

In the know



LADY TIGERS UNDEFEATED IN LIC PLAY

It was billed as a game that could decide the LIC girls title but Paris came away with a 58-43 win over Olney Thursday at Eveland Gym. **SPORTS, 9A**

0 plastic tree, 0 plastic tree

There are two options for Christmas trees: real and artificial. One of these is much better for the planet. **C'EST LA VIE, 1B**

Bicentennial party

Edgar County Historical Society brings in re-enactors and local historians for Illinois' 200th birthday. **HISTORY, 3B**



A symbol of Christmas

Poinsettias, also known as the Flor de Noche Bueno, are deeply associated with December and celebration.

Local ram is world champ

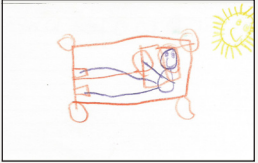
The North American International Livestock Exposition had two rams competing for the top spot, and both were raised by Debby Jo Holmquist. **AGRI-BUSINESS, 7B**

A season of giving in Paris

Area organizations and businesses donate to Shop with a Cop, Compassionate Food Ministry and other charities. **NEWS, 12B**

TODAY'S WEATHER

H 33 L 19
Weather forecast here. **2A**



Drawing by **CHRIS, WENZ**

LET'S BE FRIENDS!

Latest news, online extras

Join the conversation and have fun with us on Facebook! Search for **The Prairie Press** and "like" us.

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CONTACT US

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday



The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

LOCALLY OWNED, LOYAL TO OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018

Big plans for downtown

Prospect Bank envisions a beautified downtown; transformation set to begin in 2019

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

After several years in the making, a beautification project that will change the look of the Paris downtown is set to start in 2019.

Eric Volkmann, president and CEO of Prospect Bank, said the area north of the bank to Union Street, which is empty space and parking lots, will be transfigured with landscaping. Some of the space will continue as bank parking but the use of curbs, islands, trees and other plants will result in a more pleasant green space than exists now.

The plan has gone through several versions since the ear-

ly 2000s when Bob Morgan first acquired the property of the former Friendly Tavern at the corner of Main and Union and later a strip of buildings on Main Street, across from the present Main Street Café. The buildings were subsequently demolished.

"He (Morgan) just wanted to get rid of them," said Volkmann, adding the bank later bought the properties from Morgan to improve parking, especially with the property fronting on Main Street. "The bank and Bob are separate."

Parking is an issue for the bank. Volkmann said people working or doing business at the courthouse dominate

parking on the square, making it difficult for bank customers, especially the elderly or those with disabilities, to access the building.

The county recently signed an agreement with the bank that helps move the project along. Revising the parking north of the bank will have a negative impact on parking around the jail so the bank is giving the county part of the former Vadas Auto Parts property for the county to develop as parking space adjacent to the jail.

In addition, Morgan is giving the county the former Floyd Hegg auto dealership property on Central Street di-

rectly across from the jail.

In return, the county agreed to follow the bank's landscaping plans and oversee curb work in the public areas.

Something unique about the parking lot development is planning for the future.

"EnerStar has agreed to put in charging stations, and we are adding bike racks," said Volkmann.

Charging stations are for the use of electric vehicles and Volkmann said cyclists from Terre Haute, Ind., frequently ride to Paris and eat at the Main Street Café. The bike racks are a convenience for them and to encourage others to ride more by pro-

viding a secure place to store the bikes while doing things downtown.

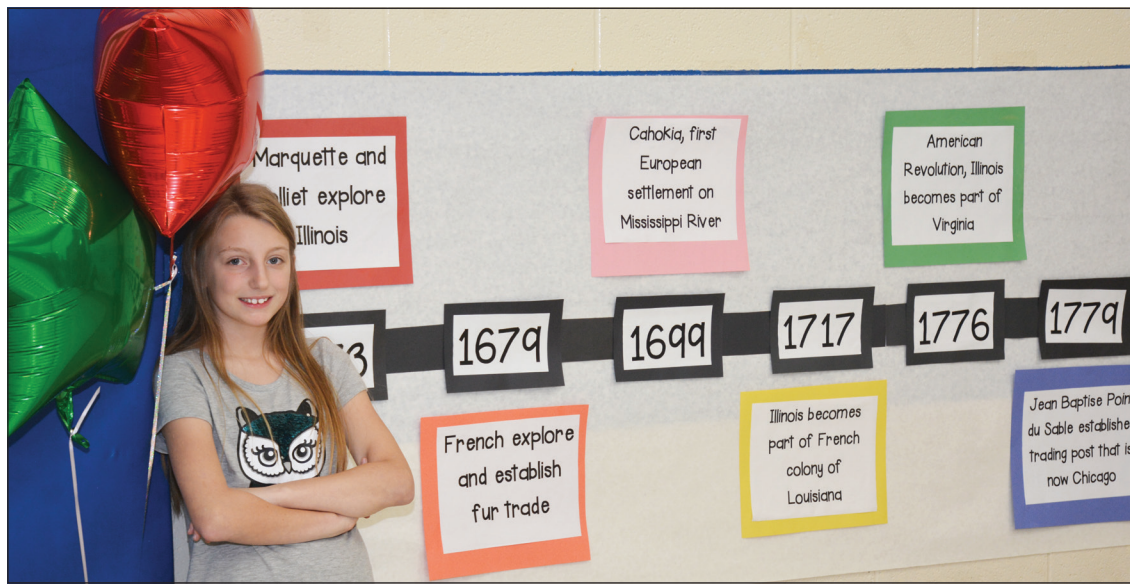
The next step is convincing the Paris City Council to make TIF money available for other improvements.

"I haven't given them (city council) a formal proposal, but I'm about ready to do so," said Volkmann.

The level of city participation is a factor in how elaborate the end product will be. Volkmann hopes the city will vacate an alley, replace deteriorated sidewalks, widen and make the alley between the bank's drive-up facility and the former Beacon-News

See **DOWNTOWN, Page 8A**

SHILOH MARKS STATE'S BICENTENNIAL



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Taylor Reardin waits to take students through the Illinois history timeline at Shiloh Elementary School's celebration of the state bicentennial. Reardin and her fourth grade classmates researched and organized the event Monday, Dec. 3.

Happy 200th anniversary

Shiloh fourth grade organizes bicentennial elementary program

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

HUME – Great things happen when Amy Kincaid, a teacher at Shiloh Elementary School, turns her fourth grade students loose on a project.

The students organized an Illinois bicentennial celebration at the school Monday, Dec. 3. Modeled after a birthday party the event included games like throwing a sticky ball and trying to hit Illinois on a map of the United States, memory games and an adaptation of cornhole by throwing a beanbag at a board with three holes cut into it labeled Springfield, Kaskaskia and Vandalia for the current and former state capitals. Pin the tail on the donkey was modified to putting a star a big state map and trying to get as close as possible to Springfield's location.

"The kids wanted hands on activities," said Kincaid. "The said they wanted things to do. The kids took off and figured out what to do."

Some of the stations for the event in the school's multipurpose room included a chance to sample the state fruit – a gold rush apple – and to create images of the state butterfly – the blue violet butterfly.

An information station for agricul-



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

A lively Nathan Queen, wearing glasses, points out members in the Illinois Hall of Fame to other students during the Shiloh Elementary School's state bicentennial celebration Monday, Dec. 3. Shiloh fourth grade students created the hall of fame for notable Illinois people as part of the event.

ture provided facts about corn and soybeans and also noted Illinois is the number one producer of pumpkins in the United States. Other students created a timeline featuring important dates in Illinois history and there was an Illinois Hall of Fame featuring sports figures, entertainers and the four U.S. presidents who have an Illinois connection.

The students also created large drawings depicting the officially state designated fish, animal, mineral, flower, dance, prairie grass and many other such items. An area devoted to the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago also had a couple of games to play.

Kincaid said work on the project

See **SHILOH, Page 8A**

Remote water meter reading coming to Kansas

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

KANSAS – Reading the water meters and calculating the water bills will be much easier in the near future for the village of Kansas.

The Kansas Village Board unanimously approved the purchase of a remote water meter reader at the regular meeting Wednesday, Dec. 5. The meter, which costs approximately \$3,230, makes it convenient for the village utility workers to accurately read meters, logging the use

of water and generating the monthly water bills.

The cost of the machine includes a \$500 annual maintenance fee for the device manufactured by Neptune Technology Group.

Utilities supervisor Andrew Henn noted the device logs data and is Android based. He recently purchased a Chromebook for just more than \$100 to operate the meter reader.

"This will make life simpler as far as meter reading goes," Henn told the board

before the vote on the purchase.

He noted the reader will catch the signal from the newly replaced remote meters being installed in the village. He reported the installation of new meters is approximately 40 percent completed.

"If all goes well, we will hit it hard next year and get more than half the north side finished installing the new meters," Henn said.

He added village employees are currently manually

recording the meter information.

Henn said Neptune anticipates releasing a new software program in 2019. The new management platform is designed specifically for the needs of water utilities. It will collect water meter data faster and more accurately, quickly identify potential leaks, excessive consumption and reverse flow.

In routine business, the board approved the 2019 property tax levy. Susan Saxton made the motion to

once again have what she described as a standard across the board normal increment of five percent. The board unanimously voted to approve the levy.

Henn reported he turned in the annual Motor Fuel Tax paperwork to the county highway department. He made small increases to the tree trimming, weed spraying and maintenance funds.

Henn also anticipates going back to spreading pea rock for street and alley oil

See **KANSAS, Page 8A**

Santa's Visiting Hours

Saturday, November 24th 1:30PM - 4:30PM
 Sunday, November 25th 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Friday, November 30th 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Saturday, December 1st 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Sunday, December 2nd 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Friday, December 7th 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Saturday, December 8th 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Sunday, December 9th 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Friday, December 14th 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Saturday, December 15th 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Sunday, December 16th 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Friday, December 21st 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Saturday, December 22nd 5:00PM - 7:00PM
 Sunday, December 23rd 5:00PM - 7:00PM

LOCAL FORECAST

NORMAL: High: 40 Low: 25 More weather: go to www.prairiepress.net and click on weather.

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
33 19 Prec: 0%	35 20 Prec: 0%	37 21 Prec: 0%	39 26 Prec: 0%	42 32 Prec: 20%	43 34 Prec: 40%	46 36 Prec: 40%

Values are afternoon highs ... overnight lows (next morning) ... chance for precipitation.

ALMANAC

Paris through noon Tuesday.

Temperature
 High/Low 40°/25°
 Record High 68° in 1946
 Record Low -2° in 1909

Precipitation
 Month to date 0.76"
 Normal month to date 0.80"
 Year to date 48.01"
 Normal year to date 40.12"

SUN AND MOON

	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
TODAY	6:59 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	8:01 a.m.	5:50 p.m.
SUNDAY	7:00 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	8:53 a.m.	6:40 p.m.
MONDAY	7:01 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	9:40 a.m.	7:33 p.m.
TUESDAY	7:01 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	10:21 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	7:02 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	10:57 a.m.	9:25 p.m.
THURSDAY	7:03 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	11:29 a.m.	10:22 p.m.
FRIDAY	7:04 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	11:59 a.m.	11:20 p.m.

EVERETT LAU
 Weather Wizard
 @elau_weather on Twitter
 @EdgarCoWx on Twitter
 Paris Area Weather

TALK BACK

ACCURACY CHECKS

Everyone makes mistakes. We strive to make fewer of them. It is our policy to check every story for its accuracy. If you were contacted for an article and the information wasn't verified, please contact **Publisher Nancy Zeman at 217-921-3216 or nzeman@prairiepress.net.** If you spot a factual error, let us know that, too.

BE A PART OF OUR PAPER

We invite our readers and the Edgar County community to join the discussion to make your newspaper better. We'd love to hear what you think. Drop us an email or stop by the office. Have you got a news tip? Call us or message us on Facebook.

ABOUT US

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PLAN YOUR WEEK

TODAY

ELF TRAINING

Children have the opportunity to train as first class elves by visiting the Terre Children's Museum. The training activity schedule is 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 8; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 15; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 22; 11 a.m. Dec. 26; and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 29. Completing all training tasks earns the child an elf badge. More information about the program is available by calling the museum at 812-235-5548.

SANTA VISITS EAGLES

Santa Claus is visiting the Paris Eagles Lodge 4-6 p.m. Dec. 8.

VFW STEAK SUPPER

The VFW Auxiliary steak supper in 5-7 p.m. at the post home on West Court Street

MONDAY

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The community kitchen serves from 4:30-6 p.m. every Monday, weather permitting, and exclusive of holidays, at the Human Resources Center, 118 E. Court Street, Paris.

TUESDAY

FIRST RESPONDERS HONORED

Heritage Family Church, 707 E. Wood, is hosting an appreciation program for area first responders 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 11. The program consists of three speakers making brief addresses

DON'T MISS

HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS AT MARTINSVILLE, DEC. 8

The community of Martinsville is having a big Christmas Party today, Dec. 8. Here is a list of activities:
 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - 17th Annual Shopping Expo at the Martinsville Community Center. Donuts are available in the morning and a chili/grilled cheese lunch is served in the building's basement.
 10:30 a.m. to noon - Holiday Open House at the Martinsville Public Library. Children can have their picture taken with Santa and make a craft while they enjoy homemade treats and will take home a new book from Santa. All activities are free.
 4 p.m. - Jingle Bell Fun Walk/Run - A free, fun time for all ages. It's not a race for best time, just a fun, festive walk/run. Each participant is encouraged to dress in a holiday costume and will receive reindeer antlers and glow necklace. Fun treats are awarded to the winners of the costume competition. The course is only 1 mile, so bring the family and enjoy the sound of jingle bells and glow lights as you walk/run. Registration starts at 3:30 p.m. in Linn Park.
 4-6 p.m. - Festivities at Linn Park include free hot dogs, cookies and hot chocolate; music; children's crafts; horse-drawn wagon rides; and bonfire.
 4:30 p.m. - Candy Cane Hunt in Linn Park.
 5 and 5:30 p.m. - "Bethlehem Rhapsody" Puppet Show is the Christmas Story set to music and presented by the Martinsville Bible Church Youth Group.
 6 p.m. - Parade of Lights. Santa and Mrs. Claus are at the fire hall following the parade, and the public is encouraged to stop by for free cookies and hot chocolate.

SHARE YOUR EVENT

Community events are published for free as space allows. For inclusion in the community calendar, submit the name of the event, a brief description of it, location, cost to attend (if any), a contact name and phone number/email for the public. To submit:
Email: nzeman@prairiepress.net
Mail: Community Calendar, 101 N. Central, Paris, Ill., 61944
Questions? call 217-921-3216.

plus an opportunity for Edgar County Sheriff Jeff Wood, Paris Police Chief Mike Henness, Paris Fire Chief Brian Gates and representatives of emergency medical services to address the audience. Refreshments follow the program.

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Tuesday in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Weigh-in starts at 5:45 p.m. and the meeting is 7 p.m. Contact Janice Stevens at 217-808-0078 for more information.

WEDNESDAY

WEIGHT WATCHERS MEETING

Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday in the basement of the Edgar County Farm Bureau building, 210 W. Washington, Paris. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m. and the meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Information about the Weight Watchers system is available at www.weightwatchers.com, or by attending a meeting.

THURSDAY

MORNING TOPS MEETINGS

TOPS #11563 meets every Thursday morning at the Highland Manor Community Room with weigh-ins beginning at 8 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. More information is available by attending a meeting or calling Jo Ellen Edmonds at 251-4722.

MONTHLY EUCHRE NIGHT

The monthly euchre night at Red Oak Inn, Paris, is 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13.

VFW AUXILIARY DINNER

The weekly VFW Auxiliary dinner is 5-7 p.m. at the post home on West Court Street. This week's menu is ham, mashed potatoes or sweet potatoes, lima beans or breaded tomatoes and a white or wheat roll. The cost is \$5. Drinks are 50 cents and dessert is \$1.

UPCOMING

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

The Terre Haute Children's Museum and the Wabash Valley Girls Softball League are hosting a daddy-daughter dance 6-9 p.m. Dec. 15 at the museum. More information is available by calling the museum at 812-235-5548.

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This advertisement in support of the PCOFA season is provided by Steve and Faye Eitel

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Kansas Community Unit School District #3

- A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Kansas Community Unit School District #3 for 2018 will be held on December 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Kansas Unit Office.
 Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact John Hasten, Superintendent, at the Unit Office at 310 South Front Street, Kansas or by phone at (217) 948-5174.
- The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2017 were \$1,294,003.
 The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2019 are \$1,415,205. This represents a 9.37% increase over the previous year.
- The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2017 were \$198,578. The estimated property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$0. This represents a 100% decrease over the previous year.
- The total property taxes extended or abated for 2017 were \$1,492,581.
 The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$1,415,205. This represents a 5% decrease over the previous year.

Chrisman welcomes holidays



A giant Frosty the Snowman is the centerpiece for the holiday decorating efforts in the Chrisman City Park. Gary Henry/The Prairie Press



Dorothy Carole Yaw serves chili at the Chrisman Area Community Club's chili supper during the Christmas in Chrisman celebration Wednesday, Dec. 5. Gary Henry/The Prairie Press



The honor guard from the Chrisman American Legion leads the nighttime illuminated parade for the Christmas in Chrisman event. Gary Henry/The Prairie Press



Among the family and business lighted displays in the Chrisman City Park is a wreath at the veterans memorial. Gary Henry/The Prairie Press



Carriage rides were a new and popular addition to the 2018 Christmas in Chrisman event. Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

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Parsons sentenced to prison for burglary, theft

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

An Indiana man has plenty of time to contemplate the wisdom of a career in burglary and thievery while spending half a dozen years in prison.

Kenneth E. Parsons, 43, West Terre Haute, Ind., ap-

peared in custody for the Nov. 26 criminal and traffic call in Edgar County Circuit Court and pleaded guilty to two counts of a Class 2 felony burglary and a Class A misdemeanor theft. For the two felony charges, he was sentenced to concurrent terms of six

COURT

years in Illinois Department of Corrections with credit for 44 days previously served, court costs and various state fees. For the misdemeanor conviction, he was sentenced to 364 days in jail to merge with his IDOC sentence, \$350.88 restitution, court costs and various state fees. He was also ordered to forfeit all items seized at the time of his arrest. He was remanded to custody to begin service of the sentence.

Other individuals appearing before the bench for the Nov. 26 and Nov. 29 court calls included:

IN CUSTODY

■Joshua T. Bewley, 31, Paris, appeared in custody, waived his rights to an attorney and pleaded guilty to a Class 4 felony domestic battery with prior convictions and a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer charges. A presentencing investigation was ordered. The matter was continued for the sentencing hearing. He was ordered to have no contact with the apparent victim and was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Dallas L. DeWeese, 31, Paris, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel. His oral motion for a personal recognition bond was denied. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Robert G. Dooley, 34, Marshall, appeared in custody. His unresolved Class 2 felony theft of a motor vehicle and a Class 2 felony burglary charges were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody.

■Sarah E. Krael, 27, Chrisman, appeared in custody and was presented with a petition to revoke her conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor endangerment of a child conviction. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Justin D. Robison, 30, Kansas, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe. Bond was set at \$5,000. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Charles F. Straw, 41, Paris, appeared in custody. He was presented with and denied a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine conviction. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

In another matter, Straw's unresolved charges of a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class A mis-

demeanor aggravated assault, two counts of a Class A misdemeanor violation of an order of protection and a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia charges were continued for pretrial conferences. Straw was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Corey D. Weaver, 30, Paris, appeared in custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections. He entered a negotiated guilty plea to a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine charge on condition he not serve more than two years in prison. The matter was continued for the sentencing hearing, and he was remanded to custody of DOC.

■Daniel B. Young, 32, Paris, appeared in custody for missing a previous court appearance. He was presented with a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class 1 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery and a Class A misdemeanor firearm without a valid FOID card convictions. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the petition hearing. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

CHARGES

■Jeremiah T.A. Boswell, 23, Marshall, was charged with a Class 4 felony false 9-1-1 call. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Keith A. Gosnell, 33, Paris, was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. The public defender was appointed. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Echo D. Johnson-Daniels, 32, Paris, was charged with a Class 2 felony failure to report an accident involving personal injury and a Class 4 felony failure to stop after an accident involving personal injury charges. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Dakota A. Maloney, 20, Vermilion, was presented with a petition to revoke his conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license conviction. The public defender was appointed, and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Gene R. Marchant, 39, Paris, was charged with a Class 4 felony aggravated fleeing from a police officer and a Class A misdemeanor endangering the life of a child. He told the court he will hire an attorney and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Elvis Ramirez Martinez, 32, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class B misdemeanor driving without a license. The public defender was appointed and the matter

was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Connie J. Stappenbeck, 52, Hume, was charged with a Class 3 felony aggravated battery and a Class A misdemeanor battery. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Dustyn W. Umberger, 28, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe. The public defender was appointed and a not guilty plea with a jury trial demand was entered. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

GUILTY PLEAS

■Richard C. Ausman, 33, Paris, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property and was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge, a \$500 fine, court costs and various state fees. In exchange for the plea, the state dismissed a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property less than \$500 and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct charges.

■Ethan T. Johnson, 20, Paris, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a revoked license charge and was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge, a \$500 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Leslie M. Nicholson, 18, Paris, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. She was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge, a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Leroy J. Schmitt, 34, Paris, entered a negotiated guilty plea to a Class 4 felony domestic battery with a prior conviction charge and was sentenced to 120 days in jail with credit for two days previously served with 30 days to be served as electronic home monitoring and the balance of time subject to a motion to vacate, two years of probation, a \$500 fine, court costs and various state fees. The court also banned him from bars or taverns, and he was ordered not to consume alcohol while on probation. He was also ordered to obtain counseling per an evaluation.

In return for the plea, the state dismissed a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct charge.

In another case, Schmitt pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. He was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge to run concurrently with the felony sentence, a \$400 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Leroy L. Tate Jr., 22, Champaign, pleaded guilty to a Class B misdemeanor speeding charge. He was sentenced to a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Ronnie L. West, 47, Paris, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. He was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge, a \$300

fine, court costs and various state fees.

NOT GUILTY PLEAS

■Katelynn M. Bowman, 21, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia charges. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Jonathan H. Campbell, 30, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property and a Class A misdemeanor leaving the scene of an accident charges. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Jeanie L. Kelly, 54, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of an intoxicating compound charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Anthony W. Long, 40, Marshall, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor unlawful use of an automobile registration and a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charges. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Tabitha Munds, no age provided, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor retail theft and a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe charges. The matters were continued for a pretrial conference.

■Christopher L. Runyan, 39, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Stefan E. Vonkelsheimer, 43, Clinton, Ind., pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor speeding charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Ryan G. Wells, 34, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand after the preliminary hearing to a Class 4 felony criminal trespassing to a residence, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer and a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property charges. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

OTHER MATTERS

■Dakota D. Clark, 21, Kansas, learned the state's withdrew a petition to revoke his court supervision sentence for a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license conviction.

WARRANTS

Warrants were ordered prepared and issued when the following individuals failed to answer the court call: Megan Nicole Eads, 29, Paris; Dillon R. Manhart, 21, Oblong; Kip M. Pesavento, 49, Terre Haute, Ind.; Carol J. Pine, 49, Paris; Allen Sitkiewicz, 42, Paris; and William C. Swinford, 35, Michigan City, Ind.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR ELBRIDGE-SYMMES MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT DISTRICT, EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for Elbridge-Symmés Multi-Township Assessment District, Edgar County, Illinois, for fiscal year 2018-2019 will be held on December 18, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Law Office of Fruin and Kash, 129 North Central Ave., Paris, IL.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Attorney Richard M. Kash, Jr., Fruin & Kash, 129 North Central Avenue, Paris, IL 61944, telephone: 217-465-4196.

Since this is a newly created Multi-Township Assessment District, the total property taxes extended for Elbridge-Symmés Multi-Township Assessment District, Edgar County, Illinois for the 2017-2018 year was \$0.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2018-2019 are \$9,500.

ELBRIDGE-SYMMES MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT DISTRICT,
Pam Anderson, Patty Blackburn, Trustees.

Buckle up, Clark County

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

EFFINGHAM – Troopers from Illinois State Police District 12 are conducting special Occupant Restraint Enforcement Patrols (OREP) in Clark, Cumberland, Crawford, Lawrence, Effingham and Fayette counties during December.

"Safety belts are still one of the most effective safety devices in vehicles, estimated to save nearly 14,000 lives each year," said Captain Cory Ristvedt, District 12 commander. "Half of vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were not properly buckled up. The objective of this program is to increase occupant restraint compliance through education, child seat inspections and enforcement."

Illinois law requires all vehicle passengers, both front and back seat, to be buckled up.

VIRGINIA CARICO
CHRISMAN – Virginia M. Carico, 84, of Chrisman, went home to be with the Lord Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018, at Harrison Crossing, Terre Haute, Ind. She was a stay at home mom, a cook at the Chrisman School District and then a salesperson at Mooney Ford in Chrisman before retiring.

A funeral service is 1 p.m. today, Dec. 8, at Krabel Funeral Home, with the Rev. Don Shane officiating. Burial follows at Woodland Cemetery. Visitation is from 11 a.m. until the service time today at the funeral home.

Mrs. Carico was born Sept. 14, 1934, at French Lick, Ind., the daughter of the late Joseph and Golda Crews Walters. She was the oldest daughter of eight children. She married Dale Carico Dec. 2, 1951, at the Chrisman home of his parents, Crockett and Nora Carico, by the Rev. Frank Nestler. Dale preceded her in death Feb. 26, 2016.

PETER ROONEY
 Peter J. Rooney, 80, of Paris, passed away at 10:25 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, at Horizon Health Paris Community Hospital. Following cremation, a memorial Mass of Christian Burial is 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Valery Burus officiating and an honor guard provided by Fourth Degree members of Knights of Columbus Assembly 219. In-

CAROLYN STROHM
MARSHALL – Carolyn Jane Strohm, 84, of Marshall, passed away at 11:31 a.m. Nov. 28, 2018, at Springhill Village, Terre Haute, Ind. A funeral service was 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 3, at the Pearce Funeral Home. Burial followed in the Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Marshall Cemetery Maintenance Fund. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

STEPHEN NEWPORT
MARSHALL – Stephen Newport, 71, passed away at 12:10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, at Burnside's Community Health Center. A funeral service was 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Pearce Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stacy Tomich officiating. Burial followed in the Darwin Cemetery. Visitation was from 9 a.m. until the service time Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Marshall Music Boosters. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

She is survived by her children, Bob Carico, Janet Kindred (Dale Winans) and Jean (Tom) Scott, all of Chrisman; four granddaughters, Michelle (Troy) Lunger of Chrisman, Theresa (Troy) Latoz of Georgetown, Stacey (Todd) Gosnell of Paris and Misty Terry of Turlock, Calif.; nine great-grandchildren; a brother, Paul Walters of Staughton, Ind.; a sister, Shirley (Jaime) Estavillo of Carbondale; three sisters-in-law, Vange Walters of Ladoga, Ind., Vera Carico of Crest Hill and Pat Carico of Sarasota, Fla.; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mrs. Carico was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Chrisman. She enjoyed bowling and was the league and city secretary for many years. She coached girls softball teams and was a member of the Athletic Booster Club, Eastern Star and Homemakers Extension.

Memorial donations may be made to the United Methodist Church of Chrisman or the Multiple Sclerosis Association.

Online condolences may be left at www.krabelfuneralhome.com.

terment in St. Mary's Cemetery is accompanied by military honors provided by American Legion Post 211. A memorial visitation is from 9 a.m. until the service time Friday in the Gathering Space at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements.

More information and online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

ROLAND DAHNKE
MARSHALL – Roland Richard Dahnke, 80, of Marshall, passed away at home Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018. A funeral service was 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Martinsville Bible Church, with the Rev. Dave Wilson officiating. Burial followed in the Clarksville Cemetery at Martinsville. Visitation was from 11 a.m. until the service time Thursday at the church. Memorial donations may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, Mattoon. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

CATHY LEBER
MARSHALL – Cathy Leber, 56, of Marshall, passed away at 1:56 a.m. Monday, Dec. 3, 2018, at Gibson Family Hospice in Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Ind. The family is receiving friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, at the Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

CAROL CRAIG
 Carol Joan Samford Craig, 80, of Chrisman, passed away at 3:21 p.m., Saturday Dec. 1, 2018, at Harrison Crossing, Terre Haute, Ind. She was an elementary school teacher in Chrisman, Evanston and Danville and taught at The Country Pre-school. A service was 10 a.m., Friday Dec. 7, at Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home. Burial was in Friends Chapel Cemetery. Visitation was from 4 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 6, at the funeral home.

Mrs. Craig was born March 25, 1938, in Brouillets Creek Township, Edgar County, the daughter of the late James Roy Orlando and Frances Irene Conner Samford. She married Robert Eugene Craig in 1993, and he passed away March 12,

LLOYD PAINTER
 Lloyd R. Painter, 92, of Paris, passed away at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018, at Paris Healthcare Center. He was a carpet cleaner. A graveside service was 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, in Little Grove Cemetery, with military honors provided by American Legion Post 211. Visitation was private. Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home assisted the family with the arrangements.

Mr. Painter was born May 4, 1926, at Chicago, the son of the late Lloyd R. and Diamond Smith Painter. He married Betty E. Stickler May 4, 1944, in Chicago, and she preceded him in death May 12, 2007.

Survivors include a daughter, Sandra Creed of Chester-

ROSALIE RICHEY
MARSHALL – Rosalie Richey, 100, of Dayton, Ohio, and formerly of Marshall and Martinsville, died Dec. 1, 2018, at the Brookdale Fox Run Assisted Living Facility, Enon, Ohio. A service honoring her life was 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Pearce Funeral Home. Burial followed in the Bluegrass Cemetery, Martinsville. Visitation was from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

November marriage licenses

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Edgar County Clerk and Recorder's Office issued the following marriage/civil union licenses during November: Avery Garrett Mason and Addie Lyn Benning, both of Parker, Colo.; Victor Torres and Mary Corrine Henry, both of Bloomington, Ind.; Robert Aron Combs and Jeannie Marie Keys, both of Paris; Makinzee Annmarie Sharkray Taylor and Leslie Nicole Linnabary, both of Vermilion; Andy Joe Kemper Sr. and Sherry Lynn Schaefer,

2015. She is survived by her children, Shawna Lawson (Gary) Heath of Chrisman and Shelley Lawson (Brian) Bishop of Chrisman; her grandchildren Brett Elizabeth Bishop of Chrisman, Caroline Renee Heath of Chrisman and Grace Madeleine Bishop of Chrisman; her great-grandchild, Cooper Bishop of Chrisman; and her brother Dean Allen (Sharon) Samford of Chrisman.

Mrs. Craig was a member and past president of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association. She was a member of the Kidley Community Church in Chrisman, co-founder of the Teens for Christ Choir Group and a Sunday School Superintendent. Memorial donations may be made to the Kidley Community Church.

Online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

field, Va.; a daughter-in-law, Cathy Painter of Hammond, Ind.; five grandchildren, Jeff Creed of Eugene, Ore., April Painter of Hammond, Ind., Steven Painter of Norfolk, Va., Debra Purks of Richmond, Va., and James Creed of Richmond, Va.; several great-grandchildren; two brothers, Walter Binner of Indiana and Herbert Binner of Oak Forrest; a sister, Alice Lackhouse of Oak Forrest; a sister-in-law, Ruth Fennella of Chicago; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a son, Lloyd J. Painter.

Mr. Painter was a United States Army veteran. He was a member of American Legion Post 211 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3601. Online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

MARTHA WHITE
MARSHALL – Martha Irene White, 95, of Marshall, passed away at 6:21 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, at Burnside's Community Health Center. A funeral service was 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at the Pearce Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stacy Tomich officiating. Burial followed in the Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from 9 a.m. until the service time Wednesday at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

KENNETH SLY
GEORGETOWN – Kenneth "Kenny" E. Sly, 85, of Ridge Farm, passed away at 8:01 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, at his home. He worked as a line technician for CCL for 29 years.

A celebration of life was 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 7, at Sunset's Houghton-Leasure Funeral Home, 200 E. West Street, Georgetown, with Pastor Troy Horne officiating. Military honors by American Legion Dornblaser Post #203 accompanied burial in Crown Hill Cemetery, Ridge Farm. Visitation was from 3 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 6, at the funeral home.

Mr. Sly was born Dec. 19, 1932, at Paris, the son of the late George and Naomi Scott Sly. He married Verna Emerick Feb. 21, 1953, at Paris and they enjoyed 65 years together. She survives and will dearly miss him.

He is also survived by his daughters, Verna Mae (Loren) Smith, Bobbie Jean (Charlie) Miles, Cheryl Ann (David E.) Conrad Sr., Theresa "Terrie" Lynn (Jack) Vice, Dixie Lea (Jim) Kirby and Tammy Dee (Rick) Comer; and his 75-plus grandchildren, great-grand-

children, great-great-grandchildren, with one great-great-grandchild on the way. He was preceded in death by his son, Kenneth "Geno" Sly II; his grandson, Kenneth "Little Geno" Sly III; great-great-grandson, Baby Brantley Phillips; and his brothers, James and Guy Sly.

Mr. Sly was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army and served in France from 1953 to 1955 during the Korean War. He liked to sing with his girls and sang the song "Daddy's Girls" to them. He loved giving rides on the Grandchildren Express and later the Gospel Express train he built. He also enjoyed tinkering with lawnmowers and some woodworking for his wife.

He really enjoyed his daily coffee at The Ridge and joking with the girls. One of his favorite things to do was Friday night card games with family. He enjoyed playing guitar and harmonica for family and church, especially playing the "Unicorn Song" and square dancing with the Kadiddle Hoppers.

The family extends a special thank you to Harbor Light Hospice, Horizon Health and Annie from Home Health Care.

Memorial donations may be given to Ridge Farm Veterans Memorial.

Online condolences and a tribute wall at www.sunsetfuneralhome.com.

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Why we offer asylum

Earlier this week I was at an event that honored Malala Yousafzai.

Malala, in case you don't recall, is the brave young school girl from a village in Pakistan who was nearly killed in 2012 by the Taliban.

She was just 15 when she was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman for publicly speaking out for the right of all girls to receive a free, safe and quality education.

Malala, who became world famous while she lay in a coma for 10 days in a British hospital, was lucky to be given asylum in Britain with her family.

She went on to create the Malala Fund, which she says is dedicated to giving every girl in the world, "an opportunity to achieve a future she chooses."

In 2014 she became the youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize and now, at the ripe old age of 21, she's studying philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford.

When I texted my son Cameron to tell him I was at the event honoring Malala, he pointed out that she was a perfect example of why the United States and countries like Britain offer asylum to refugees.

Unlike the 6,000 migrants from Honduras that are now in Tijuana trying to crash their way into the United States, Malala and her family were in serious danger.

They met the international definition of a refugee perfectly — "a person with well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group, who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence."

Those 6,000 Central American refugees, as my son also pointed out, are not just trying to take advantage of our generous immigration system and hours of sympathetic liberal media coverage.

By clogging up an already backed up application process, they are making it so that the people that truly deserve asylum.

YOUR VIEW

Stop quoting Jesus about aiding the poor of world

Editor, The Prairie Press:

I get really irritated with those who attempt to shame Christians who wish to protect our country's borders by sanctimoniously telling us that Jesus cared for the poor and expects Christians to do the same.

Let me remind you of a telling event in Jesus' life. Mary Magdalene wished to pour an expensive oil onto Jesus' feet to anoint them, and Judas, the keeper of the purse for the disciples, complained that the oil should instead be sold and used to help the poor. Jesus answered, "The poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always." Though he was speaking of a particular situation, Jesus' statement and his meaning were true and timely.

First, there will always be poor in the world. More than 760 million people in the world live on less than \$1.90 a day according to the World Bank. That is nearly double the current population of the United States. How many of those 760 million are we willing to allow to simply stroll into our country? All of them?

According to liberals and the Democratic Party, we must let in anyone who chooses to come, rapist, drug lord, gang member, murderer or innocent. Better to help them lift their standard of living in their own country.

These people have no skills that will help them obtain jobs in our technological society. If they are lucky and find a job here, it will be cutting lawns, cleaning houses, caring for children, or working construction for the wealthy leftists who are fighting to let them

See **LETTERS**, Page 7A

WHO WE ARE

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Goodbye Mr. President

George H.W. Bush reminded us how much we miss true character, humility

Americans bid goodbye this week to former President George H.W. Bush "a man of great faith and great integrity, a truly beautiful human being, and to honor his noble character, his life of service, and the sweet memories he leaves for his friends, his family and for our grateful nation," as his best friend to the end, his former Secretary of State James Baker, said.

And as we shed tears for the man who dedicated his life to service to his country, we each realized how much we miss the character and decency he displayed throughout his life. In short, more politicians need to take lessons from the late president by practicing humility and civility.

Jon Meacham, a biographer and one of eulogists at the National Cathedral this past Wednesday, described Bush 41 as the last gentleman.

Those of us who remember his presidency know it was marked by bipartisanship. Bush worked with political friends and foes alike and aspired to make our great country a kinder a gentler nation.

For those who have not read the

OUR VIEW

This editorial reflects the views of The Prairie Press' editorial board. Other opinions on this page may not reflect this view.

eulogy texts or watched them on C-Span or on youtube.com should know that to a person Bush was praised for his kindness and good heart. And although the former president is now at rest, we are convinced that civility and kindness did not go with him to the grave. In this day and age of social media and cable news, it simply feels like it. Be it on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or any cable news network show, shouting and meanness is apparently what sells.

It's just not President Trump and his allies who are responsible. There are plenty of others who walk the halls of Congress and state assemblies who are every bit to blame. Recently in our own Illinois General Assembly in Springfield, Democratic state Rep. Stephanie Kifowit said on the House floor she wanted to pump a deadly broth of bacteria into the water system used by a Republican colleague's family.

She later apologized.

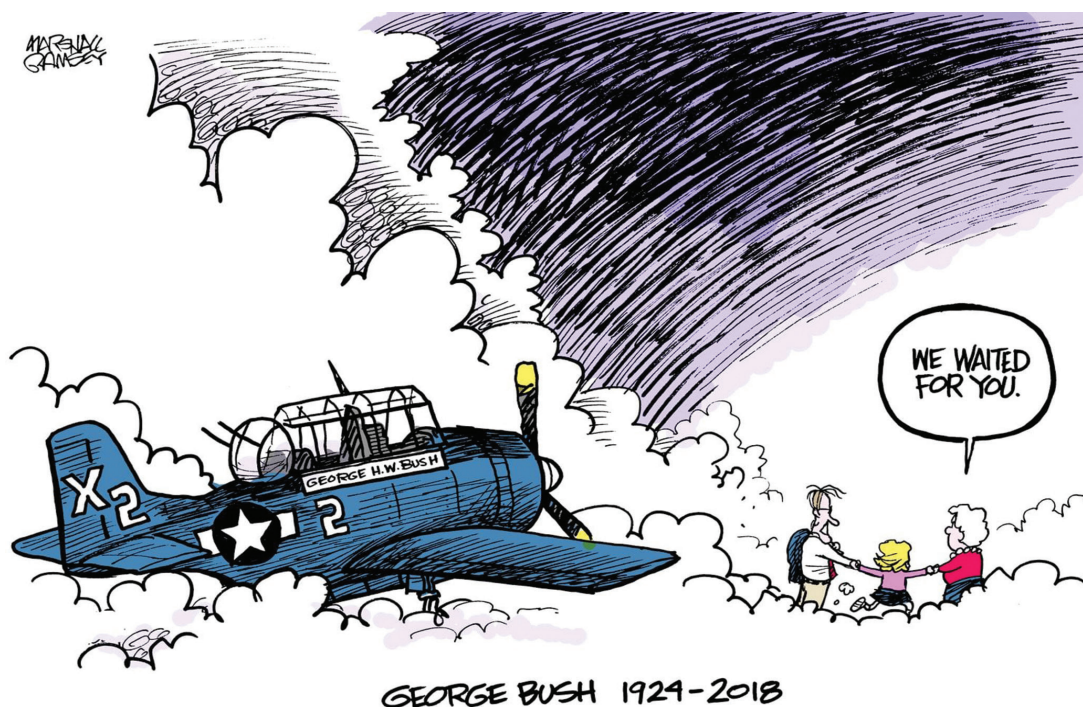
We are not recommending Bush 41 for consideration as a saint. He was a tough politician when he had to be.

But as Chicago Tribune editorial writers noted this week, "... obituaries and other reflections on his life remind us that Bush achieved success in life while most often acting with honor and humility."

For Bush, toughness didn't mean attacks. He once said, "I don't equate toughness with just attacking some individual. I equate toughness with moral fiber, with character, with principle, with demonstrated leadership in tough jobs where you emerge not bullying somebody but with the respect of the people you led. If I happen to be decent in the process, that should not be a liability."

It is sad that it took the death of this decent, honorable man to remind us of, "better angels of our nature," as President Abraham Lincoln said in his first inaugural speech.

Let us go forward in honor of President George H.W. Bush to, as he lauded us, "to make kinder the face of the nation and gentler the face of the world."



Rauner's loss may aid group

"Is that the guy from the Policy Institute?"

House Speaker Michael Madigan asked his press secretary after an Illinois

News Network reporter recently tried to ask Madigan a question at the State-house. The Illinois

Policy Institute transferred ownership of the network to the Franklin Center for Government and Public Integrity back in January.

But they all share the same street address. "Same difference," Madigan's press secretary said in response to his boss' question.

"When are you guys gonna fold your tent?" Madigan asked the reporter.

It's true the Policy Institute is currently in a very weak spot. Before Bruce Rauner ran for office, the institute was the go-to source for fiscally conservative talking points. Rauner was a dream candidate for an advocacy group that bills itself as a think tank.

The anti-unions tax-hater was a perfect fiscal and ideological match for them. The institute backed him throughout the long governmental impasse and helped gin up rabid opposition to an income tax hike and then unleashed a furious response against the legislative Republicans who crossed Rauner and voted for that tax increase.

But then the group helped engineer Rauner's staff purge in July of 2017 and everything went downhill from there.

The former Rauner staffers who'd been with him since the 2014 campaign were replaced in large part by Illinois Policy Institute staffers and other people of that

Bush 41: One of most underrated presidents

George H.W. Bush, "gave the nation its most successful one-term presidency." He, "was the

best one-term president the country has ever had, and one of the most underrated presidents of all time."

So said two not impartial sources — the late president's vice president, Dan Quayle, and

his Houston friend and secretary of state, who was with him at the end, James Baker. But their assessments are entirely defensible.

The toughest one-term competitor was President James K. Polk, who achieved all four of his goals — gaining the Oregon Territory and the Pacific Coast, establishing an independent treasury and lowering tariffs.

But Polk's acquisitions left the country with a problem — slavery in the territories — that it wasn't able to solve without civil war. And they left his successors a nation and world headed toward broad sunlit uplands.

Polk was the original "Dark Horse" presidential candidate, and when Bush started running for president in the 1980 cycle, he was, too — a successful oilman who had lost two Senate races and in between served two terms in the House.

His brief campaign autobiography minimized, perhaps with his characteristic modesty, the value of his experience in appointive office: As ambassador to the United

“THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT...WASN'T A HANDOUT, BUT LIKE THE GI BILL, IT OPENED OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES.”

Nations, he was not clued in on then-President Nixon's opening to China; he was unaware of the Cultural Revolution while serving 13 months in Beijing; he was CIA director for just 11 months. But his network of friends and cousins — all those notes dashed off on stationery — propelled him to victories in the Iowa caucuses and northeastern primaries and second place on Ronald Reagan's ticket.

Bush probably learned more about issues — and certainly about world leaders — as vice president than ever before, as he said at Reagan's funeral. The result was his masterful navigation of choppy currents and sudden storms as president: uniting Germany but not humiliating Gorbachev after the Berlin Wall fell; assembling an international coalition and winning the Gulf War.

This despite his pushing against disassembling existing structures — the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. They unraveled anyway, but mostly peacefully. It's useful to have a steady balance wheel in a time of revolutionary upheaval.

On domestic policy he was

more of an innovator than people think. The young man who signed up to be a Navy pilot and the young husband who left leafy Greenwich for the desert wastes of West Texas oilfields pushed successfully for policies others hadn't considered.

Such as the Americans With Disabilities Act. This wasn't a handout, but like the GI Bill, which paid his tuition at Yale, it opened opportunities for people to help themselves.

The 1990 Clean Air Act was perhaps the last authentically bipartisan environment initiative. The Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act mopping up the savings-and-loan mess was costly, producing one-third of the budget deficit, but also necessary and self-liquidating.

Liberal journalists who have been praising Bush this week ridiculed him as a clueless preppie whose success was handed down to him — absurd given the risks he took in the Pacific and Texas. They're still attacking him as a racist for the 1988 campaign ads that accurately attacked his opponent for defending for nine years

See **BARONE**, Page 7A

HAVE YOUR SAY

We welcome letters to the editor and guest columns. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes and limit it to 500 words. We will only publish one letter a month from each letter writer. We reserve the right to edit letters or to not publish certain letters or guest columns submitted to us.

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CRESTWOOD COMPLETES SERVICE PROJECT



Special to The Prairie Press

Crestwood eighth grade students completed a service project Friday, Dec. 7, in the school library where they made care packages for the blessings box in front of the Paris Police Department. The blessings box includes necessities available for local residents to pick up for free. Items include nonperishable food and personal items.

MILLER

FROM PAGE 6A

ilk. Those folks proved to be a disaster and almost all were forced out. Rauner not only hurt his own brand by associating his government with the institute, but the institute hurt its brand by associating itself so closely with an unpopular governor.

When Rauner signed HB40 into law, he drove another wedge between himself and the institute. The group's chief executive officer, John Tillman, who had worked closely with Rauner during the first few years of the governor's tenure, lashed out and called him "Benedict Rauner" for previously telling Republican legislators and others that he would veto the bill, which paid for abortions of Medicaid recipients.

And then Rauner got thumped like a drum in the November election, scoring just 39 points while losing by 15. Rauner is soon to be gone, but can the Illinois Policy Institute come back? Throughout the campaign,

Democrat J.B. Pritzker brushed aside questions about reforming the state's pension systems, a major priority for the Illinois Policy Institute. Pritzker flatly refused to entertain any ideas for lowering pension payments to current government workers and retirees, saying a pension is a promise and he intended to keep that promise. He's on the opposite side of the institute. The same goes for his support for union rights and increasing the minimum wage.

But right at the very top of the Illinois Policy Institute's priority list is an issue that was also one of Rauner's most important missions as governor: Stop a graduated income tax. The group is funded, after all, by people like Rauner. They want to keep as much of their piles of money as they possibly can and they hate giving it to the government.

Pritzker openly campaigned for a progressive income tax. He can be seen as the Illinois Policy Institute's ultimate nightmare:

A wealthy liberal Democrat with massive legislative super-majorities.

There's another way of looking at this, however. Pritzker could also be seen as the institute's dream. They no longer have to defend a badly flawed governor and eventually the richest Illinoisans will be energized when Pritzker begins to move his agenda through the legislature, particularly the graduated income tax. The Illinois Policy Institute will be a ready-made receptacle for their mad money.

Expecting Tillman and his crew to glumly pack their bags and move to Italy with the governor is not how this works. If he plays it right, Tillman could eventually rebuild his group even bigger than it was.

So, instead of folding their tent, Rauner's loss just might be Tillman's gain.

(Rich Miller is the editor of the Capitol Fax blog and newsletter, which he has been publishing for more than 20 years. His email is capitolfax@gmail.com.)

BARONE

FROM PAGE 6A

the policy of granting weekend furloughs to prisoners sentenced to life without parole — a policy for which there is no rational argument.

So why was this mostly successful president defeated resoundingly for a second term? One reason is that he broke his read my lips promise and agreed with Democrats to raise taxes.

The tax increase fueled enthusiasm for Pat Buchanan's insurgent primary campaign. And the NAFTA trade deal with Mexico — another original Bush initiative — helped Ross Perot make a

different conservative case against him.

But one other factor, I suspected then and believe now, was decisive: Bush was ready to retire. He had accomplished most of his goals, including some that had seemed impossible. He had enlisted in the Navy exactly 50 years before and spent more than 20 of the intervening years in public service.

He had been elected president at age 64, older — with one exception — than all but three other past presidents when first elected (William Harrison, James Buchanan and Zachary Taylor) and two when re-elected (Andrew Jackson and Dwight Eisenhower).

The exception was conspicuous: Ronald Reagan, who had just carried 44 and 49 states at ages 69 and 73.

In politics, success can be as fatal as failure. Achieve some original bipartisan goals and neither party may want you anymore. Demonstrate mastery of foreign policy and voters may conclude they don't need it anymore. Gracefully retire and Americans may gratefully, if belatedly, give thanks, as they have this past week.

(Michael Barone is a senior political analyst for the Washington Examiner, resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and longtime co-author of The Almanac of American Politics.)

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6A

in illegally. They will work for far less than the unskilled Hispanic and black Americans whose jobs they have taken, but they invariably vote Democratic. There is a reason that the Democratic leaders who just a few years ago talked about protecting the sanctity of our borders are now pushing for amnesty for all who come in illegally, and it isn't because of a sudden spiritual awakening.

delineate and protect their country, their culture, their way of life from that of other countries. Even with the European Union, while a Frenchman can cross borders without a passport to vacation, he won't be allowed to live in another country unless he has entered legally. Why should it be any different here?

My ancestors all came from Sweden and Norway through Ellis Island. None of them lowered a boat and made for the Virginia shoreline to sneak in. Nor did they

bring all of their relatives. I still have cousins in Sweden.

Secondly, we must first take care of our own. The apostle Paul reiterates this point in 1 Timothy 5:8 when he says "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel."

Many Americans need the money and care spent on law-breaking illegal aliens.

Let's take care of our own first. Jesus expects us to.

Jane Witmer
Paris

Christmas dinner is set

First Methodist Church offering free holiday dinner

The congregation of the First United Methodist Church, 324 W. Court St. in Paris, will once again host a free Christmas dinner, according to church member Richard "Duke" Jones.

Scheduled at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 25, church members plan to provide meals for between 100-200 people.

The menu changes from year to year, but all the food is prepared and served by members of the congregation, Jones said.

The sit-down meal is served on real dishes and silverware. Church members and other volunteers then stay to clean up after the meal.

Dinners are also offered for take out as well as to shut-ins, Jones said.

If someone would like to come to the dinner and needs a ride, they can call the church at 217-466-4215 member will do their best to accommodate them, Jones noted.

In addition to the Christmas Day meal they

serve at FUMC, members of the congregation deliver the same lavish dinner to Meals on Wheels recipients and their guests as well as the inmates at the Edgar County Jail.

The Christmas Day dinner began as an outreach and

mission endeavor. Jones said many folks are lonely and need to spend Christmas with someone.

Those who wish to attend are asked to call the church of office at 217-466-4215 to RSVP by Dec. 22 for planning purposes only, Jones said.

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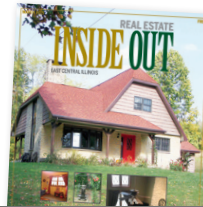


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IWD crew in the 2018 Christmas in Paris Parade

DOWNTOWN

FROM PAGE 1A

property into a two-way road, improve the cartway behind the drive-up building and assist with power and water to create a public space along Union Street.

If everything goes as Volkman envisions, the area north of the parking lots to Union Street will become a new park like green space with grass, trees and a pavilion equipped with lighting and a sound system to accommodate live performances during downtown festivals.

"There is quite a bit of fall to Union Street. It's a natural area for staging events," he said.

Placing the performance pavilion near Union Street results in something akin to an amphitheater setting where the audience can sit on the grassy area and look down at the performers.

Should it all work out, the area will be known as Prospect Park and the bank will create a separate 501(c)3 not-for-profit

foundation to manage the property for the benefit of the city. The new foundation will also assist Bee Well of Edgar County with the creation of a community garden farther east on Union Street.

Maintenance of the proposed Prospect Park remains the bank's responsibility so it is consistent with the care of the other landscaping envisioned as part of the new green space incorporated into the parking lots.

Volkman is hopeful the city will join in the improvement project since it is much better to do the work at one time because of the change of elevation involved.

"We think it's a good use of TIF money," said Volkman. "It will create a cohesive downtown and change the look of the city."

As with all projects, things change as new ideas come forth or other issues don't work out.

The bank wanted to improve its drive-up facility and the unexpected demise of the Beacon-News made the ad-

joining property available to assist in that work.

"We never dreamed the Beacon would become available," said Volkman, noting the parking area to be developed on the lot will copy the landscaping plan to make it compatible with the development. The bank is also willing to let patrons of the Main Street Café use the lot. The public may also use other bank parking during public events.

"All of a sudden all of this came together," he said.

Creating a cityscape for the future is a big commitment by the bank. Volkman said the cost of acquiring property, demolition, making the planned improvements, including constructing a performance pavilion, will exceed \$1 million. The cost goes higher factoring in what the city may do to help through TIF.

"We are hopeful the city will participate in this," said Volkman. "The TIF money we are seeking is for public infrastructure like roadways, alleys and sidewalks."

McCrocklin joins PERK

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Some changes are coming to the PERK mentoring program with the addition of Kelly McCrocklin as a trainee.

McCrocklin, who recently retired after 41 years with EnerStar, will work with current program coordinator Jody Sperry in preparing to assume the coordinator's position at the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

PERK is in its fourth year of matching adult community members with school children who can benefit from having another positive adult role model in their lives. The mentor-mentee relationship occurs at school over a shared lunch.

Currently, 75 children in the Paris schools participate in the program and PERK expanded this school year to include Kansas Community Unit

School District #3. Sperry said the goal has always been to get PERK into all of the Edgar County School Districts.

"We plan to continue expanding this opportunity in some form and capacity to all Edgar County students," Sperry said. "Our goal is to add another Edgar County school

each year, and we recruit mentors on an on-going basis."

PERK mentors go through a background security check and are trained in how to fulfill the new role.

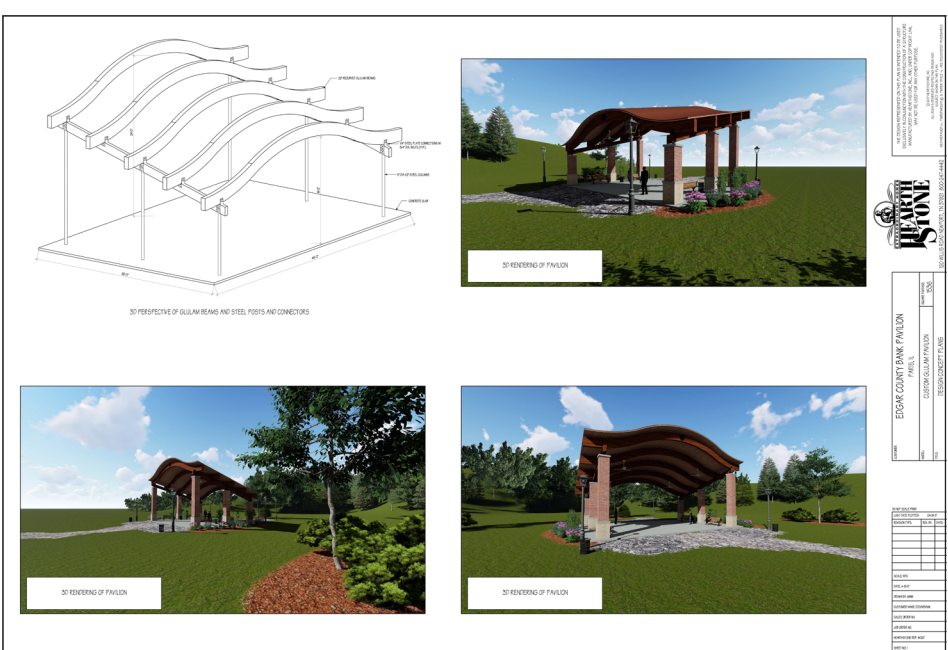
More information about becoming a PERK mentor is available by emailing perkprograms@gmail.com



Kelly McCrocklin, left, and Jody Sperry, right, are working together to transition leadership of the PERK mentoring program. Sperry is the current program coordinator, and McCrocklin will assume that role with the 2019-2020 school year.



Eric Volkman, president and CEO of Prospect Bank, displays a vision for the future that beautifies the barren parking lots and other properties north of the bank. The bank plans to start construction in 2019 by rearranging the parking pattern and incorporating landscaping to create a visually more appealing area. If the City of Paris agrees to participate, a new park, green space and performance pavilion along Union Street will be part of the improvement.



This artist's rendering depicts a performance pavilion for use in the proposed Prospect Bank Park that is part of an overall plan by the bank to beautify the area north of the bank. The pavilion would be equipped with lighting and sound systems to accommodate live performances during downtown events.

KANSAS

FROM PAGE 1A

and chipping projects saying, "The limestone was dusty and dirty."

Kansas Police Chief Jeff Goodwin reported the police

department handled one accident while issuing 10 traffic citations, four written warnings and 13 verbal warnings. The department made two arrests and remedied two complaints.

In addition, officers assist-

ed the Coles County Sheriff Department and the Edgar County Sheriff's department with theft investigations. The department's Dodge Durango was serviced and received new outer tie rod ends and rear brakes.

CHRISMAN

FROM PAGE 1A

to the U.S. 36 and state Route 1 intersection south of Chrisman. Another line tapped in at that point will carry the water the short distance to the city's water tower.

Wolfe said the city might have to build a small structure next to the water tower where more chlorine may be added if needed before the water goes into the tower. The water coming north out of Paris will have already been treated before leaving town and more chlorine may be an occasional requirement.

Nor does the city have to install pumps to keep the water moving in the line.

According to Wolfe, Chrisman is approximately 33 feet lower than Paris so the downhill flow will result in 55 pounds of pressure when the water reaches the tower.

"I don't want to own it (the 8-inch water line)," said Wolfe. "If the city owns it, we will have to buy property at the Horace-Brocton Road and put in a water meter at that loca-

tion. Paris can also get lower interest rates for construction than Chrisman can."

He estimated Chrisman constructing and owning the line will add approximately \$246,000 to the cost.

"We are paying for it, but they own it," said Commissioner Rick Jenness.

Wolfe agreed but asked what benefit goes to Chrisman in spending an extra \$246,000 to own the water line north from the Horace-Brocton Road.

Jenness did not want to make the change. He said spending the money was only changing one problem for another and stated Paris does not have clean water based on statements Paris residents made to him regarding lime in the city water.

"There's no problem with our water," said Jenness, claiming the iron is not an issue, the arsenic is only a problem because the EPA changed the guidelines and the recent positive test for nitrites in the water is a result of how the water filters are used.

Water superintendent Matt Shelato wasn't having any of

that. He said the filters have nothing to do with nitrites because that is in the raw well water before going through the filters.

The commissioners had hoped to have the results from a battery of water tests to review before making a decision, but the lab made an error with the first batch and results from the second sample were still not back.

Mayor Dan Owen wanted a decision, noting Paris needed to know so officials in that community can move ahead with planning.

"We have fought our water a long time," said Owen.

When the vote came Wolfe, Owen and Commissioner Tim Owen voted to get water from Paris. Jenness was joined in voting no by Commissioner Jerry Hoult.

In other matters, the council:

- accepted the resignation of Janet Hoult as city treasurer;
- made acting city treasurer Dena Burns the city treasurer; and
- hired Robert Morris as the city attorney.

SHILOH

FROM PAGE 1A

started approximately one month ago during a unit about regions of the country.

"We were learning about the Midwest," said Kincaid. "We put that on pause to learn about Illinois."

She added fourth grade is when students are generally introduced to Illinois history.

After explaining what she envisioned for the celebra-

tion, Kincaid let the students research topics and create ideas. They also tested everything in advance to make sure the activities worked.

"Last week is when we really started making stuff," Kincaid said.

Teaching history to young children is a challenging task. Kincaid noted they have not developed a sense of perspective for time so it is difficult for them to place the lesser known characters or historical events in the right time frame.

History is an ever-expanding topic but available time in the class day is not.

"With my curriculum for each region, we learn about the Native Americans, we talked about the Revolution and for the Southeast we just touched on the Civil War," Kincaid said. "What we can cover is just the tip of the iceberg for history concepts."



Shiloh second grade student Callie Duzan carefully studies where to add more paper to her decoupage creation of a blue violet butterfly - the Illinois state butterfly. Shiloh's fourth grade class researched and organized an Illinois bicentennial celebration.



Fallyn McCasland works at the beanbag toss game naming the three communities that have swerved as Illinois' state capital. McCasland is a fourth grade student at Shiloh and the class organized an Illinois Bicentennial Celebration Monday, Dec. 3.

Santa letter fundraiser for cancer

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Elizabeth Ann Weidner, a freshman at Teutopolis High School, is leading an effort to create Santa Mail by which children with cancer can receive a personalized letter from Santa Claus, along with some reindeer food to sprinkle on the lawn Christmas Eve.

The fee to do the service is being split between Children's Miracle Network Hospitals & ACS - Effingham County Relay For Life GOLD TOGETHER.

Childhood cancer has special meaning for Weid-

ner. She has battled stage IV Neuroblastoma for nearly three years and is trying to change the face of what pediatric cancer patients go through by advocating at the local, state and national levels. As a patient at both St. Louis and Cincinnati Children's Hospitals, Weidner knows first hand what it's like to be hospitalized far from home during the holidays.

This fundraiser is designed as a way for Weidner to brighten lives, give hope and make inpatient stays a little easier on families.

Santa letters have two options.

The first involves a minimum \$8 donation per letter/child, to receive a personal letter from Santa.

The second plan has a minimum \$10 donation per letter/child, and the recipient receives two personalized letters before Christmas from Santa.

Mailing of the hand-signed Santa letters started Nov. 30 and continues through Dec. 19. Orders must be placed before Dec. 18 to guarantee delivery.

Email crownsfightcancer@yahoo.com for more information or to obtain an order form.

SHILOH STUDENTS JOIN YOUTH COUNCIL



Three members of the Shiloh High School sophomore class participated in Senator Chapin Rose's Youth Advisory Council Friday, Dec. 7. The Shiloh students joined representatives from 20 other schools in the 51st Senate District at Parkland Community College to learn about the legislative process through mock debates and meeting Rose. Another advisory council session is in the spring at Springfield to continue the mock legislation, tour the capitol and hear from other state leaders about their duties. Shiloh High School social studies teacher Timothy Carroll selected the students to participate. Left to right, Carroll, Lucas Bosch, Phoebe Allen and Emily Hall.

Tigers headed for old Hickory

"Now boys, don't get caught watching the paint dry."

—Wilbur 'Shooter' Flatch in the movie "Hoosiers."

BY JEFF CHAMBERS

prairiepresssports@gmail.com

While this quote had more to do with the picket fence play that the fictional Hickory Huskers were going to run in the movie Hoosiers, it may take on a whole new meaning on Saturday, December 22.

Both Paris Tiger basketball teams — boys and girls — will face the Rochester Rockets at historic Hoosier Gym in Knightstown, Ind., on that Saturday.

During filming of the 1986 classic featuring Gene Hackman as head coach Norman Dale, Hoosier Gym was used as the home court for the fictional Huskers.

In the years since that movie, the gym has become a destination point for visitors from around the world.

In fact, last year more than 69,000 people visited the museum. The gym now hosts games nearly every Friday and Saturday from November through February.

While the older generation will be in awe of the mystique and the aura of the setting, the boys and girls teams will get the opportunity to play in an atmosphere that used to be the norm before multi-purpose school gyms were built.

Just like Ernie Eveland Gym, Hoosier Gym was built for one purpose — basketball.

Varsity boys head coach Shawn Nugent is excited about the opportunity that his team has to play in this setting.

"I think it is a great opportunity for our guys to play in such an iconic gym. We are hoping that it is an experience that they will remember for a lifetime. The Hoosier Gym will also give the atmosphere of how basketball games used to be played; small gyms with the crowd on top of you."

Dave Tingley, head coach of the Lady Tigers, shares in the excitement with Nugent.

"Having a chance to play a game, with my team, at Hoosier Gym is incredible," Tingley said. "I am really glad that we are getting this opportunity. I think it will be fun, and a chance for our players to create a memory that they will never forget."

The public is invited to share in this experience but, the seating capacity is limited to 600.

Tickets are \$10 and are available now from any varsity basketball player, coach, or at the high school office.

There will also be a table in the lobby at all home games between now and the game in two weeks, according to Paris athletic director Creighton Tarr.

Crestwood goes for title

Undefeated Lady Eagles begin quest to win second consecutive state championship

BY JEFF CHAMBERS

prairiepresssports@gmail.com

The Crestwood Lady Eagles 8th grade basketball team will begin a "repeat" of sorts this morning.

For the second consecutive season, this group of young ladies will attempt to bring home a championship in the Illinois Elementary School Association Class 8-2A state tournament.

As seventh-graders, this squad completed a perfect season, culminating in an IESA Class 7-2A state title, won on their "home" floor at Paris High School.

If fact, this group of eighth graders have not tasted defeat since a 28-24 loss to Winchester in the semifinals of the 2016 7-2A state tournament.

Crestwood defeated Effingham St. Anthony in the third-place game that year and have won every game since.

This year, the odds may be somewhat against the Lady Eagles.

The tournament is being held at Havana High School. The host school's middle school is in the tournament, and they have a 21-4 record.

Here's where it gets interesting. As seventh-graders last season and competing up one class in the IESA 3A state tournament, Havana won the title.

Due to a reduction in enrollment at the school, they are now competing in class 8-2A. As a 3A school last season, they finished with a 27-0 record, defeating Germantown Hills 31-29 in the championship.

A very tasty matchup will get things underway in Havana as the Lady Eagles face Elmwood in a rematch from last season's state championship game at 11:30 a.m.

Crestwood won that contest 41-18.

The winner of this game will face the winner of the Louisville-North Clay/Nokomis matchup at 5 p.m. to-



Special to The Prairie Press

Sectional champions — and still undefeated — the Crestwood Lady Eagles begin Class 8-2A state tournament play today in Havana. Crestwood plays at 11:30 a.m.

day. Crestwood and Elmwood are the only two schools who played in the seventh-grade

tournament last season — returning to the state championship this season. Should Crestwood win

both of their games today, the championship game will be played on Thursday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m.

Lady Tigers take control

BY DAN DUNDAS

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BY JEFF CHAMBERS

prairiepresssports@gmail.com

If you like fast paced intense basketball, then Thursday night's matchup between two of the top teams from the Little Illini Conference at Ernie Eveland gym might not be topped for a while.

Going without the services of their leading scorer — junior guard Sarah Isaf due to a knee injury suffered in Monday's win at Marshall — Paris claimed a 58-43 Paris victory over the visiting Olney Lady Tigers.

Both teams have fought for the right to hold the LIC crown during the past two seasons, and Thursday's game was a culmination of that intensity.

The Lady Tiger freshmen pairing of Katelynn Littleton and Madyson Rigdon split the minutes vacated by Sarah Isaf. Other than spotting some post minutes to Kelsie Crampton via Emma Henderson, the Lady Tigers ran up and down the floor most of the night with the same group.

"We knew we had the speed difference while they definitely had the size and length advantage," Paris Head Coach Dave Tingley commented. "It was up to us to get out and run, and we will do that every opportunity we can."

Between the fast break starts and three pointers from Jenna Gates as well as the multitude of athletic drives and finishes from Karrington Krabel, the two junior guards showed the depth of the Paris squad, leading them in scoring with 17 and 14 points each.

Krabel's drives to the basket started early and set the tone. Olney matched their intensity, with an inordinate number of jump balls being called throughout the game. Olney's length and hustle would prove to be an issue at times in the half court, making fast breaks for the Lady Tigers even more pertinent.

Up 13-7 entering the second quarter, Krabel continued to shoulder the scoring load, but Olney chipped their way back in with two three pointers from the left wing from Logan Kauble. The Paris offense seemed to sputter a bit when Olney chased down a few of their fast breaks, but some free throws from Ridgon kept them up 24-21 at the half.

The Lady Tigers offense exploded in the third quarter, and thanks to some excellent rebounding that denied Olney second chance points, holding them to only 6 points for the quarter.

Gates and Krabel got things going



Michelle Jacobs/The Prairie Press

Lady Tiger junior Jenna Gates (4) goes up for a layup in action against the Olney Lady Tigers Thursday at Eveland Gym. Paris remained undefeated in the Little Illini Conference with a 58-43 win over Olney.

for Paris as the Lady Tigers went on a 9-0 run to start the quarter. A tough spinning three point foul play from Krabel and a Rigdon three pointer then made it 39-23 with three minutes left. A towering block from Crampton ignited a one girl fast break from Rigdon in the final minute to leave Paris up 45-27.

Paris altered their defense in the fourth and Olney took advantage of it, with Kauble sending in two more threes from the left wing yet again, followed by Anna Blank with two more before the quarter was halfway over.

"We played a zone in the second half and they realized they could fire up some three-point attempts and it helped get them back in the game," Tingley said. "We're still trying to learn to adapt when they adapt to what we

do."

With Paris leading in the fourth quarter 49-39, the visitors could get no closer, struggling from the line during their bonus free throws attempts. The Lady Tigers began spreading the floor and forcing Olney to foul and were able to put the game in the win column.

Krabel's aggressive play and the Paris quickness could not be matched by Olney, who couldn't run with the Lady Tigers. Krabel grabbed 10 rebounds and dished out three assists while Gates added three assists. The freshman duo of Littleton and Rigdon each collected three steals from Olney who had trouble hanging on to the ball, thanks to the quick hands of the home team. Brooklyn Westerfield collected six rebounds.

See LADY TIGERS, Page 10A

Paris falls to Marshall

BY JEREMY PATTERSON

pattersonjeremy267@gmail.com

MARSHALL — The Paris boys' basketball team fell hard Friday night (12/7) while visiting rival Marshall, dropping the matchup 73-55. Despite the loss, head coach Shawn Nugent was optimistic in a lot of what he saw from his team.

"I am really proud of this team and the way that they fought tonight," Nugent said. "We are a young team. We have some things to learn still."

Paris opened the game hot, shooting 60 percent from the field in the first four minutes of the game. Marshall turned up their defensive presence on the court and forced several costly turnovers from the Tigers as the Lions took the lead at 16-11. The first quarter came to a close with Paris trailing 16-13.

The second quarter opened with Marshall extending their lead, going on an 8-1 through the first 2:31 of the quarter. Paris was unable to find any open looks around the tough defensive front that the Lions showed.

With just over three minutes left in the first half, the Tigers trailed Marshall 31-16, being outscored 15-3. Paris was able to start moving the ball around the perimeter and got some open looks at the basket. They began forcing several steals from the Lions and were able to climb back into the game before halftime. A last-second layup from sophomore Mason Hutchings capped the Paris run and helped to swing the momentum back in their favor going into the break, trailing just 33-23.

Paris continued to chip away at the Lion lead at the beginning of the third

See TIGERS, Page XX



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LADY TIGERS

FROM PAGE 9A

Three Lady Tigers were in double figures for the game — Krabel with 17, Gates with 14 and Rigdon with 11. Littleton and Crampton each netted 6 points while Henderson and Westerfield each scored 2 points.

Olney placed two players in double figures with Kramble netting 13 points and Blank 10 points.

Paris hit only two three pointers on the night with Gates and Rigdon each netting one. Olney stayed as close as they did on the night by hitting 7 threes with Kramble knocking down four.

Paris continues its LIC campaign when the Lady Tigers travel to Casey-Westfield Monday.

PARIS JV 35, OLNEY 20

The Paris JV ran to a comfortable 35-20 win in the junior varsity contest at Eveland Gym Thursday.

Martin led the scoring for Paris with 7 points while Arnett and Zorn each scored 6 points.

PARIS 45, MARSHALL 35

MARSHALL- In one of the first key matchups in the Little Illini Conference this week, the Paris Lady Tigers defeated the Marshall Lady Lions 45-35.

Paris moves to 7-1 overall on the season, and 2-0 in the LIC. Marshall falls to 5-3, 0-1 on the year in the LIC.

Of bigger concern for the Tigers is the knee injury suffered by Sarah Isaf late in the first quarter.

Isaf drove for a layup and landed directly on her knee following a foul from a Marshall player. She stayed in to make the free throw following the foul, but immediately came out of the game and did not return.

Coach Dave Tingley talked after the game about the loss of his third-year starting guard.

“They called it a patella injury and that she would not return,” Tingley said. “We are more concerned about the long-term health of Sarah, and our focus is having her for the rest of the season and beyond.”

In the opening quarter, things seemed to be going as they have in the Tigers’ previous six wins this year. Paris applied pressure defense, seized fast-break opportunities, and knocked down open three-point shots.

Once Isaf went down, the game took on a different look.

Paris grabbed an early 20-4 lead after the first period, but mustered just 25 points in the remaining three quarters. What did not change though was the smothering defense applied by the Tigers.

Marshall outscored the Tigers 11-5 in the second quarter to cut the lead to 25-15 at intermission. Paris struggled to find their scoring rhythm in the third quarter as well, but hit their stride in the final pe-

riod as they scored 13 points to seal the victory.

In spite of playing just seven minutes, Isaf shared scoring honors with freshman Katelyn Littleton as they both finished with 10 points on the evening. Kelsie Crampton knocked down a pair of huge three-pointers on her way to 8 points on the night. Jenna Gates and Karrington Krabel added 6 points each, Brooklyn Westerfield had 3, and Madyson Rigdon added 2.

“I am really proud of the way that the rest of the girls stepped up tonight,” Tingley said. “Our freshmen (Littleton and Rigdon) got their first taste of playing Marshall at the high school level and I feel that they performed well. I really thought that when Karrington (Krabel) was on the bench with foul trouble, and then she came back in, I felt that her and Kelsie (Crampton) and Brooklyn (Westerfield) really solidified our defense and brought about the intensity that we needed.”

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TIGERS

FROM PAGE 9A

quarter as sophomore Jude Sullivan managed two steals in a span of 30 seconds and feeding several layups to teammates in the paint. Marshall was able to maintain their offensive firepower, however, and a three from senior Skyler McManus put them ahead 45-32.

Paris senior Bryce Gladding took over in the third quarter. Gladding was fouled on back-to-back baskets and also making the free throws. Gladding scored eight of the final 10 points of the quarter for the Tigers. Paris trailed just 49-45 heading into the fourth quarter.

A quick basket from Paris sophomore JT Johnson pulled the Tigers within three at 49-46 and was their closest margin for Paris since the end of the first quarter.

It was short-lived though.

Marshall sensed the Paris rally and turned up the heat. The Lions opened up a 6-0 run in a matter of 62 seconds and never looked back, scoring on consecutive jumpers to push the lead further. With 2:50 left in regulation, the Lions had extended their lead to 16 points, 66-50. Despite attempting to foul their way back into the game, Paris was unable to close the gap and fell 73-55.

“We have talked about being positive,” Nugent said “We just have to keep taking steps forward.”

Mason Hutchings finished the game with a team-high 14 points. Garrett King scored eight points. Colton Landrum managed eight points but also had a team-high six rebounds. Jude Sullivan scored six points in the contest. Bryce Gladding scored twelve points in the contest, earning several from the free-throw line after making the initial

basket. Logan Rhoads scored two points for the Tigers. JT Johnson scored five points for Paris.

T-TOWN 76, PARIS 25

TEUTOPOLIS — The Teutopolis Wooden Shoes proved to be the tough opponent they were billed to be, as the 15th ranked team in class 2A easily dispatched of the visiting Paris Tigers Tuesday evening by the score of 76-25. The Shoes jumped out to a 14-0 lead close to midway through the quarter and didn’t look back.

“It was definitely a tough environment for our young guys, and probably something they really haven’t experienced”, noted Head Coach Shawn Nugent. “Nonetheless, we had guys that continued to play hard given the circumstances.”

Teutopolis took advantage of turnovers for fast break points for their opening run, putting great pressure on the Tigers in transition. The scoring slowed down for the Wooden Shoes, but at the end of a brisk moving quarter, they led 22-4.

The second quarter moved along quickly as well, even with a decent amount of fouls.

Teutopolis continued their same pressure and ended up scoring the same amount of points as they did in the first. The Tigers put up ten points in the frame, mostly from free throws from Garrett King.

The third quarter was more of the same, as Paris managed to get two baskets off of offensive rebounds, but the Wooden shoes had the game solely in check. Paris used a multitude of lineup combinations throughout the game, but the bigger Wooden Shoes squad was able to be more physical with Paris, getting to spots on the court and accruing easy layups in the paint.

“They were very active and threw to big post players at us that we couldn’t contain. We didn’t have answer for them on the offensive boards. They corralled a 17 of them and out rebounded us 36-15.”

Paris shot well from the free throw line for the game going 10 for 12, a welcome change from some previous games. Though they did not shoot well, from the field, part of it was a result of shooting 20% from long distance.

Brouwer scored 6 points to lead Paris, while King and JT Johnson tied Paris with 4 points each.

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Titans take big win against Okaw Valley

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122744@yahoo.com

BETHANY — After a 4 point loss to Decatur LSA Tuesday night, the Tri-County Titans boys’ basketball team was back into LOVC interdivision play Friday night traveling to Bethany to face the Okaw Valley Timberwolves.

This was the second true road game of the season for Tri-County as their first seven games — five of them being considered a neutral site game — being played at home. The Titans also looked to gain a little revenge after the Timberwolves defeated the Titans last season in Kansas.

The game itself proved to be a true battle to the very end with the lead not going over three points for either team. At the final buzzer, it was Tri-County pulling through with a hard fought 51-48 win to end the mini road trip at 1-1 for the week.

One huge factor was the Titans being clutch at the free throw line going 18 of 27 for 66.7 percent.

Mason Hutchinson had 19 points including going 8 of 13 from the free throw line. Trenton Pinnell added ten points and the duo of Mitch Pollock and Blake Lee have seven each in the win. Tri-County is now just one win away from equaling their entire win total from last season — only three weeks into this season.

The Titans (7-2) will host the Arthur Okaw Christian Conquering Riders in Oak-

land on Tuesday. Tip off is set for 6 p.m. at Oakland High School.

DECATUR LSA 65, TCT 61

DECATUR — Having won four games in a row and six of their first seven games, the Tri-County Titans boys’ basketball team had their first true road game of the season on Tuesday night traveling to Decatur for an LOVC interdivision contest against the Decatur LSA Lions. This was a rematch of an LOVC Overall Tournament contest last season in Arthur where the Lions came out with the win.

The Titans kept pace with the Lions only down 28-26 at halftime, but the Lions used a 22-15 third quarter to jump back up to a 50-41 lead. The Titans rallied with 20 points in the final stanza, but the Lions did just enough scoring 15 to hold on for a 65-61 win.

Four Titan players got into double figures with Mitch Pollock leading the way with 17 points while Mason Hutchinson added 12. The duo of Blake Lee and Caleb Ard scored 10 points each while Trenton Pinnell had eight in the loss.

The Titans managed to hit 11 three point field goals, but were only 6 of 15 from the free throw line for 40 percent.

Gannon Harshman led all scorers for the Lions with 24 points while Grant Karsten added 19 in the win. The Lions went 9 of 20 from the line for 45 percent and hit 10 3-point shots.

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Paris Junior League season continues Sunday

BY CINDY WILSON
tcwilson81@yahoo.com

First half play in the Paris Junior League is continuing with several tight games in recent weeks.

PANTHERS 40 CARDINALS 12

The Panthers managed to win easily over the Cardinals in a decisive 40-12 matchup. The opening quarter was somewhat sluggish for both teams at the Panthers led the Cardinals 3-2. The Panthers were able to get things rolling in the second quarter though as Kipton Bradford, Dawson Rogers, and Sean Dunn managed to add 13 points to the Panther score. Dylan Lucas scored four points for the Cardinals but trailed the Panthers 16 - 6 at the half. Not much changed during the 3rd quarter and the Panthers finished the quarter with 28 while the Cards only had 8. The Panthers outscored the Bears in the final quarter 12-4 to win the contest 40-12.

Leading the Panthers was Drew Rogers with 10 points. Kipton Bradford and Dawson Rogers followed up with nine points each. Sean Dunn scored six points. Peyton Renfro, Jackson Rigdon and Caiden Vice each scored two points.

Dylan Lucas led the Cardinals with six points. Emma Sanders, Carter Crippes, and Bella Moreschi each scored two points.

COLTS 40 HAWKS 26

The matchup between the Colts and the Hawks was a defensive fight. The first quarter saw just a handful of made-shots from either team as the Colts took an 8-2 lead. The second quarter opened up with a Colt run as they outscored the Hawks 16-0 to go into the half with a 22-point lead. The second half was the most positive of the night as the Hawks outscored the Colts 10-8 in the third and 14-8 in the fourth. The rally was not enough though as the Colts went on to win the game 40-26.

Leading the Colts was

Braylen Mills with five baskets. Owen Jones scored eight points and Rickie White had seven. Drake Thompson and Dylan Flores each scored four points. Mason Byrnes and Cam Yantis finished the day with two points each.

EAGLES 23 LIONS 19

The Eagles got off to a strong start, managing a 9 - 4 lead in the first quarter. A 10-point run in the second quarter widened the gap as the Eagles went into halftime up 19-4. The Lions were able to outscore the Eagles 5-2 in the third quarter but still trailed by fifteen. They were finally able to go on an extended run as they outscored the Eagles 10-2 in the final quarter of play. It was not enough though as the Eagles held on 23-19 for the victory.

Four players on the Eagles led the way with four points each. Sharing those honors were Sophie Henderson, Landon Gerberding, Carson Throneburg, and Ethan Brown. Karson Kollman finished with a bucket and a free throw. Murray Smith and Mason Barrett each had two points.

John Heelan led the Lions with nine points for the afternoon. Samantha Kindred was right behind with eight. Finishing off the scoring was Eli Brinkerhoff with three points.

BEARS 26 TIGERS 24

The Bears managed to come out on top in a down-to-the-wire contest with the Tigers. The first quarter was evenly matched, with either team scoring eight points. The Tigers were able to claim the lead though, outscoring the Bears 6-0 for a 14-8 halftime advantage. The third quarter saw the Tigers maintain their lead at 18-16. The two teams traded shots with each other and, after a pair of Bear free throws, was tied at 24. Jacob Staley drained a shot from midrange with just seconds left to give the Bears the 26-24 advantage and the win.

Jacob Staley was impressive throughout the contest

for the Bears as he scored 15 points. Austin Pardi added seven points. Carter Fox put in two baskets.

Ty King played a tremendous game for the Tigers and finished with 16 points. Brody Whitaker added six points. Garrett Rigdon scored two points.

CARDINALS 30 EAGLES 14

The Cardinals earned their first win of the season by defeating the Eagles. The Cardinals got off to a hot start as they outscored the Eagles 5-0 in the opening quarter. The Eagles managed to show some fight in the second period as they trailed 12-10 going into the halftime break. The Cardinal offensive attack was too much for the Eagles in the third quarter as they went on a 12-0 run to go up 24-10. The Cardinals won the matchup by a decisive 30-14 mark.

Cards player, Bella Moreschi, had a strong showing a total of nine points. Carter Eastham scored six points. Aiden Means had a bucket and free throw. Finishing with two points each were Gage White, Myah Bartos, Dylan Lucas, Emma Sanders, Chance Chaney, and Carter Crippes.

Zavier Quinn led the Eagles with six points. Carson Throneburg scored 4 points. Holden Henderson and Ethan Brown each had two points.

LIONS 17 HAWKS 16

Both teams came out fighting as the Hawks led a close 6-5 game at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter was mostly defensive from both teams as the Hawks outscored the Lions 2-0 in the period. The Lions opened things up out of the halftime break and scored several consecutive baskets to take a 13-10 lead. The fourth quarter was a battle between the Lions were bale to hold onto the lead to win 17-16.

Samantha Kindred had a successful day on the court, leading the Lions with eight

points. Eli Brinkerhoff finished with five points while John Heelan and Kilee Edwards each scored two points.

Madox Hutchings and Dominic Asbury led the Hawks with six points each. Bradley Litteral and Andre Calhoun each scored two points.

PANTHERS 35 BEARS 8

The game opened up with the Panthers shooting the ball very well, taking a 10-1 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Panthers kept their foot on the pedal in the second quarter to take a 23-5 lead at halftime. The Bears were unable to get their offensive set going in the second half either, being outscored by the Panthers 12-3, ultimately losing 35-8.

For the Panthers, The Rogers brothers did a lot of scoring, as Drew finished with 10 points and Dawson had six points. Jackson Rigdon had 8 for the day and Dylan Balir scored six points. Storm Miller scored two points and Kipton Bradford had a free throw.

Nathan Fonner, Parker Sanders, and Austin Pardi each had a basket for the Bears. Gabriel Roush and Connor Little each had a single free throw.

COLTS 35 TIGERS 32

Both teams came out swinging in the first quarter as the Colts managed to hold a 9-7 lead at the break. The Tigers were able to stop the Colts defensively and managed to take a 15-14 lead at the half. The Colts outscored the Tigers 12-7 in the third quarter. The Tigers attempted a furious rally but were just short as the Colts held on to win the game 35-32.

Mason Byrnes and Drake Thompson each had a strong showing on the court. Mason finished with 14 and Drake had 11. Dylan Flores and Owen Jones each scored three points. Rickie White and Braylen Mills each scored two points.

Ty King led the Tigers

with 15 hard-fought points. Mazie Hawkins had a couple of buckets and free throw for five points. Macy Bick-

nell, Garrett Rigdon, Cooper Keys, Koen Brinkerhoff, Brian Smith, and Brody Whitaker all had two points.

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EYES
On Dry Eyes
By Aaron Rhoads, O.D.

Patients often come in with complaints of scratchy, burning eyes, the feeling that there is something in the eye and often excessive watering. As funny as it sounds this combination of symptoms is often due to dryness. Dry eye is often due to the lack of sufficient lubrication and moisture in the eye. This is often worse as we age because the glands at the base of our eyelashes not longer function as they should. Dryness can also be worsened due to certain medications, systemic illness or time of year (dry air and turning the heat on). This lack of lubrication also can cause over stimulation of the tear glands leading to excess watering. Dry eye treatment can be approached in a number of ways. Minor issues can sometimes be treated by adjusting environmental factors, improving diet (adding more fish and vegetables/fruits) or adding an artificial tear drop to the daily regimen. In advanced cases there are medical treatments available as well including prescription eye drops. Dry Eye is definitely a manageable problem in most cases.

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Crestwood 7th graders fall at state

BY JEREMY PATTERSON
pattersonjeremy267@gmail.com

The Crestwood seventh grade girls basketball team fell to Brimfield 23-20 in the opening round of the Class 7-2A IESA state tourney Saturday, Dec. 1, at Paris High School.

The Lady Eagles finished the season with a stellar 18-4 record.

Despite a late rally from Crestwood, the team gave up 7 points in the closing two minutes to the Lady Indians for an early tourney exit.

Crestwood head coach Missy Tingley was still excited with what she saw from her team. "I could not be more proud of the effort that I saw from this team," Tingley said "We came out and fought tonight and played hard."

Crestwood opened the game up facing a strong defensive press from Brimfield. The Lady Eagles struggled from the field through the opening quarter, making just one shot. The lone basket came off of a catch-and-shoot from Taylor Clark. Paris trailed 4-2 late in the period but was able to even the score with a pair of free throws from Graci Watson.

Brimfield entered the second quarter looking more energized then their host and demonstrated that on the court. Brimfield managed to force several bad passes and subsequent turnovers from the Lady Eagles, building their lead up to 8-4.

Two made free throws from Lady Eagle Vivian Moore pulled the team within two at 8-6. Paris-Crestwood held their own the rest of the quarter, giving up just two points to go into the half down 10-6.

Crestwood entered the second half of the game with a fire lit under them, scoring at will through the third and fourth quarters. Moore pushed Crestwood ahead 12-11 for their first lead of the game. At the end of the third quarter, the Lady Eagles trailed Brimfield 14-13, having outscored the Lady Indians 7-4 in the period. "We talked about the impor-



Adonna Bennett/The Prairie Press
Crestwood's Gracie Watson goes up for a shot in the Lady Eagle state tourney game Saturday, Dec. 1, at Paris High School.

tance of the second half and how we needed to attack the rest of the game," Tingley said "They came out and fought and were determined not to let this game slip away."

Mazie Hawkins made a quick basket to open the fourth quarter putting Lady Eagles in the lead. Moore stole the ball just over a minute later and threw a quick pass into the paint where Cate Kirby scored to put Crestwood up 17-14. Graci Dyer scored with just over two minutes left to put the Lady Eagles up 19-16. Dyer scored a team-high 8 points throughout the contest.

As the game clock slipped below the two-minute mark, things started to fall apart for Crestwood.

Brimfield forced two steals and multiple second-chance shots off offensive rebounds to go on a 6-0 run. The Lady Eagles began fouling to get possession back and were able to close the score into one possession at 23-20. With just 0.4 seconds left in the game, Paris-Crestwood inbounded the ball but Dyer was unable to get the shot off in time as the Lady Eagles fell 23-20.

"We have a very young team and they have completely changed throughout this season," Tingley said "They worked hard, gained some really valuable experience and competed all year long. I am so proud of this group of girls."

Crestwood was led in scor-

ing by Gracie Dyer with 8 points. Graci Watson scored 4 points and had a team-high seven rebounds. Vivian Moore scored 2 points and managed five rebounds. Cate Kirby, Taylor Clark and Mazie Hawkins all scored 2 points in the contest.

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Tri-County banquet honors fall athletes

BY TIM HENDERSHOT

sportsfan122744@yahoo.com

OAKLAND —The fall sports season officially came to a close Wednesday evening, Nov. 28, for the athletes of the Tri-County Titans.

Ryan Petty introduced the junior high cross-country team. There were five letter winners for the season — Abby Warman, Ben Sherer, Gabe Crunk, Jeremiah Hunt and Grace Hopper. Warman set the all-time seventh grade record with a 15:47 while Hopper set multiple all-time records finishing third in the sectional meet and the all-time program record for time at the state meet with a 13:23.

Sixth grader Trystan Clapp posted the all-time record for the sixth grade class with a time of 14:51 during the season.

High school cross-country coaches Talen Hawkins and Chase Cox discussed their season.

Four male runners composed the team — Emery Keys, Ramsey Hunt, Ross Petty and Cole McClain. All four runners set personal records during the LOVC Conference meet. Keys received the award for Most Improved Runner while Petty was named the Most Valuable Runner.

Junior high softball coach

Joe Budd recapped this past season with the program enjoying its best season in its three-year history with a 3-7 record.

The Offensive Player of the Year award went to Briana Reese while the Defensive Player of the Year went to Josie Armstrong for the second straight season. Kelsey Luth was named as the team's Most Valuable Player and McKenzie Aue was chosen as the Most Improved Player. Mollie Pollock was given a Golden Glove Award while Kaylin Williams was given the Titan award for sportsmanship.

Assistant junior high baseball coach Justin Richardson discussed the past season, filling in for coach Wes Motley. Jackson Ehlers won the Hustle Award for giving 100-percent every game and practice. Carter Phillips earned Best Defensive Player. Justin Robertson was named the Most Improved Player and Gaige Cox was awarded for the Lowest ERA for the season (1.21). Brenden Cash earned the Titan award for showing leadership, sportsmanship and loyalty for the second straight season.

Titan golf coach Kevin Fleckenstein discussed the successful season as the Titans were 14-10 in match play. Fleckenstein praised his team for their play on unfamiliar courses noting the record itself was quite an accomplishment. The Titans won the Tuscola Tittations in both the team and two-man classifications, took fourth in the LOVC Golf Championships and fourth in regional play — just one spot shy of qualifying for sectionals.

The golf team was introduced with all six golfers receiving varsity letters. Individual award winners were Caleb Ard as Most Improved Golfer and Logan Richardson as Most Valuable Player.

Ard finished with a 49.28 average per nine holes this past season while Richardson



Tina Jones/The Prairie Press

Six members of the 2018 tri-County Titan football team earned LOVC honors for their play this past season. Honored were first row, from left, Drew Beville, Lane Bisby and Brandon Royer. Second row, from left, Anthony Jones, Chris Hutchinson and Leo Wheeler.



Tina Jones/The Prairie Press

Earning LOVC all-conference honors for the Tri-County volleyball team this past season were first row, from left, Grace Burnside and Morgan Houia. Second row, from left, are Julia Robertson, Kaylenn Hunt, Maiya Eskew. Head Coach Crystal Buckler is at back,

medaled in 11 of 14 matches. Richardson also earned first-team All-Conference honors, a third place regional finish and a tie for second in the sectionals qualifying him for the Class 1A State Tournament for the second consecutive year.

He also earned Second Team All-Area honors by the News-Gazette averaging 37.7 strokes a match — third in the News-Gazette area — and a 38.25 average all season long. Holden Kile was also honored for his strong first season as he was named an

All-Area Honorable Mention by the News-Gazette. Kile averaged 46.75 in his freshman campaign.

Volleyball coach Crystal Buckler discussed her team's season. The Titans went 23-5 and 5-0 in the LOVC Southeast. TCT won the Paris Invitational, took third in the Effingham St. Anthony Invitational and won both the LOVC Southeast and Overall Tournament titles for the second consecutive year. The Titans lost in the regional final to Teutopolis.

After the team of 20 was introduced, Buckler handed out the individual awards. Award winners were Grace Burnside Most Aces (48), Most Kills (270) and MVP; Maiya Eskew Titan Award; Morgan Houia, Most Assists (501); Kaylenn Hunt Most Blocks (97) and Julia Robertson, Most Digs (198). Burnside was a unanimous LOVC First Team All-Conference while Robertson, Houia and Hunt were also named on the first team. Eskew was Second Team all-conference.

Izzy Carroll and Melia Eskew earned letters and Cailynne Phillips (9th in blocks) and Madison Shirley (41st in digs) honored for being among the area leaders by the News-Gazette.

First year football Coach Brian Anderson was the final speaker of the evening, reviewing the past season. The Titans were 4-5 overall and 1-3 in the LOVC Southeast.

After the introduction of the team, Anderson presented individual awards. Award winners were Drew Beville (Offensive MVP, 67 carries, 378 yards), Lane Bisby (Defensive MVP, 97 tackles), Anthony Jones (Jeremy Vargocko Offensive Lineman Award), Brandon Royer (Most Improved Player - Varsity), Clayton Pardi (Most Improved Player - JV), Mitch Pollock (Michael Guthridge Good Sportsmanship Award) and Leo Wheeler (Titan Award for leadership).

Anderson recognized the LOVC All-Conference selections — Bisby (First Team RB, First Team LB), Wheeler (First Team OL), Beville (Second Team Skill Positions), Royer (First Team LB), Jones (Second Team Lineman) and Chris Hutchinson (Honorable Mention Lineman).

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A terrifying educational experience

I've said it before. If anything bad happens, there's a girl to blame. It's so true. This story is an excellent example. What to do if you're a fifth-grade boy possessing a crush on a classmate girl?

Options are limited. You could sidle up to her and tenderly clasp her hand, maybe say you harbor sincere love.

Not recommended. Girls are volatile. She might respond with raucous laughter, maybe apply a painful kick to the shin or swing a stinging slap to your face. At the very least, she could pucker an ugly pose and disgustedly stick out her tongue.

So you play it cool. Just do simple things on a daily basis to grab her attention. Things like bump against her, tap a shoulder, flip a pigtail, tease about something or tell a knock-knock joke.

Very risky strategy. It's a sure way of drawing notice, but she might consider you a first-rate nuisance.

Dennis opted for the cool strategy, becoming a pest. It was the best he could do — all he knew how to do.

Doggone it, he was in love.

Ginnie was a cutie with freckles and pigtails. Her brown eyes flashed when she smiled. Her attractiveness was enhanced by intelligence, neat attire and a sweet personality.

Dennis was a sharp student and very likeable. But he was a boy, meaning he liked to play rough and tumble games. His denim jeans always showed dirty, grass-stained knees.

Every day, as he sat near the back of the classroom, he admired little Ginny, who sat on the front row. She appealed.

His thoughts envisioned the future. He imagined a pleasant courtship with her as a steady girlfriend and future bride.

The crystal ball was murky, though. She was courteous to boys, but not the least interested in romance. That only caused Dennis to pester more frequently. He wondered if he might be aggravating her.

One day immediately following lunch, Dennis' dreams were shattered. His worst nightmare came true.

Ginnie's mother walked into the classroom during science period. Much to his worry, the lady sat almost directly behind him in a chair next to the back wall. There could be only one reason.

Ginnie must've complained at home that a boy named Dennis was pestering her and she was fed up. Her mom was there to put a stop to it.

Dennis sat mesmerized, beads of perspiration trickling down his face. He squirmed uncomfortably, dreading a confrontation.

Minutes slowly passed. Eventually Dennis could squirm no more. He slowly trudged to the teacher's desk, stammering with a shaky voice.

"Mrs. Bendix, I don't feel well."

"I see. You do look pale, and you're sweating. Do you want to go home?"

"I think so."

Mrs. Bendix knew Dennis lived only two blocks from school, an easy walk.

"OK, Dennis," she said. "Stop by the office and tell the secretary you're leaving."

"Thank you," he muttered. Dennis played hooky with permission the remainder of the afternoon, feeling immense relief to escape a pressure-cooker atmosphere, although he feared problems

See **CODGER**, Page 9B



Special to The Prairie Press

More families are seeking out Christmas tree farms throughout the country for family outings to select the holiday tree. Choosing a real tree is an environmentally sound decision as Christmas trees are grown specifically for that purpose, just like corn or soybeans.

Christmas debate

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Christmas tree is a quintessential part of the holiday season. It turns out, however, not all festive trees are made equal — at least not when it comes to environmental friendliness.

So, which is better for the planet — a freshly cut tree or a fake one?

The short answer, which may come as a surprise to some, is a real tree. But it's actually more complicated than that.

It ultimately depends on a variety of factors, including how far you drive to get your evergreen and how you dispose of it at the end of the holidays — and, if you choose an artificial tree, how long you end up using it.

Here's an explainer on how to make the more Earth-friendly choice this Christmas season:

■ If you choose an artificial tree, you need to use it for a very long time.

An artificial tree needs to be reused for many years to make it more environmentally friendly than buying a fresh-cut tree annually. According to forester Bill Cook, a fake tree would have to be used for more than eight to nine years. A 2009 study out of Montreal, however, concluded it would take more than 20 years of use to make it a more eco-friendly choice.

Artificial trees have, "three times more impact on climate change and resource depletion than natural trees," said the study, conducted by the consulting firm Ellipsos.

■ Most fake trees are made from toxic, non-recyclable materials.

Artificial Christmas trees are made of polyvinyl chloride, or PVC, a non-recyclable plastic. PVC has been linked to adverse health and environmental impacts. Fake trees may also be manufactured with lead and other toxic additives.

There are artificial trees on the market that are not made from PVC. Polyethylene plastic (or PE) trees are said to be a less toxic option.

■ If you're going to buy artificial, choose domestic.

More than 85 percent of artificial Christmas trees in the U.S. are imported from China — significantly enlarging their carbon footprint.

If you're opting for a fake tree, aim to buy one with a "Made In USA" label.

If you're buying a real tree, go local.

■ Minimize the number of miles driven to get your Christmas tree. Research shows driving to get your tree often has more environmental impact than the tree itself.

"If you pick up a real tree close to



Special to The Prairie Press

Christmas trees at a North Carolina tree farm rest in the winter snow. While Christmas trees are grown for sale in 45 U.S. states, the top five tree-producing states are Oregon, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.



Special to The Prairie Press

Recycling Christmas trees makes them an even more environmentally friendly choice for use during the holidays.

your home or pick it up on a trip you were going to make anyway, the impact of the real tree is almost nil," said Bert Cregg, a horticulture expert at Michigan State University.

Buying local also means supporting your community's growers and businesses, as well as preserving local farmland.

The Christmas Tree Farm Network maintains a comprehensive list of farms in the U.S., organized by state.

Real Christmas trees are grown specifically for that purpose

"You're not doing any harm by cutting down a Christmas tree," Clint Springer, a botanist and professor of biology at Philadelphia's Saint Joseph's University, told The New York Times in an earlier interview. "A lot of people think artificial is better because you're preserving the life of a tree. But in this case, you've got a crop that's being raised for that purpose."

Christmas tree farms can serve as a habitat for local wildlife.

About 350 million trees grow on Christmas tree farms in the United States, according to the National Christmas Tree Association. About

30 million of these trees are harvested annually.

These farms have environmental costs of their own, noted Thomas Harman, who sells artificial Christmas trees. "If you use an artificial tree for 10 years, you need 10 trees, and that is 70 years' worth of growing trees," he told Weather.com in 2013. "You have 70 years of water and pesticide consumption."

Researchers say, however, that pesticides aren't actually too much of an issue on Christmas tree farms.

"If you look at the continuum of chemical use in U.S. agriculture, Christmas trees production certainly ranks on the low end," Cregg told Mother Jones in an earlier interview.

Christmas tree farms can also serve as important habitats for local birds, insects and other wildlife.

Real trees can be composted or recycled.

Don't just chuck your used Christmas tree in the trash after the holidays. Repurpose or recycle it.

Many towns and cities have curbside pick-up options for recycling Christmas trees, or recycling drop-off

See **TREES**, Page 2B

GPS navigation is interwoven with modern life

Illinois just celebrated the state's bicentennial anniversary. This is also the week in 1995 that GPS navigation became operational.

Using GPS it is possible to pinpoint a location within a few inches at basically no cost. Precision agriculture is not possible without GPS.

An unlikely pair of Frenchmen first charted Illinois. Father Jacques Marquette a 36-year-old Jesuit priest and 27-year-old fur trader Louis Joliet led the expedition into the interior of North America. They set out in 1673 to spread Christianity and establish trading posts and mapped their journey using the sun and star positions with a magnetic compass, a watch

and a sextant.

At best they plotted their location within a few miles, but more commonly they were off by dozens of miles. They explored down to Arkansas and turned around after Native Americans warned them of Spanish settlements further south. On the return trip to Canada, a canoe capsized and they lost most of their notes. The pair reproduced maps and landmarks from memory. The trip took three months.

TERRY SULLIVAN
ARMCHAIR SCIENCE

Today that trip can be made in a couple days. Turn on a GPS receiver and it will log the exact path within feet.

The Global Positioning System (GPS) was developed for the military but opened to public use almost immediately. For the first few years, the government deliberately scrambled signal timing enough to limit public accuracy fearing a foreign military might use it against us. The system value was realized and President Bill Clinton signed a law discontinuing selective availability. Since 2000, everyone has access to the full-system accuracy.

GPS uses a process called trilateration. This means three distance measures are used to

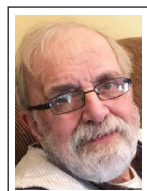
establish location. Distance is determined by the time it takes a signal to reach a given location.

From science class, remember distance equals speed x time. Sonar reflects sound waves off a surface and by knowing the speed of sound and measuring the time to hear the echo reveals the distance. Radar does the same but reflects a radio wave off a surface and measures the time for waves traveling the speed of light.

GPS uses this concept but in this case the radio wave ping is emitted from a satellite in space. The radio wave includes a clock time in the signal. The satellite uses an atomic clock and embeds

Before parents got worried

I got my Red Ryder BB rifle for Christmas when I was eight, and shot my friend, Andy, in the rear shortly after. In the early 1950s, a BB rifle in the hands of a grade schooler alarmed no one. The shoot-your-eye-out thing was generally, considered a myth.



HARRY REYNOLDS
ANOTHER LOOK

There were, of course, unsubstantiated rumors to the contrary, but, in truthfulness, I never met a kid with one eye. Parents did not worry about such mundane things. Mothers would have given their kids hand grenades to get them outdoors.

In those days, families were larger and mothers stayed at home. Fathers fled to the sanctuary of work. Sometimes, they arrived home just in time to prevent murder. Dispensing justice was one of the perks of being a father.

In one of my favorite holiday movies, "A Christmas Story," a kid named Ralphie tells his mother he wants a BB gun. "I want a Red Ryder carbine action two hundred shot range model air rifle. Oooooooo!"

His mother, emphatically, replies: "No, you'll shoot your eye out" — a flight of imagination on the director's part. Mom would have said, "Why, of course, Ralphie."

The thing about BB rifles is you have to go outdoors to shoot them. But, I must confess, having violated that rule in 1998, when we moved into our house. I did not have a Red Ryder BB rifle, but I did have a pellet handgun.

My man cave had been a bedroom for a girl, and Mickey Mouse roamed free on a wallpaper border. I put up with Mickey Mouse for several months until I could take the mouse no more.

One night, having quaffed a few bottles of Guinness Ale, I shot one of the Mickey's. I wrote a column about that incident for the student newspaper at Lake Land College. The editor refused to run it. I suspect she had belonged to the Mickey Mouse Club.

Andy and I spent a lot of time at Neal's Five Acres, which was, inadvertently, a playground for small boys. The owner never bothered us, though he must have known we took advantage of its hill and shallow ravines.

I remember when we were short of BBs, and short of money; this occurred before we became Boy Scouts, so we were, let's say, unreformed. The thrill of stealing a package of BBs quickly dissipated when the manager caught us.

He chewed us out but did not have us arrested and thrown in jail. Most importantly, he did not tell our parents. We would have preferred to do five to nine.

We spent a lot of times shooting at things. You could shoot all day with a Red Ryder. They carried a heavy load of

See **REYNOLDS**, Page 2B

a high precision time in the signal. When a GPS receiver picks up the radio wave it compares the time in the signal to the exact time in the location. From the difference in times and speed, it figures distance.

In high school geometry, we learned the set of points in a plane equidistant from a fixed point is a circle. In common terms, starting at a center point and marking every point 2 inches away creates a circle having the fixed point as center and a radius of 2 inches. The take away is that receiving a signal from one satellite only reveals a location to be a point somewhere on a circle. With two satellites,

See **SULLIVAN**, Page 9B

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TOPS meet

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

TOPS #IL. 1563 met Thursday, Nov. 29, with 24 members present. Club members recognized were Janet Embry, TOPS weekly best loser, monthly best loser and the best walker; Marcela Coy won the walking drawing and the food chart drawing; and Lynn Moody won the Thanksgiving gift challenge. Members walked 71½ miles for the week.

Coralie Smittkamp's program was "Eating Strategy for Life." TOPS #IL 1563 meets every Thursday at the Highland Manor Community Room, with weigh-ins beginning at 8 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. Visitors and new members are always welcome. More information is available by calling 251-5190.

TOPS #IL. 2318 met Tuesday, Dec. 4, with 15 members weighing in and 15 members attended the meeting.

Club members recognized were: Judy Ferris, TOPS weekly loser; Carmen Minge, KOPS weekly loser, KOPS drawing winner and KOPS monthly loser; Mary Ruth Clark, three-week loser; Jayne Peters, TOPS monthly loser; Sharon Phillips, top walker; Patty Felgenhauer, top exerciser; and Mindy Wooten, top biker.

Sharon Phillips gave a program about medical information.

TOPS #IL. 2318 meets every Tuesday in the basement of the Presbyterian Church.

Weigh in is 5:45 -6:50 p.m.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 217-808-0078.

BOOK DONATIONS MADE TO SCHOOLS



Special to The Prairie Press

The Paris Chapter Order of the Eastern Star and the Illinois Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star donated 104 books to Shiloh Elementary, Chrisman High School, Crestwood and Memorial schools during 2018. Shown in the photo are: Shiloh School librarian Pam Julian and O.E.S. members Desiree Rhode and Joetta Hochstetler.

DAR/SAR Good Citizens announced

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Stephen A. Douglas Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has announced the 2018 recipients of the good citizen awards.

Selected this year are: Alayna Johns, Arcola High School; Makenna Green, Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School; Brianna Bange, Shiloh High School; J. D. Barrett, Tuscola High School; and Ashley Fulk, Villa Grove High School.

Each year since 1937, the Stephen A. Douglas Chapter has recognized the outstanding high school seniors of area schools who most closely represent the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. The DAR Good Citizen Program reflects the education and patriotism missions of the national organization of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In conjunction with the DAR activity, the Pianekshaw Chapter of the Sons

of the American Revolution has named Myles Roberts, Arcola High School; Taylor Powell, Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School; Logan Richardson, Shiloh High School; Ashton Smith, Tuscola High School; and Tristan Harrison, Villa Grove High School as recipients of the SAR Good Citizen award.

The DAR/SAR Good Citizens, families and friends will be honored Feb. 9, 2019, during a luncheon at the Douglas County Museum.

MILESTONES

Cline marks 90th birthday with card shower

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

MARSHALL – The family of Norma Cline is hosting a card shower to celebrate her 90th birthday.

Cline was born Dec. 11, 1928, at Paris as Norma Burns. She married Burt Cline Sept. 28, 1947, and they were married 64 years before his death in 2011.

Her immediate family consists of two daughters, Nannette Elliott and Jo Edelman; two grandchildren, Trinity Klein and Stephanie Turner; and two great-grandchildren, Hunter Turner and Fisher Turner.

Cline is a homemaker and

baker who has been known to pay people who have helped her with an amazing chocolate coconut cream pie. She was a volunteer secretary for many years with the Clark County Fair and continues as a volunteer for the Burnside Nursing Home Guild.

Her spare time is given over to activities with her great-grandsons such as learning to ride a four-wheeler, riding in the boys' latest project car, staying current with the most recent viral craze and playing the many video games the boys bring to her home.

Cline is known as Mom-Mom to the family whose members encourage everyone

to send a birthday card to her at 1717Archer Ave., Marshall, Ill. 62441.



SHARE YOUR MILESTONE: Submit news of your anniversary, engagement, wedding or birth for free: email nzeman@prairiepress.net or mail The Prairie Press, 101 N. Central, Paris, Ill., 61944.

TREES

FROM PAGE 1B

centers. Some also offer tree mulching and chipping programs, allowing residents to recycle their trees and take home a free bag of mulch for their garden.

Feeling handy? You can also turn your tree into a DIY project. Create coasters and decorations with the branches and trunk of your tree — or make some Christmas-scented potpourri. Some donate trees to lakes to serve as nesting

areas for fish spawning.

All things being equal, it seems real Christmas trees are better for the health of the Earth — and of your family. But depending on a variety of factors, either option can be a good choice.

If you have an artificial tree, reuse it for at least a decade and consider choosing a domestically manufactured, non-PVC option. If you want a real tree, get one close to where you live, and recycle or compost it when the season is over.

REYNOLDS

FROM PAGE 1B

BBs. Sometimes, we shot at each other; not with intent to inflict pain, but, to miss.

We were good at missing — most of the time. In any case, it was safer than shooting arrows at each other. I remember some kid shooting another kid — quite unintentionally — with an arrow. Fortunately, it only stuck in his leg.

Those were the good old days, when boys roamed woods and thickets, trusty Red Ryder in hand, seeking something to shoot at.

The rabbits laughed, the crows cackled and small boys cried when stuck in the ...

(Harry Reynolds is a retired editor and columnist for the Mattoon Journal Gazette and Charleston Time-Courier. He recently started writing occasional columns for the fun of it, in which he offers a different look at life and aging. Email him at reynoldsharry1943@gmail.com)

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Vet came face-to-face with bomber

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS
www.history.com

Paul Kennedy was expecting to sleep in on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. He was on deck duty on board the U.S.S. Sacramento at Pearl Harbor until 4 a.m., then grabbed coffee with a buddy and hadn't gone to bed until 5:30 a.m. So, when alarms sounded at around 8 a.m. as a swarm of Japanese warplanes began a ferocious assault on the U.S. Naval Base, Kennedy thought it was a drill and tried to tune it out.

"I put the pillow over my ear," he told HISTORY in a 2016 interview. "My buddy saw that I wasn't responding, so he pulled the covers off and said in so many words, 'Get up and go. We're under attack—grab your gas mask and helmet,' which I did. I didn't even put on any pants."

Soon, a chilling encounter with one of the Japanese pilots who was dropping torpedoes on the U.S. fleet that morning, became seared in Kennedy's memory.

The Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor not only took then-21-year-old Kennedy by surprise, it shocked the nation. The attacks, which killed 2,400 Americans and wounded 1,200, struck a devastating blow against the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Five U.S. battleships, three destroyers and seven other ships were decimated and more than 200 aircraft were lost in the rain of Japanese bombs and gunfire. The assault pulled the United States into a war it had, until then, resisted joining. The following day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called Dec. 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy" and Congress declared war on Japan.

For Kennedy, who described feeling, "so much anger," as the day unfolded, the start of the attack was particularly ominous.

After being roused by his shipmate, Kennedy, still in his underwear, ran up a ladder to the ship's deck. As soon as he emerged, he was overwhelmed by an approaching Japanese fighter plane.

"Right above me, about 20 feet above my head, was a torpedo plane with a big torpedo," Kennedy recalled. "And that's not a way to wake up." As the plane approached, Kennedy said he was close enough to see right into the cockpit.

"He was going low and slow, because he was getting ready to drop that torpedo as soon as he cleared our ship," Kennedy said. "And he had his canopy back and was looking down at me—and I was looking up at him. I guess I looked pretty funny in my shorts and my skivvies." Kennedy said he later learned the pilot was Mitsuo Fuchida, a captain in the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service who is credited with leading the first wave of attacks at Pearl Harbor.

The torpedo Kennedy saw Fuchida drop detonated on the U.S.S. Oklahoma, which, within 20 minutes, was overturned on its side. Kennedy remembered seeing some men blown into the air, "like rag dolls," and others, "scrambling over their lives, climbing over the hull of the ship. It was a sad, sad sight."

In the end, 429 crewmen on board the Oklahoma were killed. Kennedy was horrified by the sight but had no time to dwell on the tragedy. He

See **VETERAN**, Page 4B

Legends will never die

Illinois has a long, diverse history of the unexplained, from ghosts to creepy cryptids

(Editor's note: The weekly Illinois Bicentennial series is brought to you by the Illinois Associated Press Media Editors and Illinois Press Association. More than 20 newspapers are creating stories about the state's history, places and key moments in advance of the Bicentennial on Dec. 3, 2018. Stories published up to this date can be found at 200illinois.com.)

BY PHIL LUCIANO

The Journal Star, Peoria

Illinois boasts a hair-raising history rife with spine-tingling stories — and that's just with politics.

Otherwise, the state's heritage brims with tall tales of mythic beasts, spooky legends and ghost stories.

A few of the favorites:

OLD BOOK

In the earliest years of the 20th century, the Peoria State Hospital in Bartonville was home to a deaf, mute man known only as A. Bookbinder. Strong and steady, he dug

graves for asylum funerals, ending each by sobbing hysterically and leaning on a tree that became famously known as The Graveyard Elm. In June 1910, Old Book went the way of all men, and the entire asylum came out for his farewell. Near the end, an apparition appeared at the Graveyard Elm.

Old Book, weeping and moaning as always. But as soon as startled officials cracked open his casket to double-check on the dead man's whereabouts, the crying ceased and Old Book's form vanished from the tree. Inside the coffin, onlookers spotted Old Book's peaceful face.

(Source: Peoria Journal Star)

PIASA BIRD

The Piasa (pronounced PIE-ah-saw) Bird — actually more like a dragon, with red eyes, menacing beard, scales and lengthy tail — preyed on Native Americans, eating them alive until a local chief, Chief Ouatoga, lured it out of

its cave, using himself as bait.

When the creature flew out, an ambush of warriors slew it with a volley of poisoned arrows. A mural was said to have been painted (possibly more than 3,000 years ago) as a commemoration of the event.

Though the original mural is gone, a new one has taken its place.

(Source: Associated Press)

COLE HOLLOW ROAD MONSTER

In July 1972, an East Peoria teen reported he and friends spotted a white, hairy, foul-smelling, 12-foot monster around Cole Hollow Road. "It lets out a long screech — like an old steam-engine whistle, only more humany," he said. Soon, as many as 200 armed men combed the area but found nothing. During the search, one man accidentally shot himself trying to bag a deer. The hoopa died down before anyone else got hurt.

In 1991, that teen said the report was a hoax. However, that same year, East Peoria police

got a call from an anonymous local woman. She said she'd been driving on Cole Hollow Road when an 8-foot-tall hairy beast grabbed the back of her pickup truck and refused to let go. The beast finally relented and let her speed off. That sighting never has been explained.

(Source: Peoria Journal Star)

THE ENFIELD HORROR

In the 1940s, a leaping monkey-like creature was spotted in Mount Vernon. Thirty years later, a similar beast — though now with three legs and eyes as bright as flashlights — was seen several times in nearby Enfield, including one report from a local radio newsman. What was it? Guesses ranged from an alien to a deformed kangaroo to a chemistry experiment gone bad.

(Source: Chicago Tribune)

RESURRECTION MARY

Legend says that in the 1930s, a young woman got into a fight with her boyfriend

and left a ballroom on Archer Avenue in Chicago. Down the road, she was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver who was never caught. Distraught, Mary's parents laid her body to rest at Resurrection Cemetery, in the same outfit from the night of the dance. Since 1939, people have reported seeing a woman wearing a white dress on the side of the road. Sometimes, she is picked up from the side of the road or given a ride home from a neighborhood dance, but she invariably vanishes when a car passes the cemetery.

(Source: roadtrippers.com)

LAWDALE THUNDERBIRD

In July of 1973 in the Logan County village of Lawndale, two massive birds swooped down; one carried off a child, only to drop the lad within seconds. Around that time, other sightings of oversized fowl were reported in central Illinois.

(Source: Peoria Journal Star)

See **LEGENDS**, Page 4B

Bicentennial birthday bash



Gina Mills/Special to The Prairie Press

Historical re-enactors from the George Rogers Clark Museum at Vincennes, Ind., contributed to the Dec. 2 Illinois Bicentennial event at the Edgar County Historical Society Museum. Left to right, Frank Doughan portrayed a U.S. Army rifleman who fought at the 1811 Battle of Tippecanoe, Chuck Valentine is a French marine from the time Vincennes was a French outpost and George Sanquenetti portrays a French trapper and explorer.

Edgar County Historical Society marks Illinois' big 200th by recreating the past

BY ROGER STANLEY

rstanley1937@hotmail.com

(Editor's Note: the writer of the story was also the featured speaker at the presentation)

The Edgar County Historical Society celebrated the state bicentennial Sunday, Dec. 2, with a presentation by Roger Stanley highlighting key points of state history, with assistance of some historical re-enactors.

People from Illinois and Indiana filled the meeting room of the museum annex for the program. The Power-Point presentation covered many of the events that made Illinois possible from the establishment of European settlements invading Indian Country to the events that happened along the way.

One of the noted achievements of a country or state is to recognize and celebrate a significant time in its history. Americans have celebrated the creation of our nation every Fourth of July and have done so for 242 years. On Dec. 3, 2018, Illinois becomes 200 years old, something to take note of and to honor as a tribute to our forefathers of the Prairie State.

From first hearing the name of Illinois by Native Americans along the

Illinois River by the French until the present day, citizens should remember important events. That is the making of our land that is so special along the rivers passing through fertile prairies and rich woodlands.

The Indians were in the area first and were followed by the French, then the British and finally the Americans. The changing of the guard was evidenced by the French and Indian War, the American Revolution and the War of 1812. One of the very historic locations was found at Kaskaskia, which saw many changes of character for not only Illinois, but also the nation. The victory at Kaskaskia by George Rogers Clark during the Revolution was celebrated by the ringing of the Liberty Bell of the west on July 4, 1778.

After Kaskaskia and Vincennes were taken by Clark and his contingent, a form of government, the Northwest Ordinance, was set up by a new republic. It not only dramatically increased the area of the original 13 colonies, but also created a set of laws that was a precursor to the United States Constitution.

A few years later Illinois became the Illinois Territory with Kaskaskia as the capital and a new state became eminent.

The steps to statehood included creating a state constitution by delegates from the 15 counties of Illinois at that time. It was ratified by the U.S. Con-



Ginger Trine/Special to The Prairie Press

Roger Stanley addresses the audience during the state bicentennial celebration at the Edgar County Historical Society.



Gina Mills/Special to The Prairie Press

Frank Doughan, a curator from the George Rogers Clark Museum at Vincennes, Ind., portrays a U.S. soldier from the 1812 era during the Illinois Bicentennial celebration at the Edgar County Historical Society.

gress Dec. 3, 1818, and Illinois was added as the 21st state of the union. Kaskaskia, the territorial capital, continued as the state capital, but that was only short lived. The more centrally located

See **SOCIETY**, Page 4B

Finding the perfect workplace

It seems to me a good place to work and live should involve something that is appealing based on what I liked to do as a kid.



ROGER STANLEY

NOTES FROM THE PRAIRIE

My life on the farm taught me a lot of things such as:

milking cows, working in the garden, raising chickens and feeding cows and hogs. It was exciting to ride on a tractor, on top of a load of hay, in a wagonload of ear corn and even to ride on the platform of an old Oliver pull type combine.

Since I was brought up during World War II, I studied the machinery of the Army and Navy. It was especially interesting the way fighter planes flew and what made them efficient and different. I made many cheap models of planes and ships, even designing my own out of pieces of wood. My brother and I fought many battles with miniature plastic jeeps, tanks and trucks.

As I got older, I put my imagination together with experiences as a kid and decided to work on my own farm instead of designing airplanes or making a career in the Army. I did taste those things while in college but farming, for me, was the perfect place to work.

When I was 19, I married the love of my life and my dad gave us a place on the farm. Of course, some kids came along much to the delight of our parents, and I got to experience the wonder of God's little creations that Rosie and I kind of helped with. What a wonderful life, and it was an integral part of the place we worked at and lived in.

See **STANLEY**, Page 4B

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LEGENDS

FROM PAGE 3B

FARMER CITY MONSTER

The 1970s teemed with monster sightings, but this one — hulking shape, bright yellow eyes — was witnessed by a Farmer City cop. Reports began one July, when three teens encountered it at their campsite in a field near Salt Creek, and spread to Bloomington, Heyworth and Waynesville. Everyone who saw it noted its glowing eyes, but it was not an aggressive creature. At each encounter, the Farmer City Monster fled as soon as it was

spotted.

(Source: *Mysterious Heartland*)

LAKE MICHIGAN SEA SERPENT

Between 1867 and 1890, Chicago newspapers raved over sightings of a scaled serpent 40 to 50 feet in length, very dark blue, with a grayish-white belly. In 1867, a fisherman gave a very detailed description of the creature, claiming it had come within 20 feet of his boat. It was swimming about a mile and a half off the shore of the south side of Chicago. (Source: *the-cryptocrew.com*)

MURPHYSBORO MUD MONSTER

This hairy, smelly biped (a.k.a. “Big Muddy”) was seen several times in the summer of 1973 lurking near Murphysboro along the banks of the Big Muddy River. Like Peoria’s Cole Hollow Road Monster, the Murphysboro creature was described as being 7 feet tall and covered in matted, white fur. Police officers found several tracks at the scene of the first sighting, and even heard its, “inhuman,” cry.

After a few weeks of intense scrutiny, the Murphysboro Mud Monster disappeared as mysteriously as it arrived.

(Source: *Mysterious Heartland*)

STUMP POND SERPENT

Between 1879 and 1968, fishermen in Perry County spun yarns about a serpent that dwelled in the murky waters of Stump Pond. The creature was described as having a thick, green body with black fins. It was large enough to rock boats. When the lake was partially drained in 1968, locals discovered catfish that weighed more than 30 pounds, so it is possible that the “Stump Pond Serpent” was a giant catfish. (Source: *Mysterious Heartland*)

SOCIETY

FROM PAGE 3B

Vandalia was subsequently made the capital city, and the new Illinois constitution stated the site chosen needed to serve as the capital for 20-year period of time.

Pictures were shown of Abraham Lincoln and Stanley said, “Lincoln was so important to Illinois and U.S. history that we find him in this bicentennial story. Lincoln became a lawyer and met Stephen Douglas where they began their oratory duels.” Even today it seems we can feel the breath of Lincoln in this place because he gave it from his heart and soul and that should abide forever.

Lincoln and the Long Nine, a group of fellow legislators, successfully relocated the state house from Vandalia to Springfield. As the political currents became stronger just before the Civil War Lincoln gave his House Divided speech in the capitol building.

Even though Lincoln lost the 1858 Senate race to Douglas, the now famous Lincoln-Douglas Debates from the campaign brought Lincoln national notice and helped propel him toward the presi-

dency in 1860.

Barack Obama, our first black president, announced his presidential campaign from the steps of the same building where Lincoln served as a legislator and delivered the House Divided speech. These were noteworthy events shown in the presentation and were included in the celebration of our state.

Stanley showed pictures of the present state capitol and explained, “In 1888, an architectural wonder of the whole Midwest was built for the present capitol of Illinois. It was included as being significant to Illinois history because it still represents with much of its artwork and statues the importance of some of the events that made Illinois important for its citizens. The state seal at the very top and pictures and statues of past statesmen including Patrick Henry and George Rogers Clark. Also in a place of honor in front of the building is Abraham Lincoln standing guard over the past.”

The presentation followed almost full circle with a depiction of Patrick Henry.

“As governor of Virginia he (Henry) started George Rogers Clark on his way,” said Stanley.

The event concluded with two statements, one uttered by Patrick Henry in his address to the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1775 as a response to how the king of England was mistreating colonists. His speech included, “I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death.”

Stanley’s closed with his own observation, “What course is now for Illinois — we certainly want liberty, let it not be with the death of our state, but with a fresh breath of freedom and justice for all.”

After the presentation, three guests from Vincennes, Ind., and the George Rogers Clark Memorial dressed as people from the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries answered audience questions about what life

was like in early Illinois.

George Sanquetti portrayed a French trapper and explorer. Chuck Valentine was a French marine and Frank Doughan was a U.S. Army rifleman who fought at the 1811 Battle of Tippecanoe.

Program director Sean Robison made the connections to bring the historical re-enactors to the local bicentennial celebration, which added a lively bit of color to the afternoon.



Special to The Prairie Press

This painting at the George Rogers Clark Memorial in Vincennes, Ind., depicts some of the hardships Clark and his band of frontier soldiers endured to bring the Revolutionary War to British strongholds in the west. His exploits secured the Northwest Territory for the new United States and eventually Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan moved from territorial status to statehood. Illinois is now in its 200th year as a state.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS CAUSE NO. 2016TX1(1): TO THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS (AND IF DECEASED, TO THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES), AND TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND TO ALL INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES THEREOF, INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS EDGAR COUNTY CLERK, EDGAR COUNTY TREASURER, EDGAR COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, ILLINOIS DEPT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, ILLINOIS DEPT OF REVENUE, ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPT OF HEALTHCARE & FAMILY SERVICES (PUBLIC AID) GENERAL COUNSEL, CITY OF CHRISMAN, CITY OF KANSAS, CITY OF PARIS, VILLAGE OF METCALF, AND TO OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED IN THE PARCELS HEREINAFTER NAMED:

Parcel Number	Owners/Parties Interested	Cert Number	Street Or Common Address
06-17-15-307-002	WIGGINS CHARLES	150012	
06-17-15-307-002	WIGGINS, CHARLES NICHOLAS	150012	
06-17-15-307-003	WIGGINS CHARLES	150013	6229 E 733 N RD
06-17-15-307-003	WIGGINS, CHARLES NICHOLAS	150013	6229 E 733 N RD
06-17-15-309-002	MAY PAUL R	150014	6212 E 733 N RD
06-17-15-309-002	MAY, PAUL MICHAEL	150014	6212 E 733 N RD
06-17-15-309-002	WIGGINS CHARLES	150014	6212 E 733 N RD
09-13-35-476-004	ESLINGER EDNA	150029	801 WEST END AVE
09-13-35-476-004	ESLINGER, RONALD EUGENE	150029	801 WEST END AVE
09-13-36-378-009	THOMAS ERIC	150035	209 KIMBLE ST
09-13-36-378-009	THOMAS, ERIC RYAN	150035	209 KIMBLE ST
09-14-31-354-007	BUTLER CARROLL E	150042	607 DILL AVE
09-14-31-354-007	REAL TAX DEVELOPERS	150042	607 DILL AVE
09-14-31-354-007	BUTLER, CARROLL EUGENE	150042	607 DILL AVE
09-18-01-252-004	BANK OF CASEY TRUST LT42	150051	124 N MAIN ST
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09-18-12-127-008	GILBERT KRISTI SUE	150070	1006 S CENTRAL ST
09-18-12-127-008	AMERN GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES INC C/O SPRINGLEAF HOME EQUITY	150070	1006 S CENTRAL ST
09-18-12-213-005	SUDDUTH JAMES W JR	150083	212 E MONROE ST
09-18-12-213-005	REAL TAX DEVELOPERS	150083	212 E MONROE ST
09-18-12-403-001	DILLON RITA	150090	1704 MICHIGAN AVE
09-18-12-403-001	DILLON, RITA	150090	1704 MICHIGAN AVE
09-18-12-403-001	LANDSAW ARON	150090	1704 MICHIGAN AVE
09-18-12-403-001	LANDSAW, ARON LEE	150090	1704 MICHIGAN AVE
11-03-35-130-007	STACEY DORA	150097	414 W MADISON AVE
	HEIRS AND DEVISEES		
11-03-35-130-007	AMOS FINANCIAL LLC	150097	414 W MADISON AVE
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11-03-35-130-007	HOOKER, EVELYN MARIE	150097	414 W MADISON AVE
11-03-35-130-007	STACEY, DEBORAH S	150097	414 W MADISON AVE
11-03-35-177-003	MALOVSKI, SADEEDIN	150098	216 S IDAHO ST
11-03-35-177-003	REAL TAX DEVELOPERS	150098	216 S IDAHO ST
11-03-35-256-006	HOLBROOK BRAD E	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
11-03-35-256-006	HOLBROOK GENA M	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
11-03-35-256-006	DENNIS, MICHAEL JAY	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
11-03-35-256-006	HOLBROOK, BRAD EUGENE	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
11-03-35-256-006	HOLBROOK, GENA MICHELLE	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
11-03-35-256-006	DENNIS, KATHLEEN ANNETTE	150103	206 S INDIANA ST
13-19-12-353-005	FIRST BANK & TRUST 893-078	150106	303 EDGAR ST
	C/O MATTINGLY TONY		
13-19-12-353-005	FIRST BANK AND TRUST, SB, TRUSTEETRUST NO 893-078	150106	303 EDGAR ST
13-19-12-356-007	GRUFFIN GEORGE ECB&T	150107	116 PINE ST
13-19-12-356-007	CASH MARY AKA SHUMAKER MARY E	150107	116 PINE ST
13-19-12-356-007	FIRST BANK & TRUST SB	150107	116 PINE ST
13-19-12-356-007	CASH, MARY	150107	116 PINE ST
13-19-12-386-004	CHRISTOPHER JOE	150108	200 MAIN ST
13-19-12-386-004	CHRISTOPHER CYNTHIA	150108	200 MAIN ST
13-19-12-386-004	CHRISTOPHER, CYNTHIA D	150108	200 MAIN ST
13-19-12-386-004	CHRISTOPHER, JOSEPH WESLEY SR	150108	200 MAIN ST
13-19-12-386-008	MILLER ROSCOE	150109	507 OAK ST
13-19-12-386-008	MILLER, CHARLES ROSCOE	150109	507 OAK ST
15-02-34-229-004	CORNETT CHARLOTTE	150117	107 E DOUGLAS ST
	C/O CORNETTE GREG		
15-02-34-232-001	BELL ANITA	150119	509 WEST ST
15-02-34-232-001	BELL, ANITA R	150119	509 WEST ST

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE ABOVE SAID PARCELS WERE SOLD ON OCTOBER 27, 2016, FOR GENERAL TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2015 AND PRIOR YEARS, AND THAT THE PERIOD OF REDEMPTION FROM SUCH SALE EXPIRES MAY 6, 2019. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT A PETITION FOR ORDER DIRECTING ISSUANCE OF TAX DEEDS HAS BEEN FILED IN THE ABOVE SAID CAUSE AS TO THE ABOVE NAMED PARCELS BY EDGAR COUNTY, AS TRUSTEE, AND THAT ON MAY 24, 2019 AT 1:15 PM, SAID PETITIONER WILL APPLY FOR AN ORDER THAT A TAX DEED ISSUE AS TO EACH ABOVE SAID PARCEL NOT REDEEMED ON OR BEFORE MAY 6, 2019. /S/ EDGAR COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, PETITIONER.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 115 W COURT ST, ROOM J, PARIS, IL 61944 TELEPHONE: (217) 466-7433

VETERAN

FROM PAGE 3B

suited up and ran to his station on a flying bridge to hoist flags as a signalman. Then Kennedy experienced his own brush with death as he saw a Japanese fighter plane drop a bomb on the nearby U.S.S. Pennsylvania and then bank toward his own ship.

“He starts strafing,” Kennedy recalled. “I didn’t have any protection and I feared—this is it, I’ve had it. There were bullets landing all around me. I could hear them hitting the deck. I heard them ... hitting and hitting, making chips on the deck. But he missed.”

STANLEY

FROM PAGE 3B

I didn’t dream at that time that my office might be in a farrowing house or in the cab of a combine. I did spend a lot of time on the tractor and in my mind I laid out fields, picked varieties to plant and thought about where to find the perfect boar or gilt.

I remember watching sows have pigs and how most of those little squealers knew right where to go to get nourishment. Back on the tractor in the early summer it was exciting to travel through the fields either cultivating or spraying, taking note of the layout of the fields and what kind of stand I had.

It was kind of like floating over the fields of green with the plants flickering by just wondering if that was the way God felt as he looked down on the vegetation he had created on the Earth. I just gave thanks for him to let me be his little helper.

I was thankful when I watched the wheat, corn or beans coming out of the spout and filling the grain

Kennedy survived that day and went on to serve in the war through July 1945 on two other ships, including a submarine-chaser and the USS Poole, a destroyer. While serving on the Poole, Kennedy earned a Purple Heart after being hit by machine-gun fire from a German submarine. But for Kennedy, death never felt as close as it had on Dec. 7, 1941 when he dodged bullets and saw dozens of bodies of his fellow sailors in their white uniforms floating face-down in Pearl Harbor’s oil-soaked waters.

The devastating Japanese attack took the nation by surprise, but it failed to deliver the decisive blow Japan had hoped

for against the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

No U.S. aircraft carriers were at Pearl Harbor on the day of the attack and the Japanese assault failed to take out U.S. ammunition sites. And, as for morale, Kennedy said while he and his fellow seamen were caught off guard, they quickly settled in for a fight.

“There was nobody on the Sacramento who was out of control, crying for their mother, or crying at all,” Kennedy said, adding that everyone did “what they were trained to do. I was real proud of my ship.”

Paul Ivan Kennedy died on Dec. 2, 2017. He was 96 years old.

tank of the combine and always being appreciative with whatever yield I got. The good times in the life of a farmer, even though I had to put up with the weather and the repairs that had to be made at crunch time. Many times I thought, Lord give me patience because I hoped this too shall pass.

As technology caught up with farming I used my FM radio to check with my helpers or ask Rosie about what was going on with the kids. If I got bored, I tuned in a Cub game during the daytime and the Cardinals in the evening. If those games weren’t available, I could always listen to Rush Limbaugh or classical music. If my tractor didn’t have a radio, I made up my own songs, however, I am glad nobody could hear me.

As the opportunities arose our family traveled throughout our country. Rosie and I believed every growing child should see the mountains and the oceans. I am not sure how many people in other jobs got to take a three-week vacation in the middle of summer to do that. I had good helpers in my

dad and hired help that made those exciting explorations possible.

Many times in the evenings we coached ball and led 4-H, which was made joyful by watching kids mature and learn how to have fun and become useful citizens of character.

Well, those things are now in the past. I am still on the farm, but my role in life has changed and I am relegated to doing stuff like caring for the farmstead and house. I occasionally go to school to pester the students as a substitute teacher, or I do a little dab of researching and writing to aggravate the readers.

It was kind of exciting getting to this part of my life, but even though I had some aches and pains and some set backs, it is still a good life and I appreciate my work place wherever it is and whoever I am with. Might as well make the most of it, especially if it’s what you love to do.

(Roger Stanley is a lifelong resident of Edgar County, an author and retired farmer. Email him at rstanley1937@hotmail.com.)

If The Press didn't tell you ... who would?

Criteria for canon still unknown

The non-canonical books of the Apocrypha gain popularity among students of Jewish history, literature

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The First and Second Books of Maccabees contain the most detailed accounts of the battles of Judah Maccabee and his brothers for the liberation of Judea from foreign domination. These books include within them the earliest references to the story of and the rededication of the Temple, in addition to the famous story of the mother and her seven sons. And yet, these two books are missing from the Hebrew Bible.

In order to begin addressing the question of this omission, it is important to understand the formation of the Hebrew biblical canon. The word canon originally comes from the Greek and means standard or measurement. When referring to a scriptural canon, the word is used to designate a collection

of writings that are considered authoritative within a specific religious group. To the Jewish people, the biblical canon consists of the books found in the Hebrew Bible.

The canonization process of the Hebrew Bible is often associated with the Council of Jamnia (Hebrew: Yavneh), around the year 90 C.E. Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai managed to escape Jerusalem before its destruction and received permission to rebuild a Jewish base in Jamnia. It was there the contents of the canon of the Hebrew Bible may have been discussed and formally accepted. However, this is a scholarly proposition that has lost adherents in recent years. Be that as it may, some of the debates surrounding these discussions—when and where they may have taken place—do appear in rabbinic literature,

although we have no complete surviving record of these debates. Therefore, we can only speculate on why some materials were excluded from canon and others included.

In spite of the fact that various non-canonical writings did not make it into the Jewish canon, they nonetheless contain much of value and are worthy of study, even if the rabbis did not consider them to be divinely inspired or as holy as the Bible. Many of these writings appear in a category of documents known as the Apocrypha. The apocryphal writings contain books that existed at the putative time of Jamnia, but for whatever reason were not included in the biblical canon. It is in this category the books of the Maccabees are found.

There are various theories to explain the exclusion of the apocryphal books. One theory

is that only books written originally in Hebrew were considered for inclusion in the canon. However, the Book of Daniel, although included within the canon, is to a large extent written in Aramaic.

Even more problematic is the fact scholars believe the First Book of Maccabees was written originally in Hebrew, therefore meeting the language criterion for inclusion—and yet it is absent from the biblical canon.

Another theory to explain the omission of the first two Books of Maccabees is based on the dating of these documents. Although it is often assumed the biblical canon was formalized at Jamnia, there is some speculation the accepted list of books was in existence long before.

In other words, perhaps the gathering of rabbis at Jamnia

inherited a list of documents already unofficially recognized as canonical and simply formalized this list.

If this is true, the relatively late date of the Maccabean revolt would preclude its inclusion in an already accepted previous list. It would be too new a book for serious consideration, since it had no history grounding it securely within tradition. This theory, however, is severely weakened through a comparison with the Book of Daniel, since Daniel is included within the biblical canon in spite of the fact most scholars date the latter book to the time of the Maccabean revolt around 165 B.C.E.—in other words, to the time of the story related in the Books of Maccabees.

It has also been suggested the exclusion of the Books of the Maccabees can be traced to the political rivalry that existed

during the late Second Temple Period between the Sadducees and the Pharisees.

The Sadducees, a priestly class in charge of the Temple, openly rejected the oral interpretations the Pharisees, the proto-rabbinic class, openly promoted.

The Maccabees were a priestly family, while the rabbis who may have determined the final form of the biblical canon at Jamnia were descended from the Pharisees. Is it possible the exclusion of the Books of Maccabees was one of the last salvos in the battle between the Pharisees and Sadducees? Is it likely the rabbis at Jamnia were inclined to canonize a document that so clearly praised the priestly Hasmonean family?

Perhaps the answer lies more within the realm of pragmatism and politics. The Books of See **BIBLE**, Page 6B

Bush's faith

With the passing of George H.W. Bush from this life, we have the opportunity

to be stirred once again by tales from his lengthy journey.

We will hear of his early heroism at war.

We will be reminded of his storied political career. We will be touched anew by his tender 73-year marriage. We will be told of his mistakes—and of regrets of a kind familiar to us all.

Yet we will likely hear little about his religious faith—and this is unfortunate.

The truth is his deep sense of God's calling lay beneath all that he was and all that he gave us. We should remind ourselves of this part of him, both because it is an act of honor and because his brand of faith offers a needed antidote to some of the toxins of our time.

The faith that shaped his life was first embedded in him by his New England Episcopal Church upbringing. It is common today to speak of such a heritage with disdain. Yet for Bush, it was the means of receiving a faith that could fashion destinies. He was shaped by the church services and the liturgical seasons and the oft-repeated rituals—but there was more. Each morning when he sat at the family breakfast table, his mother read the Bible aloud. Young George listened, absorbed, and came to regard what he heard as the steely truths of life.

A favorite verse was Proverbs 27:2: "Let another man praise you, and not your own lips."

It was nearly the Bush family creed. Never vaunt yourself. Never set yourself above. No good will come of it, and God is watching.

Another part of the family canon were the words of Jesus in the gospel of Luke: "To whom much is given, of him much shall be required." The gifts you have received form a mandate. Show gratitude by serving. Live for a cause greater than yourself.

He stepped into adulthood armed with an elegant version of traditional Christianity and the hard-won maxims for living his parents had wrung from the pages of Scripture. Yet his was a quiet faith, one woven into the fabric of his life but never held aloft as a banner for selfish gain.

Religion was a personal thing. It formed a mandate, but secretly sounding in

to be stirred once again by tales from his lengthy journey.

We will hear of his early heroism at war.



STEPHEN MANSFIELD

GUEST COLUMN

19TH-CENTURY AMERICAN DIPLOMAT IS NAMESAKE



A greenhouse is filled with thousands of poinsettias in preparation for the Advent and Christmas season. The Mexican flower has many names including the Christmas star. What began as an interest by an American ambassador to Mexico has become a multimillion dollar industry in the U.S.

Poinsett legacy endures

BY TOM EMERY

ilcivilwar@yahoo.com

For years poinsettias have been given in gestures of kindness during the Christmas season. They're just so fittingly festive, with their mix of red and green leaves. They are also relatively inexpensive and thoughtful at the same time.

Poinsettias are native to Central America and were used by the Aztecs in a number of ways — to dye clothes, make cosmetics and create medicine to cure fevers. Some say it just isn't Christmas without the poinsettia, a colorful addition to the holiday season.

The plant is named for Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first American ambassador to Mexico, who distributed cuttings of the flower he found during a diplomatic excursion. Botany was one of many interests for Poinsett, a renaissance man ahead of his time.

What is the meaning of poinsettias?

Known as the Christmas Star and Christmas Flower, it's said the poinsettia's association with Christmas comes from a Mexican legend. The story goes a child, with no means for a grander gift, gathered humble weeds from the side of the road to place at the church altar on Christmas Eve. As the congregation witnessed a Christmas miracle, the weeds turned into brilliant red and green flowers.

The poinsettia is also known as Mexican Flame Leaf, Winter Rose, Noche Buena and — in Turkey — Atakurk's Flower because it was the favorite flower of Atakurk, the founder of modern Turkey.

While considered by the ancient Aztecs to be symbols of purity, in today's language of flowers, red, white or pink poinsettias, the December birth flower, symbolize good cheer and success and are said to bring wishes of mirth and celebration.

In the years since Poinsett brought the plants to the United States, poinsettias became known for their symbolism as well as their beauty. The shape of the plant's flower and leaves resemble the Star of Bethlehem, which led the Magi to the Christ child. The red color symbolizes Christ's blood, shed for salvation. Some poinsettias have white leaves, which represents Christ's purity. Green symbolizes life and hope.

Poinsett was born March 2, 1779, in Charleston, S.C., educated in England and spoke six languages.

He held the position until 1829 and was often at the center of controversy, particularly over Texas annexation. Poin-



Red, pink and white poinsettias adorn the altar of a church in honor of the Christ child's birth. Known as the Mexican Christmas flower, it symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem. The flowers were discovered by Robert Poinsett, an American ambassador to Mexico.

sett unsuccessfully attempted to broker a \$5 million deal to acquire Texas, and his relations with the Mexican government were strained.

While in Mexico, Poinsett became fascinated with Flor de Noche Buena, or the Christmas Eve Flower. In 1828, he shipped cuttings of the flower to friends, and one made its way to the Royal Botanic Garden in Scotland.

Poinsett advocated exploration of the American West and played a key role in the creation of the National Institution for the Promotion of Science — now the Smithsonian Institution. He also hired Robert Mills, another South Carolina resident, to create what became the National Mall in Washington.

For much of the 1830s and 1840s, Poinsett spent time at his fine home near Greenville, S.C., which featured a scenic garden.

Poinsett died near Statesburg, S.C. on Dec. 12, 1851 and is buried in the Episcopal Cemetery there.

The day of his death has been designated National Poinsettia Day in the

United States, a holiday that, like Poinsett himself, is largely obscure.

However, he remains a stalwart of South Carolina history. A state park and electronic combat range for military training south of Sumter both bear his name, while in Greenville, a bridge, highway, and hotel all are named for him. A statue of Poinsett is also a Greenville attraction.

The poinsettia has become a \$250 million industry in the United States, largely due to the efforts of Albert Ecke, a German immigrant in southern California at the turn of the century who shared Poinsett's fascination with the flower. His son, Paul Sr., created a grafting technique to aid production, while his grandson, Paul Jr., helped launch the poinsettia into an American holiday fixture.

Today, the Paul Ecke Ranch near Encinitas, Calif. accounts for 70 percent of all American poinsettia purchases and half of worldwide sales. The best-selling potted plant in both the U.S. and Canada, poinsettias are usually bought by women, resulting in 80 percent of sales.

Prince Charles pleads for peace

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

LONDON — The British heir to the throne, who becomes Supreme Governor of the Church of England when he becomes king, made an unprecedented plea for peace in the Middle East at a special service for persecuted Christians in London on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, delivered his own personal reflection on the crisis for Christians at a service in Westminster Abbey.

Four patriarchs of Middle East churches, Coptic church leaders, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Jewish, Muslim and Roman Catholic leaders from Britain attended the service. There they heard the prince urge an end to extremism in the region and speak of the importance of Christians staying in the part of the world where Christianity was founded.

The plight of persecuted Christians is a cause that has become dear to the prince over many years. He met refugees on several occasions, hosting them and charity officials from the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need at his homes in London and Scotland. But this is the first time he has spoken from the pulpit on the subject during a church service.

The site of the service is significant.

Westminster Abbey is the church where Charles will eventually be crowned king. At that time he also assumes the title of Defender of the Faith, first held by Henry VIII and used by all British sovereigns since.

Church leaders have been concerned the prince wished to dilute this role given that in the past, he suggested adapting it to be Defender of Faiths to reflect Britain's multiculturalism.

But the prince's concern for persecuted Christians has reassured many people of his commitment to the Church of England. And his concern extends to refugees of all faiths.

At Christmas two years ago, Prince Charles spoke on BBC radio about his concerns for religious refugees.

"The suffering doesn't end when they arrive seeking refuge in a foreign land," he said. "We are now seeing the rise of many populist groups across the world that are increasingly aggressive toward those who adhere to a minority faith."

Seventy years after the Holocaust, he said such, See **PRINCE**, Page 6B

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BIBLE

FROM PAGE 5B

Maccabees describe the revolt led by the Maccabean family against the Syrian king, Antiochus Epiphanes. A couple of centuries later, Jewish scholars found themselves in Jamnia with the Temple destroyed and Jerusalem lost. Their circumstances were the result of their own failed revolt against the Romans.

Perhaps they felt it unwise to promote a text that heralded the successful outcome of a Jewish revolt. It may have posed a threat both internally and externally. The Romans

would certainly not look kindly upon the popularization of such a text, since it might very well reintroduce the concept of revolt to a population desperately trying to survive the devastating outcome of its own failed attempts. Ironically, this very internal/external struggle lies at the core of the Hanukkah story, and perhaps it was this very struggle playing out again in history that prevented the basic texts about Hanukkah from being included within the biblical canon.

Although the Books of Maccabees were not included within the Hebrew Bible, they are still of value. Yet even this

is difficult within a traditional Jewish context, due to another historical layer. First and Second Maccabees were included in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible originally prepared for the Jewish community of Alexandria. However, the Septuagint became the official version of the Bible for the nascent Christian Church. When this happened, its authoritative nature was rejected by the Jewish community. Ironically, the Books of Maccabees survived because they became part of the Christian canon, for otherwise they most certainly would have been lost during the centuries. But once

this Christian canonization occurred, these books became lost to the Jewish world for many centuries.

Today there is a renewed interest in these books within the Jewish community. Students of Jewish history and Jewish literature recognize the value of these documents that took such pains to record details, events and personalities of a major period in Jewish history. While not considered as part of the canon in any Jewish community, the books are again being read and studied to help enrich the understanding and celebration of Hanukkah.

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PRINCE

FROM PAGE 5B

“evil persecution,” was, “beyond all belief.”

“We owe it to those who suffered and died so horribly not to repeat the horrors of the past,” he said.

Aid to the Church in Need, a Catholic charity first founded after World War II to help Christians persecuted by Communist regimes, now focuses on their desperate situation in the Middle East.

The charity has told supporters the Westminster Abbey service will, “offer encouragement to Christians throughout the region and celebrate the contribution they make to their communities.” Last week it helped organize the annual Red Wednesday event in London where public buildings, including Westminster Abbey and the nearby Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral, were illuminated in red to highlight the suffering of Christians around the world persecuted

for their faith.

A new report from Aid to the Church in Need reveals that 38 countries in the world are classed as having significant violations of religious freedom. In 18 of them, the situation has worsened in the past two years.

The problems are mainly caused by the spread of militant Islam in parts of Africa, the Middle East and Asia, according to the report.

Religious Freedom in the World 2018 also highlights what it calls neighborhood ter-

rorism — the growth of attacks by militants in the West — and a surge in anti-Semitism and Islamophobia.

In addition, the report highlights the plight of religious minorities in China.

“Violations of freedom of religion or belief are also increasingly affecting Muslims, particularly among the Uighur population in Xinjiang province, and Buddhists among the Tibetan community and the Falun Gong spiritual movement,” according to the report.

GRACE NOTES

DEC. 9 CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Nevins Christian Church, 5 1/2 miles south of Paris along Lower Terre Haute Road, is hosting a Christmas Carol Sing 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9. The event includes favorite carols, as well as an open mic for sharing Christmas songs, stories and other talents. The public is invited to join church members for a meaningful evening exalting the name of Jesus Christ.

DEC. 18 WOMEN'S LUNCH

The next Christian Women's Connection of Terre Haute luncheon is 11 a.m. Dec. 18 in the MCL meeting room at Meadows Shopping Center. Speaker Sue Tunberg discusses angels and music is by Dan Higus. Call 812-234-7388 or 812-249-3084 to make reservations.

GUEST

FROM PAGE 5B

whisper from private places in the soul. It was embarrassing to speak of it publicly.

It might even be a sin. This was the ethic carrying Bush through valiant service during World War II, through Yale, through years in the oil fields of Texas, and then into his half-century of government service: Congress, the U.N., China, the CIA, the vice presidency and, ultimately, the White House.

Yet it was when he ran for president his faith was forced, against his will, into public view. This was during the campaign of 1988. Bush faced contests with the popular religious broadcaster Pat Robertson and a charismatic Baptist governor from Arkansas named Bill Clinton.

Though Bush had a deeper resume of public service than any presidential candidate in American history, he seemed — in contrast to Clinton and Robertson — a man churched but perhaps not converted, a man religious but unable to explain the connection to God he said defined his life.

His own son wrote though the elder Bush was religious, he was uncomfortable espousing his faith in the public square. This was an understatement. George H.W. Bush was nearly

inarticulate in matters of faith.

When he was once asked what he had thought about as a young pilot floating in the Sea of Japan after being shot down during World War II, he answered, “Mom and Dad, about our country, about God ... and about the separation of church and state,” according to columnist Terry Mattingly. It sounded as though he was shoving every religious phrase he could think of into a single sentence.

This was language sure to disappoint the rising religious right in his own party and to amuse every single member of the Democratic Party.

Yet his problem was one of language, not of heart. Asked if he had ever been born again, he hesitantly answered, “I think I would ask for a definition.”

Again came the sighs and the sneers.

As he later explained to an adviser, “If by ‘born again’ one is asking, ‘Do you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?’ then I could answer a clear-cut ‘Yes.’ No hesitancy, no awkwardness.”

Yet if the question was whether there had been, “one single moment, above any others, in which your life has been instantly changed, then I can't say that this has happened, since there have been many moments,” he said.

Bush improved and became

adept at expressing the faith that guided him. He also learned to draw from his own well of experience in answering the needling questions of reporters.

The columnist George Will once recounted the story of a journalist who wanted to play to the, “George Bush is an elite New Englander who doesn't live in the real world,” theme by asking if Bush had ever had any personal difficulty. Offended but controlled, Bush fired back, “Have you ever sat and watched your child die?” He was referring to the horrible death of his own child, Robin, felled by leukemia at the age of 3.

“No,” answered the reporter.

Point made. He stepped into his elder-statesman years more skilled in matters of faith but as reluctant to put that faith on display as ever. This seemed even into the counsel he gave his son.

When the younger George Bush ran for president and was asked who his favorite political philosopher was, he responded, “Jesus Christ, because he changed my heart.” It had been an unguarded moment, but still he was pleased with his answer. Later, on the phone, Dad Bush was encouraging but said, “I don't think the answer on Jesus will hurt you too much.”

George W. had never considered the answer might hurt him. Then he saw his words through his father's eyes. You mentioned your faith publicly. Don't. It is never wise. Keep such matters to yourself.

There is much to inspire us from the life of this man. There is the sacrifice, the humor, the rising from defeat, the humility and the eagerness to do good in the world. There are, too, the parachute jumps at the ages of 80, 85 and 90, the latter an age when most sane people might be unsure of flying in a plane, much less jumping out of one.

Then there is his faith which, given the arrogance that dominates our politics today, comes to us as though from a kinder, gentler world: What a man receives from God forms a mandate for service. Never brag. Never praise yourself. Live large. Do great things. Always be humble. Remember that God is watching.

(Stephen Mansfield is the New York Times bestselling author of “The Faith of George W. Bush,” “The Faith of Barack Obama,” “Lincoln's Battle With God” and “Choosing Donald Trump.”)

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“It’s the best bill possible”

Minnesota congressman optimistic about passing farm bill soon, small dairy operations will benefit most

BY STEVE KARNOWSKI
Associated Press

SOUTH ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A key congressional voice on agriculture, U.S. Rep. Collin Peterson of Minnesota, said Tuesday he’s optimistic lawmakers can pass a new farm bill next week after a delay caused by the break for the funeral of former President George H.W. Bush.

Peterson, the top Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee, who’s expected to become chairman next year, was heavily involved in negotiations that produced an agreement in principle last week among the top committee leaders in both the House

and Senate. He said at a news conference the final bill will get filed Monday, and he expects the House will take it up next Wednesday or Thursday, and the Senate could then take it up the next day.

“With any luck it’ll be out, it’ll be passed by the end of next week. But knowing how things go around here, it may drag into the week after,” Peterson said. “But I think we are going to get this thing done before the end of the year.”

The farm bill governs farm subsidy and other agricultural programs, but by far the largest chunk of its more than \$400 million in spending for the next five years goes to

food stamps for the poor. As part of the final deal, House Republicans dropped their push for stricter work requirements for the program, which for months was the biggest sticking point due to opposition from House Democrats and many Senate Republicans.

Peterson said the bill isn’t everything he wanted. He said couldn’t win support for putting additional money into the bill above the levels set in the 2014 farm bill, so it wasn’t possible to raise target prices for farmers who’ve been slammed by low commodity prices that have been depressed even further by the

U.S.-China trade war.

The bill, therefore, largely maintains the status quo, he said. The biggest winners will be milk producers, he said, because the legislation fixes a dairy safety net program created under the 2014 farm bill that didn’t work. Participating farmers with about 240 cows or less can now expect to at least break even, he said.

“It isn’t the best possible bill, but it’s the best bill possible,” he said.

Peterson said he doesn’t want to drag the process out until next year, even though he could have a greater influence in shaping the package as the House agriculture chair-

man. If it does get delayed into next year, he said he would still plan to quickly pass the existing agreement and send it to the Senate. Given that there will be few rural Democrats in the next Congress, he said the current deal is as good as farmers are going to get.

“The clock’s ticking,” agreed Thom Peterson, a lobbyist for the Minnesota Farmers Union, saying newspapers have been full of stories lately about farmers facing bankruptcy.

Minnesota Farm Bureau President Kevin Paap said he’s excited the bill is close to passing because farmers will know for certain what help they can

expect from the government as they calculate their cash flows and work with their bankers over the winter.

But the congressman also said he doesn’t think the bill does enough to protect farmers from the trade war and overproduction that keeps crop prices low. He said he’s warned Rep. Nancy Pelosi and other Democratic leaders the situation is going to be bad enough that Congress will have to look at providing additional aid.

“When that will happen, whether it’ll be next year or the year after, I don’t know,” he said. “How much it’ll be, I don’t know.”

Mistletoe: beyond kissing

Mistletoe has an ancient and interesting history.



JAN PHIPPS
MASTER GARDENER

Modern day mistletoe (*Viscum album*) is native to Great Britain but is also grown in California.

To us it is a plant used in a quaint Christmas tradition of kissing under its bundled branches and berries.

In a Champaign County Extension newsletter, Alicia M. Kallal referenced a quote from Washington Irving printed in 1820. He said, “The mistletoe is still hung in farm-houses and kitchens at Christmas, and the young men have the privilege of kissing the girls under it, plucking each time a berry from the bush. When the berries are all plucked the privilege ceases.”

Ancient peoples, especially Druids, thought it possessed supernatural powers because it remained green in winter when other plants were brown, leafless or dormant. That probably accounts for its use in sacred rituals during the winter solstice.

There is a mistletoe native to southern Illinois, *Phoradendron leucarpum*. *Phoradendron* means thief of the tree, giving us a clue that it is a parasitic plant that feeds off its host. Mistletoe steals nutrients produced by the tree and water brought from the roots intended for the host tree. Although it doesn’t kill a tree, it can weaken it and slow its growth.

The berries are toxic to humans, but birds are immune and find them very appetizing. They also build nests in thick clumps of mistletoe. In fact, birds play an important part in seed dispersal.

Mistletoe only grows up high on the branches of trees. Dropping seeds on the ground at the base of the host tree is no good for continuing the species. It cannot grow on the ground. However, mistletoe has developed a clever way to get its seeds delivered back up into the canopy of other trees.

The seeds are covered in a sticky coating that adheres to feathers and feet after being passed. To rid itself of the mess, the bird lands and scrapes it off onto another branch, thus dispersing the seeds to other trees. In fact, the word

See PHIPPS, Page 8B

EDGAR COUNTY RAM NAMED GRAND CHAMP



Special to The Prairie Press

This Edgar County born and bred polled Dorset ram “Morals,” was named the grand champion ram at the 2018 North American Livestock Show in Louisville in November. The ram was bred by Show Girlz Sheep Co. of Paris, owned by Deb Holmquist. Jim Piller, left, of Piller Dorsets in Mendota, displays a plaque for being awarded the Grand Champion Ram at the National Polled Dorset Show 2018 shown at the North American International Livestock Exposition on Nov. 14 in Louisville, Ky. Holmquist sold the ram before the show with the agreement her company’s name would be announced as part of its name.

Un-baa-lievable victory

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

Debby Jo Holmquist and her Showgirlz Sheep Company of Paris made history at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., in November.

Holmquist’s one-year-old ram named *Morals*, born and bred in Edgar County, was named as the 2018 Gold U.S. National Champion Ram during the National Polled Dorset Show. In addition, another Showgirlz ram and *Morals*’ son — yearling *Masterpiece* — also earned junior champion title and competed against his sire in the grand drive competition to name the top ram.

“This is where history was made at the most competitive/highest quality show in the world as both father and son were competing against each other to go for the Gold Medal,” an overwhelmed Holmquist explained. “This was a moment in time where your heart feels like it is literally beating out of your chest, the overwhelming feeling of achievement that a dream day had just come true.”

Holmquist noted a lot of things have to go right for a ram to make it the final drive where the gold medal ram is selected. “So there are a lot of brackets they have to win in order to keep moving up to even qualify for competing for the gold,” she explained.

Morals, now owned by Piller Dorsets in Mendota, began his march to glory at 8 a.m. Nov. 14 by winning his class of yearlings at the show. Holmquist said the ram returned to his pen while the remaining younger classes competed before returning to the showing to compete for the senior champion. While *Morals* was resting his nine-month old son, *Masterpiece*, was competing and winning his yearling class.

For Holmquist, the years and years of hard work, blood, sweat, tears, sacrifice, careful planning and dedication brought overwhelming emotion as she watched the rams being led into the ring.

“I put my face in my hands and just cried I was so overwhelmed with gratitude,” she said. “To see both of my rams I raised myself on my little humble farm in Paris out there in the



Special to The Prairie Press

National champion Gold medal polled dorset *Morals*, was bred by Showgirlz Sheep Company of Paris owned by Debby Jo Holmquist. The yearling ram is shown in the showing at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville.

biggest spotlight in the world representing my life was truly a dream of a lifetime.”

Holmquist said she knew both of the rams were special when they were born. “I had to assist delivery with both of them as they were so large when born,” she noted. “They just had that look of quality and great promise.”

Holmquist said she was confident, “great genes were bred in them. I carefully planned their matings based on years of genetic experience.”

Cameras were flashing around the ring as both rams stood head-to-tail tall competing for the most prestigious title in the world. “I knew at that moment, I had the gold won because vying for it were mine,” she said. “I have been raising sheep for 50-plus years and I never had two of my sheep in the ring at the same time competing on the sacred green shavings for the

most prestigious title in the world.”

After *Morals* earned the gold as the best in the country, the judge was surprised to discover the two were father and son. He told Holmquist, “the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree and that it was an amazing feat.”

The accomplishment was particularly emotional for Holmquist as it marked her comeback after her husband, Cliff, died a few years ago. “This victory will stay in my heart forever,” she said.

Holmquist was forced to sell the 80 sheep she had invested years of breeding and planning so she could give her full attention to him. “He was my priority,” she explained. The couple was living in their home state of Maine at the time.

Born and raised with 400 sheep and a breeder and shepherd all her life,

See RAMS, Page 8B

Trade war feels too familiar

November 11 marked 100 years since the end of World War I, which U.S. President Woodrow Wilson called, “the war to end all wars.”

Wilson saw himself as a historic peacemaker; instead he became an ironic phrasemaker. The Great War never brought an end to war, or even an end to that war. The then-raging Russian civil war continued three more bloody years.



ALAN GUEBERT
FARM AND FOOD FILE

Moreover, historians now estimate that more than 100 million military personnel, civilians and victims of genocide died in 20th century warfare that followed The Great War’s peace in 1918.

Worse, all that horror occurred despite a century of new institutions — the League of Nations, the United Nations, NATO, SEATO, the European Union, the IMF, ASEAN, the G-20, the G-7, GATT, the WTO, the World Bank, and the OAS to name but a few — designed to prevent war, promote peace and underwrite global prosperity.

Today, some of those same institutions are failing to prevent another age-old conflict: trade wars.

For example, China and the U.S. are engaged in an epic trade battle that both continue to escalate. On Jan. 1, 2019, in fact, the current White House-imposed 10 percent tariffs on \$200 billion of imported Chinese goods will rise to 25 percent.

How do you think China will respond?

But this trade fight, like most wars, isn’t only bilateral. At the just-concluded Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting, a gathering of 21 nations that rim the Pacific Ocean, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and Chinese President Xi Jinping hammered each other for their mutual trade intransigence.

The hostility, the New York Times reported, was, “reminiscent of the uncompromising rhetoric heard during the Cold War.” Peter O’Neill, prime minister of the meeting’s host nation, Papua New Guinea, said Xi and Pence’s words frightened all: “The entire world is worried.”

The picture is equally troubling off America’s other coast. Presently, the European Union (EU) is looking at the twin barrels of a deadly trade fight with both Great Britain and the U.S. that, three short years ago, would have been seen as preposterous.

But, in June 2016, See GUEBERT, Page 8B

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Indoor herbs keep winter bright

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA —While winter can give gardeners a nice break from their usual garden maintenance, they undoubtedly miss the ability to harvest and enjoy the fresh garden bounty. "Grow fresh, flavorful herbs indoors this winter to add some green to your home and zest to your recipes," says Brittnay Haag, University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator.

"Many herbs are native to the Mediterranean area and require certain conditions for optimal growth and flavor," Haag explains. "Herbs that can be easily grown indoors include chives, basil, sage, parsley, thyme, oregano, mints and rosemary."

Herbs grown in your home can be started from seeds or transplants from a garden

center. When growing herbs indoors, use well-drained potting soil and at least a 6-inch-diameter container with a drainage hole.

To ensure the plants do not get leggy and spindly, high levels of light are necessary. Most herbs will need at least six hours of direct sunlight. Plants can also be grown under fluorescent lighting for 12 to 14 hours a day, located 6 to 12 inches above the plant. Plants grown in natural light should be rotated every few days to allow for even plant growth.

Temperatures and humidity around the plants should be monitored to allow for adequate growth. Optimal growing temperatures should remain between 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Like any plant grown inside a house, avoid growing plants near

heat vents which may dry out the plant. One way to increase the humidity around the plants is to place the pots on a shallow tray of pebbles and water. A small fan in the room can provide adequate air circulation to avoid the spread of disease.

Herbs should be watered according to the requirement of the plant. Some should never be allowed to completely dry out (e.g., rosemary), while others prefer the soil to dry - but not so dry that the leaves wilt - before watering again (e.g., sage). Herbs should be fertilized every two weeks with a liquid fertilizer, following directions on the manufacturer label. Over-fertilizing herbs can result in decreased aroma and taste.

Just like herbs grown in the garden, trim the plants often to keep plants compact and

to prevent flowering, which will decrease the flavor of the herb. When cutting the plants to add to a dish or salad, cut a few inches down the stem rather than picking off individual leaves. Parsley and cilantro stalks should be cut at the base of the plant. The general guideline when using fresh herbs instead of dried herbs is to use three times the amount specified.

Growing herbs indoors this winter can be fun for all ages. "Get kids involved in caring and maintaining the plants and experiment with new recipes using the fresh herbs," Haag recommends.

For more information about growing herbs and new recipes to incorporate your harvest, visit the University of Illinois Extension herb website at extension.illinois.edu/herbs.

4-H teens can learn livestock practices

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Teens with an interest in livestock production may participate in an overnight University of Illinois Extension 4-H conference to build livestock management and marketing skills.

The conference is Jan. 26 through 27 at the Decatur Hotel and Conference Center. Registration closes Dec. 17, and the cost is \$165 for the weekend training, with local Extension Offices offering \$100 scholarships toward the fee.

The Youth Livestock Conference is organized and taught by members of the Illinois 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team, an elite group of 4-H livestock members and alum who have received training from industry experts.

Participants will learn basic herd health practices, in-

cluding how to suture and vaccinate animals. Participants will also practice basic dissection, in-vitro insemination and embryo transfer techniques and meat identification. They will also learn how to promote animal science and respond to public inquiries into livestock production practices.

Pork producer and popular blogger Thomas Titus of Elkhart is the keynote speaker Sunday. His #RealPigFarming blog addresses current issues of the pork industry.

The conference is open to 4-H members in seventh, eighth and ninth grade. Online registration is at go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock. Participants should arrive by 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 and remain until 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

RAMS

FROM PAGE 7B

Holmquist had to sell her herd. "I thought my dream was gone for me. I didn't know how I could ever pull everything together that is required to start all over from ground zero building a name for myself again with all new genetics," she said.

Setting a bucket list goal to raise another national champion, Holmquist relocated to her rural Paris farm — located near her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter — and began building her herd once again.

"The feeling of knowing that you bred and raised them yourself and didn't just purchase one somewhere is like no other feeling in the world," she explained. "That is the mark of a good breeder in any species of livestock."

Praying that her dream would be realized, Holmquist admitted she never thought she, "would have two rams from my farm win gold in their respective divisions and for one to go all the way to national champion in the same day."

Morals is now retired from

the ring with the golden title on his back forever and now is at stud with many years ahead of him.

"I sold an interest in him to a very progressive large farm in Northern Illinois where I will continue to serve as their consultant in the coming years breeding more like him," she said, noting 25 females are due to lamb by him in the spring of 2019.

Masterpiece is also expecting new babies in the spring and was scooped up by a top Dorset breeding farm in Ohio to become their new stud ram. Holmquist also noted two females bred by her company and sold placed second and third in the female classes that day.

Another feather in Holmquist's cap is both father and son have been federally genetically tested with results that came back as high/perfectly as any sheep can achieve.

"Their genetics are highly valuable and sought after," she said, noting the offspring of both rams will be making a grand impact in the sheep world for years to come.

Pesticide applicator license testing offered

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Testing for the private pesticide applicator license is Jan. 10, 2019, at the Clark County Extension Office, 15493 N. State Highway 1, Marshall and also Feb. 13, 2019, and the Edgar County Extension Office, 210 W. Washington Street, Paris.

The applicator license is required by the Illinois Department of Agriculture, and both testing sessions begin at 9 a.m.

People taking the test are

not allowed to use cell phones for any reasons during the test, but they may bring a calculator for use.

Registration to take the test may be done by calling the Clark County Extension, 217-826-5422, the Edgar County Extension, 217-465-8585 or online at go.illinois.edu/PSEP2019. Study materials are available at both Extension locations or online at pubsplus.illinois.edu.

PHIPPS

FROM PAGE 7B

mistletoe is comprised of two Anglo-Saxon words meaning dung and twig.

The University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners of Edgar County wish you Happy Holidays and a prosperous new growing season

in 2019. Please contact us at 217-465-8585 with any of your horticulture questions.

(Jan Phipps is a master gardener and a member of the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners of Edgar County. Email her at janphipps@gmail.com.)

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GEUBERT

FROM PAGE 7B

European Union's Common Agricultural Policy.

American farmers and ranchers are also entering their own winter of discontent. Few market analysts or Land Grant economists have measured the actual rural cost of White House trade actions against Mexico, Canada, the EU and China.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, however, pegs the American tab at \$12 billion, the money it authorized the Commodity Credit Corp. to borrow to, "mitigate the trade damages sustained," by tariff-slowed markets.

More troublesome than even the cost, however, is that there is no end in sight to the fights. Tough talk and more digging in have replaced any olive branch or kind gesture.

As such, these nearly worldwide trade battles eerily resemble the stalemated trench warfare that was the deadly hallmark of World War I, the war that didn't end all wars.

(Alan Guebert is an award-winning agricultural journalist and expert who was raised on an 720-acre, 100-cow southern Illinois dairy farm. Email him at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.)

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HOARFROST PAINTS ICY PICTURES FRIDAY



Special to The Prairie Press

Allyson Marrs of Paris snapped this beautiful picture of the weeping willow tree at the family home as she left for work this morning.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Hoarfrost coated everything Friday morning, Dec. 7, after a freezing fog moved in overnight. The delicate ice crystal build up on tree branches and other structures didn't last long in the sun's rays.

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Pearl Harbor remembered

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) — About 20 survivors gathered at Pearl Harbor on Friday to pay tribute to the thousands of men lost in the Japanese attack 77 years ago.

They joined dignitaries, active duty troops and members of the public in observing a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m., the time the bombing began on Dec. 7, 1941.

John Mathrusse was an 18-year-old seaman second class walking out of the chow hall on Ford Island to see a friend on the USS West Virginia when the bombing began.

"The guys were getting hurt, bombs and shells going off in the water. I helped the ones that couldn't swim, who were too badly injured or whatever and helped them to shore," said Mathrusse, now 95.

Mathrusse, who traveled to Hawaii for the event from Mountain View, California,

remembers carrying injured people to the mess hall and setting them on mattresses grabbed from the barracks above.

Robert Fernandez, who was assigned to the USS Curtiss, recalls being petrified.

"I was kind of nervous too. I was scared. I was 17. I went to go see the world. What did I get into? A war," he said.

The 94-year-old from Stockton, California returns for the annual remembrance each year because he's now alone after his wife died four years ago.

Adm. Phil Davidson, commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, said the nation can never forget the heavy price paid on that day. He cited 21 vessels damaged or sunk, 170 planes destroyed, more than 2,400 people dead, including servicemen and civilians.

"Despite these losses, it did not break the American spirit.

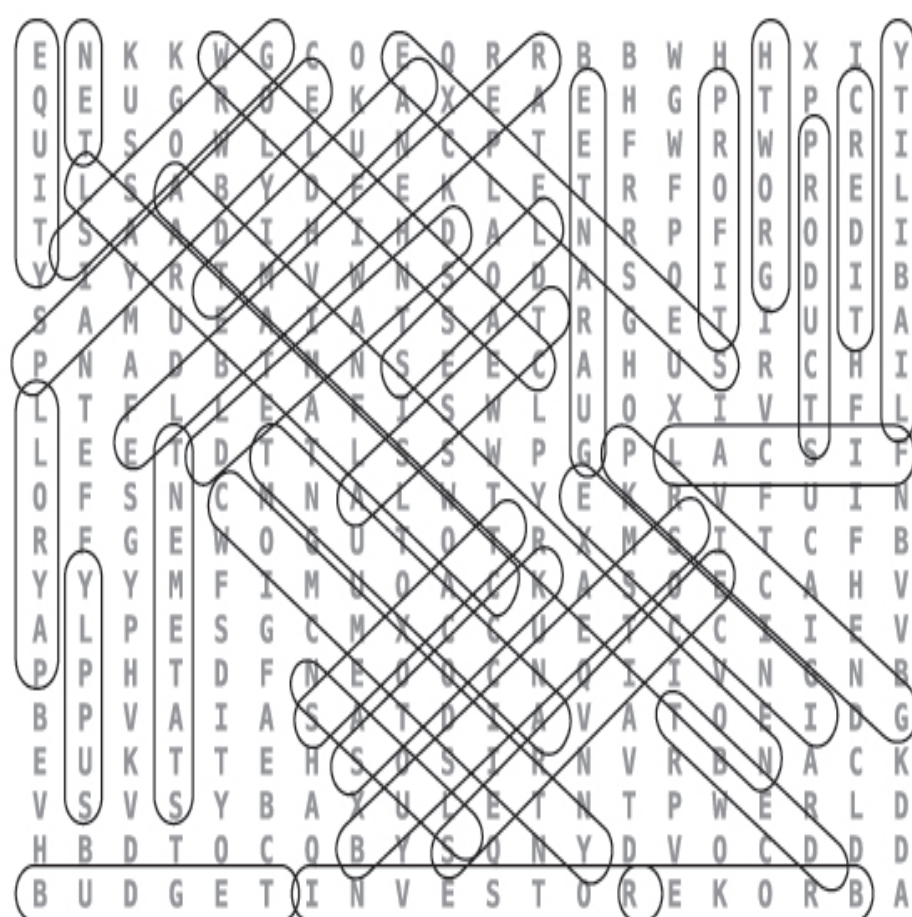
In fact, it charged it," he said in a keynote address.

The survivors are declining in number as they push well into their 90s, and are increasingly treated as celebrities. They say people ask for their autographs and request to take photos and selfies with them.

"I am given a lot of attention and honor. I shake hands continuously," said Tom Berg, who lives in Port Townsend, Washington. Berg, who is 96, served on the USS Tennessee.

This year, no survivor from the USS Arizona attended the ceremony as none of the men were able to make the trip to Hawaii.

The Arizona sank after two bombs hit the ship, triggering tremendous explosions. The Arizona lost 1,177 sailors and Marines, the greatest number of casualties from any ship. Most remain entombed in the sunken hull of the battleship at the bottom of the harbor.



BUSINESS WORD SEARCH

WORDS

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LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY, PARIS, ILLINOIS - IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA GOSNELL,
Deceased

No. 2018-P-60

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of LINDA GOSNELL, of Paris, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on November 15, 2018, to MANDANA L. RINESMITH, 230 N Austin St, Paris IL 61944, MICHAEL D. PORTER, 823 Harrison St, Paris, IL 61944, and MICHAEL B. FOSTER, 823 Harrison St, Paris, IL 61944, whose attorney is RICHARD L. JAMES, 328 N Central, P O Box 820, Paris, IL 61944.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Edgar County, Paris, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 24, 2019, and any claims not filed within that period are barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
DATED: March 27, 2018

MANDANA L. RINESMITH,
MICHAEL D. PORTER and
MICHAEL B. FOSTER,
Representatives

#1323156
RICHARD L. JAMES
Attorney at Law
328 N Central
PO Box 820
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone No. 217/465-2529
rlj@rjameslaw.com
By: RICHARD L. JAMES Attorney

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT EDGAR COUNTY, PARIS, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of HAROLD W. BARR,
Deceased.

No. 2018-P-62

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Harold W. Barr. letters of Office were issued on November 20, 2018, to Cary Litton, 9391E. 400th Rd., Paris, IL 61944 as Independent Executor whose attorney is Karen L. Burkybile, 15175 US HWY 150, Paris, IL 61944.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois 61944, or with the representative, or both on or before June 3, 2019, (at least 6 months from the date of the 1st publication), and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 20th day of November, 2018.
Cary Litton, Representative

Karen L. Burkybile
Attorney At law
15175 US HWY 150
Paris, IL 61944
(217) 465-5525

MISCELLANEOUS

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ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on November 27, 2018 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Edgar County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business know as:
PEARL'S DUSTY CUPBOARD located at 21600 E 700th Rd, Paris, IL 61944.
Owner(s): Susan Eileen Farnham, Dated: November 27, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS

STATE BANK OF LINCOLN, an Illinois banking corporation, as assignee of Paris First, Branch of State Bank of Chrisman, Plaintiff,
v.
NORMA J. WILLOUGHBY, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

No.: 2018CH35

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Notice is given to defendants, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following described real estate, that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now pending, and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said defendants is January 5, 2019.

The Plaintiff has certified that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on September 28, 2018, and is now pending.

(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.

(ii) The court in which said action was brought is identified above.

(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:
Norma J. Willoughby.

(iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: The West 72 feet of even width of Lot No. 20 in Samuel Utter's Addition to the Town, now City of Paris EXCEPT the North 70 feet of even width thereof; and except the South 8 1/4 feet of even width of the West 72 feet of Lot No. 20 which was deeded to the City of Paris for alley purposes, in Deed Record 104, Page 241.
Subject to all easements, restrictions and protective covenants of record.

Situated in Edgar County, Illinois. Parcel No. 09-18-01-377-002

(v) Common address or location of mortgaged premises:
506 South Central, Paris, Illinois 61944

(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

(A) Nature of instrument:
Mortgage.

(B) Date of mortgage: December 27, 2005.

(C) Name of mortgagors: Paul L. Willoughby and Norma J. Willoughby.

(D) Name of mortgagee: Paris First, Branch of State Bank of Chrisman.

(E) Date and place of recording: December 28, 2005 in the Recorder's Office of Edgar County, Edgar County, Illinois.

(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2005-0003896.

Angie Barrett
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State
Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MELINDA K. ARMENTROUT,
Deceased.
No2018 P 63

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of MELINDA K. ARMENTROUT. Letters of Office were issued on November 21, 2018 to Bradley A. Ford, 217 W Washington St., Paris, IL and Teresa D. Blake, 1570 E. 1293rd Road, Brocton, IL, as Independent Co-Executors whose attorney is FRUIN & KASH (Richard M. Kash, Jr.), 129 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 10, 2019, (which is at least six months from the date of first publication of this Notice) and any claim not filed within the applicable period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Bradley A. Ford and
Teresa D. Blake
Independent Co-Executors

FRUIN & KASH
(Richard M. Kash, Jr.)
129 N. Central Ave.
Paris, IL 61944
Phone: 217/ 465-4196
FAX: 217/ 466-1213

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS

LONGVIEW BANK & TRUST, f/k/a STATE BANK OF CHRISMAN, Plaintiff,
vs
FREDERICKA A. MOODY, a/ Ida FREDERICKA A. TINGLEY, Unknown Owners and Non-record Claimants, Defendants.
CaseNo. 2018-CH-13

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Circuit Court for the Fifth Judicial Circuit, Edgar County, Illinois in the above entitled matter on August 14, 2018, the Sheriff of Edgar County, in Paris, Illinois will on January 3, 2019, at the Edgar County Courthouse, 115 W. Court Street, Paris, Illinois, at the hour of 2:15 p.m. sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Edgar, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

Legal Description of the Mortgaged Premises:
LOT NO. 18 AND THE SOUTH HALF OF LOT NO. 17, BLOCK NO. 5, IN THE RAILROAD ADDITION TO THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF CHRISMAN. IN EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
PREIN: 11-03-35-252-011
Common Address: 122 S Indiana, Chrisman, Illinois 61924

Description of improvements: residence
The judgment amount was: \$37,212.38

Sale terms: This is an As Is sale for cash. The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; the balance by certified funds within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.
The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, mowing fees, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale,

which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will not be available for inspection prior to sale. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
For Information: Richard L. James, Attorney at Law, 328 North Central, P O Box 820, Paris, IL 61944
Further information than that given here in this notice of sale is not required to be given.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Richard James
ARDC # 1323156
328 N. Central Avenue
P O Box 820
Paris, IL 61944
Phone: (217) 465-2529
Fax: (217) 463-1982
rlj@rjameslaw.com

The Edgar County Emergency Telephone System Board will hold its annual meeting Monday, December 17, 2018 at 4:30pm at the Hartley-Taylor Training Center at 11200 Cherry Point Road, Paris.

CITY OF PARIS EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS NOTICE FOR BIDS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Paris is taking bids for the demolition of the structures on real estate located in Paris, Illinois, to wit:

(1) Lot 48 in O. S. Jones' First Addition to the City of Paris, Paris, Illinois
Permanent Index No: 09-18-01-352-006
Commonly known as: 501 Douglas Street, Paris, IL

(2) Lot No. 209 in the Commercial Club Addition to the City of Paris.
Permanent Index No: 09-18-12-181-003
Commonly known as: 1408 Ten Broeck Street, Paris, IL

SPECIFICATIONS of the demolition and details of the bidding procedure can be secured at the Paris City Clerk's Office located at 206 South Central Avenue, Paris, IL 61944.
Sealed bids must be delivered to the office of the City Clerk, 206 South Central Avenue, Paris, IL 61944, before 4:00 p.m. on January 10, 2019, at which time bids will be opened and considered.

MICHAEL MARTIN
CITY ADMINISTRATOR
CITY OF PARIS
FRUIN & KASH
(Richard M. Kash, Jr.)
129 North Central Avenue
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone: 217-465-4196
Fax: 217-466-1213

PUBLIC NOTICE
TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES IN PARIS, UNINCORPORATED EDGAR COUNTY AND NEARBY AREAS

TO THE PATRONS OF AMEREN ILLINOIS:
Please be advised that Ameren Illinois will trim trees and other vegetation in and around the town(s) of Paris and Unincorporated Edgar County, Illinois. Our qualified utility arborists will trim trees and vegetation that could interfere with electric lines that run from pole to pole and elsewhere. This work is necessary in order to minimize the likelihood of outages and safety hazards. There is no charge to you for this service. If you have any questions about this work, please call 1-800-755-5000 or visit our website at MySafeTrees.com. You may address your concerns in the manner specified on our website. You may also call the Consumer Services Division of the Illinois Commerce Commission at 1-800-524-0795. Maps have been provided to the mayors and the county board chairpersons of the affected areas. Sincerely,
Ameren Illinois Forestry Department



REUSE THE NEWS
Recycle this newspaper

Groups, businesses step up

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

It's the time of year when need is magnified. Some people are in need of a secure home. Some need adequate clothing. Some need food, and in too many cases people have needs across multiple areas. Need may not always be readily noticeable during the summer or warmer months

but come winter it is readily apparent who lacks a coat or other appropriate clothing, and the challenge of choosing between having food to eat or paying utilities to stay warm is one fraught with consequences regardless of the choice. The Christmas holidays are another stark reminder of confronting needs in the community.

There are organizations devoted to helping, and other groups concentrate efforts at assisting those organizations making a direct difference in someone else's life. During the prior week, financial assistance was provided to help others accomplish charitable work. The local Eagles Club gave away \$5,000 in gifts of \$1,250 each to Hopes and Dreams,

Christmas for Kids, the Compassionate Food Ministry and Shop with a Cop. Also helping celebrate the Christmas Season, the Eagles Club is hosting a visit from Santa Claus 4-6 p.m. today, Dec. 8, at the lodge building. Money donated by the Paris Elks Club this week put the organization over the \$1.1 million category of giving back to the local community. The club recently donated \$500 each to Altrusa, The American Legion, the Community Nurse Christmas Basket Program and Shop with a Cop.

The Edgar County Health Department has a way to help Christmas for Kids that does not involve donating money from the health department accounts. Jean McConkey, director of nursing, said the partnership with Christmas for Kids is at least 10 years old. The office serves as an application site where parents needing help providing Christmas for their children can fill out the form. "We hand out a stack every year," said McConkey. "We definitely see the need." In addition to distributing the application forms, the health department serves as a place where community members can drop off new toys, clothing, other items or cash to help Christmas for Kids.

McConkey said the effort starts about a month before Christmas and Monday, Dec. 3, health department staff members took turns at a booth outside of Wal-Mart from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. where shoppers left donated items. The transfer of two tables full of gifts ranging from games, toys, books, hygiene items and clothing occurred Thursday, Dec. 6, when Dawn Kirby of Christmas for Kids arrived to collect the items. The donation included more than \$800 people gave for the cause. It is not too late to donate to Christmas for Kids. "We (the health department) will keep taking donations until Dec. 11," said McConkey. "They start wrapping Dec. 12." Pearman Pharmacy donated money to assist the Community Nurse Association Christmas Basket program that provides the food necessary for 350 Edgar County families to have a Christmas dinner, something the families might otherwise forego. Scott Barrett, chairman of the Christmas Baskets, said all 350 slots for the food filled up earlier this week. He added monetary donations to fund the project are also keeping pace with the need. "We've had several new donors this year," said Barrett.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Paris Police Officer Matt McConnell accepts a \$1,250 donation for Shop with a Cop from Eagles Club Aerie 1250 representative Bob Morecraft. Shop with a Cop helps children obtain coats and other needed clothing items for the winter. Also pictured, left to right, are Sgt. James Ealy, Officer Jake Robinson, Chris Englum, Damon Morecraft, Pete Spung and Jason Driver.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Gladys Frost accepts a \$1,250 donation for the Compassionate Food Ministry Food Pantry from Eagles Club Aerie 4000 representative Bob Morecraft. The food pantry helps food insecure people in Edgar County with supplies. Also pictured, left to right, are Chris Englum, Damon Morecraft, Pete Spung and Jason Driver.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Brenda Wright accepts a \$1,250 donation for Hopes and Dreams from Eagles Club Aerie 4000 representative Bob Morecraft. Hopes and Dreams helps homeless students at Paris High School. Also pictured, left to right, are Chris Englum, Damon Morecraft, Pete Spung and Jason Driver.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Paris Police Officer Scott Dunn accepts a \$500 donation from Elks Club member Chad Stevens for Shop with a Cop to help provide needed winter clothing for some Edgar County children. Also pictured is Elks Club member Emily Kraemer, left, Officer Matt McConnell and police department administrative assistant Melissa Garner.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Debi Ford accepts a \$1,250 donation for Christmas for Kids from Eagles Club Aerie 4000 representative Bob Morecraft. Christmas for Kids helps financially struggling families provide Christmas gifts for children using the premise that every child should have something to unwrap on Christmas morning. Also pictured, left to right, are Chris Englum, Damon Morecraft, Pete Spung and Jason Driver.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Jim Robison, Commander of American Legion Post 211, accepts a \$500 donation from Elks Club member Jerry McDaniel. Also pictured is Elks Club member Kenny Miller, left.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Pearman Pharmacy makes a donation to help the Community Nurse Christmas Basket program. Left to right, Steve Benefiel, Scott Barrett representing the Community Nurse Association, Jackie Owen, Brittany Brown, Stephanie Benefiel, Debbie Benefiel, Kenzie Simpson, Karla Landsaw, Cassie Boatman, Beth Wagoner, Melinda Warfel, Drew Cearlock, Phil Wagoner, Denise Allanson, Chad Johns, Dustin Melton and Jeremy Whitaker.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

The Edgar County Health Department helps Christmas for Kids by serving as an application site for those needing help and as a place where the community can drop off new toys, clothes, books or cash donations to help the charity provide gifts for children to unwrap on Christmas morning. More items were on tables in the health department's conference room than could fit into the photo frame. Pictured on the left side are Jean McConkey of the health department wearing nurse's scrubs and Dawn Kirby from Christmas for Kids. In the background from left to right are health department employees Carri Hoffman, Janet Mason, Monica Dunn, Renée Duchane, Brandi Eaton, Marissa Beck, Melissa Walker, Sheila Williamson, Drew Smith, Santana Noel, Kimberly Rice and Courtni Hayes.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Mary Patrick, center, accepts a \$500 donation to the Paris Altrusa Club from Elks member Brian Blair, right. Altrusa is active with many projects but is best known as sponsors of the Dolly Parton Library that provides a free book each month for children from birth through starting school. Also pictured is Elks member Wayne Young, left.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Scott Barrett, center, accepts a \$500 donation to the Community Nurse Christmas Basket project from Elks member Bruce Young, left. The money helps fund boxes of food to help 350 Edgar County families have a Christmas dinner. Also pictured is Elks member Jim Osborne, right.