

In the know



**PHS BOYS, GIRLS ON TO SECTIONALS**

Both the Paris boys and Lady Tiger golf teams earned a trip to the IHSA sectional matches with second place finishes.

SPORTS, 9A

**Potatoes have competition**

Ubiquitous and delicious potatoes have to move over for couscous and butternut squash.

C'EST LA VIE, 1B

**4-H kids made most of the year**

Despite the challenges of 2020, 4-H members stepped up to help their communities and show projects, quarantine style.

AGRIBUSINESS, 5B



**Another story of homesteading**

Sheets, Brooks and Farises struck out from Illinois to seek land, new lives in wilderness of North Dakota.

HISTORY, 3B

**Life Defenders comes to Paris**

Pro-life workshop by speaker Mike Spencer draws citizens, clergy and students.

NEWS, 2B

**EIU's flagpole salutes diversity**

"We Are EIU" unity flagpole unveiled, Black Lives Matter flag raised.

NEWS, 10A

TODAY'S WEATHER

H 84 L 61  
Unseasonably warm. 2A



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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# The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

LOCALLY OWNED, LOYAL TO OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020

## Major fundraising pays off

Friends of Edgar County Law Enforcement raise \$60,000 for protective police gear

BY NANCY ZEMAN  
nzeman@prairiepress.net

What began as offering support for local law enforcement in Edgar County has blossomed into a major effort guaranteeing personnel the latest in protective gear.

The Friends of Edgar County Law Enforcement began as a casual conversation among a group of friends that included Edgar County Sheriff Jeff Wood and Paris Police Chief Eric Brown. The non-law enforcement friends were shocked their friends and neighbors who patrol our communities do not have gear to protect them.

Thanks to the overwhelming response from Edgar

County financial institutions, civic groups, businesses and residents, the protective gear — and a few other needed items — will soon be on the way, according to Granville Colvin, one of the leaders of the effort.

"The people who are protecting us, we are not protecting them the way they should be," said Colvin.

Colvin said the many volunteers who became part of the Friends of the Edgar County Law Enforcement set a modest goal of \$40,000 to purchase the much-needed equipment. But the support was overwhelming from the beginning and the fundraising effort has now zoomed past

\$60,000, enabling the group to purchase other equipment.

This past week, the Paris VFW Post 3601 presented a check for \$5,000, Colvin noted.

"They were the first group to jump on with their check presentation," said Colvin.

The group members emphasized no one is pointing fingers at government agencies who oversee any law enforcement. Budgets are tight at all levels of county, city and village government and the pandemic has further eroded the tax base.

"We recognize local government funds are limited for the purchase of such equipment and so we decided to

help," Colvin said.

From the time the first contacts were made, Colvin said everyone was on board with the support.

Longview Bank and Trust is a major supporter. Colvin made presentation to the Paris branch manager and vice-president, Aaron Dahlmer, who shared the request for support at a bank board meeting scheduled the next week. The result of the request was a \$10,000 gift — a major boost to the project.

Other financial institutions got involved, including Prospect Bank presenting the group with a \$5,000 check.

"We got checks from private citizens who just wanted

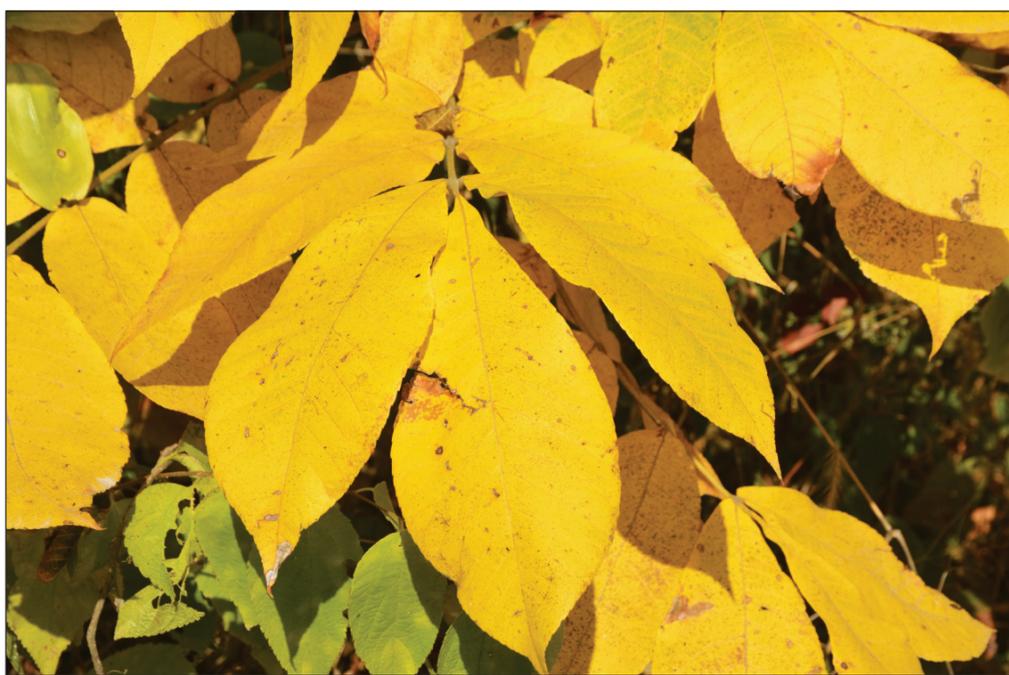
to help," Colvin said.

The major fundraiser was a family friendly UTV ride held in southern Edgar County July 18. The event included not only the ride by 116 vehicles but also pork barbecue and all the fixings served by the Paris High School football and basketball team members. Dessert was (what else?) Georgia Colvin's famous brownies. Held on one of the hottest days of the year, the weather didn't deter the attendance.

Colvin said the ride — which netted just under \$17,000 — would not have been possible without the support of three landowners who allowed the UTV's to

See GEAR, Page 10A

## THE MOST COLORFUL TIME OF THE YEAR



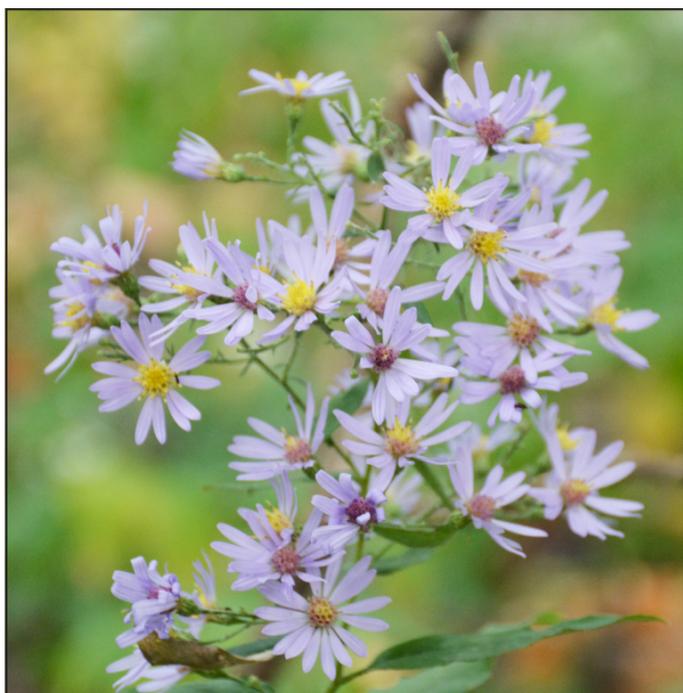
Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Hickory leaves glow in the sun with a yellow color.



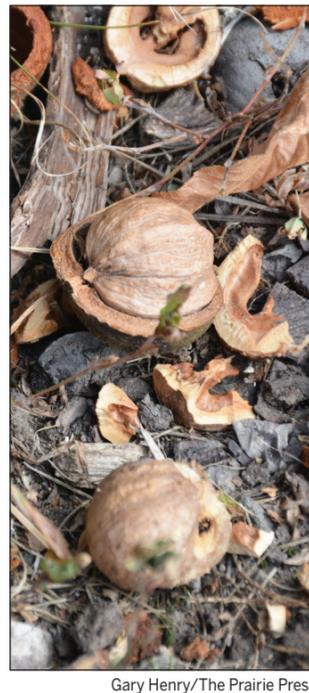
Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Fall color is getting started and among the earliest plants to change is the Virginia creeper vine. The leaves become a bright red and are easily stand out against the other foliage.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Some plants may be slowing down and preparing for winter, but others are still actively blooming. This small flowering plant grows in the deep shade.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

While not as colorful as autumn foliage, hickory nuts strewn on the ground are another sign of fall.

## Chrisman accepts \$795,000 water line bid

BY GARY HENRY  
ghenry@prairiepress.net

CHRISMAN — Andy Kieser, of Fehr Graham Engineering, briefed Chrisman City Council members Wednesday, Oct. 7, regarding bids to install a water line between Paris and Chrisman.

Kieser said B&T Drainage of Marshall had the lowest responsible bid for installing Chrisman's share of the project at \$795,857. The city of Paris is building a water line from the city north to the Horace-Brocton Road, and that line will branch to The Equity elevator and feed mill in Horace. Chrisman takes over construction at the Horace-Brocton Road to bring water on to the northern Edgar County community.

According to Kieser, Chrisman is eligible for an assured \$400,000 in assistance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to help cover the cost of installing the water line.

"Possibly, you can get even more because the city is under a consent order from the EPA," said Kieser, speculating another \$500,000 is possible to help Chrisman switch over from its own wells to obtaining

See CHRISMAN, Page 10A

## Scavenger hunt benefits Paul Warner Rescue

BY DREW CHITTICK  
Bradenandrewc@gmail.com

To get in the spirit of the season, Paul Warner Rescue is hosting a Hallow Eves Haul scavenger hunt fundraiser event. Bobby Sinclair, a member of the Paris Charity Events team that put the hunt together, has worked with the animal welfare group around Halloween several times before.

"This is our first year doing the Hallow Eves Haul," Sinclair said, "but we worked with them in the past on a murder mystery dinner. Obviously having 100 people in a room is not possible right now."

The event is a Halloween scavenger hunt across Paris.

"Teams will need to have a car," explained Sinclair. "We'll meet at the RP Lumber parking lot October 24th, at 6 p.m., and I'll give the teams a list of riddles."

He said each riddle leads to a location in town, and each location is sponsored by a business. The first team to each location wins a prize and gets a clue toward the grand prize.

Teams need every riddle, but they are free to proceed to the sites in an order that suits the team. Sinclair said while the hunt is family friendly, it is oriented just as much toward groups of friends.

"Usually the end of the year is when their (Paul Warner Rescue) money is running out and Craig and Hellie Smith, who run PWR

See HUNT, Page 10A

ABOUT US

# The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

SERVING EDGAR COUNTY SINCE 1848

Published by  
Prairie Beacon, LLC

Nancy Roberts Zeman, publisher  
Gary Henry, editor

The Prairie Press/Paris Beacon News (USPS 22895) October 10, 2020, Volume 7 No. 6. Published weekly on Saturdays by Prairie Beacon LLC, 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944. Subscription price \$49.99 a year. Periodical postage paid at Paris, IL, post office, 61944. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Prairie Press/Paris Beacon News at 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944.

ABOUT US

**Business office:** 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944  
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**Ad Design:** Jennifer Macke  
**Page Design:** Samantha Tucker, Nancy Zeman  
**Deadlines:** Community news

submissions are due 5 p.m. Wednesday prior to the Saturday publication. Advertising (display or classified ads) are due 1 p.m. Thursday prior to the Saturday publication.  
**About Us:** The Prairie Press Paris Beacon News (USPS 420580) is published weekly on Saturday by Prairie Beacon LLC and is delivered to residents in and around Edgar County, Clark County, Douglas County, Vermilion County and Coles County, Ill. The publisher assumes no liability through typographical error and in no event will liability be assumed for merchandise incorrectly priced. Copyright 2020 by Prairie Beacon LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

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.

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 at 217-921-3216, email us at **nzeman@prairiepress.net** or **ghenry@prairiepress.net** or message us on Facebook.  
We always welcome family, club, church and community news for publication in The Prairie Press/Paris Beacon-News.

**BE A PART OF OUR PAPER**  
We invite our readers and the

LOCAL FORECAST NORMAL: High: 68 Low: 46 More weather: go to [www.prairiepress.net](http://www.prairiepress.net) and click on weather.

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
84 61 Prec: 0%	80 62 Prec: 10%	79 47 Prec: 30%	71 46 Prec: 0%	72 48 Prec: 0%	70 44 Prec: 0%	68 40 Prec: 0%



**EVERETT LAU**  
Weather Wizard  
@elau\_weather on Twitter  
@EdgarCoWx on Twitter  
Paris Area Weather

**TODAY** — Partly sunny and unseasonably warm with highs in the mid 80s.  
**SUNDAY** — Highs top out near 80 under partly sunny skies. Spotty showers possible in the afternoon.  
**MONDAY** — Another partly sunny day with scattered showers and thunderstorms possible as a cold front passes through. Highs reach the upper 70s.

**ALMANAC**  
Paris through noon Tuesday.  
**Temperature**  
High/Low ..... 68°/46°  
Record High ..... 89° in 1938  
Record Low ..... 25° in 1964  
**Precipitation**  
Month to date ..... 0.04"  
Normal month to date ..... 1.07"  
Year to date ..... 37.51"  
Normal year to date ..... 33.23"

**SUN AND MOON**

	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
<b>TODAY</b>	6:56 a.m.	6:18 p.m.	9:02 a.m.	2:56 p.m.
<b>SUNDAY</b>	6:57 a.m.	6:17 p.m.	9:35 a.m.	3:40 p.m.
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:58 a.m.	6:15 p.m.	10:14 a.m.	4:20 p.m.
<b>TUESDAY</b>	6:59 a.m.	6:14 p.m.	11:00 a.m.	4:55 p.m.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7:00 a.m.	6:12 p.m.	11:53 a.m.	5:27 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:01 a.m.	6:11 p.m.	12:55 a.m.	5:58 p.m.
<b>FRIDAY</b>	7:03 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	2:03 a.m.	6:29 p.m.

## Children's Museum expands fall break hours

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

**TERRE HAUTE, Ind.** — The Terre Haute Children's Museum is expanding hours this weekend to coincide with a school fall break as part of the Columbus Day Weekend.  
In addition to longer hours, the Ropes Course re-opens and visitors can experience the new Under Construction Exhibit, plus get a bird's-eye view of an active construction site across from the museum.  
The operation hours for this weekend are:  
■ Today, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Ropes Course, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
■ Sunday, Oct. 11, noon - 5 p.m., and Ropes Course, 1-3 p.m.  
■ Monday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Ropes Course 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
All times are Eastern, and the museum resumes the regular weekend hours Oct. 17.



## PLAN YOUR WEEK

TODAY

**FARM FEST FAMILY FUN**  
Five Feline Farm is hosting a family-friendly, third annual Farm Fest 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 10. The outdoor, socially distanced event features Hazel Anne Farm, It's Metalish, Four Little Pumpkins, Lynn and Greg Klec, Kathy Olsen, and of course, Five Feline Farm. Luna Halos provides live music from noon- 3 p.m. More information is available from Five Feline Farm on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The farm is located at 3713 N County Rd 2200 E, Charleston.

SUNDAY

**COFFEE WITH THE MYSTICS**  
The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods are hosting a Coffee with the Mystics session 1-3 p.m. EDT Oct. 11 in the Foley Room at Providence Spirituality & Conference Center. Information about attending online will be provided upon registering at least one week in advance. There is a limit of 10 people for in-person sessions due to social distancing, and all those attending in person must wear a mask. For more information, visit [Events.SistersofProvidence.org](http://Events.SistersofProvidence.org), or call 812-535-2952 or email [provctr@spsmw.org](mailto:provctr@spsmw.org).

FRIDAY

**FAITH IN ACTION DINNER**  
Faith in Action of Edgar County is having a drive-thru spaghetti dinner 3:30-6:30 p.m. Oct. 16 at Lake Ridge Christian Church. The menu is spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert, and the cost is a donation. All proceeds from the evening support the work of Faith in Action of Edgar County.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**ROTARY POLIO ERADICATION**  
The Paris Rotary Club is sponsoring a Purple Pinkie Day in support of World Polio Day and needs community support to make it happen. Help is as simple as pre-ordering or purchasing Long John style Square Donuts with purple icing. Prices are \$16 for a dozen, \$15 per dozen on orders of two dozen or more or \$1.50 for individual donuts. Only 100 dozen donuts are available for the event. Pickup of orders, or the purchasing of individual donuts, is Oct. 23 at 120 Coffee. For more information call 465-6494 or email [jcsick@lwhcpa.com](mailto:jcsick@lwhcpa.com).

**SOUP SUPPER**  
The Paris Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary is doing a soup and sandwich supper 4-7 p.m. Oct. 23. Because of COVID-19 this is a drive-thru or carry out only event. The \$6 charge covers soup, sandwich and a dessert. Soup options are: vegetable beef, chili, broccoli cheddar, taco and potato. Sandwiches are: hamburger barbecue, hot dog, grilled cheese, ham salad and chicken salad. Desserts are: chocolate cake, white cake, hummingbird cake and cherry, apple, peach, pecan or pumpkin pie. Proceeds from the event go back into the community through the auxiliary donations.

**CHURCHES HOST HALLOWEEN**  
The Paris First Christian Church is doing a drive-thru trick or treat 5-8 p.m. Oct. 31 in the church's north parking lot. This is a drive-thru event only and participants are to remain in their vehicles at all times. A drive-thru trick or treat gives the youngsters an opportunity to show off their Halloween costumes through the car windows.

Lake Ridge Christian Church is hosting a modified trunk or treat and costume contest 6-8 p.m. Oct. 31. Visitors may drive through the parking lot where decorated cars will dispense treats from the trunks. Participants are to remain in their vehicles at all times. The candy will be brought to them. Youngsters can post pictures in their Halloween costumes on the church Facebook page at LRCC Parent Cue for a chance to win special prizes.  
These communities have announced trick or treat hours following CDC guidelines help minimize the risk for spreading COVID-19. People should not answer the door to hand out treats but rather place everything in a bowl on the porch or steps. More recommendations can be found at the CDC website.  
■ Chrisman 5-8 p.m. Oct. 31.  
■ Kansas 6-8 p.m. Oct. 31  
■ Paris 3-5 p.m. Oct. 31

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REMAIN AVAILABLE

In this time of high anxieties and serious life-stressors, we may find ourselves in need of mental health or substance use disorder services. There are some resources actively available to our community members. Here is a list of such resources:  
■ Human Resources Center remains open at the Paris and Marshall locations for mental health and substance use disorder treatment. In-person appointments are limited, but phone and video sessions are encouraged for the safety of the community and staff. HRC is here to help in this difficult time.

**745 EAST COURT STREET, PARIS**  
217-465-4118  
M: 8:00am - 5:00pm  
T: 8:00am - 7:00pm  
W: 8:00am - 5:00pm  
TH: 8:00am - 7:00pm  
F: 8:00am - 1:00pm

**406 N 2ND STREET, MARSHALL**  
217-826-6212  
M: 8:00am - 5:00pm  
T: 8:00am - 7:00pm  
W: 8:00am - 7:00pm  
TH: 8:00am - 7:00pm

■ Regional Behavioral Health Crisis Line: 1-866-567-2400. 24/7 access for people feeling suicidal or homicidal.  
■ Illinois Warm Line: 1-866-359-7593 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free phone support for anyone living in Illinois. From the main menu, select option #2, then #5. Interpreters available for hundreds of languages.

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# Woman charged with felony in crash

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

**EFFINGHAM** — Paris resident Shasta M. Hawes, 27, is facing a Class 2 felony aggravated driving under the influence resulting in death charge in Clark County.

The Illinois State Police District 12 at Effingham responded to a single-vehicle accident at 10:49 p.m. Oct. 3 on 1540 East, just north of Wilderness Road in Clark County.

According to the ISP, Hawes was driving a 2013 Jeep and failed to make a curve in the road. She lost control of the vehicle which left the road, overturned end-over-end and came to a rest on its top.

Alissa Griffith, 26, Terre

Haute, Ind., was a front seat passenger in the vehicle and was ejected during the crash. She was pronounced dead at the scene by the Clark County coroner. A second passenger, Brandon Devall, 23, Terre Haute, Ind., was riding in the back seat and he was not injured.

Hawes was not injured and was arrested at the scene and initially charged by law enforcement with reckless homicide, driving under the influence of alcohol and improper lane usage.

Formal charges filed with the Clark County Circuit Court are two Class 2 felony allegations of aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol resulting in an accident and death and one Class

3 felony charge of reckless homicide with a motor vehicle.

Hawes made an initial appearance in custody Monday, Oct. 5, and public defender William McGrath was assigned as counsel. The court set bond at \$25,000 and Hawes was remanded to custody of the Clark County Sheriff's Department pending the posting of bond.

Conviction on a Class 2 felony DUI resulting in death carries a mandatory sentence to the Illinois Department of Corrections for a period between three to 14 years. The Class 3 felony charge of reckless homicide involving a motor vehicle has a mandatory prison sentence of between two and five years.

# Shiloh seeking pumpkins to carve

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

**HUME** — Shiloh Elementary School needs pumpkins for a jack-o-lantern carving event.

A total of 170 pumpkins are needed and may be left by the school's front entrance by Friday, Oct. 30.

The result will be a Boo Drive Thru event 7-8:30 p.m. Oct. 30 at the school, featuring more than 170 lighted pumpkins carved by young students through the fifth grade.

All families and community members are invited to drive through the school parking lot to view the artistic creations and receive a Halloween treat. Everyone must remain in their vehicles. No activities outside of the vehicles are planned for this event.

# Almost record week for COVID cases

**BY GARY HENRY**

ghenry@prairiepress.net

Daily postings on the Edgar County Public Health Department's website shows it was a heavy week for new cases between Oct. 3 and Oct. 8. The Oct. 9 update did not occur by time the story needed placed on the page.

A total of 29 new COVID-19 cases were reported in Edgar County between Oct. 3 and Oct. 8. There were eight lab-confirmed cases and 21 probable cases. People using the rapid tests are listed as probable

because the Illinois Department of Public Health does not consider the rapid tests as accurate as the lab tests. People testing positive on a rapid test are still required to self-isolate, and the health department does contact tracing on them.

The new totals almost tied for a week with the single largest increase, which was the period between Sept. 5 and Sept. 15, where a total of 30 new cases were reported.

According to the health department's website, the local death toll from COVID-19

remains at eight people. Daily website checks this past week listed four cases hospitalized. The number of recovered cases as of Thursday, Oct. 8, the day of the last update, was 221.

Demographics for the lab-confirmed cases of the past week are 1 female in the 10-19 range, 2 females in their 20s, 1 female in her 30s, 2 males in their 30s and 1 male in the 70 and older category.

In other confirmable news, Paris 95 announced Thursday, Oct. 8, a student at Memorial School tested positive.

# Rail crossing overhaul will start Oct. 12

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced Jasper Street between Grandview Street and Jefferson Street in Paris will close Oct. 12.

The closure is necessary for the Decatur Eastern Illinois Railway to replace its crossing. No traffic will be allowed

through the closure during the work, which is expected to last five to 10 days. A detour will be posted.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions

and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

IDOT District 5 updates are available on Twitter at @IDOTDistrict5 or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map on GettingAroundIllinois.com.

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**October 31, 2020**

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For more info visit our Facebook page

## Purple Pinkie PROJECT

**Help support the Paris Rotary club in their efforts to eradicate polio.**

**World Polio Day is October 24. Help us meet our goal!**

**When:** October 23, 2020

**Where:** Pickup at 120 Coffee or pre-order for delivery (2 dozen minimum)

**What:** Square donuts-long john donuts with purple icing

**Price:** \$16 a dozen or \$15 a dozen for two or more. \$1.50 for individual donuts in person pick up at 120 Coffee *(Only 100 dz. donuts will be available)*

**Pre-order information:**

**Call:** LWHcpas (217) 465-6494

**Email:** jcusick@lwhcpa.com

**Pay at:** LWHcpas, 702 E. Court St. Paris, IL

**Payment:** Cash or checks made out to Paris Rotary Club

**END POLIO**

120 Coffee is generously donating a portion of all coffee sales on October 23!

*Thank you for your support*

**What is the purple pinkie?** Each time a Rotary volunteer administers a polio vaccine, a child's pinkie is colored purple with the topical solution Gentian Violet - temporarily marking them to prevent double dosage on National Immunizations Days.







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# Cases called forward in the Edgar County Circuit

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS  
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

The following cases were called during the Sept. 28 and Oct. 1 criminal and traffic calls in Edgar County Circuit Court:

### IN CUSTODY

■Garrett A. Comstock, 30, Paris, appeared in custody on a warrant for his arrest for missing a previous court appearance. His unresolved charges of a Class 3 felony possession

of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct were continued for a pretrial conference. In another matter, Comstock was charged with two counts of 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. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Devon L. Deweese, 20, Chrisman, appeared in custody. He admitted a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class 2 felony arson conviction. A presentencing hearing was scheduled. In another matter, Deweese's unresolved charges of a Class 3 felony aggravated battery, a Class 4 felony criminal trespassing to a residence, a Class 4 felony obstruction of justice, a Class A misdemeanor violating an order of protection, a Class A misdemeanor illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, a Class A misdemeanor retail theft, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Ashley Y. Dye, 27, Paris, appeared in custody on a warrant for missing a previous court appearance. Her unresolved charges of a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class 4 felony possession of a controlled substance, a Class A misdemeanor obstruction of identification and a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe were continued for a pretrial conference. She was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■James R. Floyd, 39, Paris, was in custody. His unresolved charges of a Class 4 felony aggravated assault, five counts of a Class A misdemeanor vio-

lating an order of protection, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer, a Class C misdemeanor assault and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Trevor J. Henke, 38, Paris, appeared in custody for missing a previous court appearance and his oral motion to reduce bond was denied. His unresolved charges of a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class 4 felony obstruction of justice and a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Carl B. Kelly, 54, Paris, was in custody and charged with a Class 1 felony burglary. The public defender was appointed, and bond was set at \$20,000. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Joshua T. Nickels, 32, Dana, Ind., appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 3 felony unlawful possession of a weapon by a felon. The public defender was appointed, and bond was set at \$10,000. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. Nickels was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Daniel L. Robinson, 32, Paris, was in custody. A new public defender was appointed for his unresolved charges of two counts of a Class 2 felony burglary, two counts of a Class 2 felony aggravated battery of a police officer, a Class 3 felony possession of stolen property, a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, three counts of a Class 3 felony threatening a public official, a Class 3 felony failure to report to a penal institution, a Class 4 felony criminal damage to property, a Class 4 felony possession of burglary tools, a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia and a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Colly W. Thomas, 39, Paris, appeared in custody. He was charged with a Class A misdemeanor violating a bail bond. The public defender was appointed. Bond was set at \$7,500. A first appearance with counsel was scheduled. He was ordered to have no contact with the apparent victim or the victim's residence. Thomas was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Mallory E. Mason, 28, Marshall, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of an intoxicating compound. She was assigned to the public defender and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Rachel A. Perisho, 38, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct. The public defender was appointed, and a pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Kyle A. Rogers, 28, Terre Haute, Ind., was charged with a Class A misdemeanor unlawful use of an automobile registration and a Class A misdemeanor or driving on a suspended license. He was assigned to the public defender. A first appearance with counsel was set.

### CHARGES

■Michael D. Brown, 55, Paris, was charged with a Class X felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class X felony possession of methamphetamine precursors and a Class 2 felony unlawful use of property. The case went to the public defender, and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Chris V. Butler, 39, Chicago, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor speeding. The public defender was appointed. He pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Kelly Deweese, no age provided, Paris, was charged with a Class 4 felony false reporting and a Class 4 felony obstruction of justice. The public defender got the case, and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Christopher Evans, 35, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor theft and a Class A misdemeanor unlawful use of a weapon. The public defender was appointed, and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Kaylee Ford, 30, Paris, was charged with a Class 4 felony possession of a controlled substance and a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe. The public defender got the case. The preliminary hearing was scheduled.

■Ronnie L. Johnson, 35, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license. He waived his right to an attorney and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Mallory E. Mason, 28, Marshall, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of an intoxicating compound. She was assigned to the public defender and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Rachel A. Perisho, 38, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct. The public defender was appointed, and a pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Kyle A. Rogers, 28, Terre Haute, Ind., was charged with a Class A misdemeanor unlawful use of an automobile registration and a Class A misdemeanor or driving on a suspended license. He was assigned to the public defender. A first appearance with counsel was set.

### GUILTY PLEAS

■Jessica Jo Daily, 30, Paris, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor retail theft charge. She was sentenced to one year of conditional discharge, a \$300 fine, \$197 restitution, court costs and various state fees. She was ordered to have no contact with Paris Wal-Mart.

### NOT GUILTY PLEAS

■Shaphan Bones, 23, Chrisman, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 2 felony aggravated battery and a Class A misdemeanor battery charges. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Robert S. Kemper, 69, Paris, waived the preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to two counts of a Class 1 felony criminal sexual assault and a Class 2 felony criminal sexual abuse. His oral motion for bond modification was granted so he may enter Indiana for medical purposes. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Brandon V. Slimp, 33, Paris, waived the preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 3 felony aggravated battery and a Class A misdemeanor battery charges. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

### OTHER MATTERS

■Jake J. Sudduth, 28, Paris, failed to appear in court and the court imposed a 16-day jail sentence attached to his Class A misdemeanor domestic battery conviction. A no-bond arrest warrant was issued.

### WARRANTS

Warrants were issued when the following individuals failed to answer the court call: April L. Davis, 39, Paris; and Matthew L. Smith, 36, Paris.

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**PATTY MARRS**  
**MARSHALL** — Patty A. Marris, who most everyone called Patty, of Marshall, passed away Friday, Oct. 2, 2020, at Villas of Holly Brook, at the age of 90.

A service honoring her life is 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, at the First Christian Church, with Bro. Gary Pruitt officiating. Burial is in the Marshall Cemetery. Visitation is from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10 at Pearce Funeral Home. Another visitation is from 1 p.m. until the service time Sunday at the church. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed, and all attendees are required to wear a face covering.

Mrs. Marris was born Feb. 5, 1930, at Hammond, Ind., the daughter of the late Theodore "Ted" and Mary Thiel Stickler. She was raised on the family farm near Paris and completed her education at Paris High School, where she met her sweetheart, Gene Marris. They married Jan. 28, 1951, and he preceded her in death April 10, 2015.

Left to cherish her memory

**ALVA GOOD**  
**REDMON** — Alva David Good, 99, of Redmon, passed away at 10:15 a.m. Monday, Sept. 28, 2020, at Pleasant Meadows Senior Living, Chrisman.

A graveside funeral was 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at Embarrass Cemetery, with military rites provided by the Chrisman American Legion Post #477. Krabel Funeral Home of Oakland was in charge of the arrangements.

Mr. Good was born July 23, 1921, in Conlogue, the son of the late Frank L. and Pearl Herrington Good. He married Betty Rose Kerans Dec. 31, 1947, in Charleston, and they enjoyed almost 72 years of marriage together before her passing in 2019.

He is survived by one daughter, Teresa (Frank) Cheatham of Paris; one son, Dave (Robin) Good of Moweaqua; two granddaughters, Amie (Jeff) Cook of Elba, Ala., and Michele (Shawn) Simoneaux of Mitchell, Ind.; three great-grandsons, Lane Ziglar, Jarett Simoneaux and Zach Simoneaux; and a great-great-granddaughter, Tal-lula Ziglar.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Leroy, Elmer, Bernard, and Frank Jr.; and two

along with many friends are a brother, Ron Stickler; sons, Greg (Mary) Marris of Auburn-dale, Fla., and Jim (Chris) Marris of Marshall; grand-children, Sarah Marris (Paul Bracht), Clayton (Kirsten) Marris and Rachel (Chris) Pynchon; a great-grandchild, Jude Marris; and several, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Jean McKee.

Mrs. Marris had a strong Christian faith, and she and her husband were loyal members of the Marshall First Christian Church for more than 60 years.

Following Gene Marris' service in the United States Air Force, the couple returned to Illinois and ultimately settled in Marshall, where they owned and operated the Marris Furniture Store until retiring in 1996. Mrs. Marris was also a homemaker and held leadership roles in various church and civic organizations. She was a skilled and avid quilter with award-winning quilts she showed at the Clark and Edgar County fairs.

Memorial donations may be made to the First Christian Church or to the Villas of Holly Brook of Marshall.

Online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

sisters, Bonnie Neal and Betty Lou Good.

Mr. Good served in the U.S. Army, 17th Airborne Division infantry, and was a veteran of the World War II European Theatre. He attended jump school at Fort Benning, Ga., and trained with the 82nd Airborne Division where he fractured his back. While in the hospital, the 82nd went overseas. After he was discharged from the hospital, he was transferred to the 17th Airborne Division. On Christmas Day 1944, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and in April 1945, he fought at the Rhine Crossing in Germany. He was awarded the Bronze Star medal in recognition of his service.

After the completion of his military service, he worked on the farm until he retired. He attended Redmon Christian Church and was a lifelong member of the Chrisman American Legion Post #477, the VFW and Disabled American Veterans.

He will be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, great and great-great-grandfather – and most of all, his family's hero

Memorial donations may be made to Redmon Christian Church, the Wounded Warrior Project or the D.O. It Cancer Group in care of the Edgar County Community Foundation, Inc.

Online condolences at www.krabelfuneralhome.com.

**INFANT RONALD LUCI JR.**  
**MARSHALL** — Infant Ronald Allen Levi Luci Jr. passed away at 9:03 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020, in Riley Children's Hospital, Indianapolis, Ind.

A private service will be held at Pearce Funeral Home, with Pastor Kevin Small officiating. Burial follows in the St. Paul Cemetery, rural Martinsville.

The baby was born Aug. 4, 2020, at Indianapolis.

Surviving are his mother, Sarah Bishop of Martinsville; his father Ronald Allen Levi Luci Sr. of Terre Haute, Ind.; siblings, Paisley Gernigin, Marli

Luci and Amara Luci; grand-parents, Serena and George Bishop of Martinsville, Paul Luci Sr. of Terre Haute and Donna and Larry Joe Green of West Terre Haute, Ind.; great-grandparents, Cathy Roach of Marshall, Gary and Anita Roach of Columbus, Ga., and Ronald Allen Edington of West Terre Haute.

Memorial donations may be made to the Ronald McDonald House Charities, 435 Limestone St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservice.com.

**GLEN KEEN**  
 Glen Edward Keen, 86, of Elberfeld, Ind., and formerly of Evansville, Ind., and Paris, passed away at 11:38 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020, at St. Vincent's Hospital, Evansville, Ind. He was a machinist.

Arrangements are pending at Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home.

Mr. Keen was born Jan. 19, 1934, at Harrisburg, the son of the late Glen K. and Minnie Glass Keen. He married Carolyn Morrissey Keen in Paris, and she survives.

He is also survived by his children, Diana (Doug) Lisak of Overland Park, Kan., Kenneth (Suzanne) Keen of Elberfeld, Ind., Thomas Keen of Nashville, Tenn., Glen (Julie) E. Keen II of Elburn; his sister, Glenda Eldredge of Indiana; his grandchildren, Bryant (Alison) Keen of Evansville, Blake (Jaclyn) Keen of Evansville, Mitchell Lisak of Overland

**DARRELL FRITZ**  
**OAKLAND** — Darrell Lee "Butch" Fritz, 76, of Oakland, was granted his angel wings at 4:44 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020, at the Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital, Mattoon.

The family is graciously abiding by the COVID-19 guidelines and will have a celebration of life service held at a later date. Hinds Funeral Home of Bement is in charge of the arrangements.

Mr. Fritz was born Aug. 10, 1944, at Monticello, the first of eight children. He was the son of the late Emmett and Kathryn Bowlin Fritz. He married Mary Butler Boes June 23, 1995, at Paris.

He is survived by his loving wife and three children, Laura Dodds and Leisa Cantrell both of Houston, Texas, and Alicia (Cody) McQueen of Oakland; four grandchildren, Ashley (Matthew) Koehler, Christina (Ken) Bridge, Abigail (Kyle) Hatcher and Austin Cantrell; and six great-grandchildren, Trace, Logan, Brecken, Cash, Peyton and Hampton; two sisters, Ivy Ammann of Bement and Donna (John) Helm of Nashville, Tenn.; and many

**DAVID BLAND**  
**MARSHALL** — David Andrew Bland, 101 of Marshall, passed away on Friday, Oct. 2, 2020.

A private funeral service was Tuesday, Oct. 6, at Pearce Funeral Home, with

**KEANA BLAKE**  
**WARNER ROBINS, Ga.** — Keana Mariah Blake, 29, of Warner Robins, Ga., and formerly of Paris, passed away Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, at her home.

A private family service is scheduled. McCullough Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Park, Anna Lisak of Overland Park, Hayley Lisak of Overland Park, Christian Keen of Cincinnati, Ohio, Noah Keen of Cincinnati, Taylor Keen of Cincinnati, Samuel Keen of Elburn, Macie Keen of Elburn; his great-grandchildren, Beckham Keen, Bennett Keen, Anis-tyn Keen, Grayson Keen and Kinsley Keen; his sisters-in-law, Lois (Jim) Moore of Paris and Linda (Don) Clayton of Portland, Ore.; his godson, Daniel (Kelly) Lynch of Decatur; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his sisters, Doris Jean Thompson and Frances Baggerly.

Mr. Keen was a member of the United States Marine Corps. After his military service, he was a machinist at Inland Steel in Gary, Ind., and then a machinist supervisor at Alcoa in Newburgh, Ind.

He was a former member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paris.

Online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

loving family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his loving grandmother Ella Mae; his son, John Fritz; three brothers, Jim Fritz, Leslie "Pod" Fritz and Thomas Fritz, and two sisters, Janet Koltveit and Pamela Fritz.

A Bement High School graduate, Mr. Fritz went to work at General Cable and through the years as an auto and industrial mechanic and ran his own home improvement and remodeling business. His long-life interests included stock car and drag racing, restoring Corvettes, and he was an avid Harley-Davidson enthusiast. There's no doubt he's back on his '84 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide in the sky. Most of all, he enjoyed the simple things in life.

Mr. Fritz was a dear, sweet soul who felt genuinely about helping others. A protective and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, he always made a point to lift others up and encourage them with life lessons. He was deeply spiritual and could easily identify with people from all walks of life with an open mind and heart.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital (www.stjude.org).

Online condolences at www.hindsfuneralhome.com.

the Rev. Joy Starwait officiating. Burial followed at Dunlap Cemetery. Pearce Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to the Armstrong United Methodist Church or the Clark County 4-H Foundation.

Memorial donations may be made to any charitable organization for cancer research, suicide prevention or domestic abuse.

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

**SHELLIA FLOYD**  
**MARSHALL** — Shellia L. Floyd, 48, of Marshall, IL passed away at 5:24 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, 2020, in Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Ind.

A service honoring her life is private. Burial follows in the New Providence Cemetery. A public visitation is from noon until 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12, at Pearce Funeral Home. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed, and all those in attendance are required to wear face coverings.

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

**KEITH LAWLYES**  
**CHRISMAN** — Keith Allen Lawlyes, 71, of Chrisman, passed away Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, at Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Ind.

A graveside service is 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, at Friends Chapel Cemetery, Scotland. Krabel Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to First Baptist Church of Chrisman.

More information and online condolences at www.krabelfuneralhome.com



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**Auction Location: 4527 IL Highway 1, Paris, IL 61944 - GPS 39.538603, -87.680474**

**Auction Date & Time: October 10th, 2020 at 9am (CDT)**  
**Auction Preview Date & Time: October 9th, 2020 from 3-6pm (CDT)**

**For Terms, Photo's, Sale Flyer go to: www.ucmarshall.com**

**Auctioneers Note:** We are honored to conduct the Public Estate Auction for the Hutchings Family Estate. We will be running two rings, and with the State of Illinois Covid-19 rules & regulations, it is advised to please wear a mask. This will be approximately a 4 hour sale and we will be running 2 auction rings. So, come on out, bring a lawn chair and a friend and enjoy your auction experience. There will be homemade Amish goods & great food the day of the auction. Restrooms will be available.



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## Pres. Trump denounced as heretic

A man got coronavirus and, like most who get it, he did not die. After a few days in the hospital, he emerged and told his people something shocking: That they can beat it too, and that while they should be cautious, they shouldn't let fear control their lives.



JOHN KASS  
GUEST COLUMN

"Don't be afraid of COVID," he said when he got back to work. "Don't let it dominate your life."

As readers know by now, the man is President Donald Trump.

What he said seemed reasonable, a leader telling his country not to be dominated by fear at a time when fear, and fear porn, have become staples of the news and of political efforts to defeat him.

The numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention back him up. Estimates released in September show a death rate that is low across the board, especially among the young and healthy, but the drumbeat in politics and media has been all about fear.

The high priests of the Washington establishment media who have thrown their lot in with the Democratic Party and Joe Biden for the 2020 campaign were outraged by Trump. They denounced him as a heretical blasphemer for rejecting their absolute moral authority.

That is what the media meltdown was all about. Whether they all grasp it or not, I can't say.

Yet it was obvious — and positively medieval in tone — right out of the days of the Black Death, when the berobed holy men, some mouthing Latin prayers they didn't understand, insisted the plague was retribution for sin. These days, the media priests don't speak of sin. They speak of karma and see Trump's illness as just payment for his not masking up. How will Americans vote?

I don't know. I do wear a mask at the grocery store, out of concern for the feelings and health of others and for my own sake because as a diabetic I have a comorbidity. Yet I know that many who've been far more meticulous about their precautions got the virus anyway.

What followed since Trump was diagnosed and upon his return was a meltdown on many of the news networks — on CNN and MSNBC — and on many social media sites.

The New York Times questioned whether Trump could be taken off the ballot, perhaps forgetting voting has already begun.

CNN's Jake Tapper said Trump, "has become a symbol of his own failures." Others argued Walter Reed hospital should be defunded. Conspiracy theories flourished — from leftist filmmaker Michael Moore to the tinfoil hat-wearing Joy Reid of MSNBC — who tweeted questions about whether Trump really had the virus at all, or was merely faking it to get out of more debates.

Perhaps my favorite reaction was CBS reporter Ben Tracy breathlessly and absurdly tweeting he felt safer covering Kim Jong Un's North Korea than the White House.

Yes, the coronavirus is indeed frightening. Some 210,000 Americans have died of it already. I am not mocking it, nor do I want others to die. My mother is in a nursing home and her roommate was just diagnosed as positive, though Mom tested negative. Still, like so many Americans, we wait and worry.

Yet even so, it should be obvious by now that the virus has become weaponized politically by Democrats and their media allies. And Trump's handling of the pandemic was the last arrow in their quiver. It may work. It may not.

But whether or not Trump is reelected — whether the liberals regain power — something irrevocable has happened. The liberal elites, the so-called best and the brightest in our foreign and domestic policy, seem to have lost their moral authority over the people.

This is why the media high priests are so angry with Trump, why they've always been angry since 2016 and why they cannot forgive.

You need an example of how moral authority is lost?

Americans were told by lockdown governors that they couldn't attend their church, synagogue or mosque for fear of spreading COVID-19. But then lockdown politicians and a number of medical experts relying on the science supported and advocated protests in the streets that were attended by tens of thousands, many not wearing masks.

The media pundits, doing their duty, went along.

Some of the protests devolved into looting and violence, and still the political consensus of the left was that, well, you have to break a few eggs to make an omelet. But Americans who protested the coronavirus lockdowns as arbitrary, harmful and antithetical to their constitutional rights were demeaned as threats, as deplorably vulgar, stupid and hateful.

This is how liberal elites began to irrevocably lose moral authority. For Trump to come out of the hospital to tell America not to be afraid is unbearable for some.

Many Americans have borne the psychological costs of fear and isolation. There has been untold damage done to children who've been kept out of schools, even though lockdown mayors and governors with means can, and do, send their own kids to private schools that remain open.

See KASS, Page 7A

## 4-H's Opportunity4All

Every year, National 4-H Week showcases the millions of youth, parents, volunteers and alumni who participate in the many positive development opportunities offered by 4-H.

The theme for this year's National 4-H Week — which officially ends today — is Opportunity4All. The campaign was created by National 4-H Council to rally support for Cooperative Extension's 4-H program and identify solutions to eliminate the opportunity gap that affects 55 million kids across America.

4-H is a community of young people across America who learn leadership, citizenship and life skills. Building on this, 4-H'ers will continue to be involved in serving their communities. Through 4-H programs, young people combine their concerns with practical skills so they can make a difference.

With so many children struggling to reach their full potential, 4-H — in partnership with adults — believes it can play a key role in creating a more promising and equitable future for youth, families and communities across the country. In 4-H, every child should have an equal opportunity to succeed. Every child should have the skills they need to make a difference in the world.

The 4-H program of the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension is

### OUR VIEW

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

open to boys and girls as young as kindergarten through Cloverbuds and through high school wherever they live. Programs are offered in a variety of formats for every interest including livestock, cooking and baking, electricity, woodworking, photography and sewing — to name a few.

It's been a tough year for 4-H as both the county and state fairs were virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But thanks to the hard work of the Edgar County Program Coordinator, 4-H and Youth Development Maria Crandell, 4-H members were able to take part in the myriad of programs offered through 4-H.

Edgar County clubs always welcome new members:

■ Bell Ridge Ag: Meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of the month. Brad Cash and Adam Cash.

■ C & S Ag: Meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month. Karen & Tom Webster.

■ Ft. Sumpter: Meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday of the month. Cliff and Jennifer Macke

■ Grandview Pioneers and Grand-

view Pioneers Cloverbuds needs a leader.

■ Paris Pathfinders: Meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month. Sarah Cusick and Robin Minge

■ Pine Grove Handy Helpers: Meet at 6 p.m. the first Sunday of the month. Stephanie Moody and Jodi Theirl

■ Raider Super Stars and Raider Super Stars Cloverbuds: meets at 4 p.m. the third Sunday of the month. Meggan Cash and Kristina Milburn

■ Scott's Victory: Meets at 1:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month. Lorena Hardin

■ Stratton Jr. Farmers: Meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Monday of the month. Kristen Trogdon

■ Shooting Sports of Air Rifle/.22 Rifle/Archery/Shotgun: Chris Milam, Coordinator

■ Head, Heart and Hooves Horse and Pony Club: Bridget Moss and Heather Gillaspie

■ Edgar County Cloverbuds for youth age 5 to 7 as of September 1 current year: Meets at 5:30 p.m., the third Thursday of the month.

There are leadership opportunities for two clubs in our county. 4-H has always been an important part of the fabric of our communities. Let's continue to support this great organization in any way we can.



### YOUR VIEW

## Trump has no platform except opposing Obama

Editor, The Prairie Press: Mr. Trump's administration had many firsts. I'm addressing his party's total lack of a platform for the 2020 election. Not a hint of what their goals are, or what we are voting for. When asked they point to Mr. T and mumble, "What he says."

We're left to infer intentions from previous performances. Beside a trillion dollar tax cut for billionaires and Supreme Court choices, there's not much to go on.

Someone was asked, "If you have enough ammo and time, could you shoot all the lights on Fifth Avenue out?" The answer was affirmative. Then was asked, "Could you shoot them back on?"

He seems to be following Republicans, who in 2012 vowed to make Obama a one-term president. Their method was simple — no wins. If Obama wants it, we don't. Period.

Now Mr. T is obsessed with shooting out every light Obama left burning for us. I won't go into why Republicans are so stuck on Obama. Suffice it to say that party, a white man's party, has a long tradition of using racism as a tool to power. To them, having a bi-racial person in the White House is a personal affront. They have zero

tolerance for uppityness. Mr. T's only guidance seems to be, "If Obama did it, I'll undo it."

Gone are international agreements to make the world safer; protection for our water, air, food, soil, job safety; the goodwill and trust of our allies. The only thing left, Obama's legacy, the Affordable Care Act, has a bullseye on it, with nothing to replace it.

I can only touch a few of the maladies that may befall Mr. T's second term. First, poverty will be abolished. If you are poor, hungry, homeless, sick, it's due to poor decision making and the lack of God's blessing. Option #1, join the military, get into clean, pressed clothes so rich people can stand to look at you. Option #2, go to re-education/work camp to learn better decision making and seek God's blessing. Option #3, panhandle, but only in designated areas.

Religious zealots are a large part of Mr. T's base. With friendly courts, they may have their way: Women's work is in the home, men do real work. At marriage, women promise to love, honor and obey. For men, that's optional. Purportedly, sex is strictly for procreation. If you're unmarried or choose not to have kids or can't (infertility, homosexual, meno-

pausal) no sex for you. Abortion is forbidden with three exceptions: The father doesn't want the kid; it resulted from sex with aliens; you are a Kardashian.

Enough silliness. I'm clueless what a second Mr. T term would look like and hope I never find out. Probably more lights shot out. As Bob Dylan cautioned, It's not dark yet, but it's getting there."

What saddens me is thoughtful Republican enablers knowingly conspiring in their own diminishment, speaking and acting on the outside to what they know is true inside. Stay safe.

Michael Bennett, Vermilion

### Progress tax aptly named

Editor, The Prairie Press: The progress tax is well named because government progress takes more money from the people.

David Brown, Redmon

### Rhetorical questions made faulty assumptions

Editor, The Prairie Press: Mr. Bennett of Vermilion wrote a letter to the editor a couple of

See LETTERS, Page 7A

## Caregivers must also care for themselves

If you're a caregiver, possibly for a loved one dealing with an illness such as Alzheimer's disease, you're probably already facing some significant emotional and physical challenges



DERRICK LORENZEN  
FINANCIAL FOCUS

— so you don't need any financial ones as well. Yet, they are difficult to avoid. What steps can you take to deal with them?

First of all, you may be interested in knowing the scale of the problem. Consider these numbers from the Alzheimer's Association: About 5.8 million Americans ages 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease, and in 2019, caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias contributed more than 18 billion hours of unpaid care — worth about \$244 billion in services. Furthermore, about two-thirds of caregivers are women, and one-third of dementia caregivers are daughters.

But whatever your gender or relationship to the individuals for whom you're providing care, you can take some steps to protect your own financial future. Here are a few suggestions:

■ Evaluate your employment options. If you have to take time away from work — or even leave employment altogether — to be a caregiver, you will lose not only income but also the opportunity to contribute to an IRA and a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But you may have some options, such as working remotely, or at least working part-time. Either arrangement can

See LORENZEN, 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. Columnists should demonstrate authority and knowledge of the topic (preferably of state and local interest) and make information-backed arguments. We reserve the right to edit letters or to not publish certain letters or guest columns.

BY MAIL/IN PERSON: The Prairie Press Attn: Letters to the Editor 101 N. Central Ave. Paris, IL 61944

BY EMAIL: nzeman@prairiepress.net BY FAX: 217-921-3309 QUESTIONS? Call 217-921-3216

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6A

weeks ago containing what he called Rhetorical questions, which no future letter writer (me) need reply to. Yet his diatribe is filled with inaccuracies and falsehoods that demand a response, however limited.

In Obama's last year, without a pandemic and riots, nearly 75% of Americans thought the country was headed in the wrong direction. Most Americans today blame their discontent on Democrats who have allowed their cities to be pillaged and looted by fascist mobs. The President, meanwhile, enjoys a 53% approval rating among Americans.

President Trump is not the buddy of the leaders of Russia, China or North Korea. He has stopped the sabre rattling of North Korea and has been harder on both Russia and China than Obama ever was.

Democrats are notorious for cheating at elections. Their push for mail-in balloting and their refusal to purge dead and non-residents from their voter rolls make the chance of voter fraud likely.

Most black Americans did

not vote for President Trump, yet as more than one black leader has agreed, he has done more for black Americans than any other president since Lincoln. Under his economic leadership, blacks saw historically low unemployment. He is the president of all Americans.

No, the Obama administration was not responsible for the record low unemployment, the meteoric rise in the stock market, the extra money in everyone's paycheck, the rise of small businesses, and the return of manufacturing to the U.S. which Obama assured us would never happen.

The Trumps are not making money from his presidency. According to Forbes Magazine, Mr. Trump's net worth had declined by 31% in just the first three years of his presidency.

He regularly donates his entire salary to charities; which President Obama didn't do. Michelle Obama paid 23 staff members. Melania Trump pays 4.

Four anonymous sources claimed the President didn't go to a WWI cemetery because dead soldiers were "losers." Twenty-one named individuals said that never

happened. In fact, recently released documents prove that the decision not to visit the cemetery was based upon unsafe weather conditions. There is video, however, of then Vice President Biden calling troops to whom he was speaking in March 2016 "stupid bastards." Mr. Bennett, tsk, tsk, this is even an old lie.

Certainly, Black Lives Matter can legally own firearms, but they cannot use them to fire into the cars of innocent motorists or to murder people. Nor can they use "peaceful protests" as an excuse to riot, loot, burn buildings, murder and gravely injure police. These criminal acts most Democrats, like Mr. Bennett, seem unwilling to condemn.

President Trump supports law and order and the Constitution. He has done nothing to endanger our democratic Republic but much to make it far better. The violence that threatens our Republic comes from the left. Americans don't like violence or intimidation. We will vote for a free future rather than the chains of the Democrats' socialism.

Jane Witmer,  
Paris

# LORENZEN

FROM PAGE 6A

give you flexibility in juggling your employment with your caregiving responsibilities.

■ Explore payment possibilities for caregiving. Depending on your circumstances, and those of the loved ones for whom you're providing care, you might be able to work out an arrangement in which you can get paid something for your services. And as long as you are earning income, you can contribute to an IRA to keep building resources for your own retirement.

■ Protect your financial interests – and those of your loved ones. You may well want to discuss legal

matters with the individual for whom you are a caregiver before Alzheimer's robs them of the ability to think clearly. It may be beneficial to work with a legal professional to establish a financial power of attorney – a document that names someone to make financial decisions and pay bills when the person with Alzheimer's no longer can. And whether you or someone else has financial power of attorney, the very existence of this document may help you avoid getting your personal finances entangled with those of the individual for whom you're caring.

■ Keep making the right financial moves. As long as you're successful at keeping your own finances separate from those of your loved one, you may be able to continue

making the financial moves that can help you make progress toward your own goals. For example, avoid taking on more debts than you can handle. Also, try to maintain an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Of course, these tasks will be much easier if you can maintain some type of employment or get paid for your caregiving services.

There's nothing easy about being a caregiver. But by making the right moves, you may be able, at the least, to reduce your potential financial burden and brighten your outlook.

(Derrick Lorenzen is a local Edward Jones Financial Adviser. Email him at [derrick.lorenzen@edwardjones.com](mailto:derrick.lorenzen@edwardjones.com).)

# KASS

FROM PAGE 6A

There is a toll on entrepreneurs, the small business owners who aren't plugged into the big government-big business matrix like Amazon's Jeff Bezos and his class of woke billionaire capitalists.

Small business owners lose their livelihoods every day — and their workers' jobs are lost as well. But big-government types who've never owned a business — and risked all their savings — just don't get it.

A toll on the fiber of Americanism itself, the willingness of people to take risk and not

fear, which I warned about months ago.

We're actually dealing with two viruses now.

The one came from China. And the other is our own homegrown variety: Politics.

(John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. Email him at [jskass@chicagotribune.com](mailto:jskass@chicagotribune.com).)

### To the Electors of the State of Illinois:

The Illinois Constitution establishes a structure for government and laws. There are three ways to initiate change to the Illinois Constitution: (1) a constitutional convention may propose changes to any part; (2) the General Assembly may propose changes to any part; or (3) a petition initiative may propose amendments limited to structural and procedural subjects contained in the Legislative Article. The people of Illinois must approve any changes to the Constitution before they become effective. The purpose of this document is to inform you of proposed changes to the Illinois Constitution and provide you with a brief explanation and a summary of the arguments in favor of and in opposition to the proposed amendment. Proposed changes in the existing constitutional amendment are indicated by underscoring all new matter and by crossing with a line all matter which is to be deleted.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION ARTICLE IX – REVENUE

#### SECTION 3. LIMITATIONS ON INCOME TAXATION

(a) ~~The General Assembly shall provide by law for the rate or rates of any tax on or measured by income imposed by the State. A tax on or measured by income shall be at a non-graduated rate. At any one time there may be no more than one such tax imposed by the State for State purposes on individuals and one such tax so imposed on corporations.~~ In any such tax imposed upon corporations the highest rate shall not exceed the highest rate imposed on individuals by more than a ratio of 8 to 5.

(b) Laws imposing taxes on or measured by income may adopt by reference provisions of the laws and regulations of the United States, as they then exist or thereafter may be changed, for the purpose of arriving at the amount of income upon which the tax is imposed.

#### EXPLANATION

The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

#### ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Illinois' current tax system unfairly benefits millionaires and billionaires and this amendment will set things right for middle-class and working people. Currently, it is unfair that billionaires pay the same tax rate as regular people.

Voting "yes" on the amendment means that the State will enact a new tax structure where only those making above \$250,000 a year will see their taxes go up. This amendment is simply upgrading Illinois' old tax system to a graduated system which is how the federal government and the majority of other states do it.

This Amendment Would Make Illinois' Tax System Fair.

Approval of this amendment would enact a fair system that allows the state to tax wealthy people at higher rates and lower income people at lower rates, replacing Illinois' current unfair tax system, in which wealthy people pay the exact same tax rate as lower and middle income people.

Illinois' current tax system unfairly benefits millionaires and billionaires, and approval of this amendment will set things right for the middle class and working people. This amendment will help small business owners by creating a stable economic environment for their businesses to thrive.

While others try to mislead you, under the current tax system in Illinois, policymakers already have the authority to set any tax rate and to change tax rates at their will. The current system forces policymakers to charge the same tax rate to everyone, regardless of how much money they make. If this amendment passes, the State will have the ability to tax higher income earners at a different rate. In fact, upon passage of this Amendment, a new tax structure will go into effect where 97% of taxpayers will pay the same or less, while only those making more than \$250,000 a year will see a tax increase.

This amendment does not tax retirement income.

The Federal Government and Most States Use the Graduated Tax System Proposed in this Amendment, Not the Unfair System Currently Used in Illinois.

Illinois is among a minority of states that do not utilize graduated tax rates because the Illinois Constitution requires a "flat tax" that penalizes middle-class and working people and benefits higher income individuals.

A majority of states and the federal government already use the kind of graduated income tax system proposed in this amendment to ensure that wealthy people pay their fair share of taxes. Nearby states including Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin are among the majority of states that have graduated tax systems.

Illinois' Current Income Tax System Relies on Taxes from Middle and Lower Income Earners, While a Graduated System Would Lower that Burden and Fund Critical Programs such as Education and Human Services.

While some states have fair tax rates in which the highest income earners pay the highest tax rate, Illinois' "flat tax" rate continues to rely unfairly on taxes from middle and lower income earners. Under Illinois' "flat tax" structure, a nurse making \$50,000 per year pays the same tax rate as an executive making \$4 million per year. A graduated tax rate would have the executive pay more. Because of the way our current tax system is set up, the bottom fifth of Illinois taxpayers (those making below \$21,800) contribute 14.4% of their income to state and local taxes, compared to 7.4% for the top 1 percent of Illinois taxpayers.

If this Amendment passes, the State has already enacted a new graduated tax structure where 97% of taxpayers will pay the same or less. Under the new tax structure, only the top 3% of Illinois income earners would pay more in income taxes. Everyone who makes \$250,000 or less a year would pay the same or less. Over 95% of small businesses earn \$250,000 or less a year in profits, and their owners will not see a tax increase under the new tax structure.

This change will generate additional revenue each year that can help address Illinois' budget deficit and fund critical programs, including the State's education system, public safety, and social services like mental health and substance abuse treatment and domestic violence shelters.

After the COVID-19 Pandemic, We Need to Do All We Can to Help the Economy and Middle-Class and Working People.

Working people and essential workers like nurses, first responders, and grocery store clerks should not pay the same tax rate as the wealthy. Nurses making \$50,000 a year should not pay the same tax rate as an executive making \$4,000,000 a year.

Having wealthy people pay more would reduce the burden on working families. This is money that middle and lower income people need for housing, groceries, medicine, and essentials. When the wealthiest people pay more, middle and lower income earners can pay less while the State funds critical services that our essential workers rely on.

#### ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- 1) The Amendment gives the Legislature power to increase taxes on any group of taxpayers with no limits and no accountability and without any requirement to use the additional revenue to fund essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety.
- 2) Taxes and spending are out of control. The Legislature should not be allowed to keep raising taxes until they get their spending under control.
- 3) In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the worst possible time for a massive tax increase.

The Amendment gives the Legislature power to increase taxes on any group of taxpayers with no limits and no accountability and without any requirement to use the additional revenue to fund essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety.

The proposed amendment would give the Legislature unlimited new authority to increase income tax rates on any group of taxpayers at will, including low-income and middle-income families and small business owners. There would be no limit on the number of tax brackets that could be created and no limit on how high tax rates could be increased on individual taxpayers. In addition, this proposed change will pave the way for a tax on retirement income.

Nothing in the amendment requires the Legislature to do anything to control spending. Nor does it require funds to be spent on essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety. It would simply give the Legislature a blank check to spend billions of dollars however they want, with no accountability.

Taxes and spending are out of control. The Legislature should not be allowed to keep raising taxes until they get their spending under control.

Illinois already has some of the highest property taxes and sales taxes in the nation. And the Legislature has increased Illinois income tax rates twice in the past decade to try to deal with the out-of-control spending in Springfield.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, our state had a huge and growing multi-billion-dollar budget deficit, and the unfunded pension liability skyrocketed to over \$137 billion. That's because the Legislature has continued to increase state spending instead of eliminating government waste, corruption, and abuse.

Because they refuse to control spending or pass major reforms, the Legislature will just continue to raise taxes on everyone in Illinois, and middle-class families will be their next target.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the worst possible time for a massive tax increase.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused layoffs, unemployment, bankruptcies, and closures. As small businesses and local employers struggle to rebuild, this is the worst possible time to impose huge new tax increases. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, many residents and businesses were leaving the state because of the high tax burden. If the Amendment passes, it would be the last straw for thousands of small businesses, causing more jobs to leave the state, and making Illinois lose out on investments to rebuild our economy. This would mean fewer jobs and less opportunity for Illinois families.

YES	For the proposed amendment of Section 3 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution.
NO	

#### FORM OF BALLOT

Proposed Amendment to the 1970 Illinois Constitution  
The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower income tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

Due to COVID-19, all 2020 General Election voters are encouraged to cast a ballot prior to Election Day, either by mail or during early voting. Voting by mail is an easy option for voters and you can request a vote by mail ballot through email, mail, or in person. An application is available from your local election authority or at: <https://elections.il.gov/electionoperations/VotingByMail.aspx>. To register to vote or check your registration status, visit: <https://ova.elections.il.gov>.

#### CAPITOL BUILDING SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I, Jesse White, Secretary of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Proposed Amendment, the Explanation of the Proposed Amendment, Arguments in Favor of the Amendment and Arguments Against the Amendment and a true copy of the Form of Ballot for this call as the regularly scheduled general election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, as set forth in compliance with the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act.



Jesse White

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Great Seal of the State of Illinois, Done in the City of Springfield, this first day of June, 2020

# Welch calls off Madigan hearings until after election

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — The chairman of the Special Investigating Committee probing Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan's alleged role in a bribery scheme said Tuesday, Oct. 6, that he will delay any

further meetings of that panel until after the Nov. 3 general election.

"The committee will meet again in person on Nov. 5 in Springfield — without the backdrop of a political campaign," Rep. Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, said in a statement.

That statement, which came exactly four weeks before the Nov. 3 general election, infuriated Republicans on the panel who accused Welch of stonewalling the investigation in order to protect the powerful Democratic speaker.

"Chairman Welch's decision is an utter insult to the people of Illinois who want and deserve the truth," Rep. Deanne Mazzochi, R-Elmhurst, said during a virtual news conference later in the day. "Chairman Welch has now become Chairman Squelch."

Madigan, a Chicago Democrat who has served as speaker of the House for all but two years since 1983, was implicated in a bribery scheme in July when officials at Commonwealth Edison, the state's largest electric utility, admitted to federal prosecutors that over a period of nine years, they handed out no-work jobs and lobbying contracts to close associates of Madigan as part of a concerted effort to curry his favor for legislation that benefited the company.

Madigan has not been charged and has denied any wrongdoing, saying that all he did was recommend people for jobs.

Regardless, Republicans in the House, led by Minority Leader Jim Durkin of Western Springs, filed a petition to launch a disciplinary process on the grounds that Madigan may have engaged in "conduct unbecoming to a legislator or which constitutes a breach of public trust." Under House rules, that charge could lead to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the House.

The special committee last met on Tuesday, Sept. 29, and heard testimony from ComEd Executive Vice President of Compliance and Audit David Glockner who said he could not specifically confirm whether the company's actions had, in fact, influenced Madigan or whether Madigan was even aware of its intent to influence him.

Also during that meeting,

Republicans on the panel sought to issue subpoenas to multiple other potential witnesses who had declined requests to testify voluntarily, including Madigan. Welch, however, ruled that request out of order, calling it "premature."

Since then, Democrats and Republicans have engaged in back-and-forth criticism of one another, with Welch accusing Republicans of trying to use the hearings for "political theater," while Republicans have accused Welch of stonewalling the process in order to protect the speaker politically.

## DURKIN DEMANDS PUSHBACK

The top Republican in the Illinois House on Thursday called for Democrats, including Gov. JB Pritzker, to either demand that Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan answer questions before a Special Investigating Committee or resign immediately.

During a virtual news conference, Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, openly accused the investigating committee's chairman, Hillside Democrat Emanuel "Chris" Welch, of deliberately stalling the investigation until after the Nov. 3 election, a move that Republicans warn could thwart the entire investigation.

He called on Pritzker to "immediately demand those answers he has been requesting from Speaker Madigan or demand that he resign immediately."

Durkin is one of three House Republicans who filed a petition calling for the investigation after Madigan was implicated in a bribery scheme involving utility giant Commonwealth Edison. In a deferred prosecution agreement filed in federal court in July, ComEd officials admitted that, over a nine-year period, they awarded no-work jobs and lobbying contracts to Madigan's close associates in order to curry his favor for legislation that benefited the company.

Republicans argue that Welch, by postponing any further hearings until after the election, has put the investigating committee under a severe time constraint. That's because under House rules, all committees are automatically dissolved when the General Assembly adjourns its biennial session, which is currently scheduled to happen on Thursday, Dec. 3, the last scheduled day of the fall veto session.

That means Republicans would have to petition again for a new committee after lawmakers convene in January for the start of the 102nd General Assembly if they want the investigation to continue.

Welch has said he postponed further hearings because he did not want the investigation to be used as "political theater" leading up to the election.

But Durkin responded Thursday by insisting the investigation is not political.

Madigan himself has not been charged in the bribery scheme and he has denied any

wrongdoing.

## FEDERAL AID

Gov. JB Pritzker urged businesses affected by COVID-19 mitigations to apply for Business Interruption Grants through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in a Wednesday, Oct. 7 news conference.

Applications for the grants are available at the DCEO website, [Illinois.gov/dceo](http://Illinois.gov/dceo).

The money comes through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security, or CARES, Act, and the program makes \$220 million available for businesses suffering losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pritzker said the state is "looking for the federal government to get more help" for bars and restaurants as well as overall state finances as revenues have plummeted amid the pandemic and associated economic shutdowns. Pritzker said the need is bipartisan, quoting the Republican governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis, who compared that state's budget to the red wedding in "Game of Thrones."

On Tuesday, President Donald Trump said in a tweet he instructed his representatives to "stop negotiating until after the election when, immediately after I win, we will pass a major Stimulus Bill that focuses on hardworking Americans and Small Business." He later said he would pass a standalone bill to send a second round of stimulus checks to Americans.

"I anticipate that after the election there will be a real desire to get something done quickly," Pritzker said.

Last month, Pritzker said he directed state agency heads to plan for cuts of 5 percent for the current fiscal year and 10 percent for next fiscal year.

But Pritzker said Wednesday that if the state has to make all of those cuts it will be "tremendously damaging" as he once again said he came into office and inherited a "hollowed out state government" that was crippled by a two-year state budget impasse under his predecessor.

Pritzker warned of a "massive reduction in public safety funding," or a "massive diminution of funding for our evidence-based funding model" for K-12 education.

He said agency directors are working on budget cuts that will be "the least damaging possible on working families that depend upon our state government."

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Gov. JB Pritzker announced seven "guiding principles" Tuesday, Oct. 6, to "build a more equitable criminal justice system," a series of policy recommendations the governor says are priorities for his administration as it works with the General Assembly.

The first principle includes an end to cash bail and limits to pre-trial detention, allowing it only for individuals who are a threat to public safety. The gov-

ernor calls for cash bail to be replaced by a "risk assessment" system.

The second principle calls for the reformation of sentencing laws on theft and drug offenses, and taking a public health approach in dealing with issues of mental health and drug addiction.

Third, the governor seeks to reduce the length of time spent by offenders in prison and offer more opportunities for rehabilitation.

The fourth principle seeks to prioritize rehabilitation over punishment and reduce the risk of recidivism — the process of released individuals committing new crimes and returning to the prison system not long after completing their original sentence.

The fifth principle calls for an increase in accountability and transparency for police departments. According to the release, the governor advocates for the licensing of police officers.

The sixth calls for establishment of statewide standards for use of force by police officers, including a requirement to issue first aid after using force and a prohibition of no-knock search warrants.

The seventh seeks to decrease negative interactions between law enforcement and civilians by decriminalizing minor non-violent offenses and providing more resources to train officers on how to respond to non-violent crimes and protests.

## FLU SHOTS URGED

State officials on Tuesday, Oct. 6, urged Illinoisans to get their seasonal flu vaccinations as a way to conserve medical resources for COVID-19 patients.

Although the seasonal flu is significantly less lethal than COVID-19, many of the initial symptoms of both illnesses are similar — coughs, fevers, chills and shortness of breath.

Increasing the number of people who are vaccinated for the flu, IDPH said, can help reduce the number of flu illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths. That, in turn, would help reduce the burden on the state's medical system and save medical resources for COVID-19 patients.

There have now been 305,011 cases of the disease in Illinois since the pandemic began as of Tuesday, Oct. 7, along with 8,836 COVID-19-related deaths since the pandemic first appeared in Illinois. That means about 2.9 percent of those who have tested positive for the virus in Illinois have died, although the number of cases is likely understated as many can have the virus but be asymptomatic, meaning they would not get tested. Because of this, official death rates are difficult to identify.

According to estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the death rate from seasonal flu during the 2017-2018 flu season was less than 0.2 percent.

**PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!**

Recycle **THIS.**



KEEP MERCURY OUT OF THE ENVIRONMENT BY SAFELY DISPOSING OF YOUR OLD MERCURY THERMOSTAT

TO FIND A RECYCLING LOCATION, VISIT:  
[thermostat-recycle.org/zipsearch](http://thermostat-recycle.org/zipsearch)

**Thermostat Recycling**  
CORPORATION



**CASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) are community volunteers who stand up and speak out to help abused and neglected children.

As the number of children that enter the court system continues to grow, so does the need for advocates. What we give the youth in our community is not a tangible good but a chance at a better future.

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\*\*\* The gift offer is good for first time responders who provide a valid email address. Responders will be sent an email to confirm the gift. All responders in VA, IL, MA and RI who do not provide an email address are still eligible to receive the gift. The gift offer is not available in GA, ND, NM or PA, but residents may still request a quote. The gift is available only as a limited time offer. Please allow 4-7 weeks for delivery. Bottle not included.  
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# All golfers headed to sectionals

Paris Tiger boys, Paris Lady Tiger each finish second at regionals; Bradley, Coombes are tital runners-up

BY JEFF CHAMBERS  
prairiepresssports@gmail.com

It was good week to be a Paris High School golfer this week as both the boys and girls teams finished second in their respective IHSA regional golf matches to earn a trip to the sectionals next week.

In high school golf, it's one thing for an individual player or two to advance to the sectional level. It's an entirely different animal to have your entire program advance. That is precisely what occurred this past week for the Paris Tigers and Paris Lady Tigers.

At this point, it is only fair to hand out a warning. Throughout the course of this story, you will be hearing the phrase "finished second" quite a few times.

On the boys side of things, Paris not only hosted their own regional at Eagle Ridge Golf Course Tuesday, but they also finished second as a team to earn the right to advance.

Not to be out-done, the girls finished as runners-up at the Class 1A Charleston Regional on Wednesday behind the host school.

Anyone who has a pulse knows the 2020 sports season has been anything but normal. This year, just the top two teams and the top-10 individuals not on either of those teams advance to the



Special to The Prairie Press

**Tiger junior Luke Bradley lines up a birdie putt in Tuesday's IHSA Class 1A golf regional at Eagle Ridge Golf Club in Paris. Bradley shot a 78, finishing just one stroke behind the medalist from Mattoon. Chance Westerfield finished with an 81, good for a Top 5 finish at fourth. Reese Wagoner fired an 85, earning a Top 10 finish. The entire team will be competing at Centralia Wednesday.**

next level.

Fortunately for the Tiger golf teams, everyone involved will get a chance to tee it up one more time.

Playing under nearly perfect conditions on Tuesday, the boys took advantage of playing on their home course.

Even though the course was hard and fast due to the current drought conditions,

the Tigers posted a team total of 348 to finish eight strokes ahead of Mt. Zion. Mattoon won the Regional title with a total of 328.

The leaderboard was littered with Tiger golfers as junior Luke Bradley finished second overall with a round of 78, just one stroke behind medalist Meade Johnson of Mattoon.

Bradley had an outstanding day on the course, playing with Mt. Zion's Brent Hansen, who recently won the highly competitive Charleston Invitational.

While Hansen may have had the big drives in this pairing, it was Bradley's short game, putting and finesse that led the Tiger to second place.

Bradley set the tone for his day with two birdies and an believeable chip-in for an eagle to lead the Paris charge.

Right on Bradley's heels was teammate and classmate Chance Westerfield who finished fourth with an 81. Rounding out the top-10 was senior Reese Wagoner who fired an 85.

Freshman Drake Bartos completed the scoring for the Tigers with a round of 104. Also competing for the Tigers was a pair of freshmen Marcus Mitchell (105) and Parker Underwood (106). The top four scores from each school count towards the team total.

The scoring and finishing order was eerily similar for the girls at Charleston.

The Lady Tigers finished with a total of 392, six strokes ahead of Monticello and 15 strokes behind regional champion Charleston.

Sophomore Kaitlyn Coombes finished — you guessed it — second overall



Special to The Prairie Press

**Two Paris Lady Tigers finished in the Top 5 finishers in the IHSA Class 2A regional golf tournament Wednesday at Charleston. Kaitlyn Coombes took runner up honors with a 79, just two strokes back of the medalist from Monticello. Carah Colvin took fourth place with an 88, giving Paris the second place finish and earning them a trip for the entire team to sectionals at Rochester Thursday.**

with a 79, just two strokes behind Ashley Long of Monticello. Coombes was in the hunt all day and led for some of the regional before finishing second.

Junior Carah Colvin worked her way around Charleston Country Club in 88 strokes to finish in fourth place. Rounding out the scoring for the Lady Tigers was freshman Sammy Milam with a 110, and junior Katt Waltz with a 115. Freshman Aubry Wilson was close behind with a 117.

All 11 Paris golfers will participate this week in their respective sectionals.

The boys will tee it up on Tuesday in the IHSA Class 2A Centralia Sectional while the girls will travel to Rochester on Thursday for the Class 1A Sectional.

For the boys, this will be the first time since 2002 that the team will advance to sectional play.

On the Lady Tigers, this was their first time they advanced to sectionals since 2008.

## VOLLEYBALL PROVIDES EXHIBITION



Special to The Prairie Press

**The Paris Lady Tigers volleyball team presented a volleyball exhibition Thursday evening in an unusual space — the practice football field at PHS. Volleyball should be playing their season right now but the IHSA has rescheduled the season to spring because of the COVID-19 pandemic. An enthusiastic group of fans and parents attended the event.**

## Titans end pandemic seasons

BY TIM HENDERSHOT  
sportsfan122774

**MOWEAQUA** — It was advance or go-home time for boys high school golfers in the state of Illinois as the 2020 condensed post-season began on Monday as the Tri-County Titans made the trek west to Moweaqua Golf Course in Moweaqua for the IHSA Class 1A Moweaqua Regional.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the qualifications for the sectional round were reduced from three teams and 10 individuals to just two teams and four or five individuals at stake as 11 teams and one individual took to the 18-hole round.

At the end of a very long day of golf, the Titans finished their team round in 10th place with a team score of 403.

The Sullivan Redskins took the regional crown with a 330 to advance along the Monticello Sages who took second with a 334.

Holden Kile just missed out on a qualification for the sectional round carding an 86

while Owen Knoebel fired a 110. Davin Smith shot a 121 and Cole Decker fired a 128. Greg Reese finished the day with a 134.

### HOULIHAN CRACKS TOP 40

After the boys got their shot at regional golf play on Tuesday, Wednesday morning was the time for girls golfers to take to the course as Charleston Country Club in Charleston hosted the IHSA Class 1A Charleston Regional.

The Tri-County Titans sent their two golfers to compete for four individual spots to the Rochester Sectional the following week. There were a total of 71 players who took the course on a sunny and warm day while having to deal with a little wind.

As the 18-hole round concluded, the Titans got some good results to end their season although neither golfer qualified for the sectional round.

Junior Megan Houlihan played well finishing in a tie for 39th place carding a 121. Houlihan finished the season with

one individual win in her first season on the course. Junior Lilly Burnside finished in 59th place with a 132 completing her first season.

### PETTY CRACKS TOP15

It was the final regular meet of the 2020 high school cross country season Tuesday afternoon at Taber Park in Sullivan as the Tri-County Titans competed in a six team meet with the Sullivan Redskins, ALAH Knights, Tuscola Warriors, Villa Grove-Heritage Blue Devils and Bement Bulldogs.

As the dust settled on the three mile course, the Titans boys team finished in sixth place with a score of 146.

Ross Petty finished the race in the top fifteen taking 12th place in a time of 18:23 while Levi Ash was 29th in 20:31. The duo of Cole McClain and Emery Keys were 33rd and 34th respectively in times of 21:15 and 21:22 and Alex Acerra was 38th in 24:45.

The girls race saw Abby Warman continue her tear taking ninth place.

## LIC girls tennis here today

Lady Tigers have a tough week, falling in three matches

BY DAN DUNDAS  
dandundas82@gmail.com

The Paris Lady Tigers girls tennis team is hosting the Little Illini Conference tournament beginning today at both the PHS courts at Paris High School as well as the newly-refurbished Allen Field courts at Buena Vista and Edgar Streets.

Singles matches will be playing at Allen Field while doubles will play at PHS. The matches begin at both locations at 9 a.m.

It's been a tough week for the Lady Tigers who dropped three matches to Casey, Mattoon and Robinson.

### CASEY 8, PARIS 1

Paris lost 5-4 in a previous meeting but the Lady Warriors rested their #2 singles player that night. With their full varsity lineup playing tonight, Paris had different and tougher matchups down the lineup — although really every match was competitive.

"Even at #1 singles and doubles — where the scores look lopsided — there were tons of long points and games that went to deuce," said Paris Coach Stephan Aydt.

At #1, Kendall Mathews faced Eva Richardson, who is part of the #1 seeded doubles team in the conference. Although Mathews did a great job of running down shots, Richardson was in control of most points with her pace and placement, winning 6-1, 6-2.

At #2 singles, Chloe Waltz won the first set tak-

ing advantage of some nice net play. Later in the first set and definitely in the second, Eckerty — the other half of the #1 doubles team and a returning state qualifier — did a better job of keeping Waltz away from the net and making the points last longer to try to force errors. She took a 2-6, 6-4, 10-4 win.

At #3, every set was close and Courtney played a ton of long points against a very quick moving opponent. Mason hit a bit harder so she was able to hit a few more winners than us, leading to a 6-4, 5-7, 10-8 loss for Courtney. At #4, Sara Mills played a close first set, but struggled a little with her control in the second falling 6-4, 6-2. The #5 match was two completely different sets at Macy won a quick 6-0 first set by taking advantage of errors from her opponent. In the second set however, Casey forced most of the errors and went on to win in a tiebreak 0-6, 6-1, 10-7. At #6, Kenzie played another long match, as both girls did a great job of getting to shots. Kenzie had a little trouble dealing with the hard serves and forehands from her opponent, falling 7-6(7), 6-4.

In doubles, the matchups were the same as the first meeting and so were the results. Casey won big at #1, 6-1, 6-1. If the seeds hold up today, these two teams would meet again in the semifinals.

The loss puts varsity at 6-7 on the season.

### MATTOON 6, PARIS 3

The Paris Lady Tigers traveled outside of the LIC to Mattoon Tuesday, Oct. 6, where they fell by the score of 6-3.

Kendall Mathews played another solid match as the Lady Tigers #1 singles player, but she was always on the run trying to keep up with the combination of power and

placement of Mattoon's Storzum, falling 6-2, 6-3. Chloe Waltz played the best singles match of the night at number two, doing a great job of returning Waltz's second win this year over a returning state qualifier. Courtney Fleming had lots of close games at number three, but nlost 6-0, 6-1.

Sara Mills played a close match at #4, even having match points in the second set, but her opponent forced Mills into errors to take a 3-6, 7-6(3), 10-5 win. At number five, Kenzie Hutchings played good consistent tennis, also mixed in some more aggressive placement and spin than usual to take a nice 6-3, 6-2 win. Lindsey Zorn rounded out the singles competition falling 6-2, 6-3.

### ROBINSON 6, PARIS 3

"Unfortunately, I think Robinson came out more prepared for us than they were a month ago when we beat them 5-4 at their place," Aydt noted. Kenzie Hutchings picked up the only singles win of the night, taking a 6-4, 6-2 win by doing a good job using angles when she was able to get up into the court.

The Lady Tigers took the doubles round by winning fairly handily at #2 and #3, doing a great job of moving at the net to cut off groundstrokes from Robinson and hit volleys for winners. The doubles tandem of Fleming and Mitchell won 6-2, 6-3 while Mills and Hutchings took a dominant 6-1 sweep to wrap up the day.

"I'm also really impressed with our JV girls' continued strong play," the Lady Tiger coach said. "Robinson has a big team, so we were able to use the courts at Allen Field to play some extra JV matches with our girls taking 22 of the 28 JV matches played and every girl winning at least once."

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# “We Are EIU” flagpole dedicated

Site intended to recognize the diversity of communities in EIU’s campus

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

CHARLESTON — A collection of Eastern Illinois University students and employees gathered this week on the University’s South Courtyard to celebrate the unveiling of EIU’s new “We Are EIU” unity flagpole. To commemorate the unveiling of the flagpole, EIU leaders joined students in raising the Black Lives Matter flag as a gesture of unity and solidarity on campus.

“This is an important day for everyone in our EIU community, and an especially significant moment for members of our own EIU Family representing marginalized or minority populations,” said David Glassman, EIU President.

Glassman appeared alongside other EIU leaders, including Vice President for Student Affairs Anne Flaherty and Mona Davenport, Executive Director of EIU’s Office of Inclusion and Academic Engagement, in celebrating the addition of the “We Are EIU”

flagpole on campus. EIU students Morgan Colvin and Keshyra Bluminberg joined in raising the inaugural Black Lives Matter flag during an informal gathering.

EIU leaders shared inaugurating the “We Are EIU” flagpole by raising the Black Lives Matter flag was a symbolic gesture, illustrative of EIU’s commitments to both inclusivity and social justice.

Efforts by the students to install the additional flagpole are intended to shine a light on what many students feel are the important social and cultural issues of the day, including how universities and other established institutions can help support and empower marginalized groups.

EIU’s “We Are EIU” flagpole will be used to spotlight other underrepresented groups throughout the year as well. The Black Lives Matter flag will fly from EIU’s new flagpole for one week. A “Progress” flag, representing and honoring EIU’s LGBTQIA+ communities, will take its place the following week. That flag will remain on the pole throughout the month of October in honor of Gender Sexual Diversity History month. Other flags will follow throughout the year,

including flags intended to honor Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month, Latinx Heritage Month and others.

“As an institution of higher education, we have a role in acknowledging, appreciating and advocating for equality,” Flaherty added. “As a society, we still have work to do, but this is an important step in helping our underrepresented populations to be seen and to be heard within our own campus communities.”

EIU’s installation of the “We Are EIU” flagpole follows previous requests from students to fly the Black Lives Matter flag on the University’s primary flagpole. Similar to other universities, initial requests to fly the Black Lives Matter flag from EIU’s primary flagpole were denied, in accordance with regulations that limit State institutions to flying the United States, State of Illinois, and POW/MIA flags. In response to those limitations, EIU created a new internal governing policy that allows the “We Are EIU” flagpole to fly flags recognizing the diversity of communities across campus in EIU’s South Courtyard.

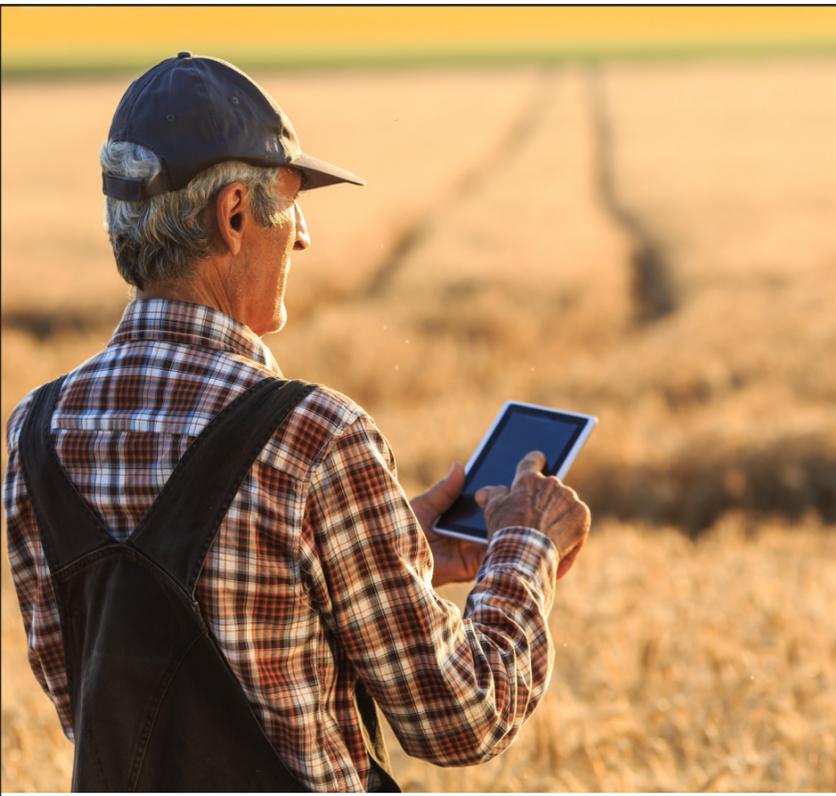
# September marriage licenses issued

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Edgar County Clerk and Recorder’s Office issued these marriage licenses during September: Maximilian Joseph Sajnaj and Alexis Michelle Bex, both of Clinton, Ind.; Jacob Michael Fritz of Spencer, Ind.; and Taylor Kathryn Sloop of Marshall, Ind.; Michael Ryan Lee and Malissa Marie Hess, both of Casey; Kyle Alan Dye and Michelle Christine Wond, both of Villa Grove; Bonnie S. Clutteur and Sara E. Shumaker, both of Paris; Bailey Michael Means and Makenzie Dawn Malone, both of Brocton; Mitchell Lane Griffin of Cicero and Mary Kathrine Starkey of Metcalf; Anthony Lee Clymer

and Michelle Lee Jenkins, both of Monrovia, Ind.; Aaron Paul Doerter and Amelia Lin Simpson, both of Rocky Point, N.C.; Thomas Michael Hughbanks and Ellie Elaine Eslinger, both of Sullivan, Ind.; Jeremy Allen Lawson and Santana Lee Noel, both of Paris; Dion Matthew Scott of Middlebury, Ind.; and Michelle Annette Pepelea of Clinton, Ind.; Noah Zachary Tyler Corrick of Edinburg and Alicia Marie Steen of Paris; Ryan Ray Weyrauch of Terre Haute, Ind.; and Kimberly Sue Rhoads of Paris; Thomas R. Henson and Nichole Ann Hires, both of Chrisman; Zachary Michael Gilman and Jessica Jo Daily, both of Paris; Emerson Michael Grey and

Taylor Carollynn Bishop, both of Potomac; Michael Montgomery Hobson and Opal Lynn Crunk, both of Paris; Colton Robert Murray and Emily Louise Cannon, both of Danville; Trent Sell Kauffman and Julia Ann Smith, both of Paris; Jordan James Ball and Rebecca Ann Burch, both of Charleston; David Brian Shoot and Billie Jean Rankin, both of Kansas; Jerico Allan Walters and Katelyn Nicole Freed, both of Clinton, Ind.; Jacob Isaiah Donna and Gayle Lorelle Henderson, both of Clinton, Ind.; and Daniel Allen Richey and Audrey Michelle Roberts, both of Marshall.




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MEMBER FDIC

# GEAR

FROM PAGE 1A

cross their lands during the ride. All three landowners — who requested to stay anonymous — said the ride went well with no trash or damage visible.

In addition to the ride and barbecue, several gun raffles as well as signs in support of police, handmade flags and other items helped raise the bottom line.

Once purchased, the new equipment will ride in the seat next to each on-duty officer, Wood explained. The officers are already wearing the lightweight Kevlar vest with smaller protective plates. No additional training is needed for the new equipment, Brown said, noting the new vests will quickly slip on each officer over their regular vest.

Anyone wanting to donate to the project can do so through the Edgar County Community Foundation. All donations are tax deductible as ECCF is a 501(c)3. Colvin thanked ECCF members Doug Hasler, Christian Colvin and Warren Sperry for setting up the project.

Anyone who has questions about the project — or wants to donate — may contact Colvin at 217-822-3425.



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

**Aaron Damler, center, vice-president and branch manager of Longview Bank in Paris, presents a \$10,000 check to Edgar County Sheriff Jeff Wood, left, and Paris Police Chief Eric Brown, right. The check was in support of a fundraising effort by Friends of Edgar County Law Enforcement to provide better equipment to all county officers.**



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

**The Paris Veterans of Foreign Wars Post makes a \$5,000 donation to the fund helping purchase improved body armor and helmets for every law enforcement officer in Edgar County. Left to right, Edgar County Sheriff Jeff Wood, VFW Commander Tony Haupt and Detective Jake Robinson of the Paris Police Department.**

# HUNT

FROM PAGE 1A

are footing the bill to pay for vet bills, food and spaying and neutering,” said Sinclair. “Hellie is a wonderful woman, with a heart the size of the Grand Canyon. If someone sees a mangy dog on Main Street, Hellie’ll drive out

there with her own car and take care of it.”

Sinclair added one of the reasons Paris Charity Events likes working with the rescue group is because of the effort Paul Warner Rescue puts forth each year on behalf of stray animals.

Registration is \$25, cash or check, per carload, though

a goodwill donation for more is appreciated. More information, and a pumpkin carving contest, is available on the Paris Charity Events Facebook page. Teams can register at the event, message PCE on Facebook, or call Sinclair at (217)822-2827. Early registration is highly appreciated.

# CHRISMAN

FROM PAGE 1A

water from Paris. He cautioned there is no guarantee the EPA will provide more funding, although he considers it likely.

Nitrites and an unacceptable level of arsenic, after the EPA changed the limits, in the city’s well water has made it difficult for Chrisman to consistently comply with the EPA’s clean water standards. While a consent decree is in place ordering Chrisman to take corrective action, the EPA has not enforced the decree as the pipeline option to obtain water from Paris was pursued.

“It is quite possible the city will need only a small loan,” Kieser said.

Council members passed a notice of intent to award the contract to B&T. Fehr Graham will forward the intent to award and the bid documents to the EPA for review and acceptance. Keiser said EPA’s approval will come with a financial agreement stipulating how much financial assistance Chrisman will receive. He did not know how long it will take the EPA to complete the review or when construction might start.

In a related matter, Keiser presented a contract for Fehr Graham to serve as Chrisman’s construction administrator. The contract set an hourly rate not to exceed a total of \$50,000 in work.

“That way someone is watching out for your best interests,” said Kieser. “We will do all of the billing review.”

Payments for the new contract can come out of the loan so the city’s regular funds are not impacted.

Kieser also discussed the effort to build a new pavilion in Centennial Park to replace one that was structurally unsound. Chrisman received a \$100,000 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant several years ago for the project, but the money was frozen by the administrations of Governor Pat Quinn and Governor Bruce Rauner and never released. The grant was subsequently authorized by the JB Pritzker administration.

At the Sept. 21 city meeting, Commissioner Thad Crispin reported Fehr Graham submitted a plan for a new pavilion with an estimated cost of \$147,000, which Crispin rejected as too costly. The new plan for a smaller building proposed Wednesday by Kieser came in at \$98,000.

“That’s out of the budget,” said Crispin. “We got \$100,000 to do this, and we have already spent \$12,500 with Fehr Graham.”

Kiser said the company will take another look at the project to keep it under the limit, although some of the work may require future phase-in.

A new water line and a new pavilion were not the only money matters discussed during the evening. Commissioner Brian Haddix reported continuing problems with a lift station on the sanitary sewer system. He said the pumps located in the pit of the station are not working properly. One

of the pumps has a bad check valve and a bad gate valve so that leaves only one pump to do all the work.

“That’s not good to have only one pump working there,” said Mayor Dan Owen.

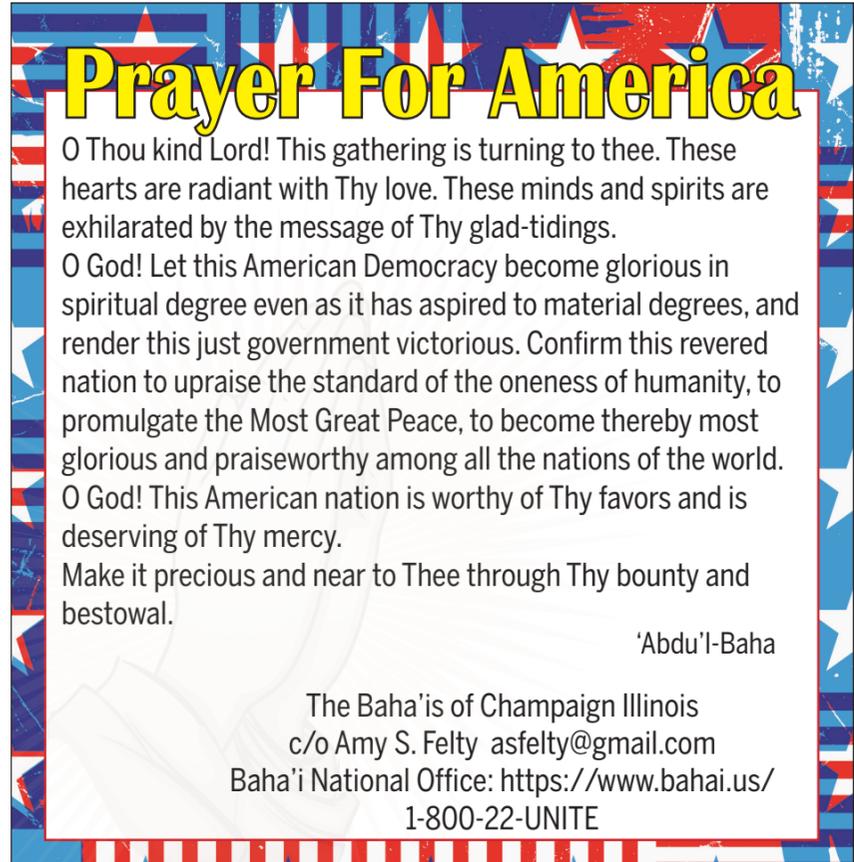
Haddix agree, noting he had hoped to defer any repairs until financing is in place to construct a building at the location and move all of the controls and other apparatus out of the pit to a location above ground.

Commissioner Rodney Wolfe said the pump repairs will require a specialist from out of town since none of the city employees have the expertise to do the work.

Council members briefly discussed trick or treat hours and agreed to leave them at 5-8 p.m. Oct. 31 while encouraging all to be mindful of CDC recommendations for a safe Halloween celebration that minimizes the risk to COVID-19 exposure. Those recommendations are available on the CDC website.

Haunted house attractions are banned this year, and that puts a crimp on the Chrisman Public Library’s fundraising. City clerk Dena Burns said the library is working on plans for a haunted walk on the square in which small groups that can be properly spaced are led on walking tours.

Following an executive session, the council approved granting police chief Tom Dolan compensation time for any hours worked over a regular 40-hour week, but the comp time is limited to a maximum of 60 hours per year.



## Prayer For America

O Thou kind Lord! This gathering is turning to thee. These hearts are radiant with Thy love. These minds and spirits are exhilarated by the message of Thy glad-tidings.

O God! Let this American Democracy become glorious in spiritual degree even as it has aspired to material degrees, and render this just government victorious. Confirm this revered nation to upraise the standard of the oneness of humanity, to promulgate the Most Great Peace, to become thereby most glorious and praiseworthy among all the nations of the world.

O God! This American nation is worthy of Thy favors and is deserving of Thy mercy.

Make it precious and near to Thee through Thy bounty and bestowal.

‘Abdu’l-Baha

The Baha’is of Champaign Illinois  
c/o Amy S. Felty asfelty@gmail.com  
Baha’i National Office: <https://www.bahai.us/>  
1-800-22-UNITE

## Victims of a surprise situation

Flatulence occurs with every person an average of six times per day. I read that in a health publication recently. I tend to believe it. Now just how, when and why it happens is another matter. Some



ALLEN ENGLEBRIGHT  
OLD CODGER

situations are impossible to guard against. Will Trellis, a high school senior, stood 6-4 and weighed 210. Physically, he was a bit awkward and clumsy, a slow runner on the football field. Just lugging his feet, size 18, was a chore, but whatever he lacked in quickness, he made up for it with brute strength on the defensive line.

Big Will stopped the opposing team's interior running game on his side of the line. Naturally, the football coaches loved him. Will earned above average grades. He was friendly. If he had a drawback, it was shyness. By nature, he was a quiet person.

Will harbored a secret ambition. He hoped someday to become a church minister. Already he had applied for admission to a religious college, looking forward to earning a four-year degree. He was aware of his shyness, and figured a speech course and religious training could help overcome it.

February happens to be a prominent month for flu and colds. It was that time of year when Will, like half the school population, fought the sniffles. Part of the time his nasal passages were irritatingly dry. The remainder of the time he had drippy mucous. It was vital to carry a handkerchief and a tissue or two to cope with this problem. Dryness could lead to a bleeding nose. Drippy sinuses required frequent nose blows to keep the channels clear.

Will had a mid-afternoon English class. Miss Muntain was a dedicated teacher. There was never a behavior problem, partly because her dedication made class interesting with neat activities, and partly because it was a good mix of students.

One particular day the class was quietly working on a creative writing exercise while Miss Muntain

See CODGER, Page 7B

## ZINNIAS, COSMOS SIGNAL FALL VEGETABLE HARVEST



Ruth Patchett/The Prairie Press

**With the changing season, the colorful butterfly garden of zinnias and cosmos at Ruth Patchett's home will soon be over. About the only thing left to harvest in the Patchett garden is squash and pumpkins. Squash keeps well over winter and provides the flexibility to change up the variety from potatoes at meal time.**

# Starchy switch-ups for fall

The Butterfly Diner in the Patchett garden has been open for business for several weeks. No masks are required, along with no social distancing. We have a crowd, and it is great to view all the monarchs feasting on the abundant zinnias and cosmos as they fill up on their journey south for the winter.

It will soon close, with the first frost, and butterfly guests will continue south for dining on the nectar of other plants. Tomatoes and peppers are almost finished, and it is time to bring in some herbs for drying. Soon the only thing left to harvest in our garden will be butternut squash and pumpkins. Apples were a bust this year, so those will have to be purchased at the local market.

Thinking of butternut squash inspired me to write about some dishes to replace potatoes in a meal. There is not a drop of Irish blood in my veins, but potatoes were always served at most every dinner when growing up. I think of the Irish and potatoes, probably because of the famous Ireland potato famine.

My ancestors were all German and both my parents even spoke German. Peeling potatoes was an almost every night ritual for me when I returned home from school. It was just part of the evening meal. Mashed potatoes and gravy were common, along with fried and au gratin potatoes.

Maybe it was because we grew enough potatoes in our garden to last us almost till the next crop was ready. They were filling and when trying to feed a large family, it really helped with the food budget. I am curious though, how did the German population come to appreciate potatoes? We even have German Potato Salad. How did potatoes become such a staple in many cultures, considering they originated in South America?

When ordering in the majority of standard restaurants, the server will ask the style of potatoes to accompany the entrée. Actually, I love potatoes



RUTH PATCHETT  
COOKING IN EDGAR COUNTY

### COUSCOUS SALAD

Ingredients  
1 cup couscous  
1 cup water  
1 tablespoon curry powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1 teaspoon sugar  
1/4 cup orange juice  
2 tablespoon lemon juice  
2 tablespoon olive oil  
3 sliced green onions with tops  
3/4 cup dried cranberries  
3/4 cup toasted chopped walnuts

Spread chopped walnuts in a heavy skillet and cook till nuts turn a toasty color. Stir frequently as they will easily burn. In a 2-quart casserole dish combine couscous, chopped green onions, salt, sugar, curry powder, toasted walnuts and

cranberries.

Microwave in a large 2-cup glass measuring cup, the water, juices and olive oil, till mixture comes to a boil. Pour over the couscous mixture, stir and cover tightly.

Let it stand for 5 minutes or till liquid is absorbed, stirring once or twice in between. Fluff with a fork making sure all ingredients are evenly combined. Let it sit for a couple of hours to blend flavors.



### EASY BUTTERNUT SQUASH BAKE

Ingredients  
2 cups butternut squash cut into bite size chunks and precooked  
1/3 cup balsamic vinegar  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
2 tablespoons butter

Place all ingredients in a 2-quart casserole dish and cook for 30 minutes in a 350 degree oven. Stir halfway in between.

and still fix them frequently in many different ways, but it is nice to have an alternative. With this in mind, consider some recipes for something other than a potato for the next meal.

Butternut squash is a great side dish to replace the potato. It adds wonderful color to a meal and is high in vitamin A. One of the things to really appreciate about butternut squash is how well it keeps, if stored in a cool dry place. It will easily keep into January or February, when one can enjoy a delicious bowl of squash

See PATCHETT, Page 7B

### SARAH'S ORZO/RICE PILAF

Ingredients  
2 tablespoons butter  
1/2 cup orzo pasta  
1/2 cup diced leeks (can use onion)  
2 cloves garlic minced  
1/2 cup uncooked white rice  
2 cups water  
2 chicken bouillon cubes

Melt butter in skillet or saucepan with tight fitting lid over medium heat. Add orzo, cooking and stirring until golden brown. Stir in leeks and garlic. Cook for a few minutes.

Stir in rice, water and bouillon cubes, and bring to boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer for about 20-25 minutes or until liquid is absorbed.

This is a make-ahead dish that can easily be made hours before dinner and then put in a covered casserole dish and refrigerated. Heat in a microwave, or if making an oven baked entrée, simply heat the pilaf the last 15 minutes along with entrée. Adding frozen peas and chopped red pepper when cooking gives some extra color and flavor. Fluff with fork before serving this tasty alternative to potatoes.

# Black holes, dark matter and an explanation of everything

Fall is one of the best times to enjoy viewing the night sky. The temperatures are still good enough to get by with a light jacket. The low humidity means less haze and clearer skies. It is the time when the Milky Way lines up best so in the early evening it makes a band of creamy white running from northeast to southwest and divides the night sky in half. The sky is full of known objects made of normal matter, and all grouped together by gravity.

Not everything in the universe is made of normal matter and obeys common chemistry. Since the beginning of quantum mechanics and Einstein's work explaining general relativity, physicists have been struggling to understand the unseen parts of the universe.

Among the most exotic phenomena in the universe are black holes. Studied in detail, but still elusive, physicists continue to debate how they fit into the grand cosmology. Cosmology is the field of science dealing with how the universe began, how the combined forces and energies have sculpted the universe and eventually how it will end. Black holes are again in the

news and a hot topic in science circles.

Early fall is also when Nobel Prizes are awarded. The 2020 Nobel Prize in physics was awarded for the study of black holes with three winners. Roger Penrose won for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity, the other half jointly to Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of our galaxy.

Genzel and Ghez studied the mass and gravity force needed at the center of galaxies to bind all the objects together in a great spiraling pinwheel. The award given to Penrose was for his mathematics and proof that relativity can explain the processes for black hole formation. Penrose is 89, and his seminal work was done in the 1960s. He was a mentor to Stephen Hawking and one of the members of Hawking's Ph.D. team. They collaborated on the work, and he is only now being recognized.

The theoretical concept for a black hole came out of Einstein's work with space, time and gravity. It postulates that enough mass in a small

enough volume creates such an extreme warp in the fabric of the universe that any matter or energy nearby falls into the warp of space. This was in 1915. It was not until the late 1960s that Penrose solved the math and gave enough detail that astronomers proved black holes really existed.

The universe began with a big bang explosion driving everything and the result of gravity should act as a brake on the system to slow the expansion down. Enough gravity and it will eventually stop expanding. In the 1990s, measurements of the rate of expansion turned everything upside down creating a bizzaro world. The Hubble Telescope corroborated the fact the universe is speeding up, not slowing down

For 9 billion years it was slowing, and then 4 billion years ago it started to spread faster. Another conflict is the total mass of universe did not

add up. There was not enough normal matter and energy to account for the total gravity force observed.

The solution was to propose a new unseen mass we call dark matter. This is how cosmology tried to account for this anti-gravity. Dark matter being detectable only by its gravitational effect.

To work, the universe needs to be made of 68% dark energy, 27% dark matter and only 5% normal matter and energy. So far, experiments have failed to provide proof that dark matter particles exist. The Large Hadron Collider should be able to find evidence in missing momentum during tests, and some are questioning if there is a different explanation.

The LIGO gravity detector recorded the existence of a true gravity wave in 2015. As it passed by the Earth, the ripple in space/time created a distortion in the two-mile long detector arm. It made the detector arm wobble so minutely like the surface of a pond with a passing water wave. After the initial discovery, scientists worked out the size and found it was generated by two super black holes,

30 times the mass of the sun crushing together. The largest black hole expected was only 20 times the mass of the sun. The experiment is still running and now regularly picking up gravity waves, but the average size is larger than predicted. They are finding too many, and they are too big and possibly more black holes than cosmology had accounted for.

Recent debates have returned to an idea proposed by Stephen Hawking. He theorized the earliest universe could have formed primordial black holes everywhere. His idea was, summarily dismissed, but the new findings have created a flurry of excitement. It may be possible the universe is full of unseeable black holes accounting for the missing mass.

According to Hawking, the earliest matter forming would be so close together in a micro-universe that it would mutually attract into black holes. Some could pull together forming super extreme gravity to become the center of galaxies. Others would spiral around each other creating sets of black holes where the orbital motion

## Praying without ceasing reveals God

Praying is one of the most important spiritual disciplines all born-again Christians should practice daily.

We are living a time when taking time to pray should be one of our priorities.

We need to pray every day for ourselves, for our families, for the spiritual and physical healing of our nation. We also need to pray for the whole world with this dangerous virus COVID-19 we are facing right now.

Praying is not only repeating or reciting the words a religious leader, or somebody else, wrote in a book of prayers. Praying neither is limited to repeating the prayer Jesus taught to his disciples, known as The Lord's Prayer. All these practices are good ways to pray, but these are not the only ways we should practice this spiritual discipline.

I believe prayer is something more personal. To pray is to establish a personal, two-way dialogue with God, our heavenly Father. When we pray, we are letting God know what he already knows, but God likes us to be in communication with him every day through our prayers. When we pray, our relationship with our heavenly Father gets stronger, and we can get stronger in order to continue our journey of faith. Prayer is the key to open many doors.

Prayers can be cooperative or individual, but we need to learn how to pray. Jesus' disciples asked him: "Lord, teach us to pray." (Luke 11:1) We also need to ask our Lord Jesus to teach us to pray. When we pray, we must pray directly to God through Jesus, not through anybody else.

We are living in dangerous days full of hate and violence in our cities. We need to pray for peace, asking God to help us to love each other, regardless our race, ethnicity or social status. It is also good for us to present all our plans, anxieties and expectations to God in prayer. Most men and women from the Bible left us good examples of how they spent time with

See PASTOR, Page 7B



PABLO MARTY  
PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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## Nearly 50 attend Life Defenders



Samantha Tucker/The Prairie Press

**Left to right: the Rev. Jamie Kent, Sue Sheeran, Mary Ann Sullivan and Mike Spencer during an intermission at the Life Defenders Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 3. Spencer is a former pastor and pro-life speaker who said he feels a burden to speak up in defense of the preborn and women facing unexpected pregnancies.**

BY SAMANTHA TUCKER  
samantha@prairiepress.net

Nearly 50 people from clergy to students attended the Life Defenders workshop at the Knights of Columbus Hall Saturday, Oct. 3.

The event, hosted by Right to Life in Edgar County, brought in pro-life activist Mike Spencer to discuss the science and philosophy of the elective abortion debate while teaching attendees how to discuss an emotionally charged issue graciously and compellingly.

The workshop attracted clergy, parents and students from La Sallette Academy in Georgetown. Altogether there were 46 audience members plus a waiting list of eight. Everyone remained socially distanced and masked during the lecture.

Organizer Sue Sheeran

opened the event by recognizing Right to Life volunteers, particularly Rose Marie Ketner and the recently-deceased Evelyn Ring. Pastor Jamie Kent of First Christian Church of Paris led a word of prayer before Spencer took the stage.

Spencer, who was formerly pro-choice, explained that seeing firsthand the aftermath of abortions changed his stance. Counselling women and men who regretted either choosing or facilitating abortions further convinced him the practice was harmful to everyone, not just the unborn.

"I never thought abortion was good, I always thought it was bad - but like many Americans, I thought it was a necessary evil," Spencer said.

Spencer said the huge burden he felt to speak out for women and preborn children led him to found Project Life-

Voice, which according to the website is a gospel-driven human rights organization. The Life Defenders workshop is a traveling Life-Voice class covering topics like human embryology, morality, theology and apologetics.

"Our goal is really simple, we want to bring others to save lives," Spencer explained.

This hope was echoed by Choices Pregnancy Center volunteer Mary Taylor. "I want people to...gracefully be able to say that yes, everyone is made in the image of God, and because we're made in God's image, we deserve to have the opportunity to be born and live."

Sheeran agreed, "My hope is that it awakens in each of us an appreciation for that God-given dignity found in all of life, but especially the unborn. We forget about them." She added acknowledging the divine value of other people is especially important in these divisive times.

Sheeran, Taylor and Spencer already want Life Defenders to return to Paris next year with expanded lectures, and hopefully without the attendance restrictions of COVID-19.

"We want to have Mike come back next year and his ministry partner, Pat [Patrick] Schwenk," said Taylor.

More information about Spencer's ministry can be found at [www.projectlife-voice.com](http://www.projectlife-voice.com).

## MILESTONES

### Pines celebrate their 50th anniversary



SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Dennis and Mary Lou Pine, 20906 North Bluegrass Road, Martinsville, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 1.

The couple are longtime members of the Bell Ridge Christian Church and has farmed together their entire married lives.

They have three children Dr. Denise Pine (Jeff) Mattas of Marshall; Danette (Matt) Young of Paris and Derek (Katy) Pine of Martinsville. There are six grandchildren — RJ and Ella Mattas, Kendra and Kailey Young and Mallory and Logan Pine.

The family enjoyed a celebration Thursday, Oct. 1, on their farm near Martinsville.

#### SHARE YOUR MILESTONE:

Submit news of your anniversary, engagement, wedding or birth for free: email [nzeman@prairiepress.net](mailto:nzeman@prairiepress.net) or mail The Prairie Press, 101 N. Central, Paris, Ill., 61944.

## Fall flowering witch hazel charms home gardens

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA – With a name befitting the season it blooms, common witch hazel is a fall favorite for Illinois gardeners looking to add a small tree with character to their yard.

"People are very interested

in plants that add some interest to their landscape in fall and winter," said Gemini Bhalsod, University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator. "Common witch hazel is one of my favorites because it supports pollinators and has unusual yellow flowers."

There are many different witch hazels, all in the Hamamelidaceae plant family. Common witch hazel, or Hamamelis virginiana, is native, although it is uncommon in natural areas as Illinois is the western edge of its native range.

"Witch hazel is a beautiful addition to any garden because of its linear yellow flowers," Bhalsod said. "The long, thin petals give the small flowers an interesting texture that stands out in the fall."

Since common witch hazel blooms late in the year, its flowers blend in nicely with the col-

orful turning of the leaves. In Northern and Central Illinois, it flowers around mid-October, and in Southern Illinois, near the end of October.

Witch hazel is susceptible to few pests and diseases, making it a great low-maintenance addition to any landscape. It even supports wasps, flies, and various moths.

"You might not think of flies or small wasps when you think of pollinators, but just like bees and butterflies, they are important to our ecosystem," Bhalsod said. "Witch hazel also provides crucial cover for birds, who also eat its seeds."

Take an inventory of the conditions in the yard before planting a witch hazel tree in early spring. Witch hazel is also sometimes called a large shrub because it might have one trunk or multiple trunks, but it can grow to be about 20 feet tall. It provides enough screening for edges and borders, but also works well as an understory tree.

It blooms the best when planted in part-sun, but it is adapted to many different growing conditions and is relatively shade tolerant. It works well in sandy to loamy soils with good drainage.

Illinois Extension has more information about witch hazel.

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## Lee came to Illinois

BY TOM EMERY  
ilcivilwar@yahoo.com

Robert E. Lee has been in the news this summer, as his legacy is being re-assessed by some in the wake of mass protests. Before the Civil War, the general was stationed in Illinois.

Oct. 12 marks the 150th anniversary of the death of Lee, the Confederate commander who helped the South nearly win the war. A quarter-century before, however, he earned respect in the Army Corps of Engineers, which brought him to the Midwest on a variety of assignments that affect river traffic to this day.

His greatest contribution was a survey of the Rock Island Rapids, a 12-mile stretch in the Mississippi River between Davenport and LeClaire, Iowa, that was treacherous to steamboat travel.

While steamboats were burgeoning in American transportation and economic growth in the 1830s, they were also highly dangerous. The Mississippi offered plenty of scary sailing, including rapids near Rock Island and Keokuk that claimed a number of boats and lives. As a result, the federal government determined to make river traffic safer.

“Congressional legislation in 1837 called for improvements in the Mississippi above the Missouri River,” said George Eaton, historian for the Army Sustainment Command at the Rock Island Arsenal. “That’s what brought Lee here with the Corps of Engineers. He did all the hard work of the survey, with two or three other officers.”

Lee, who was 30 when he arrived in Illinois, was already a star in the American military. He had graduated second in the West Point Class of 1829 and was well-respected in the Corps of Engineers.

On Aug. 21, 1837, Lee sailed upriver from St. Louis with several men, including Lt. Montgomery Meigs, who later served as quartermaster general for the Union army in the Civil War.

Lee’s steamer wrecked on the Des Moines Rapids at Keokuk, and he subsequently used the damaged boat as a temporary headquarters. He did the same at Rock Island, as he set up his base on the top two decks of a wrecked steamer whose bottom was ripped out by the rocks in the rapids.

Lee and his men fished for pike and blue catfish off the side of the boat, with much success.

“I assure you,” he later wrote, “we were not modest, but fell without difficulty into the manner of the country, and helped ourselves to everything that came our way.”

Lee remained in the region until mid-October, leaving several valuable recommendations.

“Unlike the Des Moines Rapids, which were more in a straight line, Lee saw that the rapids here twisted and turned, and it was hard to find the channel,” said Eaton. “He recommended that the project close up the rapids by cutting off the corners of rock, and helped develop underwater blasting

See **LEE**, Page 4B

# The shoebox lives on

BY TOM EMERY  
ilcivilwar@yahoo.com

Illinois is well-known for its political shenanigans. One of the most famous was stuffed in a shoebox.

Today, Oct. 10, marks 50 years since the death of Illinois Secretary of State Paul Powell, whose sudden passing Oct. 10, 1970, sparked one of the biggest scandals in state political history.

Three days later, more than \$800,000 in cash was discovered in his Springfield hotel room and office, some of it stuffed in a shoebox. The infamous shoebox has since become symbolic of the sordid

political history of Illinois and begs the question of where the money came from — which has never been completely answered.

At the time, Taylor Pensoneau was the Illinois political writer for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch who was based in the press room of the Illinois statehouse and interviewed Powell on multiple occasions. Now a New Berlin resident, Pensoneau calls the Powell episode one of the top three stories of his career.

“I rank it just below the Watergate hearings, which I covered in Washington in 1974,” remarked Pensoneau. “The

frenzy that followed the disclosure of Powell’s money was just enormous. Those of us in the press corps didn’t get much sleep for about two months after that.”

Before the shoebox, Powell had painstakingly carved a career as a major player in Illinois politics. A Democrat, he was born in the extreme southern Illinois village of Vienna on Jan. 21, 1902, in a house he owned all his life. At age 28, he became the youngest-ever mayor of Vienna, where he ran an auto agency and opened Powell’s Café.

His first wife, Violet, worked in the café, but was one of the

695 fatalities in the so-called Tri-State Tornado of March 18, 1925, the deadliest tornado in American history. In 1929, he re-married, this time to Daisy Butler, a court reporter who was later known to curse him to reporters. She died in 1967.

In 1934, Powell won his first race for the Illinois House, and never left. During a storied 30-year career, he was elected speaker in 1949, 1959 and 1961 and was four times minority leader. But the 1961 speaker’s race stands out, as the Democrats were in the minority with one less seat than the Republicans — and Powell still managed to get elected.

“That was really the kind of coup that legislators and others had come to expect of Powell,” said Pensoneau. “Whether the Democrats were in the majority or minority in the House, Powell always made himself significant in the workings of the General Assembly, mainly because of complete mastery of the legislative process.”

Powell was elected Illinois Secretary of State in 1964, cementing his political base.

Despite his seamy legacy, no one denies Powell’s myriad of accomplishments. Pensoneau describes him as a one-man public-works department for

See **POWELL**, Page 8B

## Homesteading in North Dakota

BY ROGER STANLEY  
rstanley769@yahoo.com

One family from the Paris area was instrumental in establishing a settlement in Sheets Township, North Dakota.

William J. Sheets left his farm near Paris in 1905 and settled in western North Dakota where he built a frame house and bought a section of land. His wife and six younger children later came by rail in an immigrant car to Dickinson, N.D., which was 80 miles from their new home. The six children were Zella, Omer, Clarence, Arthur, Lloyd and Mildred.

Sheets returned to Illinois and convinced his two married daughters, Lulu Sheets Faris and Lela Sheets Brooks and their husbands to move also. Dunbar Faris and Claude Brooks sold their farm equipment and moved in 1907 on the promise of 160 acres of free land by living on it for five years. The two men went in an immigrant car with household goods, seed, grain, horses and a plow. Lela Brooks and her one-year-old son, Harold Brooks, and Lulu Faris went with their father. It took several weeks to haul everything by horse and wagon from Dickinson to their homestead.

W. J. Sheets bought a large steam engine tractor (Buffalo-Pitts brand) and was the first to use one to harvest grain within several counties. It wasn’t all progress and good times. There were no doctors within 60 miles of the isolated homestead, and there was a lot of sickness and deaths in 1906 and 1907. Among the dead were five members of one family and seven-year-old Mildred Sheets, the daughter of W. J. Sheets. William Sheets used the boards from the barn to build burial boxes as wood was hard to come by.

In May 1906, the first Sunday School in a three-county area was organized at the Sheets’ home and the Methodist Church began. A July 4 celebration in 1906 included two days of rodeos, dancing and food. In August 1907, a schoolhouse was built on Sheets land.

Lulu and Dunbar Faris lived in Dickinson for a month before taking a homestead a mile and a half from the Sheets’ farm. They lived in a two-room shack covered with tar paper. In 1911, they built a bigger house and raised a total of eight children as the size of their family quickly grew. Dunbar Faris died of pneumonia in 1917.

Lela, Claude and Harold Brooks lived in one-room of the Sheets’ house until they were able to build a one-room house on their own land. Claude Brooks made a barn covered with hay and housed their one cow and three horses. Winters were quite cold, and it was hard to burn the green lignite coal, which was plentiful on their land. Lela Brooks was sick with rheumatic fever for four months that year. Drinking water was from a spring a half-mile away until Claude Brooks dug a 40-foot well, of which 25 feet was through coal.

Another hardship occurred when a trash fire spread across 40 miles destroying barns and granaries until it was stopped when it hit the Cannonball River.

In 1910, a group of 42 men and their



Special to The Prairie Press

**The Claude Brooks family in 1923. Claude and Lela Brooks left Edgar County in 1907 to homestead in North Dakota. Seated, left to right, Lela Brooks, daughter Shirley, and Claude Brooks. Standing, from left to right, Helen, Harold and Laverne Brooks**



Special to The Prairie Press

**Claude Brooks, foreground, started a farm in North Dakota in the early 20th Century. At one time, he farmed with 12 horses and adapted as mechanization became available. This photo from the 1940s shows two combines in one of his fields. His grown daughter Laverne is behind him and three of his grandchildren are to his right. The others in the picture are part of the combining crew.**

families came to the Sheets farm and built a new, big barn in one day. Mail came from Madora to a post office in Sand Creek three times a week and all the families from miles around gathered to meet the mail and to visit one another. Claude Brooks helped build the railroad from Buffalo Springs to Mainasth.

In the fall of 1907, Bowman started as a town with a sod shack that was a grocery store and post office. In 1912, the oldest Sheets boy, Clarence, died at age 19. The Sheets’ house was destroyed by fire in 1913 and a big crop of hay was lost to a hail and windstorm.

Sheets built a new house, but that fall his trashing machine burned up. The next year his house and blacksmith shop burned.

In 1920, the new Sheets’ house was struck by lightning and burned destroying everything. A discouraged W. J. Sheets sold the farm, but he did not attend the sale as he was in the hospital with blood poisoning. He then moved to Bowman and worked at various jobs until 1927 when he bought a gas tractor and moved back to the country to farm

again.

Claude and Lela Brooks went to lots of parties and square dances with a horse and wagon, or sleigh, and stayed until daylight as there were no roads, and they were afraid of getting lost. Weather, always unpredictable, could be disastrous. Claude Brooks left town with a team and sled on a nice day, but he was caught by a snowstorm and got lost. When he finally got home his face, hands and feet were frozen. When his mother, Alice Brooks, heard of it she tried to get them to move back to Illinois. He decided to stay on the range.

Claude Brooks farmed with 12 horses and milked 12 cows. He bought a truck in 1928, which helped with hauling. Harold Brooks, his son, rode a horse to high school in Bowman in 1921 and worked at a hotel for room and board and graduated in 1925. He married Ruby Gausemel in 1928, who he met when she visited Bowman.

When courting in 1927, they headed for a winter dance in Rhame, but late that night they could not make a

See **HOMESTEAD**, Page 4B

## There’s more to the story

I was a little confused as I started the story about homesteaders in North Dakota, with placing the right generation of the families in the right place.



ROGER STANLEY

NOTES FROM THE PRAIRIE

As I looked at the old pictures, I kept getting the

Sheets family confused with the Brooks family. I kept wondering why the names of the Brooks family did not match up with the pictures. Rosie, a member of the Brooks family, helped out by telling me I was trying to put William Sheets’ children in the place of Claude Brooks’ children. Where it really got confusing was trying to keep Claude Brooks’ kids from getting mixed up with Harold Brooks’ kids.

However, I think I have it correct with the Hugh Brooks Sr. family as well as the Schenck Brooks family because I married Schenck and Marie’s daughter. The people Rosie and I knew the best from North Dakota were Harold and Ruby Brooks from their visits to Paris. We went out to visit Ruby once at Bowman, N.D., in the 1990s after Harold died.

That was quite a memorable trip. When we got to the middle of South Dakota, the winds were so bad that we stopped in the afternoon along the highway and pointed our truck camper into the wind. Then we proceeded that evening to a remote campground next to an Indian village. About the time we got good and asleep we heard a lot of hollering and loud music, and I became a little concerned. We headed out about midnight for Bowman.

Early in the morning while it was still very dark, we saw flashing lights, a car had crashed into a small herd of cattle, and we were stopped by a deputy sheriff. He said he needed us to go to the next town, contact the sheriff at his office and tell him to bring a high-powered rifle to shoot a severely injured cow. I guess no one

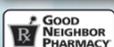
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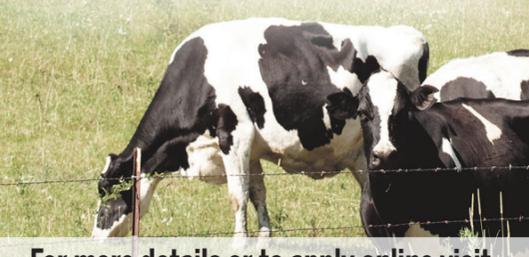
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## HOMESTEAD

FROM PAGE 3B

return trip to Bowman via a passenger train. They hitched a ride on a freight train to Marmarth, which was the wrong direction, to finally catch a passenger train back to Bowman. It was 45 degrees below zero that morning but warmed to minus 20 below as he rode his horse home. After that experience, Harold Brooks did not care for dances anymore.

Harold and Ruby Brooks eventually had four children, and 1933 was the year that nearly forced them out of North Dakota. It was a bad crop year, and they came to Paris looking for something better. They traveled in a mod-

el A Ford, spent two days at the World's Fair in Chicago before visiting with Hugh and Velva Brooks and their sons Schenck and Buddy in Paris.

At that time, Harold thought North Dakota looked a little better than Edgar County and moved back. Harold and Ruby Brooks drove a truck to Paris in 1940 in search of a small Delco light plant and his Uncle Hugh Brooks let him have his as Edgar County was now served by the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). Harold Brooks found another Delco light plant and took two back to North Dakota. That plant served the Brooks family until 1951 when REA finally served that part of the state.

This story was made pos-



Special to The Prairie Press  
**Claude Brooks left Edgar County to Homestead in North Dakota during the early 20th century. This was his home in Bowman, N.D., circa 1950.**

sible by the writings of Harold and Ruby Brooks and the many adventures of the writers of the small book the

“Chenoweth Trailblazers” and co-authored by Rosie Brooks Stanley, a second cousin of Harold Brooks.

## STANLEY

FROM PAGE 3B

was manning the base radio. That was quite exciting out on the open range where cattle roamed in the dark of night. About dawn the next morning we pulled into a campground at Bowman, N.D., and we had quite a story to tell Ruby Brooks that afternoon. We didn't get up very early that day.

Harold Brooks, Rosie's first cousin once removed, retired from ranching and farming in the early 1970s and started cutting and polishing rocks, a new business for him. An article in the Bismarck newspaper told about his quest to find an interesting pastime.

When he and Ruby went to spend the winter in Arizona, he took a course in rock finishing. He invested in a lot of equipment for his new busi-

ness and set to work collecting colorful and unusual rocks for making bookends, jewelry and decorator pieces. A quote from Harold in that article states, “You can't ever tell from looking at the outside of a rock whether it's going to be nice on the inside.”

According to Brooks, most of North Dakota's rocks are petrified wood. He found four rocks made of unusual and scarce Cycad wood, and they made marvelous bookends. As a rock artist, Harold Brooks took two or three hours to cut a rock and an hour to polish them. Rosie and I have a set of beautiful bookends, a belt buckle, and she has a set of special earrings that Harold Brooks made.

Let's go back to keeping our relatives in the correct place and know what to call them. I still get a little mixed up with kid nomenclature when

talking to my grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I think that it is just one of the facts of life, especially when you are caught off guard and need to holler at someone in the family.

It kind of goes this way: when Brighton my great-grandson needs attention, I call to him and say, “Seth, don't do that.” However, Seth is my grandson and is Brighton's uncle, and it just happens that I see Brighton doing the ingenious, naughty things that I remember calling out Seth for.

Sometimes when talking to one of our kids, lets say it is Gina, I call her Ginger and then go through roll call and say, “Junior, no Woofer,” and finally get back to sweet little Gina. Woofer was one of our favorite dogs many years ago and it's a wonder that I didn't say Mary, who was our cat for

many years. I know several other people in our family when caught off guard do similar roll calls.

It's probably a family condition that my mom started when she saw something irregular with my brother and me. She didn't know whether to say Pete or Dud, which usually worked because we worked havoc together. I liked it best when she said Pete first because he was always the worst offender. He was more daring, but I could think up the worst schemes and plead ignorance, but moms seem to know all about raising boys.

The main thing is to know that families are special and there's a lot of love to go around.

*(Roger Stanley is a lifelong resident of Edgar County, an author and retired farmer. Email him at rogerstanley769@yahoo.com)*

## LEE

FROM PAGE 3B

methods with that in mind.” Days before returning to St. Louis, Lee wrote glowingly of the Rock Island area.

“I need not tell you what a beautiful country it is and I think at some time, some future day, must be a great one,” he declared in a letter to a friend on Oct. 11, 1837. “You

would scarcely recognize it. Villages have sprung up everywhere and some quite pretty ones, too...Some ten years hence, many...will have grown into cities. The formation of a good channel through these rapids will be of immense advantage to the country.”

Obviously, Lee liked Rock Island much better than St. Louis, which he called, “the dreariest and dirtiest place I was ever in.”

Lee's findings aided in future

endeavors along the river, notably the construction of the first bridge across the Mississippi in April 1856. That span, built for the Rock Island Railroad, was the subject of a celebrated lawsuit later that year after the steamer Effie Afton collided with the bridge, sparking a fire that destroyed both the boat and the bridge.

The Rock Island hired Springfield attorney Abraham Lincoln, who successfully argued the railroad had as much

right to cross the river as steamboats had to sail on it.

One of Lee's recommendations was ignored by the government.

“He suggested that pilots be placed in Davenport and LeClaire to drive the boats through the rapids,” said Eaton. “He thought that pilots should be stationed along the rapids as government employees, and be hired to sail boats through that stretch. The government didn't do that, but years later, commercial entities did the same thing, in private industry.”

In the end, Lee's findings both underestimated the time and money it would take to improve the rapids. His figure of \$500,000 was far off the final price tag of \$5 million, and the work was not completed for years. Still, his legacy in the region is clear.

“Just the fact that he did the initial work of planning and surveying the rapids provided a baseline for others to start cleaning up the rapids,” concluded Eaton. “That helped lead to the bridge in 1856, and went on to have a sizable impact in the area.”

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## Weekly outlook on market hogs

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA — The USDA's September Hogs and Pigs Report places the Sept. 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs at 79.1 million head, a record for this quarter, up just 0.7% from last year and slightly above the average pre-report estimate of 0.3% higher but still within the expected range. While down 0.7% from last quarter, the record for this quarter on its own could be viewed as a continuation of industry expansion, according to Jason Franken, agricultural economist at Western Illinois University.

"However, the somewhat higher-than-anticipated inventory basically reflects a market hog inventory that, at 0.8% higher than a year ago, is also just above pre-report expectations of 0.6% higher, while the breeding herd is down 1.5%,

compared to expectations of 1.1% to 3.3% lower," Franken said. "That is, for two consecutive quarters, the cutting of the breeding herd in response to low prices may be signaling oncoming industry contraction; even if it is not as strong of a response as anticipated."

The decline in lighter-weight-class hogs partly reflects the June-August pig crop — though not as small as the anticipated 4.9% drop — was almost 3.5% smaller than last year, with nearly 2.9% fewer sows farrowed and 11.04 pigs saved per litter — or about 0.6% lower than the 11.11 pigs per litter for the same period last year.

"With annual averages of 10.68 and 10.98 pigs per litter in 2018 and 2019, respectively, this year will almost certainly continue the upward trend observed over the last decade. The

smaller pig crop should imply a similarly smaller slaughter this winter," Franken said.

"Farrowing intentions for the fall and winter, respectively, are down about 5% and 1% from the prior year. The projected drop for the fall, in particular, may be a bit large with only a 1.5% reduction in the breeding herd, and hence, may underestimate actual realized farrowings," he added.

"Last June's Hogs and Pigs Report estimated summer farrowing intentions to be 5% lower than the previous year with a 1.3% smaller breeding herd but, as noted above, only 2.9% fewer sows were farrowed. Still, the numbers suggest that producers have responded to lower prices and the possibility that COVID-19 could again constrain slaughter rates and demand."

Franken explained if

slaughter facilities that were previously shut down due to COVID-19 concerns are able to continue operating at current slaughter rates or higher, there is plenty of room in cold storage, as it has not yet been replenished since being pulled down earlier during the pandemic. According to last week's USDA cold storage report, cold stocks of pork on Aug. 31 are up 2% from the previous month but down 23% from a year ago. Poultry stocks are up 1% from last month but down 2% a year ago, while beef is up 5% from last month and down 2% from last year.

The USDA has revised its forecast of U.S. per capita pork consumption in 2020 back up to 51 pounds per person from its earlier estimate of 50.4, with the number dropping back to 50.6 pounds per person in 2021. Prior to COVID-19, U.S.

per capita pork consumption reached 52.4 pounds in 2019 or the highest it has been since it was 54.2 pounds in 1981. With fairly stable domestic demand expected, exports remain the big wildcard, Franken noted.

"The big news is that China, Korea, and Japan have temporarily banned pork imports from Germany due to detection of African Swine Fever in wild boars, which could help U.S. exports. While the dollar has been competitive, re-emerging COVID-19 concerns in parts of Europe are causing its value to rise relative to currencies of other countries that may be better suited to supply the pork products previously sourced from Germany," he said.

"Prior to this news, the U.S. exported 555 million pounds of pork in July, or about 2.5%

more than in July of 2019, again largely due to shipments to China and Hong Kong. These shipments and strong exports to Canada and Mexico partly reflect trade deals with these countries, which should continue to be important export markets for U.S. pork. Although the potential for COVID-19 to negatively impact demand remains, U.S. pork exports are still expected to exceed year ago levels."

The USDA estimates U.S. pork exports to be 1.75 and 2 billion pounds in the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2020, or about 16% and 10% greater, respectively, than last year. The first quarter of 2021 is forecast to just exceed the record 2.02 billion pounds for the first quarter of 2020, and the second quarter of 2021 is similarly forecast to be about on pace

See **HOGS**, Page 6B

## Daisy debate: clean now or later?

I saw a lot of pictures of Shasta daisies over the summer on both social



media and professional gardening sites. They are the classic summer flower. Leucanthemum superbum, the Latin name, was developed by Luther Burbank and named for Mount Shasta because its petals were the color of snow.

Most varieties of Shasta daisy are cold hardy and do fine in our growing zone given the right conditions. They love full sun, all day long. If they get some partial shade, they will still bloom, but not as prolifically.

They prefer moist well-drained soil enriched with organic matter. Amend the soil with compost when planting, then top dress with more every spring being careful not to cover the crown. Shasta daisies are prone to root rot in slow draining sites with lots of clay. If that is a problem for some locations, try growing them in raised beds.

Shastas spread by underground rhizomes that spread out from the main plant. Over two or three years the original plant will be gone, and it is time to dig up and replant the satellite daisies, or the following year they may be gone also. It seems like a lot of work, but it gives the opportunity to once again enrich the soil with organic matter.

Deadhead spent flowers as they die to encourage a longer season of bloom. The top growth can be cut back to the ground after a hard freeze in the fall or wait until early spring cleanup the next year.

Speaking of fall or spring

See **PHIPPS**, Page 6B

## 4-H's focus on what matters

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA — In May, Jenna Wheeler and her family — like 4-Hers in Edgar County — had a big decision to make. With a barn full of show pigs and goats bound for the summer showing — and a cascade of cancellations due to coronavirus pandemic — what should the family do?

Raising livestock is expensive, but some of those expenses are offset by prize money and the sale of livestock after the show season. With the immediate future in doubt, the teen told her story on social media.

"My dad looked at me, with tears in his eyes, and said, 'I'll feed these pigs for as long as I need if it means I get to go to the barn and do chores every night with my kids.'"

This same discussion played out in barns across the state as the lingering effects of the health crisis wore on. Though many expressed disappointment when 4-H shows transitioned to an online format, Jenna Wheeler took the long view.

"One day," she wrote, "you're going to age out and close your show box for the last time; I promise you, it's not the banners or shows you'll miss. It's doing chores with your dad."

University of Illinois Extension 4-H animal science specialist Dan Jennings praised the members, families, volunteers and staff who pulled together in response to the pandemic.

"Our 4-H members with livestock projects didn't seem to miss a beat when engaging in opportunities to exhibit online," Jennings said. "While it was not our preferred way of doing things, 4-H members responded well and adapted quickly in a positive manner."

Illinois 4-H includes nearly 24,000 youth whose club membership provides for an exhibition of the skills learned throughout the year in project topics of their choosing. Project enrollment exceeds 275,000.

Exhibitions are held locally in each Illinois county. The best exhibits advance to state competition. The pandemic forced all 4-H exhibitions to an online format — including the 4-H state project show normally held during the Illinois State Fair.

The 2020 virtual state show included 2,270 exhibits — including several from Edgar County — down from 3,013 entrees in 2019. Seventy volunteer judges found creative ways to evaluate projects they could no longer touch or taste.

"While I missed discussing the projects with the 4-Hers in person, especially asking them about specific choices, I was truly impressed with the quality of the work they had done," said second-year judge Patti Welander.



Special to The Prairie Press  
**Cooper Kuglin of Head, Heart and Hands Horse and Pony. Kuglin is champion in the Barrels category.**



Special to The Prairie Press  
**Paedyn Keys' swine were named Grand Champion in the Market Barrow and Grand Champion Breeding Gilt in the Purebred Gilt/Spotted Poland China groups. Others won blue ribbons. Keys is a member of Stratton Jr. Farmers. Keys herself won Champion in Jr. Swine Showmanship.**

"Because of their project reports, we were able to have a virtual dialogue, and most showed true insights into what they had learned and what they could improve. While I hope to be back in-person next year, the quality of the work shows that our 4-H members rose to the occasion of a virtual fair."

For Illinois 4-H, shows were only one aspect of a year of disrupted routines.

"We have been so inspired by the resilience of our 4-H youth and the support of our 4-H families and volunteers during this challenging time," said Lisa Diaz, Illinois Extension assistant dean and director of Illinois 4-H. "I am proud of the adaptability and perseverance demonstrated in Illinois 4-H that allowed us to continue our summer

competitions and events online."

Many 4-H participants looked for the positive. Members in Clark, Crawford and Edgar Counties received a commemorative shirt for participating in the virtual fair. The front reads: "Our Head, Heart, and Hands are still there and our Health is safe!"

For members in Champaign, Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties, their shirt read: "I can do Virtually Anything in 4-H." In southwest Illinois, youth in the virtual science camp in Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Counties received a shirt with a mask and the text: "Making the Best Better, Quarantine Style."

Across the state, 4-H members cared for community gardens, made masks

See **4-H**, Page 6B

## Perilous Bounty is a journey well worth taking

Some books are worth more in the hand and on the shelf than they are as electrons in an e-reader. These books, and their authors, are valued friends and we return to them often for information, advice and comfort.



**ALAN GUEBERT**  
FARM AND FOOD FILE

Two downsizing moves in the last 15 years have pared my library to a few shelves of books I need and a few shelves of books I want. The books I need include dictionaries. The books I want are works by John McPhee, David Halberstam, Wendell Berry, David McCullough and Aldo Leopold.

These friends tell compelling stories simply and take me to places I didn't know I wanted, or even needed, to go.

Tom Philpott's newly published book, "Perilous Bounty: The Looming Collapse of American Farming and How We Can Prevent It," is bucking for a space in that latter group.

As its title suggests, Bounty is a fact-filled tour through today's paradoxical world of Big Ag. Philpott drives the bus from California orchards to Iowa cornfields to corporate suites and he has plenty of company along the way: hardworking farmers, exasperated extension agents, brave ag innovators and a few corporate CEOs.

Almost everywhere he stops, however, he and the experts find compounding evidence that today's production-focused agriculture is swiftly burning through the very resources, mostly soil and water, it needs to sustain itself and us.

The lesson at every stop is obvious: there's nothing

See **BOOK**, Page 6B

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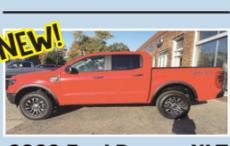
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## HOGS

FROM PAGE 5B

with the second quarter of 2020. Hence, export demand is expected to remain high.

“Even with strong domestic and export demand, the large number of nearly market-ready hogs and the lower-than-anticipated decrease in breeding inventory are likely to constrain prices for the remainder of 2020, with greater profit potential in 2021,” Franken stated.

“The forecast presented here is for the national weighted average net price on a carcass basis for all transactions for producer-sold barrows and gilts, including negotiated and contract prices,” he said. “This net price should be more reflective of what producers receive, on average, and normally runs at a premium of more than \$2/cwt over the base price on average. This net price averaged \$56.23/cwt for June, July, and August compared to \$34.49/cwt for the corresponding net prices for negotiated or spot transactions.”

Hog prices typically drop seasonally from the third to fourth quarters, with much of that ground regained over the next two quarters. Assuming the U.S. picks up some export demand due to bans on imports of German pork, this forecast diverges from that pattern with somewhat higher fourth quarter prices

at about \$64.15/cwt, reflecting that strong export demand tempered by slaughter capacity constraints, Franken explained.

“Of course, prices could rise even further if concerns for slaughtering bottlenecks, with the projected large inventories of nearly market-ready hogs, prove unwarranted. For the first three quarters of 2021, prices are forecast to rise seasonally to \$70.79/cwt, \$73.24/cwt, and \$79.19/cwt. However, if during that time, China’s hog production recovers sufficiently from its own bout with African Swine Fever, then export demand may be insufficient to reach these price projections,” he said.

## BOOK

FROM PAGE 5B

cheap and bountiful about today’s cheap and bountiful food.

Philpott, a farmer before establishing himself as a respected ag journalist, highlights how recent technologies like deep well irrigation, genetically modified seeds and concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) have helped to make food plentiful and less costly.

At the same time, though, each has cost our natural resources far more and the tab for this extractive food system is already coming due.

For example, Philpott begins his journey in California’s almost perfect Central Valley. Almost perfect in that it will grow anything from almonds to alfalfa, if there’s enough water.

Therein lies the rub.

In a normal year, this 11.5-million-acre, \$49 billion desert-agriculture empire is a thirsty beast. In 2014, for instance, its almond trees alone used three times more water than the city of Los

Angeles. How long will that nutty inequity be tolerated?

Now fold in climate change.

Water is also a key issue in Philpott’s travels through Iowa, where unfolding acres of corn and soybeans are called a triumph of high technology. But that triumph didn’t come cheap.

If “American capitalism has turned [California] ... into, essentially, a massive fruit-and-vegetable factory,” relates the author, the Iowa landscape is the most, “impressive and brutal example I’d seen of humanity’s will to reorder landscapes to whims ...”

By itself, that observation almost perfectly captures the disorder that most ag outsiders see in today’s deeply-reordered farms and ranches: our need to dominate nature has made some of us rich, but it’s not going to feed our grandchildren.

And yet we celebrate — and our farm programs richly reward — this consumptive system. It’s an accounting trick that can’t work too much longer before Midwest farming drives

off an ecological cliff.

Before that happens, Philpott urges readers to advocate for a more balanced approach to farming like fewer CAFOs and more mixed crop/livestock farms, less monocultures and more cover crops, more local markets for food and farm goods and fewer production subsidies that, in the end, largely fuel transnational corporations.

While none of these ideas are new — Wendell Berry’s “The Gift of Good Land” similarly urged all farmers to accept and live within limits 40 years ago — Philpott believes there’s a new urgency for change that markets and farmers either can’t or won’t fix.

Others — largely ag outsiders — however, can and will, and when they do, bet that there will be a copy of “Perilous Bounty” on their bookshelves.

(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.)

## 4-H

FROM PAGE 5B

and face shields, provided backpack meals for youth and seniors and visited with nursing home residents from outside closed windows.

With the closing of many recreational facilities, outdoor activities increased. Illinois 4-H responded with a

sportsman skills challenge and a virtual fishing contest.

“What better way to have some family bonding time than getting outdoors exploring and learning survival skills,” said April Littig, Extension 4-H youth educator.

4-H teaches life skills and adapting to unexpected changes has been a part of everyone’s life, this year, Diaz says.

“We hope the young people see this as part of their life’s journey,” she concluded.

## PHIPPS

FROM PAGE 5B

cleanup, it is time for the opinions to start flooding in. Is it better to remove all summer growth leaving a tidy, flat surface for winter? Or, is it better to leave everything in place until late winter or early spring?

The former helps with disease control and is recommended for vegetable gardens for that reason. Also, some gardeners like that put to bed finished tidiness look.

Leaving garden debris in the garden over winter also has some benefits. It provides cover for various stages of beneficial insects. It supplies an insulating layer that helps prevent frost heaving, and traps additional leaves for even more winter protection. Perennials with rigid stems or an architectural form supply winter interest in the landscape. The gardener gets to decide which works best for each site.

For questions about fall cleanup, call the U of I Extension Master Gardeners of Edgar County at 217-465-8585 and leave a message.

(Jan Phipps is a master gardener and a member of the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners of Edgar County. Email her at jan-hipps@gmail.com.)

# YIELD [+]

## results

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# PATCHETT

FROM PAGE 1B  
 soup or make a yummy side dish. Roasting butternut squash in the middle of winter warms up the kitchen, as well. An easy way to fix butternut squash is to wash the outside and then cut in half and scoop out the seeds. Place it on a shallow baking pan and roast till soft when pricked with a fork. Scoop the insides and use like mashed sweet potatoes. Another method I use is to peel the outside of the

squash with a vegetable peeler and then cut in half and scoop out seeds. Cut the raw squash in bite size chunks and cook in microwave or conventional oven until done. Store the chunks of precooked squash in a Ziploc® freezer bag, and a squash side dish, using only the amount needed, is ready for a future meal. Try it instead of a potato for the next dinner. Looking on the Internet for a rice pilaf recipe, I came across this one and chose it because it was called Sarah's

Orzo/Rice Pilaf. A good friend of mine is named Sarah and she makes amazing food. I thought I would try it and then send her an email and tell her I enjoyed a dish named after her. Toasting the orzo gives the dish a nutty flavor so those who have a problem with nuts will find this recipe suffices with that nut taste. Couscous is another tasty dish that can be used in place of potatoes to complete a meal. This couscous salad is so good, in my opinion, I want to eat it like

dessert Everyone expresses hope that things will go back to normal. I am not sure that will ever happen completely. If potatoes have always been a person's normal, now is the time to try a new dish. Consider it as an education for the family by increasing their palate with something different. (Ruth Patchett is a resident of rural Brocton, a retired teacher and is famous for her pies. Email her at rpweib1@gmail.com.)

# Puzzles

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

## Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

# CROSSWORD

- Across**
- Recurring TV show
  - Throws out
  - Iberian Peninsula microstate
  - Gossip
  - Atomic #20
  - Ivy League institution
  - Of I
  - "He Is \_\_\_!": Scripture excerpt
  - Musical genre
  - Heavy cavalry sword
  - Ancient Olympic Site
  - Satisfies
  - Popular flower
  - Shared services center
  - Drain
  - A way to attack
  - Urban Transit Authority
  - Spiritual leader
  - Postponed
  - N. American plant with edible purple-black berries
  - Gazes unpleasantly
  - Gets up
  - Capital of Ukraine
  - Returned material authorization (abbr.)
  - Golf score
  - Superhigh frequency
  - Swiss river
  - Felons
  - Succulent plants
  - Soluble ribonucleic acid
  - Deliberately setting fire to
  - Infamous singer Zadora
  - Anwar \_\_, Egyptian statesman
  - Influential sports mag
  - Aromatic Mediterranean plant
  - Sixth note of a major scale
  - Unit of explosive power
  - Large watertight chamber
  - Popular street
  - A way of watering

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14						15
16			17					18					19	
20		21				22			23		24			
25					26			27		28				
29				30				31		32		33		
		34	35					36		37				
38	39								40					
41				42				43						
44				45		46		47			48	49	50	
51			52		53		54			55				
56				57		58				59				
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66							67			68		
	69								70					

**Clues down**

- Mollusks
- , \_ denotes past
- Anchor ropes
- Large Middle Eastern country
- To make a mistake
- Ancient governor
- Extents
- Chinese surname
- NYC subway "residents"
- Essential oil used as perfume
- A way to treat injuries (abbr.)
- Session
- Units of land areas
- Goes over once more
- Where wrestlers work
- Italian islanders
- Avenue
- \_\_ Adams, U.S. founding father
- Rest with legs bent
- Type of flour
- The Golden State (abbr.)
- More (Spanish)
- Stinging, winged insect
- The use of irony to mock
- Arsenals
- Pouch
- 22nd letter of the
- Greek alphabet
- Violent seizure of property
- Restrict
- Something comparable to another
- Punishment device made from stems
- Soul and calypso songs
- Formerly OSS
- Athabaskan language
- \_\_ bene: observe carefully
- Six (Spanish)
- Chinese philosophical principle
- American conglomerate
- Tin

# Food pantry drive seeks cash donations

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

October is the usual month the Newman and Murdock Methodist Churches along with the communities collect nonperishable items for the local Rural Grace Food Pantry in Murdock. Due to COVID,

only monetary donations can be accepted this year. Donations may be made by Nov. 1 to a person's local participating church or checks made out to Rural Grace Food Pantry and mailed to Ted Shearer 1185 N CR 1600 E Villa Grove, IL. 61956.

# Illinois Extension offers a variety of webinars

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

Online learning for all residents of Illinois is possible with free webinars provided by the University of Illinois Extension. Here are some upcoming options:  
 Oct 13, 1:30 p.m., Creating a Bottle Terrarium.  
 Oct 14, 10 a.m., Managing Diabetes in a Modern World.

Oct. 14, noon, Understanding How to Read a Nutrition Label.  
 Oct. 15, 6:30 p.m., Discovering Caregiving looks at the losses and mixed emotions that come as a caregiver to another person.  
 More information about these, and other extension programs, is available at extension.illinois.edu

# PASTOR

FROM PAGE 1B  
 God in prayer. Joshua prayed frequently. On one occasion, he prayed asking God to stop the sun and the moon, and God answered his prayer immediately. The sun stopped its movement, and Joshua and his men won the battle. (Joshua 10:12-15.) Prophet Daniel prayed at least three times a day. (Daniel chapter 6). Reading the Bible, we can find that many other people from the Old and New Testaments also dedicated quality time to talk with God in prayer. Jesus is the best example for us to follow a life of prayer. Jesus prayed in solitary places like the Garden of the Olives. He also invited his disciples to pray with him, but many times his disciples were not willing to spend time praying with him. Once a man brought his son to Jesus' disciples because his son was tormented by demons. The disciples prayed, but they could not do anything for the boy, because they prayed without faith. When Jesus came, everything changed, and immediately, the boy was set free. When the disciples asked Jesus why they were un-

able to cast out the demons, Jesus replied, "This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." (Matthew 17:21)  
 Many positive things can happen in our lives and in the lives of other people if we take time to pray. I invite anyone who is reading this article to dedicate at least 10 to 15 minutes every day to talk with God in prayer. I also invite people to take a day a week to fast. A Christian who takes time to pray, read the Bible, meditate in the word of God and to fellowship with other Christians, is a person who will see the glory of God in everything he or she does.  
 Let us take time to pray and fast this month and see God working in our lives. Pray for self, for family, for our churches and our communities. Let's take time to pray for spiritual and physical healing. Let us take time to pray for the people who are on the front line fighting against this COVID-19. Let us take time to pray for the future of this nation.  
 Blessings.  
 (The Rev. Pablo Marty is pastor at the First United Methodist Church. Email him at martyzo@aol.com. Pastor's Perspective is provided by the Paris Ministerial Fellowship.)

# CODGER

FROM PAGE 1B  
 sat at her desk working on a future lesson. Will suddenly detected a drippy nose. Very quickly and silently he slipped a hanky out of his shirt pocket. His intent was to clean his nose of mucous rather than just dab a wipe, so he blew with force while covering the nostrils to hopefully minimize any sound. Some people's nose blows sound like foghorns. Will tried to avoid that.  
 For whatever reason (and there must be a detailed explanation in the world of physics), pressure to nose was sealed and stifled so effectively that corresponding pressure was transferred to another available orifice with less resistance, resulting in a loud blap, an air-ripping explosion of flatulence enduring for at least three seconds like peals of rolling thunder in a

violent storm. Everyone heard. Everyone instantly identified the guilty offender. Big Will drooped his head, studying a thorough visual examination of the wood grain on his desk while his face turned purplish red like a freshly ripened beet in a September garden.  
 Miss Muntain somehow unbelievably clenched her teeth and bit her tongue to hold back any noticeable reaction. Amazingly, there were only a few snickers from individual students. They saved their remarks and bursts of laughter for later in the hallway. That's a superb display of discipline.  
 The whole affair was like the time Alice Faye McDade attempted to inflate a balloon in health class. When she tried to blow inward, flatulence blew outward, but the students weren't as well disciplined. They cackled loudly. Alice Faye's reaction was the same as Will's though. She turned the same color of red.  
 (Allen "Big Al" Englebright is a retired schoolteacher and storyteller. Contact him at The Prairie Press, 101 N. Main, Paris, Ill., 61944.)

**GOT NEWS?**  
 Call Nancy & Gary!  
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	S	E	R	I	E	S		S	C	R	A	P	S			
A	N	D	O	R	R	A		C	H	A	T	T	E	R		
C	A		D	A	R	T	M	O	U	T	H		M	E		
R	I	S	E	N		R	A	P		S	A	B	E	R		
E	L	I	S		S	A	T	E	S		R	O	S	E		
S	S	C		S	A	P		S	I	C		U	T	A		
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R	M	A		P	A	R				S	H	F		A	A	R
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A	R	S	O	N		P	I	A		S	A	D	A	T		
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M	E	G	A	T	O	N				C	A	I	S	S	O	N
	S	E	S	A	M	E				H	O	S	I	N	G	

**EDGAR COUNTY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING**

Edgar County Highway Department  
12637 E 950th Rd.  
Paris, Illinois October 15, 2020  
9:00 a.m.

**AGENDA**

1. Call To Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment
5. Field Trip to the Ameren Substation, Kansas, IL, to View Installation of High Voltage Power Lines. NO Action Will Be Taken.
6. Adjourn

**LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a request, signed by at least one-third (1/3) of the Members of the Edgar County Board for a SPECIAL MEETING to be held at the Edgar County Highway Department, 12637 E 950th Rd. Paris, Illinois, on October 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m has been filed in the County Clerk's Office, for the purpose of:

1. Field Trip to the Ameren Substation, Kansas, IL, to View Installation of High Voltage Power Lines. NO Action Will Be Taken

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of October, 2020

 (Seal)  
Edgar County Clerk

**POWELL**  
FROM PAGE 3B

much of Illinois south of Springfield, and usually demanded funding for Chicago or other northern locales receive quid pro quo for his beloved southern Illinois.

He also advocated legislation for mental health and education and was a fierce proponent of his regional institution of higher learning, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

"Powell is the reason that SIU became a major university," said Pensoneau. "He was the one who made the decision that this little school in Carbondale was going to become a major institution. Then he expected that all funding sent to the University of Illinois would be matched dollar-for-dollar with SIU. He's the godfather of that campus in Carbondale, without question."

As secretary of state, Powell strengthened high school driver's education and made Illinois the first state in the nation to publish a Bicycle Rules of the Road booklet for elementary students. He also published an automobile Rules of the Road booklet for Spanish-speakers.

Under Illinois law, the Sec-

retary of State also serves as ex-officio State Librarian, and Powell is remembered as one of the best friends the State Library — and Illinois librarianship — ever had.

"He was a political legend well before the shoebox," said Pensoneau. "There was nearly-blind loyalty accorded to him by both Republicans and Democrats, and downstaters just loved him, like his many employees did. He had some detractors, but there weren't many of them, particularly in southern Illinois. He was just a canny old fox."

Like many politicians of the time, Powell knew how to work the media.

"When I first arrived in Springfield, at Christmas each year, reporters were given a lot of gifts," said Pensoneau. "I'm not saying that was ethical. But reporters would get lots of liquor, food items, big hams, and so on. That was from the governor on down, including Powell and everyone else."

Over 50 years later, Pensoneau said he kept only one of those gifts.

"It was a thin red tie from Paul Powell," he laughs. "That's the only one I still have."

Powell was widely known for his down-home persona, with an ability to remember names and make small talk. In 1971, the New York Times reported that Powell, "back-slapped, hand-shook, and wheeled and dealed," and "could ooze down-home charm."

He was fond of folksy sayings, like, "if you can't get dinner, take a sandwich," and "I smelled the meat-a-cookin." But one of Powell's favorite phrases proved prophetic. "There's only one thing worse than a defeated politician," he often said, "and that's a broke politician."

Powell lived in Room 546 of the St. Nicholas Hotel on Fourth Street in Springfield, a two-room suite that most describe as mundane. The New York Times, meanwhile, labeled it tacky. He also kept a suite at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago — where Daisy had resided — as well as an unassuming apartment on North 15th Street in Springfield.

Much of his time was spent with his secretary, Margaret Hensey, a divorcee who was 48 at the time of Powell's death and was paid \$18,000 a year. Most observers — then and now — believe that Powell and Hensey were romantically involved.

Hensey was with Powell when he died, at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., where he was seeking treatment for a heart ailment. It was his second trip to Mayo

in a month, as he first entered the clinic on Sept. 14, 1970, returned to Springfield briefly, then checked in again on Oct. 8. Hensey found Powell dead, sitting at a table in the living room of their two-bed suite in Minnesota around 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10.

In early January 1971, Nicholas Ciaccio, a Powell assistant, admitted he had flown charter from Springfield to Rochester, picked up Hensey, and returned to Powell's office to remove files and sealed envelopes containing \$50,000.

A service was held in the Capitol Building on October 13. Two days later, another service for Powell were conducted in Vienna, with Harry S. Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson among the honorary pallbearers.

Late in the afternoon of the Capitol service, John Rendleman, the well-regarded chancellor of Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and the executor of Powell's estate, entered Powell's room at the St. Nicholas with Hensey.

On the floor of a closet were containers holding more than \$750,000 in cash, mostly \$100 bills. Some of the cash was stuffed inside a Christmas-themed Marshall Field's shoebox, with a lid of holiday-gold color and a light green bottom.

That shoebox has become synonymous with the Powell saga, but in truth, it only held a fraction of the cash. Indeed, it would be physically impossible for that much money to be stored in a single shoebox.

The exact nature of the other containers is debated. Rendleman's son, John Jr., who is today a Carbondale attorney, said there were at least two shoeboxes, at least two briefcases and at least one strongbox. A Chicago Tribune account described the containers as the shoebox, two leather briefcases and three steel strongboxes.

John Rendleman Sr., who was never accused of wrongdoing, became an unwitting player in a drama that lasted eight years until Powell's estate was settled. Rendleman died from lung cancer in 1976. As he examined Powell's room, he was joined in the suite by movers, who posed a security problem, since Rendleman had to secure the money safely.

As a result, he made several trips downstairs, carrying part of the money each time, to the trunk of his car, a Cadillac which belonged to his father, close Powell friend Ford Rendleman. But the car had been left in a no-parking zone.

On his last trip, Rendleman found the car had been towed — with the money still in the trunk. Fortunately for Rendleman, he found the impound yard, paid the \$20 fee, and managed to drive off with Powell's fortune in the trunk, undisturbed.

In addition to the cash, other items found in Powell's suite included: 154 shirts; more than a dozen transistor radios, new and still wrapped; at least 30 cases of whiskey; two chest drawers of matchbooks; and two cases of creamed corn.

Rendleman was shell-shocked by whole scenario, later saying, "This has been the damndest experience a man ever had."

However, the public did not learn of the shoebox for weeks afterward.

The story was broken in the Southern Illinoisan, a Carbondale daily, on Dec.30, with an in-depth interview with Rendleman. Until then, Rendleman had told only two individuals about Powell's money — Illinois Attorney General William Scott and Paul Simon, then the lieutenant governor.

The subsequent investigation into the estate turned up plenty of eye-popping revelations. A good chunk of Powell's money had come from the horse racing industry. He owned a total of 61,290 shares in at least five harness and thoroughbred tracks. Assets were held in banks statewide, not to mention in the shoebox and the other containers at the St. Nicholas.

All told, Powell's estate was valued at over \$3 million, a total that soared with interest and appreciation to over \$4.6 million by late 1974 — over \$24.2 million in today's dollars. Powell's salary as Secretary of State was never more than \$30,000 a year — and his

annual pay as a legislator had averaged \$6,000. The story captured the imagination of the state as everyone wanted to know, where did the money come from?

"There were so many theories about that," recalled Pensoneau. "We in the press corps were kept busy for weeks, trying to figure that out. We'd report on theories, and looked at the story from every angle. But no one was able to pin down, beyond a doubt, where all the money came from."

A significant part of Powell's money came from his race-track interests, much of it that he acquired on cheap insider prices while in the legislature. The investigation also turned up a string of bribes.

In 1974, three Chicago men were indicted for bribing Powell with \$80,000 for a contract to manufacture license plates. A former purchasing agent testified that Powell received \$40,000 in bribes from him.

There was also a deal with a heating and air conditioning contractor for the Capitol building, which produced \$90,000 in bribe money for Powell. Several individuals were sent to prison for their roles in the bribes.

Some of the cash in Powell's hoard was wrapped in binding from the former Southmoor Bank and Trust of Chicago, which had been at the center of the embezzlement scandal of former state auditor Orville Hodge in 1956, resulting in a prison term of his own.

Powell and Hodge were friends. Powell sometimes wore Hodge's hand-me-down shirts, complete with an "O.H." monogram. Powell also visited Hodge in prison, believed to be the only state official to do so. No definite financial connection was pinpointed between Powell and Hodge.

When it came to making money, Powell left no stone unturned. When drivers wanted to apply for a low-number license plate, Powell often kept the fees for himself.

Then there were the soda vending machines in the Capitol Complex, 18 in all — which were never under a state contract. The money collected from the machines went straight to Powell. So whenever anyone in the Capitol wanted to quench their thirst, Paul Powell was profiting from it.

Despite the scandal, many in Springfield and elsewhere still remember Powell fondly.

"I know about the shoebox and all that stuff," said one retired State Library employee. "But I always liked Powell. He was good to work for and good to his employees." Another former state worker still refers to Powell as, "my good friend."

When Powell's estate was finally settled in 1978, there were 136 named beneficiaries. The IRS received \$1.5 million, while the Illinois Department of Revenue got \$322,000. The sum of \$222,215 was approved as an inheritance tax. Another \$100,000 went to the state's general fund, while \$200,000 was given to the Johnson County Historical Society, which maintains a museum in Powell's old home in Vienna.

The museum does not hold the infamous shoebox. John Rendleman Jr. possesses the box — at least part of it. Today, only the lid remains, still wrapped in tape from the Illinois Bureau of Investigations. His wife accidentally threw away the rest a few years ago.

The award to the museum was included in a total of \$1.6 million set aside for the Illinois State Historical Society and the Illinois State Museum. Despite Powell's reputation as a devoted champion of library causes, the Illinois State Library was not included in the settlement.

Hensey received 15,800 shares that Powell held in the Chicago Downs Association. Her total share in cash and property was over \$700,000. She reportedly also received Powell's 1969 Buick. Hensey died in Springfield in 1999.

Among the beneficiaries were the Democratic central committees of each of the 102 counties in Illinois, which received \$200 each. The party committees of both the state and Cook County received \$10,000 each.

Whether in life or death, Paul Powell knew how to work the base.



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**\$100 VISA® Reward Debit Card:** \$100 Visa® reward debit card requires service activation. You will receive a claim voucher via email within 24 hours and the voucher must be returned within 60 days. Your \$100 Visa® reward debit card will arrive in approximately 6-8 weeks. Card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. No cash access or recurring payments. Can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. Card valid for up to 6 months; unused funds will forfeit after the valid thru date. Card terms and conditions apply. **BASIC SYSTEM:** \$99 Installation, 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$1,007.64). **24-Month Monitoring Agreement** required at \$27.99 per month (\$671.76) for California. Offer applies to homeowners only. Basic system requires landline phone. Offer valid for new ADT Authorized Premier Provider customers only and not on purchases from ADT LLC. Cannot be combined with any other offer. The \$27.99 offer does not include Quality Service Plan (QSP), ADT's Extended Limited Warranty, ADT Command: ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Pulse"), which help you manage your home environment and family lifestyle, require the purchase and/or activation of an ADT alarm system with monitored burglary service and a compatible computer, cell phone or PDA with Internet and email access. These ADT Pulse services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Pulse equipment. All ADT Pulse services are not available with the various levels of ADT Pulse. All ADT Pulse services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the ADT Pulse features you desire. **ADT VIDEO LITE:** ADT Video Lite installation is an additional \$299. 36-month monitoring contract required from ADT Video Lite: \$59.99 per month, (\$2,159.64), including Quality Service Plan (QSP). Indoor camera may not be available in all areas. **GENERAL:** For all offers, the form of payment must be by credit card or electronic charge to your checking or savings account, satisfactory credit history is required and termination fee applies. Certain packages require approved landline phone. Local permit fees may be required. Certain restrictions may apply. Additional monitoring fees required for some services. For example, Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert monitoring requires purchase and/or activation of an ADT security system with monitored Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert devices and are an additional charge. Additional equipment may be purchased for an additional charge. Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. Prices subject to change. Prices may vary by market. Some insurance companies offer discounts on Homeowner's Insurance. Please consult your insurance company. Photos are for illustrative purposes only and may not reflect the exact product/service actually provided. **Licenses:** AL-21-001104, AR-CMPY0001725, AZ-ROC217517, CA-AC06320, CT-ELC0193944-L5, DC-EMS902653, DC-602516000016, DE-07-212, FL-EC13003427, GA-LVA205395, IA-AS-0206, ID-ELE-SJ-39131, IL-127-001042, IN-C.P.D. Reg. No. — 19-08088, City of Indianapolis: LAC-000156, KY-City of Louisville: 483, LA-F1914, LA-F1915, LA-F1082, MA-1355C, MD-107-1626, ME-LM50017382, MI-3601205773, MN-TS01807, MO-City of St. Louis: CC#354, St. Louis County: 100194, MS-15007958, MT-PSP-ELS-LUC-247, NC-25310-SP-FA/LV, NC-1622-CSA, NE-14451, NJ Burglar Alarm Lic. # -NJ-348F00021800, NM-353366, NV-0068518, City of Las Vegas: 3000008296, NY-Licensed by the N.Y.S. Department of State UID#12000317691, NYS #12000286451, OH-53891446, City of Cincinnati: AC86, OK-AC1048, OR-170997, Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor Registration Number: PA022999, RI-3582, RI-7508, SC-BAC5630, SD- 1025-7001-ET, TN-1520, TX-B13734, ACR-3492, UT-6422596-6501, VA-115120, VT-ES-2382(7C), WA-602588694/ECPROTEHY9H493, WI-City of Milwaukee: PAS-0002966, WV-WV042433, WY-LV-G-21499, 3750 Priority Way South Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46240 ©2020 DEFENDERS, Inc. dba Protect Your Home

**ILLINOIS AUCTIONEERS ASSOCIATION**  
**CALLIE BABER AUCTION CO.**  
232 West Wood Street  
**Online Only Auction**  
**Fall Harvest Sale**  
Bidding opens  
**Thursday, Oct. 8 - Thursday, Oct. 22**  
Begins to close at 6 p.m. (IL)  
*Coins, Silver, Furniture, Primitives & More!*  
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Shelly 217.808.0527

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Service on all types of garage doors. New door sales. Residential & commercial  
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Insured  
References  
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Spring/Summer Sale. Insured. Free estimates.  
Firewood for sale; \$70.00 truck load delivered  
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Power Washing  
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Call Gary 217-264-6444

## GARAGE SALES

**THE ETC. SHOPPE**  
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217-264-1921 or 217-463-2653  
We buy estates or gently used furniture, appliances, electronics, baby furniture, antiques. One item to a complete household. Call Mary Ann today. Open Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. 9 am-5 pm.  
We pay cash!

**HUGE YARD SALE - 15438 E 200TH RD.**  
7 miles south on Route 1  
Sat. Oct 10, 1:00-5:00 & Sun. Oct 11, 8:00-2:00  
Tools, fishing items, Jewel Tea, cast iron, collectibles, and much more! McCarty's

## HELP WANTED

**Carpenter Help** - Some experience or willing to learn. Call 217-712-0429

**Effingham Equity** in Marshall is accepting applications for seasonal help for Seasonal Facility Labor and Drivers with Class A CDL or individuals willing to obtain Class A CDL.  
(If Interested in obtaining CDL, please apply ASAP) Retirees are encouraged to apply. To apply, please contact Marshall Equity Office at (217) 826-6331.

**Looking for a fun career?**  
Pleasant Meadows Senior Living Activity Department is hiring for full-time, part-time and prn positions. We offer daytime hours which requires working every other weekend and some holidays. If you are interested please fill out a resume at indeed.com or send it to ad@pleasantmeadows.org and please make sure that you specify activities.

**Pretium Packaging** - Hiring for Multiple positions. Day & Night shifts available. Contact HR at 217-463-6600, ext 7305

**Milk Specialties** hiring for Packaging Operators. Starting pay \$14 hr.  
Vacation and paid holidays  
Medical, dental, vision, life insurance  
401K company match  
Apply online www.milkspecialties.com/careers  
or visit at 1977 S Central Ave.

**I need an experienced handy man** to do work on the inside of a house. Call 812-230-3885

## HOUSES FOR RENT

**Mobile Home in country** - 3 bdrm 2 bath, big yard, in Crestwood School district. No inside pets. Call 217-466-0220

**2&3 Bedroom Mobile Home.**  
Gas, electric, water can be

include in rent, deposit, washer & dryer and AC maybe included. 217-463-8800, leave msg.

## APARTMENTS

**Freshly renovated 1 and 2 BR apts.** Water & trash included. Great location! No pets.  
217-264-9634

## MISCELLANEOUS

**2004 Tilt Bed Single Axle Utility Trailer.** It's 6 1/2' x 12' and deck boards are treated. Tires have less than 50 miles on them. \$800 Call 217-465-5401 and leave a message.

**\*\*\*THE BOAT DOCK\*\*\***  
We Buy & Consign Used Boats! Springfield, Illinois 217-771-4054 www.theboatdock.com

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**FOR SALE** - Sawdust & firewood  
We deliver or you can pick it up. Call 217-662-2563

**FOR SALE** - Over 100 Penthouse and over 100 old Playboy magazines from the 70's, 80's, & 90's. Text 217-251-2424

**WANTED TO BUY**  
Freon Wanted: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-598-1758 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

**FOR SALE** - Fake Martin guitar  
See at 614 Liberty St, Paris, IL

## LEGALS

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS**  
**Plaintiff,**  
**vs.**  
**TROY L. TURNER, WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN MORTGAGE TRUST MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, REALTAX DEVELOPERS, LTD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS**  
**Defendants.**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS**  
**No. 2020-MR-52**

LIS PENDENS NOTICE COMPLAINT FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE AND DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS AND/OR TRANSFER OF TITLE FOR ABANDONED BUILDING  
**Notice is hereby given to TROY L. TURNER, WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN MORTGAGE TRUST MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, REALTAX DEVELOPERS, LTD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS that a Complaint has been filed in the above entitled cause on September 10, 2020, requesting abatement of nuisance, demolition of unsafe buildings, declaration the property is abandoned, transfer of title, and other further relief. (i) The name of the Plaintiff and the case number are identified above. (ii) The Court in which said action was brought is identified above. (iii) The names of the title holder of record is TROY L. TURNER. (iv) The legal description of the subject real estate is:**

The West Half of Lot No. 5 in James B. Crawford's Addition to the City of Paris, Edgar County, Illinois EXCEPT the North 5 Rods of Even Width thereof.  
PREIN: 09-18-01-406-011  
**(v) Common address of subject**

**real estate is:**  
317 E. Crawford, Paris, Illinois.

TROY L. TURNER, WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN MORTGAGE TRUST MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, REALTAX DEVELOPERS, LTD, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS are hereby served by Publication of this Notice. Unless they file an answer to the Complaint in this case or otherwise make an appearance in this case on or before October 26, 2020, a default judgment may be entered against TROY L. TURNER, WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN MORTGAGE TRUST MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, REALTAX DEVELOPERS, LTD, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS at any time after that day in accordance with the remedies requested in the Complaint.

ANGELA R. BARRETT  
Circuit Clerk

**FRUIN & KASH**  
**Richard M. Kash, Jr.**  
**129 North Central Avenue**  
**Paris, IL 61944**  
**Telephone: (217) 465-4196**  
**Fax: (217) 466-1213**  
**Email: service@fgklaw.net**

## ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on SEPTEMBER 18, 2020, 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 known as:

S & K WELDING

Located at: 115 S AUSTIN ST  
Owner(s): KIMBERLY COX  
Dated: SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

AUGUST H. GRIFFIN  
EDGAR COUNTY CLERK

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**EDGAR COUNTY - PARIS, ILLINOIS - PROBATE DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF**  
**KEITH A. BONWELL**  
**Deceased.**  
**No. 2020-P-35**

## NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION OF CLAIMS

Notice is given to creditors of the death of KEITH A. BONWELL. Letters of Office were issued on September 4, 2020 to Jessica Walsh, 3533 E. Turquoise Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85028, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is L. Kaye DeSelms Dent, DENT LAW OFFICES, LTD., POB 1633, 415 W. Virginia Ave., Effingham, IL 62401.

Claims against the estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before six (6) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by § 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the representative's attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: September 29, 2020

Jessica Walsh,  
Independent Administrator  
By: L. Kaye DeSelms Dent

Storage Express will hold public auctions ending on **October, 20, 2020**, to satisfy liens held on delinquent accounts located at the below properties and ending at the assigned times. The auction is an online auction conducted at www.storageexpress.com.  
**610 E Jasper St, Paris, IL @ 12:00 PM CST**  
BLAKE SAWYER  
309-066  
JESSY L SPENCER  
309-140

## NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT a petition requesting an amendment to the City of Paris Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 29, Series 1968) was filed on July 9, 2020, in the Office of the City Clerk, Paris City Hall, 206 S Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois 61944 to rezone the

following described real estate  
PIN: 09-18-01-483-009

Commonly known as 721 E Crawford Street, Paris, Illinois 61944

Being situated in Edgar County, Illinois, from R-2 Single Family Residential District to C-2 Commercial District, as designated in said zoning ordinance.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT a public hearing before the City Planning Commission on said petition will be held at the Paris City Council Chambers, 206 S Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois 61944, on October 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Dated September 29, 2020

## NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT a petition requesting a variance to amend Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 29, Series 1968) was filed on September 29, 2020, in the Office of the City Clerk, Paris City Hall, 206 S Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois 61944 to ask for a variance on the following property.

PIN: 09-19-06-177-013

Commonly known as 805 E Wood, Paris, IL 61944

Petitioner wishes to receive a variance for the property to allow the construction of an accessory building to the dimensions allowed in the Paris Zoning Ordinance pursuant to the Annexation Agreement with the City of Paris. The change will not be detrimental to the general public interest and the purposes of the subject ordinance and, in fact, shall be an asset to the affected area.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT a public hearing before the City Planning Commission on said petition will be held at the Paris City Council Chambers, 206 S Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois 61944 on October 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Dated September 29, 2020

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS CITY OF PARIS, Plaintiff, vs. TINA MUNDS, Defendant.**  
**No. 2020 -MR- 56**

LIS PENDENS NOTICE COMPLAINT FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE AND DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS AND/OR TRANSFER OF TITLE FOR ABANDONED BUILDING

Notice is hereby given to TINA MUNDS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS that a Complaint has been filed in the above entitled cause on September 17, 2020, requesting abatement of nuisance, demolition of unsafe buildings, declaration the property is abandoned, transfer of title, and other further relief.

(i) The name of the Plaintiff 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 TINA MUNDS. (iv) The legal description of the subject real estate is:

**The South 1-2/3 feet of Lot 2, All of Lot 3 and the North 4-2/3 feet of Lot 4 in M.M. Dills Third Addition to the City of Paris, situated in the County of Edgar,**

**State of Illinois.**  
**PREIN: 09-13-36-381-004**

(v) Common address of subject real estate is:

**622 Vance, Paris, Illinois.**

**TINA MUNDS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS** are hereby served by Publication of this Notice. Unless they file an answer to the Complaint in this case or otherwise make an appearance in this case on or before **November 13, 2020**, a default judgment may be entered against **TINA MUNDS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS** at any time after that day in accordance with the remedies requested in the Complaint.

ANGELA R BARRETT  
Circuit Clerk

FRUIN & KASH  
Richard M. Kash, Jr.  
129 North Central Avenue  
Paris, IL 61944  
Telephone: (217) 465-4196  
Fax: (217) 466-1213  
Email: service@fgklaw.net

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS CITY OF PARIS, Plaintiff, vs LESTER A. ADDCOX, Defendant.**  
**No. 2020 -MR- 57**

LIS PENDENS NOTICE COMPLAINT FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE AND DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS AND/OR TRANSFER OF TITLE FOR ABANDONED BUILDING

Notice is hereby given to **LESTER A. ADDCOX, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS** that a Complaint has been filed in the above entitled cause on September 17, 2020, requesting abatement of nuisance, demolition of unsafe buildings, declaration the property is abandoned, transfer of title, and other further relief.

(i) The name of the Plaintiff 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 **LESTER A. ADDCOX.**  
(iv) The legal description of the subject real estate is:

**The West 60 feet of even width of Lot Number 31 in Jonathan Young's Addition to the Town, now City of Paris.**  
**PREIN: 09-13-36-478-005**

(v) Common address of subject real estate is:  
**517 O'Kalla, Paris, Illinois.**

**LESTER A. ADDCOX, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS** are hereby served by Publication of this Notice. Unless they file an answer to the Complaint in this case or otherwise make an appearance in this case on or before November 13, 2020, a default judgment may be entered against **LESTER A. ADDCOX, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS** at any time after that day in accordance with the remedies requested in the Complaint.

ANGELA R. BARRETT  
Circuit Clerk

FRUIN & KASH  
Richard M. Kash, Jr.  
129 North Central Avenue  
Paris, IL 61944  
Telephone: (217) 465-4196  
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**EDGAR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES & DISASTER AGENCY**  
Request for Proposals  
Edgar County, Illinois  
Edgar County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Edgar County is seeking proposals for professional services from qualified firms or individuals, to create a multi-jurisdictional Edgar County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The firm or individuals awarded a contract will be required to prepare a plan and conduct all necessary work needed to receive approval by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**Proposal Content & Evaluation**

- **Organization Overview:** Includes all the names of individuals who will conduct the work to research and create the Hazard Mitigation Plan including their office location, and a summary of their experience with preparing these types of plans.
- **Scope of Work**
- **Recommended Approach for creating the plan**
- **Schedule**
- **Cost Estimate**
- **Three references**

**Proposals should be sent to:**  
Edgar County ESDA, Jill Taylor, ESDA Coordinator  
P. O. Box 1002 • Paris, IL 61944  
esda@edgarcountyillinois.com

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# Scholarships available through EnerStar

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

Illinois electric cooperatives will award 12 scholarships in 2021 to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 12 scholarships, \$2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Six scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric co-op member. A seventh scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the

son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. Four additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full time at a two-year Illinois community college, who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

The final scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship, helps defray costs to attend lineworker school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College at Springfield. Sons and daughters of co-

op members, relatives of co-op employees or directors, and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for this scholarship.

"We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships," says EnerStar CEO Brent Reyher. "EnerStar and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth and investing in them through programs like this one."

The application deadline for most of the scholarships is Dec. 31. The lineworker scholarship deadline is April 30, 2021. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact EnerStar's Angela Griffin at 1-800-635-4145. Information has also been shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available online at [www.enerstar.com](http://www.enerstar.com).

EnerStar Electric Cooperative serves more than 5,250 meters over 1,492 miles of line in parts of Clark, Coles, Douglas, Edgar and Vermilion counties. For more information visit [www.enerstar.com](http://www.enerstar.com).

# DCFS launches online system to report abuse

**SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS**

CHICAGO — The Department of Children and Family Services enhanced and streamlined its online reporting sys-

tem and optimized its website for easier submissions through mobile phones to make reporting allegations of neglect and abuse even easier for the public and mandated reporters.

The updated site has improved entry fields, clearer instructions and fewer necessary clicks, reducing the time required to make reports and providing a convenient alter-

native to calling the 24-hour hotline.

"Our user-friendly online reporting system makes it easier for everyone to file a report of suspected abuse or neglect, including those whose only access to the internet may be through a smartphone and prefer to file a report through the site," said Illinois DCFS Acting Director Marc D. Smith. "The

earlier suspected abuse or neglect is reported, the earlier we can connect the family to services and supports they need to keep their children safely at home."

During the early months of the coronavirus pandemic while families were secluded at home, children were less likely to be seen by other adults, including mandated reporters such as teachers. Less than 50% of reports of suspected child abuse and neglect were reported in April 2020 compared to April 2019.

Online reports through the enhanced site have quickly increased since its launch, with 434 online reports in the last full week of September compared to 173 filed during the same time in 2019.

The new online reporting system also places reports directly into DCFS' case management system, which increases internal efficiency.

At the same time, the new system is expected to reduce the number of overall calls, requiring fewer return calls at a later time from DCFS staff during high-call volume periods.

To make a report online in a non-emergency situation, visit <https://dcfsonlinereporting.dcf.illinois.gov/>.

# Early VOTING is going on NOW!

**Russ Lawton**  
Republican Candidate  
for  
**Edgar County Board**  
District 7



Paid for by Edgar County Republican Central Committee

**NOTICE OF EARLY VOTING**

**GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

Early Voting for ALL Edgar County Precincts for the General Election will be conducted Sept. 24 through Nov. 2, at the Edgar County Courthouse, 115 W. Court Street, Paris, IL, Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Any vote cast during Early Voting is final and may not be revoked.

**August H. Griffin**  
Edgar County Clerk  
217-466-7433

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