

In the know



MORRIS FINDS PLACE ON FIELD

Paris native and PHS graduate Hunter Morris is making his mark as a member of the Springfield Sliders in the Prospect League. **SPORTS, 9A**

The golden days of Old Glory

Paris collector discovers the obscure history of WWII's gold-striped flags. **HISTORY, 3B**

Airport remains vital to county

Edgar County Airport is uniquely situated to enhance local agriculture. **AGRIBUSINESS, 7B**



Joyful noise will carry one

First Christian Church invests in a new digital carillon to continue its traditional musical witness to Paris residents. **GRACE, 5B**

It's Metal-ish is a must-see shop

Three generations of women in the Erwin family have made arts and crafts a fun, thriving business. **C'EST LA VIE, 1B**

Who is fairest of them all?

Contestants for Miss Edgar County and Little Miss Edgar County Fair are revealed in preparation for the July 22 pageant. **NEWS, 3A**

TODAY'S WEATHER

H 92 L 71

Weather forecast here. **2A**

Drawing by **BRADLEY**, Wenz Elementary School

LET'S BE FRIENDS!

Latest news, online extras

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The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

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SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

Under budget, overjoyed

Unit 6 closes year with \$550,000 added to fund balances; Huber proposes ESports

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

CHRISMAN – The Chrisman school district has to wait for the official audit to confirm its financial standing, but things appear to be improving. “Fiscal Year 18 was a good year for our school district financially speaking,” said interim superintendent Jim Acklin during the board of education meeting Wednesday, July 11.

He described the addition of more than one-half million dollars to the closing fund balances as incredible news. The school district’s 2018 fiscal year covered the period from July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018.

The preliminary numbers indicate Unit 6 closed its books with a \$480,000 surplus in the education fund, \$3,000 in the building fund and a \$67,000 surplus in the transportation fund.

“Expenditures were less than what were budgeted, which is something we have some control over,” said Acklin.

While the district did not spend as much as originally anticipated, the bigger factor in creating the surplus was the receipt of more revenue than expected because of improved state payments.

Acklin said the transportation fund received all of the payments it was supposed to get, which is a much different scenario from the prior fiscal year when the state made only two of five scheduled transportation payments.

In addition, some state money the district should have received in FY 17 was included with the fiscal year 18 funds.

The superintendent noted uncertainty about state funding makes budgeting a difficult task for school administrators. The recent switch to

an evidence-based funding formula means Chrisman should not receive less money in the new fiscal year than it did for FY 18, but Acklin remains skeptical.

“The money is flowing now in an election year, but with the history of Illinois school funding, we could get to the end of the fiscal year and there is no money left. It has happened before,” said Acklin.

During the reports section of the meeting, Acklin noted the parking lot north of the junior high/high school building needs attention. He said the district’s maintenance crew has attempted repairs using bagged concrete but that is not proving as satisfactory as hoped.

Acklin told board members maintenance director Chad Porter wants to buy a supply of asphalt cold patch mix at \$90 per ton from the Edgar County

Highway Department. Board members supported the plan because hot summer weather is ideal for patching with cold mix and getting it packed into place before student drivers return from break.

The board accepted bids from Prairie Farms Dairy, Alpha Baking Company and Illinis FS to supply dairy products, bread and fuel for the coming school year. Each company was the sole bidder in the appropriate categories.

In addition, the board authorized keeping the 2018-19 student registration and extracurricular fees the same as the previous year. One addition was made to the fees, after the administration asked for a \$15 fee to help defer the cost of providing student CPR training required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

See **UNIT 6**, Page **8A**

RED AND YELLOW AND GREEN AND BROWN AND...



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Joseph’s coat of many colors is unveiled in the first act of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” the inaugural production of the newly-formed Paris Community Theater. The production, to be presented at 7 p.m. today and 2 p.m. Sunday, features Tanner Laughlin as Joseph and Megan Carroll as the narrator as well as as chorus of 17 children.

“Joseph” a colorful delight

Paris Community Theater’s inaugural production is a smash hit

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” the first production of the Paris Community Theater, opened to a nearly sold-out audience Friday evening at the Paris Center of Fine Arts.

The Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice musical telling the Biblical story of Joseph and his coat of many colors, earned the cast, children’s choir and orchestra a standing ovation at the conclusion of the fast-moving production.

Those attend the production received a sneak peak of the 2018-2019 PCFA season, thanks to a video shown in the theater lobby prior to the show and during intermission. Tickets for the season are now on sale, according to Jenison.

The night, however, belonged to “Joseph,” from the opening scene with narrator Megan Carroll and



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Joseph, played by Tanner Laughlin, listens as his brothers plead for food in the second act of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” presented by the Paris Community Theater this weekend at the Paris Center of Fine Arts.

the children’s chorus and Tanner Laughlin as Joseph to the finale “Megamix,” featuring dancing and all the songs from the production.

Laughlin, who served as the producer of the show, said “Joseph” was selected as the company’s first pro-

duction because not only of the different types of music shared by the cast but also because it is fun not only for the audience but the cast and orchestra as well.

Director Stuart Metcalf presented

See **THEATER**, Page **8A**

Polls in Kansas to move soon

Board reviews energy-saving measures, gun legislation

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

Voters in Kansas and Grandview townships will have a new polling place for the November election.

The Edgar County Board approved a recommendation by county clerk and recorder August Griffin to move the polling place from the Kansas School to the community room of the Kansas First Christian Church during the Wednesday, July 11, county board meeting.

Griffin said a letter from Kansas interim district superintendent John Hasten requested the move because having the gymnasium serve as a polling place disrupts the educational process for the day and exposes the building to the risk of allowing convicted sex offenders inside. He also received a letter from the minister of the church offering the community room for use as a polling place.

After examining the church’s community room, Griffin concluded it meets the size requirements needed, is compliant with the American with Disabilities Act, has adequate parking and amenities to make it comfortable for the election judges serving a long day at the polls.

“The Kansas school presented a problem and solution,” said Griffin, adding, “I’m in favor of getting polling places out of the schools, but I’ve got to have an alternative.”

Griffin cannot simply pick another place. It must meet the requirements of the election code and there are limits regarding how many precincts can vote in one location.

“It’s a matter of space, in my opinion,” said Griffin.

The board authorized Orry Cummings of SmartWatt to prepare the necessary documents for posting with the Illinois Capital Development Board seeking qualifications of companies to do an in-depth energy audit of the county’s buildings looking for ways to reduce costs through

See **COUNTY**, Page **8A**

Salamander blocks Staley Road Bridge

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

Efforts for fast tracking construction of a bridge on Staley Road to replace a low water concrete slab crossing have slowed.

The Edgar County Highway Department has long recognized a need for a bridge over Sugar Creek in the area but a project estimated to cost more than \$1 million is beyond local funding ability. The county has saved the state’s township aid to bridge annual payments, secured a loan from EnerStar and worked to obtain money

from the United States Department of Agriculture rural development funds.

Need for a bridge was reinforced June 26 when high and fast water flowing over the slab washed a Jeep attempting a crossing into the creek. No injuries occurred in that incident but first responders said it could have easily become a fatal accident.

Following that incident it appeared the bridge might be advanced from the Illinois Department of Transportation’s 2020 build schedule to 2019, but that is now in doubt.

Aaron Lawson, Edgar County

Highway Engineer, discussed the matter with county board members during the July 9 road and bridge committee meeting and the July 11 regular county board meeting.

At the July 11 meeting, Lawson confirmed receiving the environmental report late the day before and the researchers confirmed the presence of the rare Jefferson salamander in the area of the slab. Lawson said it is his understanding the Jefferson salamander exists only in Edgar and Clark counties.

“The ball is in our court to mitigate this endangered species finding,” said

Lawson. “We will pursue direct communications with different agencies.”

His hope is to convince the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency the assumption the bridge will be built in the same location as the slab is an error. The highway department’s preferred approach is through an area of existing clear-cut serving as EnerStar’s right-of-way. He said changing the road alignment and making use of the already cleared area should have minimal impact on the environment but that determination is for others to make.

See **BRIDGE**, Page **8A**

**May The Cure Be With You --
Fight Like a Jedi**

The Relay for Life of Edgar County invites you to join the American Cancer Society's "Fight like a Jedi" event to find a Cure.



Date: August 4, 2018 from 12 o'clock noon to 10:00 p.m.
Location: Twin Lakes Park in Paris, Illinois.

Event Announcements
www.relayforlife.org/edgaril

	Drive through Pulled Pork Meals - First Farmers Bank & Trust Friday June 22nd 11:00-1:00 in the parking lot. Sandwich, chips, cookies and drink for \$5.00!
	Join us at Castle Finn Winery, Marshall IL Wine Tasting-July 20th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Contact Sue Bennett for more information or to purchase a ticket 217.465.5040
	Donations on the Corner July 27th - 4 pm to 7 pm - Corner of Jasper & Main July 28th - 8 am to 11 am - Corner of Jasper and Central St.
	Chicken n Noodles Dinner at the Paris VFW - July 29th. More information to come!
	August 19th - ACS Day at the Ballpark For tickets contact Sue Bennett 217.465.5040
	Team Remember is selling 5 gallon buckets of Liquid Laundry Detergent, Fabric Softeners, Dish Soap and Trash Bags Cost is \$35.00 for each. Please contact Sharon Cash 217-465-5382 or babs159@frontier.com

TALK BACK

ACCURACY CHECKS

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

let us know that, too.

BE A PART OF OUR PAPER

We invite our readers and the Edgar County community to join the discussion to make your newspaper better.

We'd love to hear what you think. Drop us an email or stop by the office.

Have you got a news tip? Call us or message us on Facebook.

ABOUT US

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LOCAL FORECAST NORMAL: High: 86 Low: 66 More weather: go to www.prairiepress.net and click on weather.

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
92 71 Prec: 0%	85 70 Prec: 60%	88 68 Prec: 50%	82 59 Prec: 0%	81 60 Prec: 0%	82 61 Prec: 20%	80 60 Prec: 20%

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

TODAY - Sunny and hot with highs climbing into the lower 90s and heat index values near 100.

SUNDAY - Mostly cloudy with showers and thunderstorms likely in the afternoon. Highs top out in the mid 80s.

MONDAY - Highs top out in the upper 80s with scattered showers and thunderstorms.

ALMANAC
Paris through noon Tuesday.
Temperature
High/Low 86°/66°
Record High 109° in 1954
Record Low 45° in 1926
Precipitation
Month to date 0.72"
Normal month to date 2.07"
Year to date 27.39"
Normal year to date 22.71"

SUN AND MOON

	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
TODAY	5:34 a.m.	8:18 p.m.	4:37 a.m.	8:59 p.m.
SUNDAY	5:35 a.m.	8:18 p.m.	5:24 a.m.	9:47 p.m.
MONDAY	5:36 a.m.	8:17 p.m.	6:19 a.m.	10:29 p.m.
TUESDAY	5:37 a.m.	8:17 p.m.	7:22 a.m.	11:06 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	5:37 a.m.	8:16 p.m.	8:31 a.m.	11:40 p.m.
THURSDAY	5:38 a.m.	8:16 p.m.	9:41 a.m.	12:11 a.m.
FRIDAY	5:39 a.m.	8:15 p.m.	10:51 a.m.	12:42 a.m.



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Weather Wizard
[@elau_weather](https://twitter.com/elau_weather) on Twitter
[@EdgarCoWx](https://twitter.com/EdgarCoWx) on Twitter
Paris Area Weather

PLAN YOUR WEEK

TODAY

VENTRILOQUIST PERFORMANCE
Ventriloquist Kevin Horner performs at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 14, at Martinsville's Linn Park Amphitheater. The free performance is designed for all ages. Concession stands in the park open at 6 p.m. Audience members are encouraged to bring lawn chairs for comfortable seating.

SUNDAY

SUPPER AND SONG IN PARK
The congregation of the Pleasant Hill Christian Church in rural Kansas is planning a supper and gospel music song event as a large fundraiser in the effort to replace the roof at the church and make building improvements. The Supper and Song in the Park is 4-7 p.m. Sunday, July 15, at the Kansas village park. The dinner is by donation accompanied by live musical entertainment from Richard Clapp, The Kings IV and others.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

WEIGHT WATCHERS MEETING
Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday in the basement of

DON'T MISS

TRAIN DAY AT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
A group of model trains pulls into the Terre Haute Children's Museum 11 a.m.-4 p.m. today, July 14, for Train Day. Twelve different organizations and individuals will have train layouts, and the Wabash Valley Railroader's Museum and the National Model Railroad Association will share information about their facilities. Layouts include model trains of all sizes with detailed scenery, realistic figures and elaborate structures. Visitors can expect a model steam engine in G-scale puffing down the track by the Midwest Live Steam group; the Transylvania Railroad by Trevor Jones, which features European engines, castles and scenes; the Veteran's Memorial Railroad by Bill White includes a World War II Middlefork Club 2 aircraft and other military equipment from history up to today; a model of the old Terre Haute Union Station in HO-scale; and a large N-scale layout from the Cintrak Model Railroad Club.

SHARE YOUR EVENT

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

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

EVENING TOPS MEETING
TOPS Illinois #2318 meets every Tuesday in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Weigh-in starts at 5:45 p.m. and the meeting is 7 p.m. Contact Janice Stevens at 217-808-0078

for more information.

WEDNESDAY

FREE WELDING CLASS
Lake Land College is offering a free 16-week welding class during the upcoming fall semester in Marshall. Enrollment is limited to the first 12 applicants. Those wanting to attend the class must attend the orientation session 4 p.m. July 18 at the Eastern Region Center, 224 S. Sixth St., Marshall. For more information call 217-238-8292 or email adulteducation@lakelandcollege.edu.

THURSDAY

MORNING TOPS MEETINGS
TOPS #IL 1563 meets every Thursday morning at the Highland Manor Community Room with weigh-ins beginning at 8 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. More information is available by attending a meeting or calling Jo Ellen Edmonds at 251-4722.

HISTORY PROGRAM
Marshall area author Ted Snedeker discusses his most recent book "Betrayed, Deserted, Forgotten" about the Japanese invasion of the Philippines 6:30 p.m. July 9 at the Marshall Public Library.

MUSIC IN PARK
The Ambush Band plays a free concert 6:30-9 p.m. July 19 at Spicer Pavilion in Twin Lakes Park as part of the 2018 Music in the Park concert series. Those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs for seating.

FRIDAY

RELAY FOR LIFE WINE EVENT
The Edgar County Relay for Life organization is hosting a Wine-ing for a Cure fundraising event 6-9 p.m. July 20 at Castle Finn Winery. Tickets are \$15 at the door or in advance by calling 251-6130. **CHAPTER NX TO MEET**
Chapter NX of the P.E.O. Sisterhood will meet at 7 p.m. at the Bicentennial Art Center. The hostess is Kate Kollinger. The program will be given by Carolyn Ray.

UPCOMING

FISH FRY
The Clark County Optimist Club's annual fish fry is 4-8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 21, at the Marshall Veterans of Foreign Wars. The menu consists of catfish, slaw, baked beans, dessert and drink. Prices are \$9.50 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. All proceeds go to the optimist club's children's cancer fund.

LIBRARY BINGO
Burnsides Nursing Home is hosting bingo 10:30 a.m. July 25 at the Marshall Public Library. Prizes will be awarded.

JEEPIN' FOR A CURE
The Coon Creek Jeep Club is hosting a Jeepin' for a Cure event to raise money for cancer research. Sign up begins at 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. July 28 in the parking lot of the Toledo American Legion. A parking lot party, with food and live music, accompanies the sign up period until the ride starts at 1 p.m. All street legal vehicles are welcome and more information is available on the Coon Creek Jeep Club Facebook page.

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City Council meets

BY NED JENISON
njenison@mac.com

A record in expediency was set by the Paris City Council at its scheduled session Monday.

Within a scant five minutes, the municipal affairs were put in order once again and Mayor Craig Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

However during the brief period between gavels, the council completed the roster of the Park Board, assisted a local charity, and approved maintenance on the city's water well field.

The council appointed Austin Huxford to the Paris Park Board for a term ending in 2020, bringing the board up to full membership.

The Edgar County Homeless Organization (ECHO) received its annual grant of \$5,000 toward operating expenses. ECHO conducts a residential shelter at 410 Connelly Street.

The Paris Chamber of Commerce received permission to close Court Street on the south side of the square for its annual Summer Block Party the evening of Aug. 1

A proposal for water well maintenance from Layne at a cost of \$2,600 was approved.

The next city council meeting will be Monday, July 23 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, with an agenda-setting meeting at 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 18.



Cathy Drake/Cathy Drake Photography

These 20 contestants will compete for the title of 2018 Little Miss Edgar County Fair at the annual queen pageant Sunday, July 22. Pictured center front is the reigning Little Miss, Isabella Duzan. First row, from left, are Alyssa Beschorner, Bryonna Daugherty, Kaylen Henson, Staley Pine and Hadlee Gher. Second row, from left, are Eloise Redmon, Gwen Brinkerhoff, Evie Staley, Avery Lankster and Kyndall Taylor. Third row, front left, Teya Moreschi, Shane Bogue, Kinley Lawson and Eisele Campbell. Fourth row, from left, are Lanie Sallee, Mylah Moreschi, Lexie Sallee, Ainsley Simpson and Kaizlee Henderson.



Cathy Drake/Cathy Drake Photography

One of these five contestants will be crowned the 2018 Miss Edgar County Fair on Sunday, July 22. The fair queen contest is the traditional opening of the fair. Contestants are Taryn Fuller, Ivy Shanks, Kierstyn Allen, the reigning 2017 Miss Edgar County Fair Meghan Ingram, Eden Miller, Olivia Heltsley and Cera Waltz

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

1:00 p.m. Harness Racing
7:00 p.m. Barnyard Scramble
Republican Day
Merchant Day
Swyear Amusements and Rides on Grounds;
All Rides \$1.00 each

FRIDAY, JULY 27

6:30 p.m. Truck & Tractor Pull
Swyear Amusements and Rides on Grounds;
Arm Band Day - 6-10:00 p.m.; \$20 for all rides



SATURDAY, JULY 21

10:00 a.m. Open Meat Goat Show
12:00 p.m. Open Pleasure Horse Show or 30 minutes after Ed. Co. 4-H Show

SUNDAY, JULY 22

10:00 a.m. Open Steer & Heifer Show
7:00 p.m. Edgar County Fair Queen Pageant

MONDAY, JULY 23

7:00 p.m. IL State Fair Karaoke Contest

TUESDAY, JULY 24

7:00 p.m. Martin Xtreme Racing-Motocross Democrat Day
Swyear Amusements and Rides on Grounds;
Arm Band Day, 6-10:00 p.m.; \$20.00 for all rides

THURSDAY, JULY 26

6:30 p.m. Truck & Tractor Pull
Swyear Amusements and Rides on Grounds;
Arm Band Day, 6-10:00 p.m.; \$20.00 for all rides

SATURDAY, JULY 28

8:30 a.m. Llama - ALSA Sanctioned Double Show
11:00 a.m. Open Hog Show - 4H Show Ring
6:00 p.m. Demolition Derby -OSP Old School/Trucks/Compacts/Modified/FWD Midsize & Minivans Swyear Amusements and Rides on Grounds; Arm Band Day, 1-5:00 p.m.; \$15.00 for all rides 6:00 p.m. until closing, regular price.

Find us on Facebook



www.edgarcountyfair.com

FREE ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS ALL WEEK!

Home confinement ordered in drug sentence

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

COURT

For the next 60 days, Cory A. Gundrum will be an enforced homebody.

Gundrum, 21, Paris, entered a negotiated guilty plea during the July 5 criminal and traffic call in Edgar County Circuit Court to a Class 3 felony possession of cannabis charge. He was sentenced to 150 days in jail with 60 days to be served immediately as electronic home monitoring and the remaining 90 days subject to a motion to vacate. Other sentencing terms include two years of first offender probation, a \$500 fine, court costs and various state fees. He was additionally ordered to complete counseling per an evaluation and to forfeit all items seized at the time of his arrest.

The court agreed Gundrum may serve the home confinement under work release rules.

In exchange for the guilty plea, the state dismissed a Class 3 felony possession of cannabis with the intent to deliver and

a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

Other individuals appearing before the bench for the July 2 and July 5 calls included:

IN CUSTODY

■Ashley N. England, 33, Oakland, appeared in custody for a bond hearing related to her Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and Class B misdemeanor speeding charges. The court granted England a personal recognizance bond and assigned the public defender to the case. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. England was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Jeffrey P. Eskew, 28, Paris, appeared in custody and entered a negotiated guilty plea to a Class 4 felony theft with a previous conviction charge. He was sentenced to 120 days in jail with 60 days to be served immediately and good con-

duct credit to apply and the remaining 60 days are subject to a motion to vacate. Other sentencing terms include a \$500 fine, \$129 restitution to Wal-Mart, court costs and various state fees. In exchange for the plea, a Class A misdemeanor retail theft and a Class A misdemeanor battery charges were dismissed. Eskew was remanded to custody.

■Jerry A. Hastings, no age or address provided, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class A misdemeanor violating an order of protection after being served notice. A bond hearing was held and he was released on a personal recognizance bond with the stipulation he cannot contact the apparent victims or their residence. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Quinton A. Inman, 25, Paris, appeared in custody and made a motion for release on a furlough for treatment. A motion hearing was scheduled. Inman's unresolved charges for two counts of a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Jimmie E. Kelley, 71, Paris, appeared in custody. His unresolved cases involving two Class A misdemeanor domestic battery charges were continued for a pretrial conference. His two Class 2 felony convictions for being a sex offender within 500 feet of a public park were continued for review. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Craig W. Kestner, 27, Carol Stream, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of cannabis more than 100 grams but less than 500 grams and a Class 4 felony obstruction of justice. The public defender was appointed. Bond was set at \$10,000. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing, and he was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Joshua D. Phillips, 38,

Marshall, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 4 felony domestic battery with prior convictions. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Zamion McMahan, 23, Charleston, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine. He was granted a personal recognizance bond and the matter was continued for a first appearance with the public defender. He was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Andrew T. Moody, 30, Metcalf, appeared in custody. His oral motion for a personal recognizance bond was granted. His unresolved charges of a Class 4 felony criminal trespass to a residence and a Class B misdemeanor criminal trespass to real property were continued for a pretrial conference. Moody was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Travis A. Reed, 45, Sullivan, appeared in custody for missing a previous court appearance. The court imposed a 50-day jail sentence related to Reed's Class 2 felony aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol conviction. Reed asked to be released on a furlough and the court deferred the matter for a hearing. He was remanded to custody.

■Sherry L. Ricketts, 47, Paris, appeared in custody and waived the preliminary hearing. She pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 2 felony burglary and a Class B misdemeanor criminal trespass to real property. Bond was reduced to \$2,500 from the original bond of \$5,000, and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference. She was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Cody A. Rigdon, 28, Paris, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 3 felony aggravated battery. The public defender was assigned and bond was set at \$5,000. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

In another case, Rigdon's two counts of a Class A misdemeanor battery, a Class A misdemeanor criminal trespass to a residence, a Class A misdemeanor criminal trespass and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct were continued for pretrial conferences. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Orlando K. Tapp, no age provided, Toledo, Ohio, appeared in custody for a bond hearing on his Class 2 felony possession of stolen property, Class 4 felony obstruction of justice and Class 4 felony attempting to elude a police officer charges. Bond was set at \$20,000 and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Ashley D. Vest, 25, Chrisman, appeared in custody and admitted the petition to revoke her probation sentence for a Class 2 felony burglary conviction. Her probation was revoked, and the matter was continued for an agreed sentencing. Vest was released on a personal recognizance bond

CHARGES

■Kylee K. Bowman, 18, Paris, was charged with a Class 1 felony residential burglary. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Zachary J. Clay, 21, Georgetown, was charged with a Class B misdemeanor speeding. The public defender was assigned and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Michael J. Francis, 31, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor leaving the scene of an accident. He told the court he will hire an attorney. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Zachary D. Hall, 17, Paris, was charged with a Class B misdemeanor speeding. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Chase M. Hayworth, 27, Paris, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor or possession of a hypodermic syringe and a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of drugs. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Michelle L. Hornbrook, 29, Kokomo, Ind., was charged with a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Saundra D. Johnson, 28, Greenup, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Kasey N. Razmus, 35, Chrisman, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor theft of utility services. She pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Nathan Lee Rayburn, 40, Paris, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. He told the court he will hire an attorney. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Leroy J. Schmitt, 34, Charleston, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license. The public defender was appointed and a first appearance with counsel was scheduled.

■Lewis O. Thiel, 34, Greenup, was charged with a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol. He told the court he will hire an attorney. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■David Thompson, 60, Terre Haute, Ind., was charged with a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. He told the court he will hire an attorney. The matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

GUILTY PLEAS

■Nicki N. Thompson, 33, Paris, admitted a petition to revoke her probation sentence for a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine conviction. The matter was continued

for a sentencing hearing.

■Jerri L. Tinchler, 47, Brocton, pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol. Tinchler was sentenced to two years of conditional discharge, a \$750 fine, a \$750 DUI assessment fee, court costs and various state fees. Tinchler must also obtain counseling per an evaluation.

NOT GUILTY PLEAS

■Jacob S. Lynch, 24, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a revoked license charge. He has hired an attorney and a pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Katrina A. Lynch, 39, Vermilion, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of drugs charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Thomas D. Martin, 54, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Nathaniel B. Nichols, 32, Ridge Farm, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Cameron R. Prouse, 27, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 2 felony delivery of methamphetamine and a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine charges. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Gregory L. Snyder, 45, West Union, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license charge. A pretrial conference was scheduled.

■Patrick E. Tingley, 38, Paris, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor failure to notify damage to an unattended vehicle charge. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

OTHER MATTERS

■Donald W. Cown, 45, Paris, was ordered by the court to serve six-days in jail as part of his prior sentence for a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine conviction.

■Tyson W. Ducharme, 33, Paris, learned the state withdrew the petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer conviction. His probation was terminated.

■Katherine E. Garner, 29, Paris, learned the state withdrew a petition to revoke her probation sentence for a Class 2 felony delivery of methamphetamine conviction. She successfully completed her probation sentence and the stayed jail time sentence was vacated.

■Kristin D. Jewell, 37, Dugger, Ind., was informed his probation sentence was terminated unsuccessfully for his Class 3 felony aggravated battery and Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer convictions. The cases were closed.

■Jessica L. Davis Overton, 31, Paris, was sentenced for her Class 3 felony forgery conviction to 60 days in jail subject to a motion to vacate, two years of probation, restitution of \$283.47, court costs and various state fees. She was additionally ordered to complete counseling per an evaluation, obtain a GED and seek employment.

■Patrick M. Thompson, 53, Kansas, appeared for a motion to vacate jail time attached to his Class A misdemeanor battery conviction. The court ordered he serve 60 days in jail with good conduct credit to apply starting Aug. 13.

WARRANTS

Warrants were ordered when the following individuals failed to respond: Melinda M. Adams, 41, Paris; Alexi R. Baugh, 22, Paris; Lindsey E. Board, 31, Paris; Lisa C. Campbell, 56, Paris; Joshua D. Doty, 32, Paris; Brittany N. Harris, 27, Paris; Daniel L. Henson, 38, Paris; Terra L. Kraus, 30, Panama; Jason M.T. Kunkel, 27, Allerton; James M. McCollum, 61, Paris; Johnny G. Oaks, 38, West Terre Haute, Ind.; Eric D. Paige, 26, Paris; Jason W. Reeves, 41, Robinson; and Christopher J. Stewart, 42, Thomasboro.

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26 Shoot Drive – \$115,000



Immaculately kept 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on a culdesac in Cherry Pt SD. So much space with living room at the front and add'l family room with brick fireplace. Nice kitchen with eat-in area and more dining area in the large family room. 3rd bedroom presently used as office with built-ins. Large laundry room. Sunroom at the back with access to fenced backyard. 2-car attached garage with partitioned workshop at the back. This is a must see soon!!!

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CAROL BARGER

Carol Barger, 85, of Terre Haute, Ind., and formerly of Paris, passed away at 12:37 a.m. Saturday, July 7, 2018, at Gibson Family Hospice, Terre Haute. She was retired after more than 30 years as a registered nurse with Paris Community Hospital and Paris Clinic.

A memorial service celebrating her life was 11 a.m. CDT Thursday, July 12, at Templeton Funeral Home. Private interment is at a later date. Visitation was from 9:30 a.m. until the service time Thursday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Barger was born Feb. 1, 1933, in Edgar County, the daughter of the late Webb and Shiloh Hoyt Conner. She married Robert Lewis Barger April 7, 1965, at Decatur, and he preceded her in death Oct. 11, 2011.

Survivors include two sons, Michael (Charlee) Wyatt of Chrisman and Robert (Minerva) Barger of Terre Haute; a brother, Charles Conner of Wood River; two sisters, Leila Lorenzen of Chrisman and Wanda Lou Ellis of Albany,

Mo.; five grandchildren, Ashlee (Matt) McNabb of Paris, Matthew (Mary Kate) Wyatt of Kokomo, Ind., Whitney (Vyta) Dailide of Homer Glen and Griffin and Brock Barger of Terre Haute; five great-grandchildren, Easton and Mattox McNabb, Mikas and Liliya Dailide and Phillip Wyatt; with one great-grandchild to arrive in August; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Barger was a graduate of the Lakeview School of Nursing in Danville. She was a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church of Paris and attended Maryland Community Church of Terre Haute. She was an avid reader and flower gardener. She was a woman of deep faith who expressed to her family on numerous occasions that she was ready to see Jesus.

She will also be remembered as something of a dessert enthusiast, especially when it came to strawberry shortcake. Above all else, she enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the Gibson Family Hospice Unit of Terre Haute.

Online condolences at www.TempletonFuneralHome.com.



BARGER

JOYCE MARQUIS

Joyce Elaine Marquis, 77, of Paris, passed away at 1:05 a.m. Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at The Gibson Family Hospice Center, Terre Haute, Ind.

A service celebrating her life was 1:30 p.m. Friday, July 13, at Templeton Funeral Home, with the Rev. Tom Armour officiating. Burial followed in Edgar Cemetery. Visitation was from noon until the service time Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Paris Christian Church or to Relay for Life.

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



MARQUIS

GENE WILHOIT

KANSAS – Harold Eugene "Gene" Wilhoit, 88, of Anna, and formerly of Kansas, passed away at 1:17 a.m. Friday, July 13, 2018, at the Veterans Home in Anna. He was retired after working on the family farm in Clark County for many years.

A service celebrating his life is 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, at Templeton Funeral Home in Kansas. Burial follows in Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Visitation is from 1 p.m. until the service time Wednesday at the funeral home.

Mr. Wilhoit was born Aug. 3, 1929, in rural Kansas, the son of the late Floyd R. and Beulah F. Maggert Wilhoit.

Survivors include a brother, Morris (Carol) Wilhoit of Carterville; a sister, Linda (Darrell) Hinkle of Effingham; a nephew, Mike (Jennifer) Wilhoit of Mt. Zion; three nieces, Vicki (Rick) Chapman of Carterville, Darinda (Rod) Carr of Decatur and Anita (Aaron) Thompson of Cowden; and three great-nieces, three great-nephews, and one great-niece.

Memorial donations may be made to Wounded Warriors or Pleasant Hill Christian Church.

Online condolences at www.templetonfuneralhome.com.

CAROLYN ESTES

MARSHALL – Carolyn Ann Estes, 70, of Martinsville, passed away at 12:10 p.m., Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at the home of her fiancée.

A celebration of life service is 10:30 a.m. today, July 14, at Pearce Funeral Home, with Trent Price and Marvin Oakley officiating. Burial follows in Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from 4 to 8 p.m., Friday, July 13, at the funeral home.

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



ESTES

RONALD BARRETT

NEWMAN— Ronald Gene Barrett, 64, of Hume passed away Sunday, July 8, 2018, at OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center, Urbana. He privately and courageously fought a difficult and aggressive esophageal cancer.

A funeral service was 10 a.m. Friday, July 13, at the Joines Funeral Home, Newman. Burial followed in Young America Cemetery, Hume. Visitation was from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, July 12, at the funeral home.

Mr. Barrett was born in Paris Nov. 19, 1953, the son of Gene and Helen Quick Barrett. He married the love of his life, Mary Smothers Barrett Aug. 4, 1973.

He is survived by a daughter, Tara Barrett (Jared) Duzan of Camargo; four grandchildren, Kale Barrett and Ryan Barrett of Villa Grove and Callie Duzan and Coltan Duzan of Camargo; two sisters, Nancy (John)

Rothecker of Terre Haute, Ind., and Kay (the late John) Santie of Paris; one brother, Dick (Cathy) Barrett of Fort Meyers, Fla.; and numerous nieces and nephews on both sides of the family whom he loved.

Among the survivors he had special relationships with his son-in-law, Jared Duzan for almost 18 years; his brother-in-law, Gilbert (Linda) Smothers of Benton; and his grandson and special farm buddy and helper Coltan Duzan.

He was preceded in death by his father; and one son, Cory Barrett.

Mr. Barrett was known as the one and only Papaw to his four grandchildren, whom he loved dearly. He was very in-

involved in the community serving on the Shiloh school board for many years and as members of the Hume Lions Club and St. Michael's Catholic Church.

A graduate of Shiloh High School in Hume, he always stayed in the town he loved. He worked two or three jobs at a time over the years but his first love and passion was farming.

Mr. Barrett farmed for more than 50 years, raising hogs and grain. He was a hard worker and did what he loved until he no longer could and planted his last crop this spring.

Memorial donations may be made to Esophageal Cancer Awareness Association or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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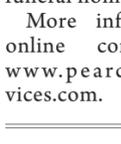
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CHRISTINA BROWN

MARSHALL – Christina M. Brown, 44, of Martinsville, passed away Thursday, July 5, 2018 in the Hilltop Nursing Home, Charleston.

A service honoring her life was 2 p.m. Monday, July 9, at Pearce Funeral Home, with Bro. Art Orndorff officiating. Burial followed in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, rural Martinsville. Visitation was from 1 p.m. until the service time Monday at the funeral home.

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



BROWN

DEANNE DOUGLAS

Deanne Marie Douglas, 75, of Chrisman, passed away at 3:02 a.m. Sunday, July 8, 2018, at Paris Healthcare Center.

A service celebrating her life was 7 p.m. Thursday, July 12, at Templeton Funeral Home.

Burial was private in the Danville National Cemetery. Visitation was from 4 p.m. until the service time Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to Ambucs of Danville.

More information and online condolences available at www.TempletonFuneralHome.com.



DOUGLAS

TOPS 2318 meets

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

TOPS #IL 2318 met Tuesday, July 10, with 17 members weighing in and 17 members attending the meeting.

Club members recognized were: Verna Smith, TOPS weekly loser and three-week loser; Carmen Minge, KOPS weekly loser and KOPS drawing winner; Sharon Phillips, top walker; Nancy Norman and Verna Smith, top exerciser.

Marion Pate delivered a program about cholesterol.

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

Weigh-in is 5:45-6:50 p.m. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

More information is available by calling 217-808-0078 or 217-822-6300.

5-year-old Iowa boy requests unforgettable memorial service

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A unique memorial service set for 5-year-old Garrett Matthias of central Iowa is matched only by the one-of-a-kind obituary the preschooler had a hand in authoring and that is now garnering national attention.

Garrett, of Van Meter, Iowa, died July 6 of a rare cancer that attacked his temporal bone and cranial nerve. His obituary includes details of some of the painful treatments he endured.

But it's his funny take on life and death that's getting noticed.

His obit notes his likes: Playing with his sister, his blue bunny, thrash metal music. And his dislikes: Pants, dirty stupid cancer, and the times hospital workers had to access his

medical port.

The obit was compiled by his parents, Emilie and Ryan Matthias, who began asking Garrett questions about such adult topics as funeral and burial preferences when they learned from doctors last month that his cancer was terminal.

His responses, his mom said Friday, make up the obituary.

Asked about death, Garrett responded he was "going to be a gorilla and throw poo at Daddy!" Asked whether he wanted to be buried or cremated, he replied, "I want to be burned (like when Thor's mommy died) and made into a tree so I can live in it when I'm a gorilla."

And he was specific about the kind of affair he expected his funeral to be.

"Funerals are sad," he said. "I want five bouncy houses (because I'm 5), Batman and snow cones."

The obit closes with his last message, "See ya' later, suckas! -The Great Garrett Underpants."

Garrett's memorial service on Saturday will have many of those last requests — including the five bouncy houses. Besides snow cones, carnival games and fireworks, an archer will shoot a flaming arrow onto a small boat carrying Garrett's ashes in a neighbor's pond.

The obituary says a private burial of Garrett's ashes "will be held at a later time, once his parents figure out how the hell to get his ashes made into a tree and locate a nature preserve, so his tree resides in a protected area."

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Thanks to Sollars for 38 years

At approximately 6:30pm, Tuesday, July 10, the end of an era for the City of Paris and the Paris Police Department occurred.



GARY BUTLER
A SIMPLER TIME

On that day, Sergeant Ray Sollars finished his watch for the last time, ending 38 continuous years of service to the Paris Police Department and to the citizens of Paris.

When I was growing up, the only career I ever wanted was one in law enforcement. When I was discharged from the Army in 1978, I began taking the civil service test for the position of police officer

for the city of Paris. The tests were held in the basement of the old high school in Mrs. Mas-sa's algebra classroom —room eight I think.

Back in those days, a police officer didn't make a lot of money and there were only about four of us taking the test. Three of us — Ray Sollars, Ron Humphrey and myself — began a friendship that has lasted for years.

Every time a test was given, the three of us were there to take the test. We never got discouraged. We just said we would see each other the next time a test was given — and we did, for close to two years. The three of us met in the basement of the high school and took the test. David Butler, secretary of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners at that time, welcomed the three of us every test. We went out to where Ron and Kay now live and studied the civil service test booklet until we knew it by heart.

Every time the test was given the three of us were there and wished each other good luck on making the list.

In the spring of 1980, all three of us made the list of candidates who would be eligible for appointment to the police department. On May 1, 1980, I got the call and fulfilled a life's dream. In September, I was talking with chief of police B. Carter Metcalf when he told me he was hiring two additional officers. Ron and Ray walked into the hallway separating the public from the department and the three of us did a lot of handshaking, back-slapping and fist bumping. We had made it to the big

See **BUTLER**, Page **6A**

CNN's Tobin is way out in the left field

WASHINGTON — If Chicken Little and Cassandra had a baby, they'd name him Jeffrey Toobin.

Anyone watching CNN lately has probably heard Toobin's prediction that if a conservative fills the Supreme Court seat left vacant by the departing Justice Anthony Kennedy, abortion is dead.

No more reproductive choice; no more equal protection for the LGBTQ community; no more fun for anybody, except Jesus and his acolytes. The effect has been an unloosing of hysteria upon the land. Democrats began tearing their garments

and gnashing their teeth as they foresaw 24/7 Christian broadcasting and Charlton Heston reruns. Republicans, always sore winners, fired their guns in the air, swatted Hillary-Clinton pinatas and — I'm not sure this part is true — square-danced 'til way past dark.

OK so I may have exaggerated, but not that much. There have been a few days lately when it seemed the Canada geese had misread their calendars. Toobin, a legal analyst and author, was Solon-like compared with the wild-eyed, jack-assery elsewhere.

Whatever the outcome of President Trump's nominee, slated to be announced July 9, we can expect a battle royale as special-interest groups, presidential wannabes

See **PARKER**, Page **6A**

WHO WE ARE

The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

SERVING EDGAR COUNTY SINCE 1848

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Lucky to live in Paris

The long tradition of music, theater, dance and art is alive and well here

"I love musical theater so much.

When done right, I think comedy songs can be the most efficient form of joke delivery. Songs can be the most efficient and the best forms of conveying emotion. Music is universal. It's worldwide."

—Rachel Bloom

We have been reminded this past weekend how very lucky we are to live in this county and how very talented so many of our friends and neighbors are.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" opened to a nearly soldout audience Friday evening and continues tonight and Sunday afternoon. The talent is astounding from the youngest members of the Children's Chorus to the oldest member of the cast. We are lucky the team of Stuart Metcalf and Tanner Laughlin

OUR VIEW

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

put together the Paris Community Theater company, fulfilling the specific dream of Pierce and Suzanne Huston Lippman. It was their trust fund that made the Paris Center of Fine Arts possible.

Friday night the PCFA board unveiled the 2018-2019 season with a short video. There's more to come in next week's Prairie Press about the exciting season. Stay tuned.

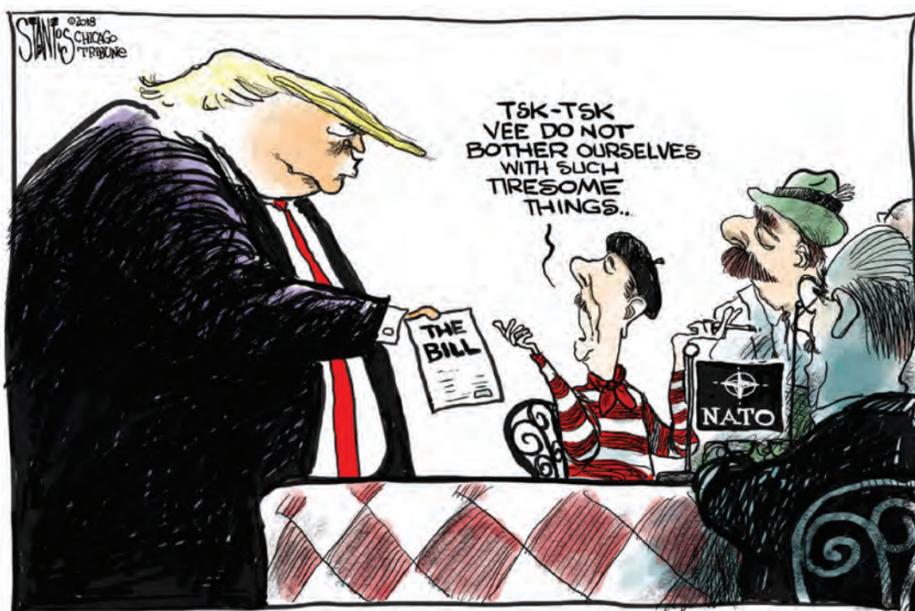
Finally, the Paris City Band presented another stellar concert to celebrate Independence Day Saturday, July 7. These talented musicians gave a large crowd in Spicer Pavillion a wonderful two hours of patriotic and

popular American music featuring the voices of Randy Turner and Kim Henness. There was plenty of John Philip Sousa marches and, of course, "Stars and Stripes Forever."

Sunday evening is the final summer concert for the city band, and it promises to be outstanding. These musicians give up two nights a week for rehearsal and then Sundays and one Saturday for performance.

Music, theater, dance and art in Paris and all of Edgar County has a long and distinguished history from the days of the Schoaff Opera House to the old auditorium to A. Austin Harding and the musicals presented for years in Eveland Gym.

Music is indeed a universal language and this weekend it is trumpeting the love of life and small town life. Make plans to enjoy it.



It looks like JB's state fair this year

Back in the old, old days, Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley would



FIRST LAST
NAME OF COLUMN

pack passenger trains full of loyalists and send them all to the Illinois State Fair's Democrat Day rally where they were treated to

rousing speeches by party leaders and candidates.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich kept that tradition alive on a somewhat smaller scale by chartering buses filled with supporters.

For decades, both parties' state fair rallies have been considered the unofficial kick-off to Illinois' campaign season. In odd-numbered years between elections, candidates have often used the rallies to showcase their campaigns ahead of the following spring primary season.

Many of those potential candidates make big speeches and bus their supporters to Springfield to show their strength and then never even file to run for election, realizing that they don't have what it takes. Illinois is a bigger state than most people realize. And its regional and hyperlocal politics can be maddening to novices with big egos.

Most other off-year speakers are weeded out by the party primaries

By the time of the August event ahead of the even-year general election, the number of candidates who show up to speak is whittled down to a handful.

Aside from the potential candidates, the state fair treats the political class (campaign contributors, labor leaders, legislative staff, etc.) to a big get-together before the November elections (or the legislative fall veto session, as the case may be), so lots of candidates up and down the ballot to use the opportunity to raise money.

And the rallies always provide political reporters

See **MILLER**, Page **7A**

YOUR VIEW

Pro-gun supporters are using arcane logic

Editor, The Prairie Press:

I heartily agree with Michael Bennett in his letter to the editor regarding the Second Amendment. Supporters of the Second Amendment attempt to dress up their argument in the arcane language of pro-gun catch phrases and bumper sticker logic.

Their rote repetition of empty slogans is an ideology and a fantasy of self-styled patriots, who risk nothing in promoting their extreme view of that amendment.

But in their analogies to our First Amendment, it should become obvious that the right to possess and use lethal weapons affects the public interest in safety and security more directly than the rights to express oneself.

Back in 1879 guns were prohibited in Dodge City, but not by the state of Illinois in 2016. It is common sense that a gun is dangerous to more people when carried outside the home, and we also know we already have an armed society that is anything but polite.

Historical research into the origins of the Second Amendment confirms it was intended to address the distribution of military power in society. Historians also tell us the Second Amendment was an effort by the Federalist defenders of the Constitution, making the keeping and bearing of arms in a state militia a right of the people. Notice the words state militia.

The Second Amendment was passed as a failsafe provision ensuring the militia would be armed, even if Congress abandoned them.

That sounds nothing like what we have today, a Second Amendment that condemns us to a future of perpetual gun trag-

edies, all in the name of a right to bear arms.

Anita Griffith
Vermilion

Thanks for the history lesson and long letters

Editor, The Prairie Press:

I wish to thank Ms. Witmer for the history lesson.

However, a lack of such knowledge is not an impediment to becoming President of the United States.

Indeed, President Donald said: "Frederick Douglas is doing good work." (Douglas died in 1895.)

"Canada burned the White House in the War of 1812." (That was the British.)

"Andrew Jackson could have prevented the Civil War." (Jackson died 23 years prior to that war.)

That aside, thanks for your lengthy retorts to we historically and factually challenged progressives.

Your verbosity leaves little room on this page for one of my least favorite right-leaning commentators, Michael Reagan.

Keep up the good work.
Michael Bennett
Vermilion

Inmate expresses sorrow for his illegal actions

Editor, The Prairie Press:

Enclosed is a letter written in the lifestyle re-direction class I attend for the victims of my lifestyle. Sometimes we think victims occur as a result of a crime, but victims occur in many areas

I continue to work on domestic violence issues and education classes to stop and encourage others to grow the violence.

I search for the words to express an apology. Yet, I can only find those words I have spoken

time after time, having little or no effect.

It's time to put the words away and go a new way — one of action, compassion and consideration.

Of course, I am sorry for all the pain I have caused you. I know now how it feels and see my faults clear.

I will do better if only you all will allow me to show you a better man.

Sincerely,
Your brother, son, husband and father
Curtis Wilson
Robinson Correctional Center

Removing children from parents is nothing new

Editor, the Prairie Press,

Separating children from their parents seems cruel and heartless, but it happens every day and not just on our southern border. Children are removed from homes where they are sexually abused, from homes where drunk or drugged parents are not caring for them, from home where they are regularly beaten, from homes where the parent has been put in jail or in prison. Often, crying children are torn from their mothers' sides by social workers and driven away. It happens all the time.

In May of this year, the Trump administration instigated a zero tolerance policy which simply meant that all people who cross our borders illegally will be captured, detained, and if they do not meet asylum requirements, will be sent home. That is, and has been the law for decades, and when the adults arrive with children in tow, the children are placed in separate facilities rather than in the adult detention centers. That was done during

See **LETTERS**, Page **7A**

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Prairie Press welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Columnists should demonstrate authority and knowledge of the topic (preferably of state and local interest) and make information-backed arguments. We reserve the right to edit letters or to not publish certain letters or guest columns.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6A

the time of George W. Bush, despite his wife's condemnation of the process, and it was done with great frequency by Barack Obama's administration, although a Democratic Representative from Texas admitted on CNN that it was kept quiet.

It was not kept quiet enough, however, because the conditions under which these children were kept. . . you probably saw the pictures of them sleeping on the floor in cages, covered by silver emergency blankets were so bad that a Federal judge decreed that they could not be kept there for longer than 20 days. That was under President Obama, not under President Trump. The children's centers used now provide the children with schooling, real beds, games of all kinds and flat screen televisions. This is hardly the Nazi concentration camps of Democratic over-the-top outrage. Now, however, because Democratic Senator Chuck Schumer flatly refused on television to

agree to any legislation to fix the problem, admitting that he wanted to lay this at the feet of President Trump, the president was forced to write an executive order to reunite the families, which, since it does not have the power of law, may well be overturned by that same Federal judge.

In the meantime, the children are being returned to their parents, but one has to wonder if that is such a good thing.

What no one is considering is this: What would happen to an American mom or dad, who dragged his or her kids, some of them babes in arms, on an 1,800-mile trek across deserts, mostly on foot, and led by disreputable men who were so likely to rape the little girls that the girls were given birth control pills for the journey? Those parents would immediately be arrested and the children given into the protective custody of the government until they could be safely placed in foster homes or with relatives. They would be separated from their irresponsible parents.

Jeff Sessions' use of Romans 13:1-7 was a literal interpretation of the Bible and does have merit since we as Christians are expected by God to be law-abiding citizens of our country. However, the outrage over his use of scripture to defend following the law was unnecessary, since it should be obvious to any intelligent individual that in a republic such as ours, one obeys the laws, and if the laws are unjust, one changes them. What became the real outrage was the sudden use of scripture by the left, most of whom probably had to troll for Bible verses on the Internet since it is doubtful many of them actually own a Bible. And they did it to try to shame conservative Christians who, while saddened to see the families separated, understood that it would never have happened had the parents not dragged their children across 1,800 miles of desert in the first place. Irresponsible parenting should not be a free ticket into the United States.

Jane Witmer
Paris

PARKER

FROM PAGE 6A

and midterm candidates rev their fundraising engines. There won't be breathing room in the Senate confirmation chamber during confirmation hearings. Nor will envy of the nominee — my money's on federal appeals court Judge Brett Kavanaugh — linger long in the hearing room. What sane mortal would wish upon him- or herself such scrutiny, marooned alone on the block to be picked at by scoundrels, fools and pontificating provocateurs.

This Hogarthian image may be a better predictor of what lies ahead than 10,000 words of analysis. On abortion, as well as same-sex marriage, a conservative court on social issues would lag behind the American people, a majority of whom hold a non-absolutist position on abortion rights, even if many wouldn't object to some reasonable restric-

tions, according to the Pew Research Center. A majority of people also have made peace with alternative family formulations. Sixty-two percent support same-sex marriage, also according to Pew.

What new justice would want to be that man or woman, who forevermore would be credited with upending settled law and causing massive societal upheaval? As for other conservative justices, only Clarence Thomas would likely vote to overturn Roe. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine — one of the most important voices in this discussion — echoed the thoughts of close-to-the-court sources, who said neither Chief Justice John Roberts nor Neil Gorsuch would likely want to weigh in on a Roe vs. Wade reversal.

Precedents, meanwhile, matter — and not just in law. In the current debate, the guiding precedent is that justices often do the opposite of what is expected of them. Kennedy,

a Republican nominated by Ronald Reagan, was Exhibit A. Instead of towing the conservative line, he became a liberal darling for his often-liberal positions on individual freedoms — up until the end when he sided with other conservative justices in protecting pro-life pregnancy centers.

No one should try to predict how a justice — or the court — will rule. For now, lamentations about abortion's end are wasted on what is mostly a red herring deployed for political expediency. But it will have served its purpose, which is to separate voters from their dollars, get the bases ripe and ready for Election Day, and give politicians and pundits something to knit and fret about. As for Cassandra and Chicken Little, who, alas, never had a child together, the future holds great promise for peril.

(Kathleen Parker is a political conservative-leaning columnist for The Washington Post. Email her at kparker@washpost.com.)

MILLER

FROM PAGE 6A

with something to write about in what would otherwise be a slow news month when most normal people are on vacation or have otherwise completely tuned out politics of all kinds.

But the annual event really started to lose its appeal for the Democratic powers that be in 2012, when AFSCME packed the Democrat Day rally with thousands of green-shirted protesters who angrily and loudly shouted down every Democratic speaker, including Gov. Pat Quinn and House Speaker Madigan.

AFSCME and other public employee unions were furious at Quinn and the Democratic leadership for pushing pension reforms that would reduce their retirement income and benefits.

The following year, after a massive pension reform bill had passed and was signed into law and Gov. Quinn picked up a Democratic primary opponent, Quinn canceled the rally's speeches. The Democrats still had free food and beer at the traditional Director's Lawn venue, but live music blared

from the loudspeakers instead of politicians' voices.

Republicans, for their part, required that attendees obtain tickets in advance before being allowed access to their event, mainly out of concern that the Democrats could try to disrupt their shindig the way AFSCME did to them.

By then, though, the focus had already started to shift away from the Democrats' rally to a morning brunch at a local hotel hosted by county party chairs. The speeches given at that event were largely repeated verbatim at the afternoon fairgrounds rally, so lots of party regulars eventually got bored and didn't even bother attending the afternoon rally. Why sit in the hot sun and oppressive humidity (or pouring rain, as the case may be) to listen to the exact same speeches you just heard a few hours earlier?

Last year, Speaker Madigan canceled the state fair rally altogether. He never much cared for it anyway. One year reporters literally surrounded his golf cart when he refused to answer questions and wouldn't let him move. Plus, a huge number of Democratic candidates for statewide office that year would've made for an unwieldy and divisive event (particularly since some

candidates were running on pointedly anti-Madigan platforms).

The annual Democrat Day is managed by the Democratic Party of Illinois unless the party holds the governor's office. But it doesn't look like DPI will be all that involved with the rally this August.

"I suspect whatever goes on at the fairgrounds will be done more by the statewide campaigns than anybody else," Madigan's spokesman Steve Brown said the other day.

Brown said the rally, "largely duplicates what the county chairs do," and it had become, "less and less an opportunity to communicate with people."

It does appear that the fairgrounds rally will be revived, although Democratic gubernatorial nominee J.B. Pritzker's campaign is staying mum about what it will look like. They're still working on the details I was told not long ago, but are,

"excited for a great day."

Frankly, the whole thing needs a reboot. Ditch the hokey straw bales and endless dreary speeches and give us something interesting.

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

BUTLER

FROM PAGE 6A

We were all working for the best little police department in the entire country.

We all rose through the ranks of the department and became supervisors. We took training classes together. We were on the same shift together. We had cookouts together and so much more. We had plenty of good times and some bad times we would all like to forget.

I left the department first in 1989 for northern Illinois. Ron became chief and stayed until his retirement a few years ago, leaving Raymond as the last of the original three. A few years ago, Raymond became the longest serving

police officer in the history of the police department passing the record set by the late Stanley R. "Chick" Sims.

Some day someone will come along who will be able to serve longer, but I don't foresee that in my lifetime. Raymond has a passion for police work and when one loves the job as much as he does, it isn't work.

It would be interesting to see how many officers have passed through the doors of the Paris Police Department in the last 38 years that Raymond has trained and who have gained from his knowledge and experience. He lived for the police department and for serving the citizens of Paris.

I could feel the emotion of his last sign off. To give most of your adult life, serving and protecting the citizens of Paris

is the greatest thing a person could ever do. Signing off for the last time is the hardest thing to ever do.

I wish Raymond and Bonnie all the best in retirement. I know the Brocton Police Department will keep him busy, but the Paris Police Department will always have a place in his heart. I'm sure he will continue to patrol the streets when he isn't doing Bonnie's honey-do-list.

Congratulations Raymond on your retirement. I wish both you and Bonnie the best of luck as the two of you can finally take it easy. I am proud to have served with you and proud to call you friend.

(Gary Butler is a native of Paris, a former Paris policeman, a retired chief of police in northern Illinois and a veteran of Iraqi Freedom. Email him at gkbutler@hotmail.com.)



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COUNTY

FROM PAGE 1A

through energy saving. SmartWatt has already completed an initial study and this next step is required by the legislation to let other companies come into the process on a competitive basis. During the discussion, it was re-emphasized this is a budget neutral process for the county. Any expenditures made toward becoming more energy efficient must be offset by an equal amount in savings. If the plan does not work as stated, SmartWatt, or whatever company does the work, is legally obligated to pay the difference. Cummings said as part of the process SmartWatt will apply for any grants or incentive programs on behalf of the county but board members should not

expect new money coming in to pay for the improvements. "Typically, there are not grants available for these projects," said Cummings. "The compensation comes from the savings. It uses already budgeted funds. There is no additional tax money required." Board member Andy Patrick, who serves on the buildings and grounds committee, is a strong advocate of moving ahead. He confirmed money the county will spend implementing recommendations is money that would have been spent anyway for maintenance issues but is now applied to a comprehensive plan putting in new and efficient equipment in place to lower operating costs in the long run. Some discussion was given over at both the county board meeting and the July 9 study session to a measure resident

Tom Dagley presented at the June 13 board meeting seeking the board's support of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution. Dagley said the material as presented was adopted by Effingham County and is spreading to other downstate counties as a way to protect firearm owners from actions by the legislature. The board was unable to take action in June because the measure was not on the agenda. Griffin said he forwarded the measure from Effingham County, which he described as a detailed two-page document, on to Edgar County State's Attorney Mark Isaf for review. He also found a much simpler document on another website he gave to the board at the study session after learning the state's attorney had concerns about the Effingham document. Discussion revealed the

board members support a citizen's right to own a firearm but they had problems with the documents they were asked to endorse. Dan Bruner said the documents, as he reads them, claims the state is stopping people from owning guns and the legislature is doing no such thing. Derrick Lorenzen reported the only gun related legislation he found that made it to the governor's desk and is awaiting a signature does not prevent ownership. The three bills, if signed, establish a 72-hour waiting period between the time of purchasing a weapon and taking possession; bans the use of bump stocks which are devices that can augment the rate of fire of semi-automatic rifles like AR-15s; and establishes a procedure through judicial review by which courts

can order the seizure of a person's weapons if that person is exhibiting signs of mental instability. "None of it seemed too extreme to my mind," said Lorenzen. He added the board started serious discussion about building security in February after an individual with an AR-15 equipped with a bump stock and fully-loaded drum magazine in his vehicle came to the Edgar County Jail and told deputies he was in town to make federal arrests of several people, including elected officials. Lorenzen sees a conflict between talking about the need for strong security measures to protect county employees from gun violence and then passing a resolution opposing legislative measures to address gun violence. He said a more common sense approach to

the issue is needed. He noted some of the bills sent to the governor passed with a veto proof majority. "What I found in the legislation is nothing that takes away the right to purchase," said Lorenzen. John Chittick agreed, saying nothing before the legislature presents a pressing need for the county to take immediate action, and he favored tabling the resolutions for another month. He also asked Griffin to supply Isaf with a copy of the second resolution for review. Lorenzen supported tabling the matter for more clarification regarding what obligations passing the resolution might create for the county. "As it stands, I don't feel comfortable passing this," said Lorenzen. The others agreed to table the resolution.

UNIT 6

FROM PAGE 1A

Following the meeting, Acklin described the CPR training as an unfunded mandate involving all high school students. Acklin briefly reported for principal Cole Huber regarding the junior high school and high school rankings on the 5Essentials Report. The report indicates the schools scored at, or higher, than the state average for the categories of: ambitious instruction, effective leaders, collaborative teachers, involved families and supportive environment. "He (Huber) plans on forming a team to go through the results and see how we can make improvements," said Acklin. Huber's proposal to create an ESports team to engage in competitive computer gaming was back on the agenda for additional discussion. Huber was not present for the meeting but he submitted a game rating system created by the gaming industry. Most concern was expressed regarding the mature rating for games that are suitable for people at least 17 years old because games in that category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content and strong language.

Acklin said one option is to require parents sign a consent slip giving their children permission to play games rated mature. Board president Leslie Henry stated an inclination to not include mature games in the ESports team catalog, but board member Karen Webster questioned if that is an option. "The IHSA has rules we have to follow in other sports," said Webster. "Are we forfeiting games if we don't let them play certain games?" The IHSA has identified computer gaming as an emerging sport for competitive play. Webster reminded board members Chrisman previously had a computer gaming club that was popular with students and met after school. The club did not engage in online matches with other schools and faded out when the sponsoring teacher left for another job. "It was very popular," said Webster. "I think in a controlled way it can be a good thing." The ESports team was tabled for another month until Huber is present and can provide answers to questions.

BRIDGE

FROM PAGE 1A

"We probably have a bridge that is delayed," said Lawson, adding the county is not in control of this process. Discussion at both the road and bridge and the county board meetings included the possibility of either posting signs warning not to use the slab during high water or perhaps even closing the road at such times. Lawson reminded board members Elbridge Township has jurisdiction of Staley Road and all the county can do is encourage the township toward action. Board member John Chittick noted part of the problem with a low water crossing is how fast conditions can change following a rain. He said the water can rise and fall

with great speed. According to Lawson, there are 11 such low water crossings in Edgar County. Another issue is concern that posting warning signs creates legal liability on the part of the township. "Not having a sign is a liability, too," said board member Dan Bruner, whose position was backed by fellow board member Karl Farnham Jr. Lawson promised to relay the county board's concerns to the appropriate township officials. In another matter, the county board approved changing the original Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) spending plan in case the annual \$116,000 state payment of Consolidated County Needy Township Funds is received in September. "We intend to use the money to seal coat three roads,"

said Lawson, adding these particular roads are routes the highway department hopes to transfer to various township jurisdictions. "We've been working on this for nine years." Lawson explained MFT has two paths into Edgar County. The county highway department receives MFT based on a formula that uses the number of license plates assigned to vehicles in Edgar County. The townships receive money based on the linear miles of road in each township and taking jurisdiction of the roads will increase MFT payments for the townships in question, without reducing what the highway department receives. While the freshly sealed roads might be more of an enticement to accept responsibility, Lawson said there is another reason for doing the work.

"The roads need sealed anyway," he said. Lawson had a mix of more good and bad news. He said the county was selected for a \$1.5 million project to improve shoulders and other changes to the Lower Terre Haute Road. The work is 90 percent funded through federal funds as a safety project. The application for improving a large section of Sulphur Springs Road by widening the road and cutting hills was rejected. He sought board support for resubmitting the work during the next funding cycle. "It's (Sulphur Springs Road) been identified as the only critical section in Edgar County," said Lawson, noting that determination was made by IDOT based on accident studies. "It's a big project down there."

THEATER

FROM PAGE 1A

a simple but colorful set with choreography by Jane Smittkamp, who also was a featured dancer. Carroll and Laughlin — who are products of the Paris High School drama program — showed off both range and emotion during the musical. Laughlin is also the current director of the PHS drama program, soon to begin his second year in that role. Special mention should be made of local optometrist Aaron Rhoads of Paris who took on the tough role of the Pharaoh and the demanding "Song of the King," for the production. Rhoads will remind those lucky enough to have a ticket to see the production this weekend of a cer-

tain swivel-hipped rock and roll singer. Former PHS band director Warren Sperry, in the role of Potiphar, brought laughter and applause from the audience as he entered carried by slaves while Christian Landes was outstanding in "Those Canaan Days." Metcalf noted those attending the production this weekend are being invited to vote on next summer's production from six musicals. "Eventually I think we hope to do more than one a year, but right now we're just getting a firm footing for the future," he said. Former PCFA president and cast member Dave Kirsch, who plays Jacob, emphasized how important the creation of the theater company is to the

dreams of Pierce and Suzanne Huston Lippman. "It was part of the trust that a community theater company be established," Kirsch said. "Their wish came true Friday night." Production of the musical would not be possible without the significant donations from local business and industry beginning with Dimond Bros. Insurance, Metcalf said. "We are a start-up company and we needed the support to move forward," he said. "Dimond Bros. willingness to be the headline sponsor was so important to us." Other sponsors include Pearman Pharmacy and the Paris Clinic Pharmacy, Craig and Hellie Smith, Milk Specialties, Prospect Bank, Templeton Funeral Home,

Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home, Feutz Construction and Chittick Family Vision. Metcalf also praised the orchestra, led by Jessica Hendrickson. "Jessica brought a strong background with the show," he noted. "She has been a part of this show in other theaters about six times." It is hoped once local residents see this weekend's show — which includes residents of Georgetown and Charleston — they will want to participate in the next production. Tickets are available for tonight's performance at 7 p.m. and Sunday's 2 p.m. show. They are available for purchase at www.pcfa.ticketleap.com or at the door.

board: Approved the budget for Paris Cooperative High School. Announced the Crestwood Superintendent completed the annual training as the district's Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act officer. Approved on second reading several board policies as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. Approved the district's concussion procedures.

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School registration

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

The beginning of school is less than a month away and the Crestwood board of education made final hires and announced plans for registration during its meeting Wednesday, July 11, at the school. Registration for the Crestwood students is set from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2, and 8 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 3. Teachers report for in-service work Wednesday, Aug. 15, preceded by the traditional Back to School Teachers Breakfast, hosted by Paris Area Church Women. Following an executive session, the board: Accepted the resignation of Melissa White as a paraprofessional. Hired Katie Simmons and Ryan Scott as paraprofessionals. Hired Bob Abernathy as the head boys basketball coach. In other business, the

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ADULTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE SCRAMBLE ARENA

Tiger football attends camp

As has been the tradition for the past three years on Father's Day



DAN DUNDAS

ABOUT SPORTS

weekend, the Paris Tiger football team attended Camp Rantoul along with Tolono Unity, Argenta-Oreana, and Arcola. The three other schools all have a connection on their coaching staff to the Tolono Unity Rockets in the past. Having helped out the Rockets in the early 2000's, Paris Head Coach Jeremy Clodfelder had been attending the camp since the beginning of the decade when he was the Head Coach at Benton High school.

The team would make the well over three hour drive because he felt the camp would set the tone for the year. Now with a driving distance of only an hour and a half, he still feels it's imperative as many players as possible attend. "Camp Rantoul helps answer a lot of questions for our coaching staff, and gives us some great competition, that we may not see week in and week out in the LIC." He also added, "The importance goes beyond the field, since players stay in dorm rooms and eat together, which lets them be able to bond being around one another."

The camp spans over three days, with an afternoon and evening practice on Thursday, three across Friday, and a quick one Saturday morning. The players where just shoulder pads and helmets, and spend a portion of their practices installing plays, working basic drills, like any other practice.

The incentive comes when they meet up with another team for at least two segments during each practice. This can range from one on one drills with linemen or wide receivers, to 7 on 7 passing drills, and a team scrimmage. An example would be Paris playing Arcola in a team scrimmage while the JV of Paris and Unity did one on one drills.

The value in exposure for varsity and junior varsity teams is a great benefit to the younger players as well. It may be their only chance until the season starts, besides a practice against Tri County later in July, to run their plays against another team.

With some LIC schools not being able to field a JV team last season, the possibility remains the same this season as well, so any experience is vital.

The afternoon practice on Friday had a unique flavor to it. With the temperatures hitting the 90 degrees, the coaches four all teams just had

See DUNDAS, Page 10A

Predators third at state

Team takes down Chill, Blaze, and Ruthless teams at NSA Girls State Tournament

BY JEFF CHAMBERS
prairiepresssports@gmail.com

The Paris Predators 8-Under softball season wrapped up with an impressive third place finish at the NSA Girls State Tournament last weekend.

This season's team ended with a 42-22-1 record that stretches back to last fall.

Pool play began Saturday, July 7, with the Predators defeating the Charleston Chill, 13-1 in four innings. Next up was a meeting with rivals, the Mid-State Blaze. The Predators led 11-10 going into the bottom of the fifth inning but failed to hold off a Blaze rally and lost 12-11.

In the first bracket play game, the Predators knocked off Effingham in four innings, 16-5.

Next up was the Washing-

ton County Bombers. Similar to the game played against the Blaze, Paris led going into the last of the fifth inning, only to lose by the score of 12-11.

Heading into Sunday, the Predators' record stood at 2-2. First up was a matchup with Ruthless. Paris took care of business in grand fashion winning by a score of 14-3, and that victory set up a rematch with the Blaze. This time around, the Predators took their rivals to the woodshed, winning by the score of 15-9.

After an emotional win over the Blaze, the Predators suffered a bit of a let down, and fell to the Fuzion team, 14-9. Paris finished with a 4-3 record, and a third place trophy for the team's efforts.

Head coach Chad Stevens reflected on the efforts of his team over the past season.

"I'm very proud of what we have accomplished over the last 10 months, and how this team has grown," said Stevens. "We practiced year-round so that we could accomplish what we set out do, and that was to form a bond between us and bring home some hardware."

Stevens added, "We wanted to win this state tournament as we knew this would be the last tourney this group would play together for a few years. But, I will never doubt the drive and determination of this group of girls, and have no doubt that the future of Paris softball is bright."

As a reminder to those girls in the area, tryouts for the 2018-2019 season for the 8-Under, 10-Under and 12-Under teams is 1 p.m. July 28.



Special to The Prairie Press

The Paris Predators 8-Under Softball team captured third place in the recent state tournament. Front row, from left, are Bryar Burgin, Emma Kraemer, Landrie Stevens, Bailey Rhoads, Audri Molovski and Taylyr Fudge. Second row, from left, are Morgan Coombes, Klaire York, Olivia Martin, Sadie Sallee and Mariah Hale. Third row, from left, are coaches Jill Coombes, Shawn Sallee, Corey Martin and Chad Stevens.

IT'S GAME TIME ALL THE TIME



Photo courtesy of Eastern Illinois University

Hunter Morris looks to first base to make a throw during a game at Eastern Illinois University. Morris, a graduate of Paris High School and Coach Creighton Tarr's baseball program, is playing in the Prospect League this summer for the Springfield Slider in the wooden bat league.

Summer ball is going pro

Former Tiger standout enjoying summer season

BY JEFF CHAMBERS
prairiepresssports@gmail.com

Playing baseball at the next level is a goal for a lot of players and a goal that begins at the Little League level for some.

For 2014 Paris High School graduate Hunter Morris, that dream has come true on two separate levels. Morris was rewarded for an outstanding high school career with an offer to play at Eastern Illinois University, and he played in the Prospect League this summer for the Springfield Sliders.

The Prospect League is a collegiate summer league made up of players who still have NCAA eligibility remaining. This wooden bat league was



Photo courtesy of Eastern Illinois University

Hunter Morris, center, is congratulated by his EIU teammates after smacking a grand slam during the past baseball season for the EIU Panthers.

founded in 1963 and has produced many Major League baseball draft picks. Morris was selected to play for the Sliders based on his performance this past spring at EIU.

See MORRIS, Page 10A

Shiloh 2 Little League team takes second place

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122744@yahoo.com

Both Shiloh 1 and Shiloh 2 coach pitch teams participated in a recent 10-team championship tournament as part of Central Illinois Little League play. The Shiloh Little League hosted the tournament.

Shiloh 2 opened up play in Brocton July 6 as the number 10 seed against the number seven seed Tolono 4. The team composed of kinder-

garten and first grade boys managed to field only eight players. Tolono 4 breezed to a 21-1 win and the game was called by both teams after three innings.

Landon R. had three hits and Braxton H. finished with three hits and a run scored. Shiloh 2 finished the 2018 season at 0-11, but grew with improvement throughout the season.

Shiloh 1 began its quest in morning game July 7. As

the number two seed, Shiloh 1 got a first round bye and played Tolono 4 in a quarter-final game at Newman.

After a sluggish first two innings, Shiloh 1 exploded with nine runs in the bottom of the third inning to take a 19-12 lead going into the fourth. Shiloh 1 flashed the leather in the field turning a 1-3-1-4 triple play as Hunter Reese caught a line drive to get the first out, then tossed the ball to Calvin Budd to double up

the Tolono 4 runner at first. Reese, after getting the ball back from Budd threw to Chase Rhode to get the runner at second and completed the triple play. This play sealed the win and Shiloh 1 advanced over Tolono 4 19-13.

Reese finished two for three with a double and three runs scored. Rhode was three for three with a double and a triple. Budd also went three for three with three runs

scored. Bentley Dudley was another three for three with a double and two runs scored and Gamble Morris had a double and three runs scored.

In the semifinals, Shiloh 1 faced off against number three seed Tolono 3. Momentum from the previous game continued with Shiloh 1 playing great defense and having an impressive run production. The 18-9 win propelled Shiloh 1 to the title contest.

See SHILOH, Page 10A



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Cardinals fall to Reds 9-1

Cincinnati takes the second in a row from St. Louis with homers

BY STEVE OVERBEY
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Scooter Gennett and Dilson Herrera homered, Matt Harvey tossed five solid innings and the Cincinnati Reds beat the St. Louis Cardinals 9-1 on Friday night.

Jesse Winker reached base four times and drove in three runs for the Reds, who won their second in a row against St. Louis after breaking a 13-game losing streak to the Cardinals on June 10.

St. Louis had won 17 of the previous 20 games between the teams.

Winker staked the Reds to an early lead with a two-run double in the first.

Gennett hit his 17th homer of the season off Carlos Martinez (6-5) in the third to push the lead to 3-1.

Herrera added a three-run, pinch-hit homer off Sam Tu-



Special to The Prairie Press

Tucker Barnhart of the Cincinnati Reds congratulates Dilson Herrera of the Cincinnati Reds Herrera hit a two-run home run against the St. Louis Cardinals in the seventh inning at Busch Stadium on Friday.

availala to highlight a five-run outburst in the seventh.

Harvey (5-5) won his fourth successive decision. He allowed one run on four hits over five innings and left after walking Jose Martinez to start the sixth. He struck out five and walked two.

Harvey, who was acquired from the New York Mets on May 8, is 4-1 with a 2.38 ERA in his last six starts. He retired 10 consecutive batters before the walk to Martinez.

Yadier Molina, celebrating his 36th birthday, drove in the Cardinals' run in the first.

Martinez gave up three runs on six hits over five innings. He had won his previ-

ous three starts.

Jose Peraza and Eugenio Suarez had three hits for Cincinnati, which has won three of four.

The Reds improved to 34-25 following their 8-27 start to the season.

They are 39-37 under interim manager Jim Riggleman, who took over for Bryan Price on April 19.

Outfielder Billy Hamilton reached over the wall to rob Matt Carpenter of a homer in the seventh.

TATUM'S TOSS

Boston Celtics standout Jayson Tatum threw out the first pitch before the contest.

The St. Louis native wore a Cardinals jersey with the No. 0, his NBA number.

Tatum attended Chaminate School in suburban St. Louis.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Reds: RHP Austin Brice (1-2, 6.04) was recalled from Triple-A Louisville on Friday. RHP Tanner Rainey (0-0, 24.43) was optioned to Louisville.

Cardinals: Activated RHP Luke Gregerson (0-0, 8.64) and LHP Tyler Lyons (1-0, 5.93) from the disabled list.

Gregerson had been sidelined since May 16 with right shoulder impingement.

Lyons missed 33 games with a left elbow strain. RHPs John Brebbia (1-3, 4.13) and Luke Weaver (5-8, 4.72) were optioned to Memphis.

UP NEXT:

RHP Luis Castillo (5-8, 5.53) will face RHP Jack Flaherty (3-4, 3.34) in the second game of the three-game series on Saturday afternoon.

Castillo is 0-3 with a 5.71 ERA in three career starts against the Cardinals. Flaherty is coming off the shortest start of his career. He went just 2 1/3 innings and gave up three earned runs in a 13-8 loss.

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DUNDAS

FROM PAGE 9A

in helmets, and spent the last half of the practice in a round robin passing tournament for the varsity teams, with all eleven players on the field running strictly passing plays.

This created a game like simulation where the opposing defense was free to rush the passer, with minimal blitzing.

Two teams would try to score from the 50 yard line, and if they were intercepted, fumbled, or stopped on four downs, the drive would be over, and two more teams

would jump out on the field.

Paris ended both of their defensive possessions with interceptions from Coy Landrum, and another later in the segment from Carter Hays.

The highlight of the day was the Paris offense driving down the field and scoring on perennial 4A playoff team Tolono Unity. Though he was injured last year, senior quarterback Caleb Gates looked in sync with his receivers, especially senior Josh Willmoth. On a deeper dropback, Gates stepped up in the pocket and fired a strike on a

deep crossing route, and then heaved deep corner route to the front of the endzone to Willmoth as well.

Paris has two seven on seven passing tournaments in July, one on July 20th at the high school from nine to noon, and one in Tuscola Friday the 26th. Paris opens their season on the road August 24th at Newton, with a chance to avenge last season's shootout loss at home.

(Dan Dundas is a teacher and coach at Paris High School who also writes sports for The Prairie Press. Email him at dandundas82@gmail.com.)

MORRIS

FROM PAGE 9A

For most of the players in the league, this is a first-hand look at what it is like to play professionally. These teams have a game every night throughout the months of June and July. There are scheduled days off usually one per week, but these are often used to make up games that are rained out.

Only the true baseball people can survive and thrive in this atmosphere. Morris certainly fits that mold.

"Honestly, it's been a fun summer," said Morris. "It's definitely tiring going from playing 56 games at EIU, having a couple of days at home, and then playing another 60 games for the Sliders, but I wouldn't trade my experience for anything."

Signing on to play in the Prospect League is signing up for a life of baseball only. Players are not paid. They live with host families in the particular town they are assigned to and spend hours on buses after every road game. So, this is pretty much what one can expect if they are fortunate enough to play at the next

level.

This opportunity also allows players to meet others from throughout the country who are following their dreams as well.

"I've met a lot of great guys this summer, and I've reconnected with old friends," Morris said.

That part of playing in this league is what Morris has enjoyed the most.

With basically 20 hours a day to fill outside of the game itself, Morris still continues to hone his skills.

"Summer ball is about getting your work in, fine tuning your game, competing and having fun," he said. "That's exactly what I've done this summer in Springfield."

Another aspect of playing in such a league is players may find themselves in new and unfamiliar positions.

Morris was a stalwart behind the plate for Paris High School baseball head coach Creighton Tarr. Once he moved on to EIU, Morris moved from the catcher position to first base. For the Sliders, he has spent time at second base as well as a few games at first.

The Sliders still have a cou-

ple of weeks remaining in the schedule, but Morris plays his final game Sunday, July 15. The soon-to-be redshirt senior has decided to take a couple of weeks off prior to heading back to EIU in the fall to finish up his Pre-Physical Therapy Exercise Science degree.

Once on campus, Morris will jump right back into the same grind he has become accustomed to over the last four years.

"School starts on August 20. For the first couple of weeks we just do small group practices," he said. "There are three to four players to a group and we usually go for an hour or so per day. When that's finished, we jump right back into the swing of things. Full team practice every day, scrimmages against each other two times a week, weights four times a week and conditioning two times a week."

Those wanting to play at the next level need to see this as both a tremendous opportunity and a tremendous commitment.

Morris is thankful for the chance he was given, but he has also worked hard to put himself in this situation.

SHILOH

FROM PAGE 9A

Brayton St. Clair had two doubles and two runs scored, and Hunter Reese went three for three with two doubles and three runs scored.

The championship game pitted Shiloh 1 against the top

seeded Philo 1 team that has held opponents to two runs or less in seven of eight innings played. That streak continued against Shiloh 1. Every hard ball Shiloh 1 connected on was covered by a Philo 1 player.

Philo 1 played basic strategic baseball to take the title

with a 15-6 win.

Brayton St. Clair and Calvin Budd each had two runs scored, with Budd adding a double. Hunter Reese had a double and a triple in the loss.

Shiloh 1 finished the 2018 season in second place at 10-2-1.

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Mbappe, France to face Modric, Croatia for cup

Croatia hopes to raise World Cup for first time Sunday

BY GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Kylian Mbappe has electrified the World Cup with his speed and youthful exuberance. Luka Modric has coolly controlled matches in Russia with his graceful play in the middle.

Whether France wins its second title in 20 years or Croatia raises the trophy for the first time Sunday at the Luzhniki Stadium in front of Russian President Vladimir Putin and nearly a billion television viewers could turn on the play of the two stars.

The 19-year-old Mbappe has been the biggest sensation at the tournament in Russia, scoring three goals — including two against Argentina in the round of 16 — and creating havoc for opposing defenses with his pace and his agility.

“It’s going to be the biggest match of my life, for sure,” the Paris Saint-Germain forward said Friday.

Although Mbappe has impressed for France at the month-long tournament, Modric has been the rock and the spark for Croatia. When the Real Madrid midfielder has the ball at feet, good things seem to happen for Croatia.

“Even when you think they’re going to lose, or going to crack, they always have the mentality to come back,” Mbappe said of the Croatian team. “It’s a team that plays with a lot of intensity.”

France last won the World Cup title in 1998, at home.

The French defeated Croatia in the semifinals that year, which until now had been the country’s best showing at the tournament.

The heads of state from both countries are expected

to sit with Putin. Will Smith is set to headline the closing ceremony.

Croatia, a country of 4.5 million people which gained independence from the former Yugoslavia only 27 years ago, enters the final after playing three straight extra-time matches, including two nerve-racking penalty shootouts.

In all three of those matches, Croatia has had to recover from being a goal down.

The players never gave up.

“When you put the sacred Croatia shirt on you become a different person,” Croatia midfielder Ivan Rakitic said through a translator. “I’m not trying to say it’s a superior feeling that the French have for France, or Russians for Russia.”

“The best feeling is to be Croat these days and this is the source of all our strength.”

While Croatia had to rally to keep advancing, France won all three of its knockout games in the regulation 90 minutes and trailed for only nine of the 540-plus minutes it has been on the field.

EUROPE WINS

France or Croatia will become the fourth different European country to become world champion in a streak started when Italy beat the French in the 2006 final.

Spain won the 2010 title in another Europe-only final against the Netherlands, and Germany defeated Argentina in 2014 to become the first European team to win the World Cup in South America.

PRIZE MONEY

There is \$10 million in extra prize money on the line at the Luzhniki Stadium.

FIFA will give \$38 million to the winning team’s national soccer federation.

The runner-up gets \$28 million.

The total prize fund for the 32 competing teams is \$400 million. FIFA gives each team at least \$8 million.

FINALS CLASH

Both the World Cup fi-

nal and men’s final at Wimbledon are on Sunday and could overlap.

The tennis final starts in London two hours before the soccer kicks off in Moscow.

MIDFIELD ARCHITECT

If Rakitic’s soccer ca-

reer had not led him to the World Cup final, he might have helped design the Luzhniki Stadium’s recent reconstruction.

Rakitic studied architecture while growing up in Switzerland, and trained at the Basel offices of Herzog & de Meuron in preparation

for soccer’s biggest prize.

He said he “worked in an office that made blueprints” for the Bird’s Nest, the main stadium for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The firm also designed the stadium for Bayern Munich that opened ahead of the 2006 World Cup.

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Amazing, technicolor musical

Prairie Press photos by Gary Henry



Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) is thrown to the floor as his 11 jealous brothers plot on whether to kill him or sell him to a passing merchant caravan during the first act of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." The musical is the first production of the Paris Community Theater and will be repeated today at 7 p.m. and at 2 p.m. Sunday.



Jacob (Dave Kirsch), Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) and the Narrator (Megan Carroll) celebrate Joseph's return to his family after 14 years in Egypt. The musical is based on the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors from the book of Genesis in the Bible.



Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) adores his "precious multi-colored coat" presented to him by his father, Jacob. In the story, Joseph is his father's favorite because he was the son of Jacob's favorite wife. The musical is the first production of the newly-formed Paris Community Theater and is directed by Stuart Metcalf. The orchestra director is Jessica Hendrickson and the choreographer is Jane Smittkamp.



Potiphar (Warren Sperry) enjoys his money and his life as one of the Egyptian elite in the musical. Potiphar plays an important role as he purchased Joseph as a slave then sends him prison because of his wife's indiscretions.



The Butler (Stanley Coombes) and the Baker (Michelle Jacobs) turn to Joseph for the interpretation of their dreams during the production. Let's just say one gets good news, while the other isn't long for the world.



Mrs. Potiphar (Jane Smittkamp) has plans for the slave Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) as she plans to seduce him. Smittkamp is the featured dancer in the musical and also serves as the show's choreographer.



Rueben (Eric Marlowe) explains to his father Jacob (Dave Kirsch) with a country song that the favorite son, Joseph has gone to the big roundup in the sky during the first act of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."



Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) shares his dreams with his family as Jane Smittkamp and Olivia Carroll represent the ears of corn Joseph saw in his dream.



Pharaoh (Aaron Rhoads) shares his crazy dreams with his admirers and Joseph during the second act of the musical presented this weekend at the Paris Center of Fine Arts. Ramses turns to Joseph to interpret his dreams and eventually makes Joseph his number two during the "Song of the King" in the musical.



Joseph (Tanner Laughlin) is surrounded by members of the children's choir for this weekend production. The 17 children, directed by Judy Carroll, sing and dance during the production, to be presented twice more this weekend. The children range in age



Simeon, kneeling, (Christian Landes), laments "Those Canaan Days" during the second act of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." The brothers admit things were better when Joseph was around and they even miss his crazy dreams — and the food and parties of the good old days.



Jessica Hendrickson (center) directs the orchestra for the first production of the Paris Community Theater. Peg Dixon served as musical director and rehearsal pianist for the show, which rehearsed for only five weeks before opening night Friday.

Grandpa's lasting impression at the ball game

Tig had every intention to bathe and dress nicely for the girls' championship softball game that Friday evening, Central High and Clover High, both undefeated, played for conference honors. The schools were strong rivals. A huge crowd would pack the bleachers. Many additional fans would tote lawn chairs, forming a line along the base lines and behind the outfield fence. Four top-rated umpires were hired, each from a distant city so no favoritism could be alleged.



ALLEN ENGLEBRIGHT
OLD CODGER

Tig was a hard, devoted worker at Shorty's Auto Salvage. A big man he was, 6-5, 250. Typically he wore a blue mechanic's uniform. His wife washed it clean every Sunday. He looked neat and professional on Mondays, but insisted on wearing the same outfit all week. After tearing into old cars every day and removing transmissions, engines, axles, drive shafts, plus all kinds of other parts, his duds were black and greasy from Adam's apple to ankle bone by Friday.

Two reasons dictated dressing nicely for the game. Most of the fans were neatly attired, for one. The other was his granddaughter Elsie. She played for Central High. The senior girl was very special. Though humble, the lass was an all-star, an athlete mightily recruited by colleges and universities from coast to coast. A sensational fielder, her hitting was even better. The girl had committed to Texas A & M, all expenses paid, a tremendous honor. Ol' Tig hadn't seen her play in any games this year. He was poor and couldn't afford to miss work. Until now. He quit early just to see this important contest. He would sit proudly with the beaming Mrs., other parents, grandparents and a slew of younger kids.

Despite the man's praiseworthy intentions, problems entered the scenario. Firstly, Tig stopped at Bugsy's Corner Tavern on his way home, a definite error in

See **CODGER**, Page 2B

It's Metal-ish offers fun

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

What began as a fun outing with a daughter-in-law has morphed into a part-time business for a Paris resident.

Lori Erwin was visiting with her son Heath, and his wife, Beth, in Springfield. "I was visiting and Beth took me to It's Scrapicated, a store with metal signs and hangings you paint," she said.

Beth Erwin, a schoolteacher, shared the business owned by Tammy Tolley, is a popular outing for fellow teachers and friends.

"I just loved it," Erwin said. She so enjoyed herself, "we took groups of people from here to experience it."

Tolley already had one Belleville woman who was hosting parties and Erwin began thinking, "I need to do this in Paris."

A legal secretary at Jones and Griffin, Erwin said she realized she needed to get serious about bringing the craft opportunity to Paris.

"This is a small business mostly run out of my home at this point," she said. If a bigger group wants to get together, Erwin uses the fellowship room at New Beginnings Church, where she is a member.

The metal signs require painting including a primer coat. The process is hurried along by the use of hairdryers, Erwin said.

While examples of how to decorate the signs are available, "It's really up to the person working on it what colors to select," Erwin noted. The words on the signs including everything from Bible verses to inspirational quotes, are printed with a computer program on a Silhouette, similar to a Cricket. Vinyl is used for the lettering. "It's peel and stick," she said.

The vinyl work is done by her daughter, Kayla Erwin, assisted by her sister, Debbie Sturgell.

The It's Metal-ish parties are popular with clubs and groups — and just not women.

Before Valentines Day, Erwin's husband, Dave, hosted seven guys to make a present for their wives. "He told them he'd provide food if they'd come," she laughed. "They loved it. They had a ball."

Start to finish, a project takes about three hours. "We usually start at six and are done by 9 p.m.," Erwin explained.

Erwin said the projects are painted with interior wall paint. If the item is to hung outside, a final coat of mod-podge is added for protection.

While groups and clubs have gotten together to enjoy projects, Erwin also frequently hosts open workshops in her home. "The idea is to let people who haven't tried it and are looking for a night out to get to experience it," she said.

Erwin's Facebook page announces the open workshops. Pictures of projects she has on hand are available to peruse and make a selection. Erwin said those interested may also look at It's Scrapicated's website at www.piecestouniqueness.com to see what the possibilities are.

Erwin's selections include Cubs



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

Lori Erwin of It's Metal-ish displays a completed piece, perfect for a football fan or parent to display on a door or in the office. There are a variety of seasonal and decorative pieces available to complete at one of the paint parties Erwin regularly hosts.



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

Christie Austin of Paris uses a hairdryer to speed the drying process for her latest It's Metal-ish project. Austin says she has always enjoyed crafts and the metal signs, "are really fun and look great."

and Cards projects, seasonal and holiday shapes including a five-petal flower, a mason jar filled with fireflies and flipflops. There will soon be fall and Halloween projects available, Erwin said, as well as Christmas and winter shapes later in the year — including tree ornaments.

"Right now baseball is particularly popular," she said.

Erwin said she is happy to host a party for friends at her home. "If there is larger group, we can use the church," she said.

Those attending a party only need bring themselves, she said. "We provide everything — primer, paint, the vinyl words and the decorations," Erwin explained. Some of the larger pieces run up to \$55, she said, but that price includes everything.

Erwin also has nearly 50 choices of colorful ribbon for bows to provide that extra special touch.

Summer is a busy season between ballgames, vacations and other activities, Erwin noted. No workshops are planned this month, but will be scheduled again following the Edgar County Fair.



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

A finished patriotic sign is displayed following a recent It's Metal-ish party at the home of Lori Erwin. Once the sign is painted and the words placed on it, Erwin has a wide variety of ribbons that can be added to create extra color for the completed project.

"It's something fun and different to do for all ages," she said, noting if someone is looking for a girls night out, It's Metal-ish provides a perfect way to spend quality time together visiting with a completed project at the end of the evening.

America is already great

So, Sean Hannity walks into the local bar. Slipping onto the seat beside me, President Trump's pal regarded me, and frowning, asked: "Are you Harry Reynolds?"

Being of a more moderate persuasion when it comes to politics, and not really convinced that Fox Cable News' superstar is fair and balanced, I nevertheless, replied: "Yes."



HARRY REYNOLDS
ANOTHER LOOK

"Well, I have been looking for you," Hannity said. I was tempted to ask what kind of metal his hair was made of, but, instead, I asked: "Why?" My gut feeling was that, not being one of the disciples of the president, Hannity would accuse me of purveying fake news.

"You are not as stupid as you look," Hannity noted, which was a compliment, and not in harmony with the general belief of most people, not to mention my dog Maisy and the local alley cat. In line with the compliment, I said, "Thanks."

Hannity, a connoisseur of fine drinks, ordered a dry martini with a lemon peel, stirred, not shaken. One of the gorillas at the pool table, snarled, "Look, Clyde, it's one of those big-city, commie, liberal politicians."

Well, Hannity went kind of crazy then; the result being rather bloody. Returning to his seat, he looked me in the eye. "Nobody calls me a commie, or a liberal," he growled, his nostrils flaring.

"Well, I don't think they will again," I replied.

The bartender, handing Hannity a copy of "Deliver Us from Evil," asked, "Will you autograph it for me?" Signing the book, Hannity launched one of his rare attacks on CNN, MSNBC, The New York Times and a host of other news networks and newspapers. It took about an hour.

Then he started in on Nancy Pelosi, Hillary Clinton, former President Barack Obama, the University of Illinois Marching Band and anyone who ever disagreed with President Trump.

"What have you got against the Illinois Marching Band?" I asked.

"Gee, you really are dumb," Hannity sighed. "My source tells me they deliberately play The Star-Spangled Banner off key. I know because the guy

See **REYNOLDS**, Page 2B

The "birds and bees" talk is trickier for the bees

I once had a teacher who started each class with a puzzle or a joke leading into the lesson.

Here is a classic riddle: a man is looking at a photograph and says 'brothers and sisters, I have none, but this man's father is my father's son.' Who is in the picture?

There is a solution, unless I make it a trick question. For humans, the answer is he's looking at a photograph of himself.

What if it's a honeybee looking at the picture and talking. For a male bee, it is

impossible, but there is an answer if it's a female bee, as long as you substitute daughter for son.



TERRY SULLIVAN
ARMCHAIR SCIENCE

The male bee is a drone and has no father. He has a grandfather, but no father. Sounding like a Twilight Zone episode? There is a scientific explanation.

We're used to thinking of diploid sexual reproduction. In humans, the female mother furnishes the egg with half of her chromosomes while the father donates a sperm with half of his chromosomes. Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes with 23 single chromosomes from the mother and 23 from the father for a total of 46 chromosomes.

A chromosome is just a long strand of DNA material made up of small segments. Each segment of the chain is a specific gene. Humans average about 400 genes in each long

chromosome. The bee family has a different version of sexual reproduction. Females are either queens or workers. Their genetics are like humans, except they have 32 total chromosomes instead of 46.

A hive's queen furnishes 16 in an egg and a drone furnishes 16 of his own. The drone does not split and give half. He gives all he has, because he only possesses 16 chromosomes.

Drones are haploid, not diploid creatures. A male bee has only a half-set of chromo-

somes. A queen can lay either female workers or male drone eggs. If she deposits a fertilized egg it is always a female. The male has no Y chromosome to give so every fertilized egg has two matching X chromosomes making a bright, hard-working female.

When the queen deposits an unfertilized egg, it still divides and develops as a larva, which matures into a male, but with only half a set of chromosomes. A drone has exactly half the queen's genes and nothing else.

The queen controls the

number of drones in the hive and keeps it down to 10-20 percent of the population. Drone bees are not especially bright. They get big and only have one job.

Drones never work. They don't clean, forage or protect the hive. They don't even have a stinger. All they do is lay around, get fed and cleaned by the workers then on good days fly off in the morning looking for a young queen to mate.

A queen only mates one time with several males and then carries enough fertilized

See **SULLIVAN**, Page 2B

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CODGER

FROM PAGE 1B

judgment. Secondly, the cold beer was tasty, which led to his friends buying additional rounds. Thirdly, he lost track of time, which meant no trip home. Fourthly, the frosty beers effectively lubricated him most thoroughly, especially his strong-hinged jaws and vocal cords.

It so happened that in previous years these two high schools attracted rabid fans who yelled and

screamed at each other, the players and the umpires. There had even been a couple of fights. But in recent years the school superintendents, athletic directors and coaches had successfully eliminated the problems. Even preachers were asked to help by pleading to congregations. Good sportsmanship was strongly emphasized. Tig was to change the trend.

With kind intentions he bought his wife a cup of soda pop, then dropped

it while climbing the bleachers, spilling it on the ground beneath.

"I'm so sorry, honey," he said.

"That's OK Tig," she replied. "Accidents happen. Don't worry about it."

But he did worry about it. Twenty-five apologies followed, continuing every inning. His deep voice attracted everyone's attention repeatedly. To his credit, he did control his vocabulary, barking a few dadgummits and goldarns, but no cuss words. Granddaughter Elsie was called out on strikes on a borderline pitch during her first at-bat. It brought groans from several fans and a flurry of goldarns from Tig. The umpire stared at Tig, as if to warn him to shut up. Plus, Tig's wife pinched him and urged better

behavior.

In the third inning Central's shortstop bobbled a sharp grounder for an error. Tig was offended.

"Elsie was an all-conference shortstop last year," his voice carried loudly. "What a stupid coach. She's playing Elsie in centerfield. Oughta know better."

Worse yet, Tig exited the bleachers and worked his way to the home-team dugout, showering the coach with a piece of his mind. She asked him politely to settle down, confessing that Elsie was indeed the best infielder on the team, but was also the best outfielder. Sensing the team's vulnerable outfield, that was the best placement.

Returning to the bleachers, Tig mouthed off to the umpire again, accusing him of being

half-blind. Someone had already called the police. Two young cops suddenly approached Tig as he stood beside the bleachers. Trying the nice-guy approach, they asked him to calm down. Tig grew angry, told the officers to go to Hades, drew back a fist, and made some vulgar threats. As I pointed out, Tig was a hefty man. The officers were small in comparison. Fans were watching this confrontation with keen interest.

The situation was resolved quickly. Tig fell with a thud, quivering and begging for mercy. He'd been shot with a Taser gun. Last anyone saw, the officers were marching him to their squad car while he wept and sobbed in handcuffs. His last words, uttered blubberingly as he glanced back toward the bleachers,

were, "Honey, I'm so sorry I spilled your drink."

Come seventh inning, Elsie, who had been hitless, batted with the bases loaded. On the first pitch she whacked a long, towering drive that struck and busted a bulb atop the centerfield light pole, a mighty grand slam that won the game. The crowd roared in delightful approval. Teammates mobbed their heroine in a frenzy when she crossed home plate.

Grandpa Tig would've been so proud. Unfortunately he missed the spectacle. He was wearing a clean stenciled set of orange coveralls in the county clink.

(Allen "Big Al" Englebright is a retired schoolteacher and storyteller. Contact him at The Prairie Press, 101 N. Main, Paris, Ill., 61944.)

SULLIVAN

FROM PAGE 1B

eggs to lay up to a half million in her two years' lifetime.

If a drone mates, he dies. If not, he returns to the hive to be pampered and go out another day.

The drone's life may seem ideal, but they are only tolerated to insure a fertilized queen. When food supplies are low or winter is coming workers push the drones out of the hive to die. They don't really need them, especially if they have a healthy queen.

Genetically a worker shares only 25 percent of her genes with a hive drone, so he is

really only a half-brother. By contrast females share 75 percent of the same genes with their sisters. Human siblings by contrast share 50 percent of the family genes.

To summarize, the hymenoptera (bee, wasp, ant) are haplodiploid animals, one gender is haploid (one copy of each chromosome) and the other is diploid (two copies of each chromosome). In the hymenoptera males are haploid, meaning they have no father. While females are diploid.

Explaining bee genetics may be recent, but beekeeping is referred to among beekeepers as the world's second oldest profession.

There are Stone Age cave paintings of beekeepers dating back more than 5,000 years. The Magna Carta contained language legalizing the harvesting of wild honey by common folk. Approximately one-third of the food we eat depends on pollinators.

June's full moon was June 27. Native American called the full moon in June the Strawberry Moon or Rose Moon. During the Middle Ages, Europeans knew the golden moon of June as the Honey-moon and associated it with mid-summer celebrations.

Ancient Greeks and Romans viewed honey as a

symbol of love and fertility. Mead made from honey is the oldest fermented alcoholic drink and was given to newlyweds to start their life together.

Here are some interesting facts about bees. Bees have to visit 2 million flowers to make one pound of honey. This takes 55,000 miles of flight by the colony. That is enough miles to circle the Earth twice.

A colony of 60,000 honey bees can produce up to 60 pounds of honey in one year, but each worker individually only produces about one-twelfth of a teaspoon in its six-week life. The hexagonal honeycomb cells are structurally strong and stack with no wasted space. They store the maximum amount of honey for the least amount of wax.

Honeybees epitomize a social order devoted to working for the good of all. The queen lays as many as 2,500 eggs per day when workers are needed. She is the driving force that keeps everyone on task. If the queen dies without replacement, the hive becomes lazy and soon dies out.

Honey is the only food that includes all the substances necessary to sustain life, including enzymes, vitamins, minerals and water.

It's the only food containing pinocembrin, an antioxidant associated with improved brain function. It has antiseptic properties and was once used to treat wounds and as a burn ointment.

It will last forever without spoiling as long as it is dehydrated below 17 percent water content. Honey found in the tomb of King Tutankhamun was crystallized but still good after 5,000 years.

Through history, man has recognized the importance of the honeybee. Bee populations increase rapidly as days get long, but we are now past the peak production period for this year. A new swarm this late will need help to collect enough food to make it through the winter.

Here is an old rhyme dating back to 1600s in Oxford, England: "A swarm in May is worth a load of hay. A swarm in June is worth a silver spoon, but a swarm in July isn't worth a fly."

(Terry Sullivan's fascination with science started as a child watching Carl Sagan's "Cosmos" and James Burke's "Connections" on PBS. He is the technology and curriculum director for the Shiloh School District. Email him at sullivan@shiloh1.us)

REYNOLDS

FROM PAGE 1B

recently bought a brand new set of hearing aids."

Beckoning the bartender, he ordered another martini. I ordered a beer. Hannity got to the point of his visit.

"One of my sources told me you think Trump's Make America Great Again crusade is a bunch of bull."

"Yeah, I do," I replied. "America has always been great. We have the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights; not to mention the greatest military and economic power in the world. We elect our leaders. We have three democratically elected branches of government and enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of religion."

Of course, Hannity agreed to that; but, then, does not most Americans? Interestingly, Hannity has never said America was not the greatest nation.

Our conversation was fiction. The only thing putting our greatness in peril is the meanness we increasingly display in our national discourse.

The underlying foundation defining a nation's greatness is civil discourse. We need to get back to it.

(Harry Reynolds is a retired editor and columnist for the Mattoon Journal Gazette and Charleston Time-Courier. He recently started writing occasional columns for the fun of it, in which he offers a different look at life and aging. Email him at reynolds-sharry1943@gmail.com)

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OUT OF THE PAST

COMPILED BY NED JENISON
Former Editor and Publisher
Paris Beacon-News

The following articles are taken from the pages of the Paris Daily Beacon for the week of July 8-14, 1918, and from the Paris Beacon-News for the same week in 1968, reflecting the news of interest to Paris exactly 100 and 50 years ago this week.

BUCK CITIZENS OBJECT

Quite a number of citizens of Buck Township were in the county court room for the opening skirmish of a tax objection case.

The tax under question is a gravel road levy, which was carried at a special election by a majority of 80 votes. The levy provided for the construction of three gravel roads across the township, north and south, and called for an assessment of \$1 per year for five years.

MAY BUILD BALL PARK

The suggestion that the east park be made the center of community amusements by establishing a ballpark on the grounds was taken up by the city council.

Attention of the council has been called to the fact that the east park has for many years been an eye-sore to the public. Underbrush, weeds and tall grass have been allowed to grow to such an extent that the place is almost repulsive to look at and, to say the least, not inviting.

Notice has been given to the local ball club that the Cummings Park must be vacated on account of the fact that the company needs room for storage purposes.

CHURCH DEDICATION

Extensive preparations are being made for the dedication of the new St. Thomas Catholic Church, which has just been completed in Brocton. The dedication ceremonies will open at 9 a.m. next Sunday, July 14 with Father Higgins of Mattoon in charge.

TRAVELING MEN'S PICNIC

The annual United Commercial Travellers picnic will be held at the East Park Saturday afternoon. Fifty members of the local order, together with their families and friends, will be present with heaping baskets of picnic grub.

The fun will start shortly after 3 o'clock, consisting of athletic contests, music, dancing and other diversions. The C. T. Biddison launch has been chartered for the occasion.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

COLEMAN NEW PRINCIPAL

Thomas E. "Ed" Coleman was named new principal of Paris High School at a special meeting of the Paris Board of Education. Coleman succeeds Ralph Marshall who served this past year and resigned to accept a similar position in Indiana. The new principal has been at Memorial School for the past eight years, most recently as school principal.

KANSAS HOMECOMING

Final preparations are underway for the Kansas Homecoming Thursday through Sunday with a full slate of events.

Activities will start at 8 p.m. Thursday with a repeat performance by The Todds. Red Blanchard of the Barn Dance will entertain Saturday night.

SEEK FAIR QUEEN TITLE

A record total of 21 hopeful young women are candidates for the 1968 Miss Edgar County Fair title, to succeed 1967 Queen Jan Day.

NEW ANTIQUE SHOP

A new antique shop will open Monday in the former Bristow home at 419 West Court Street, under the name of "The Castle." Mrs. Donald Wilson will operate the new shop.

Reagan's 'quintessential'

BY LENORE SOBOTA

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

Illinois may be known as the Land of Lincoln, but it's another president with Illinois roots who offers lessons to which people today can more easily relate, say officials of Ronald Reagan's alma mater.

Reagan graduated from Eureka College in 1932. He went on to become a sports broadcaster, movie and



Special to The Prairie Press

xxx

television actor, governor of California and the 40th president of the United States.

"The Reagan story is the quintessential Illinois story," said Michael Murtagh, the

college's vice president for institutional advancement. "He is a person who came from small-town Illinois and made a difference in the world."

As noted by Mike Thurwanger, head of the Reagan Leadership Program at the college: "One of the things he offers is the understanding that an individual from humble beginnings can rise to a position where he has an impact on the world."

While not downgrading the importance of Abraham Lincoln, Murtagh notes: "Lincoln grew up in a log cabin. ... People can't relate to that."

Reagan, on the other hand, faced financial struggles, went to college on a needy student scholarship while also working, and had a father with a drinking problem, said Murtagh.

"His life struggles exemplify many of the life struggles our

students still face," he said. "He is proof that you can overcome that kind of thing. Reagan's life is something students can relate to."

Thurwanger said Reagan's "Midwestern and Illinois values colored the way he approached things" and even some of his critics would like to see a return to some of what he was known for, such as his ability to, "work across the aisle, which we don't seem to be doing today."

Signs of Reagan's life both before and after his graduation remain on campus — and not just in the Reagan Museum that opened in 1994 in the Cerf Center.

There is the chapel where Reagan gave his first speech as a college freshman.

See REAGAN Page 4B

ARMSTRONG FINDS UNUSUAL GOLD-STRIPED FLAG



Roger Stanley/The Prairie Press

Mick Armstrong found this unique casket flag with 48 stars, three gold stripes and three white stripes at an auction. The best explanation is the gold stripes were a modification used during World War II with each colored stripe representing 50,000 American combat deaths.

Red, white, blue, and gold?

BY ROGER STANLEY

rstanley1937@hotmail.com

It is rare to find an American flag that has gold stripes instead of white ones, but Mick Armstrong of Paris has one.

Armstrong bought the flag at a recent auction. He has an interest in American flags and while attending an auction he found a box with a large flag in it. He purchased it for a reasonable sum, and when he later did a more thorough inspection of the box's contents, it appeared he struck gold, in a sense.

The unique aspect of this large flag is three gold stripes and three white stripes instead of six white stripes. He examined it closely to make sure the flag had not yellowed after many years of storage.

When he was satisfied the gold stripes were intentional and not the result of discoloration, Armstrong started researching why a flag would have golden stripes and went to many sources looking for an explanation.

The flag is 5 feet wide by 9 feet 6 inches long and is a coffin flag made by Annin Flagmakers, which has manufactured American flags since 1847. Annin was unable to explain the presence of the gold stripes. Resources such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and Ted Lange, a local veteran who is familiar with veteran's memorial services, were also unable to clear up the mystery.

Armstrong finally found a source of information in Luther Hanson of the U. S. Army Quartermaster Museums.

Hanson believes each gold stripe represents 50,000 American armed

forces personnel killed during World War II.

With three gold stripes, the flag honors 150,000 American deaths in the global conflict. There were more than 400,000 American service deaths during WW II, and Armstrong estimates the flag was manufactured between 1942 and 1945 based on the rate of deaths.

Armstrong does not know any of the personal history attached to the flag. Perhaps it draped the coffin of a man who died in the

war and was originally from the area where Armstrong attended the sale, or maybe survivors in another region kept handing the flag down to others until it ended up with other items in an auction. He considers it a rare treasure, not so much for its monetary worth, but for the history it represents and someone's personal sacrifice. It is important to not only study history, but to actually preserve important artifacts that have made our country what it is.



Roger Stanley/The Prairie Press

Mick Armstrong proudly displays a 48-star American flag with three gold stripes he recently acquired at an auction. The gold stripes are a mystery although personnel at the U.S. Army Quartermaster Museums theorize each gold stripe represents 50,000 American deaths during World War II.

When France upended NATO

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS
www.history.com

The memo was brief — just a few hundred words. The memo was polite. But for President Lyndon Johnson and his NATO allies, it read like a slap in the face.

"France is determined to regain on her whole territory the full exercise of her sovereignty," wrote French President Charles de Gaulle. The country intended to stop putting its military forces at NATO's disposal and intended to kick NATO military forces — and those of NATO members — off of its land.

In short, de Gaulle had just done the unthinkable: pulled the plug on a crucial part of NATO.

De Gaulle's 1966 decision to withdraw France from NATO's integrated military command sent shock waves through NATO's member states. It was a reminder of the fissures within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization — and a challenge to its very existence. Could NATO survive without a member state's participation in the very military agreements it was founded on?

NATO itself had been founded out of fears of nuclear war, and during the 1950s, the alliance began to formalize its military agreements. Fearing that a war with the USSR would require a formal military structure on the part of NATO, member states decided to create its own joint military command.

The integrated military structure, as it was named, created a framework for NATO military responsibilities and helped dictate just how member states would contribute in case of military action. It was created just as the Cold War heated up, with revelations that the USSR was positioning nuclear weapons in Cuba aimed directly at the United States and increasing tension around the Iron Curtain, as the military and ideological boundary

See FRANCE, Page 4B

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FRANCE
FROM PAGE 3B

between Western Europe and Soviet-bloc countries was called. And as world affairs became even tenser during the 1960s, the strain was reflected within the NATO alliance.

"The '60s saw NATO more divided and under greater stress than at any time since its creation in 1949," explained Jamie Shea, NATO's Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges, in a 2009 lecture. And for France especially, said Shea, "there was a real sense of not being treated equally."

Over the years, France had come into conflict with nearly all of its NATO allies, especially the United States and Britain. Though all three countries had founded the steering group from which NATO was born, France had soon fallen out of the driver's seat. French president Charles de Gaulle still resented what he saw as the United States' abandonment during the 1956 Suez Crisis, when the U.S. effective-

ly forced France to withdraw its forces from the area around the Suez Canal during a conflict over its nationalization by Egypt. And he valued French military independence — something he felt could never be achieved within the context of the alliance.

Frustration mounted even more when de Gaulle suggested that France, the United States and Britain be put on equal footing within NATO in terms of nuclear strategy. The proposal failed, and as a result de Gaulle began slowly reducing French participation in NATO. He withdrew France from the Mediterranean fleet and refused to store nuclear weapons from other countries on French soil.

The situation reached a boiling point by 1963, when the U.S. and France clashed over a plan to have NATO nations man a North Atlantic nuclear fleet. De Gaulle and his military had planned their own North Atlantic nuclear fleet, and withdrew France's participation as a result. Then, in 1966, de Gaulle struck a final

blow. He announced that he was withdrawing France from the integrated military structure and that all foreign forces had to leave France.

It was the first major crisis faced by the alliance, and it shook member nations deeply. On both sides of the Atlantic, politicians and pundits mused on the best way to proceed forward. President Johnson castigated De Gaulle in a strongly written letter; Dwight Eisenhower proposed that NATO appoint a French commander. For The New York Times' editorial board, there was only one solution: for the U.S. to stand down. "Bonn and London, in turn, must make it clear to Washington that continued American predominance cannot save NATO, but only destroy it," they wrote. "The Atlantic alliance can only be restored in one way, through restoring the unity of Europe."

Yet the alliance lived on. The withdrawal forced all member states to remove their French bases, and NATO itself had to move its military headquarters from France to Belgium. But

France did not withdraw from the political alliance of NATO, and made behind-the-scenes assurances to the United States — the Lemnitzer-Ailleret Agreements — that it would support NATO in the case of nuclear war in Europe.

It took 43 years for France to change course. By the time Nicolas Sarkozy announced that France would rejoin the military portion of the NATO alliance in 2009, the USSR no longer existed, the Cold War was over and France had participated in NATO peacekeeping operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan. "We send our soldiers onto the terrain, but we don't participate in the committee where their objectives are decided?" said Sarkozy. "The time has come to end this situation. It is in the interest of France and the interest of Europe." France was accepted back into the fold — a powerful reminder that the alliance has so far managed to sustain itself despite vehement differences among its member states.

REAGAN
FROM PAGE 3B

"The chapel hasn't changed a lot," said Murtagh. "The pews have been removed but the feel is still there."

But for Murtagh, "The Reagan Peace Garden stands out for me."

Dedicated in May 2000, the garden contains a bronze bust of a smiling Reagan by artist Lonnie Steward and a 5-by-4-foot section of the Berlin Wall, given by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Around the base that holds the bust are quotes from Reagan's 1982 commencement address, at which he outlined his plans for seeking peace with the Soviet Union and for strategic arms reduction, with a goal of, "dismantling the nuclear menace."

"Peace is not the absence of conflict but the ability to cope with conflict by peaceful means," reads one of the quotes.

The impact of Reagan teaming with Soviet President

Mikhail Gorbachev to end the Cold War is not lost on Thurwanger and Murtagh.

"Both of us are Cold War veterans," said Thurwanger, noting that he and Murtagh each served in the military for 20 years. "I'm not sure the current generation has a full grasp of his importance," in ending the Cold War.

A plaque in front of the section of the Berlin Wall contains the famous quote from Reagan's 1987 visit to West Berlin: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Gorbachev dismissed the role that Reagan played in the eventual dismantling of the wall. But during a visit to Eureka College in 2009, the former Soviet leader said, "When all is said and done, he was a great man."

Gorbachev is among many dignitaries, including former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who have visited Eureka College over the years because of the Reagan connection and the efforts of the Ronald Reagan Society at Eureka College to preserve his legacy.

Another way that legacy is continued is through the Reagan Leadership Program, which provides scholarships and mentorships to students.

"The idea is to develop their leadership potential," said Thurwanger. "We use a servant-leader model," which emphasizes using skills to help others become leaders themselves.

He added, "Our goal is developing all students so they leave as leaders."

Speaking at the 1982 commencement, 50 years after his own graduation, Reagan said, "Everything that's been good in my life began here."

It was a phrase he repeated on several occasions, but it wasn't just talk.

It was at Eureka College that Reagan gave his first speech as a 17-year-old freshman. He called for a vote of the student body on a student strike over a campus dispute with the college president and the board of trustees — a board on which he would later serve as an alumnus.

A double-major in economics and sociology,

Reagan also competed on the football and swim teams, acted in 14 plays, served in student government and was a fraternity member.

Reagan admitted his involvement in athletics may have drawn attention away from academics. "Even now I wonder what I'd have accomplished if I'd studied harder," he quipped in that 1982 commencement speech, during his first term in the White House.

But involvement in such multiple activities continues to be encouraged at Eureka.

Calling such involvement a critical component of Reagan's education, Murtagh said, "Students more than ever need to be participants," to develop their leadership and communications skills.

As Reagan said in a 1982 interview with Pantagraph columnist Bill Flick: "One thing about a small school: You can't hide. Students were drafted into those things and found horizons broadened and found themselves able to do things that they never would have attempted."

The tea party that changed history

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS
www.history.com

On the surface, it was just another tea party — a well-behaved group of women passing cups of brewed beverages around the genteel table of Jane Hunt, a well-to-do New York woman who had invited four others to dine with her.

But this tea party was not for shrinking violets. Hunt's guests were about to air their grievances about the world's injustices toward women — and to give birth to the convention on women's rights that resulted in the formation of the American women's movement.

The fateful meal took place on July 9, 1848, when Jane Hunt invited Elizabeth Cady Stanton to her house for tea. Hunt was a Quaker, and she invited three other Quakers — Lucretia Mott and her sister, Martha Wright, and Mary Ann McClintock — to the gather-

ing, too. All five women started the afternoon as individuals. But by the end of the day, they were at the helm of a collective movement that would change women's lives forever.

As Stanton and her friends talked, they began to home in on the issues that made their lives so hard to bear. Women couldn't get an education or vote; whether they were married or single, their livelihoods and property all belonged to the men in their lives. They felt chained by a moral code that expected women to be flawless examples and submissive wives and mothers without giving them anything in return.

"I poured out, that day, the torrent of my long-accumulating discontent," Stanton later recalled. Her vehemence and indignation was met with sympathy and similar stories from her friends. They kept re-

turning to what they'd considered before: a convention to advocate for women's rights.

It's unclear who decided to actually move forward with their idea; the Hunt family always held that a grandfather who felt that faith without works is dead encouraged them to pursue it; Stanton wrote that all of the women resolved to, "do and dare anything," after she poured out her frustrations. Either way, they decided to move forward — and quickly. Before long, they were writing an advertisement to appear in the local paper. It encouraged women and men to gather in Seneca Falls just 10 days later for, "a Convention to discuss the social, civil and religious condition and rights of women."

It may have been hastily planned, but the Seneca Falls convention drew hundreds of attendees and is remembered as the spark that kindled the American women's movement. Few of the women had any public-speaking experience — women were discouraged and often completely barred from speaking in public — and the women were uncertain how to organize a convention.

Despite their inexperience, they drafted an agenda and an organizing document, the Declaration of Sentiments, that would galvanize American women. Together, Hunt and her guests envisioned an equality that would smash the sexist norms of their day — and they did it with cups of tea in hand.

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Rwanda approves guidelines

Rwanda's Parliament rules that preachers, clerics need formal religious education, clean background

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

NAIROBI, Kenya — After closing more than 700 churches and some mosques in March, Rwandan government officials have moved to institute guidelines for how faith groups operate in the majority-Christian East African country.

Rwanda's minister in the office of the president has brought to parliament a draft law that would require Christian and Muslim clerics to attain university education before preaching in churches or mosques. The law would require clerics to have a bachelor's degree and a valid certificate in religious studies. It would also bar clergy who have been convicted of crimes of genocide, genocidal ideology, discrimination or

other sectarian practices.

"I agree with the law. Some of our church groups have been operating in a dangerous manner," Evalister Mugabo, bishop of the Lutheran Church in Rwanda, told Religion News Service.

Churches and mosques would also be required to institute an internal disagreement resolution body to complement the work of their umbrella organizations and the government's dispute resolution authority, which resolves conflicts involving different faiths.

The measure, according to government officials, will bring order among churches, some of which are suspected of misleading people.

Judith Uwizeye, minister in the office of President Paul Kagame, presented the draft

law. "Everyone would wake up in the morning and call people to start a church. Setting up a faith-based organization didn't require anything. We want to bring about better organization on the way faith-based organizations work," she is quoted as saying.

The draft law received wide support from most legislators in Rwanda's Parliament. It will move to the committee stage, after which it will be brought back to parliament for endorsement.

In 1994, the country about the size of Maryland witnessed a genocide that left an estimated 800,000 ethnic Tutsi and moderate members of the Hutu tribe dead. Years later, senior church leaders were among those accused of killing citizens or aiding in their deaths and

were arraigned before the International Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, in nearby Tanzania.

Despite its dark past, Rwanda, like many African countries, has witnessed an upsurge in churches in both urban and rural areas. But in March, its government took a radical move, shutting down hundreds of them in the capital of Kigali.

The action was replicated in other towns, amid support from some religious leaders and criticism from others. The authorities said the churches lacked basic infrastructure, security and hygiene and were contributing to noise pollution.

Those most affected by the shuttering were small Pentecostal churches. Jean Bosco Nsabimana, founder of

Patmos Church, a Pentecostal congregation, questioned why government officials had not targeted bars and nightclubs.

But other religious leaders see wisdom in the government move. "Churches are mushrooming too quickly and are exploiting poor people. If they are not controlled, more and more will continue to come up," said Innocent Maganya, head of the department of mission and Islamic studies at Tangaza University College. "They are being started for personal gains, not for that of the followers. Without discrimination, a bit of sanity is needed."

Maganya noted other countries require pastors to have a degree or certificate. "On the surface, I don't think they are interfering with

freedom of worship, unless there is a hidden motive," said Maganya.

But Mugabo said the requirement that clergy have a bachelor's degree will affect many young churches like the Lutheran Church in Rwanda. The Roman Catholic Church has been dominant in Rwanda, and institutions that can offer a degree in divinity for other denominations are few.

With the new rules and regulations, Mugabo has been negotiating for affiliation with the University of Iringa, based in Tanzania. The institution is owned by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania. Mugabo has sought the use of the university's curriculum in teaching at his church's Bible school. The university will also award the pastors educational certificates.

Minister's role is to preach

The calling, as some regard the profession of being a minister, has many different facets and nuances to it.



JACK HOFFMAN
PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

The duties of a pastor vary from comforter in sorrow, care giver, consoler

in grief, marital advisor, administrator, spiritual leader, teacher, baby sitter, encourager, chaplain, ex-officio board member, janitor, jack of all trades, etc. If one started listing the wide variety of responsibilities a member of the clergy might be observed or expected to fulfill, the list would continue on almost ad nauseam, but if we filled a job description with all the above we would still lack the most necessary function or core obligation. It is saliently laid out in the scripture and most noticeably by Paul to his young mentee Timothy: Preach the word.

This is such a serious duty it is admonished in light of the knowledge of the presence of God and the return of Christ Jesus, who will judge our lives. In the understanding that one day my life as a preacher/pastor will be evaluated by the Lord, the righteous Judge, and that a great reward called the crown of righteousness, is dependent upon my successful execution of that duty, I am instructed with the most seriousness of spirit to preach the word. That's it.

Now all the other aspects, duties, chores, facets and stuff that a minister can, should and surely does is well and good, but if I miss doing this core function, I have missed my true calling.

The central focus of ministry of any preacher of the gospel is to deliver the Word of God so that others can understand and respond to it. It doesn't matter what the response, acceptance or rejection, falling on deaf ears or open ears, the matter is to open the book and preach it.

Paul warned there would come a day (and there surely has) when people ignore what they need to hear and stack the deck in favor of teachers saying the

TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY INTERSECT



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Speakers attached to the former bell tower of the First Christian Church project the sound of a carillon playing hymns and other music occasionally during the day in Paris. When the former sound system failed the congregation approved purchasing a new digital system to keep the more than 30-year-old tradition going.

Carillon keeps ringing

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

The bell tower of the First Christian Church no longer houses cast metal bells but the music played daily sounding the same as a traditional carillon still has an important message when heard through the streets of Paris.

"It is a long standing tradition that continues our church efforts to reach out and help the community as the songs and hymns often played act as a reminder and proclaim God's goodness throughout the community for all to hear," said the Rev. Mike Dixon.

A carillon is a musical instrument typically housed in the belfry of a church or municipal building and consists of no less than 23 bells that are played serially to produce a melody or sounded together to play a chord.

Without bells in the tower, the First Christian Church installed a digital system approximately 18 months ago that creates the sounds of bells. The digital system replaces older equipment that failed.

"We have played the music for as long as I can remember and for as long as I have been pastor at the church," explained Dixon, noting the music has sounded daily for longer for more than 30 years.

When the equipment malfunctioned Dixon and the congregation decided to invest in a replacement. He noted many congregation members were passionate about replacing the equipment because of the tradition it represents.

"We made the decision we wanted to continue it because we believe it is a good witness to the community to provide the bell music throughout the day," he said. "It was quite an investment, and we play it at different times during the day."

The versatile carillon sound system plays different types of music pertinent to the season of the year.

On a normal daily basis, old hymns or favorite Christian songs are periodically played. Special seasonal music is sounded specifically at Easter and Christmas and periodically patriotic music is played during other annual holidays.

"Basically, it is now a computerized sound program," Dixon said. "We have options and can play different types of music at different times



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Cheryl Clark shows the digital sound system that creates the carillon sound of bells playing at the First Christian Church in Paris. Church members regard the music as an important way to remind those outside, and hearing the bells, of God's love.

during the day but we never try to conflict with community events so at times we can turn the sound off."

He added, "We try not to play it too early or too late in the day but the intent is to provide positive inspiration and uplifting music as a reminder of God's love."

He said most community members welcome the sounds and the church often receives positive feedback about the bell music.

As Dixon explains, the daily carillon sound is not overpowering noise but a pleasant background of Christian music selections that are identifiable to many people of different church denominations.

"The bell sounds definitely bring us back to God," said Dixon. "The songs are not in your face loud but just a background sound and reminder about God. Some days you notice it and sometimes you don't but hopefully if a person needs it they hear God's love."

On several occasions Dixon has encountered strangers familiar with the church because of the music.

"Once I introduced myself to a gentleman and he said, 'Oh, you are from that church that plays the music,'" said Dixon adding, "It is a good identification marker for people to know us that way."

Dixon regards the carillon sound system as much more than just music because it provides another way to

minister to the community.

"I think it offers community inspiration in terms of the music," said Dixon. "It provides one more reminder that comes through when someone hears and recognizes the hymn or song. I know when I have the words to the songs running through my mind it reminds me of God's truth. We proclaim that God is with us and for us and also that we are to be with him, and it is important for God to be in our daily lives...the music provides that."

Through the years the church has focused on keeping the practice alive. Several years ago when a cap was added to the church bell tower, the carillon sound speakers were moved and adjusted to ensure the speakers are heard throughout the streets of Paris.

Not only is the outdoor sound a reminder of God's love it also shows the importance of music, specifically music ministry, at the church.

"The sound says something about our church and the congregation that loves and appreciates music both in the church and outside the church," Dixon said, noting the church has a handbell choir that performs regularly. The outside carillon music will continue at the church for many years to come.

"The sound is a witness to our community that the church just isn't a place behind four walls. We are trying to spread God's word in every way possible," Dixon concluded.

Church roof event is Sunday

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
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KANSAS — An effort by the Pleasant Hill Christian Church Raise the Roof campaign continues at 4 p.m., Sunday (July 15) in the Kansas village park.

Church members are hosting a Supper and Song in the Park to raise money to replace the roof on the historic church, located near Kansas.

Funds raised will also complete other needed maintenance to the building.

The event features a supper provided by the local restaurant Grandma's Kitchen for a freewill donation. Drinks are available for \$1.

Musical entertainment is by Richard Clapp, the King's IV and the East Central Harmony Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International.

Sweet Adelines is a worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education, performance and competition.

In case of rain, the event will move to the Kansas Christian Church Fellowship Hall.

Church members and volunteers have already raised \$12,200, through donations and other fundraising events.

That amount is about half of what is needed to complete the work.

Methodists host music, ice cream

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Paris First United Methodist Church is hosting and inviting the community to Methodist Park for free ice cream treats every Sunday from July 15 through August 5, from 4:30-6 p.m.

In addition, each evening will feature a musical group beginning at 5 p.m.

Scheduled to perform are:

- July 15 Eagles Wings from the Neoga area
- July 22 – Jerry Yates Band from Clinton, Ind
- July 29 – The Down Yonder Band from Edgar County
- August 5 – Notable Evenings from Clinton, Ind.

Methodist Park is located next to the church at 324 W Court Street.

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Horace church hosting finance study

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
 swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

The Bible is often viewed as a study guide where worshippers can find God's answers to everything that Christians endure on a daily basis.

It is no different when questions about finances and money arise said Horace Baptist Church minister Rick Cook.

The Horace Baptist Church is hosting a special service 6 p.m. Sunday, July 22, featuring financial adviser Ben Franklin. A finger food fellowship after the service provides more time for individual conversation

with Franklin.

"God owns everything as the creator and redeemer," said Cook. "God blesses people who use money and things to honor him." Cook referenced Proverbs 3:9,10 "Honor the Lord with your substance and the first fruits of all your increase; so shall your barns be filled with plenty and your presses will burst forth with new wine."

According to Cook, one of the most dominant topics in the Bible is money and its use. Franklin believes and practices biblical principles of finan-

cial management and stewardship. He will teach some of those principles and how they apply to current day decision making.

Franklin operates Franklin Wealth Management in Urbana serving clients throughout central Illinois and all over the United States. The business mission statement reads, "Our mission is to glorify Jesus Christ as faithful stewards providing professional, client-centered, risk-averse financial planning services through both our local firm and a network of called, all-in wealth advisors."

Following his presentation, Franklin will answer general and specific questions from those in attendance.

Cook noted the public is invited to Horace Baptist Church, 13888 E. 1700th Road, for the presentation, fellowship and finger foods.

The church is located about five miles north of the Twin Lakes in Paris. Turn west on the 1700th Road, and the church is located 1.3 miles from state Route 1 on the south side. More information is available by calling 217-269-2986.

Vatican setting new rules for church sales

VATICAN CITY (AP) – The Vatican is drafting guidelines to help Catholic dioceses find appropriate ways to decommission unneeded churches so they don't end up as discos, gymnasiums or gelato shops.

The Vatican's culture ministry is teaming up with Rome's Jesuit-run Pontifical Gregorian University and the Italian bishops' conference to host an international conference in November on managing the sale of churches and handling of their assets. The event already has a title: "Doesn't God Dwell Here Anymore?"

Culture Minister Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi told reporters

on Tuesday that many dioceses in Europe, North America and Australia have more churches than they need or can maintain, thanks to an increasingly secularized society, fewer church-going Catholics and financial constraints.

The Vatican wants to ensure the buildings maintain some of the spiritual, cultural and social value they had as consecrated places of worship, Ravasi said.

"If it's used in an intelligent way," such as for pastoral work or cultural or social meetings or even as a bookstore or library, the church could sign off on it, the cardinal said. "But making it a gelateria? It'd be difficult."

Ravasi cited the decommissioning of a Prague church that was turned into a nightclub as a decidedly incorrect way of disposing of a once-sacred space. Italy in particular is grappling with the issue given its vast number of artistically important churches and too few resources to maintain them, especially the ones damaged by frequent earthquakes.

Another key criteria will be a way to ensure that any significant artworks inside a church being put up for sale — frescoes, statues or other work — are removed and placed in a diocesan museum to leave the space as bare as possible when

new owners take over, Ravasi said.

The Vatican sent a draft of the proposed guidelines to bishops' conferences and plans to finalize them during the Nov. 29-30 conference. A photography exhibit of successfully decommissioned churches also is in the works.

Ravasi is planning the conference on properly disposing of extra churches while his ministry is enjoying critics' praise for its participation in the Venice architectural biennale: The Holy See commissioned 10 new, evocative chapels in the woods of Venice's San Giorgio island.

Film finds Fred Rogers' "spiritual center"

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

There's a moment near the beginning of the documentary film "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" — as the trolley that transported millions of children to the Neighborhood of Make Believe is taken out of its box and Fred Rogers' familiar sneakers are set next to a bench — when Margy Whitmer muses on the success of the show she produced for many years.

"We had a director who

once said to me, if you take all of the elements that make good television and do the exact opposite, you have 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood': low production values, simple set, an unlikely star," she said.

"Yet it worked, because it was saying something really important."

The same might be said of "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" itself, which has become the highest-grossing documentary of the year, according to Aspiration Entertainment. Filmmaker Morgan Neville said he's screened the documentary now for, "every possible kind of audience." Neville, who also wrote and directed the Oscar-winning documentary "20 Feet From Stardom," had hoped to make a film that would find common ground, but "Won't You Be My

Neighbor" has, "exceeded any expectation," he said.

From the first screening, "it took on a life of its own," he said.

Perhaps the success of a documentary about a slow-paced children's show hosted by a kind, soft-spoken Presbyterian minister shouldn't be a surprise. After all, the success of the children's show was itself a surprise and its host, an unlikely celebrity.

So unassuming was Rogers that it is surprising to see how strongly his faith comes out in the film. Yet it's there, sometimes in sarcasm, as when Rogers' son John muses about the difficulty of growing up with the second Christ for a dad. It's there in Fred Rogers' ordination as an evangelist for television, which was, "way out there for the Presbyterian Church," ac-

ording to his wife, Joanne Rogers. It's there in the title of the documentary — and the show itself.

"This word 'neighbor' wasn't something Fred came up with out of nowhere. It was biblical," said the Rev. George Wirth, a friend and fellow Presbyterian minister who called Rogers, "a man of deep faith."

It came from Jesus' words, "love your neighbor as yourself," and the parable Jesus told in response to the question, "Who is my neighbor?," in which the so-called good Samaritan cares for a man who had been beaten and left by the roadside.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," the books Rogers wrote and the speeches he gave all came from that core — "the spiritual center of Fred Rogers," according to Wirth.

PASTOR
 FROM PAGE 5B

things they want to hear. Many translations call it itching ears.

Like a lazy housecat most of this sophisticated generation simply wants to have their itch scratched. They want to feel good, relaxed, comfortable and complacent but don't really get below the surface to issues that are life changing.

The Bible preacher must make the Word of God the central focus and the Word of God always addresses,

confronts, corrects and instructs wayward mankind into a higher and more holy direction. The preaching of the Bible eliminates confusion, eradicates ignorance and gives clear directives concerning sin, wickedness, eternity, right and wrong and God Almighty's thoughts and feelings. It's the Ten Commandments not the ten suggestions as some have quipped.

One day all gospel preachers will be examined and evaluated by the Lord. The issue will be faithfulness to the Savior and fidelity to his

unchanging word. Loving God and loving our neighbors demand that we preachers deliver to everyone the only message that will make a difference for eternity. That message is in the word. If you have a minister that preaches the Word of God let him or her know how much it blesses you. If they don't open the book and teach thus saith the Lord, and the principles of scripture, you might want to rethink why you are giving your time to listening to them.

(Jack Hoffman is the pastor at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Paris. Email him at jilland-jack1971@gmail.com. Pastor's Perspective is provided by the Paris Ministerial Fellowship.)

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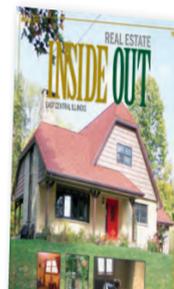
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Agricultural exchange of ideas

Paris resident examines the advantages, pitfalls and opportunities within Chinese farming practices

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

For Dale English of Paris, a trip to China was a mind-opening experience of seeing a nation that is both ancient and futuristic.

English visited China with a delegation from the National Association of Farm Broadcasters between June 20 and July 4. Only eight broadcasters made the trip and the other 23 people on the trip, like English, were farmers from Kansas to New York.

English had two main reasons for participating.

"I've always been fascinated by China," he said. "I'm fascinated with history. I always have been."

The other reason was the opportunity to meet and become acquainted with John Block, who served as Secretary of Agriculture for President Ronald Reagan. Block was one of the key members of the trip.

"He's 83, but you wouldn't know it," said English. "He was hard to keep up with."

Even though this was a trip organized for farm broadcasters and others with an agriculture background, there wasn't much in-depth exploration of China's agriculture system through visiting local farms and exchanging information with producers.

In China, the state owns the land and leases it to farmers in 75-year blocks. There is an official goal of moving 250 million Chinese farmers into cities. As an incentive, those making the move are given five apartments.

They can live in one and rent the others out, which is a lucrative option in expensive cities like Shanghai.

English said farmers making the move to an urban area are promised jobs but it is not clear what kind of work is available to them. The stated goal is to consolidate the small holdings into larger operations, similar to the United States, to justify the use of bigger equipment and scale up for more efficient operations. It may take some time to accomplish this given

how Chinese agriculture works, at least from what English was able to witness via a limited perspective of the country.

"We saw fields that might be 20 acres broken up into 20 or so plots growing rice, wheat, vegetables and some corn," said English.

As a point of contrast, the average population density of China is 20,000 people per square mile.

"If I'm standing in some of my fields, I'm the only person in that square mile. They had a

difficult time comprehending that," said English.

Approximately 20 percent of China is arable ground and English noted some fields have been in production for perhaps 2,000 years. He added the availability of arable ground is an increasing concern in the United States with millions of acres of ground taken out of production by urban sprawl and the development of suburbs.

China also has urban expansion but as a Chinese city See **CHINA**, Page **8B**

Pork growers hurt

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA —The pork industry appears to be headed for a period of large losses in which excess pork supplies force prices below costs of production, according to Purdue University agricultural economist Chris Hurt.

"Demand will likely be weakened by reduced exports with tariffs in place on U.S. pork exports to China and Mexico. On a positive note, Chinese tariffs on U.S. grains and soybeans are helping to erode feed prices along with favorable growing season weather," Hurt says.

The industry has expanded the breeding herd by 3 percent according to a recent USDA producer survey. This is the highest rate of breeding herd expansion since this expansion phase began in 2015. Hurt explains that a breeding herd of this magnitude is likely to be a primary contributor to excess supplies in 2018 and 2019.

The market herd was up 3 percent and farrowing intentions for this summer and fall were up 2 percent. With the breeding herd up 3 percent, Hurt says there is concern that actual farrowings this summer and fall could be higher than the 2 percent increase recorded by survey respondents.

According to Hurt, pork supplies will also be large. First-half supplies this year have been up 4 percent and are expected to rise to 5 percent higher in the third quarter this summer, and 4 percent higher in the final quarter of 2018, Hurt explains. Current expected supplies for the first half of 2019 are up 4 percent and 3 percent in the last half of 2019.

The second driver of the large losses facing the pork industry revolve around the current trade war the U.S. has entered.

"The U.S. pork industry has done an amazing job of producing low costs and high-value pork products and adapting them to our foreign customers," Hurt says. "As a result, we have targeted exports as a strategic objective to grow the U.S. pork industry. Our success in growing exports to 22 percent of production means that pork became a target of both China and Mexico."

Pork exports started the See **PORK**, Page **8B**

A farming landmark

Edgar County Airport serves ag community

BY GARY HENRY

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Airports serve multiple purposes.

Some are transportation centers moving both people and freight to major locations. Others are connectors helping local people get to bigger airports for catching flights to different locales. A few develop a niche market, much like the current status of the Edgar County Airport.

Tom Tuttle, airport manager, said in addition to the corporate jets flying here for the local industries a regular, weekly patron is an individual who flies gas line inspections. This time each summer the Edgar County Airport is crop duster central, serving a large swath of this part of the state.

"The first duster showed up July 2," said Tuttle.

So far this season the busiest day was July 5 when seven of the nimble aircraft were flying in and out of the airport for refueling and taking on more fungicide for spraying cornfields.

Tuttle said it was crowded on the ground July 5 as planes waited turns on the apron for fuel and product. He added a planned construction project in 2019 will make the airport even more attractive to the crop dusting businesses.

After a protracted delay because of one person's disagreement with making improvements at the airport, the Illinois Department of Transportation has again approved a plan to move and increase the capacity of the fuel storage area as well as expand the apron.

"Increased ramp space will also be very beneficial to these guys," said Tuttle, noting more planes can fit into the planned space allowing ground crews to service more than two or three at a time.

The construction project will also help the airport with direct fuel sales to the crop dusters. Currently, some companies truck in fuel because the airport not only lacks the capacity for rapid refueling but also fuel cannot be purchased when the part-time office is closed. When completed the new fueling system will be equipped with an automatic card reader.

"Once we get our expansion, we will have fuel available 24-hours-a-day," Tuttle said.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Pilot Larry Patchett checks orders for aerial spraying with the ground crew during a stop at the Edgar County Airport. The airport is popular with crop dusting services because it is convenient to reach fields in eastern Illinois. When he was ready to take off, the plane had almost 8,000 pounds of fungicide in the tank for spraying.

Companies that do not buy fuel directly now from the airport pay 15 cents per gallon for the privilege of bringing in their own fuel.

While the airport lacks a control tower, Tuttle said that is not an impediment for the pilots who do a great job of radio communication keeping everyone apprised of their locations in the air and status regarding approach, landing and takeoff.

"An airport this size is much more convenient for them" Tuttle said. "Larger airports are busier and harder to get in and out of."

The existence of the Edgar County Airport is an important asset for Nutrien Ag Solutions (formerly Crop Production Services) in meeting the chemical needs of the company's farming customers at this time of the year.

Jim Ingram, manager of the Nutrien Ag Solutions plant at Metcalf, said without the local airport he would likely be forced to use the Danville airport in Vermilion County at a much higher expense for customers because of the increased distance to transport chemicals to the airport and for pilots burning more fuel to reach the spraying locations.

In 2017, the business used aircraft to spray 16,000 acres mostly in Edgar and Douglas counties.

Ingram said the speed of the planes makes them efficient at covering much larger areas than conventional sprayers, plus the planes don't knock down the corn. On a recent day, three

planes sprayed 3,000 acres for Ingram's customers.

He explained the urgency is because there is only a brief three-week window after the corn tassels for the fungicide to benefit the developing ear.

The Metcalf plant prepares truckload mixes of Headline AMP fungicide and hauls it to the airport for the planes to apply.

Ingram described the chemical as both a curative and preventative for fungus infections in the corn crop. In addition, Headline AMP is the only fungicide classified as contributing to the overall plant health.

The hot, humid summer so far is conducive to the development of fungal invasions in corn crops.

"What we are seeing in Edgar County is gray leaf spot," said Ingram. "I've not been in a field yet that it's not been in."

He said gray leaf spot is a particularly virulent problem for farmers because it takes over the plant and degrades the stalk.

"The corn looks good," Ingram said. "I'm telling my guys to protect what you got."

Aerial application is an important management tool and having an airport in such close proximity makes it feasible to do so in a manner that is both efficient and cost effective, Ingram noted.

"I have customers who plan on it every year," said Ingram. "When a farmer does it the first time, they continue to do it after that. They see a return on the investment."



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

A crop duster leaves a trail of exhaust after completing a run and preparing to turn for another pass over a cornfield.

Coping with the heat

Plants have developed several mechanisms for surviving in the heat of summer.

Looking at species that grow in hot, dry climates shows us the various ways plants evolved to grow in harsh conditions.

Cacti have thick skins that protect the interior flesh from the blazing sun in arid conditions. The waxy leaves of agave slow down transpiration preventing the plant from losing too much water.

Transpiration occurs through tiny openings in the leaf surface called stomata through which water vapor escapes. Other plants slow transpiration by having small leaves. Still others produce hairy leaves, creating a layer around the stomata holding the moisture close to the leaf. Finally, some plants develop deep root systems, growing down past the surface dryness.

That is fine for desert plants, but what about our Midwestern flora that temporarily runs into the heat of high summer? It is asking a lot of annuals and tender perennials to look good in the varying conditions from early spring, through summer and into fall.

Each species reacts to excessive heat in its own way. Some just stop producing flowers. Some wilt, while others bleach out. Getting to know how a particular species reacts helps determine how to mitigate the effects and get more from your floral display. What strategies are there for cooling plants on hot days?

Provide shade in the hottest part of the day. I'm sure you have walked under a tree grouping and have been surprised by how much cooler it is compared to out in the direct sun.

If you have existing trees on your property, site your garden to take advantage of some shade for part of the day. No trees? Plant some. Containers can be moved for the hottest part of the day during a heat spell. A hand truck or dolly makes it fast and easy to move even heavy 18 and 20-inch pots.

There are many advantages to mulch, and one of the main ones is keeping the soil, and

See **GARDENER**, Page **9B**



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CHINA

FROM PAGE 7B

encompasses a former rural village, the old buildings are eventually demolished for skyscrapers. The urban population of China is concentrated in 30 to 40-story tall buildings rather than spread over a large area in private homes.

The group visited the Songjiang Aquaculture Farm that raises grass carp and shrimp. The visit revealed an astonishing fact. English said 95 percent of the shrimp consumed in the U.S. comes from China, and the farm feeds pelletized soybeans made from American crops.

English regards aquaculture as an underutilized option by American farmers, especially since the start-up cost is relatively low compared to other investments.

During a stop in Beijing, the group visited the CP Layer and Crocodile Farm. This operation by Taiwan's largest corporation is unlike anything English encountered before.

Only a few people work in the facility to keep the robots functioning that take care of hens laying thousands of eggs each day. English said glass panels in the floor showed huge quantities of eggs whizzing by on conveyor belts beneath their feet.

A somewhat agriculture related visit was the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda breeding.

English explained bamboo is 95 percent of the panda diet but the coarse material makes a quick trip through the intestinal tract so the animals produce a lot of excrement.

"Panda poop is used as fertilizer, and now they are exporting it," said English.

A trip highlight was a 90-minute meeting with Terry Branstad, the U.S. ambassador to China. When Branstad was governor of Iowa he developed a friendship with Chinese exchange student Xi Jinping. Xi is now the president of China and the most powerful man in the country.

Another meeting was with representatives of U.S. agriculture companies doing business in China.

"We've got all of these Americans living over there looking after our interests," said English.

He added many of the questions by those on the tour had to do with the short-term results of President Trump's trade war, which is driving grain prices lower than they already were. The U.S. business interests were unable to predict what will happen.

"They said the Chinese want the same things we do," said English. "They don't want a trade war. It won't benefit anyone."

The ag representatives are confident the Chinese government will continue buying American soybeans as animal feed for that nation's 700 million hogs in pork production. They were less sure about other areas of American trade with

China.

"What people don't understand is that China is sitting on half of the world's wheat and corn stocks," said English.

He noted China still has corn in storage from the 2012 harvest, but that raises the question of what China can do with grain that old. English owned and operated the former elevator at Redmon and said grain can only be stored for about two years and remain useful.

The stop in Guangzhou included a large open wet market featuring meat of every kind. The market impressed English because of its cleanliness and absence of flies.

"Next door was a very modern supermarket that sold wagyu beef from Australia," English said, adding wagyu beef originated in Japan and the marbling of the meat makes it the most expensive beef in the world. Hong Kong Hamburgers made from ground wagyu cost \$150.

Non-agriculture stops included the Forbidden City in Beijing, which English described as beautiful, the Great Wall of China and the Terra Cotta Warriors at Xian, a city that is 3,000 years old.

China is more than its ancient history. This is a country embracing not only new but also groundbreaking technology. The group rode a bullet train traveling 187 mph and covered 1,000 miles in about five hours.

Shanghai has a maglev train that uses powerful magnets to

levitate the train slightly above the rails. It is also a high-speed train with an incredibly smooth ride.

English is well traveled with four trips to Europe, visits to several South American countries, Cuba and now China. He noted the people in places he visits express a negative impression of America as being only 4 percent of the world's population but having the attitude of telling the rest of the world what to do because of the strength of the U.S. dollar and economy.

Based on what English saw on his recent visit, the Chinese yuan is poised to knock the dollar off its pedestal.

"The potential is unreal," said English. "China is going into other countries and building infrastructure for them."

China's building boom, especially in Shanghai, defies understanding. According to English, 10 years ago one-quarter of all construction equipment in the world was in Shanghai creating the planet's largest city, approximately 70 miles across and home to 35 million people. The population is at least four times that of New York City.

The unfathomable wealth is evident in the practice of calculating Hong Kong rents on a scale of centimeters instead of square feet. China also has 300 million cars, the same as the U.S., and annual plates for each of those vehicles is \$15,000.

"Cadillac sold more cars in Shanghai last year than in all of the U.S.," English said.

PORK

FROM PAGE 7B

year with a lot of promise, up 9 percent at the end of April compared to the January to April period last year. Chinese tariffs on U.S. pork began on April 2 and were raised again on July 6 making additional tariffs of at least 50 percent. Mexico placed tariffs of 10 percent on U.S. pork June 5 and raised those to 20 percent July 5.

Weekly export data from USDA suggests a sharp drop in pork export sales during the

month of June, representing about a 25 percent decrease from last year.

"Weakness in exports will be expected as long as the tariffs stay in place. China has also placed tariffs on U.S. beef and poultry which may reduce U.S. exports of these competitive meats," he says.

Just how large are the loss prospects right now considering the large pork supplies, reduced exports due to tariffs, and reduced feed prices due to tariffs and favorable growing conditions?

Liveweight prices for 51-52 percent lean carcasses are expected to average about \$49 in the third quarter of 2018 before dropping sharply in the last quarter to near \$40. Current estimates of cost of production are near \$50.

In 2019, prices are expected to be below costs for much of the year. Liveweight prices are expected to be in the low \$40s in the first quarter and then move to near \$50 for averages in the second and third quarter before dropping back to the low \$40s for the final quarter.

Estimated losses are expected to be large this fall and winter with losses averaging about \$25 per head for this six-month period. Hog prices may be

close to breakeven in the second and third quarters before returning to losses greater than \$20 per head in the last quarter of 2019. Losses for the calendar year of 2018 are estimated at a loss of \$10 per head and \$12 per head of loss in 2019.

Feed costs are expected to be somewhat lower in the second half of 2018 versus the first half.

"This is especially true for soybean meal where Decatur prices for high protein meal were near \$365 per ton in the first half," Hurt explains. "That same price in the second half is expected to be closer to \$340 per ton. Unfortunately, corn costs may be similar in both halves of the year and thus the modestly lower feed costs are not enough to offset low hog prices."

Hurt's prices for hogs and feed are primarily based on July 9 futures prices. "Clearly, agricultural product markets are in a period of high uncertainty and volatility," Hurt says. "Weather will continue to be a driver of crop prices over the next six to eight weeks. What happens to tariffs on U.S. exports of crops and animal products will also add dynamic price potential."

"Given the heightened level of uncertainty, most pork producers will not want to make long-term decisions at this point. That means carrying on as best they can with short-term plans. The current trade war that agriculture has been unwillingly forced to participate in has an unknown and difficult to predict outcome. Only time will help bring the 'end game' into better focus."

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TOPS 1563 holds its June meeting

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

TOPS #IL 1563 met Thursday, June 28, with 17 members attending the meeting. Club members recognized were: Janet Embry, TOPS weekly best loser; Wanda Luth, KOPS weekly best loser; Jill Hoffman, best walker; Ruth Ann Knight won the walking drawing; Gretchen Dyl won the food chart drawing; and Sara McCrocklin won free dues for the month of July.

Gretchen Dyl delivered a broad program on isometric exercises, tips to handle aging, behavior modification for

temptations while dieting and information about how laughter improves the immune system and heart function.

TOPS #IL 1563 met Thursday, July 5, with 19 members attending the meeting.

Club members recognized were: Janet Embry, TOPS weekly best loser; Brenda Lilley, KOPS weekly best loser and the food chart drawing; Embry and Connie Porter tied for the June monthly best losers and Embry was also recognized for her 10-pound weight loss; Jill Hoffman was named the best walker; and Gretchen Dyl won the walking drawing.

Speaker Angie Hamilton is a family nurse practitioner specializing in dermatology at Horizon Health Clinic. She shared information about common skin conditions, skin diseases and skin cancers we should all become familiar with, as well as how to deal with dry skin and how best to prevent sun damaged skin.

TOPS #IL1563 meets every Thursday at the Highland Manor Community Room with weigh-in 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 251-5190.

GARDENER

FROM PAGE 7B

therefore the roots consistently cooler. Stay away from dyed black mulch and lava rocks, which absorb heat. Natural wood and grass clippings fade over time and reflect instead of absorb heat. Straw starts out light and gets lighter.

Provide enough water so the plants aren't further stressed. In-ground gardens need an inch every week, whether from you or the sky. Containers need much more. Breathable clay pots need more than plastic or glazed containers. As the plants

and roots grow, what started out as semi-weekly watering in the spring may change to daily watering toward the end of summer and during high heat days.

With experience you will determine which plants need a little extra help from you, the gardener. Or, you can avoid growing those plants if they are more trouble than you care to invest. That is what is so great about being a gardener. You get to decide.

The University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener hotline of Edgar County is active. Give us a call for help with a horticultural problem at 217-465-8585. University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating

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

Puzzles

ANSWERS ON PAGE 9B

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

CROSSWORD

Across

- Emaciation
- Exchequer
- Sacs where fungi develop
- First letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- Unexplored waters
- Berkeley athletes
- Norse giantess
- Crater on the moon
- Resembles velvet
- Pearl Jam's debut album
- Hair-like structure
- Turfs
- Put in advance
- First son of Lot
- Native American language
- Furry family member
- Vedic God of fire
- Genie
- German city
- Acquire
- Cambodia currency
- A person from a Balkan republic
- More simple
- Bleats
- Founded a phone company
- Upon
- Superhigh frequency
- Colorless liquid
- Hostelries
- _ fi (slang)
- One who accompanies
- Where rockers play
- "_ the Man" Musial
- Waxy cover on some birds' beaks
- Software that monitors for malicious activity (abbr.)

Clues Down

- Measures engine speed (abbr.)
- Wings
- Lyric poems
- Touchdown
- From end to end
- _ Claus
- Jedi Master Kenobi
- Fencing swords
- Famed child psychiatrist
- Gossip
- S-shaped lining
- '_ death do us part
- Bar bill
- Placed over a vowel to indicate sound
- Steve Martin was one
- Low paid educator (abbr.)
- One who rampages
- Backbones
- "Friday Night Lights" director
- Anno Domini
- One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- Fermented grape juice
- Peruvian province
- Former Braves outfielder Nixon
- Entertainment award
- Feeling good
- Greek god of war
- Famed NYC museum
- Of the ears
- Select
- Friend to the carrot

T	A	B	E	S		F	I	S	C		A	S	C	I		
A	L	E	P	H		U	N	C	H	A	R	T	E	D		
C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	B	E	A	R	S		
H	E	L				D	A	S		P	A	N	N	E		
						T	E	N		S	E	T	A			
			S	O	D	S				P	R	E	S	E	T	
M	O	A	B					T	A	O	S		P	E	T	
A	G	N	I			D	J	I	N	N		G	E	R	A	
G	E	T				R	I	E	L			S	E	R	B	
			E	A	S	I	E	R			B	A	A	S		
						P	O	R	K		M	E	D			
			W	A	I	T	E			O	A	R		T	W	A
M	I	N	N	E	S	O	T	A	G	O	P	H	E	R		
E	N	T	E	R	I	T	I	S			P	E	E	L	E	
T	E	A	S			S	O	S			T	A	A	L	S	

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Teachers get raise

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

Non-certified staff at Paris High School will receive a 2.1 percent salary increase following action by the Paris Cooperative High School Board of Directors Monday, July 9, in the school library.

The salary increase is in line with the salary boost the district's certified staff is receiving per the negotiated contract with the Paris Association of Teachers.

Interim co-principals Lorraine Bailey and Carol Jones presented a rundown of highlights of the school year and school improvements.

Jones said student attendance improved from 92.60 percent in 2016-2017 to 93.25 percent this past school year. Teacher attendance also improved by 16.5 percent and teacher chronic absences were down 39 percent.

In addition, discipline at the school improved:

There was 100 percent decline in alcohol offenses.

Drug offenses were down 62 percent.

Fight incidents decreased 57 percent.

Gross misconduct offenses were down 12 percent.

Minor misconduct infractions fell 7 percent.

There were no expulsions.

Freshman track for graduation increased to 92.4 percent, Jones noted.

The after-school study tables providing one-on-one help for students was a success, Jones said. The program included bus transportation back to town for those students participating.

Academically, the school had the first National Merit

Finalist in a number of years — Max Holloway. The WYSE team advanced to state for the first time in school history after placing first in regionals, third in sectional and 12 in the state. The scholastic bowl team won the IHSA regional and placed third at sectional.

Bailey said the student services and vocational program for the 2018-2019 school year is expanding to include textiles and ag mechanic and welding as well as part-time social work services through the Human Resources Center.

In the area of facility management, Bailey said final steps required to obtain LEED Silver Certification for the construction of the new high school were completed. A \$100,000 grant check from Illinois Clean Energy was received for the construction fund. The school is also busy installing new building signage both inside and outside and added a water misting and irrigation system to the school's greenhouse through a generous donation of funds and labor, Bailey said.

The school also enjoyed a successful athletic year including the football team qualifying for the IHSA 4A state playoffs. The Lady Tiger volleyball team won the Little Illini Conference tournament, while the baseball team repeated capturing the LIC championship for the second straight year with a record of 28-2, a new school record. Nine seniors earned scholarships at the collegiate level for baseball, cheerleading, cross-country and track.

The board also approved the school's new budget for the fiscal year.

In other business, the board:

Honored four retirees Ray Korte, Verna Smith, Denise Craig and Jennifer Keys.

Heard a presentation from Jody Smith concerning the AMPED training he and John Simmons attended in Chicago in late June. The concept is to combine an Algebra I class with an industrial technology class. This would begin in 2019-2020 school year. The idea fits perfectly with the competency based education grant the high school received this past year.

Approved Support Staff Handbook, Faculty Handbook and Extracurricular Policy for the upcoming school year. Bailey said there were no changes to policy in any document but some language clarification was made.

Left athletic fees at \$35 per student per sport with a family cap of \$140. This is same as the last few years.

Approved student catastrophic insurance as required by IHSA for sports participation.

Hired Jim Humrichous as part-time Ag teacher. He will teach two sections of Ag mechanics and one section of welding.

Approved Marlene Terrell, Jordan Stallings, Shawn Nugent, Jeff Barnes, Heather Seaton and Jeremy Clodfelder for lunch duty and Mary McFarridge and Jody Smith for breakfast duty. Lynn Anderson, Dan Dundas, Nancy Collier, Chris Ike, Staci Skelton, Jessica Collins and Mitzi Glick will serve as substitutes.

Increased the administrative days for Carol Jones and Lorraine Bailey from 100 days to 120 per a new law.

Appointed Jeremy Larson as facilities use coordinator with no compensation.

VFW SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



Special to The Prairie Press

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post gave nine scholarships to area students for the 2018-2019 school year. VFW representatives seated left to right, Chuck Thomas, Jerry Allen, Steve Spencer and Scott Kerrick. VFW representative not pictured are Jim Parrish and Jim Moore. Scholarship recipients standing are left to right, Johnna Sanchez, Braden Chittick, Carson Myers, Miranda Myers, Clifford Gale II and Alexa Sitkiewicz. Scholarship recipients unavailable for the photo are Briar Napier, Shayne Smith and Jessica Coffman.

Final city band concert of season

BY JANE BLAIR
jane@parisblairs.com

The Paris City Band plays the final concert of this season at 7 p.m. Sunday, July 15, in Spicer Shelter at the West Lake Park.

Jonathan Boren is directing the last concert. Boren is the percussion technician for the Paris High School Marching Tigers, music teacher at Memorial Elementary School and co-director of the Paris District 95 choir.

Following the national anthem to open the performance, the band plays Sousa's military march "King Cotton." The march was composed in 1895 and is a perennial favorite of Sousa fans. Next is "Tarantella," Alfred Reed's fiery transcription of that fast and upbeat Italian folk dance classic.

Andy Clark's "Big Band Cavalcade" is a rousing salute to the music of the Big Band Era with classics made famous by Harry James, Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey and Woody Herman.

Fans of the movie "Star Wars" will enjoy "Star Wars Saga," arranged by Michael Story and featuring such memorable favorites as "Star Wars" (main title), "Cantina Band," "The Imperial March" and "Across the Stars," which is the love theme from Episode II.

"Symphonic Highlights from Frozen" closes out the first half. Arranged by Stephen Bulla, this piece is a dramatic and exciting medley showcasing the best musical moments from the hit movie, including "Frozen Heart," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," "For the First Time in Forever" and "Let It Go."

The second half opens with "Cartoon Express," where Les Taylor has parlayed several cartoon theme songs into about five minutes of the happiest sounds around. The mellow sounds of Frank Sinatra emerge in Jerry Nowak's "Sinatra in Concert," featuring the "Theme from New York, New York," "It

was a Very Good Year," "The Lady is a Tramp" and "My Way."

Next up is "Original Dixieland Concerto," by Johnny Warrington. This arrangement is one of the real Dixieland classics for concert band. The concert closes with Meredith Willson's "The Band" composed for the Iowa Hawkeyes marching band.

Fine arts enthusiasts are encouraged to start the afternoon at 2 p.m. by seeing the Paris Community Theatre's final performance of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Paris Center of Fine Arts. Tickets are available online at pcfaticketleap.com or at the theatre before the show. The musical concludes by 4 p.m. so patrons have plenty of time for dinner prior to the band concert.

Our community is blessed to have so many talented individuals devoted to bringing the best of culture and entertainment to our community.

Children's Art Exhibit now at Paris Library

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Paris Public Library is hosting the 2017-2018 Cul-

tivating Creativity: Consolidated Communications Children's Art Exhibition through July 21 during nor-

mal business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; and Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The traveling exhibit displays the most outstanding art produced by school art programs throughout East-Central Illinois during the 2016-2017 school year. Underwritten by Consolidated Communications, it is drawn from the Children's Art Exhibition, presented annually each spring at the Tarble Arts Center. Each year, one student from every contributing school is selected to participate in the exhibit that circulates throughout the region during the next academic year. This year the exhibit travels to 13 area communities, beginning in Effingham and ending in Charleston. Paris is the next-to-last stop on the tour. There are 42 student works ranging in media from pastel and acrylic to watercolor and tempera.

Four Paris students and one Chrisman student are featured in the exhibit. Kaleigh Comstock created an oil pastel/watercolor piece titled "Red, White, and Blue." Carter Doughan created a watercolor piece titled "Candle Light Burning Bright." Olivia Griffin created a tempera piece titled "Warhol Hands." Cedric Rhoads created a mixed paper collage titled "Boats in the Ocean." Ariyah Bird created a collagraph titled "Sunflower."

Paris Public Library offers a drop-in activity for children and anyone who wants to play based on the exhibit. Come to the main desk area to pick up a short I Spy Art! quiz and then visit the artwork downstairs in the meeting room.

Cultivating Creativity is a community engagement program created by the Tarble Arts Center to help raise awareness of the importance of including the visualize arts as part of the regular school curriculum. For more information about the Cultivating Creativity exhibit or other exhibitions and educational programming please contact the Tarble Arts Center at 217-581-ARTS (-2787) or tarble@eiu.edu.

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GARAGE SALES

Yard Sale
110 E Crawford, Paris
Sat, 7/14, 8am-4pm
Wide variety of items.

Garage Sale
105 East Street, Redmon, IL
Sat., July 21, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Variety of items

Rummage Sale
7 Tonya Ct., Paris
Fri. 7/13, 8am-4pm
Sat. 7/14, 8am-?
Misc, Large Women's clothing (lots of clothing), toys, still unpacking items!

Yard Sale
501 Alexander St, Paris
Fri., 7/20, 8am-?

Garage Sale and Open House
16801 Donna Dr.
(3 miles S on Lower T, then follow signs)
Sat. 7/14, 9am-3pm
Sun, 7/15, 9am-3pm
Antique walnut dresser with mirror, antique mirror, small cabinet, wooden stool, end tables, wall lamp, exercise gazelle, wide child gate, Wilson cell phone antenna, misc cables, 2 clarinets (1 is silver), record player and 45s, bicycles, bike trailer, accordion, Lincoln Logs, kitchen items, Nesco roaster with 3 pc buffet kit, tools, books, plastic rain barrel, longboard skateboard.

HELP WANTED

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Edgar County Fair
Art Hall entries accepted Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 18-20, 4pm to 8pm. See 2018 Edgar County Fair Book for other entry deadlines or anytime online at www.edgarcountyfair.com
2018 Fair Books are still available at the Prairie Press.

MISCELLANEOUS

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LEGALS

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN H. SAYRE,
Deceased
No. 2018-P-32

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS
Notice is given of the death of JOHN H. SAYRE of Chrisman, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on June 18, 2018, to LONGVIEW BANK & TRUST, 202 West Madison Street, Chrisman, IL 61924, whose attorney is RICHARD L. JAMES, 328 N Central, P O Box 820, Paris, IL 61944.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Paris, Edgar County, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 31, 2018, (six (6) months from the date of the first publication), and any claims 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 (10) days after it has been filed.
DATED: June 21, 2018
LONGVIEW BANK & TRUST Representative #1323156
RICHARD L. JAMES Attorney at Law 328 N Central P O Box 820 Paris, IL 61944 (217) 465-2529 rlj@rjameslaw.com

DRAINAGE NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 27th day of June, 2018, the Commissioners of the Union Drainage District No. 1 of Newman and Murdock, 64-L-9607, filed their Prevailing Wage Ordinance, adopting the June 2018 prevailing wage rates, with the Clerk of the Circuit Clerk, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Douglas County, Illinois. Julie Mills, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Douglas County, Illinois.

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

In the matter of the Estate of MARY ELLEN EASTHAM, deceased.
No. 2018-P-39

CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of MARY ELLEN EASTHAM of Paris, Edgar County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 25, 2018, to BRADLEY T. EASTHAM, as Independent Administrator, 16148 Indian Boundary St., Chrisman, Illinois 61924, whose attorney is DREW P. GRIFFIN, of JONES & GRIFFIN LAW OFFICES, P.C., 110 E. Washington, 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 January 7, 2019, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

DATED this 7th day of July, 2018.
BRADLEY T. EASTHAM, Independent Administrator of the Estate of MARY ELLEN EASTHAM,

deceased
Drew P. Griffin
JONES & GRIFFIN LAW OFFICES, P.C.
110 E. Washington, P.O. Box 8 Paris, IL 61944
Tele: (217) 465-7525
Fax: (217) 466-2230

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF ORDINANCE NO: PW-08
PREVAILING WAGE RATES

TAKE NOTICE that the EDGAR COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, pursuant to "An Act regulating wages of laborers, mechanics and other workers employed in any public works by the State, county, city or any public body or any political subdivision or by anyone under contract for public works," approved June 12, 2018, as amended, has determined on, and as effective from June, 2018, that the general prevailing rate of wages in this locality for laborers, mechanics, and other workers engaged in the construction of public works coming under the jurisdiction of the EDGAR COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT is the same as determined by the Department of Labor of the State of Illinois for Edgar County as of September 2017. A copy of the full Ordinance and the Department of Labor determination is available for inspection by any interested party in the main office of the EDGAR COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, 11757 Illinois Highway 1, Paris, Illinois, and to any employer; association of employers and any person of employee or association of employees who have filed, or file their names and addresses, requesting copies of the same.

Edgar County Soil and Water Conservation District
11757 IL HWY 1
Paris, IL 61944
By William Guyer, Chairman

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JULIA A. LUND, Deceased.
No. 2018 P 42

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of JULIA A. LUND. Letters of Office were issued on July 2, 2018 to Tricia Lund Batson, 1740 Beauty Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23456 as executor whose attorney is FRUIN & KASH (Richard M. Kash, Jr.), 129 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at the Edgar County Courthouse, Paris, Illinois, 61944, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 15, 2019, (which is at least six months from the date of first publication of this Notice) and any claim not filed within the applicable period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

TRICIA LUND BATSON
Independent Executor

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE STREETS

Pursuant to Chapter 65, ILCS 5/11-91-1, a public hearing shall be held in Council Chambers at City Hall, 206 South Central Avenue, Paris, Illinois, at 4:00 p.m. on the 8th day of August, 2018, to consider:

1. Vacating an unused alley running south from Mayes Street to Kimble Street which is located on the block East of West End and West of Austin Street.
 2. Vacating an unused alley running East and West between Hockett on the East and Buena Vista Street on the West located on the property south of Blackburn and north of Ann Street.
 3. Vacating an unused alley running East and West between Buena Vista Street on the East and Water Street on the West located on property South of Blackburn and North of Ann Street.
- All interested parties may appear and testify at said public hearing. DATED this 11th day of July, 2018.
Michael Martin
City Administrator,
City of Paris

Public Notice

The Board of Education of Kansas CUSD #3, Edgar County, Illinois, has by Resolution made a determination of the prevailing rate of wages for all laborers, workmen, and mechanics engaged in work of similar character in the locality of School District #3, to that of construction of public works coming under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. A copy of said resolution is available for review by interested persons during regular business hours at the District Office, 310 S. Front Street, Kansas, Illinois 61933. As per law, prevailing wage salaries may be viewed at: <https://www.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/CONMED/Rates/2015/july/EDGAR999.htm>

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Knowledge is magic at 4-H

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA – Arijit Banerjee posed an unusual question to high school age 4-H members attending the recent Illini Summer Academies at the University of Illinois.

“How many have seen magic?” asked Banerjee, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering (ECE). “Every day when I come to work, it’s like Disneyland.”

Illinois 4-H provides the five-day college experience to help high school teens build relationships with U of I staff as the teens explore college majors and potential careers. This year, 16 campus departments collaborated with U of I Extension 4-H to offer hands-on learning activities. In addition to coursework, the participants stay in dorms, explore campus and experience many outside activities common to a college student’s life.

Professor Lynford Goddard coordinates the ECE activities in order to show youth the breadth of the department, from basic circuits and optical elements to control theory and power grids. The instructors speak passionately about their teaching and research roles at



Special to The Prairie Press

Colby Phipps of Chrisman, right, attends his third 4-H Illini Summer Academies at the University of Illinois. He attended the 2017 journalism academy and for 2018 returned for the electrical and computer engineering academy as he determines his college goals. Phipps is a member of C & S Ag 4-H Club.

U of I.

“Our sincere hope is that you come here and replace us,” said Subhonmesh Bose, ECE assistant professor. “All the knowledge we have today will be obsolete when you’re our age.”

Cooperating campus departments have 17 hours with the teens throughout the week. In addition to teaching about

their area of study, staff help the teens understand what it is like to be a college student, including helping them find places to eat lunch, showing them how to ride the bus and spending time on the quad. It is also a time for the departments to recruit students one-on-one.

Other areas of study included applied health sciences and

wellness, human development and family studies, aerospace engineering, dance and theater fashion, agricultural communications, animal sciences, anthropology, animal nutrition and pet food manufacturing, game design and digital art, beekeeping, veterinary medicine and plant biology.

Local attorney co-authors book

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Paris attorney David M. Frisse of the Frisse & Brewster Law Offices is one of the contributing authors to the new book “Your Wealth Your Family Your Legacy.”

The book is a collaborative effort by 26 attorneys, financial advisors, insurance professionals and CPAs and covers such topics as the differences between wills and trusts, how to determine risk factors when investing, tips on leaving gifts to charities, planning for senior citizens, passing on your family business, retirement planning and

many other estate planning and financial planning topics.

The contributing authors were chosen through an application process based on years of experience, education and training, and other professional credentials. It is written in plain English and uses an easy-to-follow question and answer format.

Frissé said the book reflects his personal philosophy and goals as an attorney to help families, individuals and

businesses protect whatever is most important to them.

“It’s not how much you have, it’s what it means,” said Frisse.

He added the other attorneys in the firm – Rick Brewster, Kaye Dent and David Hamilton – view client consultations as an educational process to help clients better understand not only the challenges they face, but how to plan in the larger context of their personal, family and business goals and dreams.

“We emphasize the role of stewardship – the recognition that each of us is accountable for how we use our

time, talent and treasure during our lives, and the twin duties of educating and passing along to the next generation of stewards not just our resources, but our values,” said Frisse.

Copies of the new book are available for check out at the Paris Carnegie Library and the Vigo County Library, or books may be purchased at Frisse & Brewster Law Offices, LLC.

More information is available by contacting Frisse & Brewster Law Offices at 217-465-1234 or 812-234-2777.



FRISSE

CAR SHOW CHAMPION



Special to The Prairie Press

Best of Show at the Christmas in July Car Show was presented to Randy Steidl for his 1956 Buick Super car. The show had 88 entries and all proceeds were presented to His Ministries for the Christmas For Kids program.

Shiloh school registration

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

HUME – Registration dates for the 2018-2019 school year in the Shiloh Community Unit School District are 1-7 p.m. Aug. 2 and noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 3.

Registration forms for on-line printing are available starting July 19 at www.shiloh1.org.

Forms may also be obtained at the district office or completed the day of registration.

The district is hosting a 5:30 p.m. Aug. 14 parent/student orientation for pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in the school’s multi-purpose room.

The first day of classes is Aug. 16, with an early dismissal at 12:45 p.m.

Call for exhibit photographs

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Paris Bicentennial Art Center’s annual Midwest Photography Juried Exhibition is open to all photographers in Illinois and Indiana.

The exhibit is divided into an adult division for those 18 and older and a youth division serving photographers between the ages of 10 and 17.

Each photographer may submit up to three photographs for consideration. In the event more entries are received than can be exhibited, the judge of the show has discretion to eliminate pictures.

Photographer Ed Gillum is the judge, and he will select the photos used in the exhibit and decide those entries de-

serving of awards.

To be considered for the exhibit, all photographs must be delivered to the art center between 1-3 p.m. today, July 15, and Sunday, July 16. The entry fee for up to three photos is \$20 for art center members, \$25 for non-members and \$15 in the youth division. Entry fees are not refundable.

Other rules include all entries must be equipped with a wire attached to the back for hanging. Photos with saw-tooth hangers will be rejected.

All photos must be taken by the exhibitor, and photos previously exhibited at the art center are not eligible for this exhibit.

The exhibition is open for viewing from July 20 to Aug. 24.

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