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There's no day like a snow day
Calvin Marshall, 7, of Chester peeks out from under his hat with a grin about his snowy playtime. The storm that blew in Wednesday and Thursday dumped six to seven inches of snow in some places, along with rounds of ice that caused problematic road conditions throughout the region. In response, schools, businesses and government offices were closed for much of the end of last week. The snow finally began melting away Tuesday, when temperatures rose into the 50s by midday.

Proposed state budget gives a bit of short-term tax relief

By Travis Lott

On February 2, Governor J.B. Pritzker unveiled the final budget proposal of his first term in office, a \$45.4 billion plan that would include new funding for health care and education, while providing about \$1 billion in tax relief aimed at softening the blow of inflation.

The plan is \$1.6 billion smaller than what state officials expect to spend by the end of this fiscal year.

This budget is also balanced, with officials projecting the state to take in about \$45.8 billion in revenue during the year, including \$4 billion in federal funds and nearly \$2 billion in transfers from other funds from sources such as the Illinois Lottery and cannabis sales.

The temporary plan involves tax relief on motor fuel, groceries and property.

While the gas tax relief won't lower prices from the current level, this plan would prevent a rate hike of more than 2 cents per gallon this summer.

When the gas tax was raised in the 2019 Rebuild Illinois plan, a stipulation was added to the bill that the tax would raise in the event of inflation.

The plan also includes a pause on the 1 percent state grocery tax for this year, a taxpayer savings of an estimated \$360 million.

The state will reimburse local governments for revenue that would be lost from this tax relief.

Illinoisans eligible for a 5 percent property tax credit under current law, joint filers earning below \$500,000 and single filers earning

Tax on gasoline would have gone up 2 cents

below \$250,000, would be eligible for another 5 percent, up to \$300.

As an election year in which Pritzker faces a number of challengers from Republicans, he took a markedly more political tone during his budget address, taking stock of his fiscal accomplishments during his time in office.

"After decades of credit downgrades by the end of my second full fiscal year in office, Illinois received two credit upgrades, the first upgrades the state has received in over 20 years," Pritzker said. "The massive bill backlog that contained bills past due for as long as 500 days now contains only unpaid general fund bills averaging 15 days old."

"And that \$3.2 billion structural deficit—well, today I'm pleased to announce Illinois will end this fiscal year with a \$1.7 billion surplus, the first of its kind in more than 25 years."

The budget contains a \$180 million Healthcare Workforce Initiative for hospitals for staff bonuses, continuing education and training and staff reten-

tion and recruitment.

The budget contains increased funding for all levels of education, as well as more dollars toward mental health and disability services and money to train and hire 300 new Illinois state troopers.

As is usually the case, the Republican party was quick to sharply criticize Pritzker's speech and said the items such as tax relief were gimmicks.

"I appreciate that the governor somewhat recognized the need to get our fiscal house in order, as well as the need to provide financial relief to our taxpayers. However, the people of our state need more than his one-year, election gimmick relief proposals," said Senator Terri Bryant of Murphysboro. "They deserve a permanent tax relief plan that helps them keep up with inflation at the grocery store and ballooning property taxes."

"Additionally, while I completely agree that we must provide relief for skyrocketing gas prices, I have concerns about his backdoor attempt to take critical funds away from our motor fuel lockbox and desperately needed construction projects."

"Our caucus' recently announced proposal offers a better solution that not only helps alleviate Illinoisans' burden at the pump by cutting sales tax on gasoline but injects more funding into our lockbox."

Former state senator and 2022 gubernatorial candidate Paul Schimpf also called the governor's tax relief insincere.

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Local school officials react to mask ruling

Fate of state mask mandate rests with appellate court

By Travis Lott

A ruling February 4 by a Sangamon County circuit judge made for a busy weekend for school leaders throughout the state who had to scramble to figure out how Monday's return to school would look.

Late in the day, Judge Raylene Grischow issued a temporary restraining order against mask mandates in the lawsuit filed against some 170 schools in the state of Illinois by attorney Thomas DeVore.

The suit was filed against several schools, Governor J.B. Pritzker, Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike and state school Superintendent Carmen Ayala.

The lawsuit raises the question about the mask mandate and a school's ability to exclude students from in-person learning without a local health department filing an order of quarantine.

In August of 2021, Pritzker ordered a mandate for masking in all Illinois schools in response to the drastic rise in COVID-19 cases and deaths over the summer due to the highly contagious Delta variant.

The lawsuit was filed by DeVore of Greenville, who gained prominence last year when he led lawsuits against Pritzker's executive orders that were aimed at curbing the spread of COVID-19.

The arguments in the court proceedings have boiled down to the process in which school mask mandates, quarantines and other COVID-19 mitigation efforts in schools have been instituted and enforced,

as the governor put these mandates in place via executive order, not through the legislature.

Kelton Davis, Monroe-Randolph county regional superintendent of schools, said the state has enforced certain health-related mandates for years, such as standard vaccines for measles and other diseases.

However, for COVID, the governor issued an emergency declaration in March of 2020 and has reissued it every month since, which his office claims gives him authority to enforce COVID-19 mitigations in public schools.

Davis said the legislature and IDPH could have avoided this current issue and legitimized the masking orders if the legal process had been followed.

"At any time in the last 550 days, the legislature could have addressed this issue. They had ample time," Davis said. "Either it was incompetence or an intent to go around the law."

Davis also said there are differing interpretations of the language in the ruling. While some believe this temporary restraining order means that the mask mandate has been halted in all of Illinois' more than 850 school districts, Davis said that's not necessarily the case.

Davis said that after consulting with school attorneys all weekend, the conclusion was that the ruling specifically affects the children of those districts the plaintiffs listed in the suit.

This is because the court denied the plaintiffs' motion

Continued on Page 5

Oathout is stepping down at health dept.

By Dan Zobel

After nearly three years, since April 2019, Angie Oathout will be stepping down as administrator of the Randolph County Health Department.

Oathout made the announcement during the February 7 county board meeting that March 2 will be her last day.

Commissioner Dave Holder said the Board of Health next meets February 15, and at that time, it will seek an interim administrator and begin the hiring process.

When the new administrator is hired, it will be the fourth person to be in the position since Thomas Smith retired in 2017 after 26 years.

Prior to taking on the health department administrator role, Oathout was the director of quality and risk management at Pinckneyville Community Hospital. She had also worked at Sparta Community Hospital.

Now, she will be joining Southern Illinois Healthcare in Carbondale as practice manager for dermatology aesthetics and medical spa.

"I felt like this was an opportunity that I wouldn't have again," Oathout said.



Angie Oathout

"I think this is the best decision for myself and my family."

"We just want to thank you for all that you have done," said Chairman Marc Kiehna. "You have been a leadership voice, especially throughout the entire COVID situation."

In COVID-19 news, Oathout reported that the county is seeing a steady decrease in cases.

Meanwhile, the health department is trying to get other programs started up again.

"We're just trying to put one foot in front of the other with our other projects," Oathout said. "Maybe

Continued on Page 5

POLICE

All those arrested or ticketed are presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

Two-car wreck on Route 154

A Coulterville woman was ticketed and two people were taken to the hospital February 2 after a snow-related wreck on State Route 154.

According to the Perry County Sheriff's Office, Gabrielle Bartnicki, 23, of Coulterville was traveling behind a vehicle driven by Leigh Canada, 39, of Elkville at 1:42 p.m.

Canada slowed to stop, and Bartnicki's Pontiac Grand Prix skidded in the snow and struck the back end of Canada's Dodge Charger.

Canada sustained

minor injuries and was taken to Pinckneyville Community Hospital for treatment.

One of Canada's passengers, Dwonya Wilmington, 19, of Du Quoin, was also taken to the hospital for evaluation of possible injuries.

A second passenger in Canada's vehicle, a 17-year-old female of Mt. Vernon, was uninjured.

Bartnicki was uninjured. She was ticketed for driving too fast for conditions.

Canada was ticketed for driving without a license.

GOP reintroduces crime reduction package; Pritzker touts safety spending

Rising violent crime has become major election campaign issue

By Grace Kinnicut
Capitol News Illinois

Senate Republicans unveiled an updated package of crime bills this week that they say will help curb violent crime and provide a morale boost to law enforcement.

It's similar to the package the GOP introduced three months ago during the fall veto session to little fanfare from Democratic supermajorities in either chamber of the General Assembly.

"We were here in October to offer reasonable proposals to help reduce crime, but the Democrats who control Springfield have refused to act since then," said Republican Senator Chapin Rose of Mahomet at a news conference Tuesday. "We're here again, demanding the Democrats take action to protect the people of Illinois from the violence on our streets."

The proposal includes a Fund the Police Grant Act that would provide \$125 million per year to local governments that will help with hiring and retaining officers. The money would help with the purchase of equipment and storage for body cameras and other equipment designed to keep officers and communities safe and provide additional training.

Grants would be administered by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

Asked about that provision at a separate news conference Tuesday, Governor J.B. Pritzker said his administration will look at anything that will help address the problem of rising crime, and his budget proposal contains significant investments to address the challenges municipalities are having with crime.

The governor's proposed budget for fiscal 2023 includes \$4.5 million to help fund body cameras for Illinois State Police in accordance with the Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today, or SAFET Act, passed

in January 2021.

The SAFET act overhauls police certification, reforms use-of-force standards, improves police accountability and abolishes cash bail beginning in 2023.

In accordance with the SAFET Act, Pritzker proposed \$3.5 million in additional resources for Training and Standards Board operational costs, which include creating new instruction for officers and developing a public officer misconduct portal.

Another \$10 million would provide grants for body cameras related to the SAFET Act's requirements.

However, the law continues to face strong opposition from Republican lawmakers.

Their package in response to rising crime also proposes mandatory sentences of 10 years to life for violent gun offenders, imposes a 10-year minimum on those who sell or give firearms to convicted felons, and requires defendants who commit aggravated battery against an officer or brings a weapon into a penal institution to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence.

"These measures are necessary to not only give law enforcement the tools that they need, but also to send a clear message—go after our police, and there will be consequences," said Republican Senator Sue Rezin of Morris.

Juveniles who commit gun-related violent crimes or violent carjackings could receive 10 years to life in prison, per the proposal.

Pritzker, in his budget address, drew a stark contrast between his favored policies and those backed by the GOP.

"With the state and the nation experiencing a rise in violent crime, addressing public safety requires major investments, but too often, those elected officials yelling the loudest about public safety concerns are also those voting to defund government budgets," Pritzker said. "Crime is a complex and multi-faceted

problem to tackle, and it's cynical and counterproductive to simply shout 'Lock them up' while providing fewer resources to the people and programs that prevent crime in the first place."

His fiscal 2023 budget includes \$240 million for the Reimagine Public Safety Act, which aims at investing in youth-focused violence prevention resources in the state's most dangerous areas. That includes \$235 million from the federal American Rescue Plan Act for grants and \$5 million in general revenue for staffing and operations.

Pritzker noted that his budget includes an \$18.6 million increase to allow for three classes of Illinois State Police cadets, about 300 officers.

In their news conference, Republican senators said local police need more funding, more recruits and the opportunity to provide more input on what police departments need in order to safely do their jobs.

David Hunt, a retired Piatt County sheriff who joined GOP senators at the news conference, said the reason he decided to retire before the end of his term was because of Democrats pushing police reform without the proper funding, as well as the measure to end cash bail.

Christian County Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp and Illinois Fraternal Order of

Police President Chris Southwood said the reason for an increase in members of law enforcement leaving is due to a lack of support from lawmakers and an increase in violence against the police.

"Our current system under the anything-but-SAFET Act is failing all of us," Southwood said. "Violent crime is surging unchecked in our communities all across the state."

The senate Republicans' package would repeal the end of cash bail, but that provision, among others in the SAFET Act, doesn't take effect until January 2023.

In response to House Republicans introducing legislation repealing the SAFET Act last month, Legislative Black Caucus Chair Sonya Harper, House Chair Kam Buckner and Senate Chair Robert Peters said the SAFET Act will help improve public safety and accused Republicans of using racial scare tactics.

"We're not saying that we have all the answers to stop crime in its entirety," said Republican Senator Minority Leader Dan McConchie of Hawthorn Woods. "But we are saying we have good ideas that are derived from the law enforcement community itself that are saying that this will put us on the path to safer neighborhoods and help us defend our police."

Police blotter

Amanda D. Moss, 46, of Marion was arrested January 31 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office on a Randolph County warrant for petition to increase bail on a possession of meth charge. She was jailed.

Tommy B. Vanover, 43, of Sparta was arrested January 31 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office on a Randolph County warrant for petition to revoke probation. He posted bond and was released.

Roger L. Compton, 26, of Willisville was arrested February 1 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office on a Randolph County warrant for failure to appear in court for unlawful possession of a controlled substance and meth. He was jailed.

Austin M. Ticer, 23, of Murphysboro was arrested February 2 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office for violating an order of protection. He posted bond and was released.

Larry M. White, 36, of Steeleville was arrested February 3 by Sparta police for aggravated battery and resisting a peace officer. He was jailed.

Tyler N. Jones, 29, of Modoc was arrested February 3 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office for criminal damage to property and criminal trespass to land. He was jailed.

Mark A. Lueth, 57, of Sparta was arrested February 4 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office for driving on a revoked license. He was given a notice to appear in court and released.

Starla S. Balsom, 29, of Sparta was arrested February 5 by Chester police for DUI, illegal transportation of an alcoholic beverage, driving an uninsured vehicle and illegal lane usage and on a Jackson County warrant for driving on a suspended or revoked license. She posted bond and was released.

Devonte M. Kennedy, 28, of Coulterville was arrested February 5 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office for domestic battery. He was jailed.

Levi A. Mahan, 25, of Carbondale was ticketed February 1 by Sparta police for driving a vehicle that had suspended registration. He was given a notice to appear in court.

Amanda J. England, 23, of Sparta was arrested February 5 by Sparta police on a Randolph County warrant for failure to appear in court for driving an uninsured vehicle. She posted bond and was released.

Rolando Perez-Perez, 38, of Percy was ticketed February 5 by Sparta police for driving a vehicle that had suspended registration and driving without a valid driver's license. He was given a notice to appear in court.

Jordan M. White, 34, of Percy was arrested February 5 by Willisville police for disobeying a traffic control device, driving on a suspended license and resisting a peace officer. He was jailed.

Christopher R. Narez, 37, of Willisville was arrested February 2 by Willisville police on a Perry County warrant. He was jailed.

Court dispositions

The following cases were terminated in Randolph County circuit court.

Cordero Amos, no address given, aggravated battery, guilty,

three years in prison, mandatory supervised release.

Shannon Mahan of Sparta, possession of meth, withhold judgment, probation, fine.

 SHOWTIMES FEBRUARY 10-13 <small>*Times/Movies Are Subject To Change Without Notice</small>	
** MOVIE HOTLINE 443-1234 ** www.spartashowtime.com	
Marry Me PG-13 Thurs. (5:00) & 7:35 Fri. (4:35) & 7:15 Sat. & Sun. (1:20), (4:15) & 7:15	jackass forever R Thurs. (4:30) & 7:20 Fri. (4:30) & 7:30 Sat. & Sun. (12:45), (3:05), 5:25 & 7:45
 SPIDER-MAN PG-13 No Way Home Thurs. & Fri. (3:55) & 7:05 Sat. & Sun. (12:45), (3:55) & 7:05	SING 2 PG Thurs. & Fri. (4:10) & 6:50 Sat. & Sun. (1:05), (3:45) & 6:50
STARTS THURSDAY, FEB. 17 UNCHARTED (4:15) & 7:00 & DOG (4:40) & 7:05	

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

ON THE CITY OF SPARTA'S POSSIBLE INTENT TO PREPARE A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE TIF 6 REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA

The City of Sparta is considering the possibility of adopting a Tax Increment Financing ("TIF") redevelopment plan (the "Plan") for an area of the City referred to as the TIF 6 Redevelopment Project Area (the "Project Area"). The Project Area comprises the area as delineated on the attached boundary map. This preparation of the Plan and designating the Project Area would be done in accordance with the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act (65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et. seq.) (the "Act"). This notice also includes the following information:

1. A public meeting will be held to review the potential plans for the Project Area, March 1, 2022, at the City Hall Council Chambers City Hall 114 W. Jackson Street Sparta, IL 62286, at 4:00 P.M.
2. The purpose of establishing a TIF redevelopment project area is to promote and protect the health, safety, morals and welfare of the public by removing or alleviating adverse conditions in a targeted area through inducing private and public investment with the ultimate goal of restoring and enhancing the tax base in the area, and other such purposes, pursuant to the Act. This redevelopment plan or redevelopment projects are not anticipated to involve the displacement of residential units located within the Project Area, rather is intended to fortify existing and attract new residential development. Therefore, a housing impact study is not required by the Act.
3. Tax increment financing utilizes the increase in real estate taxes ("tax increment") resulting from the increase in value of properties that are improved or redeveloped within the Project Area to pay for certain redevelopment projects costs as provided for in the Act.
4. The current proposed boundaries are as shown on the attached boundary map.
5. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at the public meeting.
6. The person to contact for additional information about the proposed TIF Plan and Project Area and who should receive all comments and suggestions regarding the development of the area shall be:

COREY RHEINECKER, CITY MANAGER
 CITY OF SPARTA
 114 W. JACKSON STREET
 SPARTA, IL 62286
 TELEPHONE: 618-443-2917 EXT. 131

THE CITY IS INTERESTED IN ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING THIS POTENTIAL TIF PROGRAM.




Exhibit B: Proposed Redevelopment Project Area
 Sparta, IL
 February 2022

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SISAA to host drug abuse discussions

The Southern Illinois Substance Abuse Alliance, a community anti-drug coalition serving Randolph and Washington counties, is hosting events to involve more people in preventing teen drug misuse.

A session about how to prevent drug misuse will be held Tuesday, February 22 in the Red Bud Elementary School cafeteria.

Parents and adults can participate in an In Plain Sight mock teen bedroom at 6 p.m. This is an interactive display to increase awareness of how teens hide drugs.

A discussion about prevention will begin at 6:30.

There will also be a virtual event Thursday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m., when an In Plain Sight resource will be shared. To participate, email Dennis Trask, ComWell youth prevention coordinator, at dtrask@comwell.us or call 618-954-0552.

The meetings follow six focus groups involving 50 adults and teens from around Washington and Randolph counties and recent recognition for SISAA with a blue ribbon award presented by Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America.

SISAA was honored for effective work addressing teen use of alcohol. A parent communications campaign may have contributed to an 8.3 percent decline in 10th-grade use and 16.6 percent in 12th-grade use of alcohol. This data is based on 49 percent of area students participating in surveys.

The coalition is working to increase student participation in the next round of surveys. Ideally, 80 percent of students will take part.

"While we are very pleased with our progress to date, we are a long way from saying we have been successful in reducing teen alcohol use," said Trask. "We also need to update

our efforts addressing teen use of marijuana and tobacco. Vaping is also a serious problem for our teens.

"We need more people to help us clarify the local conditions contributing to drug misuse. With that information, we can identify and make needed changes to our strategies. After that, we need higher rates of student survey participation to reach accurate conclusions."

The coalition has been implementing the Seven Strategies for Community Change. Hundreds of other coalitions in the United States have reduced teen drug misuse using this method.

Coalition efforts to apply the seven strategies include:

1. Providing recovery and prevention information through In Plain Sight mock teen bedroom programs, health fairs, basketball games, community events, newspaper ads and stories, as well as Facebook posts.

The Recovery Committee Better Together (BTRG) updated and distributed a Randolph County resource guide. This work builds on the efforts of the Randolph County Health Department, which created an earlier resource guide.

2. Enhancing skills: prevention lessons for area middle and high school students. SISAA partners with Hoyleton Youth and Family Services in Washington County schools to promote prevention lessons. The coalition provides programs at coalition meetings. SISAA volunteers also attend conferences and webinars to become well informed.

3. Providing support: BTRG develops partnerships resulting in coordinated recovery support services. For example, ComWell created and hired a recovery navigator through Recovery Corps Illinois.

ComWell, Sparta Community Hospital and Washington Coun-

ty hospitals are working to integrate health planning, systems development and increase mental health services.

ComWell and the Sparta school district are working to improve student mental health services, and plans are developing to create a Recovery Café.

SISAA-trained youth leaders at area high schools are encouraging their peers to talk with trusted adults about issues and providing drug-free alternative activities.

4. Enhancing access/reducing barriers: BTRG is working to increase the ease, ability and opportunity to utilize recovery systems and services.

5. Changing consequences (incentives/disincentives): SISAA plans to work with alcohol and tobacco retailers to address a perception that it is easy for teens to get these drugs from stores.

To promote recovery, SISAA supports and promotes drug courts and developing education resources for inmates.

6. Physical design: SISAA is planning to work with community leaders to address the abundance of alcohol signs in our two counties promoting community and church events. Focus group participants have shared concerns that this contributes to high levels of acceptance of teen alcohol use by adults and teens.

7. Modifying and changing policies: Continuing successful public policy efforts promoting opting out of local retail marijuana. Washington and Randolph counties, as well as Evansville, Okawville, Nashville, Red Bud, Sparta and Steeleville, have opted out.

Opting out encourages no-use attitudes among teens.

The coalition is monitoring the possible establishment of an adult use marijuana store in Chester.



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When you sign up for Operation RoundUp, you allow Egyptian Electric Cooperative to "round up" your monthly electric bill and contribute a few extra cents each month to our 501(c)(3) charitable fund that was created to give back to our communities. On average, participating members contribute \$0.50/month and no more than \$11.88 each year.

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From left are coalition consultant Sharon Frederking, Red Bud Police Chief John Brittingham, presenter Michelle Bertinetti, Pastor Mark Nebel of St. John's Lutheran Church and Dennis Trask of ComWell.

RED BUD CITY COUNCIL

Little action taken at meeting

By Travis Lott
There was little action taken at the February 7 meeting of the Red Bud City Council.

Among the items that were on the agenda, a couple were taken off for later action, including the Girl Scouts proclamation to be made next month and the authorization to hire an assistant at city hall, which city administrative assistant Pam Poetker said is not ready for action.

The city agreed on a contract with the Illinois Rural Water Association for associate Frank Dunmire to work remotely as the city's water plant operator in the absence of Rick Timmons, whose resignation was approved

Monday night.

City Superintendent Josh Eckart said the city is legally obligated by the EPA to have a water operator.

The contract states that the city will pay the Rural Water Association \$2,500 per month for its services.

In other news, the council approved an ordinance allowing handicap parking spaces to be designated on the east side of Locust Street immediately south of the intersection with Brand Avenue.

The council also approved a motion to allow city officials to attend the March 12 Chamber of Commerce dinner. The city will pay the \$60 for officials'

tickets, but their spouses must pay their own way.

Abby Carter was given authorization to use Ratz Park on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. from February through May for soccer.

The council also approved: the sale of the city's Ford Crown Victoria on GovDeals.com, to hire summer help, and an expansion of the community garden at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.

Mayor Susan Harbaugh took a moment at the end of the meeting to share her appreciation for the work done by city employees and other individuals to help clear the streets during last week's snowstorm.

21ST ANNUAL FARM MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
-Live & Online Bidding-
SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022 • STARTING AT 10AM

SALE LOCATION: Highway 51 bypass in Perryville, MO. From I-55 at the Perryville exit, go north on highway 51 bypass about 1 1/2 miles to sale site. Or from highway 61, take highway 51 bypass south about 1/2 mile to sale site. Watch for sale markers!

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Commission rate: 10% on the first \$5,000, 3% thereafter.
This includes all advertisement expense.

A \$20 "NO SALE" consignment fee will be charged at the time of consignment. This will then be deducted from the commission if the item sells.

Consignments made by February 20 will be included on the sale bill and printed advertisements. The website will be updated as often as possible.

For more information or to make consignments, Call Rodney Manche at (573) 547-1818 or (573) 513-1212
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Steeleville to get new business

One vacant commercial building in Steeleville's business district will see new life, thanks to action by the town board and its tax increment financing program.

The board approved a TIF redevelopment agreement submitted by Melissa and Corey Bockhorn for the building located at 417 W. Broadway Street.

According to TIF documents, the Bockhorns plan to open a floral and gift shop in this building as Cedar Lane Florist and Gifts.

The agreement calls for the village to use TIF money to reimburse up to \$30,000 worth of interior and exterior renovations that will be made to the building. The money will be paid out in annual installments over the next five years.

Still pending is a TIF redevelopment agreement regarding the former Tim's Place restaurant at 101 E. Main Street.

A resolution of intent was passed by the board in January, and a dumpster has been placed at the site, even though a TIF redevelopment plan has not yet come before the board.

As the County Journal reported last month, that building, now owned by Edgar C. Miller, has stood vacant for well over 10



Melissa and Corey Bockhorn will open a floral and gift shop in this building at 417 W. Broadway in Steeleville.

years.

In other action from Monday night's meeting, Police Chief Jim Zeidler gave the board an update on the police department's squad cars and the possibility of replacing one of them much sooner than expected.

Zeidler said the Springfield Ford dealership that has the state contract for police cars recently took delivery on 50 Ford SUV Police Interceptors.

With that many in stock, Zeidler said the wait time could be reduced to a matter of days instead of possibly more than a year.

The police department has two cars in its fleet, both 2012 Chevrolet Tahoes, that could be sold through an online auction.

The board approved the purchase of a nearly fully equipped 2022 Interceptor from the

Springfield dealer for \$44,900. The departing's two 2012 Tahoes will be put on the online auction.

Zeidler also reported that pickup of recyclables has been temporarily suspended due to COVID at Menard Correctional Center, where the items are taken to be sorted.

There was some discussion about increasing the gaming license fee from \$25 to \$150 a year for each slot machine.

The board agreed to hike the fee to \$150, but since the move requires a change in the ordinance, no final action could be taken.

In other business, the board approved a request from the Steeleville Rotary Club for use of the kitchen in the Senior Center and the village hall parking lot for a pancake

breakfast, which will be held in conjunction with the community-wide yard sale set for May 7.

The appointment of Ethan Feldmann as a fireman was also approved.

Six new Christmas decorations to be placed on utility poles was approved at a cost of approximately \$3,000. They will replace six ornaments that were not displayed last Christmas because they were inoperable.

The police department answered 149 calls in January, 74 of which were in Steeleville, 54 in Percy, four between the two towns and 17 outside its patrol limits.

In January, the fire department responded to nine fire calls and 22 medical calls, of which 13 medical calls were to Percy.

School officials react to mask ruling ... from Page 1

to proceed as a class action suit, meaning that the ruling by a circuit judge in Sangamon County doesn't necessarily apply everywhere, just within the boundaries of that judge's district.

However, a footnote on page 28 of the ruling that puts all of that into question said: Although this court denied Plaintiffs' request for Class Certification in (the lawsuit), this court has declared IDPH's emergency rules void. Any non-named plaintiffs and school districts throughout this state may govern themselves accordingly.

The governor's office immediately stated that it would file an appeal to the ruling, which would send it to the state appellate court.

Whatever the appellate court decides would then apply to the entire state.

The appellate court is expected to issue a ruling by February 17. However, it could come as early as this week.

District and regional superintendents also spent much of the weekend seeking advice from school attorneys as to how to proceed.

Davis said he recommended that schools specifically named in the lawsuit should

make masks optional, while schools not listed as defendants could risk legal liability if mandates were removed, so those districts should wait for a ruling from the appellate court.

The Marissa school district was in the latter category.

Superintendent Jeff Striker issued a statement Sunday detailing the decision, which was made with the recommendation of school attorneys.

Striker said his district initially sought to make masks optional at the beginning of the school year, but the Illinois State Board of Education threatened to strip the district of its recognition.

Initially, Striker said Marissa would stay the course with its mask policy until the appellate court issued a ruling.

However, that decision was changed Tuesday, and students were allowed to remove their masks midday.

Striker said Tuesday afternoon that this action was taken to allow the school board and district staff to determine how an optional mask policy would work.

A statement from Striker said that Marissa does have stu-

dents who are immunocompromised and at risk.

The statement reads: With respect to special circumstances such as this, teachers/staff may ask students to wear masks in such settings. Please encourage your child to be considerate of the health and well-being of others and wear their masks when asked.

The Marissa board of education scheduled a special board meeting for Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in which revisions to the mask policy would be discussed.

The Chester school district was not named in the suit, but Chester Superintendent Brian Pasero announced that while Chester was not planning to make changes to the return to school plan that was approved last fall, which includes mandatory masks, school officials were instructed not to focus on enforcing it.

"Due to the recent ruling, the focus of the district at this time will be learning for students, and we will not enforce mandates that apply to some districts but not to all," Pasero said.

Likewise, in Sparta, Superintendent Gabe Schwemmer said Sparta had no defendants named in the

case, but the schools would pause enforcement of mask mandates and its rules for teachers without vaccinations to be tested weekly.

However, Schwemmer noted in her statement that due to the inability to social distance, this does not apply to buses, as federal regulations still require masks for children riding the bus.

Districts such as Trico and Red Bud, however, will no longer enforce mask mandates, as these districts were specifically named in the lawsuit.

Red Bud, in particular, has long sought a mask-optional policy.

Superintendent Jonathan Tallman said in his statement: As a district, we have never desired to force your child to wear a mask or exclude them from school when they are healthy. It's important to understand that this ruling is being appealed, not by us, but by the State of Illinois, and this decision could be reversed in a day or within two weeks. There could also be a 'stay' of the judge's ruling, which would mean that we would have to again enforce the mandates until the appellate court makes a decision.

Oathout stepping down ... from Page 1

this is the last wave of COVID."

In other news, Patsie Hopkins and Lori Hill with the Liberty Bell of the West of the Daughters of the American Revolution asked the board to allow the chapter to place a plaque on the front of the Randolph County Museum.

This plaque will be to honor and recognize the Revolutionary War patriots.

The plan is for the plaque to read: This

marker commemorates the men and women who achieved American independence. These patriots, believing in the noble cause of liberty, fought valiantly to found a new nation. 1775-1783. "I think putting this on the museum is a wonderful place to put it," Hopkins said.

The marker will also be put on a national map to make it easy to locate.

"This is another thing that can keep everybody apprised that Il-

linois started here," Kiehna said.

The board approved a number of personnel appointments: Casey Parker to the Chester Memorial Hospital Board on a term expiring June 30, 2022; Melanie Johnson, Mike Riebeling and Ronnie White, Utility Coordination Council, expiring January 1, 2023; Riebeling, Randolph County Planning Commission, expiring March 1, 2027; Jo-Ni-

ta Gordon and Daniel Colvis, Randolph County Merit Board, expiring January 15, 2027; and Dave Holder, ICIT Board, expiring February 1, 2023.

The ICIT Board is the insurance trust the county used to be part of, but there are still claims that have to be processed despite the ICIT dissolving six years ago.

"Hopefully, at the end of this term, it will be complete," Holder said.

Proposed state budget offers tax relief ... from Page 1

"With Illinoisans already burdened by the highest effective tax rates in the nation, it is extremely offensive that Governor Pritzker would refer to his tax cut illusion as relief," Schimpf said. "The illusion of this so-called relief becomes even more galling when we consider that at the height of the pan-

dem, when Illinois families were struggling the most, Governor Pritzker attempted to increase the tax burden. But now, as electoral prospects appear less favorable, he presents himself as a tax-cutting leader."

State Representative David Friess of Red Bud also called into question the budget's balance,

saying that the state's better fiscal position is from increased federal funding during the pandemic, not because of the governor's policies.

"What does the governor do with these funds? Does he pay outstanding debts or stabilize the state while needed structural reforms are made? No.

The governor chose to increase spending once again to the tune of \$45 billion," Friess said. "Evidently, he believes he can spend his way out of a financial crisis.

"Remember, these federal funds are temporary, and once they are gone, the same structural problems will remain."

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CHESTER CITY COUNCIL

City no longer involved with progress committee

By Dan Zobel

The Chester city council approved a number of items during its February 7 meeting.

The council was down one alderman. Jake Cowan entered a letter of resignation over the weekend. Cowan was appointed to the council December 6 to fill a vacancy in Ward 4.

In action items, the council decided for the city to discontinue participation with the Randolph County Progress Committee, although it had done so for a long time. The committee requires a quarterly fee based on population from the municipalities that participate.

Chester's next payment would have been for \$2,437, which would equal just under \$10,000 for the year.

Alderman Ray Allison voiced his support for the committee, saying that the council should continue its involvement.

Alderman J.D. Maes, however, had his concerns. He said the committee should submit more details as to how its association benefits Chester.

"For me, there is a lack of transparency, which makes it hard to push forward," Maes said.

Maes made a motion for the city to suspend its funding and participation, which passed by a 5-2 vote, with Allison and Alderman Russ Rader voting no.

There are 67 video gaming machines in Chester.

The council agreed to amend its ordinance on gambling licensing and fees, raising the fee for a business to have a gaming machine from \$25 to \$250 per machine per year. This is in accordance with the state statute similarly raising the maximum fee allowed per machine.

The council approved to purchase a 2008 ATV for \$2,900 for the sewer

department, as well as a 2014 Caterpillar Telehandler for \$62,500 for the street department.

It was noted that the telehandler, also known as a boom lift or forklift, can extend 55 feet into the air and will come in handy for a number of different things.

The council approved to purchase top dressing for \$8,765 for the infield of the ball diamonds at the Cohen Complex.

Park Superintendent Billy Belton explained that this purchase will be covered by school district funds.

Normally the school pays the city \$3,000 per year for the parks. However, the district has not done that the last two years, so it is giving the city \$6,000 now and \$3,000 more in July, when the new budget year begins.

"The fields are now seven years old, and some spots are getting

worn down," Belton said. "It's cheaper to buy the materials and do the work ourselves."

Alderman Robert Platt raised a concern that a lot of money is being spent on those fields.

"Do we need to have that quality of fields?" Platt asked.

"If Chester is known for anything other than Popeye, it's those ball diamonds," said Mayor Tom Page. "I'm proud of them, and people from out of town love them."

Belton added that last summer, there were five big tournaments held on the fields, which brings many people into the city.

In addition to the summer league ball games that are played there, the high school and grade school also utilize the fields.

"This is a good investment," Page said.

The council approved two separate bids in regards to trees at Cole Park.

The first was \$2,500 to Derek's Lawn Service in Chester to remove up to 25 stumps in the park.

The second was \$7,800 to AmArbor Tree Services in Chester to remove several large dead trees in the park that are difficult to get to.

In personnel, the council approved to hire Melanie Seders as a full-time police dispatcher and Ken Hill as a part-time dispatcher.

Allison reported that the city's planning commission has one vacancy and that the Beautification/Tourism Committee has three.

The Tourism Commission is starting up its volunteer program and is seeking volunteers to be tour guides and to work at the Welcome Center, when cruise lines coming down the Mississippi River dock at Chester.

There are 14 cruise lines scheduled to make

that stop, beginning June 11.

The Welcome Center's hours are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Platt questioned whether it should be left open when nobody from the city is present. He said some people take advantage of that situation by using the bathrooms for things that it should not be used for, such as cleaning their entire bodies and shaving.

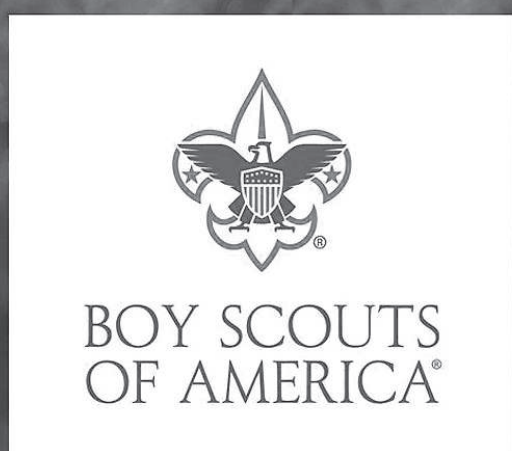
Platt asked if there is a mandate that it has to remain open during certain hours.

"There is no mandate, but because it is a welcome center, we want it to be open as much as possible," Page said.

Page lauded city employees for their work during the recent snowstorm.

"I've received several compliments, bragging about the condition of our streets," Page said.

"I really like the team effort."



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AVA CITY COUNCIL

Donations needed for ice skating

If the city of Ava is going to rent a temporary ice skating rink later this month, more donors will have to step up.

As of Monday night, about \$5,000 in donations had been received, but that is well short of the \$15,900 needed to bring the rink to town.

Last month, the council agreed to pay up to \$16,000 out of the park fund to proceed with hosting the event.

However, the park fund would take a big financial hit, so officials started asking for donations.

Getting the rink to town was an idea put forth by Alderman Dustin Bencoter.

The rink would be in Ava February 17-20. The hope is to set it up in Smysor Park on Main Street and have a Small Business Saturday-type event.

Bencoter spoke

with Trico officials, who said they would be interested in bus-ing students to let them skate. There would be no cost to the students.

This is an activity most kids would otherwise never have the opportunity to do.

The rink would be open in the evenings and on the weekend to the public for a minimal fee. Individuals should call the city hall at 618-426-3641 to reserve a skate time.

Also at its meeting Monday night, the city council set up a procedure to better deal with unkept properties. A committee was formed made up of code enforcement officer Paula Wilson and one alderman from each of the city's three wards.

That committee will meet at 7 p.m. at city hall the Thursday after that week's council meeting to decide

on taking legal action against those who are deemed to be violating city ordinances.

Doris Harrison addressed the council concerning possible drug trafficking, reckless driving and other offenses. She said Ava needs to bring back a police officer.

Officials have looked into paying the Jackson County Sheriff's Office to patrol the town, but it was agreed that is too expensive.

In other action, the purchase of a new computer and combination printer/scanner for the clerk and water collector's office was approved at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.

Jason Thies will set up the machines and get them online for \$300.

The council commended the maintenance workers for the job they did clearing ice and snow from the recent storm.



Bailey visits Red Bud

Republican gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey recently stopped in Red Bud to meet with his supporters. Shown from left are Eli McElroy, Sailor Blair, Gail McElroy, Bailey, Lindsay Blair and Rick Godier. Several candidates are running for the chance to unseat Governor J.B. Pritzker. The Democrat and Republican candidates for Illinois governor will be determined in the June 28 primary election.

COULTERVILLE TOWN BOARD

Water superintendent will retain full-time employee classification

The Coulterville village board did not have a lot of business to discuss during its February 7 meeting.

The board approved that water superintendent Dale Schumer will retain a full-time employee classification as long as he maintains a Class A water plant license.

The motion was approved, even though Trustee Tabitha Knope voted no, and Trustee Kathryn Campbell abstained.

In other action, the board approved to move \$60,000 from the general fund to the general savings fund.

This money was used for operating expenses prior to the village re-

ceiving property tax revenues.

Mayor Steve Marlow and the board expressed their appreciation for the employees who cleared snow during the recent snowfall. Both snowplows worked overtime to keep the streets plowed and intersections cleared.

Blood drive at Red Bud SWIC campus

The Red Bud SWIC campus will host an American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, February 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

All types of blood are needed, but especially O positive.

As a thank you from the Red Cross and

Amazon, during the month of February, donors will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card via email. To register, visit rcblood.org/together.

Individuals are encouraged to call and make an appointment, but walk-ins

are welcome and will be accommodated as quickly as possible.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 866-942-7942, extension 5561.

Perry County Housing Authority

is now taking bids from mowing companies for properties located throughout Perry County. There are minimum insurance requirements.

All bids must be submitted to Perry County Housing Office located at 120 South Walnut Street, Du Quoin, IL before 10 a.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022.

For more information contact the office at 618-542-5409.

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- 2) Bus #8: 1997 Ford B800 5.9 Cummins | 1xx,xxx miles; Runs
- 3) Bus #9: 1998 International T444 IC | 2xx,xxx miles; Runs
- 4) Bus #11: 2000 Chevy 6.5L diesel | 15x,xxx miles; Runs
- 5) Bus #12: 2003 Freightliner 3126 Cat | 1xx,xxx miles; Runs
- 6) Bus #13: 2004 Freightliner C7 Cat | 2xx,xxx miles; tow away
- 7) 2006 F-Star Mini-van Totaled; needs to be towed
- 8) Early 2000 Generac - 3 phase back-up generator, engine runs; generator struck by lightning
- 9) 1960s or 1970s 3 phase back-up generator, 21K generator with straight 6 cyl. engine (Unknown if it works; approx. 4,000lbs.)
- 10) Late 1990s Bolens 2102 utility tractor, 2wd, manual trans., manual steering, no secondary hydraulics. (Runs but needs work)
- 11) 1998 Toro Groundsmaster 223D mower, mower still runs but mower deck does not

Minimum bid amounts have been established. The Board of Education reserves the right to approve any/all bids. Sealed bids will be opened on Monday, February 28th. All winners must remove equipment from District #40 property prior to attempting any work on purchased equipment.

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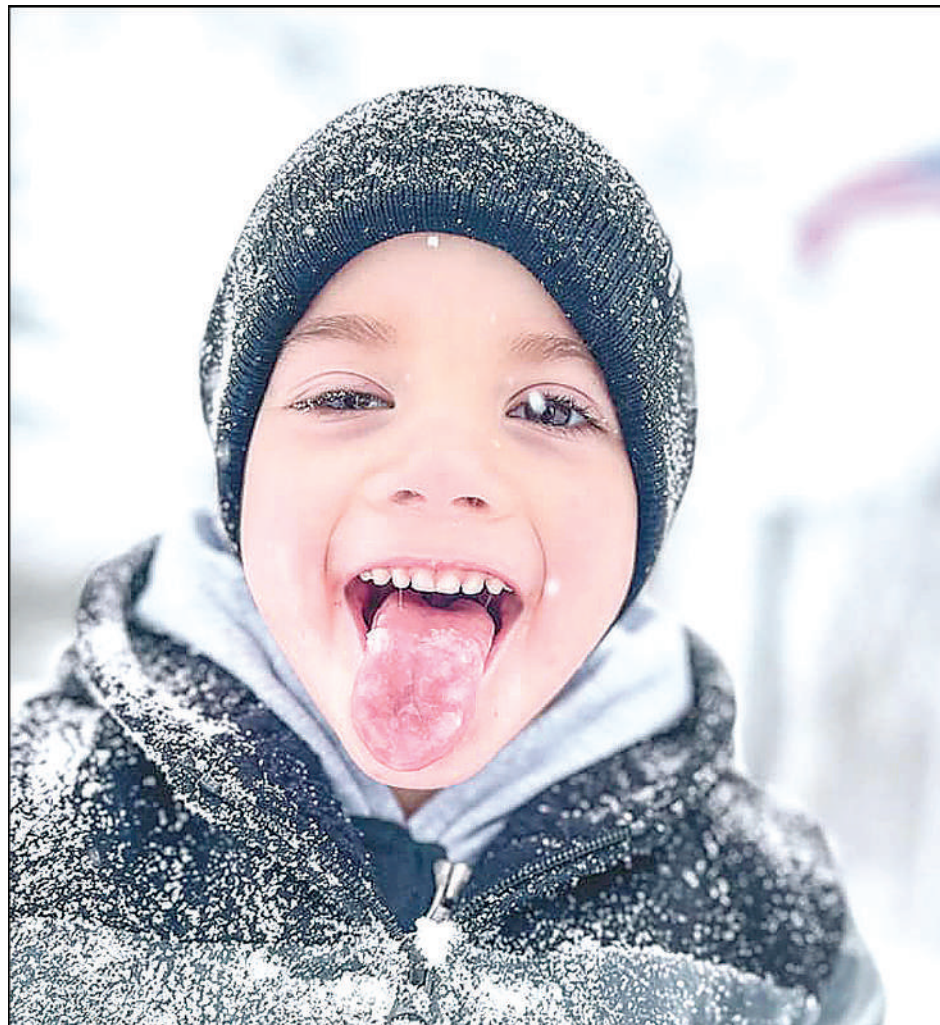
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Lyric Barringer, 5, of Belleville was visiting Rockwood and playing in the snow, when he was photographed catching these snowflakes on his tongue.



Rylan Jokerst, 11, of Percy goes to town on his chilly snack.



Emma Rose Raney, 5, of Pinckneyville made a lovely snow angel.

Town Hall Meeting: Drug Misuse

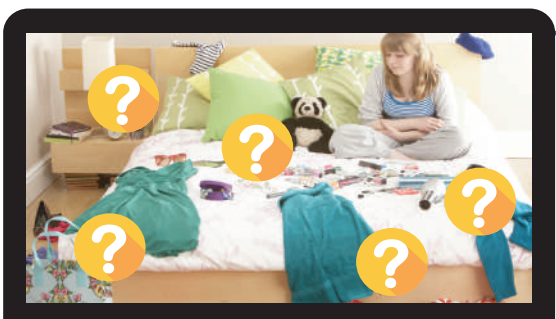
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Dynegy could be on the hook for overcharging its customers

Attorney General Kwame Raoul filed a motion February 4 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, asking that Dynegy, the company that formerly owned the Baldwin power plant, be ordered to refund more than \$428 million to central and southern Illinois energy customers who were overcharged after the company allegedly manipulated the Midcontinent Independent System Operator auction rules in 2015.

"Dynegy manipulated the market and took advantage of rules that have already been deemed unjust and unreasonable in order to overcharge electric customers," Raoul said. "Illinois customers have waited far too long for the refunds they deserve. I urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to do what should have been done years ago, and order Dynegy to issue consumers their long-overdue refunds."

Electric capacity prices are paid by each residential, commercial and industrial customer as part of their electric bill. These prices are set through an auction in which companies that generate electricity submit bids.

For central and southern Illinois customers of Ameren Illinois, the auction is run by MISO. The flawed auction in April 2015 caused Ameren customers to pay an annual increase of \$131. This unnecessary increase was close to 900 percent over the previous year's auction.

The following month, the attorney general's office filed a complaint asking the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to set a just and reasonable rate, impose civil penalties, fix the auction rules, and create new rules for future auctions.

The commission issued a decision in December of 2015, agreeing that the rules governing the auction were unjust and ordered that they be changed.

Dynegy was acquired by Vistra in April 2018.



Republican candidates

The Randolph County Republicans held an open house and petition drive to give the public an opportunity to meet the party's candidates for the March election. Above from left are candidates Terri Bryant for state senator; David Friess, state representative; Chris Koester, county assessor, and Jarrod Peters, sheriff. At right, the candidates visit with members of the public.



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SPORTS

By: Dan Zobel

PREP GIRLS BOWLING CARTERVILLE REGIONAL

Pair of Steeleville bowlers make program history

Anderson, Middendorf advance to sectionals

By Dan Zobel
For the first time in the history of the young program, the Steeleville High School girls bowling team has advanced individuals to sectionals.
Senior Paige Anderson and freshman Isabella Middendorf qualified for the Lady Warriors February 5 at the Carterville Regional at SI Bowl.
"With the program being around for six years, finally having a full girls team this season and having that competitiveness to make it, it feels pretty good," said Steeleville coach Aaron Middendorf. "We're hoping the younger kids moving up will see this and will want to join and keep going to hopefully be successful in years to come."
Anderson and Middendorf will next com-

pete Saturday, February 12 in the Mt. Vernon Sectional at Nu Bowl Lanes.
"I just told both of them that I want them to go out and have fun," Middendorf said. "We want Paige to end on a high note, and we want Bella to get her experience and build off that for the next few years."
The top four teams at regionals, plus the next 10 individuals not on those teams, earned a spot at sectionals.
Anderson tied for sixth overall with a six-game series of 1,104. The individual regional champion was Madi Hawk, who finished at 1,192, one pin ahead of second-place finisher Abbie Graham of Harrisburg.
Middendorf bowled a series of 1,020 to claim the final individual qualifying spot. She was 23rd overall.

"(Paige and Isabella) kind of feed off of each other," Middendorf said. "I thought all along that those two would have a shot to advance. Paige has the experience of bowling for four years, and she has improved every year."
"With Bella, we just wanted her to learn and get some experience. Advancing as a freshman was just a bonus."
Anderson put forth consistent scores throughout the day. Her high game was 194 with her low at 172. She finished strong the last four games at 191, 189, 194 and 184.
"(Paige) bowled phenomenal," Middendorf said. "She was hitting her spots perfectly and throwing her ball well. If she threw a bad shot, she just kind of moved on from it."

Middendorf had a high game of 202, coming in her fourth game. She actually finished her day with three of her top four scores, bowling a 202, 171 and 178 to close out her effort.
Going into her sixth game, Middendorf held a 10-pin lead on the next closest bowler on the qualifying list.
"We were keeping an eye on things all day," Middendorf said. "(Isabella) was never higher than seventh but never lower than 10th."
Steeleville was 11th with a score of 4,063.
Steeleville's other bowlers were Kelsey Bell (792), Piper Stoffel (614) and Alexandra Loucks (533).
"As a whole, we've had a good season," Middendorf said. "Paige and Alexandra bowled all four years for us. Kelsey joined this year as a senior, learned a



Paige Anderson and Isabella Middendorf

lot and did well. Then we had Bella and Piper as freshmen. Piper learned a lot." Anna-Jonesboro was the team champion with a score of 5,343. Other sectional qualifying teams were Salem 5,186, Herrin 5,165
Continued on Page 14

PREP WRESTLING REGIONALS



Eli Rees of Trico prepares to lock horns with Cody Martin of Sparta at the Carlyle Regional. Rees defeated Martin by an 8-3 decision in the 152-pound weight class. Photo by Weekly Press

Area wrestlers move to sectionals

Sparta, Red Bud, P'ville athletes advance

High school wrestlers from Sparta, Red Bud, Pinckneyville and Trico competed February 5 at the Class 1A Carlyle Regional.
At the end of the day, Sparta advanced four individuals to the February 12 Vandalia Sectional, while Red and Pinckneyville each had

two qualify.
"Overall, I'm pretty happy with the way we performed," said Sparta coach Conner McCall. "We definitely outperformed in a couple of weight classes and, in my opinion, we underperformed in a couple of others. We had some kids win

some big matches, and one or two lose some they should have won. That's the way wrestling is."
Sparta's qualifiers were seniors Eli Coop (285 pounds), Cody Dickerson (195) and Wyatt Evans (145) and freshman Zayden Leuth (120).

For Red Bud, the Musketeers will bring senior Hunter Johnson (160) and sophomore Ty Carter (182) to the sectional.
"The goal this year was to get as many hard matches as we could to get ready for regionals,"

Continued on Page 14

IHSA BOARD MEETING

Football postseason seeding altered

Each class to be seeded 1-32

By Dan Zobel
The Illinois High School Association Board of Directors met February 7 to discuss a number of things, including how it will handle face mask mandates during the winter sports postseason.
The board discussed the Temporary Restraining Order issued February 4 by the 7th Judicial Circuit Court. The board talked about its applicability for IHSA state series events as it relates to COVID-19 mitigations and face masks, and it is consulting its legal counsel while monitoring the appeal proceeding on the initial ruling.
The IHSA plans to communicate as soon as it can how state series events should be handled relative to this ruling. Regular season contest mitigations will continue to be determined by the

host school.
As far as other news from the meeting, the board approved to seed the football playoffs in each class from 1-32, rather than two regions of 1-16. This change is for Class 1A through 6A, as 7A and 8A already follow that design.
Chester coach Billy Belton and Red Bud coach Dave Lucht said travel time could potentially be an issue with this but otherwise can see why the change was made.
"It will be interesting," Belton said. "You will definitely play some different teams now, but I think travel could be a little more. We will see how it goes for a couple of years. The IHSA has been pretty good about switching things up if

it needs to."
The Yellow Jackets have made the postseason all four years that the playoffs have been a possibility with Belton as coach, while the Musketeers have advanced to the postseason in three of the last five seasons under Lucht.
Lucht noted that he understands the decision because there are times when a state championship is more or less decided as early as the second round of the playoffs.
"On our end of things, however, I don't like it," Lucht said. "I'd much rather have regions. If you get in as the No. 32 team, you could be traveling three hours to play the No. 1 team for a game that might not be at all competitive."

"I don't know if that's worth just being able to put on a banner that you made the playoffs that year."
Eight-man football in Illinois continues to grow.
The IHSA Football Advisory Committee recommended that the IHSA begin an 8-man football playoff and state championship in 2023.
The board is generally supportive of that idea, but did not officially act on it.
Instead, the board requested more details from the advisory committee and IHSA staff, including playoff qualifier numbers, a playoff schedule, number of classes and school enrollment limitations for participating in 8-man games.

Continued on Page 14

PREP GIRLS HOOPS REGIONALS

Matchups set for the playoffs

The Illinois High School Association has released its regional postseason contests for girls basketball.
Regional tournaments will begin Saturday, February 12 with the quarterfinal round. In this round, the better seeded team will host the game.
Following the quarterfinals, the regional tournament games will be held at the regional host gymnasium.
In Class 1A, Marissa-Coulterville earned a favorable seed and a bye to the semifinals in the Gibault Regional.
The two quarterfinal matchups in that regional are Trico hosting Valmeyer and Steeleville traveling to Gibault.
In Class 2A, there were not many top seeds to go around to area teams.
In the Freeburg Regional, the quarterfinals will feature Chester at Belleville Althoff and Red Bud at Columbia.
In the Breese Central Regional, Pinckneyville will host Sparta in the quarterfinals. The winner of that game will play Nashville in the semifinals.
As for the Anna-Jonesboro Regional, Du Quoin came away with a solid seed that netted it a bye to the semifinals. Du Quoin will play the winner of the Murphysboro against Massac County in the quarterfinal game.
Subsectional seeds are listed in parentheses.

- CLASS 1A SESSER-VALIER SECTIONAL**
February 22
Semifinals
Game 1 at 6:00 - Winner Goreville Regional vs. Winner Gibault Regional
Game 2 at 7:30 - Winner Christopher Regional vs. Winner Gallatin County Regional
February 24
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2
- Gibault Regional**
February 12
Game 1 at 2:00 - Valmeyer (9) at Trico (8)
Game 2 at TBA - Steeleville (12) at Gibault (6)
February 15
Game 3 at 6:00 - Woodlawn (2) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Marissa-Coulterville (3) vs. Winner Game 2
February 18
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4
- Christopher Regional**
February 12
Game 1 at TBA - Bridgeport Red Hill (10) at Edwards County (7)
Game 2 at TBA - Sesser-Valier (13) at New Athens (4)
Game 3 at 6:00 - Wayne City (11) at Bluford Webber (5)
February 14
Game 4 at 6:00 - Christopher (1) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 5 at 7:30 - Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3
February 17
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5
- Goreville Regional**
February 12
Game 1 at TBA - Cobden (11) at Cairo (9)
Game 2 at TBA - Egyptian (12) at Galatia (5)
February 14
Game 3 at 6:00 - Goreville (1) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Pope County (4) vs. Winner Game 2
February 18
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4
- Gallatin County Regional**
February 12
Game 1 at TBA - Hardin County (8) at Galatia (7)
Game 2 at 1:00 - Joppa-Maple Grove (10) at Elverado (6)
February 14
Game 3 at 6:00 - Mounds Meridian (2) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Gallatin County (3) vs. Winner Game 2
February 17
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4
- CLASS 2A NASHVILLE SECTIONAL**
February 22
Semifinals
Game 1 at 6:00 - Winner Anna-Jonesboro Regional vs. Winner Breese Central Regional
Game 2 at 7:30 - Winner Freeburg Regional vs. Winner Benton Regional
February 24
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP



Chloe Wild of Red Bud looks to make a pass as she is surrounded February 7 by New Athens defenders Emma Hager (11), Peyton Houser (10) and Ainslee Sullivan (40).

Chester tops Trico; Pinckneyville rallies for victory over Carlyle

FEBRUARY 8
Valmeyer 44
Steeleville 43

Valmeyer 09 12 11 12 - 44
 Steeleville 14 08 14 07 - 43
Brooke Miller scored 23 points for Valmeyer to lead all scorers, and the Lady Pirates rallied in the fourth quarter to push past Steeleville.

The Lady Warriors were paced by a 13-point performance from Ashlyn Roberts.

Valmeyer: Nicole Engelman 0 0-0 0, Kylie Eschmann 2 2-2 6, Ariana Gibbs 4 1-2 9, Brooke Miller 9 4-6 23, Kiersten Miller 1 3-6 5, Payton Similey 0 1-2 1, Lillian Turner 0 0-0 0. Totals: 16 11-18 44.

Steeleville: Daisy Czypala 1 1-3 3, Ashlyn Roberts 6 1-2 13, Emma Mulholland 4 0-0 8, Mia Masterson 4 2-2 12, Lauren Wedemeyer 1 0-0 3, Hannah Middendorf 1 2-2 4, Gabi Hood 0 0-0 0, Avery Roberts 0 0-0 0. Totals: 17 6-9 43.

3-pointers: Valmeyer 1 (Brooke Miller), Steeleville 3 (Masterson 2, Wedemeyer).

Fouls: Valmeyer 13, Steeleville 15. Fouled out: None.

FEBRUARY 7
Chester 38
Trico 28

Chester 10 11 08 09 - 38
 Trico 07 05 11 05 - 28

Alyssa Seymour continued her monster season for Chester, compiling 25 points and 19 rebounds, and the Lady Yellow Jackets held off Trico in nonconference affair.

Taylor Cottom paced Trico with 12 points.

Chester: Alyssa Seymour 10 5-13 25, Camrynn Howie 2 0-1 5, Kailyn Absher 1 0-0 2, Riley Conley 1 0-1 3, Jazzi Meredith 1 1-1 3, Emma Disky 0 0-0 0. Totals: 15 6-16 38.

Trico: Haley Kranawetter 1 2-5 5, Taylor Cottom 6 0-3 12, Mia Jimenez 1 0-2 2, Alyssa Bastien 1 1-1 3, Autumn Kennedy 2 0-0 4, Ryleigh Richelman 0 0-0 0, Haley McDonald 0 0-0 0, Katelyn Allen 0 0-0 0, Alexis Stroub 1 0-0 2. Totals: 12 3-11 28.

3-pointers: Chester 2 (Howie, Conley), Trico 1 (Kranawetter).

Fouls: Chester 13, Trico 14. Fouled out: None.

Pinckneyville 44
Carlyle 41

Pinckneyville 11 06 14 13 - 44
 Carlyle 10 11 16 04 - 41

Lily Tanner led all

scorers with 20 points, and Pinckneyville closed the game out on an 18-4 run to claim a come-from-behind win on the road over Carlyle.

Pinckneyville: Moe Morgenthaler 4 2-6 13, Olivia Wiggers 1 0-0 3, Emily Baggett 1 2-2 4, Lily Tanner 6 8-9 20, Rileigh Harris 1 0-0 2, Shea Pyatt 1 0-0 2. Totals: 14 12-17 44.

Carlyle: Raelyn Harris 2 2-2 7, Sophia Hoffman 7 0-0 16, Emma Meyer 2 3-8 7, KJ Meyer 0 5-8 5, Lera Schmeink 2 1-2 6. Totals: 13 11-20 41.

3-pointers: Pinckneyville 4 (Morgenthaler 3, Wiggers), Carlyle 4 (Hoffman 2, Harris, Schmeink).

Nashville 43
Du Quoin 36

Du Quoin 08 09 03 16 - 36
 Nashville 10 08 11 14 - 43

Alyssa Cole dominated with 24 points for Nashville, including hitting six free throws in the fourth quarter, and the Hornets utilized a strong third quarter to clip Du Quoin in a conference showdown.

Du Quoin: Abbi Mocabay 2 0-0 6, Lauren Heape 0 0-0 0, Loveleen Dunklin 5 3-4 15, Emma Fischer 2 0-0 5, Kallie Oestreicher 2 0-0 4, Grace Alongi 0 0-0 0, Sophie Hill 3 0-0 6. Totals: 14 3-4 36.

Nashville: Halle Rueter 1 2-2 4, Talanie Kozuszek 1 0-0 3, Korbi Rhine 4 0-0 10, Emily Schnittner 0 0-0 0, Jordan Donato 0 1-1 1, Reese Varel 2 0-0 4, Alyssa Cole 6 7-9 24. Totals: 14 10-12 43.

3-pointers: Du Quoin 5 (Mocabay 2, Dunklin 2, Fischer), Nashville 5 (Rhine 2, Cole 2, Kozuszek).

Fouls: Du Quoin 14, Nashville 7. Fouled out: None.

Christopher 47
Marissa-C'ville 31

M-C 07 07 09 08 - 31
 Christopher 11 09 11 16 - 47

Amiah Hargrove scored 26 points for Christopher, and the Lady Bearcats were too much for Marissa-Coulterville in a big nonconference matchup.

Marissa-Coulterville: Autumn Gilley 1 2-2 4, Hannah Krause 1 0-0 2, Grace Middendorf 6 0-1 12, Bree Portz 4 1-2 11, Annie Villareal 1 0-0 2. Totals: 13 3-5 31.

3-pointers: Marissa-Coul-

terville 2 (Portz).

Red Bud 51
New Athens 12

New Athens 03 02 07 00 - 12
 Red Bud 08 08 17 18 - 51

Sam Kolweier buried two 3-pointers and finished with 12 points, as Red Bud pulled away in the second half to demolish New Athens.

New Athens: Emma Hager 2 0-0 4, Mallory Kimbrell 0 0-0 0, Kaylee Juenger 1 1-4 3, Ainslee Sullivan 0 0-2 0, Grace Lauer 1 0-2 2, Peyton Houser 1 0-0 3, Abigail Meyer 0 0-0 0, Ella Bohn 0 0-0 0, Aubrey Generous 0 0-0 0, Aubrey Albers 0 0-0 0. Totals: 5 1-8 12.

Red Bud: Addi Dillej 3 0-0 6, Olivia Geraldos 0 0-0 0, Josie Meyer 1 0-0 2, Chloe Wild 1 1-3 3, Alexis Koester 4 0-2 9, Sam Kolweier 4 2-2 12, Aubrey Piel 0 0-0 0, Lyla Hess 0 2-22, Maddie Pensoneau 1 0-0 3, Madison Falkenhain 0 0-0 0, Hannah Sievers 6 0-2 12, Claire Diewald 1 0-0 2. Totals: 21 5-11 51.

3-pointers: New Athens 1 (Houser), Red Bud 4 (Kolweier 2, Koester, Pensoneau).

Fouls: New Athens 9, Red Bud 6. Fouled out: None.

Elverado/Z-R 59
Steeleville 41

EZR 16 15 14 14 - 59
 Steeleville 06 07 16 12 - 41

Morgan Bernardini tallied 25 points for Elverado/Zeigler-Royalton, which toppled Steeleville in nonconference play.

Mia Masterson finished with 14 points for Steeleville.

Elverado/Zeigler-Royalton: Shelby Grove 4 1-2 9, Olivia Lemmons 0 1-4 1, Morgan Bernardini 11 3-4 25, Lainey Morris 3 3-7 10, Hadleigh Swetz 1 1-2 3, Brittany Hall 2 1-2 5, Tori Hartman 0 0-0 0, Brylee Martin 1 1-2 4, Adriana Furlow-Hampton 1 0-0 2, Ashlyn Stayton 0 0-5 0. Totals: 23 11-28 59.

Steeleville: Kamree Gearhart 0 0-0 0, Daisy Czypala 2 0-2 4, Hannah Middendorf 3 1-2 7, Gabi Hood 0 0-0 0, Ashlyn Roberts 4 0-0 8, Lauren Wedemeyer 2 0-0 5, Avery Roberts 0 1-2 1, Mia Masterson 6 0-0 14. Totals: 17 2-6 59.

3-pointers: Elverado/Z-R 2 (Morris, Martin), Steeleville 3 (Masterson 2, Wedemeyer).

Fouls: Elverado/Z-R 12, Steeleville 19. Fouled out: Ashlyn Roberts.

FEBRUARY 5
Du Quoin 46

Chester 26

Chester 10 04 06 06 - 26
 Du Quoin 09 10 10 17 - 46

Sophie Hill scored eight of her 12 points in the fourth quarter and Lauren Heape 12 of her 18 in the second half, and Du Quoin used the final two quarters to create distance from Chester in a nonconference victory.

Chester: Alyssa Seymour 3 4-4 10, Camrynn Howie 1 0-0 2, Kailyn Absher 4 0-1 8, Riley Conley 2 0-0 4, Jazzi Meredith 1 0-0 2, Emma Disky 0 0-0 0. Totals: 11 4-5 26.

Du Quoin: Abbi Mocabay 4 0-0 11, Lauren Heape 8 2-3 18, Kallie Oestreicher 0 0-0 0, Emma Fischer 0 0-0 0, Ella Davis 0 0-0 0, Ashlyn Waters 0 0-0 0, Haylee Sizemore 0 0-0 0, Grace Alongi 0 0-0 0, Isabella Phillips 0 0-0 0, Lovleen Dunklin 1 3-6 5, Sophie Hill 5 2-2 12, Grace Phipps 0 0-0 0, Abby Hill 0 0-0 0, Reagan Dorsey 0 0-0 0. Totals: 18 7-11 46.

3-pointers: Chester 0, Du Quoin 3 (Mocabay).

Fouls: Chester 8, Du Quoin 9. Fouled out: None.

Steeleville 40
Lebanon 35

Lebanon 06 16 06 07 - 35
 Steeleville 12 10 07 09 - 40

Emma Mulholland scored 11 points and Lauren Wedemeyer added 10, as Steeleville held off Lebanon for a victory.

Lebanon: Jayden Luna 1 2-4 4, Alexia Marwa 3 0-0 7, Autumn Guyette 0 0-0 0, Hannah Krumsieg 4 0-0 8, Chloe Nordmann 7 1-4 16. Totals: 15 3-8 35.

Steeleville: Kamree Gearhart 1 0-0 2, Daisy Czypala 1 0-0 3, Hannah Middendorf 2 1-4 5, Gabi Hood 1 0-0 2, Lauren Wedemeyer 4 1-2 10, Emma Mulholland 5 1-3 11, Audrey Gladson 0 0-0 0, Mia Masterson 3 0-2 7. Totals: 17 3-11 40.

3-pointers: Lebanon 2 (Marwa, Nordmann), Steeleville 3 (Czypala, Wedemeyer, Masterson).

Fouls: Lebanon 8, Steeleville 7. Fouled out: Krumsieg.

Father McGivney 46
Marissa-C'ville 34

M-C 06 09 07 12 - 34
 FMG 15 08 14 09 - 46

Sami Oller had 14 points, seven rebounds and three blocked

Continued on Page 13

Girls basketball standings

Records Through February 8

	Conference	Overall
Black Diamond Conference West Division		
Christopher*	10-0	22-3
Goreville	6-3	19-8
Vienna	5-2	14-10
Johnston City	2-5	8-14
Trico	2-7	7-18
Sesser-Valier	0-8	1-15

	Cahokia Conference	Kaskaskia Division
Dupo	8-0	18-8
Marissa-Coulterville	7-2	16-10
New Athens	5-3	8-11
Valmeyer	2-5	4-11
Steeleville	2-7	2-17
Lebanon	0-7	1-9

	Cahokia Conference	Illinois Division
Okawville	8-0	27-2
Carlyle	7-2	23-7
Wesclin	6-3	12-13
Chester	3-6	13-15
Sparta	2-6	10-11
Red Bud	0-9	12-17

SIRR Mississippi		
Nashville	7-1	18-8
Carterville	6-1	23-6
Pinckneyville	3-4	12-13
Du Quoin	3-5	18-8
Anna-Jonesboro	0-8	13-14

SIRR Ohio		
Benton*	9-1	22-5
Massac County	6-3	16-10
Harrisburg	6-3	16-11
Herrin	5-4	14-14
Murphysboro	1-8	1-20
West Frankfort	1-9	5-20

*Conference champion

Tentative Upcoming Schedule
February 10

- Chester vs. Sparta
- Du Quoin at West Frankfort
- Steeleville vs. Marissa-Coulterville
- Red Bud at Carlyle
- Trico vs. Murphysboro

AP GIRLS BASKETBALL RANKINGS

Okawville still No. 1

The Associated Press released its February 2 high school girls state basketball rankings, and a couple of area teams highlight the lists.

In 1A, Okawville held onto No. 1.

Christopher and Carlyle continue to receive votes but remain outside the top 10.

- 2. Brimfield (2) 83
- 3. Tri-County Shiloh (3) 68
- 4. Mendon Unity (4) 54
- 5. River Ridge (6) 41
- 6. Brown County (7) 37
- 7. Galena (8) 30
- T8. Orangeville (NR) 22
- T8. Serena (5) 22
- 10. Cowden-Herrick (10) 19
- Dropped out: Neoga (9)
- Others receiving votes: Havana 7, Christopher 7, Elmwood 4, Galatia 4, Effingham St. Anthony 3, Catlin Salt Fork 3, Morrison 1, Neoga 1, Greenfield 1, Father McGivney 1, Carlyle 1

Class 2A

- 1. Quincy Notre Dame (1) 97
- 2. Winnebago (2) 91
- 3. Illini West Carthage (3) 76
- 4. Pana (4) 68
- 5. Paris (5) 54
- 6. Carterville (6) 43
- 7. Noble Street-Butler (9) 32
- 8. Fieldcrest (T7) 27
- 9. Teutopolis (T7) 19
- 10. Peotone (NR) 15

Dropped out: Arthur-Lovington-Hammond-Atwood (10)

Others receiving votes: Arthur-Lovington-Hammond-Atwood 9, Freeburg 6, Sheridan 4, Clinton 2, Benton 2, Marshall 1, Fairfield 1, Alton Marquette 1, Princeton 1, Rockridge 1

Play Ball! JAN. 31 THRU FEB. 25 2022

CITY OF CHESTER REC BALL Registration

DIVISION	RECEIVED BY 3 PM JAN 31-FEB 18	RECEIVED BY 3 PM FEB 19-FEB 25	RECEIVED BY 3 PM FEB 25-FEB 28
WEE-BALL	\$25	\$50	\$75
TODDLER T-BALL	\$35	\$50	\$75
T-BALL	\$45	\$65	\$100
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL	\$55	\$75	\$100

AGES: Wee Ball 2-3 | Toddler T-Ball 3-5 | T-Ball 5-6
 Baseball & Softball 8-14 | Coach Packets Available
 618-826-1430 | chessterrecreation@chesterill.com | www.chesterill.com



Red Bud recognizes seniors

The Red Bud High School senior players on the girls' basketball team were recognized February 7 during their game against New Athens. From left in the front row are players Hannah Sievers, Madison Pensoneau, Sam Kolweier and Chloe Wild. Back row: coaches Tiffany Henry and Malone Wall, parents Ralph and Anne Sievers, Lanie and Andy Pensoneau, Mandy Kolweier, Dusty Kolweier and Lacie and Bart Wild and coach Eli Rogers.

VALENTINE'S PARTY
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PREP BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Red Bud comes back to beat M-C; Steeleville takes down Sparta



Caleb Trieb (21) and Chase Weis (4) of Marissa-Coulterville battle for a rebound February 8 against Red Bud's Nick Fehr. Red Bud won the game 58-50.

FEBRUARY 8
Red Bud 58
Marissa-Cville 50
M-C 13 17 12 08 - 50
Red Bud 11 09 19 19 - 58
Four Red Bud players reached double-figures in points, and the Musketeers rallied from down 10 points at halftime to defend their home court in a nonconference win over the Meteors.
Notably, Logan Cathell scored all 12 of his points for Red Bud in the second half, and Trent Sternberg tallied eight of his 15 in the fourth quarter.
Marissa-Coulterville: Chrisean Charleston 1 2-4, Chase Weis 1 1-2 3, Chase Hurst 4 4-5 15, Garrett Harrell 5 1-2 11, Caleb Trieb 6 1-2 14, Tanner Middendorf 1 0-0 3. Totals: 18 9-15 50.
Red Bud: Logan Cathell 5 2-2 12, Max Diewald 4 1-2 13, Nick Fehr 1 0-0 3, Drew Grohmann 1 0-0 2, Devin Hall 5 1-3 11, Owen Liefer 0 0-0 0, Easton Lucht 1 0-0 2, Trent Sternberg 4 6-8 15. Totals: 21 10-15 58.
3-pointers: Marissa-Coulterville 5 (Hurst 3, Trieb, Middendorf), Red Bud 6 (Diewald 4, Fehr, Sternberg).
Fouls: Marissa-Coulterville 14, Red Bud 11. Fouled out: Harrell.

11, Jack Loesing 2 0-0 5, Lucas Dotson 0 0-0 0, Zyreqez Davis 0 0-0 0, Colin Sheldon 1 1-2 3, Jamarian Henry 1 0-0 2. Totals: 21 14-21 63.
Dupo: Chase Mantz 2 4-6 8, A.J. Williams 1 0-0 3, Logan Stevens 0 0-0 0, Nate Ticer 3 2-2 11, Trey Chadduck 1 0-0 2, Sean Grant 1 0-0 2, Roymaun Yokley 0 0-0 0, Xavier Johnson 0 0-0 0, Sam Stoffel 2 0-0 4, Teegan Hargrove 1 0-0 3. Totals: 11 6-8 33.
3-pointers: Sparta 7 (Lanton 3, Brown, Littlepage, Loesing, Bodeker), Dupo 5 (Ticer 3, Williams, Hargrove).
Fouls: Sparta 13, Dupo 17.
Fouled out: Stevens, Chadduck.
FEBRUARY 5
Steeleville 48
Sparta 38
Sparta 13 05 10 10 - 38
Steeleville 11 06 16 15 - 48
Jacoby Gross tallied 13 of his 16 points in the second half, and Steeleville erased a slight deficit at the break to defeat rival Sparta in nonconference play.
Sparta: James Pillers 2

2-2 6, Dauntay Merideth 3 3-4 12, Zach Bodeker 0 0-0 0, Brayden Henry 5 1-4 12, Ethan Willis 3 0-1 8, Tyler Brown 0 0-0 0, Damian Lanton 0 0-0 0, Colin Sheldon 0 0-0 0. Totals: 13 6-11 38.
Steeleville: Lane Lazenby 3 0-0 6, Jacoby Gross 6 2-2 16, Zach Mevert 2 3-3 7, Carter Wasson 3 2-2 8, Reid Harriss 4 0-0 9, Evan Buch 1 0-0 2. Totals: 19 7-7 48.
3-pointers: Sparta 6 (Merideth 3, Willis 2, Henry), Steeleville 3 (Gross 2, Harriss).
Fouls: Sparta 10, Steeleville

TORRENCE TOURNAMENT



Zach Bodeker of Sparta drives into the paint against the Pinckneyville defense during the third-place game of the Torrence Tournament.

Nashville wins title, Sparta third

The Nashville Hornets recently won the longstanding prep boys basketball freshman-sophomore Torrence Tournament held at Sparta High School.
Nashville defeated Murphysboro 55-46 in the title game the final day of the tournament.
Sparta picked up third place with a 56-54 win in overtime over Pinckneyville.
Chester topped Okawville 57-30 for fifth.
In the third-place game, Zach Bodeker scored 18 points for Sparta. He was joined in double figures by James Pillers with 13 points and Damian Lanton at 10. Pillers tallied eight of his points in overtime.
Pinckneyville's leading scorer was Brady Conway, who put in 18 points, 16 of which came over the first three quarters. Lucas Lietz added 13 to the final score.
The tournament schedule was altered due to snow and ice

Register for summer

The Steeleville Recreation Committee will hold registration for baseball, softball and t-ball February 19 and 26 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Steeleville Elementary School cafeteria.
Children must be 4 by May 1 to participate in t-ball.
Fees are \$45 for baseball and softball and \$30 for t-ball.
No entries will be accepted after March 12.
For more information, call Doug Ernsting at 618-615-1379 or Kylie Mueller at 618-967-9961.

Bowling standings At Legion Steeleville

	Won	Lost
Tuesday Night		
Shiloh Tavern	240	145
Braun HVAC	219	166
NAPA	219	166
Brunzeez Divas	201.5	183.5
Farm Bureau	181.5	203.5
Mevert's Auto	179	206
Autronix	175	170
HTS.	94	271

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Braun Brothers HVAC 3645
High Ind. Game
Noah Middendorf 247
High Ind. Series
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Boys basketball standings

Records Through February 8

	Conference	Overall
Black Diamond Conference West Division		
Goreville	7-1	19-7
Vienna	8-2	18-8
Christopher	6-3	19-6
Sesser-Valier	6-3	16-8
Johnston City	3-5	7-15
Trico	2-7	6-20
Zeigler-Royalton	0-11	5-21

	Cahokia Conference	Kaskaskia Division
Steeleville	7-0	20-6
Marissa-Coulterville	5-2	11-10
New Athens	5-2	12-13
Dupo	3-4	5-14
Valmeyer	1-6	2-20
Lebanon	0-7	1-20

	Cahokia Conference	Illinois Division
Wesclin	7-0	13-14
Carlyle	6-2	14-13
Red Bud	3-4	13-13
Chester	3-4	12-13
Okawville	2-5	9-19
Sparta	0-6	8-18

	SIRR Mississippi	
Nashville	5-0	20-4
Pinckneyville	5-1	21-3
Du Quoin	2-3	13-12
Carterville	2-4	16-10
Anna-Jonesboro	0-6	4-20

	SIRR Ohio	
Murphysboro	6-1	22-2
Herrin	5-2	17-6
Benton	4-3	14-12
Massac County	3-3	18-8
Harrisburg	1-4	7-15
West Frankfort	0-6	3-20

Tentative Upcoming Schedule February 11

- Sparta vs. Chester
Du Quoin vs. Anna-Jonesboro
Marissa-Coulterville vs. Steeleville
Pinckneyville vs. Nashville
Red Bud vs. Carlyle
Trico at Carterville
- February 12**
Chester vs. Trico
Marissa-Coulterville at Lebanon
- February 14**
Chester vs. Red Bud
Sparta vs. Okawville
Trico vs. Johnston City
- February 15**
Chester vs. Wesclin
Du Quoin at Nashville
Marissa-Coulterville at New Athens
Sparta vs. Red Bud
Steeleville at Dupo

AP BOYS BASKETBALL RANKINGS

Nashville moves back up to No. 6

The Associated Press released its February 2 high school boys state basketball rankings, and several area teams continue to receive high recognition.
In 1A, for the first time this season, Steeleville remained outside the top 10 for the second straight week, but it did pick up three votes.
Christopher also earned a vote.
In the 2A rankings, there was a shakeup among area teams, as Nashville moved up two positions to No. 6, and Murphysboro dropped from the No. 6 spot out of the top 10 to No. 12.
Pinckneyville continued to receive votes and was slotted in as tied for No. 15.
The previous rankings are in parentheses.
Hamilton County and Massac County also earned votes.

Class 1A	Rank	Team
1. Scales Mound (1) 100		
2. Yorkville Christian (2) 97		
3. Fulton (3) 84		
4. Liberty (5) 70		
5. Macon Meridian (4) 65		
6. Tuscola (7) 53		
7. South Beloit (6) 38		
8. Concord Triopia (NR) 36		
9. Jacksonville Rount (8) 23		
10. Peoria Christian (10) 22		
Dropped out: Madison (9)		
Others receiving votes: Madison 16, Altamont 16, Midland 14, East Dubuque 8, LeRoy 7, Windsor/Stewardson- Strasburg 3, Steeleville 3, Monmouth United 2, Metro-East Lutheran 1, Brown County 1, Christopher 1		

Class 2A	Rank	Team
1. Chicago Leo (1) 117		
2. DePaul College Prep (2) 96		
3. Breese Central (3) 95		
4. Chicago Clark (5) 89		
5. El Paso-Gridley (7) 61		
6. Nashville (8) 52		
7. Chicago Orr (4) 43		
8. Monticello (9) 29		
9. Rockford Lutheran (NR) 14		
10. Chicago Perspectives Charter/Leadership (NR) 12		
Dropped out: Murphysboro (6), Teutopolis (10)		
Others receiving votes: Momenze 11, Murphysboro 10, Kankakee McNamara 6, Teutopolis 5, Breese Mater Dei 4, Hamilton County 4, Pana 4, Pinckneyville 4, Rockridge 2, Riverdale 1, Massac County 1		

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BOYS BASKETBALL SIJHSAA CLASS S STATE TOURNAMENT



Parker Fiene is challenged by Devin Meier of Trinity Lutheran-St. Mary's Centralia February 7 during the first half of the state quarterfinals game.

Braves season ends with overtime defeat in the state quarterfinals

Steeleville plays two entertaining contests

It was an eventful two game run in the SIJHSAA Class S state tournament at Pinckneyville High School for the Steeleville Elementary-St. Mark's Lutheran boys basketball team.

After the Braves won their first-round game February 5 by two points over Jonesboro, their quarterfinal matchup February 7 with Trinity-St. Mary's Centralia also went down to the wire.

Unfortunately for Steeleville, Trinity Lutheran emerged late in the game and outscored Steeleville 10-0 in overtime to eliminate the Braves with a 46-36 final score.

Devin Meier scored 12 of his 16 points for Trinity in the fourth quarter and overtime. Alijah Morris also had 16 points, including the first four points of the extra period. Morris forced a pair of steals in overtime, and Steeleville turned the ball over on its first four possessions of the extra period.

Steeleville was led in scoring by Nathan

Witthoft's 10 points and nine points from Connor Brown. Brown was the hero for the Braves in their win over Jonesboro, when he made a pair of free throws with under three seconds remaining to give them the lead.

Against Trinity, Steeleville looked for another heroic outcome.

Steeleville trailed 34-32 with just under three minutes to play.

Brown and Witthoft scored for the Braves on back-to-back possessions to put Steeleville ahead by two points with just over two minutes remaining. Meier answered for Trinity to tie things at 36 with two minutes on the clock.

Following that bucket, Steeleville called a timeout with 1:46 remaining in regulation. The Braves elected to bleed the rest of the clock out and hold the ball for the last shot of the quarter. They called two additional timeouts, the last coming with 28.8 seconds left.

As the clock ticked down to five seconds, Parker Fiene drove with the ball from the left

State Tournament Schedule/Scores	
February 5	
Steeleville Elementary/St. Mark's 34, Jonesboro 32	
Trinity-St. Mary's Centralia 39, Raccoon 27	
Mounds Meridian 47, Allendale-St. Mary's Mt. Carmel 39	
Valmeyer 34, Albers-Damiansville 20	
Jasper 47, St. Boniface Edwardsville 20	
OLMC 47, Altamont Lutheran 38	
Hardin County 46, TSJ Nashville-ILS Okawville 20	
Waltonville 63, Bluford 48	
February 7	
Trinity-St. Mary's Centralia 46, Steeleville/St. Mark's 36, OT	
Mounds Meridian 57, Valmeyer 11	
Jasper 46, OLMC 40	
Waltonville 60, Hardin County 42	
February 10	
Game 13 at 6:00 - Trinity-St. Mary's Centralia vs. Mounds Meridian	
Game 14 at 7:30 - Jasper vs. Waltonville	
February 12	
Third Place	
2:00 - Loser Game 13 vs. Loser Game 14	
Championship	
3:30 - Winner Game 13 vs. Winner Game 14	

wing down the right side of the lane.

Trinity's defense collapsed on him, but Fiene was able to lift up a contested layup that hit off the backboard and just missed going through the hoop. Trinity secured the rebound, and the game went to overtime.

At the beginning of the game, Steeleville stormed out of the gate with a ton of energy and fed off of a passionate crowd to lead 17-11 after one quarter. The Braves led 25-18 at halftime but saw the advantage

shrink to 28-27 entering the fourth quarter.

Mason Hill added eight points for Steeleville, while Fiene chipped in six and Carson Rednour three.

Another key point of the game turned out to be the free-throw line. Steeleville made just 1-of-8 attempts at the charity stripe, while Trinity knocked down 7-of-11.

Steeleville finishes its season with a 20-4 record. Trinity improved to 26-0 and advances to the semifinals against Mounds Meridian.



Nathan Witthoft attacks the basket during the second half as Trinity-St. Mary's Centralia defender Nolan Pryor attempts to get in his way.

SIJHSAA CLASS M STATE

Sparta Lincoln falls in first round

Sparta Lincoln was unable to overcome its first round matchup with Nashville February 7 in the SIJHSAA Class M state tournament at Okawville, and the Cardinals had their season come to a close.

The first round was originally scheduled for February 4, but bad road conditions due to snow and ice postponed it to February 7.

That did not slow down Nashville, which defeated Sparta 56-16. Nashville then topped Fairfield February 41-15 in the semifinals.

Nashville will play Goreville February 11 at 7:30 for the state championship.

Sparta finished its season with a 16-12 record.

State Tournament Schedule/Scores	
February 7	
Game 1 - Goreville 65, Grant 54	
Game 2 - NCOE 31, Aviston 27	
Game 3 - Fairfield 40, Sesser-Valier 35	
Game 4 - Nashville 56, Sparta Lincoln 16	
February 8	
Game 5 - Goreville 31, NCOE 23	
Game 6 - Nashville 41, Fairfield 15	
February 11	
Third Place	
6:00 - NCOE vs. Fairfield	
Championship	
7:30 - Goreville vs. Nashville	

SIJHSAA CLASS L POSTSEASON

Du Quoin ousted in regional title game

The Du Quoin Middle School boys basketball was just a few points away from advancing to the SIJHSAA Class L state tournament.

Du Quoin topped Hamilton County 57-36 February 1 in the semifinals.

That moved Du Quoin into the February 5 championship game against Casey Mt. Vernon.

Du Quoin pushed as hard as it could but ended up falling to Casey by a 47-45 Score.

Class L Regionals	
REGION 3	
February 1	
Game 1 - Du Quoin 57, Hamilton County 36	
Game 2 - Casey Mt. Vernon 58, Benton 31	
February 5	
Championship	
Casey Mt. Vernon 47, Du Quoin 45	

State Tournament Schedule at Rend Lake	
February 12	
Game 1 at 9:30 - Carterville vs. Fulton	
Game 2 at 10:45 - Marion vs. Whiteside	
Game 3 at noon - Casey Mt. Vernon vs. Centralia	
Game 4 at 1:15 - Belleville West vs. Region 8 Winner	
February 15	
Game 5 at 6:00 - WG 1 vs. WG 2	
Game 6 at 7:15 - WG 3 vs. WG 4	
February 17	
Third Place	
6:00 - LG 5 vs. LG 6	
Championship	
7:30 - WG 5 vs. WG 6	

Prep girls...From Page 11

shots for Father McGivney, and Marissa-Coulterville lost a nonconference road battle.

Hannah Krause led Marissa-Coulterville with nine rebounds and three steals. Autumn Gilley added 13 points, four assists and three steals.

Marissa-Coulterville: Autumn Gilley 3 5-6 13, Hannah Krause 1 0-2 2, Kyleigh Landi 0 0-0 0, Grace Middendorf 2 0-1 4, Bree Portz 5 2-4 15, Annie Villareal 0 0-0 0. Totals: 11 7-13 34.

Father McGivney: Alexis Bond 0 0-0 0, Devin Ellis 0 0-0 0, Karpenter Farmer 0 1-2 1, Mary Harkins 3 0-0 9, Sabrina Ivnik 0 0-0 0, Sophia Ivnik 3 0-0 6, Emma Martinez 0 0-0 0, Sami Oller 6 1-2 14, Claire Stanhaus 0 0-0 0, Julia Stobie 1 5-6 7, Libby Telthorst 1 0-1 2, Izzie Venarsky 0 0-0 0, Riley Zumwalt 3 0-0 7. Totals: 17 7-11 46.

3-pointers: Marissa-Coulterville 5 (Portz 3, Gilley 2), Father McGivney 5 (Harkins 3, Oller, Zumwalt).

Fouls: Marissa-Coulterville 12. Fouled out: Middendorf.

Wesclin 59	
Sparta 43	
Wesclin	14 20 18 07 - 59
Sparta	15 11 13 04 - 43

Wesclin knocked down 11 3-pointers, led by Hailey Rakers, who hit five 3-balls and finished with 23 points, and the Lady Warriors topped Sparta.

Kayla Braun led Sparta with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Isabella Ware added 12 points and 12 rebounds, while Sydney Rheinecker chipped in 11 points.

Sparta, though, was held to four points in the fourth quarter and missed all three of its free throws in the final period.

Wesclin: Gabby Bilbruck 0 4-6 4, Gianna Bilbruck 4 3-4 14, Lexie Hooks 1 2-2 4, Lauren Marks 5 1-3 14, Lexie Oster 0 0-0 0, Hailey Rakers 7 4-7 23, Ava Spalding 0 0-0 0. Totals: 17 14-22 59.

Sparta: Anna McDonald 0 0-0 0, Sydney Rheinecker 5 0-5 11, Ebony Monroe 2 0-0 4, Kayla Braun 7 1-1 15, Kylie McDaniel 0 0-0 0, Isabella Ware 6 0-3 12, Sadie Hamilton 0 1-2 1, Kenzie Pierce 0 0-0 0, Maddie Schulein 0 0-0 0, Daira Sangurima 0 0-0 0, Gabby Dethrow 0 0-0 0. Totals: 20 2-11 43.

3-pointers: Wesclin 11 (Rakers 5, Gianna Bilbruck 3, Marks 3), Sparta 1 (Rheinecker).

Fouls: Wesclin 14, Sparta 18. Fouled out: None.

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Pair of Steeleville bowlers make program ... From Page 10

and Waterloo 5,081. Trico placed 12th at 3,690.

The top Pioneer was Tessa Nehrt at 877 for 39th place. Nehrt's teammates were Addy McClaine (876), Belle Huseman (816), Kendra Guetersloh (666)

and Aeris Huhman (455).

Team Scores

1. Anna-Jonesboro 5,343
2. Salem 5,186
3. Herrin 5,165
4. Waterloo 5,081
5. Cartersville 4,986
6. Mt. Vernon 4,625
7. Carbondale 4,571
8. Harrisburg 4,428
9. Massac County 4,392

10. Marion 4,266
11. Steeleville 4,063
12. Trico 3,690
13. Centralia 3,498
14. Christ Our Rock 2,661

Top 5 Individuals

1. Madi Hawk 1,192, AJ
2. Abbie Graham 1,191, HAR
3. Olivia Myers 1,155, AJ
4. Brooke Kochel 1,153, CARB
5. Faith Perry-Foster 1,114, HER

Individual Sectional Qualifiers

Abbie Graham 1,191, HAR
Brooke Kochel 1,153, CARB
Paige Anderson 1,104, STV
Taryn Russell 1,104, CARB
Karol Simmons 1,099, HAR
Emily Swain 1,077, CART
Makayla Storment 1,070, MTV
Adriana Bird 1,023, CART
Madison Eigenrauch 1,021, CART
Isabella Middendorf 1,020, STV



Cody Dickerson of Sparta gains position February 5 on his opponent at the Carlyle Regional. Dickerson placed second.

Area wrestlers ... From Page 10

said Red Bud coach Rob Pipher. "I think they have a good shot at sectionals. I don't see why they both can't do some winning."

Pinckneyville qualified seniors Braydon Schubert (132) and Abel Runyon (145) for the sectional.

Sparta placed sixth at the regional with a score of 63. Pinckneyville was eighth at 42, Red Bud ninth with 26 and Trico 10th with 2.

Vandalia ran away with the regional title with a score of 218.5. Roxana was second at 149.5 and Cahokia third with 106.

Leading Sparta was Cody Dickerson, who placed second at 195. He received a bye to the semifinals before topping Justin Proctor of Vandalia by fall at 49 seconds.

In his championship match against Hunter Bailey of Roxana, Dickerson lost by fall at 50 seconds.

"In the championship match, Cody put the kid on his back 10 seconds into the match," McCall said. "He just didn't finish in the right position and ended up getting reversed. He was just over the moon to be in the finals. I'm so happy for him."

Coop had a longer road to his qualifying match. Wrestling at 285, Coop defeated Landon Schultz of Carlyle in the quarterfinals before losing to Justin Laws of Roxana in the semifinals.

Coop bounced back to beat Jayden Rosetto of Vandalia by fall at 49 seconds to advance to the third-place match, where Coop won by fall again, this time at 54 seconds over Kaleb Hubler of Pinckneyville.

"Eli came in as the No. 3 seed, and that's what he ended up getting," McCall said. "In the semifinals, he was actually beating the No. 2 seed, but he got caught and ended up losing. Then he took care of his business to get third."

Sparta's other quali-

fying senior, Wyatt Evans, wrestled in four matches at 145. He defeated Julian Marshall of East Alton-Wood River but lost to Logan Nance of Vandalia in the semifinals.

Like Coop, Evans rebounded to win his next match, topping Mitchell Fleming of Red Bud by fall at 2:25 to advance to the third-place match. For third, Evans defeated Bryan Rodriguez of Roxana by a 6-0 decision.

"Wyatt did a phenomenal job," McCall said. "He came in as the five seed and ended up getting third. To me, that's just a senior being a senior and doing what he's supposed to do."

Zayden Leuth was one of just three wrestlers at 120. He dropped his opening match to Pierson Wilkerson of Vandalia, which automatically gave him third place.

"During this past month, Zayden really come around," McCall said. "He's starting to turn the corner and pick things up. He's doing great."

For Red Bud, Ty Carter wrestled for a championship at 182 but settled for second place. Carter earned a semifinal win over Micah Williams of Cahokia by fall at 1:06 by bringing him to the title match with Wyatt Dothager of Vandalia, who topped Carter by an 11-2 major decision.

"Carter had been wrestling at 170 most of the year," Pipher said. "He's only a sophomore. The Vandalia kid was pretty good."

Johnson, meanwhile, earned third at 160. The senior lost to Damien Phipps of Cahokia in the semifinals but kept going and defeated Braylin Walker of Sparta by fall at 58 seconds.

That moved him to the third-place match, where he took down Corbin White of Roxana by fall at 1:17.

"The kid he beat for third place was the kid who beat him in 20 seconds two years ago



Sparta's Zayden Lueth wrestles against Pierson Wilkerson of Vandalia in his match at 120 pounds.

at regionals," Pipher said. "That really stood out to me. I'm happy for Hunter. He's been doing this for four years."

Braydon Schubert and Abel Runyon each brought home second place for Pinckneyville.

Schubert, competing at 132, defeated Jackson Mason of East Alton-Wood River by fall at 1:01 in the semifinals but lost to Owen Miller of Vandalia by technical fall in the title match.

Runyon took down Bryan Rodriguez of Roxana by a 10-3 decision in the 145 semifinals before losing by a 6-2 decision to Logan Nance of Vandalia for the title.

Trico had three wrestlers compete at regionals, with Eli Rees being the most successful.

Rees finished at 1-2 at 152 pounds. He won his first match by beating Cody Martin of Sparta. However, Rees then fell to Nick Deloach Jr. of Cahokia and Johnson Braden of Roxana.

Kreighton Downin represented the Pioneers at 113 and Kade Estel wrestled at 220.

Other Sparta wrestlers were Xavier Wilson (132), Cody Martin (152), Braylin Walker (160) and Alex Robertson (182).

Red Bud also had Zach Manning (126), Mitchell Fleming (145) and Alex Wolter (152).

Pinckneyville's other athletes were Riley Maxey (138), Liam Baker (170), Daegan Eisenhauer (195) and Kaleb Hubler (285).

Matchups set ... From Page 10

Freeburg Regional

February 12
Game 1 at 1:00 - Chester (10) at Belleville Althoff (9)
Game 2 at 3:30 - Red Bud (12) at Columbia (5)

February 14

Game 3 at 6:00 - Freeburg (1) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Breese Mater Dei (4) vs. Winner Game 2
February 17
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4

Anna-Jonesboro Regional

February 12
Game 1 at TBA - Anna-Jonesboro (9) at Vienna (6)
Game 2 at 1:00 - Murphysboro (12) at Massac County (5)

February 14

Game 3 at 6:00 - Cartersville (1) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Du Quoin (4) vs. Winner Game 2
February 17
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4

Benton Regional

February 12
Game 1 at 1:00 - Johnston City (10) at Eldorado (8)
Game 2 at 7:00 - West Frankfort (11) at Harrisburg (7)

February 15

Game 3 at 6:00 - Benton (2) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Hamilton County (3) vs. Winner Game 2
February 18
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4

Breese Central Regional

February 12
Game 1 at TBA - Trenton-Wesclin (8) at Greenville (7)
Game 2 at TBA - Sparta (11) at Pinckneyville (6)

February 15

Game 3 at 6:00 - Breese Central (2) vs. Winner Game 1
Game 4 at 7:30 - Nashville (3) vs. Winner Game 2
February 18
Championship
7:00 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4

Prep boys ... From Page 12

14. Fouled out: None.

Du Quoin 62

Chester 38

Chester 08 18 06 06 - 38
Du Quoin 09 18 21 14 - 62

Caden Hutchens caught fire from behind the 3-point arc for Du Quoin, nailing seven 3-pointers, and finished with 27 points, as the Indians rallied in the second half for a home win over Chester.

Trace Fricke scored 15 points to lead Chester. Chester: Gavin Schroeder 1 0-0 2, Cooper Eggemeyer 4 0-0 8, Chance Mott 0 0-0 0, Devante Palacio 1 0-0 2, Trace Fricke 7 0-1 15, Jared Landeros 3 2-4 8, Kolton Jany 0 0-0 0, Ethan Stumpe 0 0-0 0, Aiden Jany 0 0-0 0, Lucas Thompson 1 1-1 3. Totals: 17 3-6 38.

Du Quoin: Jaden Smith 1 0-0 3, Caden Hutchens 10 0-0 27, Traioun Smith 7 0-0 15, Nishan Woody 1 0-0 3, Maurice Washington 5 0-0 10, Gage Green 1 0-0 2, PJ Winters 0 0-0 0, Hayden Sizemore 1 0-0 2, Ethan Hill 0 0-0 0, Trelin Smith 0 0-0 0, Kameron Hugya 0 0-0 0, Seth Howerton 0 0-0 0, Henry Harsy 0 0-0 0, Eli Maynor 0 0-0 0. Totals: 26 0-0 62.

3-pointers: Chester 1 (Fricke), Du Quoin 10 (Hutchens 7, Jaden Smith, Traioun Smith, Woody).

Fouls: Chester 1, Du Quoin 7. Fouled out: None.

Pinckneyville 57

Anna-Jonesboro 31

Pinckneyville 16 13 19 09 - 57
Anna-Jonesboro 05 08 10 08 - 31

Trico 72

Zeigler-Royalton 45



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SOCIETY

School menus

Evansville News

By Eloise Kueker
449-2043

February is known for many things: Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, the shortest month (or it can seem like the longest), and President's Day.

Back in the old days, we celebrated Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays, but someone decided to combine the days and just celebrate all of the presidents on one day.

How about a little trivia?

Which president ...

1. ... was the first American-born president?
2. ... made Christmas a national holiday?
3. ... was a classically trained pianist and played four other instruments?
4. ... and his wife attended Napoleon's coronation at Notre Dame Cathedral?
5. ... was the first to attend baseball's

opening day and throw out the first pitch?

6. ... turned down offers to play professional football?
7. ... met his wife in the fifth grade and were high school sweethearts but did not marry until their mid '30s?
8. ... holds the record for the longest married first couple?
9. ... was the first to ride in a car to his inauguration?
10. ... hated his painted portrait so much that he eventually burned it?

Happy birthday to Paisley Miller, Bill Sauer, Klayton Coop, Charlie Heuman, Rosemary Kessler, Rosemary Kessler, Cain, Taylor Kueker, Dee Ann Hodge and Dianna Wall.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Joe Robert, Darla Ederer, Vivian Kemp-

fer and Stanely Sauer. The Ellis Grove firefighters will once again sponsor a weekly fish fry on Fridays February 25 thru April 15.

The Team of Let's Knock Out Cancer will help at the March 18 fish fry, with the proceeds donated to Relay for Life.

The fish fries are held at the Ellis Grove firehouse with serving from 4-8 p.m. It is an all-you-can-eat meal of buffalo, catfish, cod and shrimp, as well as fries, baked beans, slaw, onion rings, hush puppies, potato salad and fried pickles. Drinks included are tea, soda and bottled water, and there will be a beer tent.

St. Peter's Youth Group is collecting gently used clothes, shoes, purses, backpacks, accessories, comforters, throw pillows, sheets and towels until February 12.

You may drop off your donations in plastic garbage bags at the church.

The Evansville Athletic Association will hold its summer ball

sign-up Sunday, February 20 from 2-5 p.m. at the Legion.

The entry fee is \$50 per player.

If you have two or more children playing, the third child's fee is \$20.

Players must sign up in the town where they go to school. If you play in a different town, you must have board approval. There is a \$25 fee for late sign-ups after teams have been finalized.

Evansville Enterprise February 5, 1943

Geneva Horrell became the bride of Antony Braun February 4. Attendants were Esther Barbeau and Mrs. Melvin Bruan. Flower girl was Dorothy Mae Shea, and ring bearer was Robert Urban.

Francis, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. M.M. Gross, had his right leg fractured at the ankle when his leg got caught in a cable while trees were being pulled off a field at his father's farm.

A baby boy was born January 19 to Pvt. and Mrs. Melvin Wicklein.

STEELEVILLE February 15-18

Breakfast
MONDAY: No school.
TUESDAY: Cereal.
WEDNESDAY: Waffles, sausage.
THURSDAY: Cereal.
FRIDAY: Honey bun.

Lunch
TUESDAY: Chicken patty, green beans.
WEDNESDAY: Hamburger, oven fries.
THURSDAY: Taco salad, refried beans.
FRIDAY: Spaghetti, garden salad w/ranch.

CHESTER GRADE February 14-17

Breakfast
MONDAY: Donut.
TUESDAY: Muffin, yogurt.
WEDNESDAY: Waffles, sausage.
THURSDAY: Biscuit, gravy, sausage.
FRIDAY: No school.

Lunch
MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, baked beans, strawberries, cookie.
TUESDAY: Sausage, biscuit, hash browns, gravy, applesauce.
WEDNESDAY: Taco salad, broccoli w/ ranch, corn chips, banana.
THURSDAY: Hot dog, chili, carrots w/ranch, corn chips, peaches.

ST. MARK'S February 14-18

MONDAY: Pork/noodles, green beans, applesauce.
TUESDAY: Chicken pie, carrots, peaches.
WEDNESDAY: Biscuit, gravy, fries, orange slices.
THURSDAY: Cheese in a blanket, celery, apple.

FRIDAY: Chicken strips, chips, apple.

EVANSVILLE February 14-18

Breakfast
MONDAY: Waffles.
TUESDAY: Donuts.
WEDNESDAY: Yogurt.
THURSDAY: Bacon/egg biscuit.
FRIDAY: Breakfast pizza.

Lunch
MONDAY: Italian beef, peas/carrots, peaches, sugar cookie.
TUESDAY: Spaghetti, green beans, bread stick, applesauce.
WEDNESDAY: BBQ burger, baked beans, pears.
THURSDAY: Pork/gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, fruit cup.
FRIDAY: Pizza, spinach salad, pineapple.

TRICO February 14-18

Breakfast
MONDAY: French toast, sausage.
TUESDAY: Breakfast sliders.
WEDNESDAY: Scrambled eggs, hash browns.
THURSDAY: Honey bun, yogurt.
FRIDAY: Biscuits, gravy, sausage.

Lunch
MONDAY: Corn dogs, chips, veggies w/dip.
TUESDAY: Grilled cheese, tomato soup, salad.
WEDNESDAY: Oriental chicken/rice, cheesy broccoli.
THURSDAY: Cheeseburger, fries, buttered corn.
FRIDAY: Fish sticks, tater wedges, salad, sweet treat.

Coulterville and Swanwick News

By Diana Cole
758-2880

David and I went to Fairview Heights Monday to the Olive Garden to celebrate our anniversary.

I had a conversation with George Miles and Tony Lehr earlier this week. They told me the Time Out Bar building used to be Kelly's Pool Hall.

In the early 1970s, it became Town Talk Tavern and was managed by Charlotte Lachler. Jo Boeling also worked there.

Later, Alex and Grace Hood took over and added on a kitchen and restaurant. They sold it to Mike and Merlene Filipic.

Then it sold to Leonard Kempfer, who remodeled the whole building. It has changed hands several times since Kempfer owned it.

Elodie and Daxton spent Friday night with David and me.

While waiting on their dad to get home from work, we went out and played in the snow. While Elodie and I were ready to come in, Daxton wanted to stay out and play. Even though his little cheeks got a rosy red.

The Coulterville VFW Auxiliary will meet Monday, February 14 at 7 p.m.

The VFW post will meet Thursday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.

The Coulterville Historical Society will meet Thursday, February 17 at 7 p.m. at the museum.

I will be working at the museum February 19. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If anyone has any information on old Coulterville businesses, call me at 758-2880 or email me at coled@mchsi.com with your stories.

Our oldest grandson, Christian Logue turned 19 Sunday. He attends Culver-Stockton in Canton, Missouri and is on the president's list of students with a 4.0 GPA.

S'ville nutrition site

Activities February 14-18

MONDAY: Bingo at 10.
TUESDAY: Senior club meeting at 12:15.
WEDNESDAY: Bingo at 10. Card club at 12:15.
THURSDAY: Wii bowling at 9.
FRIDAY: Bingo at 10.

Menu

MONDAY: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears.
TUESDAY: Chicken/dumplings, 3-bean salad, slaw, peaches.

WEDNESDAY: Swiss steak, Carolina beans, mixed vegetables, pears, coconut cream pie.
THURSDAY: Casey's pizza, Tex-Mex beans, spinach salad, peaches, brownie.
FRIDAY: Riblet, sweet potato fries, slaw, cranberries, apple crisp.
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4.

To order curbside meals, call 965-3134 extension 5 by 9:30 a.m. the day before.

Sparta senior center

February 14-18

MONDAY: Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes, corn, valentine cookies.
TUESDAY: Chicken Alfredo, broccoli, cheese cake.
WEDNESDAY: Chicken/dumplings, green beans, slaw, fruit crisp.
THURSDAY: Chili, cheese salad, 1/2 peach w/cottage cheese.

FRIDAY: Broccoli soup, ham sandwich, jello.
Hours: Monday-Thursday 8-3, Friday 8-2.
Prices: Curbside & carry-outs \$5, home-delivered \$5.25, all others \$6.50.
Call 443-4020 by 11 a.m. to order a meal.
Curb service: 11:30 to noon. Drive under the awning.
Clothing store: 9 to 3.

Chester senior menu

February 14-18

MONDAY: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, fruit cup.
TUESDAY: Roast beef/gravy, whipped potatoes, carrots, peach dump cake.
WEDNESDAY: Chili, grilled cheese, salad, fruit salad.
THURSDAY: Fried chicken, baked potato, California blend, fruit pie.
FRIDAY: Beef stew, broccoli, corn bread, salad, fruit.

Prices at center \$4, home-delivered \$4.25.
Lunch is served at 11:30.
Call 826-5108 by 9 a.m. to make a reservation.



Meet Samantha

This fat and sassy lady is Samantha. She is part of a bonded trio of 10-year-olds, but we would consider splitting them up if necessary. They give every indication of being sweet and loving cats; they just need a home where they can relax and enjoy the rest of their lives. If you are interested in adopting Samantha (and her siblings) call the Perry County Humane Society at 618-542-3647.

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Thrift shop news

Following the Christmas break, operations resumed at a quick pace for the month of January at the Caring and Sharing Thrift Shop in Pinckneyville.

The 38 volunteers donated more than 1,700 hours of donation preparations and customer service.

Applications for the Continuing Education Scholarship, which is awarded to Perry County residents who are in a healthcare field of study, are available at the front desk.

Applications are due at the shop by noon May 31.

Donations are accepted Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 to noon.

Customer can shop Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9 to 1.

With COVID-19 still being a health risk, the shop asks that customers continue to properly wear masks and use hand sanitizer.

All-You-Can-Eat

Wurstmart

Sunday, February 13
11:00AM-2:00PM

Columbian Club Hall
PINCKNEYVILLE

Dine-In OR Carry-Out ONLY

\$12/Person | \$8 Kids 6-12 | 5 & Under Free

Roast Beef & Pork Sausage, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Sauerkraut & Applesauce. Desserts Available.

-- PLEASE FOLLOW CDC GUIDELINES --

Proceeds to benefit Newman Catholic Student Center At Carbondale & Cardinal Glennon Hospital

Come explore The Bible with us!

The Six Wonders of the Bible: Husband and Wife Couples

Adam and Eve
Tuesday, Feb. 8
Presenter: Rev. Scott Hojnacki, Trinity LC, Red Bud, IL

Abraham and Sarah
Sunday, Feb. 13
Presenter: Rev. Joseph Schie, Immanuel LC, Perryville, MO

Isaac and Rebekah
Tuesday, Feb. 15
Presenter: Rev. Cliff Adair, Retired

Jacob and Leah & Rachel
Sunday, Feb. 20
Presenter: Rev. John Lukowski, Retired

Zachariah and Elizabeth
Tuesday, Feb. 22
Presenter: Rev. Mark Nabel, St. John's LC, Red Bud, IL

Mary and Joseph
Sunday, Feb. 27
Presenter: Rev. Timothy Sims, St. John's LC, Chester, IL

Tuesdays at 6 p.m.
St. Peter's - Evansville
900 Church St., Evansville
Light refreshments served.

Sundays at 2:30 p.m.
St. John's - Ruma
8446 1st Rd., Ruma
Light refreshments served.

All are welcome!
No cost to attend!

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For more information, please contact Nathan Koester at 618-528-2395!

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OBITUARIES

JAMES A. GERLACH

James A. "Jim" Gerlach, 92, of Morton, Illinois, died at his home, Saturday, February 5, 2022.

He was born July 19, 1929 in Steeleville to Albert and Erna Bierman Gerlach.

Jim married Roslyn J. Kahle August 8, 1959 in Bloomington. She preceded him in death January 18, 2013. On June 19, 2015, Jim married Ilona M. Meyer McDonough in Morton. He survives.

He is also survived by stepchildren Janet (Mark) Gartman of Peculiar, Missouri and Matt (Mary) McDonough of Morton; four step-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; sister Carolyn (Jim) Bert of Steeleville and 14 nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents and sister Susan.

Jim served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a life member of the Steelville American Legion.

He earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from SIU and a master's degree in educational administration from Bradley University and master's degree in mathematics from Central Michigan University. He was a life member of the SIU Alumni Association. He taught math at East Peoria Community High School for 29 years. After retirement, he taught mathematics part-time for seven years at Illinois Central College. He was a life member of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association and a member and past president of the East Peoria Lions Club. Jim was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton.

Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton, with Pastor Jeff Anderson officiating. Burial was in Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, Illinois.

Memorials may be made to Bethel Lutheran Church or Greater Peoria Honor Flight.

Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Morton assisted the family with arrangements.

Sign the guest book at knappjohnson.com.



STANLEY M. SAUER

Stanley M. Sauer, 75, of Red Bud, died at 3:48 a.m. Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at Integrity Healthcare of Columbia.

He was born December 28, 1946 in Red Bud to Milton and Alameda Becker Sauer.

Stanley married Nancy Ann Harbaugh April 22, 1972 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Prairie du Rocher. She preceded him in death November 1, 2013.

He was a lifelong dairy farmer. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Red Bud, VFW Post 6632 in Red Bud, where he was post commander from 1972-1973, American Legion Post 622 in Prairie du Rocher and Randolph County Farm Bureau. He also was a FFA alumni.

Stanley was a U.S. Army Vietnam War veteran and was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

He is survived by children Kevin Sauer of Ruma, Scott (Shara) Sauer, Randy Sauer (Danielle Muertz), Rhonda (Keith) Juelfs and Angela (Philip) Shields, all of Red Bud; brothers Bill (Bonnie) Sauer of Prairie du Rocher and Mike (Peggy) Sauer of Red Bud; grandchildren Dylan, Joshua, Mikayla, Katie, Ethan, Elizabeth and Isabelle; nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, brother Dean Sauer and grandson Evan Shields.

Funeral Mass was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Red Bud, with Msgr. Dennis Schaefer officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project or St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Red Bud.

Sign the guest book at wpfh.net.



JOSEPH HENRY ROBERT

Joseph Henry Robert, 75, died at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, January 27, 2022 at Nature Trails Nursing Home in Mt. Vernon.

He was born November 11, 1946 in Evansville to Henry G. and Ethel Catherine Johnson Robert and known as the miracle baby because he weighed only 1 pound 14 ounces. He was named and baptized by the Sisters at St. Clement's Hospital in Red Bud.

Joe married Jane Ellen Grass June 7, 1969 at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Bloomsdale, Missouri. To this union was born Joseph Christopher Robert and Tina Renee Robert. Joe married Linda Lou Shores August 24, 1984 at First Christian Church in Belleville. Linda survives.

He was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Evansville and later joined First Christian Church in Belleville.

Joe owned Aretha's Floral Shop in Chester and worked at Coles Mill in Chester, Gilster-Mary Lee in Steelville, Creations by Robert in Evansville, St. Clement's Hospital laundry department in Red Bud, Singer factory in Red Bud, security therapy aide mental health at Menard Correctional Center in Chester, where he worked for 23 years until he retired in 2012.

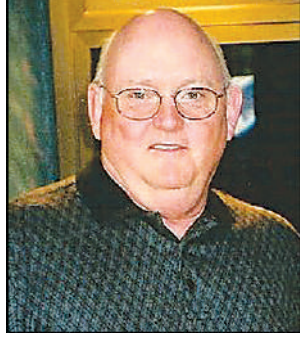
Joe had many interests, namely flowers (owned two businesses), writing poetry (received several awards), painting (had an exhibition at Misselhorn Museum in Sparta), cooking and baking. As a teenager, he was very active in the Boy Scouts.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

He is also survived by children Chris Robert of Sparta and Tina Robert of St. Louis; grandchildren Dalton, Alysa, Logan, Samantha, Dylan and Chelsey; great buddy Thorin; great-grandchildren Ryder, Cain and Kylie; brother James (Gary) Robert of Nashville, Tennessee, sister-in-law Mary Young of Red Bud, brother-in-law John (Kim) Shores of Perryville, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Donald Robert, sisters Dorothy (Paul) Dunker, Jacquelyn June (Floyd) Baker, Patricia (Roy-Geizer) Blum, nephew Dennis L. Robert, brother-in-law Steve Shores and mother-in-law Mary June Shores.

Memorials may be made to American Legion Post 1127 of Evansville.



MARGIE R. PAUTLER

Margie R. Pautler, 78, of Columbia, formerly of Red Bud, died at 8:10 a.m., Friday, February 4, 2022 at Integrity Healthcare of Columbia.

She was born September 15, 1943 in Red Bud to William L. and Ruth Margaret Schulin Walter.

Margie married Norman Pautler September 23, 1961 at St. Pius V Catholic Church in Walsh. He survives.

She had worked as a secretary at World Color Press in Sparta for over 20 years and was a legal secretary for Ron Stanley for 20 years. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Columbia and had been a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Red Bud for 26 years. Margie enjoyed bowling, boating, dancing and music. She was a great cook and loved to travel.

She is also survived by children Rhonda (Stephen) Saputo and Kevin (Jane) Pautler of Columbia; sisters Doris (Charles) Rader of Walsh, Beverly (Richard) Braun of Centralia and Donna Walter (Mark Walsh) of Phelan, California; sisters-in-law Needie (Roman) Walter Bleem of Walsh and Patricia Walter of Ellis Grove; grandchildren Breanne and Brittany Fiechl, Bryce Pautler and Jennifer Caron; nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers Robert, Jerald, Randall and William Walter.

Visitation is from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, February 12, 2022 at Pechacek Funeral Home in Red Bud. Services will follow, with Fr. Steven Pautler officiating. Burial will be in St. Boniface Catholic Cemetery in Evansville.

Memorials may be made to Dementia Society of America.

Sign the guest book at wpfh.net.



ROSEMARIE C. MUDD

Rosemarie "Rosie" C. Mudd, 78, of Prairie du Rocher, died at 3:12 p.m. Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at Mercy Hospital South in St. Louis.

She was born May 23, 1943 in Paderborn, Illinois to Henry H. and Veronica M. Ehrstein Kettler.

Rosie married Douglas J. Mudd April 1, 1967 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Paderborn. He survives.

She was a homemaker for many years and also worked at the Adorers of the Blood of Christ in Ruma in the housekeeping department until her retirement. Rosie was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Prairie du Rocher and was devout in her faith. She was a faithful worker at the parish picnic, the winter breakfast fundraiser and was on the church decorating committee. She served on the school board at Prairie du Rocher Community Consolidation School District 134 from 1981-1993. She was active in the Cub Scouts in Prairie du Rocher for 15 years, where she was a den leader, cub master and unit commissioner. Rosie enjoyed being with her family, working in her vegetable garden and flower bed, canning, baking and embroidery.

She is also survived by children Julie (Michael) Carle, Christine (David) Krebel, Steven (Kenia) Mudd, Todd Mudd and Andrew (Amanda) Mudd, all of Prairie du Rocher; sisters Barbara (Elmer) Becherer of Trenton, Illinois, Bernice (Albert) Macy of Columbia, Jo (Butch) Krieg of Belleville and Melinda (Larry) Nobe of Venedy; sister-in-law Judy (Fred) Deterding of Modoc; grandchildren Madeline, Olivia and Meg Carle, Ethan and Emma Krebel, Katelyn, Evan, Emily and Alison Mudd; nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, in-laws Justin and Mary Mudd and brothers Donald and David Kettler.

Visitation is from 8 to 9:15 a.m. Thursday, February 10, 2022 at Pechacek Funeral Home in Red Bud. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Prairie du Rocher, with Fr. Sebastian Ukohy officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph's Cemetery Fund.

Sign the guest book at wpfh.net.



BLONITA J. MILLER

Blonita J. Miller, 68, of Willisville, died at 3:02 p.m. Saturday, February 5, 2022 at Missouri-Baptist Hospital in St. Louis.

She was born December 2, 1953 at Scott Air Force Base to Charles and Ruby Hancock Hargrave.

She was retired from the Gilster-Mary Lee lab. Blonita was a member of the Women's Organization of Willisville, and she volunteered at the library. She enjoyed buffalo hunting with her sister and liked to take road trips and taking pictures of old barns.

Blonita is survived by children Rosie (Tom) Snider of Percy, Jimmie (Jennifer) Askins of Ava, Jeff (Leslie) Miller of Pinckneyville, Dana (Jerry) Wyciskalla of Tamaroa and Amy Miller of Tamaroa; 14 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; siblings Jinks (Betty) Hargrave of Trenton, Illinois, Vanessa (Cleo) Roy of Maestown, Illinois, Anne Vanoson of Pacific, Missouri and Denise Mullis of LeRoy, Illinois; brother-in-law Blaise Buchanan of Festus, Missouri and her favorite, meanest cat who ever walked, Possum.

Blonita was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters and her husband.

Services were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at River of Life Church in Percy, with Rev. Ed Spiller officiating. Burial was at Percy Village Cemetery.

Wilson's Funeral Home in Ava assisted the family with arrangements.

Memorials may be made to River of Life Church in Percy.

Sign the guest book at wilsonsfuneralhome.net.



PIEN LAWTON

Pien Lawton, 71, of Sparta, died Friday, January 28, 2022 at Sparta Community Hospital.

She was born in the Kingdom of Thailand.

Pien married Steven W. Lawton June 22, 1979 in East Alton. He survives.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed gardening and taking care of their home.

Pien is also survived by her family in Thailand and her family in Illinois.

Services were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at Wilson's Funeral Home in Steeleville, with Rev. Michael Lawton officiating. Burial was in Union Cemetery in Sparta.

Memorials may be made to Randolph County Humane Society.

Sign the guest book at wilsonsfuneralhome.net.



WILMA FLORENE SHAIN

Wilma Florene "Wendy" Shain, 93, of Sparta, died peacefully Sunday, February 6, 2022 at Sparta Community Hospital.

She was born March 22, 1928 in Mt. Vernon to William Frederick and Ruth Carver Bayne.

On October 20, 1946, Wendy married D.C. Shain, and they were married for 60 years. He preceded her in death November 5, 2007.

Wendy and Dee were business owners in Marissa for several years. She enjoyed their life in a small community and spending time on the countryside with family. She had many friends with whom she played bingo, and she was always ready to go to yard sales. Wendy loved people and laughter. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

She is survived by children Bruce (Vicki) Shain, Gary (Laurie) Shain and Marsha (Joe) Owens, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Wendy was also preceded in death by her parents, one grandson, two brothers and two sisters.

A private memorial service is being scheduled for the family.

Heil-Schuessler & Sinn Funeral Home in Sparta is assisting the family with arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Coulterville VFW.

Sign the guest book at heilschuessler.com.



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NEW! RANDOLPH COUNTY 3.5 ACRES — EVANSVILLE
Great location to build your dream home! Wooded and located on paved road with rural water available. Small creek on East side. Sparta School District. Nebo Road.

JACKSON COUNTY 1.36 ACRES — CARBONDALE
Commercial property with office building, detached garage and parking lot. Zoned PA. Located at SE corner of US Route 51 and Old Route 51.

JACKSON COUNTY 40 ACRES — ELKVILLE
Excellent hunt property. All mature woodland with plenty of surrounding feed. Gated access. Krela Road.

JACKSON COUNTY 40 ACRES — GORHAM
Productive level cropland in the Mississippi River bottoms. Frontage on West Gorham Road.

RANDOLPH COUNTY 5 ACRES — STEELEVILLE
Nice building site zoned MR-1. Many possible uses for this nice 5-acre tract inside Steeleville city limits. Water and sewer nearby. James Street.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
CAMPBELL HILL. Shiloh Hill Tavern is on the market! Well-established rural business sold with furniture, fixtures and inventory.

REDUCED! RANDOLPH COUNTY HOME — STEELEVILLE
Nice 2-bed, 1-bath home in quiet neighborhood. Full dry basement, attached garage, dead-end street. Nice screened porch, patio, above ground pool.

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RANDOLPH COUNTY
Melanie L. Johnson
County Clerk
& Recorder

WARRANTY DEEDS
Timothy L. Byrnes & Barbara E. Byrnes to Linda D. Lord-Garrison, Lt 6 Blk B CH Phillips Addn, Consideration \$108,000

David Patrick Holder to Brandon Sauerhage, Blk 43 Swan SD, Consideration \$52,000
Kyle A. Hess & Melania Hess to Andrew J. Schlueter, Lts 10 & 11 Gaslite SD; SE NE Sec 1 5-6, Consideration \$137,000

Candice M. Gaertner to Linda K. Beck, Lt 60 Fair SD, Consideration \$95,000

Gregory Michael Davitz to Kaley Michelle Ludwig, SW Sec

13 7-7, Consideration \$95,000

Matthew Schlemmer to John G. Ford & Amanda M. Ford, Lt 4 Blk 31 Pra SD, Consideration \$6,000

Willis E. Rezba & Willis D. Rezba to Ann Rezba & Brian K. Oakley, Lt 2 Blk 4 Gardner SD, Consideration \$40,000

Kenneth A. Mennerich & Beverly K. Mennerich to Stephen G. Miller & Revocable Trust Agreement of Stephen G. Miller, Sec 35 6-7, Consideration \$850,000

QUITCLAIM DEEDS
Lonnie R. Knop & Donna Knop to Lonnie R. Knop & Donna Knop, Lts 1 & 2 Blk 2 HT Harris SD
Dennis R. Allen to

Rusty Allen, Lts 11 & 12 WM Glore SD; NE SE Sec 25 6-5

PERRY COUNTY
Robert D. Kelly
County Clerk
& Recorder

WARRANTY DEEDS
Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Alan D. Elder & Lisa L. Elder, Pt SE Sec 6 4-4, Consideration \$146,502

Sara Sronce Garcia & Sarah J. Sronce to Braydon Haggard & Taylor Haggard, Lt 26 Pinckneyville Original Survey, Consideration \$150,000

BDK to Douglas R. Morgenstern & Marsha D. Morgenstern, Lts 16, 17 & 18 Blk 25 Keyes Metcalfs 1st Addn, Consideration \$35,000

BDK to Douglas R. Morgenstern & Marsha D. Morgenstern, Lt 13 Blk 20 Keyes Metcalfs 1st Addn, Consideration \$35,000

Brenda K. Erickson Davis, Darryl E. Kellerman, Douglas E. Kellerman, Jerry L. Kellerman, Keith A. Kellerman & Kevin D. Kellerman to Carol A. Kellerman & Douglas E. Kellerman, Pt SE NW Sec 13 5-3, Consideration \$149,584

Huggins Inc. to Eric Huggins LLC, Lts 1 & 2 Campbells Addn

Lola M. Bruce to Larry Moon, Lts 24, 25, 26 & Pt Lt 27 Willisville East Addn, Consideration \$44,000

Dorothy M. Lively & William D. Lively to Ronald G. Lively, Pt NE SE Sec 18 6-4, Consideration \$1,000

QUITCLAIM DEEDS
City of Du Quoin to Donna Eubanks, NW NW Sec 16 6-1; Lt 7 Clark Fleming Addn

DEEDS

Debra R. Queen & Jack R. Queen to Jack R. Queen Declaration of Trust & Jack R. Queen, Pt NE Sec 5 6-2; Pt SE SW Sec 32 5-2; Lts 28 & 29 Pinckneyville Original Survey
Shirley K. Ibendahl, Josephine A. Miller & Shirley K. Ibendahl deceased to Christy Beckemeyer & Tracy Beckemeyer, NW SE Sec 4 4-3, Consideration \$395,000

Barbara Sharp & Barbara J. Sharp to Department of Transportation & State of Illinois Department of Transportation, Pt Lt 10 Pinckneyville Original Survey, Consideration \$2,300

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Beginning At 7pm Sharp
Auction Held At Oakdale Village Hall, Oakdale, IL

80+/- Acres Farm Land

Section 34 Pilot Knob Township Washington County

Due to the Death of Theodore Stern, this tract is to be sold at auction Land located 4 miles East of Oakdale on Oakdale Blacktop Road. Then take Garfield Road south 2 miles to Perry Co. Line Road - Then east 1/2 mile to the Stern Farm.

80 +/- acres approx. 75 +/- acres tillable, balance in old farmstead and wooded waterway, 1/2 mile frontage on County Line Road - Rural Water on County Line Rd. in Nashville School Districts. A good hunting area!

- Terms:
1. An Opening Bid of \$5,500 or more per acre is required. If opening bid is received auction becomes absolute. If no opening bid of \$5,500 or greater per acre is received, the auction is canceled.
 2. 10% down immediately following auction and balance due in 45 days or less.
 3. Possession immediately upon closing.
 4. All mineral rights owned by seller will become property of buyer.
 5. Property sells "AS IS."
 6. All announcements at auction take precedence over printed advertisements.

SALLIE STERN, OWNER
For Title Information Call: Stuart E. Morgenstern, Attorney For Owner 618-357-5315

Auctioneer's Note: This would make a nice addition to any farm or great investment for any family. Possible nice country home sites.

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SUPPORT Local BUSINESS

Friedens church hosts its annual pre-Lent breakfast

By Carol Mercer
It was decided at the February 7 meeting that the Friedens United Church of Christ in Marissa's Evangelical Daughters will hold its annual women's pre-Lent breakfast.

The ecumenical breakfast for area women starts at 8:30 Saturday, February 26, with a meditation led by Pastor Brett Palmer in the church sanctuary.

All COVID safety precautions will be in place. Masks are requested to be worn into the church, and once you are seated in the sanctuary, the masks may be removed. After the service, the ladies will mask and proceed to fellowship hall in the lower level, where a breakfast of scrambled eggs, biscuits, gravy, fruit cup, juice, milk and coffee will be served.

friendly socialization are a regular part of the event, and Lenten booklets will be given out.

The breakfast is a gift of the Evangelical Daughters, and it is hoped that this free service and breakfast will start the Lenten journey on a spiritual high note.

Since the Friedens women have been organizing this breakfast for several decades, traditionally the Saturday before the start of Lent, it has come to be an integral part of the Lent experience for many area ladies.

Parking is available behind the church, and manned elevator service is available.

Reservations are not required, but it would be helpful to have a basic count, especially groups. Call Ruby Lehman at 618-295-2982 or the church at 618-295-2004.

Fellowship and

Project Next Gen resumes February 17

Project Next Generation classes will resume at the Sparta library Thursday, February 17 from 4 to 5 p.m. Personal protection safeguards will be in place.

All youth 10 to 18 are encouraged to sign up for LEGO.

There will also be LEGO for 7 to 9-year-olds on that same date and time.

There are LEGOs in all sizes and colors, so there is enough for any age, courtesy of a grant from the Illinois State Library.

Everyone 10 to 18 is

encouraged to attend ARCKIT Thursday, February 24.

Let your architectural ideas and designs come to life right before your eyes. These kits encourage participants to think freely and without restrictions of instructions. ARCKIT fits every feature of STEAM in a fun educational aspect, and friends can work together on the structures.

Call the library at 618-443-5014 for more information about these programs.

COVID vaccine clinic

The Illinois Department of Public Health will sponsor a COVID vaccination clinic in Baldwin this Saturday, February 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The clinic will be at the K-River Community Center, formerly the American Legion, located at 310 W. Elm Street.

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines and booster shots will be available for anyone 5 and older.

Pediatric and registered nurses will be on-site.

The shots are free, and no photo ID or insurance cards are required.

Glitter date rescheduled

Glitter in the Night, the Sparta library's major fundraising dinner and auction, has been changed from February 19 to April 2.

Friends of the Sparta Public Library, which organizes the event, took the hike in COVID cases into account and

changed the date.

The dinner was canceled last year due to COVID.

Monetary donations and items for the auction are still being accepted and can be dropped off at the library during regular business hours.



Pinewood derby champs

Steeleville Scout Pack 348 held its pinewood derby February 6 at the Steeleville Legion. The event had a glow-in-the-dark theme. From left are Darion Jackson, car with the most intense glow; Evan Keller, second fastest; Jagger Mueller, most unique; Lane Woods, most patriotic; Raider Feldmann, fastest car; Kaden Hecht, best design; Jhett Mueller, fourth fastest; Landen Reed, third fastest, and Issac Rathert, most humorous.

Reuscher on dean's list

Alex Reuscher of Ava, who is studying cybersecurity, was recently named to the 2021 fall dean's list at Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont.

Students on the dean's list have achieved a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

Higgins and Koeneman on dean's list

Harrison Higgins and Christian Koeneman of Steeleville recently achieved dean's list status for the 2021 fall semester at State Technical College of Missouri in Linn.

To be placed on the dean's list, a full-time student must earn a semester GPA of between 3.5 and 4.0.

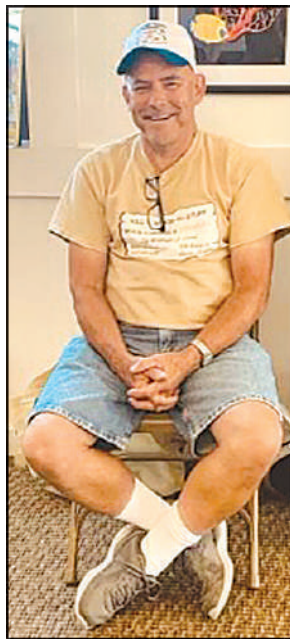
Grief support group to meet in Sparta

Sparta First United Methodist Church is offering the community a grief support group to provide help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend.

The group meets for 12 weeks, starting Thursday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the church at 600 W. University. However, you do not have to attend every session, which lasts about 1.5 hours.

For more information, call the church at 618-443-3714.

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Featured artist

The Mississippi Valley Art Guild's featured artist of the month is William Lang of Chester. Lang has been woodcarving since he was 8, and for more than 20 years, he has been creating intarsia woodwork, which uses varied shapes, sizes and species of wood fitted together to create a mosaic-like picture. His work consists of animals and nature and can be viewed in Chester at the library, Buena Vista Bank, St. Nicholas Landmark, Southern Illinois Eye Care and Reids' Harvest House. Lang is also a musician/songwriter.

Ellis Grove reschedules meeting

The Ellis Grove village board postponed its regular monthly meeting to Monday, February 14 at 7 p.m. at the village hall.

The board was unable to have its meeting February 7 because poor road conditions did not allow the proper meeting documents to be prepared in time.

Buchheit fundraiser for FFA under way

Buchheit of Sparta will conduct its annual fundraiser to benefit local Future Farmers of America chapters February 9-21.

This year's proceeds will be donated to the Marissa and Sparta high school.

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA supports students who aspire to be teachers, doctors, scientists, business owners, farmers and other professions.

Every year, Buchheit representatives attend county fairs in each of their retail locations to purchase livestock from local FFA chapters then donate

it back, so the chapter can resell the animals to others in the community.

To show additional support for FFA, Buchheit holds an FFA fundraiser, where customers are asked to donate \$1 or \$5 to their local chapter.

All money raised supports ag education activities, such as attending state competitions or aiding in buying food for school-owned livestock.

"We support our local chapters of FFA because we believe they truly are the future of our great country," said Tim Buchheit, CEO of Buchheit. "Through the next generation, we can help our communities explore the possibilities of a simpler life."

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