

In the know

Christmas Basket contact info clarified

Edgar County residents seeking Community Nurse Christmas Basket assistance this year may text or call 1-765-505-1918 or email pariscommunitynurse22@gmail.com. When texting or emailing provide name, address and phone number and a confirmation message will be sent back. Those leaving a message on the phone will not receive a confirmation. Only Edgar County residents can apply, and they can only do so for themselves. Third party applications are not accepted. Enrollment for the food vouchers to be redeemed at the Grab It Here begins Monday, Nov. 28, and is on a first come, first served basis until the 300 spots are filled.



LADY TIGERS WIN NAL TOURNAMENT

The Paris Lady Tigers rolled through the NAL Thanksgiving Tournament last week, taking the championship with two wins over TH North, Charleston and Rantoul. **SPORTS, 9B**

Pilgrims brought Thanksgiving

The Pilgrims were likely influenced by the Dutch with their Thanksgiving celebration bringing it to our shores. **HISTORY, 3B**

New boutique open in Paris

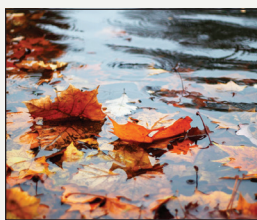
Something Different by Brenda Wright is now open in Paris in a new space created at Dalby Designs. The store offers a variety of gifts and clothes. **NEWS, 3A**

Students of the month honored

Paris 95 schools honored its students of the month for Memorial, Wenz and Mayo Middle School. **SCHOOL NEWS, 6A**

TODAY'S WEATHER

H 52 L 38
Chance of rain. 2A



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The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2022

County changes coming

Government Office Center moving to Dimond Bros. Sheriff Street following purchase

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

More changes are coming in 2023 for how Edgar County utilizes office space for government functions.

A new jail will get built on Springfield Road and the county is ready to acquire the Dimond Bros. Insurance Building on Sheriff Street for a government center.

The acquisition was raised during the Edgar County Board meeting Wednesday morning, Nov. 23. Board chairman Jeff Voigt said the attorneys are finalizing the paperwork, and the transfer is expected to take place before the end of 2022.

The county is purchasing the building that has almost 9,500 square feet of space and a large parking area for \$325,000.

"We will take our time to modify it," said Voigt.

Once the building is converted to county needs, it will house the treasurer's office, the supervisor of assessment's office, county IT and a human resources office that will operate under the treasurer's umbrella.

Voigt said Edgar County Public

Defender Nathanael Harsy will be asked if he wants to relocate his office to the new space, and there is a possibility Edgar County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) will move from its location on High Street to occupy the rear of the building.

According to Voigt, the block building will not require any additional structural work to harden it for ESDA's needs. Klinger Associates, the architectural firm building the new jail and designing courthouse roof work and other improvements, has been provided a copy of the floor plan, and Voigt said the architects may offer input on redesigning the interior of the current insurance office.

Once the rehab is complete, the treasurer, supervisor of assessment and IT service will vacate the building known as the courthouse annex on Central Street. The pole barn-like structure will then be put up for sale by the county.

Among the action items, the county board gave final approval to the \$28 million fiscal year '23 budget.

The county's new fiscal year starts Dec. 1.

The board approved the Klinger & Associates report on the new Edgar County Public Safety Facility. This action cleared the way for Klinger to apply to USDA Rural Development seeking assistance for building the jail.

Board members heard reports from Jonathan Burns, executive director of the Human Resources Center of Edgar and Clark Counties (HRC), and Edgar County State's Attorney Timothy Gilbert.

Burns' report initially discussed money the county provides to HRC through the 708 Mental Health Board. The disbursement to the 708 board was \$498,683, which in turn helped leverage access to Title XX funds.

With those funds, HRC:

- Helped 676 Edgar County residents with Mental Health and Certified Recovery Support treatment. Burns said that was an increase of 152 people from the prior year.

- Served 24 adults with mental illness, substance abuse disorder and

disabilities through vocational programs.

- Provided 234 Edgar County residents with substance abuse disorder treatment. This was an increase of 35 people from the prior year.

- Did 319 crisis screenings, an increase of 91 from the prior year.

- Provided services through the drop-in center to 68 residents, an increase of 27.

"Most notably we expanded into group respite services," said Burns, this provides daycare for people with disabilities.

HRC also added an employee to do home care visits for people receiving state Medicaid. Burns explained these clients have disabilities but are being cared for by family in the home.

"Prior to this, each family had to become a small employer," said Burns. "Now the assistance is through an HRC employee. It is a much-needed service."

He was pleased to announce HRC has eliminated the waiting list to receive substance abuse counseling. See **COUNTY**, Page 8A

PREPARING TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN PARIS



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Paris city employee Randy Rhoads puts the finishing touches on the jack in the box light display that is part of Holiday in the Park that opened Thursday night and runs through New Year's Day.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

City employee Terry Gates adorns the lamp posts around the square with green garland and red bows as the City of Paris prepares for a Candyland Christmas in Paris.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Paris Fire Chief Chad Crampton and firemen Warner, Thorp and Miller pull the old Christmas lights from the city tree before putting on lights in preparation for Christmas in Paris.

Homeless an unseen problem

Community Touchpoint sees an immediate, pressing need in Paris

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

It is time to address the issue of homelessness in Edgar County.

A Community Touchpoint effort by Horizon Health has identified homelessness in Paris and Edgar County as a major issue affecting everyone. People interested in making community change met Tuesday, Nov. 22, at the Horizon Health Education Center (the former Cornerstone Baptist Church).

Currently, the only group actively working to provide shelter is Hopes and Dreams, which serves homeless Paris High School students. The ECHO House that provided shelter for adults and families closed earlier this year.

Former ECHO board member Mary Kay Bradford attended the meeting to explain why the facility closed. She said the original purpose was to provide a helping hand, not a handout.

People accepted at ECHO were expected to refrain from substance abuse and have employment. The stay in the facility was intended to be a brief stopgap while they got back on their feet and were stable enough to secure other quarters.

"The first person we helped was a woman and her daughter whose house burned," said Bradford.

She noted in recent years it became more difficult to abide by the helping hand up rather than a hand-out philosophy. Those seeking accommodations, Bradford said, were too often substance abusers who refused to comply with house rules and did not seek employment.

"More and more people wanted somebody to take care of them," she said.

See **HOMELESS**, Page 8A

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Paris Beacon-News

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Published by
Prairie Beacon, LLC

Nancy Roberts Zeman, publisher
Gary Henry, editor

The Prairie Press/Paris Beacon News (USPS 22895) November 26, 2022, Volume 9 No. 13. 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

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Ad Design: Jennifer Macke
Page Design: Bethanny Lawson, Nancy Zeman
Deadlines: Community news submissions are due 5 p.m. Wednesday prior to

the Saturday publication. Advertising (display or classifieds ads) are due 5 p.m. Wednesday prior to the Saturday publication.
About Us: The Prairie Press Paris Beacon News (USPS 22895) 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.
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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.

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We invite our readers and the

LOCAL FORECAST NORMAL: High: 46 Low: 28

More weather: go to www.prairiepress.net and click on weather.

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 52 38 Prec: 60%	 42 28 Prec: 20%	 48 36 Prec: 0%	 55 46 Prec: 30%	 54 29 Prec: 40%	 41 27 Prec: 0%	 47 28 Prec: 0%

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

TODAY — Mostly cloudy with rain showers and highs in the lower 50s.
SUNDAY — Early showers, then gradual clearing with highs in the mid 40s.
MONDAY — Mostly sunny with seasonable highs in the upper 40s.

ALMANAC
Paris through noon Tuesday.
Temperature
High/Low 46°/28°
Record High 68 in 1965
Record Low 3° in 1898
Precipitation
Month to date 0.66"
Normal month to date 3.20"
Year to date 32.36"
Normal year to date 39.43"

SUN AND MOON

	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
TODAY	6:47 a.m.	4:28 p.m.	12:03 a.m.	7:03 p.m.
SUNDAY	6:48 a.m.	4:28 p.m.	10:59 a.m.	8:17 p.m.
MONDAY	6:39 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	11:44 a.m.	8:17 p.m.
TUESDAY	6:50 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	12:19 p.m.	9:33 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	6:51 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	12:49 p.m.	10:47 p.m.
THURSDAY	6:51 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	12:55 p.m.	11:49 p.m.
FRIDAY	6:52 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	1:14 p.m.	--



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Paris Area Weather

PLAN YOUR WEEK

TODAY

FESTIVAL OF TREES
Tiger Senior Apartments, 309 S. Main St., Paris, is hosting a Festival of Trees 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 26. The public is invited to help set up a tree with a candyland theme. Call 217-466-4943 for more information.

SUNDAY

HOLIDAY BRUNCH
A No More Turkey Please brunch is 10:30-1 p.m. Nov. 27 in the O'Shaughnessy Dining Hall of the St. Mary-of-the-Woods campus. Catered by Bon Appetit the brunch offers traditional breakfast favorites and homestyle lunch dishes cooked from scratch by using fresh, authentic ingredients from local farms and artisans whenever possible. In addition to the buffet, an omelet bar, waffle station, meat and an

assortment of barbecue dishes are available. The brunch is \$19.50 for adults; \$18.50 for seniors ages 62-older; \$9.50 for children ages 5-11; and children 4-under will be admitted free. More information at Events.SistersofProvidence.org or call 630-776-0811.

BEE QUILTERS MEET

The next Paris Bee Quilters Guild meeting is 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at the Otterbein United Methodist church basement. This is the annual Christmas party and last meeting of the year. For more information call 217-822-4685.

TUESDAY

COMPASSIONATE CLOTHING CLOSET ANNOUNCES ONE-DAY CLOSING
The Compassionate Clothing Closet (CCC) will be closed on Tuesday,

Nov. 29. Normally open for free clothing distributions noon – 2 p.m. Tuesdays, the CCC is closed on any fifth Tuesday of the month.

THURSDAY

HEALTHY HOLIDAY COOKING WORKSHOP

The next session in Paris Public Library's First Thursday nutrition partnership with U of I Extension is 6 p.m. Dec. 1. Extension educator Mary Liz Wright's program Healthy Holiday: Jolly Good Cooking reveals how to make healthy decisions at holiday gatherings, make favorite recipes healthier and other tips and tricks to avoid holiday weight gain. Registration is not required.

UPCOMING

FAITH AND ARTS DISCUSSED AT ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS

The next session of Faith and the Arts sponsored by the Sisters of Providence is 9 a.m.-noon Dec. 3 in the Foley Room at Providence Spirituality & Conference Center. The speaker is Indiana State University Professor Emeritus Arthur Feinsod discussing how faith can be enhanced by visual arts, drama and poetry. The cost is \$25 per person, and the registration deadline is Nov. 29. Register online at Events.SistersofProvidence.org or call 812-535-2952.

TERRE HAUTE SYMPHONY HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Concert is 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3, at Tilson Auditorium. The concert features Terre Haute native Caroline Goodwin, who is completing a Master's Degree in music. The concert features holiday classics like "O Holy Night."

Hume not happy with insurance coverage

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

HUME — The Village of Hume is apparently stuck with a \$15,000 bill for damages done to the water distribution system by an outside contractor.

Mayor Mike Eads reported on the problem during the Monday, Nov. 14, meeting. He said Metro Communication was in town for a new communication line and went ahead with boring even though he instructed

them not too because of the risk for hitting a water line.

"They (Metro Communication) told me they didn't need permission because they operated under a federal law," said Eads. "They also said they are careful and wouldn't hit the line."

The boring operation did puncture a water line and the emergency repairs resulting from the accident came to \$15,000.

Eads said Metro refuses to reimburse the village for the expense, so he turned to the village's insurance provider for assistance in paying the expense and then going after Metro for reimbursement. That did not happen.

He presented a letter from National Fire & Casualty Company claiming the in-

surance provided does not cover infrastructure like sidewalks and water mains.

"I'm going to be looking for a new insurance company," Eads said following the meeting.

The trustees approved contracting again with Ezell Excavating of Villa Grove to plow snow from village streets. The company offered a sliding scale of \$450 for a snow of 2-4 inches up to \$850 for a snow of 8 inches or more.

"It's still cheaper than doing it ourselves," said Eads. "We only paid 900 bucks last year to have snow removed."

A future improvement project may replace street signs. Trustee Chandra Gerberding created a list of approximately 50

signs throughout the village that are inadequate at identifying the streets. "A lot of them need replaced," said Gerberding. "They don't reflect and are hard to see at night."

Troy Eads, the village's part-time police officer, volunteered to research costs for getting new street signs.

A different type of sign proved a contentious issue.

Resident Angela Smith briefed the village board regarding work by a volunteer Neighborhood Watch group. Smith said those involved want to obtain 10 Neighborhood Watch signs to place at entrances into the village and other locations.

"The signs can be mounted on existing poles," said Smith, asking the village board to buy the signs.

Mayor Eads and other council members opposed the purchase, with Eads adding Neighborhood Watch should not be part of the village's business.

"I have a letter from our insurance agent stating the Neighborhood Watch is not covered by the village insurance," said the mayor.

Smith countered she spoke with the agent who indicated there was no conflict with the insurance coverage.

The village board did not buy the signs as requested.

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Something Different is open

BY LINDA LANE
lanefamily1992@gmail.com

Brenda Wright has opened a new shop on the east side of the square in downtown Paris.

The name, Something Different, comes from a business that Wright had many years ago when she did floral, weddings and other special events. She recently decided to re-invent the business and offer a new place to shop.

Having participated as a vendor and traveling to other towns, Wright was ready for a permanent base.

"I decided to open up a shop in my own hometown," said Wright. "I took a leap of faith and felt it was time to open up a new business. I just felt that Paris was missing something, a place to buy gifts."

Her shop offers clothing, gifts, furniture, crafts and many wooden seasonal items which are handmade by her son, Heath. In addition to her shop items, Wright also offers gift wrapping services.

"You come in, purchase it,



Linda Lane/The Prairie Press

Brenda Wright's Something Different store on the east side of the Paris square offers clothing, accessories, gifts and seasonal handmade items.

we wrap it up, then you pick it up," said Wright.

Located at 114 N. Main St., Something Different is open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. Sunday hours are 1-4 p.m. The store is closed Monday, Tuesday and Saturday.

Wright will open by appointment. For more information call 217-264-2761.

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New boutique opens in Paris

BY LINDA LANE
lanefamily1992@gmail.com

Rockin' B Boutique has opened its doors at 601 S. Main.

Owner Taylor Dunn opened her new shop about a month ago and recently held an open house to display her many items. Her shop is located in the same building as the Scissor Shack, so clients can enjoy the salon's usual services and shop while there.

"This has been my dream," said Dunn. "I hope to carry many unique items and things that you can give as gifts or purchase for yourself."

Rockin B carries clothing, jewelry, candles, belts, hats and scarves. The style



Linda Lane/The Prairie Press

Taylor Dunn stocks inventory in her new Rockin' B Boutique inside the Scissor Shack Salon. Some items have a country and western flair.

of clothing includes many items of country and western flair.

Hours for her boutique are the same as the salon hours. Dunn encourages all to visit her soon for their shopping needs.

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TWISTED THROTTLES HOSTS FOOD DRIVE



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

The Twisted Throttles Motorcycle Club recently completed a Thanksgiving food drive and bags of food were distributed at the Chester P. Sutton Community Center for Seniors of Edgar County. Pictured, front row, left to right, Jess Creek and Judy Barrett. Back row, left to right, Bear Sexton, Ernest Board, Travis Board and Johnny Board.

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New in the Edgar Circuit Court

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

The following people were among those who had cases scheduled for the Nov. 14 and the Nov. 17 criminal and traffic calls in Edgar County Circuit Court:

IN CUSTODY

■Logan J. Biddle, 20, Paris, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 2 felony burglary, a Class 3 felony theft, a Class 4 felony possession of stolen property, a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license and a Class A misdemeanor driving on a revoked license. Biddle got the public defender, and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. Bond was set at \$15,000 and an oral motion for a bond reduction was denied. Biddle was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Dakota Cox, 21, no address provided, was in custody and charged with two counts of a Class A misdemeanor battery. The case went to the public defender and bond was set at \$2,500. Cox pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand and a pretrial conference was scheduled. He will remain in custody pending bond posting.

■Joshua D. Doty, 36, Paris, appeared in custody. He pleaded guilty to a Class 2 felony possession of stolen property charge. Doty was sentenced to 180 days in jail with credit for 16 days previously served and the remaining 148 days will be

served as electronic home monitoring with good conduct credit to apply, two years of probation, a \$700 fine, court costs and various state fees. In exchange for the guilty plea, the state dismissed a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer and a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property charges. He was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■John L. Herbek, 49, Paris, was in custody and pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor criminal trespass to a motor vehicle. He was sentenced to 90 days in jail with credit for 13 days previously served and the remaining jail sentence is stayed, 18 months of conditional discharge, a \$400 fine, court costs and various state fees. He was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Billi G. Kollman, 32, Paris, was in custody. She pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery charge and was sentenced to 90 days in jail to be served as electronic home monitoring with credit for 13 days previously served, 12 months of probation, a \$400 fine, court costs and various state fees. She was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Kevin D. Kroneberger, 35, Terre Haute, Ind., was in custody. The public defender filed a motion for bond reduction for the unresolved Class 2 felony

burglary charge. The matter was continued for the motion hearing. Kroneberger will remain in custody pending posting of bond.

■Dakota L. Livingston, 26, Paris, was charged with a Class 4 felony criminal trespassing to a residence, a Class 4 felony unlawful possession of another individual's credit or debit card, two counts of a Class A misdemeanor violating an order of protection, a Class A misdemeanor theft, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer, a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe and a Class B misdemeanor drivers license expired longer than one year. He was assigned to the public defender. Bond was set at \$10,000. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing, and he was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Dale L. Porter, 42, Paris, appeared in custody. A Class A misdemeanor theft charge and the petition to revoke his conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor theft conviction were continued for a pretrial conference. Porter will remain in custody pending posting of bond.

■Albert F. Rubenacker, 61, Paris, was in custody and charged with a Class 3 felony aggravated battery and a Class 4 felony grooming. The case was added to the public defender's workload and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. Bond was set

at \$15,000 and a bond reduction motion was denied. Rubenacker was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Leroy J. Schmitt, 38, Terre Haute, Ind., appeared in custody. The Class X felony predatory criminal sexual assault and two counts of a Class 2 felony aggravated criminal sexual abuse charges were continued for a pretrial conference. He will remain in custody pending posting of bond.

■Derek A. Sronce, 52, Paris, appeared in custody. The Class A misdemeanor or domestic battery charge was continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Jacob E. White, 37, Brazil, Ind., was in custody. White pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to escape, failure to abide by electronic home monitoring charge. He denied a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine conviction. A pretrial conference was scheduled for both cases. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■William J. Wimsett, 30, Paris, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 4 felony obstruction of justice and a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. He was assigned to the public defender and the preliminary hearing was scheduled. Bond was set at \$10,000 and a bond reduction motion was denied. Wimsett was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

CHARGES

■Jason M. Arbuckle, 44, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor criminal trespassing to a residence and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct. He indicated he will hire a private attorney, and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Casey M. Etchison, 35, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor causing a child to be in danger. The public defender was appointed, and a pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Gerry A. Gross, 60, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a

jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a revoked license. Gross received the public defender, and a pretrial conference was set.

■Nathan J. Harbert, 31, Marshall, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to two counts of a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol. He indicated he will hire an attorney, and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Jason A. Henness, no age provided, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor theft and a Class B misdemeanor criminal trespassing. Henness told the court he will hire an attorney and a pretrial conference was set.

■Kenneth E. Hovis, 58, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license. He told the court he will hire an attorney and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Tracy L. Parker, 57, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property. Parker waived the right to counsel, and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Justin Switzer, 28, Marshall, was charged with a Class 3 felony forgery. The public defender was appointed, and Switzer pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Rebecca S. Wardell, no age provided, Brocton, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor retail theft. She waived the right to counsel and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

GUILTY PLEAS

■Jacqueline J. Baldwin, 39, Chrisman, admitted a petition to revoke her conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license conviction. She was resentenced to 20 days in jail subject to stayed jail time with good conduct credit to apply, 12 months of conditional discharge

and 100 hours of community service work.

■Crandall Kyle Griffin, 39, Youngsville, La., pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge and was sentenced to 12 months of conditional discharge, a \$400 fine, court costs and various state fees. In exchange for the guilty plea, the state dismissed a Class 3 felony aggravated battery, a Class 4 felony criminal sexual abuse, a Class 4 felony unlawful restraint, a Class A misdemeanor leaving the scene of an accident and a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer charges.

■Rebecca M. Mullen, 30, Chrisman, pleaded guilty to a Class B misdemeanor speeding charge and was sentenced to a \$200 fine, court costs and state fees.

■Troy S. Taulbee, 49, Alton, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor speeding charge. He was sentenced to a \$200 fine, court costs and various state fees.

NOT GUILTY PLEAS

■Curtis A. Holley, 38, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 3 felony aggravated battery, a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery and a Class A misdemeanor possession of ammunition without a FOID card charges. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Daniel J. Norris, 40, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery charge and a pretrial conference was set.

OTHER MATTERS

■Duane A. Beachy, 36, Humbolt, learned the court quashed a warrant for failure to appear in court.

■James C. Tretter, 43, Paris, learned the court imposed a 60-day jail sentence with good conduct credit to apply attached to his Class A misdemeanor criminal damage to property conviction. Service of the sentence was stayed until 4:30 p.m. Dec. 1.

WARRANTS

■Warrants were ordered prepared when the following individuals failed to answer the court call: John M. Fugate, no age provided, Mattoon; Ryan L. Littleton, 29, Paris; and Tristen D. McDaniel, 25, Paris.

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VERA SHEPHARD
Vera Irene Shephard, 105, of Cedar Hill, Texas, formerly of Paris, passed away at 8:41 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, at Crestview Court Residential Services. She and her husband were business owners in Paris for several years.



SHEPHARD

A private burial is in New Hope Cemetery, Paris. Templeton Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Shephard was born September 24, 1917, in Sturgis, Mich., the daughter of the late Clyde and Mae Aldredge Hiller. She married Robert

Shephard Dec. 7, 1935, in La Grange, Ind. He preceded her in death July 22, 1988. Survivors include one son, James L. Shephard of Dallas, Texas; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Shephard also was preceded in death by a daughter, Ann Shephard and a son, David Shephard. While living in Paris, Mrs. Shephard was a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Shephard were owners of the Paris bakery for more than 50 years and also owned the Christian bookstore. Online condolences at www.templetonfuneralhome.com.

MARK SIMPSON
Mark Allen Simpson, 61, passed away Monday Nov. 21, 2022, at Carle Hospital from cancer. Per his wishes there will be no services. Mr. Simpson was born July 28, 1961, in Blue Island, the son of James and Mary (Kennedy) Simpson. Survivors include his par-



SIMPSON

two sons, Paul (Christina) Simpson and Cody Simpson; four grandchildren, Pilot, Judge, Tessa and Maggie; a sister, Ginger (Charles) Eubank of Kansas; a niece, Ashley (Nick) Cox and their son Rowdy all of Kansas; and a nephew, Jon (Marlana) Brant and their sons Rylan and Jase. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Pete and Marjorie (Cassity) Kennedy and Carlin and June (Cutler) Simpson.

JO ANNE BEARD
MARSHALL – Jo Anne Beard, 67, Marshall, passed away at 5:45 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at her home. A memorial service is 5 p.m. today, Nov. 26, at Pearce Funeral Home. Visitation is from 3 p.m. until the service time today at the funeral



BEARD

home. Memorial donations may be made to Lincolnland hospice. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

HYLDA CLAYPOOL
MARSHALL — Hylde J. Claypool, 86, Marshall, passed away at 11:45 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, in Marshall Rehabilitation and Nursing. A funeral service was 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, at Pearce Funeral Home. Burial followed in Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from 4 to 7 p.m.



CLAYPOOL

Tuesday, Nov. 22, at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Marshall Cemetery Association. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

RACHEL HART
MARTINSVILLE – Rachel Ann Hart, 54, Charleston, and formerly of Tahlequah, Okla., passed away at 7:33 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022, at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon. Private services are at a later date at Island Grove Cemetery, Martinsville. Markwell Funeral Home is assisting



HART

with the arrangements. Memorial donations may be made to the American Kidney Fund. More information and online condolences at www.markwellfuneralhome.com.

MARGARET LEHNE
CASEY – Margaret Carole Comer Lehne, 86, Carole Stream, passed away at 4:50 a.m. Sunday Nov. 20, 2022, at Advent Health Glen Oaks Hospital, Glendale Heights. A graveside service is 11 a.m. today, Nov. 26, at Mount

Olive Cemetery in Mount Olympus, Ind. Markwell Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Memorial donations may be made to Marklund. More information and online condolences at www.markwellfuneralhome.com.

JOAN TURNER
MARSHALL – Joan Turner, 92, Terre Haute, Ind., and formerly of Marshall, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at her residence. Per Mrs. Turner's wishes there will be no services.

Pearce Funeral Home is assisting with the arrangements. Memorial donations may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, Marshall. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

MANDANA RINESMITH
Mandana Lynn Rinesmith, 43, Paris, passed away at 10:35 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022, in Horizon Health Emergency Room. The family will host a celebration of life at a later date. Templeton Funeral



RINESMITH

Home is assisting with arrangements. Online condolences at www.templetonfuneralhome.com.

Unrivaled legacy of Dale Chihuly featured

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The pioneering creator Dale Chihuly, who famously decorated the ceiling of Las Vegas' Bellagio casino with 1,800 square feet of handblown glass floral forms, is a consummate collector.

Chihuly adorned the canals and piazzas in mid-1990s Venice with the dancing rhythms of immense, brilliantly colored chandeliers. The artist's epic 1999-2000 exhibition in Jerusalem's fabled Old City enthralled more than one million visitors. He has transformed the footprint of public gardens in the United States and abroad with evanescent glass embellishments. But few know that Chihuly, who revolutionized the art of glass blowing, elevating perceptions of the medium from craft to fine art, obsessively accumulates peculiar objects of improbable breadth and scope—from Pez dispensers to vintage accordions to midcentury refrigerators.

This month, the Smithsonian Channel debuts the new documentary, "Master of Glass: The Art of Dale Chihuly," which traces the life of a man relentlessly inspired by intriguing objects and a creator of intriguing objects.

"Dale Chihuly is one of the most important artists of the 21st century who has transformed glass into a multidimensional art form," said Stephanie Stebich, the director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM). "At the same time, he collects deeply personal things that are a wellspring of his artistic practice."

Indeed, Chihuly's art, collections and life are intimately linked. Born in Tacoma, Washington, Chihuly, 81, was assailed early by tragedy as a teenager when his

brother, George, and father died within a year of each other. Photographs showing them playing accordions makes manifest the artist's fascination with the instrument. The artist has a collection of more than 70; some of those accordions hang from the ceiling of Chihuly Garden and Glass, a Seattle museum dedicated to his work.

"Dale Chihuly is at this point the greatest collector of objects of any artist," said artist and critic Bruce Helder in the documentary. Chihuly's passion for collecting even surpasses that of esteemed predecessors Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol—also tremendously prolific artists whose work Chihuly unsurprisingly collects. A theme snaking through the octogenarian's body of work is his love of water and nature, born of childhood memories walking on the beaches of the Pacific Ocean and growing up with a mother who was an ardent gardener. He fondly recalls his mother, Viola, summoning her sons to see the natural light in her lush garden, and they would play amid the azaleas and rhododendrons.

That formative influence initiated his rhythmic Seaforms of the 1980s, which flout the stiffness of most post-modernist glass. Undulating forms of thin-walled glass are accentuated by spiral wraps of color. The intoxicating series was made in tribute to the sea.

"Water is really important to me. I love to be on the ocean, I love baths, I love showers, I love swimming, and I think a lot when I'm in the water," Chihuly has said. The artist is so encouraged by water that he customized a plastic clipboard with a wax pencil to write ideas down when taking showers.

The following decade's Nijima Floats, named for an island south of Tokyo, were partly stimulated by the Japanese fishing boats Chihuly saw on the shores of Puget Sound as a boy.

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Diesel supply tight

BY DANIEL GRANT
FarmWeek

The supply of diesel fuel has become uncomfortably tight this fall, drumming up concerns about future availability. The U.S. started the month with about a 25-day supply of diesel in storage. But that doesn't mean the tanks will run dry in that amount of time, according to Tim Abel, GROWMARK refined fuels, supply and trading

manager. "We do have tight supplies," Abel told the RFD Radio Network. "This time of year, maybe 32 days supply or 34 days supply would be more applicable. "But I think it (the 25-day supply) has been overplayed in the media," he said. "We're not going to run out (of diesel) in 25 days. It just means we're extremely low – it's just another metric for measuring what we have."

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District 95 students of the month

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

SPECIALS
Word of the month: Knowledge

Jaxson Short Jackson Tarr Farrah Adams




Mr. Boren Ms. Payne Mrs. Mayhugh

NOVEMBER

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

FIRST GRADE
Word of the month: Knowledge

Jace Noonan Jayce Johns Kira Ray Alexander Claypool Kaelan Brown




Mrs. Brown Mrs. Cary Mrs. Furnish Mrs. Grant Mrs. Sanders

NOVEMBER

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

KINDERGARTEN
Word of the month: Knowledge

Reed Husher Camdon Sexton Oz Richards Luciana Jewell Kyliee Jones Myah Raymer




Mrs. Cook Mrs. Vaughn Mrs. Emberton Ms. Urick Mrs. Redman Mrs. Cearlock

NOVEMBER

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

SECOND GRADE
Word of the month: Knowledge

Gareth Griffin Ivan Fiscus Jurzie Evard Ella Brinkerhoff Kolt Guyer




Mrs. Blair Mrs. Barrett Mrs. Gorman Mrs. Tarr Mrs. Hibschan

NOVEMBER

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
6th grade

NOVEMBER



Ava Tarr Mrs. Falls Evey Ray Ms. Higgins Caleigh Castaneda Mrs. Curl
Santiago Flores-Amaro Mrs. Wooten Claudia Vaningen Mr. Alexander

Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
Knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Staff Picks
Word of the month: Knowledge

Morgan Redman Conrad Jones Greyson Hunter Mason Nickols

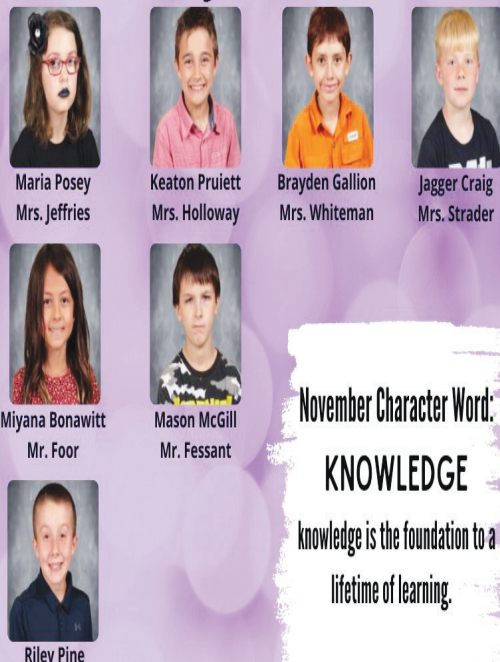


Mrs. Paquette Mrs. Moody Mrs. Graves Mrs. Brinkley

NOVEMBER

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
5th grade

NOVEMBER




Maria Posey Mrs. Jeffries Keaton Pruiett Mrs. Holloway Brayden Gallion Mrs. Whiteman Jagger Craig Mrs. Strader
Miyana Bonawitt Mr. Foor Mason McGill Mr. Fessant Riley Pine Mrs. Keys

November Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
3rd grade

NOVEMBER




Kaydence Holloway Mrs. Keys Ryker Husher Mrs. Larson Paisley Ruhlig Mrs. Mitchell Declan Turner Mrs. Young
Jaxsyn Broughton Mrs. Muchow Lincoln Gowrylow Ms. Johnson

November Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
7th grade

NOVEMBER




Naomi VanIngen Mrs. Allen Natleigh Bridgewater Mr. Brouwer Destini Pick Mrs. Sanders Hunter Taylor Mrs. Key-Rhoads
Emily Melton Ms. Archer Noah Downs Mrs. Camp

Character Word: Knowledge
Knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
Specials
Art, Music, P.E., Library, Band

NOVEMBER

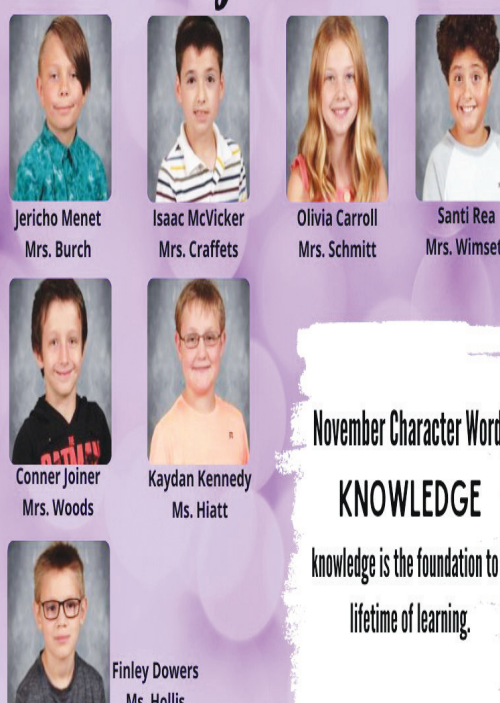


Jonna Christopher Mrs. Mayhugh Jordan Ewing Mrs. White Charlie Sabens Mr. Tarr
EmmaLee Rhodes Mrs. Paquette Ellie Hollingsworth Mrs. Farley-Wilkie

November Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
4th grade

NOVEMBER




Jericho Menet Mrs. Burch Isaac McVicker Mrs. Craffets Olivia Carroll Mrs. Schmitt Santi Rea Mrs. Wimsett
Conner Joiner Mrs. Woods Kaydan Kennedy Ms. Hiatt Finley Dowers Ms. Hollis

November Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
8th grade

NOVEMBER



Mason Barrett Mrs. Brouwer Kipton Bradford Mr. Clawson Gannon Waltz Mr. Sanders Leland Evard Mrs. Pearson
Mattalyn Carter Mrs. Cary Tessa Hubbell Mr. Garver

Character Word: KNOWLEDGE
Knowledge is the foundation to a lifetime of learning

Fun week at Crestwood school



Special to The Prairie Press

The students in the Crestwood after school program showed they are thankful by creating Thankful Trees.



Special to The Prairie Press

Crestwood Junior National Honor Society recently held a fun day for Crestwood elementary students which included a game of Twister.



Special to The Prairie Press

Kindergartners at Crestwood recently got to share snack time with their big buddies in the fifth grade.



Special to The Prairie Press

Crestwood art teacher Mary Magee instructs second graders in the Crestwood after school program on how to construct turkeys.



Special to The Prairie Press

Wes Sunkel was recently selected as one of Crestwood's Students of the Week.



Special to The Prairie Press

Kenzie Englum was recently selected as one of Crestwood's Students of the Week.

Thanksgiving is more than just a meal to some



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Ryan Barris looks on as Diane Tapscott goes over the instructions for making pink lemonade for PHS teacher Chelsea Cater's Life Skills class.

DANIEL BRISENO
daniel@prairiepress.net

To some, Thanksgiving is just a day that happens every year where families gather and eat. Often the preparation of the meal is taken for granted. Chelsea Cater, special education teacher at Paris High School, believes the preparation of the meal is an important life skill for her students to learn. The students along with Cater and other classroom helpers put

together a menu and then they went shopping. "We figure out the meal and the recipes we want to use," said Cater. "We then look up where each item is at Wal-Mart, and when we get there the students are in charge of getting the ingredients on the list for their dish." Taking the students shopping at Wal-Mart serves more of a purpose than just getting the kids out of school.

"This is so much more than a field trip," said Cater. "The students are learning how to act and react in a busy and sometimes overwhelming situation." Cater and the other teachers do all they can in providing as many opportunities as possible for the students in their class to learn the life skills needed in the world. Although some may never live on their own, it is important for all to learn. "These kids may live on

their own or they may not," said Cater. "Learning these skills regardless will give them more confidence in doing things for themselves if need be." After buying all that was needed the students then prepared a Thanksgiving meal for their class to enjoy. "Thanks to an anonymous donation we were able to do this for the students," said Cater. "Seeing their smiles makes me feel like I am making a difference."



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Chelsea Cater's Life Skills class made a Thanksgiving feast for themselves. They did everything from shopping and buying the ingredients to making the chocolate peanut butter pie. Pictured left to right are Leyton Mattingly, Diane Tapscott, Serena Jennings, Tyson Gill, Jamie Prouse and Ryan Barris.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Paris High School student Jamie Prouse talks over ingredients with her teacher Chelsea Cater as they prepare for their class Thanksgiving dinner.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Tyson Gill prepares mashed potatoes for a class Thanksgiving dinner prepared for and by the students of PHS teacher Chelsea Cater's Life Skills class.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Paris High School teacher Chelsea Cater stands at the Wal-Mart checkout with three members of her life skills class after picking out items for their class Thanksgiving dinner. Pictured left to right are Ryan Barris, Cater, Leyton Mattingly and Jamie Prouse.

Kansas schools will try using a greenhouse, again

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

KANSAS — The Kansas Board of Education gave lackluster endorsement to a developing plan for putting a greenhouse on the campus during the Wednesday, Nov. 16, meeting.

The greenhouse discussion was a carryover from the October board meeting when district superintendent Cindy Spencer reported the Edgar County Community Foundation (ECCF) is prepared to give the school district \$7,500 toward a greenhouse because Kansas is the only Edgar County district without such a facility.

In October, it was noted the \$7,500 grant was less than one-third of the ex-

pense the district would incur to buy a greenhouse kit, pour footers, flooring the structure, running utility lines for water, gas and electricity, plus the expense of a heater and other equipment.

Board members were reluctant to make that commitment because the school had greenhouses in the past that were not used, fell into disrepair and were demolished or removed.

Spencer said follow-up discussion with the ECCF confirmed the grant is not contingent on a particular size of greenhouse and the district should plan something that is a useful size for the school.

"I want every class in there. That's the way I wrote the grant," said Spen-

cer, adding the agriculture teacher is developing a plan for how to use a greenhouse.

Spencer said a 20-foot by 30-foot greenhouse kit can be acquired and placed next to the ag shop for near the amount of the grant. Putting it by the ag shop places it close to existing utility services that can easily be tapped. The unknown cost is for a heater, worktables and other pieces of equipment. Those items are still being priced and researched.

The superintendent emphasized the 20 by 30-foot size is a working concept for the moment, and it could go smaller to keep costs down.

"I don't want another greenhouse that doesn't get used," cautioned board

member Gabe Boedecker, who later made a motion authoring the administration to move ahead with a reduced size greenhouse plan.

Board member Ron Lee voted against it. Those supporting the modified greenhouse were Boedecker, Britta Baker, Matt Ehlers, Katie Knoll and Gretchen Gough, who seemed speak for the others when she cast her vote.

"Yes, but I'm not excited about it," said Gough.

Another purchase holding over from October was approved at the Nov. 26 meeting. Board members unanimously authorized buying the Relay Pro communication system. After a one-month trial, transpor-

tation director Ann Motley supported the purchase.

"It was convenient," said Motley. "If I need to call them (bus drivers), they can't answer their phones, or they have to pull over."

That problem did not exist with Relay Pro as the driver simply pushed a button to open the conversation. Motley added the audio was clear even while the driver was on the route.

Lee likes the GPS positioning capability of the devices.

"I think it would be great to have a tracking device for the buses," said Lee.

The question was how big of a package to purchase. The first proposal from Relay Pro was for 35 devices, two charging stations and

other equipment for a cost of \$12,823 and an annual \$6,100 fee for maintenance.

Board members OK'd starting with 20 devices for the first year with an option to add more if needed.

"Shiloh has already added more," said Spencer, noting the likelihood that as staff becomes familiar with the operation, more uses will be found.

Following an executive session, the board approved Jesse Jones as a volunteer junior high boys basketball coach; hired Nikki Guereiro for the remainder of the school year; and banned an Oakland parent from all sporting events on Kansas School property for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

County board gets health briefing

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

Health matters dominated the Edgar County Board's study session Monday, Nov. 21.

Adam Webb of Horizon Health EMS said the ambulance service should have a new ambulance operational by Dec. 1 after the various state agencies and Carle completes inspections and certification.

"With our EMT students doing clinicals, I may have three, and sometimes four, people on a truck for a while," said Webb.

He briefly discussed an EMT class underway at Paris High School and is pleased with how that is working.

Monica Dunn, administrator of the Edgar County Public Health Department, and Ollie Smith, chairman of the health department board, met with county board members. They reiterated both the administrator's and board's commitment to conduct health department board meetings and decision making according to established, accepted and required policies.

"I am committed to doing the right thing," said Dunn. "I want to be sure we are doing the processes right."

There was discussion about the problem the department is facing in filling a dentist's position. Dunn said the issues are money and location.

At one time the ECPHD's rural location qualified it to offer candidates both a salary and a special package aimed at loan repayment. Dunn said that is still a possibility but new graduates from dental schools are getting recruited by dental practices for more than the local health department can offer.

Smith agreed. "So many corporate dental companies hire graduates at a high compensation. Then they work them to death," said Smith. "Even when they leave, they take that salary expectation wherever they go."

Dunn said ads placed with multiple dental schools in several states have failed to generate any response, and ECPHD is working with a recruiter hoping to find a dentist. She did get one inquiry from a person wanting to locate around Danville, Ind., just outside Indianapolis, Ind. The caller confused Danville, Ill., with Danville, Ind.

"The other thing is we live in rural Illinois," said Dunn. "It's hard to recruit a dentist

to this area. It is part of the bigger problem of providing rural health care."

While the department lacks a dentist, it is still providing service to school children through two staff dental hygienists. Dunn said the department has sufficient portable equipment to set up five dental operatories in schools.

"We have served 700 school children since the end of September for cleaning and fluoride treatment," she said.

One piece of equipment lets the hygienists take a photo inside of the patient's mouth and a retired dentist and practicing dentist Jason Graham are helping the health department until a full-time dentist is hired by reviewing those photos to determine if a problem exists requiring more attention.

"We can refer them (patients) to other places if more care is needed," said Dunn.

She stressed this problem is not unique to Edgar County. Not every health department offers dental service but those that do are also struggling to get a dentist.

"At our last state inspection, we were ranked as one of the top (dental) programs in the state," said Dunn.

COUNTY

FROM PAGE 1A

but still has a wait list for people wanting mental health counseling. The problem, he said, for the mental health side is a lack of certified counselors and the salary competition to get them.

Burns was asked about the efforts to start counseling inmates at the Edgar County Jail. He said that project has not advanced.

"That's not to say we have a bad relationship with the jail," said Burns, noting the jail staff calls and HRC's crisis response teams responds. "What we haven't been able to do is get into the jail be-

cause of insurance reasons."

He hopes the creation of a dedicated counseling room in the new jail will ease the insurance concerns.

He noted additional money through the county board, other than 708 funding, helped HRC retain one position by aiding the person in getting a license and sent other staff for training.

Board members asked Burns to develop a plan for how additional funds might be used to attract therapists.

On the legal front, Gilbert said once the state's attorney's office hires a full-time administrative assistant workflow should improve, although the workload for the office is not

slowing down.

"We've filed more felonies this year than we have ever filed," said Gilbert. "We are also resolving more cases because we have a full-time public defender who is getting us counter offers more quickly."

He is confident continued work between his office and the public defender will eventually reduce the backlog of criminal cases waiting for resolution. He was less certain if it will do much to reduce the jail population.

"The jail population tends to move slower because they are the worst offenders and the most stubborn about negotiating," said Gilbert.

Chrisman wants to get projects done

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

CHRISMAN — The Chrisman City Council approved a \$24,000 quote Monday, Nov. 21, from Feutz Contractors to install a manhole, replace some pipe and clean other sections of a damaged drain line.

"We are going to use MFT (Motor Fuel Tax) on this," said Commissioner Thad Crispin. "I want to get this taken care of before the spring rains."

A different type of problem exists on Cleveland Avenue where a water main valve needs replaced. So far, the shut off valve controlling water to that section of main has eluded workers.

"There must be another valve that's not on the drawing," said Commissioner Cory Chaney.

The council approved exploratory excavation at the water tower in the attempt to

find the right valve.

Another water problem is vexing Chaney. The city awarded a bid to a contractor to replace old water meters on the system with modern versions. Nothing has happened on that project.

"I can't get him to call back," said Chaney.

Crispin is having difficulty getting yet another contractor to return his calls. Another 21 names are ready to be inscribed on the veterans memorial in the city park, but Crispin said the company that originally did the memorial is not responding to his calls to get the work done.

"It's been every bit of six months, and we can't get anybody to call back," said Crispin.

Commissioner Bryan Haddix placed two new problems on the table. He said the coin operated mechanism for purchasing bulk water is old and unreliable.

"We are having a lot of jams-ups," said Haddix, adding he will research the expense for replacing the unit.

The other problem is samples from the sewer plant are not always making it to the lab in a timely manner.

"About a half-dozen samples have not made it to the lab," said Haddix. "We are facing some fines."

In response, Haddix has discussed the problem with the wastewater engineer assigned to Chrisman and instructed the sewer plant operator to call the lab and UPS to find out what is causing the bottleneck.

Chaney said some residents are calling him to inquire about donating to help with Christmas decorations.

"We are willing to take donations," said Chaney. "People can come to city hall and the office staff will take the money. We will use the money to buy more ornaments."

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1A

Rose Harrison of the Embarrass River Basin Agency (ERBA) office in Paris and Sandy Deters, ERBA Housing Coordinator, discussed what that agency can do.

Harrison said the ERBA office at 114 Andrew Street is the entry level spot where the homeless, or about to be homeless, can apply for assistance. She takes the information and sends it on to the homeless department to determine what can be done.

Deters confirmed it is not immediate help and the approval process can take 30 days or more.

"They have to find their own place," said Harrison. "It has to get inspected, and they have to have a job."

Both women stressed dealing with people who are homeless is difficult and something ERBA does, but the agency also works at preventing people from becoming homeless.

Harrison said people who are behind on rent, mortgage payment or utilities can often be helped by ERBA.

A question about how many people in Edgar County are homeless was difficult to answer.

Deters said ERBA is required to do an annual count of homeless people but as she points out to officials overseeing the government programs and her counterparts in urban areas, homelessness in rural areas is different from homelessness in an urban setting.

ERBA serves nine counties and has more than 4,000 square miles to survey, where people are more scattered. They set up camps in wooded areas, or squat in isolated buildings.

According to Deters, the problem is more severe than people realize and because homeless people in rural areas are harder to see, it is easy for community leaders to deny the problem.

She offered an example of a homeless shelter opening in Charleston that was equipped with 18 units while community leaders insisted homelessness was not a problem in that community. The shelter filled within six hours of opening. That shelter is only one of two operating in ERBA's region, and both are often full and have a waiting list for admission.

Samantha McCarty, emergency services director at Horizon Health, provided some anecdotal information regarding the level of homelessness in Edgar County. She said seven homeless people came to the ER so far this week, and it was only Tuesday.

"We tried to find a way to help them," said McCarty.

A big issue is there is no immediate way to respond. Jim Cooper of the Salvation Army expressed his frustration with a system that takes a minimum of 30 days to decide what can be done when the need is immediate for the person seeking help.

There was a suggestion empty houses be taken over by the city and rehabbed for the homeless. Deters said

grant money does exist for developers who want to do something like that or build a homeless shelter.

Others said it is not realistic to expect developer involvement because the profit margin for those kinds of projects are not high enough to justify the work.

Cooper's frustration was not only with the system but also with some of the people who find themselves without a home.

"A lot of the homeless don't want to get a job," said Cooper. "They don't want to go by the rules of a shelter."

Being homeless is more complicated than not having a place to live. Deters said the average homeless person is a 25-year-old male with mental health issues.

"We have to address the mental health before they can get a job and a place to live," Deters said.

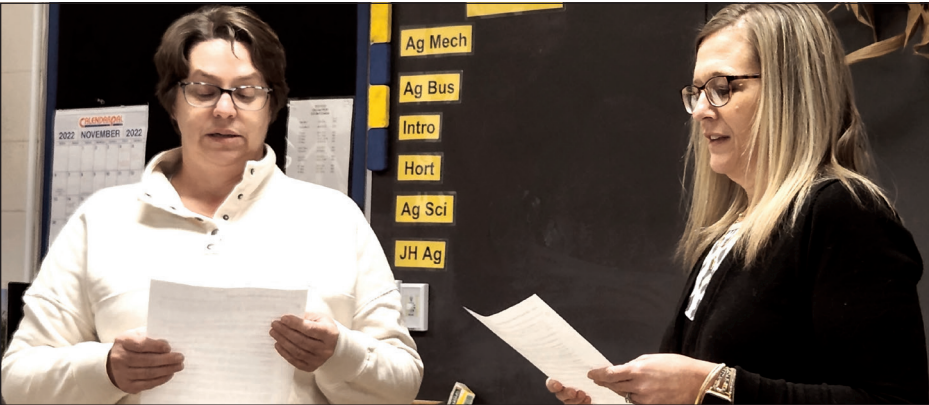
For McCarty, creating a local homeless shelter is a long-term project but there is an immediate, pressing need.

"What I'm most concerned about is we are moving into the colder time of the year," said McCarty. "People are sleeping in Blackhawk Park and behind buildings. It is only a matter of time until our first responders find somebody frozen to the ground."

She added that happens every winter and advocated for finding a way to keep warming centers open at night.

"Keeping the homeless in the ER, could impact others who have a need," said McCarty.

Thevenin takes seat on Chrisman Board of Education



Daniel Brisenno/The Prairie Press

Chrisman board of education President Karen Webster, left, swears in new board member Cristie Thevenin, right, Monday Nov. 21, at the monthly board meeting.

DANIEL BRISENO
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CHRISMAN — The Chrisman Board of Education filled a vacant seat Monday, Nov. 21, by swearing in Shiloh teacher and Chrisman resident Cristie Thevenin who was thrilled to fill the vacancy.

"As a teacher we do not get this opportunity very often," said Thevenin. "It allows the board to be given another perspective in education going on now."

Thevenin has strong ties to the city of Chrisman as she was a former teacher at Chrisman,

resides in Chrisman and has two children still attending Chrisman schools.

"My kids still go to school here," said Thevenin. "It is a good way to educate myself on what is going on in their district."

Interim superintendent Jim Acklin announced Chrisman was approved for the state's school maintenance matching grant of \$50,000 which Chrisman will use to upgrade the HVAC system in the high school wing.

High school principal Nicole Cox reported only two drills are left to complete this year.

"We have to complete one more storm drill and then the lock down drill with the police," said Cox.

Kelly Schuler, Chrisman elementary principal, announced the security camera upgrade to the elementary school is complete.

"It did not take as long as I thought, and it is amazing," said Schuler. "The pictures are nice clear and crisp."

Schuler added there is one area of concern that will be addressed at a later date.

"The kitchen doors are a blind spot," said Schuler.

Statehouse GOP selects new leaders

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — Republicans chose new leadership for their caucuses in the Illinois General Assembly while the two Democratic leaders have each announced they have the votes to maintain their positions.

House Republicans elected Tony McCombie of Savanna and Senate Republicans chose John Curran of Downers Grove.

The change in leadership comes after Democrats maintained control of every state-

wide office and had strong gains in last week's elections across the rest of state government, aside from in the state Senate.

In that chamber, Curran will preside over a Republican caucus outnumbered by Democrats by a likely margin of 40-19. That means the GOP will have picked up one seat.

First appointed in 2017 to the suburban district where former GOP Senate leader Christine Radogno was previously seated, Curran won re-election in 2018 and ran

unopposed in 2022. He previously served as an assistant Cook County prosecutor and DuPage County Board vice chairman, and he is now a private practice attorney.

"We stand ready, with our focus directed toward the future, on developing solutions that will address the critical issues facing our state," Curran said in a statement. "We are equally dedicated to growing our ranks, which will give all Illinoisans greater representation and balance in their state government."

Titans can't find their offense

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122774@yahoo.com

HUME — After suffering an opening night loss to Martinsville Monday night, the Tri-County Titans boys basketball team was back on the court 24 hours later in Hume for day two of their own Turkey Tournament.

The opponent Tuesday was fellow Lincoln Prairie Conference foes the Villa Grove Blue Devils.

Tri-County looked to get back on track after that 57-43 loss while Villa Grove looked to bounce back from a 64-30 loss to Oakwood in their tournament opener.

After 32 minutes, one team found their shot going red hot while the other saw the rim go stone cold after a solid start.

Unfortunately for the Titans, it was their shots that went flat and the Blue Devils found the opening they needed rolling to a 78-34 win sending Tri-County back to the drawing board.

Both teams were looking to push the ball up and down the court in the first period. The Titans finishing with 19 points using both the inside and outside game. The Blue Devils finished the quarter on a strong run ending the frame with 28 points.

After that, the game turned into a nightmare for Tri-County.

The Titans did not score a single point in the second quarter, giving Villa Grove a commanding 48-19 lead at halftime.

The third quarter was more of the same for the Blue Devils getting even distribution of the basketball. The Titans finally got a bucket from Lee for their first score in over 10 minutes which sparked a little surge for Tri-County finishing the frame with 13 points. Villa Grove led going into the fourth quarter with 70-32 lead.

The fourth quarter was played with a running clock. Both teams got their reserves some playing time on the court. The Titans were unable to hit a field goal as their only two points of the frame came on two free throws by Damon Cline.

The Titans went 14 of 48 overall for 29.2 percent and was 5 of 8 from the line for 62.5 percent. Kinzer Lee and Jake Smith led the way with eight points each while Gaige Cox added five points. The Titans turned the ball over 17 times in the loss.

MARTINSVILLE 57, TCT 43
The Streaks had the Titans number in Monday's tournament opener.

A combination of turnovers plus some cold shooting late propelled Martinsville to pull away for the win handing Tri-County its first opening night loss since the shortened season of 2020-2021 and the first opening loss in this tournament in quite some time.

See **TCT**, Page 9A

Mayo girls win regional

BY DANIEL BRISENO
daniel@prairiepress.net

ST. JOSEPH — The Mayo Lady Redbird seventh grade girls basketball team breezed through the IESA Class 3A regional this week, defeating Georgetown Mary Miller in the semifinals and then dominating Arthur to win its second consecutive regional championship.

With the regional championship under their belt the Lady Redbird seventh grade squad now turns their sites to the sectional.

Mayo will host Newton for the sectional championship Wednesday, Nov. 30, with tip off at 6:30 p.m. Newton earned the sectional bid by defeating Teutopolis 33-30 in their regional final.

MAYO 37, ARTHUR 5

The Lady Redbirds cruised easily to a victory in the Illinois class 7-3A regional championship Tuesday, Nov. 22, defeating Arthur 37-5 at St. Joe.

Adalee Morris and Sloan Vilik led the charge on the court against Arthur. Both girls scored 9 points in the win. Ava Tarr added a basket and two three-pointers for 8 points. Helle Barrett dropped in 7 points of her own while Maddox Adams scored 3 points and Nataleigh Bridgewater added a free throw.

MAYO 41, MARY MILLER 11

The Mayo Lady Redbirds seventh grade squad controlled the game from the first tipoff to roll to a commanding 41-11 win over Georgetown Mary Miller 41-11 in the IESA Class 3A semifinal game Monday.

Mayo placed three players in double digit scoring in the contest, led by Ava Tarr who found the range from behind the line, hitting four three-pointers for 12 points. Maddox Adams added 11 points and Natalie Bridgewater rounded out the trifecta with 10 points. Sloan Vilik and



Special to The Prairie Press
The Mayo Redbird seventh grade girls' won their regional championship defeating Arthur 37-5. Pictured left to right are, back row, J.K. Vilik, Nataleigh Bridgewater, Leah Sanders, Ella York, Bella Goodwin, Adalee Morris and Coach Adam Vilik. Front row, from left, are Bella Rogers, Ava Tarr, Sloan Vilik, Maddox Adams and Helle Barrett. Mayo hosts Newton Thursday in the sectional championship for the right to advance to the 7 3A state tournament beginning Saturday, Dec. 3, at Auburn High School.

Adalee Morris also added to the Redbird victory scoring 4 points each.

LADY TIGERS ARE NAL CHAMPIONS AGAIN



Special to The Prairie Press
The Paris High School Lady Tigers rolled through the annual North American Lighting Tournament last weekend, defeating Terre Haute North twice, Charleston and Rantoul. The victories over North were particularly satisfying as it was the Patriots who grabbed last year's tourney title from Paris.

PHS 5-0 heading into season

Lady Tigers opened regular season Tuesday hosting the St. Joe-Ogden Spartans

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

The Paris Lady Tigers weren't the best hosts for the annual NAL Thanksgiving Tournament as they rolled through the competition and won the title.

The Lady Tigers had a break from games this week for Thanksgiving. Coach Dave Tingley's team opens their regular season schedule Tuesday, hosting the always tough St. Joe-Ogden Spartans.

PARIS 93, CHARLESTON 10

When is it not satisfying to down longtime rival Charleston by 83 points — especially in the NAL Tourney semifinal?

The Paris defense held an outmanned Lady Trojan team to only 2 points in the first half while leading 52-2 at halftime.

Charleston was held scoreless again in the third quarter while the Lady Tigers were rolling off 29 points to take a 76-2 lead into the final quarter of play.

The Lady Trojans were able to score 8 points in the final quarter as Tingley freely substituted from his bench to give his reserves playing time.

Trinity Tingley lead all scorers for Paris, hitting two threes and five baskets for



Special to The Prairie Press
Paris senior Kendra Young (13) works to block the shot of a Terre Haute North player in the title game of the NAL Tournament.

16 points.

Five other Paris players scored in double figures — Peighton Smith, 13; Kaitlyn Coombes, 12; Vivian Moore, 11; Taylor Clark, 10 and Graci Watson, 10.

The Lady Tigers hit a total of nine threes during the game. Tingley, Clark, Kendra Young and Watson each netted two while Moore added one.

Coombes grabbed five rebounds and six steals while Tingley had six assists and three steals.

PARIS 43, TH NORTH 33

The Lady Tigers were back to full strength for the second meeting with Terre Haute North with the return of Kendra Young to the lineup.

Paris was in control from the tipoff, leading 11-7 after the first quarter.

Each team scored 8 points in the second quarter to make the score 19-15 headed into the lockerroom at halftime.

The Lady Tigers took control in the third quarter, outscoring the Patriots 14-8 to lead 33-23 going into the final quarter of play.

The teams played to a tie in the fourth quarter, each scoring 10 points to bring about the 43-33 victory for Paris.

The Lady Tigers brought ballanced scoring in the contest, led by Deming Hawkins who netted three baskets and three free throws for 9 points. Trinity Tingley, Kendra Young, Graci Warson and Kaitlyn Coombes each added 8 points. Vivian Moore rounded out the scoring for Paris with two free throws for 2 points.

Paris hit two three-pointers in the game — both by Graci Watson.

Other significant statistics for Paris were Coombes with four rebounds and two assists while Tingley grabbed three rebounds and three steals and dished out six assists. Hawkins grabbed eight rebounds.

Panthers, Lions and Cards take league Ws

BY CINDY WILSON

Paris Junior League

The third week of Paris Junior League Basketball concluded this past Sunday at Eveland Gym, winners were the Lions, Panthers and Cards.

This Sunday's schedule begins at 12:45 p.m., Panthers vs Colts, followed at 2 p.m. by the Cards and Tigers, then at 3:15 will be the Bears vs Lions.

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for students through eighth grade.

LIONS 15, TIGERS 13 (OT)

The first game Sunday went into overtime with the Lions besting the Tigers 15-13.

The Tigers led 4-2 after the first quarter. In the second quarter, the Tigers added a field goal to make the score 6-2 at half.

In the third quarter the Lions picked up the pace outscoring the Tigers 9-2 to take a 11-8 going into the fourth quarter.

In the fourth quarter the Tigers added 3 points holding the Lions scoreless, sending the game into overtime.

In the overtime period, the Lions got 2 points each from Ryder Adams and Leo Smith, while the Tigers got 2 points from Charlie Sabens giving the Lions the victory.

Ryder Adams was the leading scorer for the Lions with 8 points, followed by Maddox Adams, Iziah Oba, Leo Smith with 2 points. Zayne Rogers finished out the scoring with 1 point.

Tigers were led by Charlie Sabens with 9 points. Jackson Creech and Konner Whitaker each had 2 points.

PANTHERS 30, BEARS 15

In the second game of the day the Panthers led

See **JUNIORS**, Page 10A

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MINOR SIGNS TO PLAY AT OLNEY CENTRAL



Paris High School senior and softball player Becca Minor signs her letter of intent to play softball at Olney Central College. Pictured, front row from left, Amanda Minor, Becca Minor and Dave Minor. Back row from left Clay Bess and Jeremy Clodfelder.

CRESTWOOD TAKES REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



The Crestwood Lady Eagles seventh grade basketball team remained unbeaten by downing Armstrong Ellis in the regional final at Salt Fork. They will take on Gibson City Middle School at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday for the sectional championship.

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TCT FROM PAGE 10A

The Streaks jumped out quickly to a 7-1 lead. Tri-County finally managed to get the ball into the bucket getting three field goals with Jake Smith notching two of those for four points. The Titans finished with seven in the quarter to trail by three points at 10-7 after eight minutes. Quarter two saw the Titans finally get into a rhythm scoring 13 points while getting

JUNIORS FROM PAGE 9A

from start to finish. At the end of the first quarter the Panthers led 9-2. The Bears made up some ground

a boost off the bench in the form of Garrett Pollock. The Streaks matched that total despite only hitting four total field goals as the free throw line was kind going 5 of 10 in the frame. Martinsville took a slim 23-20 lead into the half-time break.

The third stanza saw the Titans go on a 6-0 to start to take their first lead at 26-23. However, that would be the only lead Tri-County would have the rest of the contest as Martinsville ended the quarter on

in the second quarter with 6 points from Liem Eveland while the Panthers added 3 points making the halftime score 12-8.

In the third quarter the Panthers went on a 14-3 scoring spree making the score 26-11.

Going into the fourth quarter the both teams added 4 points making the final score 30-15.

The Panthers were led by Hellie Barrett with 16 points on 7 field goals and 2 free throws. Sloan Vilck netted 7 points while Layke Sandstrom had 4 points and Carter Gore scored 2 points.

Liem Eveland lead the

7-0 run to take a 43-35 lead. Smith led the Titans with five points in the frame while Lowry was the key player for the Streaks scoring ten while getting a boost off the bench from Mason Evens who chipped in five and Adam Parcel added four.

The final eight minutes saw the Titans see their shot go stone cold managing just four made field goals for eight points with four of them coming late off the bench from Clay Kibler. The Streaks put

Bears with 9 points, followed by Sam Weir and Baileigh Bell with 2 points and Lucas Goodwin and Deegan Starr with 1 point each.

CARDS 24, COLTS 22

The third game of the day was another barnburner as the Cards captured the win by 2 points over the Colts, 24-22.

At the end of the first quarter the Cards held a slim 7-6 lead over the Colts.

In the second quarter the Colts added 10 points while the Cards had 6 points with the Colts having a 16-13 lead at the half.

The Cards returned ready

to play in the third quarter outscoring the Colts 9-0 to take a 22-16 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Colts scored the first 6 points in the quarter to tie the game at 22. With 13 seconds remaining in the game, Bayah Good scored to put the Cards up 24-22. After a timeout, the Colts got up a good shot that just rolled out giving the Cards the victory. Leading the Cards was Bayah Good with 9 points, Syrus Osborne and Kaiden Prouse each had 4, Benson Lorenzen added 3, and Wes Burns and Ryder Burris contributed 2 points each.

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Tail fins spawn bad memories

An old codger like me can think back on life and recall eras.



ALLEN ENGLEBRIGHT
OLD CODGER

One that I often remember is the tail fin era. This was roughly from 1957 to the mid-1960s, give or take a couple of years.

I was born in 1943. Big auto companies had to quit making cars then. It was World War Two, which lasted for about five years.

Our country was at war big time. Ford Motor, for example, constructed a huge new plant in Michigan that built 22,000 four-engine bombers, not to mention several thousand Jeeps and other war materials. GM was busy with 6 x 6 trucks. Studebaker in South Bend, Ind., built several thousand 6 x 6 trucks for the Russian army.

Fighter planes, cargo aircraft, amphibious vehicles, aircraft engines and so on, replaced cars on the assembly lines. Farmers couldn't buy new tractors, either. Industries were feeding the war machines. Our country geared up to win that war.

Suddenly it ended in 1945. I was too young to remember the war, but I remember lots of young men returning home in uniform from it, and the thousands of stories they told about their experiences.

The big auto companies returned to building cars and trucks, which were in high demand. My dad told about going to Gus Brandt, the John Deere farm implement dealer in Carmi. He wanted to buy a brand-new tractor, plus a plow and cultivator.

Gus said all he could do was order one and wait. He couldn't keep new ones for display. They were in big demand, but he did share a secret out of courtesy. Reynolds' Oliver dealership down the street had one brand new tractor on their lot. My dad bought it.

Interestingly, several farmers called him, offering cash above the dealer price. My dad wouldn't sell. It was the first and only tractor he ever owned. In the spring and summer of 1946, he drove it by day. My two oldest brothers drove it at night — all night. They were high school students. They used it to plow crops while Dad used a team of horses.

See CODGER, Page 7B

NEW RESTURANT FULFILLS A LIFELONG DREAM



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

Chef Ricky Hatfield wanted the menu he created for his new restaurant to be upscale but not formal fine dining. Hatfield took an eggroll and instead of using vegetables, he stuffed it with barbecue short rib and added a side of kimchi with a spicy aioli for the appetizer.

Food and friendship

DANIEL BRISENO
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Many go to culinary school with aspirations of winning a James Beard award or a Michelin Star, and there are those who want to have their own restaurant where they can provide great food for their patrons.

Ricky Hatfield and I attended culinary school together at Ivy tech in Indianapolis. We finished school at different times, but we have remained friends ever since. After school, I chose a different career path and went to work for AutoZone and cooked only for my friends and family. Hatfield was already working in the restaurant industry, and there he remained.

I have watched his career blossom from working at Peterson's and Sullivan's in Indy to moving to Philadelphia to work for Sullivan's there. He did not stay long in Philadelphia, moving back to Indy to try his hand at other restau-



Special to The Prairie Press

Ricky Hatfield (left) and Daniel Briseno (right) have been friends since their days at culinary school. Briseno recently enjoyed a meal at his friend's new restaurant in Plainfield, Ind., and appreciated seeing a dream come true.



Daniel Briseno/The Prairie Press

The Prewitt was originally built as a movie theater. When purchased in 2020 by a group of investors, it had sat empty for 10 years. The Prewitt opened its doors again Nov. 18, but this time as an upscale casual restaurant and lounge with a stage from a bygone era where music is played for the diners.

rants.

Back in Indy he worked for establishments such as Char Blue, The Skyline Club and The Bottleworks. Two years ago he began the process of completing a dream that he and I talked about every day of school.

Hatfield's friends approached him and proposed he join their team and take the role as executive chef. They offered to be investors, and he had full control over the menu and food to which he replied, "All right, I'll bring the pain."

Hatfield had every chef's dream. He was able to create anything he wanted for the menu with only himself being the one to say it was not good enough.

For years, Hatfield worked under others telling him what to do. Having control over the menu, he could throw the pretentious three-piece suit fine dining menus out the door and make a menu that was upscale but still approachable by everyone — a menu that offers something for everyone.

Friday, Nov. 18, The Prewitt in Plainfield, Ind., opened its doors for the first night completely booked. My reservation was 7 p.m. Saturday night. I walked to the door nervous. Not for myself but for my friend who had worked so hard to get to this point.

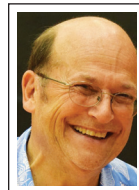
I walked into the restaurant and was immediately blown away by the atmosphere. The transformation of the movie theater that sat empty for 10 years to what it was that night left me in awe.

We were seated and our server brought us menus. The whole restaurant is based off the theme the building was once a theater — from the theater marquis outside to the stage that was left so live acts can play while you eat. The menu is like reading a script for a play and even dishes take names from the movies like, Royale with Cheese.

See FOOD, Page 7B

Choosing performance or preparation

Samson's life ended the way most of his public tenure as a judge of Israel had been fleshed out — 20 years of performing a role he really didn't have his heart into.



JACK HOFFMAN
PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

He was cast as the lead in the production by the great director of the universe, a cherished opportunity for any aspiring Israelite, but he was lacking an inner compulsion to become what he was seen as. Hence his 20 years of service to the public, and to the God who called him, had more emphasis on its profession than it did on its possession.

The Scripture doesn't say what those 3,000 Philistines who were watching had Samson do, as they made sport of him and mocked this former champion. Could it be that disheveled slave who had two gaping holes where his eyes once had been located, in humility was forced to dance a tune at their bequest, or was it that he had to make poetic lyrics once again, perhaps accompanied by instrument or minstrel?

Whatever it was, it became sadly appropriate for a man who had lived for two decades a public persona as God's champion (after all Hebrews records Samson's faith in the same sentence with other venerated righteous pilgrims of old), but who evidently had lacked a deep personal intimacy with God.

Once again Samson becomes a spectacle, but this last time he isn't enjoying the role he is forced to play.

Our lives are a choice we have been given to live out before a watching world. As much as our performance might make a difference to some, our inner being's relationship with our Creator and Savior is of far greater significance. Our life is more than just a role to be played, it is a one-shot opportunity to prepare ourselves for an eternity of transparent and willing service to our king.

He who loved us and called us, doesn't just expect us to fulfill a role. He wants us to not just to do. He wants us to be. From the beginning until the ending of time, the Almighty Sovereign has messaged to those he created as image bearers of himself, "Prepare to meet thy God."

See HOFFMAN, Page 7B

Follow the drinking gourd in the winter sky

It's late fall and the Big Dipper star group can be found low on the northern horizon after sunset.



TERRY SULLIVAN
ARMCHAIR SCIENCE

This group of seven stars may be the best known of all star groupings or asterisms. An asterism is a prominent grouping of stars forming a pattern.

Probably the first star group most learn, the Big Dipper is easy to recognize, but it's not a constellation. The Big Dipper makes up one-third of the constellation Ursa Major or the Big Bear. The seven stars make the hind quarter and tail of the bear. The cup is the bear's flank and

the handle is the tail.

The Big Dipper is a circumpolar group in that it circles the North Star through the night like a giant clock-hand moving counterclockwise.

For those living north of Tennessee, the stars never go below the North's horizon. The more north one goes, the lower the four stars making the bowl appear to hang in the sky, and during the fall months the bowl almost appears to touch the Earth.

The Big Dipper stars are visible all night — just changing evening positions with the season.

In the spring-summer, they're high with the cup upside down while in the fall-winter the cup is low with the bowl facing up. Ancient weather lore described the bowl shifting to upside down in spring causing it to

pour out water collected all winter and creating spring rains.

In Greek mythology, the group comes from the bear story. Callisto was a beautiful nymph who caught the attention of King Zeus. Together they had a son named Arcas, but Zeus was married to Hera who was insanely jealous. Hera changed Callisto into a bear and caused a great wind to blow the bear into the sky with son Arcas behind. Callisto was placed in the north and as punishment never allowed to touch the sea's cooling water to bathe.

Her son became Bootes, the Herdsman, forced to follow her around the sky every night. Ursa Major and Bootes are two easy to find prominent fall constellations.

The Big Dipper seven-star asterism is so prominent that it has meaning in every

culture. In ancient England and Ireland, it was seen as the great plow. The cup was a plow blade, and the handle made a yoke to steer the plow. To the Vikings, it represented a chariot belonging to Odin. In China, Japan and Korea it was a ladle. The Fins saw a salmon net. Romans saw a wagon pulled by the horses in the handle.

People in Saudi Arabia visualize the Big Dipper as a coffin with three family members following. Northern American Indians considered the bowl portion as a bear with three warriors chasing. For First Peoples, hunters wounding the bear in the fall spilled blood over the forest, coloring the leaves.

Maya and Inca civilizations were too far south to ever see the grouping. Egyptians used the group of stars to align their pyramids

with north and the grouping matches up across from Orion where they used the belt of Orion to orient shafts inside the pyramid for a view of the night sky by the entombed.

The set of seven stars are of similar brightness and distance from Earth. They're all near magnitude 2 brightness and range from 80 to 120 light years away. Their names in order are Alkaid, Mizar-Alcor, Alioth, Megrez, Phecda, Merak and Dubhe. Yes that's eight, but only seen as seven.

Alkaid is the end of the handle. It's only 10 million years old and an energetic infant star. Others in the group are older. The middle of the handle is made up of Mizar and Alcor, a visual double that looks like one star. Mizar is a huge red giant swelled and nearing the end of its life.

Where Alcor is a blue-white massive young star.

It takes a clear night and good vision to pick out Alcor next to Mizar. It is at the limit of human vision. Those two are in line in the sky but Alcor really is a true binary orbiting a nearby partner like a planet and star. This is only visible in a high-power telescope.

The Big Dipper has been in place as long as Homo sapiens have been exploring. It is regularly used for navigation and to find other star groupings. Best known is how the two far side stars of the cup form a line always pointing to Polaris, the North Star.

While the asterism has always been used by navigators, it has not always been seen as a dipper. The ladle image is from north Africa.

See SULLIVAN, Page 7B

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Edgar coat drive is Dec. 6-Dec. 9

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Edgar County ROSC is hosting a coat drive in Edgar County. Donations of all sizes are needed to help people get through the winter. Coats may be left between Dec. 6 and Dec. 9 at Atrium of Life Center, 745 East Court Street, Paris; Betty Jane's Kitchen, 1249 North Main Street, Paris; and Dermatology EZ Care Base-ment, 1 Phipps Lane, Paris.

TOPS #IL 1563 meets, celebrates contests

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

TOPS #IL 1563 met Thursday, Nov. 17. Club members recognized were: Ruth Ann Knight, TOPS weekly best loser; Janet Embry, TOPS weekly best loser; Jean Daniels, monthly best loser; Ruth Ann Knight won the walking drawing; and JoEllen Edmonds won the food chart drawing. The program was given by Sue English and the group members who attended the Fall Rally on November 12 in Danville. TOPS #IL1563

won several awards for contributions to the rally. Connie Porter was recognized as one of the TOPS summer best losers for the area TOPS groups attending the rally. Members walked a total of 53 miles, so the Christmas walking contest ended with members successfully accumulating 111 walking miles from Paris to Santa Claus, Ind., before Christmas. Another contest is ongoing where, each week, members will receive an award if they lose weight and turn in a food chart. Another challenge to members

encourages them to come back the week after Thanksgiving with a loss and earn free dues for December. If a member comes back with a food chart for both weeks and a loss, they will receive a special award as well. TOPS #IL 1563 meets every Thursday at the Highland Manor Administration Building, 604 Highland Dr., Paris, with weigh-ins beginning at 8 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. Visitors and new members are always welcome and more information is available by calling 217-251-5190 or 217-466-3885.

DAR, SAR good citizens of the year announced

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Stephen A. Douglas Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, recently announced the Good Citizens of the Year recipients. Each year since 1937, the Stephen A. Douglas Chapter DAR has recognized the outstanding high school senior of

each of the schools within the district's region. Recipients of the award most closely represent the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. The DAR Good Citizen Program reflects two of the missions of the national society which are education and patriotism. Selected for the DAR Good Citizen Award are Kaylin

Williams from Shiloh, Eadie Budd from Arcola, Brady Moore from Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond, Brogan Rennett from Tuscola and Kyleigh Price from Villa Grove. The Piankeshaw Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution recognizes the SAR Good Citizen Award. Selected this year

are Tyler Hutchinson from Shiloh, Morgan Doud from Arcola, Kaylee Schrock from Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond, Grant Kauffman from Tuscola and Luke Zimmerman from Villa Grove. The DAR/SAR Good Citizens will be honored Feb. 11, 2023, at a luncheon at the Villa Grove Methodist Church.

Kansas student performs in Christmas at Augustana

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

ROCK ISLAND — The Augustana College Department of Music presents: Christmas at Augustana, Dec. 3-4 in Centennial Hall. More than 200 student musicians will take the stage

to share their talents in what has become a highlight of the Augustana and Quad-Cities holiday season. Presented by Quad City Bank & Trust, Christmas at Augustana has thrilled audiences since 2008. The performance features the Augustana Brass

Ensemble, Augustana Symphony Orchestra, Ascension Ringers, Augustana Choir, Jenny Lind Vocal Ensemble and Augustana Concert Chorale. Among the musician performers is Bailey Hacker from Kansas.

The Quad Cities' ABC affiliate, WQAD, will stream the Saturday performance live online at Augustana.edu. The performance will be rebroadcast in the Quad-Cities area at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Christmas Day.

Sisters to host Virtual Advent retreat offered for women

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS, Ind. — Single women ages 18-42 are invited to join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind., for a pray as you go new Beginnings Advent retreat. The mini-retreat includes

an introduction and four sessions with session providing time for viewing the retreat materials together followed by prayer and discussion. The virtual sessions are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 27, New beginnings with

John the Baptist); Sunday, Dec. 4, New beginnings with Mary; Sunday, Dec. 11, New beginnings with Joseph; and the concluding session Sunday, Dec. 18, New beginnings with Jesus. All sessions are 7:30-8:45 p.m., Eastern

time. For more information or to sign up for the retreats, contact Sister Joni Luna, SP, at 361-500-9505 or jluna@spsmw.org. For additional information, visit Events.SistersofProvidence.org.

Flagpole removed from Old State Capitol

BY PETER HANCOCK phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — People walking through downtown Springfield on Monday morning, Nov. 21, looked up to an unusual sight — a helicopter hovering over the Old State Capitol, dropping a rope and lifting away the flagpole that sat atop the bronze-colored dome. "We took off the flagpole of at the Old State Capitol today in preparation for a new automated one that will be going up probably in a few months," said Troy Gilmore, assistant site superintendent for the Springfield State Historic Sites with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The operation took fewer than 15 minutes and was part of an ongoing renovation project that has kept the historic building shrouded behind scaffolding for about two years. The project involves repairing roof

leaks, repairing and replacing windows, and replacing portions of the columns known as capitals — the decorative portions at the top of Corinthian columns. Gilmore said replacing the manually controlled flagpole with an automated one will improve safety for workers who raise and lower the flag to half-staff or full staff. The Old State Capitol, located a few blocks northeast of the current Statehouse, was used by lawmakers from 1840 to 1876. It was the Capitol when Abraham Lincoln served in the Illinois House, and it is where he delivered his famous House Divided speech in 1858 after accepting the Republican Party nomination for the U.S. Senate. Gilmore said when the legislature left the building in 1876, it was purchased by Sangamon County, which operated it for the next 90 years and made sev-

eral substantial changes. "The most drastic change that the county made was in 1900, when they raised the building up 11 feet taller than it even stands today," he said. "And that was to add another level of offices on the ground floor. So, after 1902 you walked straight into the building off of the street level, you didn't even walk up the steps as you would have today." The state of Illinois purchased the building in 1966 and launched a three-year restoration project to return the building to its original state, a project that involved taking the building apart and rebuilding it piece-by-piece. Gilmore said the current renovation project will soon move into its second phase, which will involve removing asbestos from the boiler rooms and installing new restrooms for the first time since the 1960s.

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Out of the Past

Here are stories appearing in the November 1922 issues of the Paris



CALLIE BABER
OUT OF THE PAST

Beacon-News. Spelling and punctuation were not changed except where necessary for better understanding.

TWO INDICTMENTS RETURNED AGAINST PASTOR AT EDGAR

The News learned Saturday that two indictments have been returned against the Rev. Charles E. Hogue, Methodist minister at Edgar, the second charge being transporting liquor. The other charge is driving a car while intoxicated.

The News received telephone information from Lerna Saturday to the effect that some years ago the Rev. Hogue had been addicted to drink, but had reformed.

The listing by another evening paper of the names of Lester Shipley and Herman Heck, and Claude Davison and Delbert O. Jones as having been indicted is an error. No bills were returned against these four.

Loren Dallas was indicted on a charge of stealing an automobile tire from George Weise.

Five indictments were returned for burglary and larceny, but as the defendants have not been arrested the names are withheld from publication.

SUNKEL CATTLE BRINGING TOP PRICE

Frank Sunkel, of Paris, sold yearling steers at the highest price paid for this age of beef on the Chicago cattle market. The price was \$13 a hundred-weight, which was not approached by any other sale of yearlings. Very few cattle of this class sold above \$11.50 a hundred-weight on the same day.

The Sunkel steers were Herefords numbering fifty-three head and averaging 1057 pounds each. They were bought by a local packer for shipment east to fashionable hotels and private trade. Like other shipments of this class of cattle from this county, they made a very nice profit for the feeder.

Good Hereford steers are the market-topping kind and bring prosperity to the community in which they are fed.

MRS. ADAMS CHOSE AS COUNTY CHAIRMAN

The executive board of the Edgar County Tuberculosis Society, met Saturday afternoon at the library and appointed Mrs. Franklyn Adams as county chairman of the Christmas Seal drive.

The goal this year for Edgar county is 150,000 seals. Health bonds will also be sold this year as formerly.

See PAST, Page 4B

Hoover fed Belgium during World War I

One of the poorest-rated presidents is hero to Belgians

BY TOM EMERY
ilcivilwar@yahoo.com

Many Americans view Herbert Hoover as a failed president with his administration tarnished by the Great Depression. Belgians, however, have a different opinion.

One hundred years ago, Hoover formed the Commission for Relief in Belgium (CRB), which shipped millions of tons of food to prevent Belgium from national starvation during World War I. Unlike his reputation in American history, many Belgians consider Hoover a national savior.

"It's incredible what Hoover was able to do," said Thomas Schwartz, curator of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, Iowa. "He's still revered by many in Belgium."

Though Belgium had declared neutrality as early as 1837, Germany opened an invasion on Aug. 4, 1914, and overran the country by mid-month. Over three-fourths of the Belgian food supply was imported, which was soon cut off, and the occupying German forces requisitioned much of the rest. By the fall of 1914, starvation was a threat to some 9 million people in Belgium and areas of northern France also occupied by

Hoover, who had accumulated millions as a successful international mining engineer, was in Europe at the outbreak of war along with tens of thousands of stranded Americans, as travel was restricted and credit lines were canceled. Sensing the need, Hoover organized efforts to raise money and supplies, as well as passage, for 120,000 overseas Americans.

Impressed, a delegation including the U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom, William Hines Page, approached Hoover to lead a Belgian relief effort.

"It was serendipity," said Schwartz of Hoover's start in Belgian aid. "Hoover was in London at the start of the war to represent the

Pan-Pacific exposition, and his great work attracted attention."

On Oct. 20, 1914, Hoover formed the Commission for Relief in Belgium (CRB), which is recognized as one of the greatest relief efforts in world history. He brought along a circle of friends and associates, many of them engineers, to undertake the mammoth task of feeding virtually an entire nation.

"Hoover did this with considerable risk to himself," said Schwartz. "His personal safety, his business interests, and his fortune were all in jeopardy. Hoover certainly had a lot to lose."

Hoover never accepted a salary as head of the CRB. Raising money to buy

food was at the top of the list, and Hoover solicited donations from various countries and private citizens worldwide. Within a few weeks, some \$2 million was collected, and after six weeks, Hoover reported, "We had delivered some 60,000 tons of food from overseas."

The CRB also faced substantial diplomatic issues. Leaders of the United Kingdom, particularly First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill, were reticent to assist Belgium, fearing relief would prevent the Belgian people from rising against their occupiers. Churchill was also concerned about Germans intercepting the food relief.

See HOOVER, Page 4B

THE PILGRIMS FIRST LANDED IN HOLLAND



Special to The Prairie Press

The old church in Leiden where the Dutch celebrated Thanksgiving. This holiday may have influenced English Separatists living in Leiden before they moved to North America.

Arrival of the Scrooby Pilgrims

BY ROGER STANLEY
Rogerstanley769@yahoo.com

This story begins with the many trials of the Calvinists religious separatists who lived in the town of Scrooby in the county of Nottinghamshire, England, and their struggle with the authority of the Anglican Church. The main leaders of this group were the Rev. John Robinson, a former Anglican pastor at Norwich, and William Brewster, a postmaster of Scrooby.

In 1607, the Scrooby separatists tried to make their way to Amsterdam, Holland, but the English ship captain betrayed them, and they were imprisoned, unable to join the separatists that had gone to Amsterdam in 1595 to set up a colony. That colony was led by the Rev. Francis Johnson, a good friend of William Brewster.

The Scrooby group tried again in 1608 and when most of the men were aboard the Dutch ship, the Dutch captain saw English troops approaching and he shoved off. That left a few men, all the women and children to be captured. They were sent from one jail to the next, but when the courts found the Pilgrims had sold all their lands and belongings, they were allowed to join the others in Holland. So, the Pilgrims finally escaped prosecution from the Church of England and went to Amsterdam, Holland.

The group sought a more democratic and direct religious experience. Because of theological disputes and scandals by other separatists the group from Scrooby moved on to Leiden, Holland, in 1609. Most of the 100 Pilgrims lived in

one-room houses near the Pieterskerk — the oldest church in the city.

They scratched out a living by working as textile workers, carpenters, teachers, soldiers, hat makers and pipe makers. They worshipped and believed as they pleased.

The University of Leiden allowed the Pilgrims to use one of their chapels for church services. Some of the Pilgrims took classes from the university which included theology, medicine and several other topics.

In 10 years, most of the Pilgrims decided to move on because of tough economic conditions and the possibility of the Netherlands war with Spain. They also thought the Dutch culture was too liberal for their children.

The Scrooby Pilgrims boarded several small boats in July 1620 and went down the canals to Delfshaven where they boarded the 60-ton Speedwell — a



Special to The Prairie Press

The ancient church in Scrooby, England, was the source of conflict between Separatists, sometimes called Puritans, who sought to break away from the Anglican church, the official church of England, for what they considered a more pure religious experience. The Puritans later became the Pilgrims of American history.

ship capable of the Atlantic Ocean voyage to the New World.

They were supposed to meet with the Mayflower and both sail to America. The Speedwell was taking on water, so it returned to port and the Mayflower sailed on its westward voyage to the New World.

See PILGRIMS, Page 4B

Thanks for everything

Thank you Lord for everything,
Both large and small.
Thanks to you/
For giving your all.

I know I don't deserve what I have,
But somehow you know/
What I need/
On this earth below.

As you walk among us/
Strengthen our mind/
So we may know you/
And help all mankind.

Tis not simple/
To find our way/
Lead us, oh lead us/
In each and every day.

I like to think in simple terms,
So I offer this simple poem as I give thanks especially in this time of year when our nation observes Thanksgiving.

First of all, I thank you for giving me life and for loving parents who made that possible. I also give thanks for giving me Rosie a true mate for sharing our lives together. I especially love her wisdom and her humor. Just now she commented about being of the male gender because that was what I was intended to be.

Being a father has been special, even though I have wanted to pull my hair out on several occasions, but I love my three kids dearly. I especially care for Ginger our oldest daughter who gave Rosie and I a new life to share with us. She was musically inclined, and she sure praises the Lord with every note she sings.

About three years later we were blessed when Gina arrived as a bouncing bundle of joy. Before long she was singing all the songs from the movie "Bambi," and Rosie and I were amazed by her memory, and she could tell a story with her music. Somehow that old farm on the prairie must have been blessed with a breeze that blew with melodious songs in the air.

Both of those girls were special with a musical sense they could perform and could create wonderful tunes in their mind. Hmmm, maybe that had something to do with her parents because the creator had blessed us with melody in our souls.

See STANLEY, Page 4B



ROGER STANLEY

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PAST
FROM PAGE 3B

BIKE RIDER STRUCK BY AN AUTOMOBILE

Miss Louise McClure, driving a Chevrolet and Hugh Johnson, riding a bicycle, were both going south on Main street Saturday, when, near the High School building, Johnson, in turning out for another car coming from the south, rode in front of the Chevrolet.

The bicycle rider managed to fall free of the automobile, which passed over the bicycle, putting it out of commission. Johnson escaped with a few bruises.

WILLIAMS CAR HIT BY TRAIN

John Williams' new Buick sedan was badly damaged Wednesday morning when struck by a slow freight on the Cairo division of the Big Four at the crossing at Edgar.

Mrs. Williams and daughter, Frances, were in the machine and had started across the tracks when the engine went dead. Being unable to start the car Mrs.

Williams and daughter had the presence of mind to get out of the machine just before the crash came.

WRECKED CAR SOLD

The Buick automobile driven and owned by Robert L. Burnison, which was in a collision with the car driven by the Rev. Mr. Hogue of Edgar, sold Friday for \$100. The car was too badly shattered to be driven away from the wreck.

LICENSE REFUSED TO PARIS COUPLE

DANVILLE, Ill., Nov. 20.—Everett D. Snyder, 21, of Paris, Ill., was refused a marriage license by County Clerk John R. Moore Saturday morning after admitting that Hazel L. Sharf of Paris, the girl he wanted to wed, was only 16 years old.

The young man announced that he would get the consent of the girl's parents and return Monday for the coveted license.

COLWELL ARRESTED FOR VIOLATION OF HIS PRISON PAROLE

Charles Colwell, 33

years old, who violated his parole from the Chester penitentiary, was taken into custody Friday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Belle Kizer at Isabel, by Parole Officer Fred A. Howard, and brought to Paris and placed in jail until next week when he will be returned to Chester to finish his sentence which is about one year.

Colwell was sentenced to Chester in 1915 from Urbana, Ill., on a charge of assault to kill, having shot a young man, it is alleged, over a girl. Six weeks ago he was released and ordered to Clinton, Ill., where he was to work on a farm. He failed to appear at the farm and since that time had been roaming the country until he put in his appearance at his mother's home.

WAS 16 IN DANVILLE, BUT 18 IN COLES CO.

Everett Sanders and Miss Hazel L. Sharf, both of Paris, were granted a marriage license in Charleston, Ill., Tuesday afternoon.

The couple were refused a marriage license in Danville Saturday when the bride's age was given as 16.

In Charleston Sanders said he was 21 and Miss Sharf swore to being 18.

(Out of the Past reflects the events occurring in Paris and nearby areas 100 years ago. It is compiled by Callie Baber with acknowledgements to Ned Jenison and aloha to Mr. Hand.)

CHIVALRY TRIUMPHS: WOMAN IS SEATED

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—The star of woman suffrage reached its highest ascendency in American history today when Mrs. W. H.

Felton was formally seated as a full-fledged Senator of the United States.

She is the first woman Senator to take the oath of office on the floor of the Senate.

Mrs. Felton won her Senatorship when chivalry triumphed over legality. A single objection from any one of 95 male Senators would have prevented her from taking her seat.

STANLEY
FROM PAGE 3B

Thank you very much because the world without music would be very dull.

I can thank Ginger for her feline gender identification. She taught me the way to tell if it was a boy kitten or a girl kitty. If they had pink paws they were definitely female and if they were gray paws they were male.

Gina's claim to fame was to ride her bicycle between Ginger and me when we were playing catch. We learned how to throw a ball between her passes, and we finally got the subtle message. She became a catcher and Ginger was the pitcher. She just wanted to play ball.

We finally were surprised when Junior came along 12 years later, and he was a joy to behold. He had an uncanny way of learning things, and I think he thought he should know all the things his sisters had learned when he started to school.

His musical talent was shown when he played the slide trombone, and he enjoyed playing in performances with a brass quintet in high school.

Many times, he practiced serenading our goat herd with his trombone. I wonder if he was comparing the actions of the goats

with human audiences. If they shook their heads and stomped their feet, he knew he was playing the wrong tune.

I am just thankful for the memories and the realization that all three of our kids are different and all have families they care about. Life goes on and we are so proud to have grandkids and great-grandkids. I truly believe they have found their way, and all have been given enough wisdom to help others. At least they know how to seek your wisdom and then act upon it.

I am just glad we live in a friendly neighborhood and many of our friends are truly good to us. I have seldom met a grouch that doesn't want to live a happy life.

Surely if we expect the best in our experiences with others, we shall see it fulfilled. It is hard to be growly about the weather and things that go wrong, so make the best of life and give thanks for everything no matter how large or small.

Isn't amazing to hear and feel the music in the air during Thanksgiving and the Christmas season?

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

PILGRIMS
FROM PAGE 3B

Since some of the Pilgrims lived near the Pieterskerk, the old church in Leiden, they may have taken part in the celebration the Dutch observed in October. The idea of celebrating a religious victory observance could have been significant enough when the Dutch celebrated the lifting of the Spanish siege of Leiden in 1574.

The Pilgrims also thought it was a true thanksgiving from the trials when they could not worship and believe what they felt was important until they moved away from England. Maybe when they got to the New World they could believe they needed to celebrate in a new country where they felt that freedom again.

I am sure they were just glad to be alive having survived the first year and basically living the way they were intended to live. It was in many ways their second Thanksgiving, and they understood a little better why and how they should give thanks.

The Dutch still celebrate their thanksgiving in Leiden, and Americans still celebrate what the Pilgrims brought to the new world.



The Dutch Thanksgiving celebrating a religious victory over Spain is held in this church in Leiden. It may have influenced thinking of English Separatists who later participated in a Thanksgiving celebration as Pilgrims in Massachusetts.

HOOVER
FROM PAGE 3B

Hoover met with German authorities in Berlin and somehow managed to receive a written guarantee the relief food was safe from requisitioning by the German armies. Germany also promised freedom of movement in Belgium, as well as safe delivery for the food into Belgium through neighboring Holland. This achievement swayed the British, whose donations averaged \$5 million a month thereafter.

"Under Hoover, the CRB was a sort of nation-state," said Schwartz. "It had its own flag, its own navy of ships and operated almost like a separate entity."

The food was sent into Rotterdam, using specific naval routes offered by Germany. Once there, the cargo was transferred to canal boats and taken to leading Belgian cities. Then, the goods were distributed to one of nearly 1,200 local distribution points, using more than 50,000 Belgian volunteers.

Daily rations were composed of bread, bacon, lard, rice, dried beans or peas, potatoes, brown sugar, and a cereal resembling corn flakes. The 1,800-calorie daily diets cost the CRB an average of eight cents per person per day.

Food was milled within Belgium, and the flour sacks became a symbol of the effort.

"The people of Belgium would decorate the sacks by embroidering or painting them," said Schwartz. "Then they would return them, as a sort of thank-you card."

The Hoover museum in West Branch holds around 300 of the colorfully decorated sacks.

The effort not only fed the Belgian population but provided clothing and medical supplies. Economic recovery was also a priority. The internationally acclaimed Belgian lace industry, which ground to a standstill during wartime, was revived through the efforts of the CRB, putting some 40,000 women back to work.

When the United States entered the war in 1917, the neutrality of the CRB was at stake, and operations were transferred to the Spanish ambassador. Under Hoover's direction, some 5.2 million metric tons of food were shipped to Belgium.

"That figure is just astounding," said Schwartz.

"Just think about how much food that is. It's incredible to think about."

During the existence of the CRB, some \$800 million was expended, and overhead costs were kept to a meager one-half of one percent. At its end in 1919, the CRB had \$35 million in leftover funds, part of which Hoover used to establish two cultural foundations, including the Belgian-American Educational Foundation, which still exists.

Honors for Hoover poured in across Belgium, but he declined all of them, declaring that accomplishment is all that counts. However, he did accept Belgian King Albert's unprecedented designation as a Friend of Belgium.

Hoover subsequently served as U.S. food administrator, encouraging Americans to voluntarily reduce food consumption amid domestic shortages. He promoted meatless Mondays and wheatless Wednesdays, and the term "Hooverize" became synonymous with self-imposed rationing. He also served as director of the American Relief Administration, which continued international food distribution.

Hoover was elected president in 1928, a year before the onset of the Great Depression. In contrast to his work in Belgium, he has been frequently criticized for refusing to implement government relief programs to stem the tide of the downturn.

He was also lambasted for the Bonus Army fiasco of 1932, when he ordered the armed removal of an encampment of World War I veterans in Washington seeking immediate payment of a promised war bonus.

As a result, many consider Hoover among America's worst presidents. Defeated for re-election in a landslide in 1932, Hoover chaired relief efforts for Poland, Finland and Belgium during World War II. He died on Oct. 20, 1964 — 50 years to the day of the establishment of the CRB.

"Hoover's work with the CRB is a tremendous story," said Schwartz. "His accomplishments are overshadowed by the Great Depression, but what he did before and after his presidency is remarkable."

(Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville, Ill. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.)

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Nature's population plan

A scientist friend recently noted at today's rate of consumption, the world is environmentally and economically sustainable for roughly 1 billion people. "That means with the world's population of 8 billion," he half-joked, "you're a goner." Right, just not right now; let nature take its course, eh?

Recent population trends, however, show that nature might already be winnowing us a bit faster—still too slow for my friend, but winnowing nonetheless.

For example, at a recent conference on the U.S. economy, the discussion quickly diverted from the more normal short-term economic outlook to the rarely discussed longer-term view with demography, the science of populations, as the key yardstick.

In fact, wrote Bloomberg columnist Niall Ferguson, the main event at the Aspen Economic Strategy Group conference, "turned out to be a series of disquieting papers on the US demographic trends and their implications. These turn out to be," judged Ferguson, a senior fellow at Stanford University, "a big deal—and at first sight a rather bad one."

Bad for the nation's quickly-aging population because America's steadily falling birth rates will, he notes citing research, "lead to slower population growth, which in turn [will] cause slower economic growth and present fiscal challenges" like Social Security which is banking on a growing population "to keep its actuarial deficit manageable..."

Still, adds Ferguson, the United Nations (UN) estimates if the U.S. birth rate returns to pre-1980s levels (slim chance) and the country reopens its immigration doors (even slimmer chance), its population could rise to 394 million by 2100, or 17% more than today.

If, however, the American birth rate remains historically low and the country continues to limit immigration, the U.S. population will drop to 280 million in 80 years, or 16% less than today.

The numbers are far more certain if the focus is China, America's biggest ag importer.

"By contrast," Ferguson explained, "the UN offers no scenario in which China's population does not decline. Best case, it falls by a fifth. Base case"—essentially the median—"it declines by 46%, to 771 million," from today's 1.4 billion. "Worst case, it falls by nearly two thirds, to 494 million."

See GUEBERT, Page 6B

USDA invests \$21.6m in research

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Chief Scientist Chavonda Jacobs-Young announced recently an investment of \$21.6 million in scientific research for small businesses to further develop transformative agricultural solutions.

"Small businesses, particularly rural and agricultural enterprises, play a vital role in the American economy. They embody the entrepreneurial spirit that America was built upon," said Jacobs-Young, who is also the USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics. "This latest investment strengthens federal research and development support for small businesses, including women- and

minority-owned businesses, and enhances USDA's efforts to rapidly scale innovation across the food supply chain."

This investment is part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program that targets early-stage private-sector projects. Grant funding will support 34 research projects that propose innovative and disruptive solutions on topics ranging from food science and nutrition to natural resource conservation.

"The projects we're supporting demonstrate scientific originality, technical feasibility, and strong commercial potential," said Acting NIFA Director Dionne Toombs. "With this research, our small business partners are helping

solve some of our most vexing agricultural problems."

The grants are supporting businesses across the country, from Washington to New York. Examples of funded projects include:

Pathovacs Incorporated of Ames, Iowa, is formulating a vaccine that will protect vaccinated pigs against 15 different variants of *Streptococcus suis* that predominately cause disease in many geographical regions.

According to the company's research brief, an economical and efficacious vaccine capable of conferring robust cross protection will be both attractive to pig farmers and significantly reduce economic losses to pork producers across North America and the globe. Iowa State University

estimates the bacteria costs the U.S. swine industry more than \$3 million annually.

The vaccine will also positively impact human health by decreasing incidence of human infection and disease, since pigs carry the pathogen asymptomatically and are a primary source of human infection.

Hangar Alpha LLC of New York, New York, has developed real-time predictive tools for fire behavior. These tools will help with cost-saving planning and prevention measures, and proper allocation of resources in real time. This funding will allow the company to rapidly develop and commercially produce predictive fire analytics for the public sector and expand into the tech-forward private

sector.

Allocation Insight, LLC of Lansing, Michigan, is working to reduce spray drift from aerial applications while significantly increasing the efficiency and profitability of aerial applicators. Their product aims to do this by decreasing the drift potential of sprays, allowing faster application rates, and increasing the productivity within weather windows in which spray can be applied, and improving the precision of applications.

The project will develop a scalable, multi-pump, electric drive, high-pressure aerial chemical delivery system that is designed to mount on piloted fixed-wing or rotary-wing aircraft, and potentially larger unmanned aerial vehicles.

See USDA, Page 4B

ILLINOIS PUMPKIN KING SAVED MAJOR STATE CROPS



Mohammed Babadoost shows the early stages of growing pumpkins in his field.

Special to The Prairie Press

Pumpkins impact ag

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA — Few of us stop to wonder how that slice of pumpkin pie made it onto our plate, but if it were not for the Illinois pumpkin industry and plant pathologist Mohammad Babadoost, the classic fall dessert might not be on the menu at all.

Back in 1999 and 2000, a devastating pumpkin disease threatened to wipe out the crop in Illinois — the number-one pumpkin-producing state in the nation. Babadoost came up with solutions to not only prevent the industry's collapse, but to help it grow.

Today, the pumpkin disease continues to rear its head, but Babadoost is there to fight back. And he reports the crop looks good in 2022.

Babadoost explained 2022 was a timely pumpkin season.

"As I do every year, I had trials on canning pumpkin at a commercial field near Pekin and at the UIUC Vegetable Research Farm in Champaign," he said.

Phytophthora blight, caused by *Phytophthora capsici*, is still the most important disease of canning pumpkins. Moisture is vital for development and spread of *Phytophthora blight*, but June and July were a bit drier than the past.

An effective management of *Phytophthora blight* has been developed, Babadoost said.

"Combine these factors together, and we had very limited loss to *Phytophthora capsici*," he said. "In addition, we did not get downy mildew disease in Illinois, which comes from the southeast-

ern states (e.g., Florida). So, we had very good yield and canning product in Illinois this year. Thus, everyone can have as many pumpkin pies as they wish."

MEET THE PUMPKIN KING OF ILLINOIS

It was a scene of utter devastation. When Mohammad Babadoost first visited Tazewell County's pumpkin farms, he saw nothing but field after field of melted pumpkins and vines.

"Why did you ask me to come here? You should have called the FBI," he recalls thinking.

Babadoost can make light of the situation now, but in 1999 and 2000, the disease that was wiping out the pumpkin industry in Illinois was no laughing matter.

"Two processing pumpkin companies wrote me letters in 2000 saying there was no way they could survive any longer," said Babadoost. "In some fields, they were seeing 100% losses. Other fields, it was 50, 60, 80%. Some had never harvested anything from their fields."

The culprit was an oomycete by the name of *Phytophthora capsici*, a fungus-like pathogen specializing in vandalizing pumpkins, cucumbers, melons, squash and other cucurbit fruits. The disease soon met its match in Babadoost.

ORIGINS

Babadoost has not always been the Pumpkin King of Illinois. He grew up far away from Illinois, in a farming village in the Azerbaijani region of northwest Iran.

As a young man he witnessed the hunger and malnutrition that can result from crop losses and poor production. The experience inspired his career.

"When I was a kid, I didn't know what plant pathology was," Babadoost said. "I just saw that a disease could come and wipe out everything."

When it came time for college, he enrolled in the Department of Plant Protection at the University of Tabriz in Iran. From there, he bounced around earning advanced degrees and battling plant pathogens in hot spots around the world. During those years, he worked on sugarbeet nematode, an important pest in Europe; a bacterial disease affecting Brassica crops in Washington; mycotoxins of wheat and corn in North Carolina; and seed potato diseases in Montana. He also spent some time back in Tabriz, teaching and establishing research facilities and a graduate program in his old department.

After all the moves, Babadoost and his family decided to finally put down roots in the U.S. He applied for a position in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at Illinois, and got an offer a week later. It was 1999.

THE SCOOP ON SQUASH

The pumpkins Babadoost works with most often are processing pumpkins that go into the cans that fly off the shelves at Thanksgiving. They don't look much like a run-of-the-mill Jack o' Lantern, although he works with those, too.

See PUMPKINS, Page 6B

Training for rural nurses

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Nursing and agriculture go hand in hand for Lauren Fields, Nelda Campbell and Amy Kilcannon. When their nursing shoes come off, their chore boots go on.

Fields has lived in rural Arkansas all her life. She grew up on a farm, married a farmer and started her journey as a nurse right out of high school. Today, she holds the credentials MBA, BSN, RN, and is the chief nursing officer for ARcare, a federally qualified health center providing affordable care to mostly rural patients in Arkansas, Kentucky and Mississippi. Like all nurses, Fields must earn ongoing educational credits to maintain her license. She recently met those criteria by participating in the Nurse Scholar program from AgriSafe, a nonprofit organization that provides agricultural occupational health services. The course is taken online at the nurse's convenience. While there is a fee, scholarships are available.

"We don't learn about ag-specific issues in nursing school," said Charlotte Halverson, AgriSafe clinical director. "Our Nurse Scholar program helps nurses learn to prevent, identify and assess health issues related to agricultural work."

LIFELONG LEARNING

The course covers topics including personal protective equipment, respiratory disease, hearing protection, dermatologic disorders, pesticide exposure, women's health issues, the opioid crisis, zoonoses, immigrant farmers, safeguarding children, rural behavioral health, musculoskeletal disorders and aging.

Fields says the program is useful to even experienced nurses.

"Mental health was a refresher for me and one of the things I got the most good out of," she said.

The course also taught her about whole body vibration, which can occur when operating tractors or other machinery and can cause injury to the musculoskeletal, circulatory and nervous systems.

See NURSES, Page 6B

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GUEBERT

FROM PAGE 5B

Think what 1 billion less people in China means to both the world and world markets, and think fast because, according to the Bloomberg writer, “The Chinese government has stopped denying it has a demographic problem.” Last month China “admitted that its population” would start to

shrink before 2025. But that’s only if China’s current population numbers are true. Recent reports strongly suggest that China’s infamous one-child policy that limited families to one child from 1979 until 2016 actually trimmed today’s overall population to 1.2 billion, substantially less than its official count of 1.41 billion. Despite these projected

declines, the UN still sees global population at 10 billion by 2059, then entering a generation-long leveling off period. Overall population decline is estimated to begin around 2086. Ninety-five percent of all the population growth until then, says the UN, will occur in the relatively young, relatively poor sub-Saharan nations of Africa. Strikingly, that means

that in less than 40 years, or about the average length of an American farmer’s career, sub-Saharan Africa will have two billion more people to feed, clothe and shelter. China might have one billion less, and rural America will be emptier than it is today. Another massive shift already in the cards is, again, in China where its recently reappointed leader, Xi Jinping, continues to push

farmers to divert resources from profitable agribusinesses to basic staples so the nation will be less dependent on the hostile west led by the U.S., according to the Financial Times. If that shift proves successful, China’s impact on U.S. ag markets, now a \$36 billion-a-year customer, will change long before its shrinking population shrinks its collective stomach.

That is if Mother Nature and her increasingly intense floods, droughts, hurricanes, rising seas, melting glaciers and other climate-forged scythes don’t winnow most of us first. (Alan Guebert is an award-winning agricultural journalist and expert who was raised on an 720-acre, 100-cow southern Illinois dairy farm. Email him at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.)



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PUMPKINS

FROM PAGE 5B

“Botanically speaking, what we call processing pumpkins are really winter squash,” Babadoost explained. “They are egg-shaped, and the color is more yellowish orange than completely orange.”

In 1999, there were approximately 6,000 acres of processing pumpkins in Illinois. By 2012, that number swelled to 16,100, making Illinois the country’s top pumpkin-producing state by a wide margin – 92% of all processing pumpkins are grown and processed here. Many growers credit Babadoost with the fact the industry not only did not collapse in 1999 but actually grew more than 2.5 times. Today, Babadoost estimates, the Illinois pumpkin industry is worth \$20 million.

“If Mohammad couldn’t have solved the problem, the processing pumpkin industry might have moved out of Illinois,” said retired U of I Extension educator and Jack o’ Lantern farmer Mike Roegge. “But he discovered the problem, and he found a solution for it. We gotta put him on a pedestal for what he’s done.”

A PUMPKIN PREDICAMENT

Back in 1999, the problem, and the solution, started with the seeds. “People told me sometimes they would plant and nothing would come up, just a few plants,” Babadoost said. “They would go back and seed again. Sometimes they would try seeding three times with no success.”

It turns out the pathogen was everywhere in the soil. With each planting, seedlings pushed out tiny roots and leaves, but the delicate tissues were quickly consumed by the oomycete.

“My first thought was ‘We have to get the seeds germinating and seedlings up,’ I quickly developed a seed treatment at almost no cost – maybe less than less than 50 cents per acre,” he said. “It worked very well. After that, almost no one had to plant a second time.”

That seed treatment was a simple coating of fungicide powder. Producers simply soaked seeds in water, added the powder and plant. It was enough to protect seedlings for up to five weeks — a good start, but it wasn’t always enough.

“We needed to get to about 12 weeks for the best protection,” Babadoost said. “I quickly started screening fungicides. The only one that was registered for pumpkin at the time actually made the problem worse. But I found one for oomycetes, tested it, and realized it was just great.”

The problem was almost solved, but Babadoost knew there was more he could do to keep Phytophthora capsici at bay. He realized the pathogen was happiest in low-lying wet areas in the field.

“I came to the conclusion that if we simply go and scout the field, we might be able to stop the entire field from becoming infected,” Babadoost said. “If we find the low-lying spots in the field, we can remove and destroy any infected plants and prevent build-

ing up the population of the pathogen. This simple solution was actually very helpful.

“I also started screening cultivars for resistance to the pathogen, tested a few more fungicides, and found some very effective ones. Then, gradually, not only did the processing pumpkin industry not die, it actually increased.”

INDUSTRY INFLUENCE

Known around the world for his pumpkin expertise, Babadoost receives regular calls to consult and present his findings overseas and across the United States. But he hasn’t forsaken the connections he’s made in Illinois. Every year, he tests fungicides and makes new recommendations that are specific to Illinois producers.

“I’m in constant contact with the growers,” he said. Roegge added, “Everybody who grows commercial pumpkins in Illinois knows Mohammad on a first-name basis. He’s that important to the industry.”

Babadoost has clearly played a major role in resurrecting this economically important crop in the state, but pumpkins are more than a cash crop to him. “Pumpkins are really educational,” he said. “Hundreds, thousands of people come out each fall to farms to pick out pumpkins. Someone from Chicago with no farm experience picks a pumpkin, takes a picture, enjoys it.”

So, as we think about things to be thankful for at this time of year, be sure to give a nod and lift a fork to the Pumpkin King.

NURSES

FROM PAGE 5B

Fields put that knowledge into practice right away by recommending exercises and stretches to a farmworker who complained of back pain after driving a tractor.

“That was an evaluation I could make that I never knew existed in all my years of nursing until the course,” she said.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE

Fields said once the 300 nurses on her ARCare team have a chance to catch their breath after COVID and research ongoing credit options, she will recommend they look into the Nurse Scholar program.

“I want them to be able to better connect with the rural population and to understand why farmers often feel like they don’t have time for prevention,” she said. “They are busy and things have been done a certain way for generations and generations. If those nurses can better understand the dynamics of the culture of farming, then they can take care of the farmer with more empathy.”

TEACHING PREVENTIVE CARE

Nelda Campbell got her start working in a hospital, then making in-home visits to rural patients as a home health nurse. She now works as a regional nurse case manager for Mars/Wrigley. She grew up on a farm and runs a row crop, forage and cattle operation with her husband and sons. Her daughter and son-in-law are also engaged in farming.

“Having the course all online and at your own pace was fantastic for me because I work all day and have five grandchildren under the age of 2, including triplets,” she said.

Campbell often started a course late at night. “The courses were so interesting that I wanted to be able to focus, listen, and take notes,” she said. “The flexibility was

great.” Three of the major takeaways for Campbell were mental health, children’s safety and ergonomics.

“The mental health training really resonated with me because many farmers don’t ever want to admit something like that, so it’s very important we get out there and let them know their mental health matters,” she said.

Campbell is especially interested in teaching young people about proper ergonomics when it comes to lifting and other jobs.

“They think their bodies are invincible in their 20s, but if they aren’t doing things correctly, over time the wear and tear will catch up with them,” she said.

Lessons from the Nurse Scholar program apply to her nursing and farming careers, and she’s eager to share her knowledge.

“I definitely learned some things I can utilize in the day-to-day farming of our own operation plus at work,” Campbell said. “My wheels have been turning on how I can get that information out there; I’m excited to use the tools.”

The AgriSafe website, agri-safe.org, is full of information on a variety of health and safety topics. To learn more about the Nurse Scholar program, apply for scholarships, and register for the course, which provides 20 hours of ongoing education, visit agrisafe.org/courses/nurse-scholar.

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USDA

FROM PAGE 5B

In addition, here is a breakdown of what categories received grants:

- Forests and Related Resources (2 awards, \$1,299,734)
- Plant Production and Protection (Biology) (1 award, \$650,000)
- Animal Production and Protections (3 awards, \$1,899,999)
- Conservation of Natural Resources (5 awards, \$3,249,849)
- Food Science and Nutrition (5 awards, \$3,192,035)
- Rural and Community Development (4 awards,

\$2,498,235)

- Biofuels and Biobased Products (3 awards, \$1,950,000)

NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education and Extension across the nation to make transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges. NIFA supports initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture and applies an integrated approach to ensure that groundbreaking discoveries in agriculture-related sciences and technologies reach the people who can put them into practice. In fiscal year 2022, NIFA’s total investment was \$2.2 billion.



Find more memory-making recipes at [EnvyApples.com](https://www.envyapples.com).

Apple Custard Sponge Trifle

Servings: 8-10

- 6 Envy apples
- 2 tablespoons golden caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup, plus 2 tablespoons, water
- 1 tablespoon corn flour
- 1 large plain sponge cake
- 2 cups vanilla bean custard
- 1/2 cup caramel or butterscotch sauce, plus additional for garnish, divided
- 1/2 cup cream
- fresh apple slices
- fresh strawberry slices

Peel, core and dice apples; place in large saucepan. Add caster sugar, cinnamon and 1/2 cup water. Simmer apples 5-8 minutes until tender.

Combine corn flour and remaining water. Stir corn flour mixture into apples until apples are syrupy.

Cut sponge cake into 2-centimeter diced pieces. Arrange 1/3 of sponge pieces in base of serving bowl. Add half of cinnamon apple pieces, including syrupy juices. Add 1 cup custard and drizzle with 1/4 cup caramel sauce. Repeat with remaining ingredients, finishing with sponge cake; chill.

Whip cream and spoon dollops over sponge cake to cover top. Garnish with apple slices, strawberry slices and caramel sauce.

Apple Custard Sponge Trifle

Make Holiday Memories with Sweet Eats

FAMILY FEATURES

Whether your festivities include immediate family or bring together relatives from around the country, the holidays are about making memories with loved ones. From the first days of the season to the last, many families spend their precious time together with favorite activities and the best foods the holidays have to offer.

This year, you can change things up and start new traditions with a fresh ingredient like Envy apples, which provide an easy way to update classics due to their sweet taste and availability. The sweet, sophisticated flavor; uplifting, fresh aroma; delightfully satisfying crunch; beautiful appearance; and naturally white flesh that doesn't brown as quickly as other apples all lend themselves to shareable recipes like this Apple Wreath Salad or Roasted Apple Macaroni and Cheese, both perfect for holiday parties.

Because cherished memories are made with sweet ingredients, you can turn cozy movie nights into festive and memorable events year after year by pairing Hallmark Channel's popular "Countdown to Christmas" holiday movies with delicious desserts like Apple Custard Sponge Trifle and Brown Butter Apple Pie.



Apple Wreath Salad

Brown Butter Apple Pie

Streusel Topping:

- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- 2 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 4 tablespoons butter, cut into 1/2-inch cubes

Filling:

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 2 pounds Envy apples, cut into 1/4-inch slices
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 tablespoons flour

- 1 deep dish frozen pie shell

Preheat oven to 375 F.

To make streusel topping: Mix flour, chopped pecans and light brown sugar. Stir in butter using fingertips until incorporated with small lumps of butter visible. Refrigerate.

To make filling: In large skillet over medium heat, melt butter until amber, stirring often. Set aside to cool. In large bowl, stir sliced apples, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt, vanilla and flour using spatula. Pour brown butter over apples and mix, scraping skillet with rubber spatula to incorporate brown butter bits.

Place frozen pie shell on baking sheet. Add 2 cups apple mixture into shell, gently pressing apple slices for even base. Add remaining apple slices and gently press. Sprinkle streusel topping evenly over apples.

Bake 30 minutes then reduce oven temperature to 350 F and bake 35-45 minutes until topping is golden and apples feel tender when pierced with fork.



Brown Butter Apple Pie

Apple Wreath Salad

Recipe courtesy of "The Produce Moms" (@theproducemoms)

Balsamic Dressing:

- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper, finely ground
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 3/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Salad:

- 10 ounces baby arugula
- 3 Envy apples, sliced
- 9 ounces goat cheese, crumbled

- 3 ounces pomegranate arils
- 3 ounces pecans, toasted

To make balsamic dressing: In small serving bowl, whisk honey, Dijon mustard, salt, pepper, garlic, balsamic vinegar and olive oil.

Place dressing bowl in center of large board or platter. Arrange arugula around dressing bowl in wreath shape.

Place apple slices on top of arugula. Sprinkle on goat cheese, pomegranate arils and pecans.

Roasted Apple Macaroni and Cheese

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs

Bring large pot of salted water to boil. Add noodles and cook until just tender. Drain and set aside.

In large pot over high heat, melt butter then saute diced apple until caramelized and tender. Sprinkle in flour and stir. Cook 1 minute, stirring frequently.

Whisk in heavy cream and milk; bring to boil, whisking frequently so milk doesn't burn.

Once boiling, turn heat to low and whisk in cheddar cheese, Romano cheese, gruyere cheese, salt and Worcestershire. Continue whisking until cheese is melted thoroughly.

Carefully pour mixture into large blender and blend on high until smooth. Pour cheese sauce over noodles and stir.

Pour macaroni and cheese into 9-by-13-inch pan and spread evenly. Heat oven to broil.

To make topping: In medium bowl, melt butter and stir in panko breadcrumbs. Sprinkle breadcrumbs over macaroni and cheese; broil until golden brown.

- Salted water
- 1 pound macaroni noodles
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 Envy apple, peeled and diced
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 2 cups milk
- 3 cups sharp cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 cup Romano cheese, grated
- 1 cup gruyere cheese, grated
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire



Roasted Apple Macaroni and Cheese

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Maintenance position

The Edgar County Public Health Department is seeking to fill a **Maintenance position**. This position is PRN (as needed). The qualified applicant should be able to perform general facility maintenance and repair, assemble furniture, and act as a groundskeeper. Experience with hand and power tools is required. This position involves moderate to heavy manual labor. This is not janitorial role.

Please send applications to
mdunn@ecphd.org

The City of Paris Police Department is accepting applications for full time **Telecommunications Operator**

Communications personnel work shift work based on seniority which is bid bi-annually.

Responsibilities include but not limited too; answering emergent and non-emergent calls from the public, as well as 911, and dispatching those calls to the officers. Monitoring Paris Police Department and EMS radio channels. Entering and maintaining department dispatch logs, reports, citations, etc.

Telecommunicators should have the ability to exercise sound judgment, remain calm under pressure, make decisions without direct supervision, possess excellent verbal skills when dealing with the general public, be able to organize while handling multiple tasks, and convey proficient written skills.

- *No Experience Necessary.
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- *Competitive Pay.
- *Paid Holidays, Sick time, Vacation, and Personal Time.
- *Health Insurance Available.
- *High School Diploma or GED.
- *Must be 21 Years of Age.
- *No Felony Arrests.

Paris Police Department is an EOE
211 W. Washington Street • Paris, IL

Applications can be picked up at city hall or online at parisillinois.org

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217-463-8800, leave msg.

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LEGALS

Public Notice
Public Meeting to select Edgar County representation of the low-income population to serve on the Embarrass River Basin Board of Directors. Meeting date November 28, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at 114 Andrew Street. Paris, IL.

HOUSES FOR RENT

5 BR Ranch Home in Paris.
Send inquiries to:
The Prairie Press
Box A
101 N. Central Ave.
Paris, IL. 61944

HOUSING FOR RENT

2 & 3 Bdrm. Mobile Home
gas, electric, water, can be included in rent, dep. Washer & dryer and AC may be

CITY OF PARIS, Plaintiff, vs. CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA, UNKNOWN OWNERS and

NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

LIS PENDENS NOTICE AND NOTICE OF COMPLAINT FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE AND DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS

No. 2022-MR-

Notice is hereby given to CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS that a Complaint has been filed in the above entitled cause on July 21, 2022 requesting abatement of nuisance, demolition of unsafe buildings, and other 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 CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA.

(iv) The legal description of the property is: The East 30 feet of even width of Lot 39 in the Original Town now City of Paris; also a part of said Lot 39 described as beginning at a point on the north line thereof 30 feet West of the Northeast corner of said Lot 39, thence West along said North line 20 feet, thence South 20 feet, thence East 20 feet, thence North 20 feet to the point of beginning. ALSO the West 20 feet of even width of Lot 40 in the Original Town, now City, of Paris, situated in the County of Edgar, and State of Illinois.

PREIN: 09-18-01-179-010

(v) Common address of subject real estate is: 219 West Court Street, Paris, IL.

CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS are served by publication of this Notice. Unless CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS file an answer to the Complaint in this case or otherwise make an appearance in this case on or before December 27, 2022, a default judgment may be entered against such CONSTANTIN, a/k/a CONSTANTIN MANGA, 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 61944-1704
Telephone: 217-465-4196
Fax: 217-466-1213
Email: service@fgklaw.net

DRAINAGE NOTICE

A) A Petition seeking to Levy an Additional Assessment was filed on November 15, 2022, in the Circuit Court of Edgar County.
B) The Petition was filed by the Commissioners of **Drainage District No. 9, Town of Buck, Edgar County.**
C) The Petition is seeking authority for an Additional Assessment Levy from the Court for purposes of reconstruction and repairs.
D) The amount of the proposed Levy is \$100,000 collectable over 10 years.
E) The Petition will be heard on **December 12, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.**, in Courtroom #1, at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, IL.
F) The total damages to be allowed \$0
G) The total compensation proposed to be allowed \$0
H) The total annual maintenance assessment will not be affected.

Commissioners
Dale English
Robert Stolz
Stephen E. Cochran

FRUIN & KASH
(Richard M. Kash, Jr.)
129 North Central Avenue
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone: 217/465-4196
FAX: 217/466-1213

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALLEN N. HORN BROOK, Deceased

No. 2022 PR 40

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of ALLEN N. HORN BROOK.

Letters of Office were issued on November 3, 2022, to SHARON S. HORN BROOK, 11 Woodmere Drive, Paris, Illinois 61944, as Independent Executor, whose Attorney is S. Craig Smith, Asher & Smith, 1119 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 340, Paris, Illinois 61944. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 19, 2023 (at least six months from the date of the first publication), and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 15th day of November, 2022.

SHARON S. HORN BROOK
Representative

S. Craig Smith
Asher & Smith
1119 N. Main Street
P. O. Box 340
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone: 217/465-6444
Fax: 217/463-2486

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY F. WOOTEN, Deceased

No. 2022 PR 41

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of LARRY F. WOOTEN. Letters of Office were issued on November 3, 2022, to DANA RENEE WOOTEN, 415 W. Crawford Street, Paris, Illinois 61944, as Independent Executor, whose Attorney is S. Craig Smith, Asher & Smith, 1119 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 340, Paris, Illinois 61944. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 19, 2023 (at least six months from the date of the first publication), and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 15th day of November, 2022.

DANA RENEE WOOTEN
Representative

S. Craig Smith
Asher & Smith
1119 N. Main Street
P. O. Box 340
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone: 217/465-6444
Fax: 217/463-2486

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS EDGAR COUNTY PARIS, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT T. DOWNS, Deceased

No. 2022 PR 43

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of ROBERT T. DOWNS. Letters of Office were issued on November 10, 2022, to CERRA J. MARTIN, 414 W. Elizabeth Street, Paris, Illinois 61944, as Independent Executor, whose Attorney is S. Craig Smith, Asher & Smith, 1119 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 340, Paris, Illinois 61944. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 19, 2023 (at least six months from the date of the first publication), and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 15th day of November 2022.

CERRA J. MARTIN
Representative

S. Craig Smith
Asher & Smith
1119 N. Main Street
P. O. Box 340
Paris, IL 61944
Telephone: 217/465-6444
Fax: 217/463-2486

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT EDGAR COUNTY, PARIS, ILLINOIS, IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the Estate of Dixie L. Walls, Deceased.

2022-PR-44

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Dixie L. Walls, of Edgar County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 17, 2022, to Curtis Dean Walls, 32 Shoot Drive, Paris, Illinois 61944, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Drew P. Griffin of Jones & Griffin Law Offices, P.C., 110 E. Washington Street, P.O. Box 8, Paris, Illinois 61944.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 26, 2023, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it

has been filed.
DATED: November 26, 2022.
Curtis Dean Walls,
Independent Executor of the Estate of Dixie L. Walls, Deceased

Drew P. Griffin
JONES & GRIFFIN LAW OFFICES, P.C.
110 E. Washington Street, P.O. Box 8
Paris, Illinois 61944
Tele: (217) 465-7525
Fax: (217) 466-2230
E-mail: drew@jonesgriffinlaw.com

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on November 22, 2022 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:

SANCHEZ AUTO
Located at: 601 N. CENTRAL AVE., PARIS

Owner(s): LOGAN KORTE
Dated: NOVEMBER 22, 2022

August H. Griffin
EDGAR COUNTY CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE

Storage Express will hold public auctions ending on **December 14, 2022** to satisfy liens held on delinquent accounts located at the below properties and ending at the assigned times. The auctions are held online at www.storageexpress.com.
610 E Jasper St, Paris, IL @ 9:30 AM CST:
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309-142
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309-043

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Welch poised for another term as speaker

BY PETER HANCOCK

phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, who recently announced he has the support for another term as House speaker, says he looks forward to governing with an even larger supermajority than he had during his first two years.

“Expanding our caucus was definitely a priority of mine,” he said during an interview with Capitol News Illinois. “But from a policy standpoint, we want to continue to build on the budget work that we’ve done. Expanding our caucus would not have been possible if people didn’t believe Democrats were doing the right things.”

Welch, a Democrat from the Chicago suburb of Hillside, was elected speaker in January 2021 after most in the Democratic caucus refused to back longtime Speaker Michael Madigan, who’d been implicated in a bribery scandal and has since been indicted on corruption charges.

During his first two years, Democrats held a 73-45 advantage in the House, and Welch used that to pass land-

mark legislation, including the Clean Energy Jobs Act, which provides state support for carbon-free energy production and seeks to phase out fossil fuel power plants by 2045.

That supermajority also enabled Democrats to control the redistricting process when lawmakers drew new maps for the General Assembly, congressional districts and the Supreme Court.

In the elections that followed, Democrats widened their majority in the House by at least four seats, one race remained too close to call as of Monday, while also capturing a 5-2 majority on the state supreme court.

In all, while Democrats who ran for statewide offices received, on average, about 55% of the vote, Democrats captured roughly 66% of the state legislative seats.

When asked whether gerrymandering played a role in those results, Welch said it did not.

“What I would say is that the maps reflect the diversity



WELCH

of our state,” he said. “And one of the things that I said as the leader of our caucus and the speaker of the House last year when we were going through that process, that any fair map would reflect the diversity of our state. And if you look at the election results, the election results show that.”

He said the results in the House were an example of that.

“We elected our first Vietnamese American to the House,” he said. “We elected our first Korean American to the House. We elected our first Arab American Muslim to the House. We elected our first Indian American Muslim to the House. We elected our first South Asian, Pacific Islander American to the House. Diversity is well represented in the Illinois House, and we look like Illinois, and we look like America. And we should be proud of that.”

Welch said one key factor in the election that worked in Democrats’ favor was the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in June overturning *Roe v. Wade*. That decision, in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, said the U.S. Constitu-

tion does not protect a woman’s right to have an abortion, effectively giving states the authority to regulate that procedure as they see fit.

“It certainly played a role in what happened on Nov. 8,” he said. “You know, I said it in a number of speeches here during the campaign that November was coming. And if you look at what happened here in Illinois and across the country, that decision really got women to the polls. It got 18- to 24-year-olds to the polls, and they voted in droves.”

When the *Dobbs* decision was handed down, Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker and Democratic leaders in the General Assembly quickly called for a special session to call for even more protection for abortion access in Illinois. Likewise, a few weeks later after a mass shooting at a July 4 parade in Highland Park, they called for a special session to call for more restrictions on assault-style weapons in Illinois.

But in the ensuing weeks, both of those issues were put on hold as various working groups were formed with lawmakers and stakeholders in an effort to reach a consensus on measures that could actually

pass. While Illinois has among the least restrictive abortion laws on the books, Welch said there is still more the state can do, possibly including a state constitutional amendment to protect abortion rights.

“That’s certainly one of the questions that’s out there, and it’s a strong possibility,” he said. “But again, I don’t want to get ahead of the working group or the recommendations they formally present. I’m certain that’s one of the things that’s on the table.”

Regarding assault weapons regulation, Welch said that issue will have to wait until the 2023 session begins in January, when only a simple majority of votes is needed to pass new laws with an immediate effective date. That’s because the Illinois Constitution requires a three-fifths majority for bills passed after June 1 to have an immediate effective date.

“Anything that we do on assault weapons, we would want it to be effective immediately,” he said. “And I just don’t think we would have 71 votes to get something done in this shortened veto session. But I do believe that we’re going to be

able to deliver for the people of Illinois an assault weapons ban next year, and we’re going to work real hard to make that happen.”

Lawmakers still have three working days left in the veto session, Nov. 29 – Dec. 1. Welch said the top priority for those days will be to pass clarifications to the SAFE-T Act, a sweeping criminal justice reform package passed in January 2021 that includes, among other things, eliminating cash bail effective Jan. 1, 2023.

In particular, he said, there has been disagreement among prosecutors and law enforcement officials about what should happen on Jan. 1 with people already being detained pretrial in lieu of bail. The law doesn’t specifically say what happens to those individuals, which has led some to claim that it could lead to their widespread release from jail.

“They’re interpreting it in a way that says that they have to swing the jail doors open at midnight,” he said. “And even though that’s absolutely not true, we’re going to add some language making it explicitly clear how that transition should work.”

Union Pacific maintains strong track record despite challenges

BY DANIEL GRANT

FarmWeek

Union Pacific Railroad has a long history of shipping goods all over the country since its first tracks connected the eastern half of the U.S. to the West Coast.

It started when Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act of 1862. Shortly thereafter, Central Pacific started laying track from the West Coast moving east while Union Pacific broke ground in Omaha in December 1863.

The transcontinental railroad was completed with the implementation of the golden spike in Utah in 1869, connecting San Francisco to New

York and transforming the use of rail as a key form of transportation.

Fast forward to 2022, and Union Pacific connects 23 states, major ports and serves all six gateways to Mexico and is also connected to Canada, providing agriculture and other industries with access to markets around the world.

“We’re a critical link to the supply chain,” Laura Heisterkamp, assistant vice president, bulk marketing and sales for Union Pacific, said at the Agricultural Bankers Conference in Omaha, Neb.

The supply chain, of course, was severely tested in recent years due in part to constraints

related to the pandemic, subsequent labor issues and high fuel costs. But Union Pacific maintains a solid track record despite all that and the recent threat of a worker strike.

Bulk shipments on the line increased so far this year. Coal represents 41% of those shipments, followed by grain (40%), fertilizer (10%) and food and beverages (9%) among other products.

“Bulk (shipments) are up 4% led by coal and renewable diesel,” Heisterkamp said. “Drought conditions in the Midwest are going to make it tough to be comparable (to 2021) for grain. Exports were really good last year.”

Some of the grain shipments on rail shifted this year from export destinations to regional movements, she noted. Demand for rail cars for grain also increased recently due to low water levels on key rivers, particularly the Mississippi.

“We’re seeing a favorable demand environment as we finish the year,” said Heisterkamp, who noted UP moved 2 million rail cars for bulk shipments in 2021.

Union Pacific typically transports about 1.3 billion bushels of grain annually. Exports typically account for 30% to 40% of those shipments.

Ethanol shipments are also

a key part of its business with its tracks connected to 51 plants that produce the renewable fuel.

Looking ahead, Heisterkamp sees increased opportunities to ship renewable diesel by rail. U.S. production of that fuel is projected to reach 6.5 billion gallons by 2025.

Union Pacific, one of the largest users of diesel fuel in the country, also plans to boost the use of renewable diesel for its locomotives from 4% to 20% by 2030.

“We’re upgrading 600 existing locomotives to increase reliability, improve fuel efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint,” Heisterkamp said.

“This is truly a gamechanger for Union Pacific.”

The rail company has also seen a rise in demand to ship components for wind turbines, which Heisterkamp believes is a safer and more efficient way to transport turbine blades, which can be as long as three football fields, compared to moving them by truck.

Rail shipments are about four times more efficient than transporting products via truck, she added.

(This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.)

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