says account for nearly one-third of all traffic deaths.

Beyond that worthwhile aim, there are reasonable questions about how the data is used and how the controls on your car can be implemented.

Can automakers share data with insurance companies to adjust premiums based on how well you pay attention while driving?

Can a car be rendered unable to drive based on what the government deems as bad road conditions?

Can a system be set up to stop certain cars from entering certain areas?

There are also concerns over the cost of data collection and whether that will be passed on to consumers.

And advanced impaired driving rule is probably the tip of the iceberg.

The NHTSA also passed a rule that by 2029, new vehicles must be equipped with automatic emergency braking systems. The AEB will use sensors to detect when a vehicle is close to crashing into another vehicle or pedestrian and will automatically apply the brakes if the driver does not.

The goal, again, is to save lives. That's noble. The implications beyond that are what strike me as a bit ominous and make me wonder if maybe we ought to take our 2011 Ford F150 off the market.

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



Jeff LAMPE

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Power surges a problem for Yates City

By **MOLLY COPHER**

For The Weekly Post

YATES CITY – Power surges from a downed wire have created problems for the Village of Yates City.

On March 3 at around 5 p.m., a downed power line in Elmwood that also runs to Yates City produced power surges in Yates City, burning out the surge protector for the village well pump.

Two nights later, around 2 a.m. on March 5, more surges were produced.

“The surges went all the way to Galesburg,” Yates City Village President Mark Hostetler said at the March 11 board meeting. “Princeville ended up losing their reverse-osmosis water, too. It burned out our well pump so we got permission from the Illinois EPA to use the pump for the new well instead.”

A fire hose is currently being used to pump water into the reservoir, which is unchlorinated, resulting in a boil order for the town.

The solenoid for the well was also destroyed. The old pump was taken out on March 10, and the new pump was scheduled to be installed March 12. The well-pump replacement could cost up to \$27,000 between parts and labor, and the solenoid could cost up to \$2,000.

The Village Board does expect in-

surance to cover the costs due to the nature of the situation and approved up to \$27,000 to be paid to Chris Ebert Company of Washington for repairs to the well pump.

A repair for the main-flow meter at the Public Works Building was also approved. Initially, a display kit was purchased for \$239 in hopes that it would fix the problem. That did not work. A motherboard was required in addition to the display kit for success. One was purchased for \$998.44 from Midwest Meter Inc. and the main flow meter is working again.

Repairs for the Public Works Building’s Generac were scheduled for March 18 by Midwest Equipment due to the generator not achieving automatic turn-on. It is not under warranty, but there is a maintenance agreement in place between the village and Midwest Equipment. It is unknown whether this issue was also caused by power surges.

Repairs on the south oxidation ditch paddle wheel at the treatment plant are scheduled to be finished by April 7. Test Inc. said repairs have taken longer because they are not charging for their employee’s time and repairs are being fit into his schedule for free.

The village is working on an in-

spection plan to mitigate this happening again and has contacted G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc. to help establish a plan.

Isolation valves for a water shut-off project are proving more costly than anticipated. Illinois Meter and Core & Main were contacted and both quoted nine isolation valves for about \$22,000 plus \$11,000 for labor to install them. Schulte Supply quoted about \$15,000 before tax. Hostetler estimated the valves will cost about \$26,500. No vote was taken.

A three-year service agreement with EcoWater Systems for the water-softener heads at the Public Works Building was approved for \$7,414.82 with the understanding that the service has to be performed and putting it off for a year or two would probably just drive the cost higher.

The board also approved:

- Temporary closure of Illinois Route 8 on Aug. 22 for the Harvest Home Festival Parade.
- \$750 toward Dumpster Day on April 18 to go toward the dumpster and the advertisement.
- An adjustment to the maintenance agreement with Elba-Salem Park District due to the consumer-price index increase of 2.4%, raising the agreement cost from \$376 to \$385.

CARLSON: Driving better than watching game film

Continued from Page 1 ment to The Weekly Post.

“I’m going to greatly miss being around my players and coaches. I’m going to miss planning a practice and conducting it. I will miss the competition, the victories and the celebrations with my team. But it is time.”

Carlson finished with an overall record of 568-258, including 73-53 since his return in 2022-23 following a one-season hiatus. He also retired in 2021 from teaching. Carlson’s teams won seven regional titles, three sectional titles and the 2015 1A state championship.

The Brimfield School Board is expected to consider Carlson’s resignation when it meets in April, according to Superintendent Chad Jones. Coaching assignments for 2026-27 probably will be up for approval in May.

Carlson recommended one of his assistant coaches, James Sams, succeed him. The current Brimfield-Elmwood base-

ball head coach, Sams has spent the past two seasons on Carlson’s staff.

“He came to Brimfield with the idea that one day he’d be the varsity basketball coach. I like what I’ve seen,” Carlson said during a telephone interview.

Carlson said game preparation and pregame nerves were factors in his second departure.

“I actually enjoyed going to games to scout and I appreciated being able to collect box scores in the paper to gather more information on opponents. For the time, that was being thorough,” Carlson wrote.

“Today I can watch just about every game (on the internet) and since I feel like I need to be thorough, I find myself watching hours of game film. Hard to believe, but I liked all the driving more. ... I think as I have gotten older, I have grown more tired of the stresses of the job that mainly I put on myself.”

Carlson was at Brimfield 32 years before his sabbatical. Before he became

head coach, in 1997, Carlson spent eight years assisting his two immediate predecessors, Dan Sullivan and Mike Bonczyk.

Retired Brimfield Athletics Director Kevin Kreiter, who spent 24 years as Carlson’s assistant, was head coach in 2021-22. Carlson assisted him but didn’t sit on the Brimfield bench during games.

Carlson said his years with Kreiter, his tutelage under Sullivan and the friendships he formed with peers, former players and community members were among many highlights in his career. It included three years of coaching in Maryland, one in Georgia and one at Woodhull AlWood,

his alma mater (1979).

That graduation year was when Brimfield advanced to the Class A Elite Eight, led by future Bradley University player Eddie Mathews. Carlson recalled watching him and the Indians win a sectional championship that season.

“I actually became a Brimfield fan,” said Carlson, who followed the team to the state finals in Champaign. “Since I drove by Brimfield a lot on (Interstate) 74, when I decided I was going to be a teacher and coach, I used to think in my mind, ‘I’d like to teach and coach at Brimfield someday.’”

“I give thanks to God for landing me at Brimfield.”

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Fulton County Sheriff's Office
Employment Notice

THE FULTON COUNTY MERIT COMMISSION will accept applications for placement on the male and female Correctional Officer Roster.

Applications, along with 3 letters of recommendation, must be submitted to the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, 268 W Washington Ave, PO Box 269, Lewistown, Illinois 61542, no later than Friday, April 3, 2026.

The application (complete the SHERIFF'S OFFICE APPLICATION) is available online at www.fultoncountyil.gov/work-here or in the lobby of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office.

Eligible applicants must be United States citizens, 21 years of age or older, possess a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, have a valid driver's license, no felony convictions and pass a background check.

- Starting Salary Day Shift: \$47,382.40, plus benefits.
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Friday
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Saturday
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Sunday
Pizza 1/2 Price Dine in Only

Wednesday
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\$1 All Drafts

Thursday
Tenders w/side \$12

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Thursday, March 26th • 12:00pm
Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salads,
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Sit Down Meal • 309-772-9284 • Meals \$8
Remember to bring your own table service


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• **WOOD FURNACE:** Beat rising heating bills with proven technology of a Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today for budget-friendly warmth! (309) 565-4300.
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 • **LAND CARETAKER:** Retired Peoria County deputy looking for strip-mine land to caretake. Able to caretake, do maintenance year-round. Please contact me at (309) 657-6142. Please leave a message.
ESTATE SALE
 816 N. Stone School Rd
 Elmwood, IL 61529
 3/21/2026 and 3/22/2026
 Household items and tools.

Miller sentencing to resume May 14

Ambiguous language in plea deal delays case of Farmington woman

By **NICK VLAHOS**

For The Weekly Post

LEWISTOWN – For the first 45 minutes or so, a Farmington woman’s sentencing hearing last week in Fulton County Circuit Court was progressing as expected.

But it’ll be at least eight more weeks before Kelli Miller finds out for certain her punishment after she pleaded guilty to propositioning a 13-year-old boy.

Judge William Rasmussen cited ambiguities in Miller’s proposed probation order in deciding to continue the sentencing hearing, which began March 12. It’s to resume at 1:30 p.m. May 14.

The sticking point appeared to be a doctor’s recommendation that Miller have no contact with minors, including possibly her children. Rasmussen deemed unclear the wording of the recommendation.

“If we’re going to go forward with the probation order, I want to make darn sure what it is,” said Rasmussen, who called the situation a possible recipe for disaster. “I don’t think it is written in the way a normal probation order is written.”

“I don’t have the ability to strike this or add this or taking something away. When I’m dealing with a fully negotiated plea, I either take it or leave it. ... I’m not in a position where I can agree with this. Right now I’m disagreeing, because I don’t have enough information.”

Last October, 40-year-old Miller agreed to plea guilty to indecent solicitation of a child. The plea stemmed from an incident that happened in August 2024 following a

party at her residence, when a boy rebuffed her advances, left the residence and contacted his mother. The boy’s mother then alerted Farmington police. Miller, who at the time was a Farmington School District employee, was arrested shortly thereafter.

The clinician who made the recommendation, Dr. Kristina Strauss of Bloomington, is expected to revise it. Miller underwent sex-offender and pre-sentence evaluations.

Miller’s attorney, Rob Hanauer of Peoria, said his client has been living at home with her children. It wasn’t stated in court how many children Miller has.

After Rasmussen read in court the no-contact-with-minors requirement, Miller whispered to Hanauer, who was seated next to her. Hanauer asked Rasmussen to pause the hearing. Miller and her attorney then conferred for about five minutes in a hallway outside the courtroom.

“There is confusion in the language of it,” Hanauer said after the hearing resumed.

Assistant State’s Attorney Joe Padalino suggested a change in judges might have complicated the issue. The judge who had been presiding over Miller’s court appearances, Thomas Ewing, retired in January.

“This judge does not want ambiguity,” Padalino said following the hearing. “He wants to make sure we’re all in agreement about what (the order) says. We kind of know what it says from dealing with this, but I can see it from the judge’s point of view.”

Miller’s crime, a felony, is punish-

able by two to five years in state prison. But the deal Hanauer negotiated with the prosecution did not include prison time.

Among other stipulations, Miller is to receive two years’ probation, pay \$2,064 in fines and fees and spend eight days in the Fulton County Jail, served over four weekends. Had Miller been sentenced as scheduled, the first weekend would have begun at 9 a.m. March 13 and ended at 9 a.m. March 15.

The hearing included a victim-impact statement from the boy’s mother, Courtney Rodich. Through tears, Rodich praised her son’s judgment in leaving Miller’s residence and running almost a mile to seek help.

“A 13-year-old boy should not have to run for safety from a grown woman,” Rodich said.

Rodich said her son has a serious lung disease in which the median age of survival is 40. She also said the experience with Miller caused her son to question his self-worth initially. Miller, who wore a black-and-white flannel shirt and black yoga pants, didn’t appear to look at Rodich as she spoke.

“Every hearing we have sat at, we have watched you smile,” Rodich said. “Are you that narcissistic to believe you would walk away from this? I’m sure whatever the sentence is, it will never be enough.”

“There will be no forgiveness. We will accept no apologies. You knew exactly what you were doing and what your endgame was.”


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With Love, Eileen

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March 27th
5-7pm

\$13 For Shrimp Dinner
\$15 Catfish Dinner
\$4 Kids Meal (hotdog & fries)
 DINE IN OR TAKE OUT


Seasonal Hiring
Golf Course - Must be at least 17 years old (retirees encouraged also!)
Pool - Lifeguards* - Must be at least 15 years old
 *Must have Lifeguard Certification prior to start of employment (Applicant responsible for this cost)
 Applications are available to pick up in person at the MLCC Tavern during normal business hours or by emailing maplelanec@gmail.com

WELL DIGGER: Drilling in the digital world

Continued from Page 1
facility and is no longer a regular at job sites, Doug said his father is still keenly interested in the business.

“Every time I go to visit him, over half the time is talking about well drilling,” Doug says. “And I call him about every job I do or am going to bid.”

It was also the eldest Cosby’s advice to get Josh involved after he finished at Illinois State University. So far so good. The youngest Cosby well digger said he enjoys the work and is in much better shape than when he started.

Plus, the future looks brighter than he envisioned while helping his father during summers in high school.

“When I was a teenager, my grandpa would ask, ‘Are you going to get into well drilling?’” Josh recalled. “I told him, ‘I enjoy it but I don’t see a career in it.’”

That has changed. AI is a real threat to the careers of many young people, but computers aren’t digging wells. Then again, nor are many other humans.

“Fifteen years ago when I went in to get my license, the room would be full of 700-800 people. I just went again in February and there were less than 200 people,” Doug said. “It has turned into an old man’s game.”

Integrating a younger perspective can be helpful. “I’m an analog guy in a



Doug Cosby moves a length of well casing into position under the watchful eye of his son, Josh Cosby. Photo by Jeff Lampe.

digital world and he’s the one bringing the digital world into the business,” Doug said. “And he’s really good at it. Where I’m becoming my dad maybe and doing things the hard way, he has suggestions to make things easier.”

Some changes are simple, like using a skid steer to load well casings and to help guide casings into the ground – jobs the older Cosbys did by hand.

But Josh is also looking into timed electromagnetism devices to help find underwater aquifers. The Cosbys do not use divining rods or “witching” to find water sources. And while Doug is generally very good at deciding where to dig, some help can’t hurt.

“What he’s bringing to the table is good, but sometimes I have to throttle him back a little and say, ‘Not now,’” Doug said.

Overall, the timing for fresh blood is good, since the past year has been busy for the Cosbys. Drought conditions are forcing many rural families with hand-dug wells to haul water and drive to town to do laundry – or pay to have deeper wells bored.

Older hand-dug wells are typically no deeper than 26 feet, Doug said. While that is adequate for normal conditions, the recent prolonged drought has made many wells run dry.

Doug uses his auger and buckets to bore a 45-inch-diameter hole up to 100 feet. Drilled wells can reach much deeper, up to 500 feet, but cost 2½ times more, he said.

As a hole is formed, the Cosbys lower concrete casings into place. Cave-ins and boulders are the nemesis of well diggers.

After digging through

topsoil, the auger works into brown clay, then gray clay and then reaches gray sand, coal or shale. That’s where the water usually is, Doug said, noting the average depth of his wells is 45-50 feet.

Once a good source of water is located, the Cosbys can also provide pumping systems, since Doug is licensed in both well drilling and pump installation, as were his father and grandfather. Josh is pursuing dual licensing and has exams in April.

Last year the Cosbys dug wells from May to Christmas. Most jobs are residential, but they are expanding into the commercial market.

And while wells are not cheap, Doug says they are an investment that can help improve the resale value of a home.

ELMWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Elmwood Elementary School will be holding Kindergarten Open House for next year’s parents and students on:

Thursday, April 23rd

3 Time slots available:

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

6:15 - 6:45 p.m.

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Elmwood Elementary School
Media Center Room #117



In order for your child to register for next year’s class they must be 5 years of age on or before September 1st, 2026.

We are asking parents to bring the following:

- Copy of your child’s birth certificate
- Physical/Dental/Vision/Immunizations records, if they are complete
- Emergency phone numbers
- Any information regarding medication, doctor orders, allergies, etc.

**DON’T MISS A GREAT EVENING!
MEET THE TEACHERS!
SEE THE CLASSES!**



Please contact Elmwood Elementary office by phone, 309-742-4261, or email, dhart@elmwood322.com by Wednesday, April 15th to sign up for a time slot.

Yates City Community Center Rental

For Reservations Contact:

Neely Carr 309-369-5597

Elba Salem Park District



AG-LAND FS INC.

Ag-Land FS, Brimfield location is seeking part-time/seasonal drivers for the current Spring 2026 season. Driver position requires a current CDL “B” license. Interested applicants should contact **Jeremy Williams at 309-208-9457 or 309-446-3318.**

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Monday Night Bingo

Doors Open 5:00pm
Cards Sales Start 5:30pm
Bingo Starts 6:30pm
Food Served 5:00-7:00 pm
SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN OF THE MOOSE

Annual Women of the Moose Mother & Daughter Banquet

Sunday, April 12th at 1pm
Farmington Moose Lodge
Reservations.
Call Karen by April 5th
(309)245-2510
(Must Have Reservations)

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

A	L	E	C	S	F	I	R	S	A	P	P	O	F	L	A	T	E	
M	U	C	H	O	A	N	E	W	S	H	O	W	P	I	E	C	E	S
A	B	O	I	L	D	O	N	E	H	Y	P	H	E	N	A	T	E	S
P	E	N	C	A	P	N	E	A	P	S	T	A	R	S	H	I	N	E
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R	E	G	I	M	E	N	T	E	D	M	E	D	S	B	L	A	S	E
B	L	U	E	A	N	G	E	L	S	E	R	I	E	E	L	L	I	E
A	S	L	A	N	T	R	O	T	S	E	P	T	D	Y	L	A	N	

CryptoQuote answer

Love grows more tremendously full, swift, poignant, as the years multiply. — Zane Grey

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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AUCTIONS & REAL ESTATE SALES

KNOXVILLE, IL REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY LIVE AUCTION

The following 2 tracts (1.67+1- acres), along with personal property will be sold on location at 957 S Market St. Knoxville, IL 61448, on **SUNDAY APRIL 19th, 2026 AT 12 NOON (R.E: SELLS FIRST)**

NOTE: This is the real estate ad only. Watch for a full ad of personal property to be added soon. See pictures and info online at www.folgersauctionservice.com and **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK** for more. No credit cards accepted for real estate or titled items.

REAL ESTATE: There are 2 pin numbers to this real estate being sold as one tract. This single family, one level home, sits at the address listed with 1.1 acres. There is also a nice shed on this property. The house has been updated with all knotty pine sheeting throughout. There is a nice sized open kitchen living room area, a separate office/family room that could also be used as a second bedroom. The full bath is large with a nice separate utility area. An entrance area contains closet storage. The bedroom is large with a cathedral ceiling. There is no basement. The second pin # of this property is approx. 1.66 acres. Other outbuildings and an old house are erected here. The property has 2 functional wells along with 2 septic. See pin numbers and legal descriptions on our website. An **OPEN HOUSE** will be held from 4:30- 5:30 p.m. on Thursday March 19th. **TERMS:** A non-refundable 5000.00 deposit will be required on auction day with the balance to be pd. in full in approx. 30 days. This is an AS-IS auction. A binding purchase agreement will be signed on the day of sale.

KATHY CHASE-SELLER

FOLGER'S AUCTION SERVICE, INC

(JIM AND CATHIE GIBBS, OWNERS), MATT SHIPLEY
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ELMWOOD, IL REAL ESTATE AND FARM PRIMITIVE AUCTION

The following house on 1.89 acres, large building farm primitives, Harley, outdoor, antiques and more will be sold on location live at 401 E. Harrison St. Elmwood, IL 61529, on **SUNDAY MARCH 22nd, 2026 AT 12:00 NOON (R.E. SELLS FIRST)**

NOTE: This ad is slightly condensed. See many pictures, serial numbers and the full ad online at www.folgersauctionservice.com and **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK** for more. This 2-story home sits on a nice 1.89-acre lot inside the town limits of Elmwood, IL. There is over 1400 sq. feet above ground living space. Rooms include a nice sized kitchen/dining room area, a living room, an enclosed wooden front porch, a back entrance area, one full bath on the main level and one full bath upstairs, and a lg. loft bedroom area upstairs with much storage space. The house is completely empty and ready for a remodel to make for a great single-family home or perfect rental property. There is a partial basement. The furnace and central air are in good working condition. The outside building is over 4000 sq. feet with cement floors, electricity, overhead doors and separate room areas. Another shed and a covered back patio area sits off of the house. **TERMS:** A non-refundable \$10,000.00 deposit will be required on the day of the auction with the balance to be pd. in full at closing in approx. 30 days. This is an AS-IS auction.

TRACTORS, HARLEY AND EQUIPMENT: 2006 Harley Davidson Screaming Eagle V-rod VRSCSE motorcycle w/ 13,827 miles, 1250cc, runs great, title-nice 2002 4x4 Grizzly YFM 660 FP 4 wheeler-Honda XL 70 motorcycle-1944 John Deere model A-1947 John Deere M w/ belly mower-1937 Farmall F-12 w/buzz saw attachment-1937 Farmall F-20 - 1929 McCormick Deering 15-30-1936 McCormick Deering W K-40-1937 - McCormick Deering W-40 - 1948 Allis Chalmers C w/belly mower -Fordson tractor w/a roller conversion - JD sickle mower - JD 2 row cultivator off an A-3 section harrow-port. log splitter w/ohler engine - vintage steam engine parts - **MOWERS** (JD 11 0 and 11 2 old mowers, Kubota B 6000E, Lawn Chief) - Lawmboy push mower-John Deere 345 54" mower deck, 20HP liquid cooled, 08199-John Deere 6X 345 48" mower deck, 08/04, 20 HP liquid cooled - Case 3 bottom plow-Ford Model 14-80, #3972 square baler - 1 bottom lawn tractor plow-10' single axle tilt trailer - JD 340 trail snow mower - Columbia golf cart-JD 310 backhoe - Husqvarna 910 CRT roto tiller-Troy Bilt 4.5 HR roto tiller-hog catching chute-log splitter w/motor-misc.

PARTS, TOOLS, OTHER ANTIQUES: Primitive Farm/Grain wagon w/wooden spokes wheels, good cond. - X130 anvil A97669-vintage Sunoco gas pump-Flite Fuel gas pump-vintage bicycle-misc. old STEAM ENGINE parts-prim. Case Eagle iron caps-CARBURETORS-Ensign 2-63T 6/1011913, Schebler pat., Wheeler Schebler Model A ATX 121 S AS7, Bendix Stromberg M-3-2 Int. Harvester 15-30-Marvel Schebler TSX-Stomberg SF-2-Zenith K-6-Zenith 101 73A-Holley pat. 1211 91 4-Zenith 53031A-Zenith 01690AR3-METAL LATHES: The Lodge and Daves Tool Co. Cinc. OH 16" swing, 72" bed, flat belt line shaft conv.-Flather and Co Nashua New Hampshire 16" swing, 84" bed, with thread cutting gear box, flat belt line shaft conv.-Craftsman 12" swing, 42" bed, bench top-WELDERS: electric Hobart Model T-295 295 amps, max N.L.V 80 #8TW-8638, volts 208/1230, amps 90/182, phase 1-electric Centry 110190 amp Mig, 120 v., model 117-057, set up for gas-electric Forney arc welder model F-75-PRC volts 115-gas engine Lincoln SAM 650 multi process constant and variable voltage DC welder-Lincoln SA-200 DC welder, parts-Lincoln SA-200 DC welder, 4 cul., Hercules flat head engine from the 1940s era-Fleetwood model 50 1/2 HP, 5 speed, bench top, floor mount, no name-KRW Hyd. arbor press, KR Wilson Buff. NY-Siouxs valve grinder #650-Craftsman table saw- Craftsman bench grinder-Rockford metal cutting band saw-Craftsman and Radial arm. saw-Delta 28-1 50 band saw 8" throat-Craftsman 16" scroll saw-MAGNETOS: IH E4A and E4A-3, 2 Aero-American Bosch MJB 4A-103, MJB 6A-102, MJB 4, MJA4B-112, MRD6A 348WW, 4C-102-Fairbanks Morse type J4A-11 and FMJ-Wico Model X spec. XH-1906. AP477/B, and Model X spec. XH1343-Presto Life distributors-IH fuel injector pumps- Sunnen precision honing machine model LBA 550-2"24"x13" rims-2 McCormick Deering rear steel wheels for 15-30-2 McCormick Deering front steel wheels for 15-1 3-Corley Jr. edger, 4 cyl. W/ engine model VG4D, size 27-port circular saw mill, 52" blade, insert teeth, flat belt drive, v belt-4 cyl. GM diesel engine w/clutch and v belt drive, port. power source-Louden hoist, flat belt driven-3 buzz saw blades-4 hyd. car jacks-Wisconsin 4 cyl. engine VF4D-1940 Evinrude Elto, 2 cyl., 3HP outboard motor-body hyd. jack system-steam boiler tube expansion tool-CHAIN SAWS: McCullough mac 1-10, JD 00061, Homelite Z, Homelite XP1020, Stihl 038 AV super, Stihl 024 AVS, Homelite Super 2, Husqvarna 136, Homelite electric, Stihl 066 magnum (3' bar, 28" bar and 20" bars)-Brush Cutter/Weed eaters (Stihl FS66, FS36 and FS45)-OUTBOARD MOTORS: (Johnson Sea Horse 5.5 HP Elgin model 571.58571 5 HP, Ted Williams 4.5 HP, Oliver 16HP w/6 gallon Oliver PIX-Matic fuel can-Mercury 40 HP)-5 50 gallon oil barrel pumps-Bird model 33 comm. meat cutting band saw-Foley Belsaw wood planer model 9103-Aker Fiber glass Tub shower unit, new, never installed NOS-Caterpillar cable control unit 32E1947-Novo Engine Co. Lansing MI KU3s4 #11596-old pulley, misc. oil and fuel cans, cast iron skillets and pieces, ladders, carts, tool boxes, tools, pulleys, primitives, so much more.

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(JIM AND CATHIE GIBBS, OWNERS), MATT SHIPLEY—

Williamsfield, IL Ph. 309-337-2150 and 309-368-6314

Email: folgersauctionservice@gmail.com Lunch Served, Cash, check or credit card (no cards accepted for real estate or titled items). ATTORNEY - WHITNEY AND POTTS, LTD, Elmwood, IL

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Plaintiff,

-v.-

ISABEL MENDOZA PEREZ et al

Defendant

2025-FC-0000121

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on **November 12, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on April 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:**

Commonly known as **2608 W FREMONT ST., PEORIA, IL 61605**
Property Index No. 18-18-333-004

The real estate is improved with a residence.

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 to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

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

You will need a photo identifica-

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

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876

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

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-25-04006 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Case Number: 2025-FC-0000121 TJSC#: 45-2973

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

Case # 2025-FC-0000121
13282703

Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/26

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Plaintiff

vs.

KAREN RENE BARBEE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS AGENCY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

Defendant

25 FC 73

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 **April 8, 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. 13-13-181-001.

Commonly known as **6219 N. RANDWICK RD., PEORIA, IL 61615.**

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit 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 Judgment 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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 25-297575
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
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Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/26

•••

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

Princeville creative in seeking teacher

By **NICK VLAHOS**

For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – The Princeville School District is trying something different to fill a special-education academic opening.

The district is creating what it's calling a teacher-on-special-assignment position, effective with the 2026-27 academic year. A current district teacher – one who has special-education experience and is familiar with local methods – probably will fill that job, Princeville Superintendent Tony Shinall said.

“They know our programming backwards and forwards,” he said March 10 after the Princeville School Board authorized the position.

It's an attempt to counter a dearth of applicants for a special-education teaching position that's been open for a year. According to Shinall, the district has interviewed only one applicant. Beseeching Bradley, Illinois State and Western Illinois universities for recent or impending graduates has been unfruitful.

“There's nobody out there,” Shinall said. “I've got to have somebody for next year, so we're going to roll with this and see how it works. Our teachers are phenomenal, so we think this could be a great role for somebody.”

Whoever is hired would work primarily with junior-high students, according to Shinall. The district already has a grade-school special-education academic interventionist. Whether the new position continues beyond next school year depends on necessity and other things.

“If we can find somebody that can do this and do it well, we'll revisit it,” Shinall said. “If our numbers say, ‘Hey, we need even more,’ then we'll open special-ed

again. If not, we'll just roll.”

Approval was part of a board meeting that lasted only 15 minutes.

Board members also gave final assent to changing how the district honors academic achievement among high school students. Instead of being ranked in their graduating class, students will receive one of three academic distinctions, based on grade-point average.

The new procedure is based on the Latin honors system prevalent at the college level – Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude. It's to take effect with the incoming freshman class in 2026-27.

Among other items the board OK'd was a \$47,272.40 deal with CDW Government of Vernon Hills for 190 Chromebook computers and accessories. Also approved was the high school senior class trip April 8 to the Wisconsin Dells.

Shinall reminded board members their authority to issue up to \$1.3 million in bonds expires in August. The board voted in 2024 to secure bond-issuing ability, in case the district needed additional cash. Shinall suggested a lack of state reimbursement for transportation expenses might warrant a bond issue.

According to figures Shinall provided, the state is shorting the district at least \$118,948 in transportation reimbursements.

“Transportation is killing every school district in Illinois,” Shinall said. “It's not anything the board's done. It's nothing the administration's done. It's coming from Springfield.”

Shinall also announced the resignation of Chris Lauber as 7th-grade boys basketball coach.



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Farmington city to fund half of new cemetery fence

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post

FARMINGTON – The Farmington City Council on Monday approved to pay for half of a fence project planned for this year at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Custom Surroundings Fence & Rail of Dunlap bid \$55,300 to install about 870 linear feet of 4-foot-tall, commercial, satin black, powder-coated aluminum fence along the west side of the cemetery.

The council agreed to use TIF funds to pay for \$27,650 of the project, which will complete the new fencing installation, according to Cemetery Manager Herb Stuffle-

beam.

Fencing will be installed from the Fort Street garage entrance in the northwest corner of the cemetery and then south along South Fairview Road to the end of the cemetery.

The council also approved paying \$3,400 to Roy Keith Electric Co. to install a 100-amp electric service pedestal on the city-owned lots at 85 E. Fort St. There is no charge from Ameren Illinois for the project, which Mayor Kenn Stufflebeam said will allow for food trucks and other things to use the space.

The final K9 Koala Easter Egg hunt will be April 4 at 10 a.m. at Ja-

cobs Park and the city will donate \$375 to pay for bikes that will be given out as prizes.

Mayor Stufflebeam said fundraisers like the Easter-egg hunt helped pay for the city's new K9 officer, Pandora, who is in training with Officer Jeremiah Ulm.

The council also voted to pay \$250 to be a silver sponsor of Farmington's high school trapshooting team.

In committee reports, Council Member Leslye Smith said the parks

board will meet March 23 to discuss possibly expanding the summer recreation program.

The meeting lasted under 12 minutes, continuing a recent string of shorter meetings that Mayor Stufflebeam said will end when the council convenes again on April 6.

The mayor said that in addition to a budget hearing and an executive session at the next meeting, the council will have some other things it needs to discuss.

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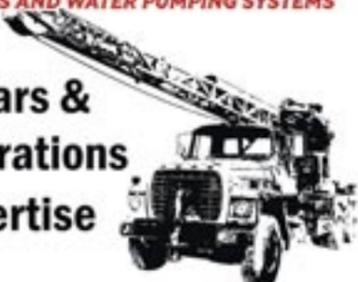
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BRIMFIELD

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Photo credit: "Sharon Sue Everett" by Shonda

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March 27	Comedy Show 7pm (Doors Open at 5) \$15 per person at the door - Open to the Public
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PUBLIC RECORD

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

Police reports

• **BRIMFIELD** – A Brimfield man was arrested following an apparent domestic dispute.

A Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputy was dispatched shortly after 1:30 a.m. Feb. 28 to a residence in the 14500 block of W. Schlink Rd. southeast of Brimfield. Someone there called 911 and hung up. Arguing could be heard in the background, according to a heavily redacted sheriff's-office report.

Tyler S. Behm, 33, was accused of battery and domestic battery, as well as abandoning a vehicle on a highway. The vehicle was a 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt.

• **HANNA CITY** – Neither driver appeared injured following a two-vehicle crash near Hanna City.

Jeffrey N. Ulm of Farmington was driving a westbound 2025 Ford F-150 pickup truck shortly after 10:30 p.m. Feb. 27 in the 10000 block of Illinois Route 116 when a westbound 2018 Kia Forte attempted to pass, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report.

The Forte, driven by Alexander M. Bricker of Bloomington, almost collided with an eastbound vehicle and returned abruptly to the westbound lane. As it did, its rear passenger side struck the pickup truck's front driver's side. Both vehicles were drivable.

• **PRINCEVILLE** – A kitchen fire at a Princeville residence resulted in no injuries.

The fire began shortly before 8:30 p.m. Feb. 27 in the 200 block of E. North St., according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The homeowner was cooking french fries on a stovetop when grease spilled onto it and caught fire. Attempts to self-extinguish it were futile.

Flames spread to the stove hood. Extensive damage was reported to the stove, kitchen cabinets, a wall and the ceiling, which was removed through the roof to extinguish the fire. Damage was estimated at \$15,000.

There also were two children in the residence. Akron-Princeville, Dunlap and Wyoming firefighters responded.

• **HANNA CITY** – A tire flew off a semi-trailer truck and struck a vehicle parked along a road east of

Hanna City.

The incident happened about 4 p.m. Feb. 23 in the 11200 block of Illinois Route 116, a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report stated.

Dustin B. Weber said he was sitting in his house when he heard a crash. When he looked out a window, he saw a smoking tire and damage to a 2018 Ram pick-up truck.

Mark A. Rock of Fairview was the driver of the semi, a 2019 Mack. As he was driving, another motorist flagged him down; Rock didn't realize he had lost the tire. He said the studs came loose. The semi was towed. Damage to the pickup truck was moderate.

• **ELMWOOD** – Someone apparently tried to break into a storage shed at an Elmwood residence.

The damage in the 400 block of E. Harrison St. was reported shortly after 9 a.m. Feb. 21. It appeared someone kicked a shed door and was unable to gain entry, according to an Elmwood Police Department report.

Nothing was reported missing from the shed. A neighbor's security video revealed no clues.

• **TRIVOLI** – No injuries were reported following a vehicle fire in Trivoli.

The fire in a 2011 Chevrolet Equinox began about 3:15 p.m. Feb. 20 at Trivoli Sales & Auto Repairs, 18826 W. Illinois Route 116, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The sport-utility vehicle owner, a 60-year-old Farmington man, said it was being worked on inside the shop when it began to leak oil.

After the vehicle was driven outside and parked, someone noticed flames and smoke emanating from the engine. Logan-Trivoli firefighters responded.

• **LAURA** – Vehicles passing in opposite directions clipped driver's-side mirrors in an accident south of Laura.

Shortly before 1:45 p.m. Feb. 20, Michael C. Boryca of Gilson was driving an eastbound Ford F-150 pickup truck in the 22700 block of W. Swab Run Rd. when the vehicle collided with a westbound U.S. Postal Service vehicle, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report.

Donna L. Brija of Maquon was the other driver. She and Boryca gave differing accounts of what happened. Both drivers and Boryca's two passengers, both fe-

males, reported no injuries. Both vehicles sustained minor damage and were drivable.

• **BARTONVILLE** – A Hanna City man's blood-alcohol content was more than twice the legal limit after police stopped him in Bartonville.

Anthony J. Long, 19, was driving a 2018 Ford Fusion that had a flat tire and was weaving between lanes shortly after 12:15 a.m. Feb. 17 in the 7400 block of S. Adams St., a Bartonville Police Department report stated.

Long was eating a McDonald's hamburger and slurring his speech as he was telling an officer he was on his way home, which was in the opposite direction he was driving. Long's BAC was .162; the legal limit is .08.

In addition to two counts of driving under the influence of alcohol, Long was accused of illegal transportation of alcohol, driving without proof of insurance and two counts of improper lane use. He was transported to the Peoria County Jail.

• **OAK HILL** – At 7:15 p.m. Feb. 23, Oliver Sherman of Brimfield was driving a northbound 2025 Honda on Maher Road at Illinois Route 8 when the vehicle struck a deer that emerged from the east. Sherman wasn't injured, according to a Peoria County Sheriff's Office report. The vehicle sustained front-bumper damage and was towed.

• **ELMWOOD** – Chief Aaron Bean reported the following Elmwood Police Department activity for February: 14 traffic stops, 16 warnings, 11 reports and two ordinance violations.

• **FARMINGTON** – Chief Chris Darsham reported the following Farmington Police Department activity for February: 520 business checks, 3,097 building checks, three crashes handled, one property crime, 10 traffic tickets, 10 ordinance violations, four crimes against people, five miscellaneous, 35 traffic stops, five arrests, 13 reports, 237 total calls and 16 calls to assist other police departments.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded between Feb. 22-28: driving complaint, Williamsfield; fire, Farmington; suspicious person, Douglas; domestic dispute, Williamsfield; harassment, Douglas.

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BRIEFS

Scholastic Bowl team wins IHSA sectional

ELMWOOD – The Elmwood varsity Scholastic Bowl team was undefeated at the IHSA sectional it hosted last Saturday, defeating ROWVA, Roanoke-Benson and Henry-Senachwine.

The team will compete at the state tournament on Saturday at Heartland Community College in Normal. It is the team’s first sectional championship since 2014, and the second in school history.

“This is probably the best and most well-balanced team I’ve ever coached,” Coach Rusty Koll stated. “There are definite standouts, but everyone pulls his or her weight and there are multiple ways that I can put together a starting five and bench players. In addition, they are incredibly hard working, often taking time to run through material on trips, and giving up their lunches several times a week to practice.”

Elmwood also won the Prairie-land Conference championship and a Masonic sectional, finished third at Masonic State and won IHSA regional and sectional championships. **Brimfield Grade School principal stepping down**

BRIMFIELD – Brimfield Grade School Principal Julie Kurtz published a letter on Facebook on March 11 to inform the Brimfield CUSD 309 community that she would be resigning at the end of this school year.

Kurtz was hired in 2019.

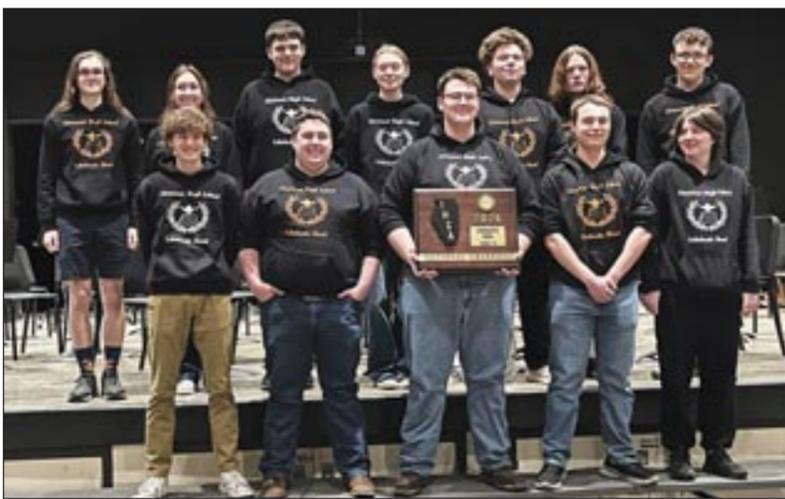
Wrote Kurtz in her letter, “I want to be clear that my resignation is not due to any concerns or issues within the district.



Kurtz

This is purely a personal decision, and I hope this statement helps prevent any assumptions, speculation, or rumors regarding my resignation. I am so excited that after 26 years in education, I have the opportunity to take a step back, reflect on my career path, and explore new opportunities – whether that ultimately leads me back to education or in a different direction.”

The Brimfield School Board was



The Elmwood Scholastic Bowl team poses with the sectional plaque it won last weekend. Front row (left to right): Kam Stevenson, Baron Case, Gus Roberts, Beckett Morse and Taylor Johns. Back row (l to r): Joshua Livengood, Cassidy Case, Caleb Stevens, Addisyn Powers, Gatlin Largent, Lukas Hays and Liam Davis. Elmwood will compete at the state finals in Normal on Saturday.

expected to discuss her position at its meeting on Wednesday, March 18.

Hunters harvest 882 turkeys in fall season

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary statewide total of 882 wild turkeys during the 2025-26 fall archery turkey season, according to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Last year’s record harvest was 1,045 birds. The five-year average is 824 birds.

Harvest reports were 60% male birds and 40% female birds, compared with 51% males and 49% females reported last year. A total of 67% of hunters used crossbows, 33% used compound bows and less than 1% used traditional bows.

The top five counties for fall archery wild turkey harvest this season were Fayette, 33; Jefferson, 32; Marion, 24; Macoupin, 22; and Jackson, 20. Local county numbers showed Peoria 17, Fulton 17, Knox 13, Henry 11 and Stark one.

Orpheum Theatre’s live productions rewarded

GALESBURG – The Orpheum Theatre announced it has been awarded a tax credit in the amount of \$13,674.93 through the Illinois Live Theater Production Tax Credit program. The credit was granted in recognition of qualified production expenses incurred during the theatre’s successful 2024-25 season.

The award specifically accounts

for the technical and labor expenditures associated with the Catapult Shadow Illusion Dance (March 15, 2025) and August Wilson’s Two Trains Running (March 26, 2025).

Bank of Farmington opens new branch

WEST PEORIA – The Bank of Farmington opened a full-service branch at 2506 W. Rohmann Ave. in West Peoria. It is the independent community bank’s fifth location and second branch in the Peoria market.

The opening expands on the bank’s presence on the corner of Rohmann and Sterling avenues.

The West Peoria branch joins the bank’s existing Peoria location, at 7810 Illinois Route 91, across the street from The Grand Prairie shopping district. The bank said this additional investment reflects a long-term commitment to Peoria. The branch offers personal and business banking.

A grand-opening celebration is expected this summer.

College honors

• Several local students were named to the Western Illinois University fall 2025 Dean’s list (3.6 gpa or better). Honorees are **Ashley Nader** of Farmington, **Jack Brown** of Dahinda, **Emma Seaborn** of Yates City, **Cooper Catton** of Brimfield, **Theodore Collins** of Brimfield, **Orrin Maue** of Brimfield, **Rachael Boushell** of Edwards, **Abigail Bussey** of Edwards, **Brooke Dawson** of Elmwood, **Ashlyn Slater** of Elmwood, **Alexis**

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OBITUARIES

Janet S. Gibson

YATES CITY – Janet Sue Gibson, 76, of Yates City, passed away at 10:10 a.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at Farmington Village.

Janet was born April 4, 1949, in Pekin to Ralph and Beverly (Buhl) Sloan.

Janet married Kenneth Gibson on April 4, 1971, in Edwards. He survives.

Janet is also survived by two children, Michele (Greg) Davis of Rozet, Wyo., and Keith (Nancy Shriber) Gibson of Canton; one brother, Neal (Mona) Buhl; two sisters, Gail (Ed) Dray and Sharon (the late Kelly) Bumgarner; three grandchildren, Garrett Mangus, Sam Mangus and Lauren Sercel; and two great-grandchildren, Cash Mangus and Maria “Mia” Mangus.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Mark Sloan.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of life will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at the Yates City Community Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to BYE Ambulance Service.

To leave online condolences please visit oakshinesfuneralhome.com.

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

Roger A. Morse

MIDDLEGROVE – Roger A. Morse, 64, of Middlegrove, passed away on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, surrounded by his family at his home. He was born on March 1, 1962, in Canton to Rodger and Karen (Gooding) Morse, who preceded him in death.

Roger is survived by his wife, Dinalyn Morse. They were married in

the Philippine Islands on June 23, 2012.

He is also survived by his daughter, Camille (Paul) Balagna of Farmington; his sons Luke, Carter and Matthew of Middlegrove; his grandchildren, Haylie Balagna of Canton and Jonathan Balagna of Farmington; and his sisters, Tammy Fields of Farmington, Beth (Jeremy) Isbell of Middlegrove and Bobbie (Neil) Nelson of Canton.

Roger proudly served in the U.S. Navy as an engineer aboard the USS Midway.

A celebration of life was held at the Clair School Building in Middlegrove on March 14. Burial with military honors will be held at a later date in Chapin Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Farmington.

To leave online condolences please visit oakshinesfuneralhome.com.

James I. Stahl

WYOMING – James I. “Jim” Stahl, 91, of Wyoming, passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of his family on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at Apostolic Christian Skylines in Peoria.

Jim was born on Jan. 11, 1935, in Princeville, the son of Amos and Laura (Ehnle) Stahl. A simple man, Jim lived a life deeply committed to his passions of the family business, devotion to his loving family and strong faith.

In his early years, Jim attended Wyoming Grade School and Wyoming High School, where he was active in school plays and played football. As one of four siblings, he spent a childhood rich with family, friendships and enjoyed small-town life. During those years, he met the love of his life, Evelyn Fulton. They were married on Sept. 28, 1957, at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Wyoming. She survives.

After high school, he attended Western Illinois University for two years, then returned to Wyoming to

work with his father, Amos, at Stahl Lumber Co./Amos Stahl General Contractors/Stahl Ready-Mixed Concrete.

Jim owned and operated Stahl Lumber Co. for many years and the business is still in existence today. The excitement and passion he had for the business was still evident in July 2024, as he was still doing errands and small odds and ends for the company.

He was a member of the Lumber Dealers Association and the Wyoming Lions Club. In addition, he served on the board of directors at State Bank of Speer for many years.

Above all, Jim was a devoted husband and father. His Catholic faith was a pivotal part of his life.

Jim is also survived by one son, Terry (Deana) Stahl of Princeville; and his children, Kenneth J. (Jenna) and Heath Michael (Jessica); daughter Laurie (Michael) DeSchepper of Dixon and her children, Larissa Frantz and Kelsey (Andrew) Sarver; daughter Jacqueline (Kenneth) Hofer of Washington and her children, Joshua (Brittany) Hofer, Jordyn (Michael) Ernst, Kendal Hofer (Kathrin Underwood) and Kody Hofer; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, Joanne Holman of Lebanon; and two brothers, Melvin (Corinne) Stahl of Galva and George “Mike” (Patricia) Stahl of Wyoming.

A funeral mass was held on March 16, 2026, at Incarnation Parish (formerly St. Dominic Catholic Church) in Wyoming. The Rev. Corey Kregiel presided. Burial was in St. Dominic Catholic Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Incarnation Parish formerly (St. Dominic Catholic Church), Apostolic Christian Skylines or Wyoming Fire Department.

Haskell Funeral and Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements.



Gibson

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Pages From The Past Compiled by Andy Latora

Five Years Ago

- After a successful 24-year varsity coaching career during which he won 495 games and a Class 1A state championship, Scott Carlson retired from coaching at Brimfield High School. Carlson coached his 700th varsity game in a 59-41 season-ending loss to Knoxville.
- While there are no major national positions to decide in the upcoming April 6 consolidated election, the ballots for Knox, Fulton and Peoria counties show a fair number of contested races. Among those is the Elmwood mayoral race, which features four candidates whose signs have been showing up in town with increasing frequency. Running for mayor, all as independents, are David Courson, David Ramsay, Brandon Butler and John "JD" Hulslander.
- The Farmington City Council voted on a few items on a relatively light action agenda. The council voted unanimously to approve two purchases by the Farmington Police Department. The first was for a new squad vehicle not to exceed \$53,099. That was the price estimate provided by Police Chief Chris Darsham for a 2021 Dodge Durango, fully equipped with equipment and police department striping. Darsham also provided a \$48,959 estimate for a fully equipped 2021 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup.
- The first of April is fast approaching and that's an important date if you plan to grow your own tomato and pepper plants from seed. It's six weeks from May 15, the average frost-free date for these parts, and the very earliest you should set these plants out in the garden.
- Logan-Trivoli Firefighters responded to a reported barn fire at 14326 W. Smithville Rd. in rural Hanna City. Upon arrival, fire-

- fighters found three barns on fire and the house catching fire. Logan-Trivoli Assistant Fire Chief Chris Matzke said firefighters fought winds gusting in excess of 30 mph to extinguish the exterior of the house and the three barns. Three additional buildings were smoking and those were also extinguished. The owner of the property was Scott Turbett.
- 10 Years Ago**
 - High school students in Farmington will see new dual-credit courses, plus new offerings in agriculture, earth & space science and career planning under a recommendation presented at the Board of Education's meeting.
 - Brimfield-Jubilee Road will reopen this week after the Peoria County Highway Department closed the stretch between Kelstadt Road and Jubilee Hills Drive for a culvert replacement.
- 15 Years Ago**
 - Jenna Scotti, daughter of Greg and Jill Scotti of Elmwood, was among 14 seniors from Peoria County given the Lincoln Senior Award, chosen for having qualities similar to Abraham Lincoln.
 - Popular farm and home auctioneer Jim Folger of rural Williamsfield was inducted into the Illinois State Auctioneers Association Hall of Fame at the annual meeting and banquet in Bloomington.
- 25 Years Ago**
 - Brimfield Tigers Pack 153 toured the Reynolds Palace Theatre in Elmwood. The Pack included Corey Jones, Alex Maher, Eddie Jones, Jordon Kelch, Scott Henderson, Nathan Adlington, Jerry Herbst and Cody Herbst.
 - Col. Gail Cower Auctioneer from Glasford was inducted into the Illinois State Auctioneers Association Hall of Fame.

35 Years Ago

- Todd Stevens of Elmwood helped the Monmouth College men's track team set five league records and a pair of school marks en route to a Midwest Conference team title.
- 45 Years Ago**
 - The Williamsfield Jaycees were putting up the new street signs.
- 55 Years Ago**
 - Farmington's boys basketball team won the Farmington Regional, ousting VIT 91-70.
 - The trailer home of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Predmore of Princeville was destroyed by fire.
- 85 Years Ago**
 - A heavy snow greatly disrupted transportation in Elmwood. North-and-south roads were the worst affected. Illinois Route 78 in both directions from Elmwood was badly blocked.
- 95 Years Ago**
 - Snow to the depth of six inches was blown by a hard west wind into drifts that cut off all roads in the Elmwood area.
 - One of the worst blizzards experienced in this area in a number of years raged all day Saturday and Sunday. Mail carriers were able to make only part of their routes on Monday because of snow blocked roads.
 - An explosion at the Stan-O-Lind station in Laura caused the death of Mr. Montgomery, head engineer.
- 105 Years Ago**
 - Old-timers of Elmwood pronounce this winter the finest in their recollection. Fur overcoats have been thrown in the discard, big overshoes and felt boots have reposed in the corner of the weed shed, the cattle and horses have grazed out in the stalk fields all season long and the coal pile has lasted surprisingly long.

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Notice

The Brimfield Cemetery Board would like to remind people to please remove all grave decorations, blankets and pillows from grave sites before March 28th.

Thank You

NOTICE TO OAK RIDGE CEMETERY LOT OWNERS

All ground decorations at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Farmington must be removed by March 31st, for spring clean-up. Decorations may be replaced after April 1st.
Please note: Cremation lots are not included in this clean-up, and no decorations attached to grave markers or shepherd hooks will be removed.
Thank you for your cooperation!

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: 4-4:45 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
6:15 p.m. Soup Supper
7 p.m. Lent Vespers

Brimfield E-Free Church
Pastor Donald Blasing
11724 Maher Road
Brimfield IL 61517 (309) 446-3571
brimfieldefree.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

BIBLE TRIVIA
By Wilson Casey
1. Is the book of Tamar (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. 2 Kings 19 and which other book's chapter are almost alike word for word? Deuteronomy 7, Isaiah 37, Jeremiah 50, Job 16
3. From Genesis 29, which of Jacob's wives was first to bear children? Leah, Naomi, Bilhah, Zilpah
4. Of these, who stole idols from her father? Elisabeth, Martha, Rachel, Deborah

105 W. Clay Street Brimfield (309) 446-3811
brimfieldunionchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 am
Tuesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm
• First Sunday is Communion Sunday (gluten-free offered)
• Grief & Loss Group meets Tuesday afternoons 3-4:30 pm 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 am
Sunday School during worship
Church: (309) 639-2768
Pastor's Office: (309) 639-2389
Email: williamsfielddahindaumc@yahoo.com

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

5. In Acts 22, what famous rabbi was Paul's teacher? Hillel, Turkel, Zakkai, Gamaliel

6. From Genesis 4, who invented farming? Adam, Cain, Abel, Jubal
ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Isaiah 37, 3) Leah, 4) Rachel, 5) Gamaliel, 6) Cain
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(NOTE: Church is in Douglas)
Sunday Worship: 8 am
(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

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Father James Pankiewicz
9910 W. Knox St. Edwards (309) 691-2030
stmaryskickapoo.org
Sat. Confession: 2:45-3:45 pm
Saturday Mass: 4 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30 & 10 am
Mon., Wed., and Fri. Mass: 8 am
Sat. Confession: 2:45-3:45 pm

ELMWOOD Crossroads Assembly of God
Pastor Don Nuttall

615 E. Ash St. Elmwood (309) 742-6409
crossroadselmwood.org
Wed. Bible Study: 7 pm
Sun. Worship: 10:30 am

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

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Father James Pankiewicz
802 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-4921
Sat. Mass: 5:30 pm
Tues. & Thurs. Mass: 8 am
Tues. Confession: After mass.

United Methodist Church of Elmwood
Pastor Austin Miller
821 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-7221
elmwoodumc.org
Sunday Worship: 9 am NEW!
Youth Sunday School: 10 am

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

gmail.com
Sunday School 10:15 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

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

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

PRINCEVILLE Princeville United Methodist Church
Pastor David Pyell
420 E. Woertz Princeville (309) 385-4487
princevilleumchurch.com
Sun. Worship: 8:30 am
Sunday School: 8:45 am

St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church
Father Corey Krengiel
Father Deogratias Mpewo
119 Saint Mary St. Princeville (309) 385-2578
incarnationcatholic.org
Sun. Mass: 9 and 11 am
Wed. & Fri. Mass: 6:45 am
Tues. & Thurs. Mass: 8 am
Wed. Confession: 7-8 pm

TRIVOLI 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
(309) 403-4626

Zion-Penn Ridge Lutheran Church (LCMC)
18015 W. Smithville Rd., Trivoli
Pastor Mark Schoenhals
Pastor Jay Johnson (309) 696-1300
zionpennridgelutheranchurch@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am
4th Sunday of month Worship: 8 am with communion

WILLIAMSFIELD St. James Catholic Church
Father Deogratias Mpewo
214 N. State Route 180 Williamsfield (309) 446-3275
stjameswilliamsfield.org
Sun. Confession: 7-7:20 am
Sunday Mass: 7 am

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 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am

YATES CITY Faith United Presbyterian Church
Reverend Marla B. Bauler
107 W. Bishop St. Yates City (309) 358-1170
Worship: 9 am
Sunday School: 10:15 am
Thursday Choir: 7 pm

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Iran conflict creates concerns for planting

By **RHIANNON BRANCH** and **TAMMIE SLOUP**

FarmWeek

Military action in Iran continues to impact fuel and fertilizer markets, prompting a nationwide groundswell of concern from farmers as planting season nears.

"History teaches us that energy-market shocks quickly reach the farm gate and countries in and around the Persian Gulf account for a large share of fertilizer supplies our farmers rely on, so it's a serious issue," said American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall.

Illinois Farm Bureau President Philip Nelson met with lawmakers on Capitol Hill last week to stress the need for stable fuel and fertilizer prices. Illinois farmers, he said, are "feeling the pinch."

"We had a very good conversation with the deputy ag secretary (Stephen Vaden) ... in regard to looking to make sure that we've got competition in all areas for inputs, and that includes fertilizer, chemicals and seed," Nelson said.

One of IFB's national legislative priorities is exploring transparency and competitiveness in agricultural input markets to support cost-effective solutions for producers.

The U.S. Justice Department recently launched an antitrust investi-

gation into whether leading commercial fertilizer producers colluded to raise prices, Bloomberg News reported.

The companies under scrutiny include phosphate and potash suppliers Nutrien Ltd. and Mosaic Co., as well as CF Industries Holdings Inc., Koch Inc. and Norway's Yara International ASA, which collectively control most nitrogen-based fertilizer sold in the U.S. and dominate potash and phosphate markets.

The scrutiny comes after the U.S. fertilizer industry underwent dramatic consolidation over four decades. The number of nitrogen fertilizer producers declined from 46 to 13 between 1984 and 2008, a reduction of 72%, according to USDA data. Today, four firms control 75% of the nitrogen fertilizer market domestically, while two firms control nearly 100% of the U.S. potash market, according to University of Waterloo research.

Grain-market analysts are also watching the conflict to see what geopolitical impacts it could have on corn and soybeans in the U.S.

"A lot of us are waiting to see if some of the effects on energy prices and other things could change supply and demand dynamics in global corn and soybean markets," Joe Janzen, assistant professor of ag economics

at the University of Illinois, told FarmWeek at the All Day Ag Outlook hosted by WILL and the U of I farmdoc team.

At the event, two panels of market analysts discussed the state of corn and soybean markets. The Iran conflict was mentioned as a new uncertainty.

"Everyone knows how much oil moves through (that region), but a third of the nitrogen also does," said Chip Nellinger, founder and partner of Blue Reef Agri-Marketing. "Urea prices are up 20% at the Gulf this week (March 3)."

Ellen Dearden, analyst with AgReview, added: "I do believe that with the price of fertilizers and the availability given the Middle East situation, that we may end up seeing a few more beans being planted than what the (USDA) report out of the Ag Outlook Forum suggested."

But even before the conflict began, volatility was a concern in the markets.

"I think this year we have a lot more unknowns than what I could ever remember in a long time. More unknowns mean more price volatility," said Greg Johnson with Total Grain Marketing. "The war going on now just underlies how important crude-oil prices are to soybean-oil prices, which impacts soybean prices."

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AKRON TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET
 Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Road Purposes of the Township of Akron, in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026, and ending March 31, 2027 will be on file and conveniently available to the public inspection after 6:00 O'clock P.M. weekdays at the home of Samuel Martin, Akron Township Clerk, who resides at 18004 North Rice Road, Princeville, Illinois, from and after the 14th day of March, 2026.
 Notice is further hereby given that a Public Hearing on the said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at **7:00 O'clock P.M. on the 14th day of April 2026** at the Akron Princeville Ambulance Building located in Princeville, Akron Township, Peoria County, Illinois, and that final action of this Ordinance will be therefore taken at a meeting of the Board of Township Trustees to be held following the Hearing.
 Dated this 6th day of March 2026.
 Samuel H. Martin,
 Akron Township Clerk
 Published 3/19/26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AKRON TOWNSHIP BUDGET
 Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of Akron, in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2027 will be on file and conveniently available to the public inspection after 6:00 O'clock P.M. weekdays at the home of Samuel Martin, Akron Township Clerk, who resides at 18004 North Rice Road, Princeville, Illinois, from and after the 14th day of March, 2026.
 Notice is further hereby given that a Public Hearing on the said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at **7:00 O'clock P.M. the 14th of April 2026** in the Akron Princeville Ambulance Building located in Princeville, Akron Township, Peoria County, Illinois, and that final action will be taken by the Board of Township Trustees at a meeting to be held following the hearing.
 Dated this 6th day of March, 2026.
 Dated this 6th day of March 2026.
 Samuel H. Martin,
 Akron Township Clerk
 Published 3/19/26

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLBROOK
 NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of MILLBROOK, in the County of Peoria and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026**.
 The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:30 P. M. on said day at the MILLBROOK COMMUNITY CENTER, in Laura, Illinois, situated in said Township, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:
 Call Meeting to Order;
 Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
 Moderator's Oath of Office;
 Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
 Annual report of Supervisor;
 Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
 Audit of Accounts;
 Permanent Fund Transfers;
 General Business; and,
 Adjournment.
 DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.
 /s/ TERESA JOYCE,
 Millbrook Township Clerk.
 Published 3/19/26

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
 Plaintiff
 vs.
KAREN RENE BARBEE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS AGENCY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
 Defendant
 25 FC 73
 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 **April 8, 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:
 LOT 147 IN CREIGHTON WOODS, SECTION THREE, A SUB-DIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTH HALF OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED APRIL 2, 1968 IN PLAT BOOK "Z-1", PAGE
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PUBLIC NOTICE BRIMFIELD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the legal residents of the Town of Brimfield in the County of Peoria and State of Illinois, that the ANNUAL MEETING of said town will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026** being the second Tuesday of the month
 The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 6:00 P.M. on said day at the Brimfield Township Building, 315 S. Adams St., Brimfield, Illinois, and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider the following agenda: (a) appointment of moderator, (b) approval of minutes of last annual town meeting, (c) reports of officers, if any, (d) decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting, (e) decide time and place of next annual town meeting, (f) discuss and approve transfer of funds from the Town Fund to the Road District, if any, (g) comments from public, if any, and (h) adjournment.
 DATED at Brimfield, Illinois, this 6th day of March, 2026.
 /s/ Michele D. Karl
 Town Clerk
 Published 3/19/26

122, AS DOCUMENT NO. 68-04233, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA AND STATE OF ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 13-13-181-001.
 Commonly known as **6219 N. RANDWICK RD., PEORIA, IL 61615**.
 The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit 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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 25-297575
 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 intercountyjudicialsales.com
 13282558
 Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/26
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
 Plaintiff,
 -v.-
ISABEL MENDOZA PEREZ et al
 Defendant
 2025-FC-0000121
NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment
Continued on Page 15

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PRINCEVILLE TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative Budget an Appropriation Ordinance for Road Purposes for the Township of Princeville, in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2027 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection from **9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays at the Princeville Village Hall, located at 206 N. Walnut Ave, Princeville.** Or by appointment by contacting Veronica M. Haskell, Princeville Township Clerk at princevilletownship-clerk@gmail.com from and after **March 19, 2026.**

Notice is further hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be at **6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at the Princeville Township Building, located at 14321 West Southern Street, Princeville,** and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the Public Hearing.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2026
/s/ Veronica Haskell
Princeville Township Clerk

Published 3/19/26



Reconditioned Appliances Starting at \$100
Service All Major Brands

Bill Clayton 635-2809

Washers, Dryers, Microwaves, Stoves, Refrigerators, Window AC

New and Used Parts

1 year warranty on repairs and sales over \$100

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PRINCEVILLE TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative Budget an Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of Princeville, in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2027 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection from **9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays at the Princeville Village Hall, located at 206 N. Walnut Ave, Princeville.** Or by appointment by contacting Veronica M. Haskell, Princeville Township Clerk at princevilletownshipclerk@gmail.com from and after **March 19, 2026.**

Notice is further hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be at **6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at the Princeville Township Building, located at 14321 West Southern Street, Princeville,** and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the Public Hearing.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2026
/s/ Veronica Haskell
Princeville Township Clerk

Published 3/19/26

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PERSIFER

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of PERSIFER in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of **6:30 P. M. on said day at the PERSIFER TOWN HALL, located at the corner of U. S. Route 150 and the Dahinda Road CH No. 15, in Persifer Township, Knox County, Illinois,** and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Purchase of Real Estate;
- Continuation of Recycling Services;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Approval of Donations to Triad and Food Pantry;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment.

DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.

/s/ ANN COLLOPY,
Persifer Township Clerk

Published 3/19/26

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

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

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-25-04006
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Case Number: 2025-FC-0000121
TJSC#: 45-2973

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector at-

tempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2025-FC-0000121
13282703
Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/26

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

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC., PLAINTIFF, VS. **JASON D LEE; CROSS RIVER BANK; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF VERNON E. JACKSON, DEFENDANTS.**
NO. 2025-FC-0000125
2147 NORTH DRURY LANE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD, KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A public hearing on the tentative budget of the Village of Williamsfield, Knox County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2026, will be held on April 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 114 East Gale Street, Williamsfield, Illinois. Starting March 26, 2026, a copy of the tentative budget shall be available for public inspection at the Williamsfield Village Hall during normal business hours. Please call 309-639-2303 to request a copy. Following the budget hearing, an invitation is extended to the public to participate in the review of the Phase III Water Project.

Dated this 13th day of March 2026.

/s/ Tori Courson
Village of Williamsfield Clerk

Published 3/19/26

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JUBILEE

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of JUBILEE in the County of Peoria and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of **8:00 P. M. on said day at the JUBILEE TOWNSHIP HALL, located at 12807 N. Princeville-Jubilee Rd., in Jubilee Township, Peoria County, Illinois,** and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Determine time of next Annual Town Meeting;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment.

DATED this 9th day of March, 2026.

/s/ ROBIN A. FORNEY,
Jubilee Township Clerk.

Published 3/19/26

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ELBA

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of ELBA, in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:30 P. M. on said day at the ELBA TOWN HALL, in Elba Township, Knox County, Illinois, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- Determine time of Annual Town Meeting;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment.

DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.

/s/ PHILLIP GOEDEKE,
Elba Township Clerk.

Published 3/19/26

PEORIA, IL 61604

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Vernon E. Jackson defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain

Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

LOT 144 IN NEWMAN PARK-VIEW EXTENDED SECTIONS III AND IV, BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AS SHOWN BY PLAT THEREOF FILED

Continued on Page 16

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ELMWOOD

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of ELMWOOD in the County of Peoria and State of Illinois, that the Annual Township Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Township Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Township will be held at the hour of **6:00 P. M. on said day at the ELMWOOD TOWNSHIP HALL, located at 111 West Main Street, Elmwood, Illinois,** in said Township, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- Resolution appointing the Township Attorney;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment

DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.

/s/ DIANA HALL,
Elmwood Township Clerk.

Published 3/19/26

Continued from Page 14

of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on **November 12, 2025**, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at **1:00 PM on April 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:

LOTS 8 AND 9 IN BLOCK 4 IN CHARLES PLACE, A SUBDIVISION, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF PEORIA, COUNTY OF PEORIA AND STATE OF ILLINOIS. Commonly known as **2608 W FREMONT ST, PEORIA, IL 61605**

Property Index No. 18-18-333-004

The real estate is improved with a residence.

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 to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

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

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

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

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

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

**FARMINGTON ZONING BOARD
OFFICIAL HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Farmington, Illinois will hold a public hearing on **April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** The hearing will take place in the **Farmington Council Chambers, located at 322 E Fort St., Farmington, Illinois.**

The purpose of this hearing is to consider a request for a zoning variance submitted for the property identified as:

- **Property Index Number (PIN): 05-04-01-406-004**
 - **Common Address: 92 N Brebner St., Farmington, IL 61531**
- The petitioner is requesting a **variance for a cornerlot setback to allow a reduced setback of 7 feet, 1 inch (7' 1")**.

All interested parties are invited to attend and will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Published 3/19, 3/26, 4/2/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROSEFIELD**

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of ROSEFIELD in the County of Peoria and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of **7:00 P. M. on said day at the ROSEFIELD TOWN HALL**, situated in said Township, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- Set time of next Annual Town Meeting;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment.

DATED this 11th day of March, 2026.

/s/ MARTIN E. MAY,
Rosefield Township Clerk.

Published 3/19/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SALEM**

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of SALEM in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.**

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of **7:30 P. M. on said day at the SALEM TOWNSHIP BUILDING, located on 113 East Market Street, Yates City, Illinois**, in said Township, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order;
- Nomination/Election of the Moderator;
- Moderator's Oath of Office;
- Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting;
- Annual report of Supervisor;
- Annual report of Road District Treasurer;
- Audit of Accounts;
- Permanent Fund Transfers;
- General Business; and,
- Adjournment.

DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.

/s/ JOYCE WARNER,
Salem Township Clerk

Published 3/19/26

Continued from Page 15

JANUARY 16, 1956, AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 565429 IN PLAT BOOK "V", PAGE 92, IN THE CITY OF PEORIA, SITUATED IN PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: **2147 North Drury Lane Peoria, IL 61604**

and which said Mortgage was made by, Jason D Lee Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Pacific Union Financial, LLC Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois, as Document No. 2016017425; and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before April 6, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST 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 ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 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. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411- 1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información



Exmark Zero Turn - For Sale

2011 Exmark Lazer E Series zero-turn mower, 52-inch deck, 24 hp Kawasaki motor, 453 hours.

\$3,800 (309) 231-6040

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. 25-221131L-1274468
I3282597
Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/26
...

Amber Waves



BOY, MOM SEEMS KINDA DEPRESSED. IT'S HER BIRTHDAY AND SHE'S FEELING OLDER.

I NEED TO THINK OF A WAY TO CHEER HER UP AND BE HAPPY.

GOOD MORNING, MOM! WOW, I GOTTA SAY YOU DON'T LOOK A DAY OVER FORTY!

GEEZ, I'M A KID. HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW SHE WAS TURNING THIRTY?

by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats

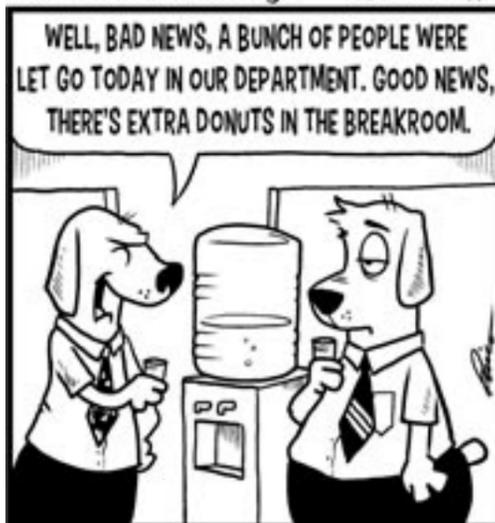


I FINALLY GOT THE LAST WORD IN

UNFORTUNATELY, IT WAS THE WRONG WORD.

by Jeff Pickering

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



WELL, BAD NEWS, A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WERE LET GO TODAY IN OUR DEPARTMENT. GOOD NEWS, THERE'S EXTRA DONUTS IN THE BREAKROOM.

GRIN & BEAR IT



"You guys really wear diapers?"

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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- MOVIES: Who is the director of the Oscar-winning movie "Parasite"?
 - FOOD & DRINK: What is miso?
 - LITERATURE: What are the names of the romantic couple in "Wuthering Heights"?
 - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which city's nickname is "Pearl of the Orient"?
 - HISTORY: In what year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
 - U.S. PRESIDENTS: Before becoming president, Barack Obama served as a senator from which state?
 - GEOGRAPHY: Which peninsula is the largest in the world?
 - MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek god of war?
 - MUSIC: Who composed the opera "The Ring of Nibelung"?
 - ACRONYMS: In computer emails, what does the acronym "CC" stand for?
- Answers**
- Bong Joon Ho.
 - Fermented soybean paste.
 - Heathcliff and Catherine.
 - Manila, Philippines.
 - 1896 in Greece.
 - Illinois.
 - Arabian Peninsula.
 - Ares.
 - Richard Wagner.
 - Carbon Copy (once used in typewriters).
- (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 7

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.

KNWP IBNGF HNBP

EBPHPUYNXFKC DXKK, FGTE,

ZNTIUQUE, QF EVP CPQBF

HXKETZKC. - RQUP IBPC

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- Hoppers (PG)
 - Scream 7 (R) Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox
 - The Bride! (R)
 - GOAT (PG)
 - Wuthering Heights (R)
 - Crime 101 (R)
 - EPIC: Elvis Presley in Concert (PG-13)
 - Send Help (R)
 - I Can Only Imagine 2 (PG)
 - Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle (R)
- 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

Illinois bill aims at gender, CPR training

From Capitol News Illinois reports
SPRINGFIELD – When someone experiences a heart attack, the emergency protocol is universal for all genders – first responders are supposed to place the patient on their back and their hands in the center of the chest, then push hard and fast.

Yet, women are 27% less likely to receive bystander CPR than men because of hesitancy to follow protocol, fueled by fears of inappropriate touching, exposing the chest or drawing accusations of sexual assault, according to the Journal of the American Heart Association.

House Bill 4788, sponsored by Rep. Maura Hirschauer, D-Batavia, aims to defeat this stigma, normalizing CPR performance on women by introducing female manikins in secondary-school CPR training.

The idea for the legislation began with a Naperville high school student, senior Ashlynn Goldstein. “I had been CPR certified a lot of times – never in my life had I ever encountered a female manikin,” Goldstein said.

Her capstone project in high school examines why disparities exist in the performance of CPR between men and women, Illinois current statutes addressing CPR training and how those policies are handled in schools.

“That was kind of where that idea of passing a bill for high schools came

about, and Hirschauer took up the case,” said Goldstein, who drafted the bill with her teacher and proposed it to legislators.

The bill is currently assigned to the Education Policy Committee. It requires CPR training in secondary schools to include at least one female manikin for every two male versions, starting in the 2028-29 academic year.

Hirschauer, who said she is interested in “righting the wrongs of gender disparity,” emphasized the importance of introducing female manikins in high schools.

• **Riding the circuit** – The Illinois Supreme Court heard arguments last Wednesday in a case involving a Livingston County man who claimed he should have been granted pretrial release after his arrest last year for punching a sheriff’s deputy in the nose. The justices also heard arguments from the East St. Louis School District challenging an appellate court order that it provide free bus transportation to students who live in the district but attend a private school.

While neither of those cases is likely to result in a landmark ruling, they were out of the ordinary for one reason: Instead of hearing the arguments in their courtroom across the street from the statehouse in Springfield, the seven justices traveled some 85 miles west to hear the

cases on the campus of Western Illinois University in Macomb.

The event was part of a recent court program known as “riding the circuit,” in which the justices travel to different parts of the state to allow citizens who can’t easily attend a court session in Springfield to see the court in action and learn about what it does.

• **Epstein files** – A man wearing a sandwich board protesting outside the Edwardsville courthouse last month revived sleeping worries and anxieties Madison County Judge Andrew Carruthers had hoped to leave in the past.

That single protester’s sign put on display what Carruthers already knew.

His name is in the Epstein files because he once represented Jeffrey Epstein on a collection matter more than a dozen years ago.

In the 3 million documents that contained horrific descriptions of child-sexual abuse, photographs and videos released in January by the U.S. Department of Justice regarding the disgraced child-sex trafficker Epstein, there were legal filings signed by then-fledgling associate Carruthers.

“I was assigned to serve as local counsel for attorneys in another jurisdiction seeking to enforce a civil money judgment for their client who, at the time, was completely unknown to us, just as he was unknown to

most of the country 13 years ago,” Carruthers said in a statement.

It all began in 2013 with a collection matter, a foreign judgment for \$250,000 that Epstein won in the U.S. Virgin Islands that had laid around for a couple of years. It was the result of a contract dispute over unfinished or subpar work at Little St. James, Epstein’s private island, as well as Epstein’s New York townhouse.

The Virgin Islands lawyer needed Illinois representation to collect the debt on the business that was registered in Illinois. The Virgin Islands lawyer knew a partner at the Illinois-based HeplerBroom and asked for help.

Carruthers, then a new associate at the Edwardsville civil defense firm, was the “clean-up man” handling the extraneous minute legal matters that big civil clients bring to their legal firms – traffic tickets, wills, probate, small civil issues and collection matters.

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- Complete Basement Repair
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 Travis Fiser Owner
tri-countymasonry@hotmail.com

Peoria FLEA MARKET NEW LOCATION

Northwoods Mall (Peoria)
March 22nd 8am - 3pm
 For info call Aaron (309) 825-1223

Williamsfield Fire Protection District

Trustee Vacancy

Interested parties must live in Peoria County within Williamsfield Fire Protection District's boundaries.

Contact Dustin Courson
 (309)337-2931

Answers on Page 7 — Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Baldwin and Guinness
- 6 Pines’ cousins
- 10 Google Play buy
- 13 In recent times
- 19 A ton of, in Tijuana
- 20 All over
- 21 Outstanding examples on display
- 23 Hot and bubbling
- 24 All over
- 25 Adds a little dash to?
- 26 Ballpoint topper
- 28 Kind of tide
- 30 Nighttime light from a clear sky
- 31 Creole cooking pod
- 32 Actor Flynn
- 34 — standstill
- 35 Writer Fleming
- 36 Dol’s call
- 38 Bean curd
- 40 Person with a mouth-related nervous habit
- 44 In a crowd of
- 45 Some breads and whiskeys
- 46 Equine beast
- 47 Blaze fighter’s helmet
- 51 Facilities for processing a paddy product
- 53 Pep rally yells
- 55 Big bay windows
- 56 Cope (with)
- 57 See 33-Down
- 59 Env. directive
- 61 Back of the neck
- 62 Revolutionary Guevara
- 64 Baking pans
- 66 Tall conifer of California
- 68 Revise copy
- 69 — Cola
- 71 This instant
- 72 — Zedong
- 73 Grand — wine
- 74 Diamonds
- 75 Cyber-chuckles
- 76 French painter Manet
- 78 1996 running mate Jack
- 80 Once named
- 81 Rival of Hertz
- 82 Long period
- 83 Haiku, e.g.
- 85 Gavel noise
- 87 Low-status, as labor
- 89 Treatment tablet
- 91 Like fattening food
- 95 Be the chairperson
- 97 Plato’s “T”
- 98 Toward the mouth, to an anatomist
- 99 Bungee, e.g.
- 100 Large plant with fronds
- 102 Hershey’s toffee bar
- 103 Long periods
- 104 Turkey Day tuber
- 107 — -mo
- 108 Slack-jawed
- 110 Actress Chaplin
- 112 Strangely beautiful quality
- 116 German for “genuine”
- 117 Quick-to-build house
- 120 Very strictly organized
- 122 Rx orders
- 124 World-weary
- 125 Navy aerobic team
- 126 A Great Lake
- 127 Singer Gouding
- 128 Sloping
- 129 Decompose
- 130 Oct. preceder
- 131 Bob of folk

DOWN

- 1 “Do I need to draw you —?”
- 2 Garage job
- 3 Recession
- 4 Maine’s state bird, e.g.
- 5 Of the sun
- 6 Craze
- 7 By a single decisive action
- 8 “Get Shorty” actress
- 9 Cuss
- 10 Burred residue
- 11 — ed (gym class)
- 12 Flip-top’s relative
- 13 1995 war film with Danny Glover and Ray Liotta
- 14 Fish features
- 15 Emmy winner Remini
- 16 Second part of a play
- 17 Singer — Mare
- 18 Ruhr Valley city
- 22 “Suppose ...”
- 27 Ancestry via the father’s side
- 29 Event at which people enter rigid water
- 33 With
- 35 -Across, singer with the 1994 #1 hit “Stay”
- 36 Tarnish
- 37 Pal, in Paris
- 39 Olive of comics
- 41 “Baloney!”
- 42 Goo! up
- 43 Held in check
- 48 Likely to run into adversity
- 49 Of Swiss peaks
- 50 African fly
- 52 Wrestling pad
- 54 Wall Street fluctuation
- 58 Witty Bombeck
- 60 Lacerated
- 62 Letter-shaped vise
- 63 Vacuum cleaner brand
- 65 Lymph —
- 67 Dingbat
- 70 Help
- 77 Form a group
- 79 Golf norm
- 84 Planet’s livable zone
- 86 Overly modest type
- 88 Smog soots it
- 90 Actress — Flynn Boyle
- 92 Philosopher — tzu
- 93 Investment option, in brief
- 94 Investment options, in brief
- 96 Trapping morays, say
- 101 Promote
- 104 California’s — Buena Island
- 105 Skating leaps
- 106 Media bigwig
- 109 Peaks
- 111 Formed into a ball
- 113 “— yellow ribbon ...”
- 114 Somali supermodel
- 115 Prefix with drama
- 118 Laos’ home
- 119 “It’s — real!”
- 121 June hrs.
- 123 Stage design

DOWNWARD TREND

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Farmington Rotary
March 2026 Student of the Month
Treyven Haroldson



Farmington Central High School's Senior of the Month for March is Treyven Haroldson! Treyven is the son of Steve and Elise Haroldson. He has two brothers, Kolben and Brycen. Treyven has been a member of the football, basketball, and track teams for all four years of high school. He is also involved in several school organizations, including FCA, NHS, Key Club, Theatre, ACES, and Science Olympiad. After graduation, Treyven plans to attend North Dakota State University to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. His favorite high school achievement was making it to the football quarterfinals. Outside of school, Treyven enjoys going on trips with his family and playing golf. A fun fact about Treyven is that his favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." His advice to other students is, "Be involved in anything you can. Don't be boring." In ten years, Treyven hopes to be working as a mechanical engineer. Congratulations, Treyven!

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Give your BEST anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.... It never was between you and them anyway.



Mother Teresa

BASEBALL: Six starters back for Farmers

Continued from Page 20

help out our strong pitching staff.

"We expect to compete at the top of both the Prairieland and ICAC conferences. Our goal is to win a regional title and see how far we can make it in the postseason."

• **ROWVA-Williamsfield** – In his first year at the helm, Alex Satunas inherits a team that went 18-14 in 2025 and has hopes of a 20-win season and a regional title.

Satunas listed four seniors among his top returning players: Drake DeJaynes batted .354 last season with seven home runs and 40 RBIs with a 3.2 ERA on the mound; Brody Lytle hit .359 with a pair of homers and 25 RBIs to go with a 2.04 ERA; Nick Little hit .310 with two homers and 18 RBIs; and Zander Vest hit .309 with one home run and 17 RBIs.

Conor Buck, a junior, is expected to man an outfield spot and be a mainstay in the rotation, according to Satunas. Another newcomer, freshman Oliver Dykeman, is expected to handle the shortstop position and get some time behind the plate as a catcher.

Offensive depth and defensive versatility, Satunas said, are R-W's strengths as the Cougars take aim at the Lincoln Trail and Inter-County conference titles.

• **Farmington** – Six starters departed last year after Farmington set the school record for wins in a 26-8 campaign that ended with a 1-0 loss to Peoria Notre Dame in a Class 2A regional final.

Despite the attrition, Coach Justin Begner said his club maintains lofty goals for the conference and beyond.

"We finished 7-2 last season with losses to Brimfield and Macomb (in the Prairieland Conference)," Begner said. "Both squads are re-

turning a lot of players while we lost six starters. We can't overlook anyone in the conference, but we need to find a way to get past those two teams to have a shot at the conference title.

"Our postseason expectations are to get back and compete for a regional championship. Our record may not be as good as last season with losing all the experienced players, but we still have a solid pitching core to make a run in the postseason."

Farmington's solid pitching starts with senior Landon Crawford, a first-team all-stater a year ago when he went 5-2 with 89 strikeouts in 49 innings pitched and had a 1.27 ERA. Bronson Atchley, another senior, posted a 3-2 record with 54 strikeouts in 37 innings against just eight walks. Atchley had a 3.78 ERA.

The senior duo can hit, too. Crawford batted .447 with 11 doubles and six home runs among his 46 hits. Atchley drove in 41 runs and hit at a .382 clip with 13 doubles.

Begner said he expects sophomores Bradyn Brewer, Trevor Frye and Brody Wilcoxon to see substantial playing time this season and be key contributors in all aspects.

Pitching and defense, Begner said, will be keys for the Farmers, who will face tough tests against Chillicothe IVC, Limestone and East Peoria in the first four games on their schedule.

"Other area schools that are traditionally good that we will face are Brimfield, Eureka, Monmouth United, Canton and Tremont, to name a few," Begner said.

• **Princeville** – Coach Bret Williams said the Princes were bitten by the injury bug last season and struggled through the adversity to a 10-21-1 record.

Putnam County ended Princeville's season in a regional semifinal, but Williams likes the makeup of this year's roster with six returning starters and expectations are high.

"We return six starters from last year's team, including two GPBCA all-stars (Cayden Allen and Carter Peterson, both juniors)," Williams said. "A lot of our pitched innings graduated from the previous season, but our current staff got plenty of varsity experience in nonconference starts and out of the bullpen. I believe we will be very competitive in the conference this season."

Noah Geiger is a key in Princeville's rotation. In 38.2 innings last year, the senior struck out 44 batters and was tremendous in the last half of the season, according to Williams.

Peterson, a first baseman and lefty pitcher, batted .417 with 21 RBIs and a .989 OPS. Allen, a right-hander who plays the other infield corner hit .346 with 17 RBIs.

Another junior, Coley Palmer, plays catcher and pitches and is coming off a strong second half of the season.

Sophomores Cooper Cox and Edo Arnett got significant time with the varsity last year and Williams expects them to contribute. Williams also expects Jett Benningfield and Hunter Johnson, two returning seniors, to figure in the lineup.

Off-season work in the weight room should give Princeville a lift in piecing together a healthy lineup.

"I believe our bats will provide more power than last season," Williams said. "Most of our power numbers return with those three juniors."

ALL-SPORTS ROUNDUP

Farmington's Melton second at IESA state

By The Weekly Post

DeKALB – Farmington Central's Drake Melton finished second at 75 pounds last Saturday at the IESA Class A state wrestling finals at the NIU Convocation Center.

Melton, a 7th grader, notched two first-period pins on Friday to reach the semifinals round on Saturday morning.

Melton needed just 18 seconds to dispatch Kevin Nelson of Prospect Heights McArthur in his opening bout. In his Friday quarterfinal, Melton pinned Rockridge's Landon Hinzman in 46 seconds.

In the semifinals, Melton escaped with a 1-0 victory in an overtime tiebreaker against Channahon 6th-grader Caleb Haake to advance to the championship match.

Orion 7th-grader Griffin Duyvjonck ended Melton's IESA run with a 5-1



Farmington Central's Drake Melton stands in the second-place spot on the podium last Saturday at the IESA state wrestling finals at the NIU Convocation Center in DeKalb. Orion's Griffin Duyvjonck beat Melton 5-1 in the Class A 75-pound title match.

victory for the 75-pound title.

• **IKWF** – Caine Rogers, representing the Fighting Farmers Wrestling Club, won the IKWF state title at 134 pounds in the Novice division (12-under) at Carver Arena in Peoria last Saturday.

Rogers scored technical falls (17-0 and 16-0) in his first two bouts, then pinned Hononegah WC's Grey Selover in 2:59 in

the semifinals.

Rogers rolled up a 10-1 major decision over Louis Braxton of Combative Sports Athletic Center Wrestling in the title bout.

• **All-Stars** – The 19th Annual Canton Kiwanis All-Star Basketball Game will be held Saturday at Spoon River College.

The event features a girls game, boys game and a 2-ball hotshot competition.

Area girls on the North roster include Andrea Glenn and Natalie Babcock of Elmwood, Laney Pollitt of Farmington and Reagan Calder of Princeville. Elmwood's Kevin Faulkner will coach the North squad.

The girls game is at 6 p.m.

The boys North squad includes Connor Doe and Dawson Traphagan of Brimfield, Garrett Webster of Elmwood, Blake Stahl and JP Sloan of Galva and Brady Day of Princeville.

Farmington's Marty Lozier will coach the boys South squad, which includes the Farmers' Landon Crawford and Boston Smith.

The boys game is scheduled to tip off at 7:45 p.m.

Players in the girls game represent 19 schools while the boys game has 14 schools represented.

Doe, Webster first-team picks in two leagues

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Weekly Post

Brimfield's Connor Doe and Elmwood's Garrett Webster were first-team picks in two conferences this boys basketball season.

Doe was selected unanimously among coaches in the Inter-County Athletic Conference and the Prairie-land Conference North Division. The 6-foot-2 senior averaged 16.5 points, a team high, and 4.2 rebounds for Brimfield, which finished 25-8 and won a Class 1A regional crown.

Webster, a 5-10 senior, averaged 11.6 points and a team-high 3.2 assists for Elmwood (17-13), a 1A regional semifinalist.

Brimfield senior Dawson Traphagan joined Doe among Prairie-land North first-teamers. The 6-1 guard averaged 8.5 points and a team-leading 5.1 assists. Also on the Prairie-land North first team, unanimously, was the Farmington senior duo of Landon Crawford and Boston Smith.

In the regular season, the 6-2 Smith averaged 14.2 points and 5.7 rebounds, and the 6-4 Crawford averaged 13 points and seven rebounds for a 17-14 team that won a Class 2A regional title. Smith finished with more than 1,000 career points.

Brimfield and Farmington were ousted in sectional semifinals from their respective state tournaments.

Farmington sophomore Logan Gardner was a second-team Prairie-land North pick. Earning special mention in that league were Farmington senior Jack Gronewold, Elmwood junior Quinton Johns and Brimfield senior Jackson Kappes.

Johns and Traphagan were second-team ICAC selections. Kappes was a special-mention honoree.

Princeville senior Brady Day was a Lincoln Trail first-team pick. Day averaged 13 points, 3.5 assists and 1.9 steals and shot 70% on free throws, all team highs. Princeville senior Eli Christianson was an honorable-mention selection.

SOFTBALL: Princeville returns all-state junior

Continued from Page 20
batters last season. Binder had seven home runs and 45 RBI and was a second-team all-stater. A sophomore, Reese Legaspi (.327, six home runs), showed flashes of brilliance in the postseason.

"I think the kids know where they stand. They know they're good enough," said Juerjens, who is 197-37 in 11 seasons. "It's just a question of hopefully improving in those small ways that will make a difference. That's up to the coaches to figure how to do that and up to them to take control of that."

B-E is scheduled to play today (March 19) at Stanford Olympia.

Farmington – Coach Jeni Fauser's team already has played its first game of the season, on the first day programs in Illinois were permitted to do so.

Limestone won 14-4 in a six-inning game March 9, although Farmington led 3-1 in the second inning. Kennedy Koenig's two-run single was the big blow. Korynn Barton also had two RBI, and Gracie Duley was 2-for-3. Koenig, a senior catcher, missed most of last season because of a hand injury.

"She is a leader and has a great arm," Fauser stated. "We have a mix of experience and new players to the varsity. We will have some speed and will have to produce runs, as our pitching staff is not deep."

Farmington lost two starters from a 16-13 team, including three-year No. 1 pitcher Lydia Overcash, now at Monmouth College. Senior Nevaeh Howard is to handle most of the pitching this season, with freshman Ella Essex next in line. Junior Kaitlin McGee is out for the season because of health issues.

Seniors Sophia Anderson, Joelle Herbst and Laila Irvin return in the outfield, as do classmates Duley and Ava Essex in

the infield. Farmington is to play March 23 at home against Kewanee.

Princeville – Low numbers (11 players) and inexperience (five incoming freshmen) might seem like big problems for Princeville, but Coach Chad Gardner believes his team's skill level is on the rise.

Junior Claire Sutherland is the top returning Princeville batter (.456, 32 RBI) and pitcher. She was a third-team all-stater last season, when Princeville finished 11-23 but advanced to a Class 1A regional final. Senior leaders Mekaya Cihla and Sierra Stahl graduated, but Princeville returns six starters.

Outfielder Reagan Walsh is the team's only senior,

and third baseman Kam Smith joins Sutherland as the only juniors. A trio of current sophomores that emerged last season – second baseman Laurynn Bowers, catcher Tori Catton and outfielder Annie Hoffman – might be key.

Princeville lost two games it played March 14 at an event in Jacksonville, 13-2 to Bloomington Central Catholic and 10-8 to Varna Midland. Ali Ehnle was 3-for-4 against Mil-dand.

Princeville is scheduled to play today at home against Tremont, then Friday at Eureka.

ROWVA-Williamsfield – Another young roster is that of ROWVA-Williamsfield. It lost only two seniors from a 16-18 team that lost to Princeville in the re-

gional semifinals.

A pair of seniors leads this roster on offense. Ella Rigg hit .396 with five home runs and 27 RBI. Riley Smith batted .354, drove in 20 and scored 25. The other senior on the Cougars' roster, Mack Jones, batted .313 with 14 RBI in 18 games.

Junior pitcher Hannah Gehring had 156 strikeouts last season. Smith and sophomore Eliza Tucker also are in the pitching mix. After having eight freshmen last season, R-W is to have four this season.

"We will be young in spots, but these ladies are very motivated and driven student-athletes," R-W Coach Beau Burnett stated.

R-W is to play today at home against Lowpoint-Washburn.

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Brimfield-Elmwood boasts heavy hitters

Baseball team's trio of top returning hitters hit over .400

By **ANDY LATORA**
For The Weekly Post

Despite losing two key middle infielders to graduation, Brimfield-Elmwood baseball Coach James Sams returns a senior-heavy group with a lot of experience, including the team's top three hitters and several quality arms on the mound.

Sams said B-E has two pitchers returning from injuries who were limited last year, which should boost pitching depth.

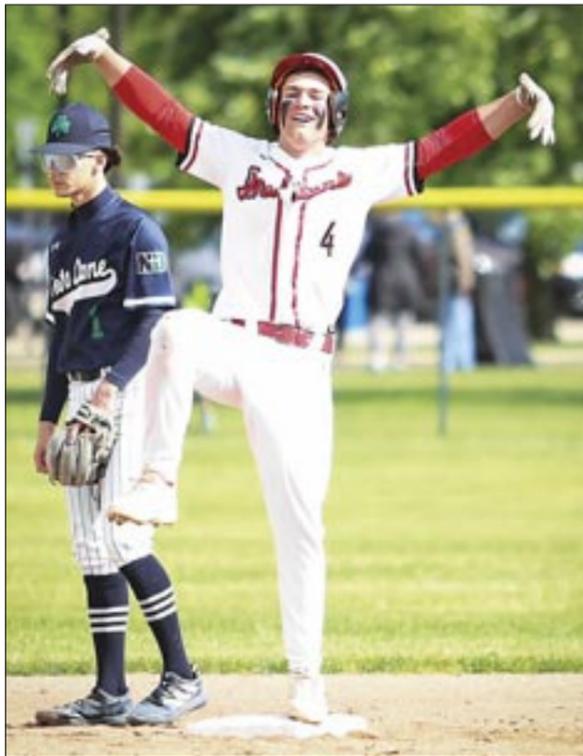
"Our expectation is to continue improving defensively, get more production throughout the lineup and put ourselves



in a position to compete for a strong season," he said.

B-E posted a strong season a year ago, going 26-5-1 overall and earning a No. 2 seed in its sectional. Peoria Notre Dame knocked off B-E 7-3 in a Class 2A regional semifinal.

Top returning hitters are Dane Fagerburg, Kaeden Schatsiek and Layne Johnson, who all hit over .400 with multiple home runs last year. Sean Crowe (five wins, 2.15 ERA) and Evan Patterson (four wins, 2.78 ERA) are B-E's top returning pitchers, according to Sams.



ABOVE: Brimfield-Elmwood's Dane Fagerburg celebrates after reaching second base last spring during a game against Peoria Notre Dame. LEFT: Layne Johnson is another .400-plus hitter returning for B-E. Photos by Brimfield/Elmwood Sports Shots.

Sophomore Griffin Hougham played outfield in limited appearances last year and could take over at shortstop, while junior Blake Bruner is expected to pitch and play a role in the outfield, Sams said of B-E's newcomers.

Pitching and hitting at the top of the order will

be B-E's strengths, but defense may be its weakness.

"To win we are going to rely on our big bats at the top of the order and then preach ball-in-play and small ball at the bottom," Sams said. "We need to improve defensively to

Continued on Page 18

Pitching duo will power B-E softball

Drury, Meinders posted ERAs under 1.00 in 33-4 campaign

By **NICK VLAHOS**

For The Weekly Post

Brimfield-Elmwood softball returns all its players from a 2025 team that advanced to the Class 2A supersectionals. Sounds like a coach's dream, right?

That doesn't mean B-E Coach Kurt Juerjens doesn't have at least a few things that keep him awake at night heading into the 2026 season.

"There's just so much random about sporting events," Juerjens said. "I guess you're just better off controlling what you can control and do your best and hope it turns out that way.

"You coach long enough, you see how many random things happen. Some days you win from those random things, and some days they kind of go the other way."

If ever there was a sure

thing, it might be the B-E pitching staff. It helped lead the Indians to a 33-4 record last season, which ended with an extra-innings loss to Beecher, the eventual state champion.

Sawyer Drury and Schyer Meinders, both seniors, had ERAs lower than 1.00 (0.50 and 0.97, respectively). A Creighton University recruit, Drury struck out 233 batters in 110 2/3 innings. Meinders had 95 strikeouts in 72 innings.

"There's nothing to complain about there," Juerjens said. "We know we can depend on them."

Also dependable appear to be at least three main cogs of the B-E offense, all juniors.

Kendyl Binder (.413), Brooke Allen (.412) and Layla Hersemann (.397) were the top three B-E

Continued on Page 19

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