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Vol. 14 No. 26

The Weekly Post

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CUSD 322

voters face

tax question

Elmwood schools

seek to double

transportation fund

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Weekly Post

ELMWOOD – Voters in the Elmwood CUSD 322 school district will have at least one decision to make during the Nov. 3 election.

Following a unanimous 4-0 vote Monday night by the Elmwood School Board, voters in the school district will see a binding public question on the ballot this fall. That question is whether or not to double the tax rate for transportation from .2% to .4% – a change that could raise an additional \$254,000 for that specific fund.

Superintendent Joel Schmieg said transportation costs continue to increase while state funding does not and the tax-levy rate is currently capped. That has created a deficit balance in the transportation fund for the past three years that Schmieg said will only get larger if something is not done.

Last month, Schmieg discussed his hopes that Peoria County voters might be asked to increase the County School Facility Occupation Tax from one-half of a percent to 1%. That no longer looks likely after the Peoria School Board voted to delay a decision on the matter.

What is more certain, accord-

Continued on Page 8

GOING NUCLEAR

The Byron Generating Station, owned by Constellation Energy, is pictured in Ogle County. Photo by Andrew Campbell, Capitol News Illinois.

Nuke in Peoria County?

Downstate location one of 9 in Illinois seeking nuclear power

By MAGGIE DOUGHERTY

Capitol News Illinois

CHICAGO – Illinois has opened the door to a new era of nuclear-energy generation, but a question remains: Where would new nuclear-power plants go?

That’s an issue Gov. JB Pritzker directed state agencies to explore this spring, when he signed his first executive order of the year and as the state seeks to stave off projected energy shortfalls that could spur higher energy prices and jeopardize reliability in coming years.

The goal of the order was to bring at least two gigawatts more energy online, enough to power up to 2 million homes or 20 large data centers.

Peoria County is among nine communities that have expressed interest in being sites for new nuclear reactors.

Illinois took its first official step back into nuclear energy when Pritzker signed the Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act this January, lifting a nearly four-decade ban on building new large-scale nuclear power plants.

That moratorium was signed in 1987 by then-Gov. James Thompson as the U.S. looked for solutions to safely store radioactive nuclear waste. The same year, the passage of the federal Nuclear Waste Policy Act had tasked the U.S. Department of Energy with evaluating a potential site to bury all the nation’s nuclear waste deep underground.

Nevada’s Yucca Mountain was designated as the most promising location, but the

Continued on Page 5

Princeville

hatching a

fowl plan

Village developing

ordinance for

backyard chickens

By ANDY LATORA

For The Weekly Post

PRINCEVILLE – To get ahead of House Bill 4764, the Princeville Village Board discussed an ordinance at its July 21 meeting at Village Hall that addressed pending regulatory state legislation.

The ordinance called for Princeville to allow residents to keep chickens on their property. The measure was tabled after a fair amount of discussion.

According to the Illinois General Assembly’s web page (ILGA.gov), HB4764 amends the Garden Act to the Vegetable Garden and Backyard Chicken Protection Act. It provides that “a person shall have the right to keep backyard chickens on the property where the person resides.”

The bill was introduced last February by Rep. Anne Stava-Murray, D-Downers Grove, and currently sits in committee. On ILGA.gov, it’s titled “Regulation-Backyard Chickens.”

The state’s bill says municipalities can establish reasonable

Continued on Page 2

Inside

Brimfield superintendent of schools gets contract extension.

Page 6

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PRINCEVILLE: Set Aten Acres lot price

Continued from Page 1

regulations. In Princeville’s case, the board’s proposed ordinance included guidelines such as no chicken coops or enclosures in front yards, maximum size of a coop or enclosure and distance from property lines.

“I think it really depends on what the state mandates,” Trustee Spencer Wilson said.

But Trustee Steve Potter countered, “I don’t think we can rely on what the state mandates for us.”

Fair point, the board agreed.

Trustee Ron Delbridge said Princeville had previously declined to adopt a similar ordinance for backyard chickens, although he approved of it at that time.

“I mean, Princeville is a farming town. It just makes sense,” Delbridge said.

Whether it’s considered a state mandate or not, Delbridge and his colleagues are being pro-active with determining a set of regulations for Princeville. Wilson suggested the addition of a permitting process for a coop or enclosure.

“The permit should be a yearly thing where we can come and inspect it,” Wilson said.

That led to the idea of a building permit for a chicken coop and a permit for having a coop or enclosure. The board tabled the issue until it could create a more definitive ordinance.

“We know it’s coming and you’re not going to keep chickens in the house,” Delbridge said. “You’re going to keep them somewhere outside.”

The board also tabled a proposed ordinance amending provisions of the village code regulating accumulation and disposal of refuse, open burning and maintenance of exterior premises of property.

In other business, the board approved:

- The property committee’s recommendation to set a sale price of \$25,000 for village-owned Lot 18 in the Aten Acres Subdivision. Delbridge said the committee chose that amount because it was about one-third of the cost of finishing infrastructure (curbs and gutters, water line, etc.).
- A payment of \$467,587.03 to Leander Construction Inc. for the improvement project at the wastewater-treatment plant.
- A service agreement with Paystar for online payments of accounts receivables and utility bills.



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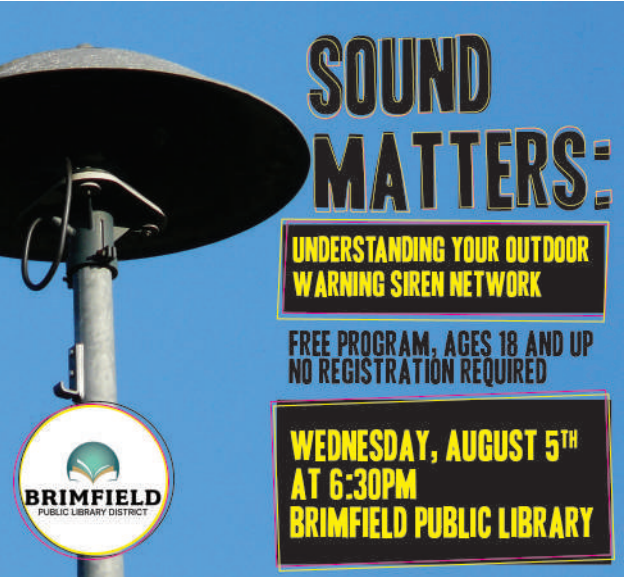
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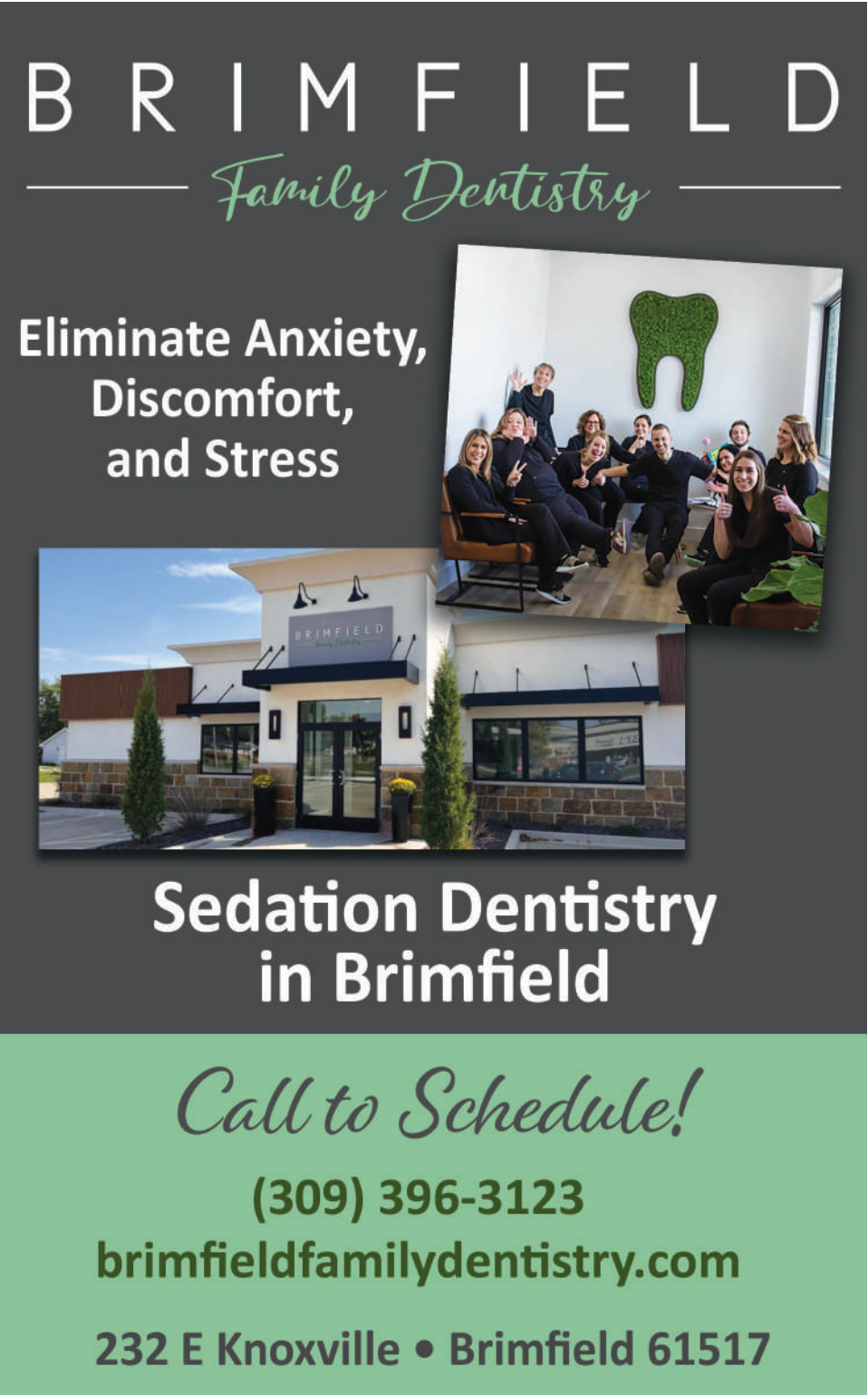
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THE WEEK AHEAD

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• **Frog Fest** – Dahinda United Methodist Church has its annual Frog Fest on Saturday, Aug. 1, from 4-7 p.m. Jumping games with real frogs, live music, fried frog legs and plenty of other food will be available. Bring a lawnchair.

• **Diabetes Cruise In** – The 20th annual Brimfield Super Cruise In for Diabetes will be Saturday, Aug. 1, from 3-8 p.m. downtown and features food and drinks, raffle drawings, a silent and virtual auction, live music, a dunk tank and kids activities in the American Legion.

The Weekly Post Seven-Day Forecast

Thursday

Friday

August

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Sunny

86

67

SE 5 mph

Storms

78

66

SE 6 mph

Sunny

77

64

NNE 10 mph

Partly Sunny

83

64

NNE 11 mph

Sunny

85

64

ENE 7 mph

Partly Sunny

87

67

S 6 mph

Partly Sunny

87

68

NW 6 mph

This Week's Events

• **VBS** – The Baptist Church of Brimfield has Vacation Bible School on Saturday, Aug. 1, from 2-6 p.m. Bible classes, singing, crafts, games, wiener roast and more. Call (309) 678-2208.

• **Band Concert** – The Elmwood Municipal Band will play Sunday, Aug. 2, at 7 p.m. in Central Park.

• **Book Sale** – Friends of the Lillie M. Evans Library have a free-will book sale Aug. 3-29. Puzzles, movies and audio-books also for sale.

• **Outdoor Sirens** – Brimfield Public Library will be the site of a free program on understanding the outdoor warning siren network in our area on Aug. 5 at 6:30 p.m. Ages 18 and up.

• **Garden Club** – Lillie M. Evans Library in Princeville has its monthly garden meeting Aug. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Church has an optional For the School Prayer event Aug. 8 at 9 a.m. in the Elmwood High School parking-lot entrance.

• **Gospel Sing** – The Vigue family will hold a prairie-grass Gospel sing Aug. 9 from 2-4 p.m. at Rosefield Township Hall, 6221 W. Southport Road. Drinks provided. All are welcome.

• **Cruise-In** – The Canton Gear Jammers have a cruise-in at Elmwood's Central Park from 5-7 p.m. on Aug. 12.

• **Old Settlers Days** – Brimfield has its Old Settlers Days on Aug. 13-15 downtown. Carnival rides, food, live music and more. A 5K race/walk, 1-mile walk and kids fun run will be held at 8 a.m. on Aug. 15.

• **Crochet Group** – Morrison & Mary Wiley Library in Elmwood hosts a crochet group every Monday, 10 a.m. to noon. Crafters can bring projects.

• **Food Pantry** – Christ Alive Church in Kickapoo has a food pantry on the third Monday each month, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Publicize Your Event

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

Future Events

• **School Prayer** – Richwoods Christian

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Quotable - "The illegality of cannabis is outrageous, an impediment to full utilization of a drug which helps produce the serenity and insight, sensitivity and fellowship so desperately needed in this increasingly mad and dangerous world."

- Carl Sagan

Illinois Press Association Member

GUEST VOICES

KIRK

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WINE SMITH

Legal cannabis was inevitable, but problematic

There is inherent friction between the prosecutor's office and the police. Locally, I have always believed both parties were trying to accomplish the same goal, but both have divergent aspects of enforcement.

I still do some legal work one day a week in Logan County representing parties, including children, in abuse and neglect cases.

It keeps me busy.

The past several months have produced numerous cases where cannabis is a factor, which brought some memories of when I was the State's Attorney. There was an afternoon when I was talking to the drug task-force people about their efforts regarding drug enforcement. I voiced the opinion that I would prefer less time on marijuana cases and more time on other drug offenses.

The police were not pleased with my suggestion and demanded my rationale. I bluntly stated that marijuana possession would be legal in the next five to 10 years and their efforts would be for naught. To say they disagreed with me would be a gross understatement. They were angry and suggested in rather lucid terms that I was soft on crime. I ended the conversation with the comment that time would be the judge.

Today there is a cannabis farm/factory operating in Lincoln. There are numerous places in Clinton and across Illinois where one can obtain cannabis-related items. There is even a large cannabis dispensary in Collinsville which is almost next door to the Illinois State Police headquarters.

Illinois has decriminalized cannabis possession for individual use. And the vast majority of those cannabis-related convictions are now subject to expungement. The bottom line is that all of the previous money and time spent on cannabis prosecutions was for naught.

The public in Illinois, and many other states, has simply chosen to take cannabis out of the criminal arena. The environment has simply changed.

I personally see a lot of positives in cannabis, or its chemical element THC. There are significant possibilities for eye medications, pain medication and for simply the calming effects THC can have on the body.

Those are all well and good. But there needs to be standardized research into all that. The problem is that research doesn't appear to be happening. What has happened with the research is that the cannabis-sativa plants are now being developed to have much more potent levels of THC. You can get medical-marijuana prescriptions for pain and anxiety. What I don't see is significant medical oversight of those prescriptions.

When Illinois decriminalized marijuana, there was and is a large segment of society that simply chose to self-medicate. Marijuana relieves the pain, or lessens the anxiety, so why not increase the dosage? The pot-heads of my youth are gone.

Today's chronic marijuana users are truly smoking a chimney. Add to this that they are driving and tests to determine their impairment are not readily available. We have a problem that no one wants to address.

Yes, the penalties of yesteryear may have been too harsh compared to those for the harder drugs. But today there seems to be no accountability for excessive use of cannabis.

A breath test is quick and reliable for abuse of alcohol while driving. That convenience is not there for cannabis abuse. THC is a drug and, as with most drugs, it is subject to abuse. The legislature needs to do a much better job of regulating how it is used – or abused.

As it relates to my conversation with the police, I acknowledge that time judged my analysis correct. At the same time, I find no joy in watching many individuals abuse a drug just because it makes them feel good and the state says its legal.

This problem is only going to get worse.

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

Richard KORITZ

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NUCLEAR: Could still be decades away

Continued from Page 1

plan was not well-received by residents of the Silver State, which did not have any commercial nuclear reactors of its own. Fulfilling a campaign promise, then-President Barack Obama cut funding to the project in 2009 and the following year his administration halted its license review, effectively killing the project.

Illinois’ ban on new nuclear plants was meant to last until the federal government implemented a solution for nuclear-waste storage. Spent nuclear fuel is stored primarily onsite at the state’s six power plants in water-filled pools and dry storage casks, an indefinite extension of what was originally supposed to be a short-term solution. Those six plants host 11 reactors that still generate over half of the electricity produced in the state.

But nearly 40 years later and no closer to an answer, lawmakers lifted the ban on new large-scale nuclear plants; the state had previously lifted a moratorium in 2023 on construction of small modular reactors generating less than 300 megawatts, though there are none commercially available in the U.S.

“The executive order was an important acknowledgment that nuclear energy must be part of the Illinois future,” said Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris, who has long been a proponent of lifting the moratorium.

Now, as the state looks to kickstart nuclear development, it’s beginning conversations about where new plants would go.

To that end, Pritzker directed state agencies to begin soliciting interest from communities open to hosting new nuclear facilities, as well as developers who may consider building and operating them.

Ultimately, leaders from nine communities around the state expressed interest in bringing new nuclear reactors to town.

About half of Illinois’ baseload power comes from nuclear generation, and Pritzker said at a quantum technology forum last week that the prevalence of the technology has made finding sites for potential development easier in Illinois.

“We don’t have the problem where people are saying, ‘Well, I don’t know about nuclear ... we don’t want that near where we live,’” he said. “Guess what? We have 11, you know, we have major power plants all across northern Illinois, and people are like, ‘sure you can build another power plant nearby.’”

Of the nine Illinois communities that responded, six are those that already host nuclear: the city of Marseilles and the counties of DeWitt, Grundy, Ogle, Rock Island and Will.

Two more are counties that have lived alongside large-scale power plants of another type: coal. Those are Peoria County, which saw its coal-fired power plant decommissioned in 2022, and Jasper County, which is set to see its coal plant decommissioned next year.

The final response came from the Illinois Nuclear Power Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, which is seeking a microreactor for research and workforce training purposes.

Bringing new nuclear to all nine sites would not be necessary to meet Pritzker’s two-gigawatt goal; that could likely be achieved by building just two new power plants.

Constellation, the operator of all six of Illinois’ existing plants, estimated it could add 500 megawatts, a quarter of the total goal,

to the grid through upgrades on current sites alone.

For Peoria County Administrator Scott Sorrel, it’s especially important for downstate counties to be part of the energy solution.

Most Ameren Illinois customers in central and southern parts of the state rely on the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, or MISO.

Of Illinois’ six nuclear plants and 11 reactors, only Clinton’s single reactor is on the MISO grid.

“MISO has a need for that power just as much as PJM does, and I think it behooves all of Illinois to not just think of the power needs within the PJM-Chicagoland area, but to look at the power needs across the entire state,” Sorrel told Capitol News Illinois.

“All of us have needs to try and have affordable power for the buildings we work in and the homes we live in, and the more generation that can be brought online, whether it be solar, wind, nuclear, the better off we’re going to be.”

DeWitt County’s Clinton plant is often cited as a top candidate for further nuclear development, as the current site is already owned by Constellation.

Constellation has also already obtained an early site permit from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which oversees nuclear plants. The preapproval effectively reserves the land for future nuclear development for the next two decades, with options to renew further, according to DeWitt County’s letter.

But even at a site with all the preapprovals lined up, it will take time to bring new nuclear energy online.

Jennifer Walling, CEO of the Illinois Environmental Council, an environmental advocacy group, estimated it would

take 20 years to see a new large-scale nuclear plant materialize, or 10-15 years for small modular reactors that are still largely in development. And, she said, the cost could be high.

The last nuclear plant built in the U.S. was the Vogtle plant in Waynesboro, Ga., which came online in 2023, seven years later than planned and \$17 billion over budget. Ratepayers were on the hook for over \$7.5 billion of that spending, raising residential energy bills by 10%.

To Walling, new nuclear doesn’t meet the urgency of Illinois’ energy needs, due to the financial and time constraints of building it.

“You’re definitely looking at something that’s going to take a while, and this is a short-term crisis that’s happening,” Walling said. “Any proposal to build new nuclear should really look deeply at how it’s going to affect ratepayers. What is the real cost going to be?”

Meanwhile, environmental and consumer advocates say the opportunities for renewables and battery storage are outpacing what nuclear can offer on costs.

For example, a boom in solar development led Peoria County to approve 37 permits for solar farms from 2017 to 2024, bringing in new taxes to support local school districts. A single wind farm in Henry County brought over 200 jobs and was estimated to contribute over \$25 million in property taxes.

And those projects can be faster to deploy; solar and battery storage projects can be built in 12-18 months, and wind projects about two years, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The delay in getting renewable energy online, however, has largely happened at the grid-operator level.

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Brimfield approves staff hires, inks superintendent extension

By **ANDY LATORA**
For The Weekly Post
BRIMFIELD – The Brimfield-Elmwood softball program was without a varsity head coach since June 24.

The Brimfield School Board approved the hiring of Josh Clarke 28 days later at its July 22 meeting.

Clarke replaces Kurt Juerjens, who retired from the Lady Indians’ dugout after a 29-6 season and back-to-back appearances in a Class 2A supersectional. B-E won six regionals, four sectionals and one supersectional in Juerjens’ 13-year tenure, including a second-place 2A state finish in 2015.

“With back-to-back supersectional appearances over the last two years, the success the program has had is undeniable,” said Clarke, a social-studies teacher at Brimfield who graduated from there in 2001. “Still, like

any coach, my job is to come into this new school year and new softball season reinforcing the expectation that success has to be earned and that nothing will be handed to us.”

Clarke was an assistant varsity coach at Dunlap High School in 2011 before serving as the varsity head coach at Chillicothe IVC from 2013-2015. He recently resigned as a Brimfield assistant girls basketball coach to focus on the softball program and his youngest daughter, a softball and basketball player who will be a freshman at Washington High School next month.

In other personnel moves, the board approved hiring Lindsay Gilles (7th/8th-grade science teacher), Kate Higgs (paraprofessional) and Parker Jackson (boys, girls golf coach) at Brimfield Grade School. It tabled an approval for Trent Trotter as E-sports coach for the high school. The district has to re-post the opening for that position.

“We posted that opening about a year ago but we didn’t have the equipment the program needed at that time,” Superintendent Chad Jones said, noting the job posting would go back up on July 23 and likely be ready for approval at the board’s Aug. 12 meeting.

In one other personnel move, Jones received

unanimous approval to remain superintendent of Brimfield CUSD 309.

“I’m excited for the next five years,” Jones said. “I like what we’re doing here.”

The board also approved a resolution for increasing district participation in the Peoria Rural Enterprise Zone, which is a designated economic development area providing tax incentives like building-material sales-tax exemptions and utility-tax reductions to spur growth in rural parts of the county.

“Within the village of Brimfield, the people who are going to build or have the opportunity to build in the village, either residential or commercial, would get a tax break is basically how it works,” Jones said. “We had to pass the resolution because we are a taxing body.

“It encourages people to build new homes and, obviously, if we can get more new homes in our district we get more families and we get more students. It’s been very successful in Chillicothe.”

The board also approved the district’s risk-management plan, technology plan and a bid for playground mulch from CJL Landscaping of Brimfield for the grade school.

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PUBLIC RECORD

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

Police reports

• **FARMINGTON** – A Farmington man was accused of trafficking cannabis, among other crimes.

Jeremy T. Mentzer, 35, was the subject of a parole-officer compliance check shortly after 7 a.m. July 7 at a residence in the 100 block of W. Pearl St., according to the Farmington Police Department. Mentzer is a registered sex offender.

Mentzer tested positive for THC, methamphetamine and amphetamines. The officers also found a weight scale, a glass pipe with residue, \$736 in cash and five gray bags that contained a total of 2½ pounds of pot. Also found was computer equipment Mentzer had not registered with authorities.

In addition to possession of between 500 and 2,000 grams of cannabis, Mentzer was charged with unlawful possession of more than 500 grams with intent to deliver, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to register as a sex offender. Mentzer was transported to the Fulton County Jail in Lewis town.

• **HANNA CITY** – A vehicle parked at a Hanna City-area address was burglarized, according to authorities.

Peoria County Sheriff’s Office deputies were dispatched at noon June 27 to a residence in the 100 block of S. Isbell St. The report about the incident was heavily redacted, but the vehicle was a 2000 Chevrolet C/K truck.

A Hanna City man was listed as a suspect.

• **BRIMFIELD** – Three men were being sought in connection with an incident in Brimfield that involved theft and aggravated criminal sexual assault.

The incident at an address on Adams Street was reported shortly after 3:15 p.m. June 26, according to a Peoria County Sheriff’s Office report that was redacted almost entirely. The suspects were from Brimfield. The victim was from Peoria.

• **DAHINDA** – An Indiana man was accused of drunken driving following a two-vehicle crash south of Dahinda.

Shortly after 3:30 p.m. June 25, Dallas V. Steele, 46, of Laurel, Ind., was driving an eastbound 2027 Ram 1500 pickup truck on Inter-

state 74 near mile marker 63 when it rear-ended a 2019 Toyota 4Runner sport-utility vehicle, according to a Knox County Sheriff’s office report.

Jessica A. Klein, 30, of Washington was the other driver. She said she saw the pickup truck approaching rapidly in her rear-view mirror. Witnesses said that vehicle was traveling more than 100 mph. The SUV was forced into the median. Witnesses stopped the pickup truck near mile marker 65.

Steele claimed he stopped and exchanged information with Klein, but nobody corroborated that. He was transported to the Knox County Jail in Galesburg and charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, leaving the scene of an accident and two counts of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Klein’s vehicle had one passenger, a 30-year-old woman from Omaha, Neb. All parties declined medical treatment. The pickup truck sustained significant front-end damage and was towed. BYE Ambulance Service and Williamsfield firefighters responded.

• **EDWARDS** – An Edwards-area man was the apparent victim of identity theft.

The victim, who resides in the 9200 block of N. Trigger Rd., received a telephone call about 3:30 p.m. June 25 from someone who claimed to be from a credit bureau, a Peoria County Sheriff’s Office report stated. The suspect was Middle Eastern-accented male who knew the victim’s Social Security number.

Following the phone call, the victim canceled his credit and debit cards.

• **HANNA CITY** – A man selling steaks for an Iowa-based firm was banned from a Hanna City-area residence after an apparent assault there.

The incident happened shortly before 1:30 p.m. June 25 in 4400 block of S. Hanna City-Glasford Rd., according to a redacted Peoria County Sheriff’s Office report. The suspect, a Bloomington man, was driving a 2017 Nissan van for Iowa Steak Co.

A Bloomington woman in the van said they were selling meat bundles. She recognized a vehicle parked on the property and started yelling at one of the residents. One person grabbed another before the Bloomington pair left in the van, which a deputy stopped on Illinois Route

116.

• **TRIVOLI** – A driver for Amazon.com reported no injuries after his delivery vehicle struck a boat trailer parked in the driveway of a Trivoli-area residence.

Brandon M. Thomas of Peoria was behind the wheel of a 2025 Rivian EDV 700 shortly after 4:30 p.m. June 24 in the 6100 block of S. Trivoli Rd. when he tried to drive around the trailer and clipped its hitch, a Peoria County Sheriff’s Office report stated.

The trailer was unoccupied. The report did not state damage to the trailer, nor the delivery truck.

• **OAK RUN** – An Oak Run woman reported no injuries following a single-vehicle accident.

Meghan R. Westergreen, 38, was driving a southbound 2026 Nissan sedan sometime before 11 a.m. June 24 on Knox Highway 12 south of Oak Run when a deer entered the roadway, a Knox County Sheriff’s Office report stated.

Westergreen swerved to avoid the deer, but the vehicle slid on the gravel shoulder, then struck a road sign on the passenger side. The vehicle sustained damage to its hood and passenger-side front quarter-panel and door but was drivable.

• **YATES CITY** – A Farmington woman was accused of shattering a bedroom window at the Yates City residence of her former boyfriend.

Kathryn E. Pope, 41, arrived shortly after 1 a.m. June 24 at the residence in the 500 block of S. Dixon St. and began to bang on the window exterior, according to a Knox County Sheriff’s Office report. The window shattered and Pope left, according to the 42-year-old victim. A witness confirmed that account.

A deputy contacted Pope, who admitted being at the residence and didn’t deny damaging the window. She was cited for criminal damage of property under \$500, received a notice to appear in Knox County Circuit Court in Galesburg and was advised to have no further contact with the victim.

• **GALESBURG** – These were among calls to which the Knox County Sheriff’s Office responded between July 5-11: missing adult, Williamsfield; burglary, Williamsfield; alarm, Yates City; fire, Williamsfield; domestic dispute, Dahinda.

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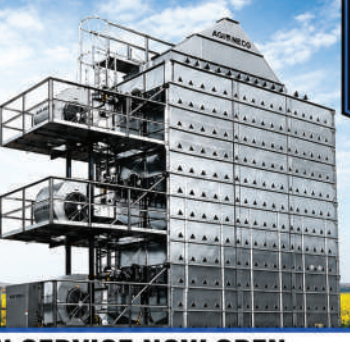
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ELMWOOD: Schmieg gets 3-year extension

Continued from Page 1

ing to Schmieg, is that the transportation deficit is not going away.

His projections show the deficit increasing from \$7,337 in 2023-24 to \$176,170 in 2027-28 without additional funding.

“Last year we made several attempts to keep transportation a positive balance,” he said, noting Elmwood signed a new lease for buses to fix costs for the next five years and cut from four bus routes to three routes in an effort to save money.

Even with that, the school board voted to transfer \$350,000 from the working-cash fund to offset a \$161,888 deficit for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and to get ahead of the expected \$173,828 deficit for FY 2026-27.

Schmieg suggested the district could borrow via working-cash bonds or continue transferring money from other funds to cover the deficit, but said he does not see that as the healthiest long-term approach.

Board members agreed, some more reluctantly than others.

“I don’t like this as a way to get more funds but I understand our options are fairly limited,” Board Member Grant Strom said.

Schmieg said if the increase passes, it can be applied to this fall’s tax levy.

Even if the increase passes, Schmieg said the board could choose to not levy the full amount if Peoria County ups its facility-sales tax at some point.

In other business, the board approved a three-year contract extension for Schmieg through the 2029-30 school year. Starting base salary is \$137,917.

Board President Jessica Reyling said the extension had been talked about at great length in committee meetings. She said the extension, “reflects the Board’s confidence in Mr. Schmieg’s leadership, fiscal stewardship, commitment to student success and dedication to the Elmwood community.”

Along those lines, Reyling noted that Schmieg recently completed certification through Illinois State University as a chief school business official and is working to complete his doctorate.

The Board also approved Schmieg to start work on a tentative budget for 2026-27 and to spend funds until the budget is approved.

In other action, the board approved PRESS policy updates, transportation services for several families within city limits, a memorandum of understanding with the City of Elmwood for a school resource officer and guidance for use of AI.

Regarding personnel, the board approved hiring Traci Whitney as an elementary school aide, Evan Swadinski as a part-time cafeteria aide and Karen Kelley as a substitute cafeteria aide. The board also accepted the resignation of Lynn Foster as an elementary school aide.

Schmieg reported that a recent auction of surplus items produced a total of \$4,672 and that he plans for more auctions in the future when additional surplus items are identified.

Board Member Heather Morey reported a recent meeting of the co-op committee with Brimfield went well. She said the two schools seem to be getting along better since formation of the co-op committee.

Elementary Principal Marcie Brugger told the board there will be 33 students in Elmwood’s incoming kindergarten class.

Junior High-High School Principal Tom Bell and board members discussed the school’s new Meet the Trojans Night scheduled for Aug. 14. All sports teams will be present that evening, as will food trucks.

“It’s going to be one big block party,” Bell said.

The first day of school for students is Aug. 13.

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2026-2027

August 4th- In-person registration for new students or families needing help
@ BHS 10-6pm
(Bright Futures will be there 4-6 pm)

August 11th- Teacher assignments posted in Skyward

August 12th- Back to School Night @ BGS

August 14th- K-12 1st Day of School
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August 20th- Bright Futures 1st Day



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BRIEFS

Kewanee man wins top prize on scratch-off

CHICAGO – Birthday celebrations came a little early for Steve Saigh of Kewanee after he scratched his way to a \$1 million top prize on a \$5 Onyx instant ticket just days before his birthday.

“This win came just in time,” Saigh said. “I’ll tell you what – this is the best birthday gift I’ve ever gotten.”

Saigh purchased the winning ticket at Beck’s North, located at 401 E. 2nd St. in Kewanee. For selling the winning ticket, the retailer will receive a \$10,000 bonus – equal to 1% of the prize amount.

The million-dollar win came weeks after Saigh narrowly missed out on another big prize.

“A few weeks ago, I was debating between two \$5 tickets,” he said. “I picked one that didn’t win, but my co-worker bought one of the other ones and won \$10,000.”

When Saigh returned to the same store recently, he shared the story with one of the workers.

“He asked me, ‘Will this one be the winner?’ I took that as a sign when I bought this \$5 ticket – and that decision made me a millionaire.”

Saigh discovered his life-changing prize during a quiet evening at home.

“I was watching TV and scratching the ticket with one of those vintage

coins,” he said. “I told myself, ‘This will be my lucky token today’ – and it sure was.”

After revealing the winning prize, Saigh downloaded the Illinois Lottery app and scanned the ticket to confirm the \$1 million win.

As for what’s next, Saigh plans to invest in home-improvement projects, including building a new garage. He also plans to buy a car.

“But most importantly,” he said, “I’m looking forward to spending more time in Arizona during the winter. My son lives there, so it’ll be great to visit him more often.”

College honors

• **Jenna Hale** of Hanna City was named to the Ohio University Dean’s list (3.5 gpa or better) for the 2026 spring semester.

• **Rebecca Tarrant** of Williamsfield was named to the Blackburn College Dean’s list (3.6 gpa or better) for the 2026 spring semester.

For the School Prayer set Aug. 8 in Elmwood

ELMWOOD – For several years, Richwoods Christian Church has hosted a For the School Prayer event at schools in the Peoria area.

For the third straight year, local community members will host the event in Elmwood. The event is open to anyone who would like to pray as a community for the school year, teachers, administrators, students and families of the Elmwood district.

If interested, the group will meet at the high school parking-lot entrance on Saturday, Aug. 8 at 9 a.m. Ad-

ditional information can be found at www.richwoods.org/event/for-the-schools-prayer-saturday-2026/.

Knox County offering well-sealing demos

State agencies estimate there are at least 100,000 improperly abandoned water wells in Illinois that could threaten local health and safety.

To promote awareness of ground-water quality and safety, the Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District holds an annual well-sealing demonstration with the county’s health department. Through a state grant, the SWCD provides 75% cost-share, not to exceed \$500 for each dug well (\$850 max for a drilled well).

By following state sealing procedures, a landowner may seal a well him/herself to save on contractor costs. Landowners are encouraged to apply for assistance, even when multiple wells need attention. Applications are accepted year-round and must first be approved at monthly SWCD board meetings.

For questions regarding sealing procedures, contact environmental health at (309) 344-2224. For questions regarding cost-share assistance or to offer your location for a demonstration, contact the Knox County SWCD at (309) 342-5138 Ext. 3.

Et cetera

• **GALESBURG** – The Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District has fall sales for fish, trees and prairie plants. Visit knoxcountyilswcd.wixsite.com for information.



Saigh

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Brinfeld

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OBITUARIES

William M. German

PRINCEVILLE – William Miles “Bill” German, formerly of Princeville, passed away at 10:26 p.m. on Saturday, July 25, 2026. Bill was born Jan. 26, 1930, in Paducah, Ky. He started grade school in Peoria and moved to Princeville in 1940, graduating from Princeville High School. He married Kay I. Murphy, daughter of Hazel and T. E. Murphy, on Jan. 29, 1950, on her parents’ 26th wedding anniversary. Bill and Kay had two daughters, Kathleen Ann (Bill) Messersmith of Princeville and Julie Kay (Greg) Wilson of Chillicothe. Bill has one very close, and loving brother, Charles (Kathy) German of Princeville. Bill had five grandchildren, Chad Messersmith, Andrew (Lesa) Black, Beth (Nathan) Kurtz, Kaelynn Wilson and Rebecca (Anna Nokes) Wilson. He also had eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Bill’s parents, L. E. and Regina German preceded him in death. Bill was an insurance and real estate agent, with Murphy’s Agency, Inc., for 40 years, and as agent/owner until 1995. That agency was primarily a Pekin Insurance Agency, with Mr. T. E. Murphy being a Pekin Insurance Co. director. The agency was the recipient of numerous production and operational awards. Among his many accomplishments, Bill’s enduring legacy will be the profound impact he had on the Princeville State Bank, which he helped lead for nearly 40 years. As a member of the board of directors and later as chairman for the bank, he provided steady leadership, thoughtful guidance and an unwavering commitment to the bank’s mission and the communities it serves. During his years in business and family functions, Bill was a volunteer for the Akron-Princeville Fire Department and was a member of Princeville United Methodist Church for over 75 years. Bill was also a Princeville Civic Association member and enjoyed volunteering at Heritage Days, making sure everyone had tickets for the carnival rides. He was also a member of the Boy Scouts of America and received the Life ranking award. Bill was also a 60-year member of the Princeville Masonic Lodge, Princeville Lions Club, the Peoria Scottish Rite and Shriners and served as an officer of the Heritage Museum and Historical Association in Princeville. He was also a Republican precinct committeeman, a member of the Peoria County Republican Central Committee and for 25 years a member of the Peoria County Zoning Board of Appeals, holding the chairman position for 20 years. Bill led with integrity, humility and genuine care for others. The family of William German wishes to express sincere gratitude to the caregivers (Auri, Chloe, Joanna and Wendy) as well as Traditions Hospice. Bill’s visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, Aug. 3, 2026, at Princeville United Methodist Church. His funeral service will immediately follow the visitation at noon at the church. The Rev. David Pyell will officiate. Burial will be at a later date in Princeville Township Cemetery. Golnick Family Funeral & Cremation Services (formerly Haskell) in Princeville is assisting with arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Princeville United Methodist Church or the Akron-Princeville Fire Department. Condolences may be left for Bill’s family on his tribute wall at www.golnickhaskellfh.com.

Erin M. Maher

BRIMFIELD – Erin M. Maher, 22, of Brimfield, passed away on Friday, July 24, 2026, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria after a quick and unexpected battle with cancer. Erin was born on Jan. 1, 2004, in Peoria, to Sean and Shalaine (Snodgrass) Maher; they survive. Also surviving are her sister, Ashlyn (Austin) Maher of St. Louis; paternal grandparents, John (Kathy) Maher of Brimfield; two aunts, Tracy (Scott) Ruder of St. Jacob and Kerry (Michael) Head of Hanna City; several special cousins; and her cat, Winston. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Philip and Barbara Snodgrass; and one uncle, Philip Snodgrass Jr. Erin graduated from Brimfield High School in 2022 and recently received her bachelor of political science and psychology from the University of Minnesota Morris, spending several semesters on the Dean’s list. She was awarded the Gieske Academic Award for political-science majors. She was a member of SEC and served an internship at the Minnesota State Capital with the DFL caucus in the House of Representatives. Erin loved traveling, especially going out west, visiting Yellowstone National Park and watching the bison. She was a coffee enthusiast and enjoyed making new kinds of drinks and trying different shops. She also loved all genres of music and spending time around the bon-

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

SCOLDSDSCLAPTRAPGLOBE
THROATHABANERAYAHOO
REDONEOVERTHELONGRUN
IREECO
MAMAS
EIS
CRAYOLASCOOTSIT
SALS
TYLERREDHAIRSCROLLS
NEWTSOFTENTHEBLOW
AMPASH
SOFAYELAYNE
TORIESEBB
INXS
WOULDNTHURTAFLYLAVA
ADDEDTOFIRMAECUADOR
RYESFIFTYFIFTYSPLIT
COUPMRI
BASILS
CASTORAAHS
TREBAY
OUTBOARDMOTORURIS
STEALTHADIPOSENUOVA
OEROYSARTICHOKE
DIP
APPPRMAN
ALIENT
RELEASEDONBAIL
LASSIE
INERT
RADIANCE
ERASES
ASSESSTEADIED
DEPART

CryptoQuote

answer

Stop finding all the ways that you can’t do something and find all the ways that you can.
— Issa Rae

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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634189752
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761925483
429318576
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OBITUARIES

fire with friends.

Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 31, 2026, at Golnick Family Funeral & Cremation Services (formerly Haskell) in Princeville. Certified funeral celebrant Veronica Haskell will officiate. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 30, 2026, at the funeral home. Burial will be in Penn Ridge Cemetery in rural Trivoli.

In lieu of flowers, plants and physical gifts, please make memorial contributions to SAMS (Stray Animal Midway Shelter) in Hanna City in Erin’s memory.

Condolences may be left for Erin’s family on her tribute wall at www.golnickhaskellfh.com.

Terry L. Potter

PEORIA – Terry Lee Potter, 70, of Peoria, passed away at 5:20 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at his home. Terry was born on May 14, 1956, to Ralph and Diane (Roseberry) Potter. Terry married Maria (Angeles) Bernstein in 2002.

Surviving are Terry’s wife, Maria, of Peoria; one son, Roger Potter of Monica; one grandchild, Haley Nicole “Flynn Benjamin” Potter; three brothers, Gary (Lori) Potter of



Potter

Chillicothe, Jeff (Brenda) Potter of Princeville and Mike (Beauford) Potter of Alabama; stepmother Linda Potter of Knoxville; step-sister Mary Durham of Knoxville; and many nieces and nephews.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Daniel R. “Danny” Potter; and one brother, Kevin Potter.

Terry was a simple man who found joy in the everyday moments of life, visiting friends daily and caring for valued relationships that he had built over the years. He owned and operated Last Chance Bar and Grill in Peoria, where he became well known in the community and enjoyed being with friends and extended family.

Terry was described by those close to him as having an easy-going nature and appreciating the simple pleasures in life. He touched the lives of many through the quality of his kindness and companionship. He will be missed terribly by those around him.

A celebration of Terry’s life will be held at a later date. Golnick Family Funeral & Cremation Services (formerly Haskell) in Princeville is assisting with arrangements.

Condolences may be left for Terry’s family on his tribute at www.golnickhaskellfh.com.

Carol S. Donton

PEORIA – Carol Suzanne

(Powers) Donton, 88, passed away on July 24, 2026, in Peoria. She was born on July 14, 1938, in St. Louis.

Carol was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Victor J. Donton (1938-2003), whom she missed dearly. She leaves behind her family, Sherry and Patrick Yockey, Julia and Stephen Schneider, Joseph Donton and Brenda Poehls (Matthew Martin); her grandchildren, Daniel, Deborah, Victor, Matthew S., Matthew D., Marcus and Adam; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Carol was a devoted wife and mother. She worked at various businesses over the years, retiring from OSF Saint Francis Hospital, having worked in the accounting department and as a secretary in the office of mission development.

Carol was an active member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Kickapoo.

Services will be held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church on Aug. 1, 2026, with a visitation at 9 a.m., recitation of the rosary at 10 a.m. and funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. Cremation rites will be accorded following services. Carol will be laid to rest in Sacred Heart Cemetery in Florissant, Mo., on Aug. 4, 2026.

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

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AREA CHURCHES

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

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Father Corey Krengiel
Father Deogratias Mpewo
314 W. Clay Brimfield (309) 446-3275
incarnationcatholic.org
Sat. Confession: 4-4:45 pm
Sat. Mass: 5 pm
Sunday Mass: 10:30 am
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

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
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
(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 William Miller
9910 W. Knox St. Edwards

BIBLE TRIVIA
By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Samaria (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. When he had a vision, who said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean"? Adam, Reuben, Samson, Peter
3. From Acts 7, who was the first person martyred for his belief in Jesus Christ? Apollos, John the Baptist, Jehu, Stephen

(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 William Miller
802 W. Main St. Elmwood (309) 742-4921
Sat. Mass: 5:30 pm

4. Besides Jonah, which other prophet ministered in Nineveh? Nathan, Paul, Nahum, Philip
5. From 1 Kings 11, what was the number of wives of King Solomon? 3, 50, 100, 700
6. What is Yiddish for a small package or parcel? Mishna, Pesach, Peckel, Shiva
ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Peter, 3) Stephen, 4) Nahum, 5) 700, 6) Peckel
(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

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
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
Sat. Mass: 4 pm
Sun. Mass: 9 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: 7:30 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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ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on July 13, 2026, a Certificate of Ownership of an Assumed Name Business was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Peoria County, Illinois, stating that RAYE ANN BURDIN of 301 Main Street, Glasford, IL, 61533, intends to conduct and transact business under the name of Raye's Crafts Crochet & Collectibles at 301 Main Street, Glasford, IL 61533.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2026.

Rachael Parker
Peoria County Clerk

Published 7/23, 7/30, 8/6/26

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

Estate of
MARK A. WINEFORDNER, deceased
No. 2026-PR-0000140

Notice is given of the death of MARK A. WINEFORDNER. Letters of Office were issued on July 8, 2026, to JAY D. WINEFORDNER, 328 S. Prospect St., Cambridge, IL 61238, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Peoria County Circuit Clerk, 324 Main St. G22., Peoria, IL 61602, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC
Attorneys for Estate
P.O. Box 205
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 7/16, 7/23, 7/30/26

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Peoria Peoria, ILLINOIS

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Plaintiff
vs.
GEORGE W. MOREFIELD; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant
26 FC 3
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 August 26, 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:
TRACT 1: PART OF LOT 2 IN THE TOWN OF EDWARDS, A SUBDIVISION IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "F" PAGE 5, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1 IN SAID TOWN OF EDWARDS, AND RUNNING THENCE WESTERLY, PARALLEL WITH THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY 609.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH, 14 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT TO BE DESCRIBED; FROM SAID PLACE OF BEGINNING, RUNNING THENCE NORTH, 247 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT 175 FEET SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF A PRIVATE ROADWAY; THENCE WESTERLY, ON A LINE PARALLEL WITH AND 175 FEET SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID PRIVATE ROADWAY, A DISTANCE OF 100 FEET, RUNNING THENCE SOUTH, 247 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT 14 FEET NORTHERLY OF THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, AND RUNNING THENCE SOUTH 70 DEGREES EAST 100 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL THE COAL AND MINERAL RIGHTS UNDERLYING SAID PREMISES; SITUATED IN PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
TRACT 2: PART OF LOT 2 IN THE TOWN OF EDWARDS, A SUBDIVISION IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "F", PAGE 5, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST

CORNER OF LOT 1 IN SAID TOWN OF EDWARDS, THENCE WESTERLY 515 1/2 FEET AND 64 FEET NORTH FROM THE CENTER OF THE MAIN TRACK OF THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD TO AN IRON PIPE AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PROPERTY HEREIN TO BE DESCRIBED; THENCE NORTHERLY, 240 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE; THENCE WESTERLY, 100 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE; THENCE SOUTHERLY, 240 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE; THENCE EASTERLY, 97 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL THE COAL AND MINERAL RIGHTS UNDERLYING SAID PREMISES; SITUATED IN PEORIA COUNTY ILLINOIS.
TRACT 3: PART OF LOT 2 IN THE TOWN OF EDWARDS, A SUBDIVISION IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 19 TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH RANGE 7 EAST AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "F" PAGE 5 MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1 IN SAID TOWN OF EDWARDS; THENCE WESTERLY, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD, A DISTANCE OF 365.5 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL THE COAL AND MINERAL RIGHTS UNDERLYING SAID PREMISES; SITUATED IN PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
P.I.N. 13-19-326-013.
Commonly known as 9929 WEST EDWARDS STREET, EDWARDS, IL 61528.
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.

ORDINANCE No. 26-02

ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY, 2026 AND ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE 2027

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the Brimfield Public Library District, of the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, has prepared or caused to be prepared a tentative form of the Annual Budget and Appropriation for said Public Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 and the same has been conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to final action thereon; and
WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance on July 20, 2026, notice of which was given at least thirty (30) days prior thereto by publishing notice thereof in a newspaper of general circulation in the Brimfield Public Library District; and
WHEREAS, all other legal requirements have been duly complied with by the Board of Trustees of the Brimfield Public Library District;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BRIMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA AND STATE OF ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:
Section 1: That the following sums, or so much thereof as by law may be authorized, be and the same are hereby budgeted, set aside and appropriated for the specified Library Purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and the objects and purposes for which said appropriations are made, and the amounts thereby appropriated are as follows; to-wit:
FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES [75 ILCS 16/35-5]:
1. For salaries \$347,000.00
2. For library materials (books and periodicals) \$62,000.00
3. For utilities \$27,000.00
4. For postage \$750.00
5. For staff and board development \$5,000.00
6. For library supplies \$19,000.00
7. For public relations and publicity \$6,500.00
8. For contractual services \$24,000.00
9. For telephone and telecommunications \$5,500.00
10. For office equipment \$15,000.00
11. For programs \$18,000.00
12. For legal expenses \$6,000.00
13. For building mortgage \$46,100.00
14. For building maintenance costs \$25,000.00
15. For library cleaning \$3,500.00
16. For exterior maint. & landscape care \$15,000.00
17. For miscellaneous expenses \$19,887.00
18. For contingency \$17,000.00
TOTAL \$662,237.00
FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FUND PURPOSES [40 ILCS 5/21-110; 21-110.1]:
1. Social Security & Medicare \$28,000.00
TOTAL \$28,000.00
FOR ILL. MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PURPOSES [40 ILCS 5/7-105; 7-171]:
1. Municipal retirement fund \$31,400.00
TOTAL \$31,400.00
FOR AUDIT PURPOSES [75 ILCS 16/30-45 and 50 ILCS 310/9]:
1. Contractual Services-Audit \$2,000.00

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. 25-378456
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13290819
Published 7/23, 7/30, 8/6/26

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF, VS. JOCELYN FREY; ZACHARY S NEVELLS A/K/A ZACHARY S NEVELLS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
NO. 2026-FC-0000083
919 EAST WILSON AVENUE PEORIA HEIGHTS, IL 61616
JUDGE PRESIDING JUDGE
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU, Zachary S Nevells a/k/a Zachary S Nevells Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
LOT 32 IN HIGHLAND ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, INCLUDING LOT 121 OF HIGHLAND GARDENS, A PART OF LOT 3 AND ALL OF LOT 4 OF A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 27; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 919 East Wilson Avenue Peoria Heights, IL 61616 and which said Mortgage was made

by, Jocelyn Frey and Zachary S Nevells a/k/a Zachary S Nevells Mortgageor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Herget Bank, N.A., a National Association Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois, as Document No. 2011003355; and for other relief.
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before August 24, 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

TOTAL \$2,000.00

FOR LIABILITY, WORKERS' COMP & UNEMPL. INS. [745 ILCS 10/9-107]:
1. Insurance \$8,500.00
2. Risk management and loss control program \$6,000.00
3. Legal fees \$500.00
4. Administration costs (safety) \$300.00
5. Contingency \$ 3,000.00
TOTAL \$18,300.00

FOR THE PURPOSE OF A WORKING CASH FUND [75 ILCS 16/35-35]:
1. For Working Cash Fund \$7,002.00
TOTAL \$7,002.00

FOR SPECIAL RESERVE FUND [75 ILCS 16/40-50]:
1. For special reserve fund projects \$402,000.00
TOTAL \$402,000.00

Section 2: Appropriated for the foregoing expenses from the following estimate of revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the Library District in the fiscal year:
Projected cash on hand July 1, 2026 \$4,408.00
Working Cash Fund \$7,002.00
Special Reserve Fund \$402,000.00
Miscellaneous gifts and donations \$2,000.00
Income of interest \$2,700.00
Special purpose grants – per capita \$6,550.00
Photocopy, cards, fax, and miscellaneous \$4,000.00
Corporate personal property replacement tax \$2,499.00
Tax for General Corporate Library purposes \$640,080.00
Tax for Social Security purposes \$28,000.00

Tax for Ill. Mun. Retirement Fund purposes \$31,400.00
Tax for Audit purposes \$2,000.00
Tax for Liability and Insurance \$18,300.00
Expected cash on hand June 30, 2027 \$0

Section 3: Any unexpended balances in the General Library Fund, and Maintenance Fund appropriations will be deposited into the Special Reserve Fund pursuant to a plan in accordance with Article 40 of Chapter 75, Illinois Compiled Statutes.

Section 4: The Secretary of the Brimfield Public Library District is hereby authorized and directed to have this Ordinance published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within this library district.

Section 5: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Brimfield Public Library District and approved by the President thereof this 20th day of July, 2026.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BRIMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
By: Holly More
Its President

ATTEST: George Stenger
Secretary
Published 7/30/2026

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 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. 26-26812IL-1433555 13290888
Published 7/23, 7/30, 8/6/26

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS. BRENT MODGLIN; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
NO. 2026-FC-0000114
1509 PARK AVENUE PEORIA, IL 61604
JUDGE PRESIDING JUDGE
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU, Brent Modglin Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA, STATE OF ILLINOIS IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LOTS 46 AND 48 IN NORWOOD PARK, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 3 AND PART OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4 IN TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE 4TH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, EXCEPTING, HOWEVER, THAT PART OF SAID PREMISES LOCATED UPON THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 3, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF PEORIA AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 1509 Park Avenue Peoria, IL 61604 and which said Mortgage was made by, Brent Modglin Mortgageor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc. Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Peoria County, Illinois, as Document No. 05-25785; and for other relief. UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before August 31, 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

Continued on Page 13

Annual summer lull slows board business in Peoria County

For The Weekly Post

Everything slows down in summer.

For example, both Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Peoria City/County Health Department cancelled their July meetings. Still, it's best to keep an eye out.

• **Peoria County Board** met July 9 with all members present except Brandy Bryant, Paul Rosenbohm and Phil Salzer.

In regular business, the board approved a zoning request for a new veterinary clinic in Rosefield Township, additions to the Peoria Urban Enterprise Zone in Peoria, Mapleton and unincorporated parts of the county and \$10,000 to N.E. Finch for emergency replacement of a drainage structure on Radnor Road.

Highlights of the unanimously-approved consent agenda include:

- A \$10,000 PCAPS grant to permit fee-waived adoption events in August, September and October.
- A \$5,000 donation to PCAPS for animal care.
- Creation of a special homestead exemption for residential units built by municipalities. Permits a 10-year EAV reduction if the municipality builds and sells the residential units.
- An amendment to the Peoria Rural Enterprise Zone that adds Brimfield.
- A \$105,000 contract with Stark Excavating to repair a structure on Mossville Road.

• **Peoria County Board Of Elections** met July 14 with all members present.

Open houses will be held to encourage new election judges. There are currently under 450 approved. New judges will be approved at the end of September.

Runbeck Election Services has been sending out initial mailings to permanent vote-by-mail citizens since 2020. Approximately 20,000 mailings need to be sent out, which is too many for the election office to handle. Executive Director Jessily Joseph wanted a three-year contract this time to avoid years with

big elections. The contract was approved contingent on edits by the state's attorney's office

The scanner for vote-by-mail ballots must be replaced. New ones are available that are specific to voting needs.

Dates to note: Oct. 19 to Nov. 26 to file for the 2027 elections; and Nov. 2 as the deadline for filing objections to those petitions.

• **Peoria City/County Health Department Board** met June 15 and Public Health Administrator Monica Hendrickson presented an update on the Food Insecurity Framework timeline, aiming to award up to \$100,000 in mini-grants later this summer. These funds will be split between three to five community-based food-access organizations, tentatively starting in October.

Board members approved consent-agenda items and authorized \$6,000 in additional funding for the Sharing Shelf for the rest of 2026.

Board members discussed a planned draw-down of the reserve fund in Fiscal Year 2027. They discussed positive impacts of community-outreach programs for seniors.



PRINCEVILLE CUSD #326

2026 - 2027 REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FEES

K-5 th Grades	\$80.00
6 th -8 th Grades	\$85.00
9 th -12 th Grades	\$90.00
K-12 th Technology Fee	\$100.00
Agenda Fee 4 th & 5 th	\$8.50

Plus additional fees as required

ONLINE REGISTRATION

K-12 online registration will start: June 15th

Registration payments may be made online or mailed to the school.

WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Walk in registration for **NEW FAMILIES** will be held at the schools on: Monday, August 3rd

PreK-5th will be at the Grade School

6th-12th will be at the Jr/Sr High School

4-7pm.

FAMILY ATHLETIC FEES

Athletic passes will be available at registration in the high school office and at home games.

Family pass	\$100.00
Adult pass	\$50.00
Student pass (6 th -12 th)	\$25.00

ACTIVITY FEE POLICY

For students who are members of an athletic or cheerleading squad (Grades 6-12)

\$50.00 PER STUDENT; PER SPORT

Maximum student fee \$150.00 per/yr.

Maximum family fee \$300.00 per/yr.

Students or families who apply and qualify for free lunches are exempt from paying activity fees.

***NO fees are assessed for tryouts.**

Free and Reduced lunch applications, Fee Waiver applications, and Student Insurance forms for those wishing to purchase insurance will be available.

• **Athletes must have a current physical on file BEFORE TRYOUTS or the FIRST PRACTICE • Athletes without a current physical will not be allowed to tryout or practice**

2:15 PM DISMISSAL FOR ALL STUDENTS

AUGUST 12TH - AUGUST 14TH

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Kindergarten - 12th Grade

Wednesday, August 12TH

8:00 AM - 2:15 PM

FIRST DAY OF PRE-SCHOOL

Orientation - Monday, Aug 17TH

First Day - Wednesday, Aug 19TH

K - 5TH GRADE UNPACK YOUR BACKPACK

Monday, August 10TH from 5:30-7pm at Princeville GS

Students should bring their school supplies with them.

6TH - 8TH GRADE LOCKER SETUP NIGHT

Monday, August 3RD from 6-7pm.

JH students set up lockers and locate classes.

6th Grade Student/Parent Orientation - Monday, August 3rd at 7:00 PM in the JH Collaboration Area.

9TH - 12TH GRADE LOCKER SETUP NIGHT

Monday, August 3RD from 5-6pm

HS students set up lockers and locate classes.

PJHS FALL SPORTS TRYOUTS

Softball Tryouts

Tryouts - Monday, July 27 & Tuesday, July 28th from 8:00 am - 10:30 am at the high school softball field. Wear softball attire, bring equipment and bring water.

Baseball Tryouts

Tryouts - Monday, August 3rd from 3-6 pm at the high school baseball field. Wear baseball pants and a hat. Bring baseball equipment and water. Practices will follow the rest of the week.



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Milliesmeadow3@gmail.com

8210 N Dwyer St

Kickapoo, IL

Answers on Page 10

ACROSS

1 Lambastes
7 Poppycock
15 Earth model
20 Larynx locale
21 Tango cousin
22 "Whoopee!"
23 Altered totally
24 For an extended period of time
26 Angry feeling
27 Prefix with chic or tour
29 Pappas' mates
30 Grafton's "— for Evidence"
31 Video game in which players ride in skatepark and splash color around
38 Use a pew
39 "Dino" star Mineo
40 Filmmaker Perry
41 Feature of a carrot-top
43 Views more text, perhaps
46 Salamander
48 Make distress less painful
50 Hype (up)
53 Volcanic stuff
55 Large couch
56 Funnywoman Boosler

DOWN

1 Not lenient
2 Sundae topper
3 Difficult experience
4 Bathroom, in Bristol
5 "Dapper" guy

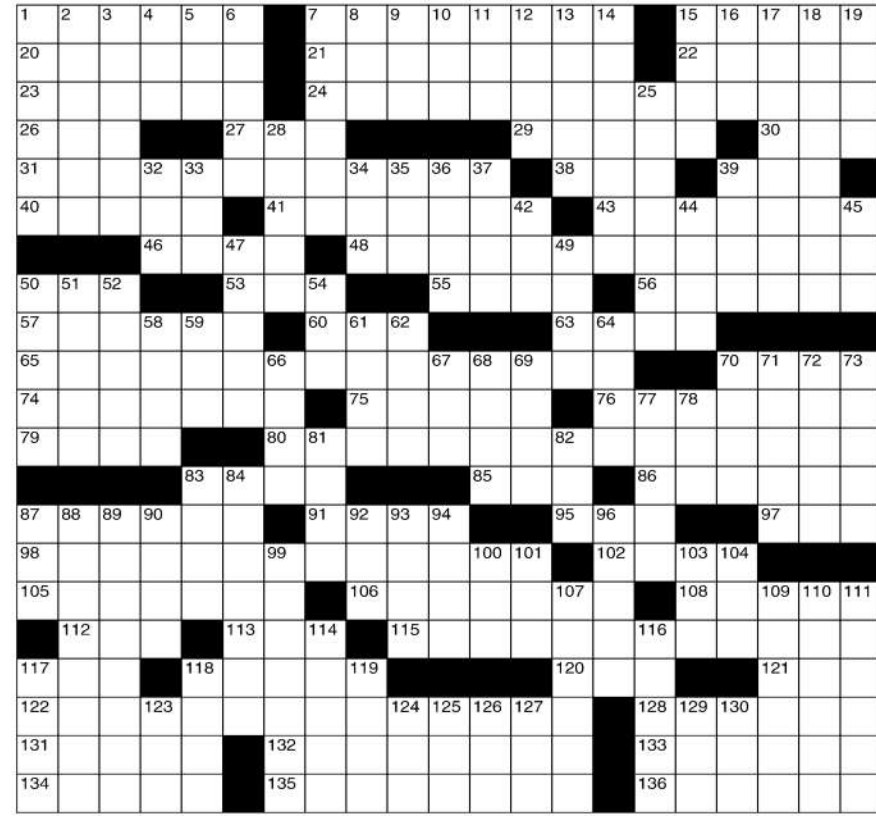
ACROSS

57 Whigs' rivals
60 Wane
63 "Devil Inside" rock band
65 Is completely harmless
70 Volcanic stuff
74 Enlarged
75 On terra —
76 Neighbor of Peru
79 Some dark breads
80 Exactly even division
83 Brilliant feat
85 Med. scan in a large tube
86 Pesto herbs
87 Mythical twin of Pollux
91 They go with oohs
95 Two after uno
97 Cove's cousin
98 Portable boat engine
102 Literary Leon
105 Covert movement
106 Like fatty tissue
108 New, in Italy
112 Atop, to bards
113 Yiddish cries of lament

DOWN

6 Blade metal
7 Make a pick
8 Bathroom, in Bristol
9 "Honest" prez
10 Golfing goal
11 Stuff making a big bang
12 Former NPR talk show host Diane Roush
13 Domains
14 Hand-reading fortuneteller
15 Ob- (delivery docs)
16 Time delay
17 "No kidding?"
18 Broth made by stewing
19 Vast periods
25 Old breakfast cereal brand
28 Things rolling in the aisle
32 Hankering
33 Mine find
34 IRA choices
35 "So that's your game!"
36 Lummoxes
37 Mambo great Puente
39 Japanese noodle
42 Match arbiter
44 Kinfolk: Abbr.
45 Stockholm is its cap.
47 Failed to be
49 Toe feature
50 In battle
51 Given to sulking
52 Puritanical type
54 Sly chuckle
58 Bits of land in la mer
59 Fielder Roush
61 Well-muscled
62 "I say!" sayer
64 Russian "no"
66 Cubes in miso soup
67 Give it a whirl
68 Dual radio designation
69 Decent
70 Indy circuits
71 Off-the-cuff
72 "Ta-da!"
73 Dilettantish
77 Prefix with pet or punk
78 D.C.'s home
81 Apple tablet
82 In shape
83 Trendy
84 Speechifiers
87 Bus. entities
88 Devices reproducing signatures
89 Spires
90 Ski lift type
92 Org. for docs

93 "Today" co-host Kotb
94 Move slightly
96 "The Fisher King" actress Mercedes
99 Rappers and poets, e.g.
100 Make a pick "king"
101 French for "king"
103 Squid's squirt
104 Act
107 Climbed up
109 City in west Texas
110 Having more climbing plants
111 Best-suited
114 Anwar with a Peace Nobel
116 Greased up
117 Opera tune
118 Butter slices
119 Lymph bump
123 Sooner than, in poetry
124 Actress Vardalos
125 Sinful
126 Folk rocker DiFranco
127 Cola cubes
129 Exist
130 Devitalize



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LEGAL ADS - Call (309) 741-9790

Continued from Page 12

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 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. 26-26874IL-1435484
I3291294
Published 7/30, 8/6, 8/13/26

A Big Thank You!

B.Y.E., Dan Bybee, Howie, Mr. Jones and anybody else involved with saving my life from a near-death experience.

Mr. Scott Doobie

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Bill designates July 25 as Emmett Till Day

By Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – July 25 is now officially Emmett Till Day in Illinois.

Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation codifying the designation ahead of what would have been Till’s 85th birthday. It was one of 78 bills the governor signed last week.

Till, a 14-year-old from Chicago, was kidnapped, beaten and brutally lynched by two white men while he was visiting family in Mississippi in 1955. It came after he allegedly whistled at a white female store clerk. The men accused of murdering Till were acquitted by an all-white, all-male jury, though they later confessed to a journalist the details of their crime.

Till’s mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, held a public, open-casket funeral for her son, exposing his severely mutilated body in an event that served as a catalyst for the American Civil Rights Movement.

Pritzker signed the legislation, House Bill 4323, at Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ in Bronzeville, the site of Till’s funeral that was designated a national landmark by President Joe Biden in 2023.

Pritzker also signed Senate Bill 2972, which would require the owners of boats with at least a 50-horsepower engine or are at least 21-feet long to obtain liability insurance. Violations carry a fine of at least \$500 but no more than \$1,000. First-time offenders who obtain the required coverage by their court date will have their punishment reduced to a \$100 fine and court supervision. It takes effect Jan. 1, 2027.

The governor also signed House Bill 4540, which creates a legal pathway for separated couples or roommates to go to court to fight for custody of an animal.

Pages From The Past

Compiled by Andy Latora

Five Years Ago

- Construction on the Brimfield Family Dentistry building, located at 232 E. Knoxville St. in Brimfield, was completed in April and its six rooms are in use for patients needing any basic general dental care as well as IV sedation, dental implants, root canals and wisdom-tooth extractions.
- Three local districts – Farmington, Brimfield and Elmwood – passed plans that make mask wearing optional or that merely “recommend” mask wearing. Williamsfield’s administration plans to require students who are not vaccinated to wear masks, though a final plan has not yet been released.
- The 12U Blue KHawks baseball team won the USSSA AA state championship for travel baseball at the Hitmen Complex in Milan. The KHawks capped a 5-0 showing at the tournament with a 6-3 victory over the Illinois Valley Titans of Ottawa. The team finished the travel season with an overall record of 55-15-4.
- The Princeville Village Board approved the sale of the last four lots in the Aten Acres subdivision on Veterans Drive during its board meeting. “We’re out of lots,” Village President Jeff Troutman said.
- The Williamsfield School Board approved the hire of three employees and heard that back-to-school plans are still being finalized. The bulk of the 49-minute meeting was spent discussing plans for the upcoming school year. “The CDC has said that people should still wear masks indoors if they are not immunized. So we’ll plan to adhere to those guidelines,” Superintendent Tim Farquer said.

10 Years Ago

- The Farmington City Council approved a permit-application form for requests to display banners and flags in the historic district following the adoption of the ordinance that restricts usage.
- Kickapoo St. Mary’s seventh-grader-to-be Aliza Welker posted a first-place finish in the high jump at the USATF Region 7 Junior Olympic Championships in Muncie, Ind. Competing in the 11-12-year old age group, Welker cleared 7 feet, 7.12 inches to win the event. She was also third in the 100 meters in a time of 13.37 and third in the 200 meters (27.9).

35 Years Ago

- Guy Sibley of Princeville, 93, won five gold medals and one silver medal at the Senior Olympics.

55 Years Ago

- Farmington jockey Jim Airola was injured at Aerial Downs in Canton. He was transported to Graham Hospital with back injuries.

65 Years Ago

- Howard Brawner of Farmington fell from a power shovel at the mine near Victoria and was taken to Methodist Hospital in Peoria.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 10

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

UZKW VRMARMJ XEE ZTB

QXFU ZTXZ FKI NXM'Z AK

UKYBZTRMJ XMA VRMA XEE

ZTB QXFU ZTXZ FKI NXM.

— RUUX PXB

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GAMES: What is the goal space in the board game Candy Land?
2. GEOGRAPHY: How many countries and territories border Spain?
3. TELEVISION: What are Captain Picard's two favorite catchphrases in "Star Trek: The Next Generation"?
4. FOOD & DRINK: What is brioche?
5. CHEMISTRY: Which metal has the highest melting point?
6. LITERATURE: Who is credited as the author of "The Odyssey"?
7. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to Acadia National Park?
8. MOVIES: What is the name of Dottie's team in "A League of Their Own"?
9. COMICS: Who is the archenemy of the Fantastic Four?
10. SCIENCE: What is the thickest layer of Earth?

Answers

1. King Kandy's Castle.
2. Five – Portugal, France, Andorra, Morocco and the British territory of Gibraltar.
3. "Make it so" and "Engage."
4. A rich French bread.
5. Tungsten.
6. The poet Homer.
7. Maine.
8. The Rockford Peaches.
9. Doctor Doom.
10. The mantle.

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TOP 10 MOVIES

1. The Odyssey
2. Moana
3. Toy Story 5
4. Minions & Monsters
5. Evil Dead Burn
6. The Invite
7. Young Washington
8. Obsession
9. Supergirl
10. Disclosure Day

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Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

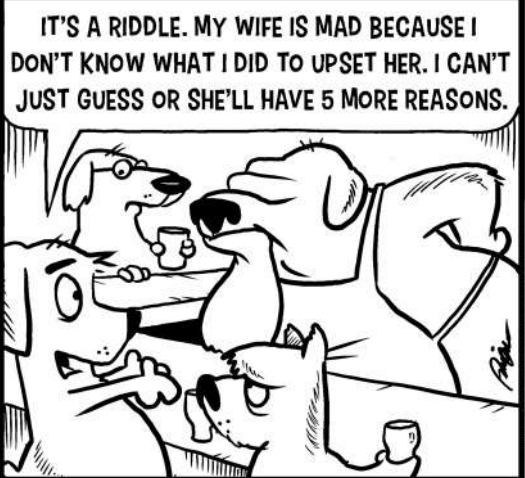
The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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GRIN & BEAR IT

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SOFTBALL: New coach a Brimfield grad

Continued from Page 16
pire for several years after stepping away from coaching high school softball.

So, Clarke brings plenty of diamond experience to B-E's program and a basketball coaching background, as well. He's coached girls basketball in various capacities at IVC, Washington Central Intermediate School and Brimfield High School, where he recently resigned as an assistant coach after three years.

Looking ahead at the softball task at hand, B-E lost three seniors – top pitchers Sawyer Drury and Schyer Meinders along with third baseman Josie Wiewel – from the 2026 Class 2A supersectional

squad.
“I could not be more thrilled with the group of young ladies that will be returning next year,” said Clarke. “Don’t get me wrong, last year’s seniors will be missed as those three are phenomenal softball players, but to return two-thirds of the starting lineup and frankly, some non-starters that would have likely started on many other teams in the area, is a blessing.”

“With almost every inning of last season being pitched by two graduated seniors, the circle will be a focus, but I am optimistic that we will have some good options that can really solidify that position

and put our team in a great spot to succeed.”

A built-in comfort zone could be beneficial to Clarke, too, as he embarks on guiding the successful B-E program.

“I am excited to dive in and get to work,” Clarke said. “As a teacher at Brimfield High School, I have been fortunate to get to know many of the soft-

ball players from Brimfield, but I am equally as excited to get to know the players from Elmwood.

“As a 2001 graduate of Brimfield, I appreciate what the co-op offers to the program as I played baseball with some great players from Elmwood. I want to continue to build on that as I take over the softball program.”

Edward Jones



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REGISTRATION FOR NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS 2026-2027

BEGIN/END DATES: Monday, July 6th 8:00 AM – Friday, July 31st at midnight

Please access your TeacherEase account to complete the registration process. In-person registration will be on Thursday, July 23rd from 10:00am to 2:30pm in the elementary office or 2:30pm to 7:00pm in the high school lower commons. (A separate packet will be sent out by the school nurse the first full week of school for any required forms - medical or otherwise)

IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

Wednesday, August 12th: Backpack Night for PreK-12 6:00-7:30PM

Wednesday, August 12th: 7th Grade Orientation at 6:30PM

Thursday, August 13th: First Day of School - 8:10AM – 2:15PM

PHYSICALS / DENTAL EXAMS / IMMUNIZATIONS

*All student health & immunization records must be on file before the start of school.

Examinations: Students entering Kindergarten, 6th and 9th Grades must have a new physical exam on file in the school office before being allowed to start school. Students entering Kindergarten, 2nd, 6th, and 9th grades are required to have a dental examination. Students enrolling in Kindergarten or upon first entry into an Illinois school beyond Kindergarten (i.e., grades 1-12) are required to have an eye exam. **Please Note:** It is also recommended that children entering Kindergarten or Preschool for the first time be lead tested.

Immunizations: One chickenpox/varicella vaccination is required for Pre-School and proof of having had two chickenpox/varicella vaccinations is required for students entering Kindergarten, 6th and 9th grades or a letter from their physician stating they've had the chicken pox. All students entering 6th grade are required to have proof of completion of the Hepatitis B series shots. All students entering, transferring, or advancing into 6th through 12th grades will be required to show proof of receipt of one dose of DTap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) and proof of receipt of two doses of MMR (measles, mumps, Rubella). All students entering 6th & 7th grades will be required to show proof of one dose of Meningococcal Meningitis vaccine given on or after their 11th birthday. All students entering 12th grade will be required to show proof of two Meningococcal Meningitis vaccines with the second dose being given on or after their 16th birthday. (Only one dose is needed IF the student's first dose was given at age sixteen years or later).

FEES & INFORMATION

Registration: Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2026, in order to enroll and will be screened as part of the registration process. To reserve a screening date for your child, please call 309-742-4261. All Kindergarten and newly enrolled students must bring a certified copy of live birth when registering. All students will need to bring their social security number with them when registering.

Book Rental & Technology Fees:

\$110.00 – K-6

\$125.00 – 7-8

\$150.00 – 9-12

\$25.00 – K-12 (Tech. Ins.)

Additional Fees:

\$150.00 – Driver's Education

\$35.00 – Art Class

\$25.00 – Foods Class

Sports Fees:

HS - \$50/sport (max per athlete \$70)

JH - \$40/sport (max per athlete \$50)

5th/6th grades - \$40/sport (\$120 max sports fee per family)

Lunch Prices:

\$2.85 – K-6

\$3.10 – 7-12

(Free/reduced lunch applications available at registration)

FAMILY ATHLETIC PASS: \$125



Elmwood 2026 Fall Sports

Start Dates

A Junior High Fall Sports Parent/Guardian Meeting will be held on Friday, July 31st at 5:45 pm in the HS Auditorium. Please plan to attend!

*Elmwood Junior High Softball - 1st practice Monday, July 27th; Sweetwater Park; 5:00-7:00 pm.

*Elmwood Junior High Baseball - 1st practice Monday, August 3rd; Sweetwater Park; 3:45-5:45 pm.

*Elmwood Junior High Cross Country - 1st practice Monday, August 3rd; Elmwood JH; 8:00-9:15 am.

*Elmwood Junior High Girls Basketball - 1st practice Monday, September 14th; Elem. Gym; 5:00-7:00 pm

*Elmwood/Brimfield Trojan Football - 1st practice - Wednesday, August 15th; 4:00-7:00 pm. Parent meeting Sunday, August 2nd 7:30pm; EHS Auditorium.

*E/B High School Spirit Squad - 1st practice Monday, August 3rd; HS Commons; 9:00 am - noon.

*E/B High School Boys and Girls Cross Country - 1st practice Monday, August 10th; EHS; 6:30 am. Parent meeting Monday, August 10th at 6:45 pm; Elmwood HS Gym.

*Elmwood High School Volleyball - 1st practice Monday, August 10th; HS Gym; 4:00-7:00 pm. Parent meeting Monday, August 10th at 7:00 pm; Elmwood HS Gym.

*Elmwood Boys/Girls Golf - 1st practice Monday, August 10th; Maple Lane Country Club; 8:00 am. Parent meeting August 10th; 7:00pm; Elmwood HS Commons.

Every Junior High and High School athlete must have an updated physical on file at their school to be able to participate in the first practice.

Athletic Activity Fees

• HS football, cross country, basketball, track, volleyball, baseball, softball, golf, cheerleading, spirit squad, dance: Per sport \$50 ~ Max per individual \$70

• JH basketball, volleyball, cross country, track, baseball and softball, cheerleading: Per sport \$40 ~ Max per individual \$50

• 5th & 6th - grade basketball: Per sport \$40

**The athletic activity fee is a maximum of \$120 per family, whether athletes are in HS, JH, or 5th & 6th grade.

Weekly Post Sports

B-E softball fills dugout vacancy

By ANDY LATORA
For The Weekly Post

BRIMFIELD — Softball is a family affair for Josh Clarke.

Clarke, a former assistant coach at Dunlap High School and head coach at Chillicothe IVC, was approved as varsity head coach of Brimfield-Elmwood’s softball program by the Brimfield School Board at its July 22 meeting.

“I am excited because I really feel like I have a group of young ladies to work with that are not only exceptional athletes and willing to put the work in to be successful, but also a group of young ladies that are just great human beings,” Clarke said.

He inherits a program that won 84% of its games (226-43), six regionals, four sectionals and one supersectional the last 13 years under his predecessor, Kurt Juerjens. The Lady Indians were 29-6 last season and reached the Elite Eight in Class 2A for the second straight year.

Clarke hasn’t been a softball coach at the high school level for a while, but he hasn’t been too far from the dugout.

His oldest daughter, Morgan, just wrapped up her prep career at Washington High School and will play softball at Monmouth College, he said. His youngest daughter, Riley, plays softball and basketball and is entering her freshman year at Washington.

Their increasing involvement in sports



Clarke



Kendyl Binder and her Brimfield-Elmwood softball teammates have a new varsity coach. Josh Clarke was approved as coach at the July 22 Brimfield School Board meeting. Photo by Brimfield/Elmwood Sports Shots.

was the catalyst for Clarke stepping away from the IVC job in 2015 after a three-year stint, he said. For the last decade, he’s coached travel softball teams of both daughters — either as a head coach or assistant —and even some teams they weren’t on, he said.

In addition, his wife, Brittany, is an assistant softball coach at both Washington Central Intermediate School and Washington High School. Clarke said he also served as an IHSA, USSSA and USA um-

Continued on Page 15

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