

In the know



TIGERS KEEP SHRINERS ROUTE 1 TITLE

Paris rolled to any easy win over Chrisman in the annual Edgar County Shrine Route 1 Rivalry game Saturday, Feb. 2 at PHS. **SPORTS, 9A**

Happy Birthday, Abe Lincoln

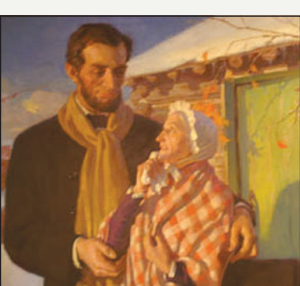
This Tuesday, why not celebrate Lincoln's 210th birthday by eating like a president?

C'EST LA VIE, 1B

Less separation of church, state

A provision in the 2017's tax rewrite stipulates that many tax-exempt churches, non-profits are now taxed for parking.

GRACE, 5B



Nancy and Sarah Lincoln's impact

Understanding a mythic figure like Abraham Lincoln means looking at the extraordinary mothers who raised him.

HISTORY, 3B

New year, new art center

The Bicentennial Art Center in Paris has officially become the Link Art Gallery; announcement made during fashion fundraiser.

NEWS, 3A

Detroit incoming

Three U.S. automakers are each unveiling new and improved heavy-duty trucks this year.

AGRI-BUSINESS, 7B

The Prairie Press

Paris Beacon-News

LOCALLY OWNED, LOYAL TO OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

Insurance conundrum

Chrisman's health insurance decision commits city to pay almost \$42,000 first year

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

CHRISMAN – A reluctant vote by the Chrisman City Council to provide group health insurance to city employees almost did not happen at the Monday, Feb. 4, city meeting.

Mayor Dan Owen asked the council members to make a motion for one of the options on the table and after some hesitancy Tim Owen did so. There was a period of silence until Jerry Hoult finally seconded the motion.

This issue arose at the Jan. 21 city meeting when it was announced the private health insurance policies held by the employees had substantial premium increases and for one employee, the new monthly premium was more

than his take home pay. At that time, city clerk Deena Burns was instructed to work with insurance agent Lucas Knight to present the council with a spreadsheet showing options for each employee with the city paying various increments between 50 and 100 percent of the premium.

Past practice was for the city to reimburse employees 50 percent, up to a maximum of \$6,000, for health insurance.

Knight advised the council at the Jan. 21 meeting that switching to an employer offered group plan legally obligated the city to a minimum 50 percent of the expense without a cap.

At the Feb. 4 meeting the council members were trying to find an option that seemed

affordable to both the city and the employees. The struggle for an answer prompted Knight to say, "Health insurance is getting to the point where people cannot afford it. Doing this will be a huge benefit to the employees."

Commissioner Rick Jenness had a problem getting over the price hurdle. He said for the city this was not only an unplanned expense but also a significant and unscheduled pay raise for employees.

"Insurance is not cheap. I don't care where it comes from," said Mayor Owen.

More was involved in the decision than just the monthly premium. Other factors considered were the amount of the deductible, required-out-of-pocket expense and the percentage employees had to

contribute to the premium.

"I don't want to do the \$1,000 deductible if they are not going to use it (medical insurance) because it is too expensive," said Commissioner Rodney Wolfe. "I would prefer the \$500 deductible."

Mayor Owen expressed a personal belief the employees deserve health insurance and the minimum amount the city should contribute is 80 percent of the cost.

One of the employees was asked if he could afford to pay 20 percent of the premium. He said given the expense of the policy and family obligations even 20 percent is a major expense based on what he earns.

Jenness suggested delaying the decision until the Feb. 18 meeting, but the others were

unwilling to do so, noting they have known for two weeks this issue was coming before them.

"They need insurance," said Wolfe. "They are rolling the dice now."

Finally, Tim Owen moved to enroll the employees in the Health Alliance group plan offering a \$500 deductible and the city pay 90 percent of the premium. The measure passed unanimously although each commissioner hesitated before voting yes. Chrisman now has a monthly obligation of \$3,492 for employee health insurance.

After the vote, Jenness said, "I don't have a problem giving the employees health insurance. I have a problem paying it through city funds."

See **CHRISMAN**, Page 8A

YOUNG ACTORS, ACTRESSES BRING THE MAGIC



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

These students are the fairies in the Crestwood Junior High production of "My Son Pinocchio." Left to right, Daisy Cochran, Vivian Moore, Emily Wells and Jayden Bishop.

Puppet takes the stage

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

Final rehearsals are underway for Crestwood Junior High School's musical Disney's "My Son Pinocchio" to be presented 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15-16, at the Paris Center of Fine Arts.

Tickets for the production are \$10 and will be available at the door only and are expected to sell out quickly. Doors open at 6 p.m., according to assistant director Tanner Laughlin.

The show, directed by Agnes Wright, is the classic tale of the aging toymaker, Geppetto, and his beloved wooden puppet, Pinocchio. The production is a new version of the 2000 television movie, "Geppetto."

This is a new musical, Laughlin said, retelling the classic Disney story from Geppetto's perspective. Two beloved classic Disney songs, "When You Wish Upon a Star," and "I've Got No Strings," are included as well as new songs by Academy Award and Grammy Award winner Stephen Schwartz.

Geppetto, played by Chase Ogle, complains to the Blue Fairy, played by Daisy Cochran, the puppet Pinocchio, played by Lily Graham, that was



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Chase Ogle, as Geppetto, leans back away from the ire of an angry and upset Pinocchio played by Lily Graham in the Crestwood Junior High performance of "My Son Pinocchio."

brought to life as his son, is defective. To uncover the truth, the Blue Fairy takes the audience back in time to the day of Geppetto's wish.

Geppetto's toy shop is filled with parents and eager children and the toymaker envies those with children and wishes his heart could be full. The Blue Fairy grants his wish and brings the wooden puppet to life.

There are problems, of course, including Pinocchio wandering off, misbehaving in school. Stromboli,

played by Hayden David, has designs on the stringless puppet for his marionette show and eventually ends up with him. There is a visit to Pleasure Island where bad boys become donkeys.

There is a whale and a happy ending, Laughlin said. "It's a family show and all ages will enjoy it," he said.

The cast are all members of the Crestwood Junior High Chorus, directed by Wright.

See **MUSICAL**, Page 12A

Flu season restricts visitors

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

In what has become a yearly ritual, Horizon Health has temporarily imposed restrictions for hospital visits during the flu season.

The restrictions do not apply to the clinic side of the building and people with scheduled appointments should keep them.

"Those are all recommendations that come directly from the state. It's been the same for several years," said Amy Arnett, quality/infection prevention manager at Horizon Health. "It gets issued when the state reaches widespread status."

Arnett was referring to the reporting regulations for keeping the Center for Disease Control (CDC) informed about the outbreak and spread of influenza. She added Illinois is broken into seven reporting regions and in the numbers game, not all regions are the same.

"Chicago may have enough numbers to make flu considered widespread in the state," Arnett said.

Locally, the frequency of influenza cases has remained steady for the previous two to three weeks. All confirmed cases are from people seeking treatment at the EZ Care facility south of town on state Route 1. Arnett was unaware of any positive influenza cases at the clinic or anyone being hospitalized locally.

"We haven't seen as much of an increase as they are seeing in other parts of the state," she said.

Here are the new temporary rules and they apply only to people visiting the hospital, not the clinic.

■ No more than two visitors in a patient's room at a time.

■ No visitors under the age of 18.

■ Only parents and grandparents may visit pediatric patients.

■ People with a fever of more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, a sore throat or a cough may not visit. Those symptoms, however, are acceptable for going to the

See **HOSPITAL**, Page 8A

Chrisman water dangerous for babies

City warns children under six months should not consume until further notice

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

CHRISMAN – The ongoing saga of Chrisman's problems with its municipal water supply entered new ground earlier this week.

Water sample test results received Tuesday, Feb. 5, showed a spike in nitrites. The water had a nitrite level of 2.4 milligrams per liter as

compared to the maximum allowable level of 1 milligram per liter.

As a result, a warning appeared on the city's Facebook page cautioning parents to not give city water, in any form, to infants younger than six months old. The water is safe for everyone older than six months, but the younger babies cannot process nitrites the same way older children and adults can.

Consumption of the water at this time poses a risk of illness, and possibly death, for the infants. Symptoms that nitrite consumption

has occurred include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Left untreated a child's health can deteriorate rapidly.

The posting cautions that more is involved than simply avoiding giving water to drink. Until further notice, Chrisman's tap water should not be used for mixing juice or formula an infant will consume. Parents and caregivers are urged to use bottled water, or water from another source that does not pose a nitrite risk, for those tasks.

It is important to note boiling, freezing, filtering or

letting water stand does not remove the nitrites and make it safe for babies. Some activities like boiling and letting water stand will actually increase the level of concentration because of evaporation.

The posting from city water superintendent Matt Shelato emphasizes nitrites are not a normal problem in Chrisman's water and steps are underway to address the problem. Some nitrites are normal in ground water, and it is possible recent heavy rains did something to exacerbate the problem.

This is the second time

the city's water has tested above the allowable limits for nitrites. Andy Keiser of Fehr-Graham Engineering & Environmental, the city's engineering firm, attended the Nov. 5, 2018, city meeting at which time he noted in addition to ongoing arsenic problems the water was high for nitrites.

Kiser found that concerning and possibly indicating an unknown source of contamination, but he said it could also be a one-time issue and was something the city needed to monitor.

See **WATER**, Page 8A

TODAY'S WEATHER

H 31 L 20

Weather forecast here. 2A



Drawing by ALARI, CRESTWOOD

LET'S BE FRIENDS!

Latest news, online extras

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

INDEX

Calendar 2A
Classified 10-11B
History 3B
Obituaries 5A
Sports 9-11A
State 12B
Grace 5B

CONTACT US

To share a news tip, request an extra copy or to advertise, call 217-921-3216 or email nzeman@prairiepress.net.

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



Third Annual
Daddy Daughter DANCE

Saturday, February 9, 2019
 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Mary's Parish Hall
 528 N. Main Street, Paris

Photos 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Finger Foods • DJ Music • Dancing
\$20/couple - \$5 each additional child

Tickets available at the door the night of the event

Get your Princess makeover (hair, makeup, nails) and other activities 9 a.m. to noon in the Paris High School Den by emailing for an appointment to: hseatonteach@gmail.com by January 25th.

Then come share a fun-filled evening with your Princess(es) at St Mary's!!!

LOCAL FORECAST NORMAL: High: 37 Low: 20 More weather: go to www.prairiepress.net and click on weather.

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 20 Prec: 0%	34 28 Prec: 60%	38 36 Prec: 50%	45 25 Prec: 40%	36 30 Prec: 0%	40 30 Prec: 40%	35 28 Prec: 30%

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

ALMANAC
 Paris through noon Tuesday.

Temperature
 High/Low 37°/20°
 Record High 66° in 1943
 Record Low -18° in 1899

Precipitation
 Month to date 1.46"
 Normal month to date 0.73"
 Year to date 5.43"
 Normal year to date 3.12"

SUN AND MOON

	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
TODAY	6:50 a.m.	5:20 p.m.	9:27 a.m.	9:57 p.m.
SUNDAY	6:49 a.m.	5:21 p.m.	9:54 a.m.	10:56 p.m.
MONDAY	6:48 a.m.	5:22 p.m.	10:23 a.m.	11:57 p.m.
TUESDAY	6:47 a.m.	5:24 p.m.	10:55 a.m.	--
WEDNESDAY	6:46 a.m.	5:25 p.m.	11:32 a.m.	1:01 a.m.
THURSDAY	6:45 a.m.	5:26 p.m.	12:16 p.m.	2:06 a.m.
FRIDAY	6:43 a.m.	5:27 p.m.	1:07 p.m.	3:11 a.m.

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

TALK BACK

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

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

ABOUT US

Business office: 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944
Office hours: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Phone: 217-921-3216
Publisher: Nancy Roberts Zeman
Editor/Staff writer: Gary Henry
Bookkeeper: Michelle Jacobs
Receptionist: Barbara Gard
Ad Design: Jennifer Macke
Deadlines: Community news submissions are due 5 p.m. Wednesday prior to the Saturday publication. Advertising (display or classifieds ads) are due 1 p.m. Thursday prior to the Saturday publication. The Prairie Press is published weekly on Saturday by Prairie

Beacon LLC and is delivered to 7225 readers in and around Edgar County, Ill. The publisher assumes no liability through typographical error, and in no event will liability be assumed for merchandise incorrectly priced. Copyright 2018 by Prairie Beacon LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Prairie Press, 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, Ill. 61944.

PLAN YOUR WEEK

TODAY

VFW STEAK SUPPER
 The VFW Auxiliary invites you to treat your sweetheart to an early Valentine's Day steak supper 5-7 p.m. at the post home on West Court Street.

CABIN FEVER PARTY
 Heritage Trail A.B.A.T.E. is hosting a cabin fever party that is open to the public starting at 11 a.m. Feb. 9 at the Marshall Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. The event includes a broomstick pool tournament with signup from 11 a.m.-noon, and a euchre tournament starts when the pool tournament ends. A soup and chili cookoff competition has judging from 1:30-5 p.m. The pool and euchre tournament have a \$5 entry fee. There is no charge for the soup and chili competition. Plaques and prizes will be awarded and a blind auction is planned. A.B.A.T.E. members are requested to bring finger food to the event. More information is available by calling 217-251-6295 or 217-251-0396.

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE
 St. Mary's Altar Society is sponsoring a daddy-daughter dance for the community 6-8 p.m. Feb. 9 in the St. Mary's Church Parish Hall. Tickets are available that night at the door for \$20 per couple and \$5 for each additional child. The evening includes dancing, refreshments and a keepsake photo. More information is available by calling the church, 466-3355.

DON'T MISS

KANSAS PRESCHOOL SCREENING FEB 21
 Project H.E.L.P. and the Kansas School District are offering free developmental screenings for parents to learn how a pre-school age child is developing in areas of speech, language, concepts, motor skills, vision and hearing. Screenings are Feb. 21 in the Kansas New Gym, Call Angela Haynes, 948-5174, to schedule an appointment. The screening is required for possible enrollment in the Project H.E.L.P. pre-school program. Early registration for kindergarten can also be done at the time of the screening and for that parents must bring a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, Social Security number and proof of residency in the Kansas School District.

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.

MAKE AND TAKE VALENTINES

The Paris Public Library is sponsoring a Make and Take Valentine Family Craft Time from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Feb. 9. Parents, or other adult family members, are invited to bring their children to create valentines together. This is a free drop-in activity and no registration required.

BIRTHDAY CARDS FOR LINCOLN

Birthday cards for Abraham Lincoln created by Edgar County fourth and fifth grade students are on display Feb. 10 at the Bicentennial Art Center and Museum. The special reception from 1-2 p.m. is also when the winners of the event are publical-

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

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.

WEIGHT WATCHERS MEETING

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

WEDNESDAY

WHAT'S NEW IN THE KITCHEN?
 The University of Illinois Extension is offering a free workshop on how to use the latest kitchen gadgets like spiralizers, electric pressure cookers and air fryers. The webinar is 10 a.m. Feb. 13 at the extension office, 210 W. Washington Street, Paris. More information is available by calling 217-465-8585.

THURSDAY

MORNING TOPS MEETINGS
 TOPS #1L 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.

EUCHRE NIGHT AT RED OAK INN

The next monthly euchre night at the Red Oak Inn, 219 W. Madison Street, Paris, is 6:30-9 p.m. Feb. 14

VFW AUXILIARY DINNER

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

UPCOMING

CHILI AND SOUP COOK-OFF
 The Faith in Action of Edgar County's 15th Annual Chili and Soup Cook-off is 4:30 p.m. Feb. 16 at Lake Ridge Christian Church. Service lasts until the food is gone, which normally takes about two hours. This is an all you can eat event featuring a variety of soups, assorted styles of chili, hot dogs, vegetables and dessert. Diners may vote for a favorite soup or chili in the blind taste competition. All proceeds from the event go to support Faith in Action's local mission. More information is available by calling 217-466-6388.

Want to search Illinois legal notices?

Subscribe now to have legal notices emailed to you based on YOUR custom search criteria!

PNI PUBLIC NOTICE ILLINOIS
www.publicnoticeillinois.com

A public service provided by Illinois Newspapers & the Illinois Press Association

Room by Room

Professional Painting Residential/Business

Vernon Chambers
 605 E. Edgar • Paris, IL
Ph. 217-822-3824
 rmn1212@hotmail.com
Free Estimates

Walls, Ceilings, Doors, & Window Trim & Woodwork

House, Garage & Storage Building Interiors/Exteriors

Deck and Fence Staining/Painting

Wallpaper Removal & Walls Prepped For Painting

Toby Inboden No-Reserve Farm Equipment Closeout
 (Retirement Auction)
Tuesday, February 19, 2019 • 10:00AM CST
5344 E 900th Ave, Robinson, IL 62454
 East of Oblong, IL on Rt. 33 approx. 5 miles or west of Robinson, IL approx 5 miles go south on Stoy Rd. 600 approx 2 miles then west (right) on 900W 1 mile.

Combine-2009 Case IH 7088 combine SN#Y8G000386, 4x4, 1,779 rotor & 2,523 machine hours, CMI inspected summer 2018 spent 13k in maintenance, new, vertical unloading auger, cross augers in hopper, batteries, belts, pulleys & turbo, AFS Pro 600 monitor, 20.8R42 front duals Firestone 95%, rear 28L/26 Firestone rear 90%; 2009 Case IH 2020 grain platform 35 ft SN#CBJ041594, approx 600 acres of use a year; 2005 Case IH 2208 corn head SN#CBJ024904, new trough, approx 600 acres of use a year; 2013 EZ Trail Head Cart SN#14307; 2000 J&M head cart **Tractors-**2007 Case IH Model MX275 FWA SN#Z6RZ04008 2,595 hours, rear Michelin dual 480/80R46 80%, front Michelin duals 420/90R30, 2014 Case IH Pro 700 Auto Guidance SN#87513983; 2010 Case IH STX 485 4x4 SN#Z9F117547 2,573 hrs, Firestone 710/70R42 duals 75%, 2014 Case IH 372 Auto Guidance SN#84588257; 2003 Case IH STX 375 4x4 SN#JEE0104059, 5,110 hours, Firestone 710/70R38 duals 80%; 1976 IH 1066 diesel tractor; 1960 IH 560 Narrow Front gas tractor, 8962s; 2015 John Deere compact tractor, 321 hours 1025R, 4x4 w/60" deck; **Sprayer-** 2005 Agco Eagle 8500 Willmar high clearance spray rig, hyd motor on each wheel, 2,147 hours, Cummins 4 cyl diesel, 90ft booms, GPS light bar, Raven SCS450 monitor, 1,000-gal stainless steel tank; **Planter-** 2015 Case IH Model 1245 split row planter 16-31, liquid fertilizer, 2 hoppers, new disk openers, Pro 700 monitor, only planted 3,000 acres; **Tillage-** 2010 IH 2500 SN#JFH0046735 V-Ripper w/Unverferth caddy; 2008 Landoll Till All 35ft model 876 SN#LMH230, rebuilt in 2018 except front blades; 2013 Case IH Turbo Till 330 35ft SN#YDD067439; 2009 Unverferth 1 rolling harrow model 1225 37ft, SN A50910241; **Seed Tender-** 2014 J&M Seed Tender 375, wireless remote, Honda GX340 motor, extra bumper hitch attachment; **Grain cart-** 2014 J&M 875 Auger Grain Cart, w/scale and camera; **Semis, Hopper bottoms & frame off-** 1995 Ford LT9000 Aeromax day cab 1,150,315 miles, Cat 3406 engine, new front tires; 2001 Freightliner Semi Day Cab, Cummins M11 engine, 1,195,688 miles, new clutch, new air compressor; 2009 40ft Wilson Hopper bottom trailer, vin 1W1MFFXW4AA254565, model DWH560 w/roll tarp, GVRW 65k lbs.; 2009 40ft Wilson Hopper bottom trailer, vin 1W1MAFYW7AA254607, model DWH560 w/roll tarp, GVRW 65k lbs.; 1997 alumatech, built in Longview Texas Frameless dump trailer 40ft; **Tender Trailer & misc.-** 1987 Drop deck tender Trailer 38ft bottom deck 10ft top deck, w/tanks 2,000-gal tank, 1500-gal tank, pumps, inductor, Honda pump, automatic hose reel; 2012 Bush Hog 2615 15ft rotary cutter pully type; 1995 Corn Pro gooseneck trailer 20ft 5ft dove tail and ramps; 2009 Westendorf Land Scraper, 12ft, tilt and weights; DMI pto ditcher heavy duty; JD 33 Manure spreader pto; Pincor Generator pto 50,000 watts; 2014 tandem axle tilt trailer 20'x 7' **Online bidding available**

This equipment has been well maintained, field ready and in A-1 condition
 Selection of tools and misc. will be offered at 10:00 A.M. • Equipment at 11:00 A.M.
 Do not be late! Toby's cell: 618-421-2008

SCHMID AUCTION
 (217) 857-1507
SchmidAuction.com
 909 E Main St. • Teutopolis, IL 62467
 Trent D. Schmid – Auctioneer
 Richard D. Schmid – Auctioneer

Historic art center takes new name

BY NANCY ZEMAN
nzeman@prairiepress.net

A longtime Paris art booster's family is providing the new name for the county's art gallery.

The announcement of the rebranding to The Link Art Gallery — formerly the Bicentennial Art Center — was made during the art gallery's first ever fashion show Thursday, Feb. 7, in Reed Hall at the First Baptist Church in Paris.

Link Art Gallery board president Tom Hebermehl — who was also a model for the evening — made the announcement. Hebermehl emphasized the new name was selected because of the legacy the late Paxson Link left to the community in honor of his wife, Louise.

Link provided the art center with the historic Alexander House for its home in honor of his wife, an accomplished artist in her own right. The oldest brick home in Edgar County, the Alexander House hosted many lawyers and politicians in the 1800s including the eventual 16th President of the United States Abraham Lincoln as well as U.S. Senator Stephen A. Douglas, who courted one of the Alexander daughters.

Horace Link — Paxson Link's father — purchased the house in 1919 and it was used as a funeral home for many years before it was donated as a new home for the county's only art gallery in the late 1970s.

"Artists love this building and gallery. It is certainly a draw for our community and county," Hebermehl said. "However, we realize some renovations must be completed. We want to do more to make the gallery a place for receptions and other events."

The first project is the renovation of the building's kitchenette and storeroom. "There's just nothing to work with for a caterer to use," board member Cindy Belt explained following the style show. The storeroom also is in desperate need of a makeover, she said.

"Artists love our center and it is a true gallery," Hebermehl said in making the announcement. The current show features art work from all Edgar County schools. Students created birthday cards for Abraham Lincoln, Hebermehl said.

Visitors are always welcome at the gallery, he said urging those in attendance Thursday evening to stop by and not only enjoy the student art work but also study the proposed logos for the gallery, created by board member Tiffany Gale.

Thursday's style show featured something for women, men and children and all sized models. Cindy Belt, who was in charge of the evening, said it was important to highlight local businesses and what they have to offer. Featured were clothes from Stephanie Hoefken McKenna of Bee Sweet Boutique, Maddie McCarty of Ol' Hairitage Beauty and Boutique, Courtney Hughes of Plus Boutique, Jeremiah Lee of Paris Rural King, Gwen Gosnell of Simply Irresistible and Paris Wal-Mart.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was Sally Whitehurst of Terre Haute, assistant



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

Members of the board of The Link Art Gallery announced the new name for the former Paris Bicentennial Art Center and Museum during a fashion show event Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church. First row, from left, are Ann Staats, Cindy Belt, Christie Russell, Susan Stafford and Sue Anne Casey. Second row, from right, are president Tom Hebermehl, Millie Arp and Tiffany Gale.



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

Brother and sister Olivia and Will Gale, the children of Clint and Tiffany Gale of Paris, were two of the featured models in the first art center fashion show Thursday at the First Baptist Church. Proceeds from the evening will be used to renovate the kitchenette and storeroom at the gallery.



Nancy Zeman/The Prairie Press

Twins Lexie and Lanie Sallee of Paris, the daughters of Shawn and Tiffany Sallee of Paris, model a spring outfit from Ol' Hairitage Beauty and Boutique in Paris. Lanie Sallee is the reigning Little Miss Edgar County Fair.

vice-president of marketing for Terre Haute First Financial Bank.

"We wanted to keep things informal so everyone could move around," Belt said.

In addition to the fashion show, light appetizers were provided by Joanie Smith from Front Street Market in Hume.

Fashions featured for the evening emphasized clothes that could be worn now and into spring. They ranged from an all-cotton black and white swing dress, knit overalls, distressed jeans and leggings in black and denim, fashion jewelry including stackable bracelets, lightweight cardigans and sweaters, leather leggings, blazers, boots and sandals, rompers, camo ensembles, carpenter pants, men's steel toed boots, hunting pants, Columbia shirts and fossil pants, light coats, cold-shoulder tops, capes, harem pants, swing vests, Wondernation and 365Kids clothes for chil-

dren, boho dresses and blouses, black velvet pants, faux fur vests and scarves.

Belt praised Janet Tyler, youth minister Trent Horner and Pastor Troy Warner of the First Baptist Church of Paris for use of the Reed Fellowship Hall. "They were wonderful to work with and it's such a great facility," she said.

Models for the evening were Cate and Claire Kirby, Delilah Bradley, Kloe Milbourn, Natalie Sherwood, Lanie and Lexie Sallee, Angie Griffin, Allie McCrocklin, Sue Anne Casey, Millie Arp, Barb Sinclair, Angel Templeton, Robert Morris, Tom Hebermehl, John Sanchez, Hellie Smith, Kathy Porter, Maria Horvat, Becky Kraemer and Olivia and Will Gale.

Members of the board of directors are Millie Arp, Pat Bell, Cindy Belt, Sue Anne Casey, Tiffany Gale, Peg Giesler, Tom Hebermehl, Christie Russell, Ann Staats and Susan Stafford.

Crestwood Presents
Disney
MY SON PINOCCHIO JR
TICKETS
\$10 All Seats
Purchase tickets at the door.
Paris Center of Fine Arts

FRI. FEB 15TH
7PM
SAT. FEB 16TH
7PM



THE PROS KNOW MORTGAGES

1st Time Home Buyer?

We'll Pay for your

Appraisal!

*Some Restrictions Apply

APPLY ONLINE

www.bankprospect.com

We've got the key!



PROSPECT BANK

The Opportunity Bank MEMBER FDIC & EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

*Consumer Must Qualify For A First Time Home Buyers Loan

NAL donates to Bee Well

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

North American Lighting (NAL), Edgar County's largest employer likes what Bee Well of Edgar County is trying to accomplish.

Employees Amanda Martin and Kayla Lindsay attended the coalition's meeting Thursday, Feb. 7, with a \$250 unrestricted gift.

"Bee Well is active in the community and doing good things, and we want to help,"

said Lindsay.

Bee Well formed after several people working in the health profession and related fields, along with educators and private citizens, became alarmed by two independent studies ranking Edgar County as one of the unhealthiest places in Illinois. High levels of obesity and heart disease in the county's population were major factors in the unfavorable rating.

The goal of Bee Well is to

raise awareness about the health problems and encourage citizens to adopt healthier lifestyles.

Mary Liz Wright had an immediate idea for how to use the money. She said a long-delayed plan for working with local restaurants to either identify existing menu items that are heart healthy or to help the staff create healthy entrees is ready to move forward. The money can help

See **BEE WELL**, Page 4A

Attorney David Hamilton (217) 465.1234

FRISSE & BREWSTER
LAW OFFICES

Estate Planning—Estate Settlement—Business & Farm Planning
Special Needs Planning—Life Care Planning—Guardianships

www.frissebrewsterlaw.com
Helping Protect What's Important To You

Another drug charge against Travioli

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

COURT

The unresolved charges keep piling up for Travis W. Travioli, 48, West Terre Haute, Ind. Travioli appeared for the Jan. 31 criminal and traffic call in Edgar County Circuit Court and was charged with a Class 4 felony possession of a controlled substance. He was in custody of the Clark County Sheriff's Department at the time.

The defendant advised the court he has hired an attorney and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

In other matters, Travioli's unresolved Edgar County charges of a Class X felony possession of a weapon by a felon, Class 2 felony aggravated domestic battery, two counts of a Class 2 felony aggravated unlawful use of a weapon by a felon, a Class 2 felony unlawful use of a firearm by a felony with prior convictions, two counts of a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class 4 felony criminal trespassing were continued for a pretrial conferences. He was remanded to Clark County custody where he is awaiting trial in a Class A misdemeanor driving while license suspended case.

Other individuals appearing before the bench for the Jan. 28 and Jan. 31 court calls included:

IN CUSTODY

■Kenneth A. Arthur, 30, Marshall, appeared in custody and admitted a petition to re-

voke his conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor possession of a hypodermic syringe conviction. He was resentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for nine days previously served with good conduct credit to apply and the remaining 12 days are subject to the court's discretion, one year of conditional discharge and ordered to pay all prior financial obligations. He was remanded to custody pending release processing.

■Jassem M. Holvani, 37, Chrisman, appeared in custody. He waived the preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 2 felony unlawful use of a weapon by a felon. By agreement, bond was reduced to \$7,500 from the original bond of \$15,000. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

In another matter, Holvani's unresolved charge of a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery was continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Terry W. Lomax, no age or address provided, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class B misdemeanor criminal trespass to real property. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to eight days in jail subject to work release rules and given credit for two days previously served, one year of conditional discharge, a \$300 fine, court costs, various

state fees and an order to have no contact with the apparent victim. He was remanded to custody for service of the jail sentence.

■Clayton S. Rhoads, 18, Paris, appeared in custody and was charged with a Class 2 felony aggravated domestic battery and a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery. The public defender was appointed and bond was set at \$20,000. He was ordered to have no contact with the apparent victim or the victim's residence. The matter was continued for the preliminary hearing, and Rhoads was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Lance Sawyer 22, Paris, appeared in custody. His unresolved charges of a Class 2 felony aggravated domestic battery, two counts of a Class 3 felony failure to register as a sex offender and a Class A misdemeanor domestic battery were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Veronica B. Smith, 36, Hutsonville, appeared in custody for missing a previous court appearance. Her unresolved charge of a Class 4 felony aggravated driving while license is revoked was continued for a pretrial conference. She was remanded to custody pending posting of bond.

■Richard T. Wells, 25, Paris, appeared in custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections. His unresolved Class 4 felony resisting a police officer and a Class A misdemeanor resisting a peace officer charges were continued for a pretrial conference. He was remanded to custody of the IDOC.

CHARGES

■Pia L. Billips, 49, Danville, was charged and pleaded guilty to a Class B misdemeanor speeding. Billips was sentenced

to a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Kaleb Devore Harper, 20, Metcalf, was charged and pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license. He has hired an attorney and the matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Michael A. Landsaw, 36, Paris, was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Bradley J. Latch, 30, Paris, was charged with a Class 4 felony criminal trespass to a residence, a Class A misdemeanor criminal trespass and a Class C misdemeanor disorderly conduct. The public defender was appointed and the matter was continued for the preliminary hearing.

■Cody A. Rigdon, 29, Paris, was charged with a Class 3 felony aggravated battery and a Class A misdemeanor violating an order of protection. The public defender was assigned to the case and the matter was continued for a first appearance with counsel.

■Jared A. Roberts, 32, Paris, was charged with a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine and a Class 4 felony possession of a controlled substance. The preliminary hearing was scheduled.

■Beth A. Williams, 25, Georgetown, was charged and pleaded guilty to a Class B misdemeanor speeding. She was sentenced to a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

GUILTY PLEAS

■Jeffery W. Kabbany, 47, Clinton, Ind., was charged and pleaded guilty to a Class B misdemeanor speeding. He was

sentenced to a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

■Nathan B. Shear, 30, Brocton, admitted a petition to revoke his conditional discharge sentence for a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license conviction and a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class A misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol conviction. The matters were continued for a sentencing hearing.

■Roxanna L. Smith, 45, Terre Haute, Ind., pleaded guilty to a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine charge. She was sentenced to 120 days in jail with 60 days to be served as electronic home confinement with credit for 12 days previously served and the remaining 60 days are subject to the court's discretion, two years of first offender probation, 10 hours of community service work, court costs, various state fees and ordered to obtain counseling per an evaluation.

In another matter, Smith pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor driving on a suspended license. She was sentenced to 18 months of conditional discharge, a \$300 fine, court costs and various state fees.

NOT GUILTY PLEAS

■Charles A. Harris, 48, Paris, 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.

■Joseph L. Kauffman, 45, Chrisman, pleaded not guilty with a jury trial demand to a Class 3 felony possession of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor resisting a police officer and a Class A misdemeanor fleeing or attempting to elude police charges. Kauff-

man's bond was changed to allow him to enter Indiana for employment purposes. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

■Archie L. Kennedy, 39, Paris, denied a petition to revoke his probation sentence for a Class 2 felony burglary conviction. The matter was continued for a pretrial conference.

OTHER MATTERS

■Jason A. Baker, 36, Paris, failed to appear in court. The court imposed an 18-day jail sentence attached to his Class A misdemeanor false personation conviction. A no-bond arrest warrant was issued.

■Jason M. Bennett, 25, Westville, failed to appear in court. The court imposed an eight-day jail sentence attached to his Class B misdemeanor failing to report to a penal institution conviction. A no-bond arrest warrant was issued.

■Nicole J. Jones, 40, Paris, failed to appear in court. The court imposed a 36-day jail sentence attached to her Class 2 felony delivery of a controlled substance conviction. A no-bond arrest warrant was issued.

■Amber Osborne, 41, Terre Haute, Ind., failed to appear in court. The court imposed a 140-day jail sentence, with good conduct credit, attached to her Class 2 felony delivery of methamphetamine conviction. A no-bond arrest warrant was issued.

WARRANTS

Warrants were prepared and issued when the following individuals failed to answer the court call: Efrain Acevedo-Martinez, 27, Paris; Kevin M. Flight, 38, Danville; David Lee Hunt, 62, Paris; Christopher R. May, 36, Indianapolis, Ind.; and Amea L. Morecraft, 37, Paris.

ASHER & SMITH

Attorney's at Law

General Practice with Emphasis in:

- Personal Injury
- Workers' Compensation
- Wills and Estate Planning
- Estate Administration
- Real Estate



S. Craig Smith*
craig@ashersmithlaw.com

(217)
465-6444

**Million Dollar
Advocates Forum
Member*



Robert Morris

1119 N. Main St. • Paris, Illinois

BEE WELL

FROM PAGE 3A

with printing stickers attached next to menu items indicating the choice is heart healthy and Bee Well Approved clings for the restaurant doors.

A three-way effort between Bee Well, Prospect Bank and the City of Paris to create a new community garden on Union Street is moving forward, albeit slowly.

An agreement permitting use of the ground is not yet signed and that concerns Ron George of the garden committee.

"We've got some prep work to do," said George.

The site has poor quality soil and the plan is to build raised beds and haul in good



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

North American Lighting donates \$250 to help Bee Well of Edgar County in the coalition's effort to make Edgar County a healthier place to live. Left to right, NAL employees Amanda Martin and Kayla Lindsay presenting the check to Bee Well members Ken Polky, Mary Liz Wright, Leighsa Cornwell, Erin Frank, Warren Sperry, Linda Lane, Ron George, Mandy Posey and Brandi Eaton.

dirt to fill the wooden frames.

"We may not have all of the layout done, but we hope to have some beds done (by planting time)," George said.

The gardening season is rapidly approaching with some cold crops that could be planted in just a few weeks so work converting the lot into a community garden needs to start soon.

Wright said a meeting is scheduled Feb. 19 for people interested in participating in the community garden. She noted in addition to constructing the raised beds, the gardeners have to erect a fence around the site.

One of Bee Well's more successful efforts was a six-week Fun Run program for children at Twin Lakes Park. The children participated in a series of dashes, plus half-mile and one-mile runs.

Erin Frank helped spearhead that project and she recommended moving the program back to a June-July time period after a switch to doing it in the fall did not have the desired participation.

In a related vein, Brandi Eaton is finishing plans for Learn to Run modeled after a program in Decatur where experienced runners help and encourage new runners getting started. The overall goal is to get people moving rather than training for a 10-K run.

Eaton said over the 10-week period participants increase their running time at their own pace. By the end of the program people who nev-

er ran will likely be capable of running non-stop for 30 minutes. She added when she did the program some of the participants did not run but concentrated on increasing their walking time.

"It's based on endurance, not distance," Eaton said.

She plans to ask the Paris Pacers for help to make Learn to Run happen, mainly because this is a volunteer-dependent project and offered free to participants.

"It's crucial to have experienced runners there to support those starting, even if it is to just walk beside them," said Eaton.

According to Ken Polky, the Learn to Run approach of taking things in gradual increments is most likely to have success with changing people's attitude toward getting healthy.

Polky said those who are already unhealthy from something like obesity or tobacco use are generally struggling with multiple health concerns that possibly include mental health issues. He described the change from unhealthy to healthy as a daunting task, especially for those who previously tried and failed.

"Instead of telling people they need to make a radical change, they need to focus on just one thing at a time," Polky said.



MORE OPTIONS (LESS DRIVING)



Surgery at Horizon Health

Surgery is hard enough without having to make travel plans. The surgery team at Horizon Health has everything you need to stay close to home. From hernia repairs to joint replacements, we offer the same level of care as large hospitals—without the drive. Horizon Health can help you stay local so you can keep focused on what's important: your comfort, recovery, and overall health.

Call 217-466-4543 or visit MyHorizonHealth.org to learn more.



is like blowing kisses in the dark.

You know what you're doing, but no one else does!
The Prairie Press 101 N. Central Ave., Paris # 217-921-3216

CINDY SOUGHERS

Cindy Lou Soughers, 71, of Paris, passed away at 5:10 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, at the Gibson Family Center for Hospice Care, Terre Haute, Ind. She was a flight attendant for US Airways for 37 years. She also was a secretary at MECO for one year.

A public graveside service is 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, in Edgar Cemetery. Visitation is private. Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Ms. Soughers was born April 13, 1947, at Paris, the daughter of the late Lloyd W. and Mabel Mae Cunningham Soughers. She was married to Pete Price for 25 years. Survivors include nephews, Dennis Runyan of Johnson City and Jeff Runyan of Port Charlotte, Fla.; great-

niece, Holly Runyan of Paris; great-great nieces and nephews, Dustin Walden of Evansville, Ind., Erika Walden Ballard of Paris and Maci and Hudson David, both of Paris; great-great nephews and niece, Xavier Ballard of Paris, Oliver Walden of Evansville, Ind., and Quinn Runyan of Paris; brother-in-law, Jack Runyan of Paris; and a special friend, Joe McDaniel of Paris. She was preceded in death by her sister, Patsy Ruth Runyan. During her career as a flight attendant, Ms. Soughers learned sign language to better communicate with her passengers. She was a member of Allegheny Baptist Temple in Mt. Nebo, Pa., and was active with Faith In Action. Memorial donations may be made to Faith In Action. Online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

BETTY DEPLANTY

ROCKVILLE, Ind. - Betty Lou DePlanty, 89, of Chrisman, passed away at 2:55 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at Vermillion Convalescent Center, Clinton, Ind. She was a homemaker. A funeral service was 3 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 3, at Gooch Funeral Home, Rockville, Ind., with her son Bob DePlanty officiating. Burial followed in Wesley Chapel Cemetery, Scotland, Illinois. Visitation was from 1 p.m. until the service time Sunday at the funeral home. Mrs. DePlanty was born April 28, 1929, in Clay

County, Indiana, the daughter of the late Hubert Featherston and Margaret Lamb Featherston. She married Roy O. DePlanty Nov. 28, 1946, and their marriage lasted 50 years until his death Nov. 14, 1997. Survivors include one son, Bob (Gayle) DePlanty of Rockville; one daughter, Linda Hoesman of Sullivan, Ind.; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Jim DePlanty; son-in-law, Mitch Hoesman; great-grandson, Ethan Hoesman; brother, Russell Featherston; three sisters, Velma Jean Davis, Wilma Featherston and Mary "Kate" Jones. Online condolences at www.goochfuneralhome.com.

DELORES LEONARD

ROCKVILLE, Ind. - Delores Ann Ingram Leonard, 83, of Terre Haute, Ind., passed away at 5:21 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019, at Springhill Village, Terre Haute. She retired from the Apple House in Terre Haute with 23 years of service. She was also employed by Meis Department Store in the Meadows and Honey Creek Shopping Centers. A memorial service was 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, at Gooch Funeral Home, Rockville, Ind. Inurnment was at Wesley Chapel Cemetery, Scotland. Visitation was from 9 a.m. until the service time Feb. 2 at the funeral home. Mrs. Leonard was born Jan. 17, 1936, at Scotland, the daughter of the late Forrest Ingram and Thelma Frazier Ingram.

Survivors include three sons, Brad Camerer of Terre Haute, Norm (Lynn) Camerer of Rockville and Roger Camerer of Marshall; one daughter, Bonnie Walton of Granby, Colo.; one brother, Elton (Elsie) Ingram of Chrisman; sister-in-law, Patty Ingram of Brownsburg; seven grandchildren, Jennifer Camerer, Clint Camerer, Matthew Pine, Leslie Camerer, Michael Pine, Joseph Pine and Evan Walton; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Brian Walton; and two brothers, Glenn and Paul Ingram. Mrs. Leonard was a graduate of Scotland High School and in her younger years enjoyed showing five-gaited step horses. Memorial donations may be made to Heart to Heart Hospice, 4529 S. 7th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807. Online condolences at www.goochfuneralhome.com.

TRACY SHANKS

Tracy Alan Shanks, 51, of Marshall, and formerly of Paris is passed away at 10:10 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019, in Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Ind. A graveside service was 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 8, in Vermillion Cemetery, Vermilion, and burial followed. Visitation was from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7, at Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home. Mr. Shanks was born June 28, 1967, in Paris, the son of the late Charles Alexander and

May Jean Frazier Shanks. He is survived by his sons, Michael and Brody Shanks, both of Paris; his siblings, Rea Hindman of Winchester, Tenn., Charlie (Cindy) Shanks of New Berry, Fla., Linda (Mike) Shon of Mesa, Ariz., Shelley (Darrell) Pittman of Paris and Trina (Greg) Steele of Estill Springs, Tenn. He was preceded in death by his sister Patricia Henderson; and his nieces, Stacy Gallion and Brittane Henderson. Memorial donations may be made to the Edgar County Humane Association. Online condolences at www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com.

SHAWN WINNETT

CASEY - Shawn Lee Winnett, 46, of Casey, and formerly of DeLeon Springs, Fla., passed away Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, at his home. A funeral service was 1 p.m. Fri-

day, Feb. 8, at the Markwell Funeral Home, with Luke Sanders officiating. Burial followed in the Washington Street Cemetery. Visitation was from 11 a.m. until the service time Friday at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.markwellfuneralhome.com.

EVELYN GROVES

OAKLAND - Evelyn M. Shaffer Groves, 91, of Charleston, and formerly of Borton, passed away Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019. A graveside funeral was 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, in Embarrass Cemetery. Krabel Funeral Home handled the arrangements. More information and online condolences at www.krabelfuneralhome.com.

BENITA STEVENS

MARSHALL - Benita Elizabeth "Liz" Stevens, 42, of Marshall, passed away at 4:05 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at her home. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, at Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

IRA CRAIG CHRISMAN - Ira M. Craig, 80, of Havelock, N.C., and formerly of Chrisman, passed away at 5:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 24, 2019, at Carolina East Medical Center, New Bern, N.C. He retired from the United States Marine Corps, at Yuma, Ariz., in March 1976. He was a staff sergeant. Following cremation, a memorial service and private interment are at a later date. Mr. Craig was born April 24, 1938, at Chrisman, the son of the late Ira L. and Mary Janet Smith Craig. He is survived by a sister, Faye Craig Bland Haworth of Chrisman; a brother-in-law, Pete Saults of Dana, Ind.; one niece; and five nephews. He was preceded in death by one sister, Sue Saults. Mr. Craig joined the United States Marine Corps March 9, 1956. During his 20-year career, he served two tours in South Vietnam, was stationed at Iwakuni, Japan, and also at various locations in the U.S., including Cherry Point, N.C., Beaufort, S.C., El Toro, Calif., and Yuma, Ariz. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7315 and the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) Branch 141. The family thanks special friends Jim and Kathy Inman, Bill and Pam Sweaker, Diane Bisesi and Paula Yeager.

PAUL ERWIN MARSHALL - Paul Richard Erwin, 85, of Casey, passed away at 3 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at Casey Health Care Center. A service honoring his life was 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at Pearce Funeral Home, with Pastors Marvin Oakley and Randy Black officiating. Private burial in the Casey Washington Street Cemetery is at a later date. Visitation was from noon until the service time. Memorial donations may be made to Macedonia Baptist Church, P.O. Box 55, Casey, IL 62420, with envelopes also available at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

CHARLI GOINS

MARSHALL - Charli A. Goins, 30, of Charleston, and formerly of Marshall, passed away at 7:02 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at the Car Home, Charleston. A graveside service was 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday at Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

IRA CRAIG CHRISMAN - Ira M. Craig, 80, of Havelock, N.C., and formerly of Chrisman, passed away at 5:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 24, 2019, at Carolina East Medical Center, New Bern, N.C. He retired from the United States Marine Corps, at Yuma, Ariz., in March 1976. He was a staff sergeant. Following cremation, a memorial service and private interment are at a later date. Mr. Craig was born April 24, 1938, at Chrisman, the son of the late Ira L. and Mary Janet Smith Craig. He is survived by a sister, Faye Craig Bland Haworth of Chrisman; a brother-in-law, Pete Saults of Dana, Ind.; one niece; and five nephews. He was preceded in death by one sister, Sue Saults. Mr. Craig joined the United States Marine Corps March 9, 1956. During his 20-year career, he served two tours in South Vietnam, was stationed at Iwakuni, Japan, and also at various locations in the U.S., including Cherry Point, N.C., Beaufort, S.C., El Toro, Calif., and Yuma, Ariz. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7315 and the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) Branch 141. The family thanks special friends Jim and Kathy Inman, Bill and Pam Sweaker, Diane Bisesi and Paula Yeager.

PAUL ERWIN MARSHALL - Paul Richard Erwin, 85, of Casey, passed away at 3 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at Casey Health Care Center. A service honoring his life was 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at Pearce Funeral Home, with Pastors Marvin Oakley and Randy Black officiating. Private burial in the Casey Washington Street Cemetery is at a later date. Visitation was from noon until the service time. Memorial donations may be made to Macedonia Baptist Church, P.O. Box 55, Casey, IL 62420, with envelopes also available at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

CHARLI GOINS

MARSHALL - Charli A. Goins, 30, of Charleston, and formerly of Marshall, passed away at 7:02 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at the Car Home, Charleston. A graveside service was 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Marshall Cemetery. Visitation was from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday at Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

day, Feb. 8, at the Markwell Funeral Home, with Luke Sanders officiating. Burial followed in the Washington Street Cemetery. Visitation was from 11 a.m. until the service time Friday at the funeral home. More information and online condolences at www.markwellfuneralhome.com.

BENITA STEVENS

MARSHALL - Benita Elizabeth "Liz" Stevens, 42, of Marshall, passed away at 4:05 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at her home. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, at Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

EVELYN GROVES

OAKLAND - Evelyn M. Shaffer Groves, 91, of Charleston, and formerly of Borton, passed away Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019. A graveside funeral was 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, in Embarrass Cemetery. Krabel Funeral Home handled the arrangements. More information and online condolences at www.krabelfuneralhome.com.

BENITA STEVENS

MARSHALL - Benita Elizabeth "Liz" Stevens, 42, of Marshall, passed away at 4:05 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at her home. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, at Pearce Funeral Home. More information and online condolences at www.pearcefuneralservices.com.

LORETTA BOYD

CASEY - Loretta Maxine Ulrey Boyd, 87, of Casey, passed away at 7:20 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019, at Gibson Family Hospice Center, Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Ind. A funeral service is 10 a.m. today, Feb. 9, at Markwell Funeral Home, with the Revs. Tom Toner and Kenny Inman officiating. Burial follows in Casey Cumberland Cemetery. Visitation was from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to Casey White Oak Church of God. Online condolences at www.markwellfuneralhome.com.

WAYNE REDMON

Wayne Allen Redmon, 63, of Champaign, and formerly of Paris, passed away at 8:20 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at Champaign Urbana Nursing & Rehab, Savoy. At his request, no public services are planned and private interment is at a later date in Embarrass Cemetery near Redmon. Templeton Funeral Home of Paris is in charge of the arrangements. Memorials may be made to the Edgar County Animal Shelter. Additional information and online condolences at www.TempletonFuneralHome.com.

WYNE REDMON

Wayne Allen Redmon, 63, of Champaign, and formerly of Paris, passed away at 8:20 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, at Champaign Urbana Nursing & Rehab, Savoy. At his request, no public services are planned and private interment is at a later date in Embarrass Cemetery near Redmon. Templeton Funeral Home of Paris is in charge of the arrangements. Memorials may be made to the Edgar County Animal Shelter. Additional information and online condolences at www.TempletonFuneralHome.com.

The family of **KENNETH WILSON** would like to thank Ed and Jeff Pearce, Pastors Bill and Tim Duke for the wonderful service and music. The Zion, Oliver and Asbury churches for a great meal. Also the cards, calls, food, flowers and memories. Gertrude Wilson and Family

ADAMS MEMORIALS Competitive Pricing, Experience, Quality Work. We have Cremation Mausoleums. 402 West Jasper St. • Paris, IL (217) 463-1699

Airport ground not for sale

BY GARY HENRY ghenry@prairiepress.net

A new ad posted on www.realtor.com is raising some eyebrows. The ad from Paris Realtor Chris Martin lists a 20.87-acre parcel as Airport, Paris, for sale at \$187,830.

A photo accompanying the ad appears to show the airport hangars in the background, but none of the airport property is for sale. "We have not discussed it, voted on it or put any of the airport up for sale," said Jeff Voigt, Edgar County

Board Chairman. He added the county board has no intention of selling any ground owned by the airport. Voigt speculated the ad may refer to private land adjacent to the airport, but he did not know that to be

the case. A call to Martin for clarification was not returned.

Stewart & Carroll Funeral Home "Our family sincerely caring for your family's needs" Since 1923. 2010 Winner of Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award. 303. E. Wood Street • Paris, IL 61944 • (217) 465-6311. Thomas D. Carroll, Director. Mark T. Anderson, Director. Email: scfh@stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com Fax (217) 465-6312. www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com

TEMPLETON FUNERAL HOMES Paris and Kansas 217-465-4775. Peter Templeton, Scott Barrett. STAY CONNECTED! Receive up-to-date obituary notices and service times by signing up for our email notices. Subscribe FREE OF CHARGE at www.TempletonFuneralHome.com

Goodbye to a strong woman

It's always tough to hear someone has died that you idealized, but that's what happened this past week when my cousin, Cindy Soughers, lost her fight with ALS.



NANCY ZEMAN
 FROM THE PUBLISHER

Cindy, many of you will recall, was one of the "Fabulous Five," cheerleaders involved in the accident after the Bridgeport sectional basketball tourney in March, 1964. The crash — caused by a drunk driver — killed principal John Allen and cheerleaders Paulette Brooks and Mary Margaret "Marnie" Lutz.

Cindy, Michele "Punky" Starbuck and Sandy Smith survived that awful night — but their lives were changed forever. Only Sandy remains now. Michele died after a long fight with cancer and now Cindy is gone.

My grandmother, Katherine Cunningham Roberts, and Cindy's mother, Mae Cunningham Soughers, were sisters. The Cunninghams were a big family. Besides Grandma and Aunt Mae, there were Vilena Cunningham Meeks, Ruth Cunningham Childress, Herschel Cunningham, Carl Cunningham and Kathleen Cunningham Fonner.

We were even more interconnected because my dad worked with Cindy's dad, Lloyd "Doc" Soughers and Uncle Herschel. After my dad's stroke, "Doc" was a weekly visitor to Elm Street to see my father.

What young girl wouldn't wish to be like Cindy Soughers? Many of you may not remember, but Cindy was a world-class gymnast before the accident. I remember sitting on the swing on my grandma's front porch on Maple Avenue and hearing her tell me she couldn't even turn a cartwheel anymore.

When you have a minute take the time to go to google.com and search for Linda Metheny. Domestically, she won at least 18 individual national titles and in 1985 she was inducted into the U.S. Gymnastic Hall of Fame.

Cindy and Linda were contemporaries. One of the biggest what if's I queried Cindy once about was what would have happened in her gymnastics career if she hadn't been in the accident? She didn't want to go there.

See **ZEMAN**, Page 7A

\$15 minimum wage

Local businesses, Illinois industries will be hurt by the General Assembly bill

"One of the great mistakes is to judge policies and programs by their intentions rather than their results."

— Economist Milton Friedman

OUR VIEW

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

It seems Illinois will soon have a new minimum wage law as a bill speeding through the Illinois General Assembly will soon land on Governor J.B. Pritzker's desk. He has promised to sign it.

And while the jump to \$15 won't be completed until 2025, we can't help be worried about the broader implications of a higher minimum wage in a state already struggling with a challenging environment for employers and young job-seekers.

Progressive-leaning lawmakers dominate the legislature. They speak with empathy about the social justice implications of a minimum wage.

Today a full-time minimum wage worker earns roughly \$17,160 per year. You can't escape poverty on that, they say. A \$15-an-hour minimum wage would push that income closer to \$31,200.

But wait, say conservatives who dislike overbearing government and embrace free markets. The minimum wage never was designed to be household income. It helps entry-level, less skilled and often teenage workers get a start. Nearly doubling it will keep some of those people out of the workforce, or penalize businesses that hire them.

You want job creators to abandon

Illinois at an even swifter pace? Then pass a minimum wage higher than that of every surrounding state. That's what Illinois lawmakers are poised to do.

Illinois' business climate is challenging enough. Companies routinely say they're leaving or not expanding here due to high taxes, over-regulation and out-of-whack workers' compensation and labor costs.

But jacking up the minimum wage can hurt the intended beneficiaries. A study on Seattle's \$15-an-hour minimum wage pointed to earnings drops for some workers: To control overhead, businesses reduced their hours.

In a high-exodus state, raising the minimum wage is particularly unwise. But if it's inevitable, Democrats should be hypersensitive to minimizing the damage. They could hurt the very people they're trying to help.



Caught on tape

We've known for weeks now the FBI recorded Chicago Alderman Ed



RICH MILLER
 CAPITOL FAX

Burke's mobile phone conversations over a period of eight months, listening in on 9,475 calls. And then we discovered the feds had wired up Chicago Alderman Danny Solis during his own conversations with Burke.

Ald. Burke has a rather, um, earthy way of talking when he's among friends and close allies. Race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexuality: You name it, if there's a socially unacceptable word to describe it, his pals say, he's probably used it.

I'm not saying for sure the feds have him on tape saying stuff like that, but if they do, there's no way in heck that Burke wants a Chicago-area jury hearing it. Those words could destroy a defendant. And, of course, few on the other end of any of those conversations want that stuff to come out, either. People might bend over backwards to be helpful if the feds play them those tapes. The feds, in other words, might very well possess some embarrassing leverage on Burke aside from the alleged illegalities.

Being caught on an FBI wiretap doesn't automatically mean somebody did something wrong. Back in 2017 and then again in 2018, the mere presence of J.B. Pritzker on old FBI wiretaps of Gov. Rod Blagojevich was enough to rattle his gubernatorial campaign to the very bone, even though there was no evidence then or since that he was ever under any sort of investigation.

Pritzker simply called the wrong guy at the wrong time and said some stupid things that wound up being memorialized on a government recording device. But lots of folks jumped to an immediate conclusion the hint of federal smoke somehow meant the existence of

See **MILLER**, Page 7A

Laughter in the week's politics

It's not often you get to really laugh at politics.

But thanks to a bunch of self-exploding Democrats in Virginia and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Republicans had some good chuckles this week.

Since the midterm elections last fall, Republicans have been down in the dumps and Democrats have been riding high and mighty.

Democrat leaders spent January gloating about retaking control of the House of Representatives, coming up

with 152 ways to impeach President Trump and voicing support for the dumb legislative ideas of their star rookie socialist, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of NYC.

Rep. Adam Schiff, my Southern California congressman, has promised every camera he's looked into since last November that his House committee was going to spend the next two years investigating several decades of Donald Trump's business records, tax returns and, if necessary, his golf scores.

But this week, as President Trump delivered a great State of the Union speech, the Democrats got knocked down off their high moral horse by a series of scandals involving the personal and moral failings of their guys running the state of Virginia.

First to topple was Gov. Ralph Northam, See **REAGAN**, Page 7A

WHO WE ARE

The Prairie Press
 Paris Beacon-News
 SERVING EDGAR COUNTY SINCE 1848

Published by
 Prairie Beacon, LLC
 Nancy Roberts Zeman, publisher

USPS 420-580. Periodicals postage paid at the Paris, Illinois, post office, 61944. The Prairie Press is published once a week, on Saturdays, by Prairie Beacon, LLC.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 101 N. Central Ave., Paris, IL 61944.

Yearbook politics of the once young, foolish

WASHINGTON — In 1983, just before winning a third term as Louisiana's governor, Edwin



KATHLEEN PARKER
 POLITICS AND CULTURE

Edwards famously said the only way he could lose the race was "if I'm caught in bed with either a dead girl or a live boy."

Presumably, no one checked his yearbook. Given today's mounting pressure on Virginia Gov.

Ralph Northam to resign due to a photo in his 1984 medical school yearbook — and last year's inquisition of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, which included Senate questioning about his high school yearbook — we clearly have a new exception to certain electability (or, as the case may be, confirmation): "if a yearbook reveals that I was once young and foolish." Implicit in this new category is that personal evolution isn't possible and redemption is dead.

Which raises several questions we must ask ourselves: What is the statute of limitations for being an inconsiderate, thoughtless, jerk-goofball-hellraiser? Can a person who misbehaved or acted offensively in high school, college or graduate school ever change? Does having lived an exemplary life as an adult mean anything?

The verdicts in both of these cases were swift and unyielding in the public square, where all accusations seem to be adjudicated these days.

Kavanaugh, based largely on a single person's uncorroborated recollection, was virtually condemned as a would-be rapist. Although, ultimately confirmed, he is forevermore besmirched in certain quarters.

Much of what was treated by some members of the Senate Judiciary Committee as the closest thing to evidence against Kava-

naugh came from his high school yearbook page. Did he or didn't he drink a lot of beer? became an essential question of his character among Democrats on the committee. And, in some twist of logic, his answer some 40 years later was supposed to be correlative to his guilt or innocence of sexual assault.

Obviously sexual assault is a horrific crime, but without evidence or corroborating testimony, there's no basis for a prosecution.

In Northam's case, a photo on his personal page in his yearbook featured two individuals — one wearing blackface and the other dressed as a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

The image isn't just offensive; it's appalling. Even way back in 1984, most would have found it so. Did the young individuals think they were just goofing around? Most likely, but again, the image is too hurtful in the glare of history.

Klansmen were and are terrorists who murdered, raped and lynched African-Americans and burned communities during a reign of terror that lasted for more than 100 years.

Horror, not humor, is the only appropriate response both to this history and to those who would mock it.

Northam apologized when the photo first surfaced, which, in light of his life since medical school would suffice in a normal world.

But, not in today's arena. Yes, it was horrible and stupid, but might nearly 35 years of healing children and public and military service since then make up for a

WHAT IS THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS FOR BEING AN INCONSIDERATE, THOUGHLESS, JERK-GOOFBALL-HELLRAISER?

25-year-old's poor choice?

Does this isolated photo capture the essence and spirit of the now-59-year-old Northam?

The governor surely has made things worse for himself by changing his tune, now saying he doesn't think he's in the picture, combined with confessing to another experiment in blackface — also in 1984 — when he performed Michael Jackson's moonwalk in a dance contest.

It's nearly always true that it's best to apologize, full stop.

Interestingly, both Northam and Kavanaugh were faced with similar decisions — whether to drop out and put an end to the public torture and protect their families — or stay the course because surrender would seem an admission of guilt. We know by Northam's own words that he once played around with blackface, which, again, is disappointing, but does it rise to the level of a firing offense these many years later?

For Kavanaugh, dropping out most likely would have meant an end to his judicial career, even at the lower court level. And then where would he go? What would he do with a ruined reputation and the forever suspicion that he was guilty?

Kavanaugh's story ended as it should have. By any measure of fairness, Northam deserves a chance to further redeem himself as governor.

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

HAVE YOUR SAY

We welcome letters to the editor and guest columns. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes and limit it to 500 words. Columnists should demonstrate authority and knowledge of the topic (preferably of state and local interest) and make information-backed arguments. We reserve the right to edit letters or to not publish certain letters or guest columns.

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

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

ZEMAN

FROM PAGE 6A

I remember Cindy in dance recitals by Miss Ethel Marie Crabtree. I watched her every move on the stage whether it be in toe shoes, tap shoes, acrobatics or gymnastics. At basketball and football games when I was in elementary school, I watched every move she made.

When I returned to my hometown in January 2014, Cindy was one of the first people to stop by and see me at the Paris Beacon-News.

I started going through my clip file at home and realized — suddenly — the 50th anniversary of the cheerleader accident was in March.

Cindy agreed to talk to me. The interview gave me even more insight to her — not only what she had endured in her recovery but her life as one of the top flight attendants for U.S. Air. Cindy carved out a career and rose to the top of it with her attitude, smile and yes, toughness.

In February 2015, when the Eveland Extravaganza celebrated the years in one of the greatest high school



Adonna Bennett/The Prairie Press

Cousins Cindy Soughers, right, and Nancy Zeman at the 2015 Eveland Extravaganza.

gymnasiums in the country, Cindy was there, of course. She enjoyed the reunions with the undefeated 1963 PHS football team. There's a picture with the cheerleaders, team and coaches on the steps of the high school.

In addition to her career with the airlines, Cindy was a dedicated employee and volunteer for the Faith in Action of Edgar County. She was a devoted Christian who loved the Lord.

ALS — also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease — is a terrible death sentence. I last spoke to Cindy at her sister, Patsy Runyon's funeral. She

was already suffering the affects of the disease. It quickly progressed before she lost her battle earlier this past week.

I know her parents and her sister were waiting on her as she passed.

I can't help but wonder if Punky, Paulette and Marnie weren't there, too. I'd like to think they are.

Cindy, I know you are now without pain. I'd like to think maybe — just maybe — you're turning a cartwheel again.

(Nancy Zeman is the publisher of The Prairie Press. Email her at nzeman@prairiepress.net.)

MILLER

FROM PAGE 6A

a raging corruption fire. Nothing like that has ever emerged.

We don't yet know for sure, but the same might be said of what's being treated by the media as an explosive revelation that an FBI mole recorded a 2014 meeting with Ald. Solis, a Chinatown real estate developer and House Speaker Michael Madigan.

Madigan didn't say anything illegal on the recording. He was at his law firm's office and Ald. Solis had brought the developer in to talk about perhaps retaining Madigan's property tax assessment firm for a hotel the businessman was trying to build. The developer never hired Madigan's firm and never built the hotel. All this happened almost five years ago, and we haven't heard anything else since then.

The story does give us an inside peek into how things work in Chicago, however. Madigan's law office can apparently be an important stop on the path toward getting things done. And while Madigan himself can avoid doing anything overt to help his law firm's clients outside of property tax appeals, just meeting with Madigan could help those clients check a very important

box with other important people like Solis.

Madigan himself could be completely ignorant of why a potential client is in his office. Indeed, it's almost 100 percent certain he wants it that way. You'd have to be insanely greedy to risk prison over a \$3,000 annual property tax retainer.

But Madigan is so powerful that people like Solis want to do whatever they can to get into and remain in his good graces.

So, it's not at all inconceivable that part of an alderman's process of approving a development could include a meeting at Madigan's firm to show fealty and offer tribute.

The big question: If Solis wired up on Burke, did he

also wire up on Madigan?

The House Speaker issued a statement through his attorney admitting he, "recalls attending several meetings with Ald. Solis over the past five years, including meetings with individuals in need of legal representation."

Despite the frothing at the mouth from the usual Madigan haters, we simply have no way of knowing if the feds have any leverage on the guy. Be patient. If they've got him, they've got him.

If they don't, well, it wouldn't surprise me.

(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.)

REAGAN

FROM PAGE 6A

a pediatrician who had already recently shocked much of the country by advocating the abortion of a full-term infant with deformities after it was born.

What really got Gov. Northam in deep trouble with his own party happened a few days later, when unflattering pictures of him surfaced from a 1984 medical school year book.

Gov. Northam was seen either in blackface or wearing a KKK hood. No one — including him — was sure which person he was.

While Republicans chuckled at the antics of the Democrats of Virginia, and almost everyone in his own party clamored for Gov. Northam to resign, we learned that Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax, the next in succession, was in even more serious trouble.

A professor from Southern California had publicly, graphically and credibly alleged that Lt. Gov. Fairfax violently sexually assaulted her at the Democratic National Convention in Boston in 2004.

Whoops. A liberal chicken had come home to roost in the new Democrat Party.

That leaves Democrat Attorney General Mark Herring next in line to become Virginia's governor, but Herring is also in trouble with his party because he too has admitted that he put on blackface to impersonate a rapper while at the University of Virginia in 1980.

We don't know yet if one or all of the tarnished Democrats will be forced to resign.

It's not something their party wants to see happen, no matter how guilty they all may be, because if they all go, a Republican — state House Speaker Kirk Cox — would become governor of Virginia.

It's no joke, but it'd be really funny if it came true.

(Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan and a political consultant. He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation.)

MAKE EVERYDAY Valentine's Day

♥ GIVE HER LUSCIOUS LINGERIE up to **50% OFF** ♥

GIVE HIM-BRIEF-BOXER-ROBE

Create a night of Passion

SPRINKLE SCENTED ROSE PETALS LEADING TO HOT LOTIONS GAMES & THE ONE YOU LOVE

Je T'aime Boutique

213 E. WASHINGTON, PARIS • 217-463-1500

VALENTINES HRS: NOON-9 P.M.

FREE GIFT FOR STOPPING IN ♥ **\$10 OFF ANY \$20 PURCHASE**

WE'LL HELP YOU MAKE A SELECTION & GIFT BOX IT! BRING AD IN- EXP 2/28

EYES

On Vitamins

By Aaron Rhoads, O.D.

In 2001 The National Institute of Health performed a study to determine whether certain vitamin supplements were effective therapy for Macular Degeneration. The study was called the Age Related Eye Disease Study (AREDS) and included Vit A, C, E, Zinc and Copper (to prevent problems with Zinc). After six years the study showed at least a 25% reduction with the chance of progressing to the wet form of Macular Degeneration. A second study called the Lutein Antioxidant Supplementation Trial (LAST) came out in 2004 which showed that Lutein was also effective to help slow and maybe prevent Macular Degeneration from worsening. Unfortunately the supplements are only proven to be effective in patients that already have signs of Macular Degeneration. Currently we recommend vitamin supplements for people with mild to moderate Macular Degeneration or we think are at high risk. For everyone else vitamin supplements are not proven to be effective so we stick by the old standbys, eat lots of fresh fruits and vegetables, stay physically active and don't smoke. Also always let your doctors know about any non-prescription supplements you take!

Chittick Family Vision Center

Committed to your total vision health

Aaron Rhoads, O.D., Optometrist

112 S. Main Street, Box 95 Paris, IL

(217) 465-6461

ADVERTISING:

The engine of this free Press

PROTECTING PEOPLE & DREAMS

FOR OVER 150 YEARS

DIMOND BROS.,

an Insurance Agency You Can Count On



Dimond Bros.

Insurance Since 1867

111 Sheriff St. | Paris, IL 61944
217-465-5041 | DimondBros.com



Follow Us on Facebook:
facebook.com/dimondbros

Kansas board approves Motor Fuel Tax spending plan

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

KANSAS – During a brief Village of Kansas Board meeting the 2019 Motor Fuel Tax plan was approved. Board member Susan Saxton made the motion to approve spending \$57,000 in MFT money, and it was unanimously approved. The Kansas Village Board met Wednesday, Feb. 6. Kansas uses MFT primarily for street maintenance, including the oiling and chipping of streets. Maintenance supervisor Andrew Henn reported the new belt clip remote water meter reader was utilized for the first time in January. He noted the new equipment logs 96 days of water

usage hour by hour, which improves the employees' efficiency, including discovering water leaks. Employees discovered a large water leak at the Edgar County Housing Authority. "It worked really well," Henn told the board. He also reported the village only had limited water leaks during the recent bitter cold. The below zero temperatures caused the detention level sensor to fail but that was quickly repaired. Kansas Police Chief Jeff Goodwin said officers wrote three citations, eight written warnings and issued 19 verbal warnings during January. The department made two criminal arrests, dealt with

three criminal complaints and assisted the Edgar County Sheriff's Department with a traffic crash. The board also discussed moving the Coca-Cola vending machine next to the Kansas Police Department. Machine owner Jim Cox approached the village about moving the machine from private property to village property. Cox said the machine is used frequently and the village would receive 10 percent of the earnings. Before closing the meeting, board members approved the purchase of a quarter-page advertisement in the Kansas High School yearbook for \$75.

LOCAL WOMAN ON GAME SHOW



Chrisman resident Sheyenne Craig was recently a contestant on CBS' "Let's Make a Deal" game show. She will appear during the episode airing Wednesday, Feb. 13. In the photo, Craig, left, shakes hands with the show's host Wayne Brady, right.

WATER

FROM PAGE 1A
When asked for an opinion if it was better to address the problems with Chrisman's water or to buy water from Paris, Keifer was quite clear about the best

route from a professional engineering viewpoint. "I'd get out of the water business," he said. "This crazy nitrite thing is the straw that broke the camel's back as far as I'm concerned. We would spend as much, if not more, on this plant."

Chrisman and Paris have since entered an agreement in principle to build a pipeline between the two communities for the sale of water to Chrisman, but the cost details are yet to be determined.

CHRISMAN

FROM PAGE 1A
The council passed a leash law making dog owners responsible for keeping their pets under control at all times. Owners are not required to fence their properties but any time the dog leaves the property it must either be on a leash or in a cage. Also approved was a new ordinance establishing guidelines for keeping fowl within city limits. Per the new ordinance, fowl are defined as chicken, hen, rooster, pigeon, duck, goose, guinea, turkey, peacock or waterfowl. Residents wanting to raise fowl must obtain an annual permit which gives city officials authority to enter the property as needed to conduct inspections making sure the birds are maintained in compliance with the ordinance. No more than six birds are allowed at any residence and in addition to a suitable

coop, owners must have an appropriate enclosure that confines the birds to the property. Other stipulations are to keep the chicken yard clean and sanitary to avoid odors, with food stored in a manner that does not attract rats or other vermin. Birds that are noisy and disturb the peace of neighbors will be considered a nuisance. During his report as water commissioner, Wolfe said the city water is again testing over the acceptable level for arsenic. He recently traveled to Springfield to meet with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency officials about the problem. The EPA officials said to introduce the chlorine before the water goes into the filters rather than waiting after filtration. The decision to do this was made knowing the last time this approach was tried the chemical reaction allowed the suspended iron particles to pass through the filters causing

rusty colored water entering homes and leaving behind yellowish stains in sinks, tubs and clothing. Chrisman and Paris have agreed in principle to build a pipeline along state Route 1 for Paris to sell water to Chrisman. The details remain to be worked out and construction has not yet started. Water from Paris lacks the arsenic and iron problems confronted by Chrisman. Wolfe took a moment to address information being spread through Chrisman that Paris water is much harder than the Chrisman water supply and this is a bad deal for Chrisman residents. Wolfe contacted several neighboring communities and learned all have about the same level of hardness as both Chrisman and Paris. "It's not true what is being said," Wolfe said. "It's not fact based."

HOSPITAL

FROM PAGE 1A
to the doctors in the clinic or the staff at EZ care. Arnett said the rules have two purposes. First, the modern practice of medicine only hospitalizes people who are truly sick and in need of extended medical care. These patients are generally weak and exposure to an influenza virus could have dire consequences. The other side of the coin is if someone is hospitalized for influenza, that person's interaction with others must be limited to reduce how many people are exposed to the virus. Influenza is a respiratory disease and symptoms commonly include fevers and chills, cough, sore throat, a runny/stuffy nose, muscle and body aches, headaches and fatigue. This disease is especially dangerous for children and those 65 and

older, however, people with asthma, heart disease, diabetes or a weakened immune system as a result of cancer, HIV or Aids must be cautious and not ignore these symptoms. According to the CDC, 13 children have died nationwide, including one in Illinois, so far in this flu season; however, most of the flu related hospitalizations across the country are senior citizens. The CDC also notes that 80 percent of the children who died were not vaccinated against influenza. Arnett said flu is a viral infection so antibiotics and other medicines will neither cure it nor make the victims feel better. There is an anti-viral medicine for use in the most extreme cases in an effort to forestall secondary complications such as pneumonia. The best thing people with influenza can do is stay home, get bed rest, use over the counter fever and pain med-

ications for those conditions, drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration and let the body heal itself with time. Those recovering need to avoid spreading the contamination by remaining home for at least 24 hours after going a full day without fever. Influenza comes on suddenly after a short incubation period of one to four days following exposure. "If someone has not received a flu vaccination, they need to do so," said Arnett. "The CDC recommends everybody over six months old get vaccinated every year. It is not too late." The one caveat is vaccination for respiratory influenza does not protect against what many people call the flu with symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea. "That's an intestinal sickness," said Arnett.

Halbrook assigned to local government oversight committees

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

SPRINGFIELD – Rep. Brad Halbrook (R-Shelbyville) will serve as the Republican Spokesman for the House State Government Administration Committee and the House Cities and Villages and House Counties and Township committees. "Discussions continue this spring on the possibility of consolidating some units of local government," said Halbrook. "That could have

a big impact on our district. The needs of our local communities will always be a top priority, so having a place at the table on the two House local government committees will also be vitally important." In addition, Halbrook is serving on the House Appropriations-General Services

Committee that provides a first review of a wide variety of state funding issues. "This committee provides the other half of the government oversight equation where taxpayer funding is spent," he said. "There's no question that the General Assembly needs to be more responsible and accountable in this area, and that will be my ongoing focus." Halbrook represents Edgar County at the Statehouse.



HALBROOK

Blumthal is Optometrist of the Year

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Optometric Association (IOA) recently named Robert Blumthal of Paris as the Optometrist of the Year. According to the IOA, this is the highest honor the organization can bestow on an optometrist. The award recognizes a commitment to public service at the community level, service to the visual welfare of the public, service

to optometry and legislative activity. Blumthal graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry in 1981 and while in school received the Bausch & Lomb Award for clinical excellence in contact lenses. He practiced in Paris for 17 years before join-

ing Prairie Eye Center in 1997. In addition to many activities to the professional field of optometry, Blumthal served as an adjunct clinical professor for Southern College of Optometry and as a clinical examiner. He has volunteered with Catholic Charities for more than 20 years providing eye care for the impoverished and has been active in the American Diabetes Association helping to raise more than \$69,000.



BLUMTHAL

CASTLE FINN DONATES TO SCHOLARSHIP



Castle Finn Winery recently donated \$1,000 to fund a 4-H scholarship. The money was generated by a Kansas City Barbeque Society sanctioned barbecue competition – Harvest on Fire at the Winery. Another Harvest on Fire at the Winery is planned for July 12 and 13. Left to right, Cartha Gustafson of 4-H accepts the donation from Dakota Wilson, Sonya Wilson and Patrick Wilson holding Paxton Wilson.

TENNIS PRO AWARDED



Bill Henness, center, formerly of Paris, was recently honored as the Kentucky Tennis Professional of the Year. The award by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) recognizes Henness for his more than 40 years as a teaching pro. Henness has been a national trainer for Development Coaches for the USTA and has taught several Kentucky state champions and Division 1 College All-American. On the left side of the photo are Henness' children, William and Rachel. The people on the right are board members for the Owensboro Center Court where Henness is a staff member.

Overdue book makes trek

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

CHARLESTON — An Eastern alumnus returned a library book to Booth Library Wednesday that was 16,347 days overdue. Gary Henigman, who graduated in 1977, received a copy of "Twilight of the Gods: The Beatles in Retrospect" by Wilfrid Mellers in the mail with a pink post-it, which said: "Dear Gary, Huge favor — could you please return this for me to EIU's library? Thanks, my friend! It's a little overdue." The book came from his friend and Eastern alumnus from the class of 1976. Henigman's friend, who asked to remain anonymous, called him a couple weeks ago to explain the situation. Still a huge Beatles fan but now a resident of Colorado, Henigman's friend needed Henigman to return it for him.

"He called me and said he was going through some old boxes at home and came across the book," Henigman said. "He said, 'I need you to do me a favor. I'm mailing you a book. Please take it back to Booth Library.' And I just laughed." After tracing it back, Henigman said he thinks his friend checked the book out during the first semester of his sophomore year. If calculated by Booth Library's standard late fee of 25 cents for every day it was late, he owed the library \$4,086.75. After calling the resource center, Henigman returned the book to Booth Library without a charge. "I think we're just glad to have it back," said Jana Aydt, a library specialist, with a laugh. She then joked to Henigman, "Do you feel like you'll walk out a lighter man?" "I feel cleansed," Henigman replied, in the same light-hearted spirit.

Singing Valentines available

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Coles County Barbershop Quartet is once again offering singing valentines in the communities of Paris, Oakland, Mattoon, Arthur and Charleston. Singing valentines is the organization's annual fundraiser to help vocal programs in area high schools. The \$35 fee provides the recipient with a couple of love songs, a box of candy, a card and photo of the event. To schedule a singing valentine in Paris or Oakland, call Ron Hawkins, 217-276-3312. Arthur, Charleston and Mattoon valentines may be arranged by calling Tom Woodall, 217-549-6671.

Defense spurs Illini win

BY TERRY TOWER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Illinois coach Brad Underwood had tears in his eyes after his Illini upset Tom Izzo's ninth-ranked Michigan State Spartans.

"Michigan State is a great team, and Tom is a great coach," Underwood said. "They're everything I want to be."

Ayo Dosunmu scored 24 points, and the Illini used its swarming defense to shock the Spartans. Illinois forced 24 turnovers by Michigan State, including 17 in the first half.

Fans stormed the court after the Illini dribbled out the final 9 seconds of the game.

"I mean, it's just one of 20 (Big Ten games), I know," Underwood said. "But man, it's also more than that, you know? It feels like one of those defining moments, I think, where we found out who we are."

Giorgi Bezhanishvili scored 16 for Illinois (8-15, 4-8 Big Ten), and Trent Frazier added 15 as the Illini handed the Spartans (18-5, 9-3) their third straight loss.

"I think that first half was as good a defensive effort as I have ever coached," Underwood said. "It led to some really good offense for us."

Cassius Winston led the Spartans with 21 points. Xavier Tillman added 16.

Izzo was steamed enough after the loss that he credited his team with four more turnovers than it actually committed.

"Illinois played hard. I'll give them credit for half of the turnovers," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said. "But we had, what, 28 turnovers? Something like that. I mean, that's completely ridiculous and that's all on us."

Illinois went 22 of 43 from the field (51.2 percent), while Michigan State hit 26 of 58 (44.8 percent).

DEFENSE HOLDS

Illinois led for all but a three-minute stretch late in the game, pushing ahead by as many as 14 points before Michigan State rallied to take a 64-63 lead on Kenny Goins' 3-pointer with 6:21 remaining.

But Illinois, behind its defense, held on and took a 71-68 lead on Dosunmu's 3-pointer with 2:35 left. Dosunmu made another 3 with 1:57 remaining, and the Illini held on from there as the Spartans missed their last four field-goal attempts.

"We knew they are one of the top teams in the country," Dosunmu said. "So we knew they would make a run at us. I just focused and took my shots, and then just kept on going."

HE SAID IT

"I'm still in shock," Bezhanishvili said. "It was just unbelievable the way the crowd swarmed the court. I have never been a part of anything like that in my

See **ILLINI**, Page 10A

TCT girls take regional

Titans take important first step on the road to Normal; Open sectional play Monday

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122774@yahoo.com

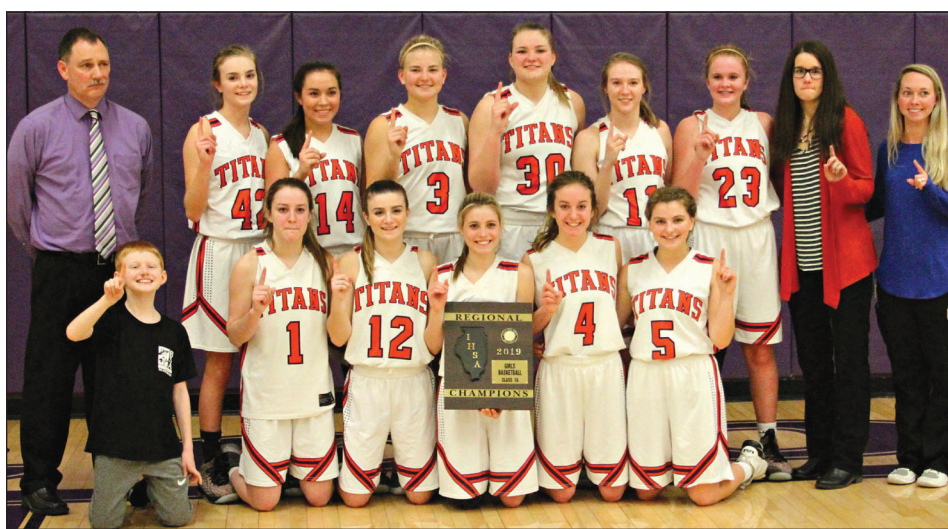
ARCOLA — The Tri-County girls basketball team took the important first step on the road to Normal with a lopsided 70-31 victory to take the IHSA Class 1A girls regional.

The victory moves the Titan girls into the IHSA Class 1A sectional tourney at Central A & M in Moweaqua. TCT will face Effingham St. Anthony Monday in the semi-final.

The mission for the Titan girls basketball post-season has been clear for the Tri-County Titans.

The Titans have been on the cusp of greatness the past two seasons making the Sweet 16 before being knocked out on the road to Normal.

Those two seasons left a bad taste in team members'



Tina Jones/The Prairie Press

Champions of the IHSA Class 1A Arcola girls regional tourney are the Tri-County Titans, who rolled through the tourney. The Titans outscored their opponents 149-41. The win advances the team to the Central A & M sectional beginning Monday in Moweaqua.

mouths. The message from the off-season to the first tip off has been clear — this season would be different.

After securing a spot in the regional championship with an easy win against Martinsville, the Lady Titans

were more than ready for the Thursday night, Feb. 7, Arcola regional title against the host Arcola Purple Riders.

The Titans jumped out to a quick 15-0 lead in the first five minutes of the game and never looked back, taking a 70-31 win.

Tri-County used a full court pressure defense from the opening tip, causing the Riders to make unnecessary passes, in turn leading to quick transition points early. They took a 23-4 lead after the first quarter.

The Titans finished going 26 of 64 for 37.7 percent and 15 of 24 from the line for 62.5 percent. Four Titan players reached double figures with Kiersten Price-Wilson leading the way with a game-high 18 points. Tayler Barry added 15 points while Harley Barry had a double-double with 12 points and 12 assists while adding six steals and six rebounds. Maiya Eskew had 10

See **TITANS**, Page 10A

TIGERS TAKE ROUTE 1 TROPHY FOR SECOND YEAR



Photo courtesy Tom Lisella

Paris Tigers took possession of the Edgar County Shrine Trophy for the second consecutive year following the Tigers' 63-30 victory over the Chrisman Cardinals on Saturday, Feb. 2, at Paris High School gym.

Paris rides a roller coaster

Tigers handle Chrisman but drop West Vigo game

BY JEFF CHAMBERS & DAN DUNDAS
prairiepresssports@gmail.com

The past week was full of highs and lows for the Paris boys basketball team — including a cross-county rivalry win and a demoralizing Wabash Valley loss.

For the second consecutive year, the Paris Tiger boys' basketball team topped the Chrisman Cardinals to retain the Edgar County Shrine Game trophy.

Unlike the previous two matchups, this game did not end up being close, as the Tigers pulled away in the second half en route to a 63-30 victory. However, the first half told a different story.

Chrisman came out on fire to start things off, knocking down three consecutive three-point baskets to grab an early 9-0 lead. In fact, the Tigers did not light up the home side of the scoreboard until the 6:09 mark of the first quarter on a free throw from Logan Rhoads. They did not make their first basket until there was 2:34 left in the period as Mason Hutchings knocked down a jumper. At the first stop, Chrisman held an 11-9 lead.

Following their hot start, the Cardinals scored just nine points the rest of the first half. The Tigers, on the other hand, finally found their groove and grabbed a 31-20 lead at the half.

The separation came at the beginning of the third quarter as the Tigers went on a run of their own. Paris scored the first 13 points of the quarter, and outscored their opponent 26-4 in the third period. With the clock running throughout the fourth quarter, the two teams each scored six points to round out the game.

Davis Hale led the Cardinals in scoring

See **TIGERS**, Page 10A



Photo courtesy Tom Lisella

Paris Tiger Dustin Creech battles Chrisman Cardinal defenders in the lane during the opening half of the annual Edgar County Shrine game between cross-county rivals Paris and Chrisman.

Class 3A regionals are a go

Lady Tigers face Mattoon Tuesday in Mt. Zion

BY JEFF CHAMBERS
prairiepresssports@gmail.com

With their early exit from last season's post-season still fresh in their minds, the Paris Lady Tigers begin regional play Tuesday evening in Mt. Zion.

The Tigers earned the third seed in the IHSA Class 3A Taylorville Sectional with a 24-7 overall record, and a perfect 8-0 mark in the Little Illini Conference.

Paris will face a familiar opponent in the opening game as they play the Mattoon Lady Green Wave.

It is the second time this season the two teams have met. Mattoon nipped the Lady Tigers back on January 10 by a score of 46-43.

The Green Wave entered postseason play with a 17-15 record; finishing tied for third with a 5-7 mark in the Apollo Conference.

Last season, the Lady Tigers were also the third-seed, but dropped their opening game against Champaign (Central) in overtime by a score of 47-44.

According to MaxPreps.com, the Lady Tigers enter the second season ranked #29 in 3A hoops. Top-seeded Charleston, who earned the overall number one seed in the Taylorville sectional, is ranked number four and sports a perfect 25-0 record. Decatur MacArthur, the number two seed, is ranked 27th with a 20-8 mark.

The good news for the Tigers is that they will not potentially face Charleston until the super-sectionals. Paris lost to the Trojans in the championship game of the North American Lighting Tournament back in November by the score of 74-44.

See **PARIS**, Page 10A



Terry Elston, Agent
309 N Main Street
Paris, IL 61944
Bus: 217-465-8548
terry.elston.bzjd@statefarm.com

I'm here to help life go right™, by saving you time and money when you combine your home and auto insurance.
CALL ME TODAY!



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company. State Farm Indemnity Company. State Farm Fire and Casualty Company. State Farm General Insurance Company. Bloomington, IL

TIGERS

FROM PAGE 9A

with 12 points. Layne Smith added four points, Cole Webster and Porter Hale each had three, and Landry Lorenzen, Blake Barna, Gage Deweese, and Gavin Deweese had two apiece.

Jude Sullivan led the Tigers with 12 points, followed closely by Hutchings and JT Johnson with 11 each. Dustin Creech had nine, Colton Landrum and Matthew Brouwer each had seven; JR Brinkerhoff had three, Garrett King two, and Logan Rhoads finished with one.

WEST VIGO 73, PARIS 48

In a battle of the Wabash Valley, the West Vigo Vikings came to Paris and left with a 73-48 win Tuesday night.

The Vikings used a barrage of three-point shots to jump out to a double digit lead in the first half and never relinquished the score.

Dustin Creech got the start for an ailing Bryce Gladding and scored a career-high 9 points. Turnovers plagued the Tigers again through the evening as they committed eight in the opening quarter and a total of 25 for the game.

The Vikings jumped out in front 5-2 before Tiger junior Matthew Brouwer got the Paris fans out of their seats with a two-handed dunk.

The Tiger turnovers began midway through the opening quarter while attempting to break the West Vigo press. West Vigo frequently pressed the Tigers in the game and Paris would do the same in return, leading to some up and down the court basketball throughout the contest.

The Vikings dropped four separate three-pointers in the latter half of the quarter, some in transition and some in half



Michelle Jacobs/The Prairie Press

Matthew Brouwer takes advantage of a wide-open lane for a crowd-thrilling slam dunk during Tuesday's game against the West Vigo Vikings.

court, to make it 24-8. West Vigo hoisted up 25 threes throughout the game and converted 10 of them.

Paris traded baskets with scores from Logan Rhoads, Colton Landrum and Mason Hutchings, but the Vikings made several more threes in that span to open the quarter. Paris made two baskets in transition from JT Johnson, but West Vigo held

the ball for the last minute and knocked down a corner three pointer with four seconds left to go up 42-22 into the half.

Paris started to press most of the third quarter was able to cut the score to 44-29 off a Jude Sullivan floater. The Vikings were not as accurate from behind the arc in the second half, but were able to convert points in the paint. West Vigo's ninth three of the game gave them a 58-37 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

West Vigo went on a 7-0 run to start the fourth but was unable get any farther to start a running clock. Both teams stayed even on the scoreboard the rest of the way as the Vikings went to the bench with two minutes left.

The Tigers shot 40 percent from the field for the game, 50 percent from the line and made two of their five threes. Leading scorers for the Tigers were Hutchings with 12 points, Creech with 9 points and Sullivan with 8 points.

Michigan tops in Big 10

Wolverines finish first in football recruiting for first time since 2007

BY ERIC OLSON
AP College Football Writer

Michigan finished the football recruiting cycle with the top class in the Big Ten, and four other conference programs were ranked in the top 25 in the nation Wednesday.

Wolverines coach Jim Harbaugh added one player on the second letter-of-intent signing day to a 26-man class that was No. 1 in the Big Ten and No. 8 nationally, according to the 247Sports.com composite rankings. It was Michigan's first top ranking in the Big Ten since 2007.

Penn State coach James Franklin assembled a 23-man class made up of players from 11 states, including three from Florida and one from Oregon. The Nittany Lions were ranked No. 2 in the conference and No. 13 nationally.

Ohio State, which had been No. 1 in Big Ten recruiting eight years in a row and in 10 of the last 11, slipped to No. 3 during the coaching transition from Urban Meyer to Ryan Day. The Buckeyes' No. 14 national ranking was their lowest since 2010 and ended a streak of eight straight classes ranked seventh or higher. The drop is partly attributable to the 17-man class being Ohio State's smallest since 2007.

Nebraska and Purdue had the top two classes in the Big Ten West, coming in at Nos. 4 and 5 in the conference and Nos. 20 and 25 in the nation.

Four-star safety Quinten Johnson out of St. John's College High in Washing-

ton was the only player to sign with Michigan on Wednesday. He's drawn comparisons to ex-Wolverines star Jabrill Peppers, who played both defense and offense in 2015-16. Johnson has said he would be willing to do the same.

Kansas City-area three-star athlete Amauri Pesek-Hickson de-committed Monday over a disagreement about Harbaugh's request that he delay his enrollment and go to prep school. Pesek-Hickson signed with Kansas.

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR

Penn State went all the way to Germany to bring in defensive tackle Joseph Darkwa. The 6-5, 270-pounder, whose mother moved from Ghana about 30 years ago, comes from the Dusseldorf Panthers' U-19 team in the German Football League. He also had offers from UCLA, Georgia Tech and Colorado, among other schools.

LOSE ONE, GAIN TWO

Ohio State, which must replace four of its five starting offensive linemen, beat out Southern California for four-star guard Enokk Vimahi of Kahuku, Hawaii, and three-star tackle Dawand Jones of Indianapolis. The signings cushioned the blow of the Buckeyes losing four-star offensive lineman Doug Nester of Huntington, West Virginia, who flipped to Virginia Tech.

Vimahi and Jones completed a strong class of offensive linemen. The Buckeyes in December signed five-star center Harry Miller of Buford, Georgia, and four-star tackle Ryan Jacoby of Mentor, Ohio.

"O-line was an area of concern for us," Day said. "We had to go out there and kind of uncover all the stones. Flying out to Hawaii, staying for three hours, getting on a red-eye back to Columbus was part of that plan. We wouldn't

just go over to Hawaii if it wasn't a good fit. It was."

RISING PURDUE

The recruiting tide continues to rise for Jeff Brohm at Purdue. The Boilermakers signed four four-star prospects in December, including two who will join a receiving corps that includes Big Ten freshman of the year Rondale Moore. Over three years Purdue has gone from 14th to 11th to fifth in the conference recruiting ratings and from 72nd to 51st and 25th nationally.

MARYLAND'S FAST FINISH

Maryland was the most active team in the Big Ten on Wednesday, adding 11 members to new coach Mike Locksley's 17-man class. The most notable signing was Lance LeGendre, a quarterback from New Orleans who chose the Terrapins over Florida State. The addition of the four-star LeGendre helped move the Terrapins from 14th to 12th in the Big Ten — still a long way from the No. 5 class brought in last year by former coach DJ Durkin.

"I feel real good about the team we have coming back. These 17 individuals will add to it," Locksley said. "We feel like we hit home runs with the guys we signed."

WHO NEEDS STARS?

Northwestern hasn't cracked the top 10 in the Big Ten recruiting rankings since finishing eighth in 2014. Now consider the Wildcats went unbeaten against West Division opponents while reaching the conference championship game last season. The 2019 class is made up of 19 three-stars and was ranked 11th in the Big Ten. Since 2015, coach Pat Fitzgerald has signed just two four-stars and has gone 26-9 in Big Ten play, including 19-5 against the West.

Specials

OPEN DAILY 11 A.M. - 9 P.M.

BBQ Pulled Pork
\$3.50

Corn Dog, Fries & Drink \$5.00

FLAVOR OF THE WEEK:
German Chocolate

Homemade Soups:
Vegetable Beef, Chili

Cup.....\$2.75
Bowl.....\$3.99
Quart.....\$9.99

309 W. Jasper St. Paris, IL • (217) 465-5812

Valentine's SPECIALS

Thursday and Friday ONLY!

Bailey's Original with mine/yours mug set

Sale \$19.99 Reg \$25.95

Buy Patron Silver 750ml

Sale \$39.97 Reg \$47.99

And receive a 1 liter bottle of Margarita mix FREE

ALL in stock Wine 10% OFF

While supplies last.

MON - TH 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

FRI - SAT 7 a.m. - 12 a.m.

SUN 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

R & J STORES

601 E. Jasper St. • Paris

TITANS

FROM PAGE 9A

points in the win. The Riders were 10 of 41 overall for 24.4 percent and 9 of 17 from the line for 52.9 percent. Turnovers were a huge factor as Arcola coughed up the ball 38 times. Gaby Becerra led the way with seven points

while Ella Hopkins added five points in the loss.

The Titans (26-4) will head to Moweaqua on Monday night to face the Effingham St. Anthony Bulldogs in the first sectional semi-final. St. Anthony advanced with a 56-37 win over Oblong in the Palestine Regional final. Tip off is set for 6:00 p.m. at Central A&M High School.

PARIS

FROM PAGE 9A

Coach Dave Tingley was happy with his team's seeding, and happier with the opportunity to avenge one of the Lady Tigers earlier losses against Mattoon.

"When we faced them earlier, we played one of our worst games of the year. It was one of the first times that we faced a 2-3 zone, and I feel like the girls were not as ready for that as they are now," Tingley added, "Since then, we have seen the zone defense a handful of times and I feel that we are more comfortable with our offense against that style."

Should the Tigers win their game on Tuesday, they will face the winner of the Decatur MacArthur vs. Mt. Zion/Decatur (Eisenhower) winner on Thursday night at 7 p.m.

We are ...

Edgar County.

The Prairie Press

101 N. Central Ave., Paris
217-921-3216

TRI-COUNTY 79, MARTINSVILLE 10

The Lady Titans entered their Class 1A Tournament Arcola Regional semi-final game against Martinsville looking to dominate their way to the championship game. This was the third meeting of the season between the two teams with the Titans easily defeating the Streaks in both games.

The game was decided within minutes as the Titans raced off to a 17-0 lead just moments into the contest. The Lady Titans managed a 29-6 lead going into the second quarter and kept their foot on the gas as they won 79-10. Tayler Barry led the way with 17 points while Bella Dudley added 14 points

and five rebounds off the bench. Maiya Eskew had 12 points, eight steals and five assists while Kiersten Price-Wilson finished with 10 points.

Before Thursday night's Arcola Regional title game, the regional round of the Country Financial Three Point Showdown took place at Arcola High School. The five teams that were represented in the regional were given the opportunity to send up to four players each to participate in this annual event. The Tri-County Titans had four players take part in the regional round where the top four scores advanced on to the Moweaqua Sectional round.

Senior center Kiersten Price-Wilson amazed the crowd, hitting her first four shots en route to making 10 of 15 shots in the forty-five second time frame to take top honors and advance on to the sectional round. Maiya Eskew came up one shot short of making it to the shootout round draining seven, while Grace Burnside had five and Meredith Smith finished with two.

ILLINI

FROM PAGE 9A

life."

POLL IMPLICATIONS

The Spartans were fortunate to stay in the Top 10 after dropping two straight. With Monday's loss, they are likely to fall precipitously.

BIG PICTURE

Michigan State: The Spartans dropped a half-game be-

hind Michigan and Purdue in the Big Ten. The conference schedule has exposed Michigan State's shortcomings without Joshua Langford, who is out for the season with a foot injury.

Illinois: The Illini are on an upswing, having won three of four as their defense has frustrated opponents.

UP NEXT

Michigan State hosts Minnesota on today. Illinois hosts Rutgers today.

TOM DOLAN'S

ATA

MARTIAL ARTS

120 E. WOOD ST. PARIS, IL 61944

463-2040

PARISMARTIALARTS.COM

ATA TIGERS

WE'VE GOT YOUR COLORS

Edgar County's Fan Headquarters!

Dalbey Designs

(217) 463-3911

112 N Main St • Paris, IL

Paris Junior League season winding down

BY CINDY WILSON
twilson81@frontier.com

The second half of the Paris Junior League season is quickly winding down. Action this week was on Saturday due to the Super Bowl being played on Sunday.

COLTS 45, EAGLES 11

At the end of the first quarter, the Colts led 10-0. The Colts turned up the power during the second quarter and quickly found themselves leading 27-7 at halftime.

The Eagles were unable to keep up with the Colts through the third quarter as the Colts added 18 more points to the board while the Eagles were unable to find the basket. The Colts led 45-7 heading into the fourth quarter. The Colts defeated the Eagles 45 - 11.

The Colts leading scorer was Colten Cornwell with 10 points. Braylen Mills was right behind with 9 points and Owen Jones and Rickie White had 8 points each. Mason Byrnes and Dylan Flores each added 4 points and Drake Thompson scored 2 points.

Carson Throneburg finished with five free throws for 5 points to lead the Eagles. Hunter Quinn and Ethan Brown each had 2 points. Nicholas Doughan and Xavier Quinn contributed a free throw.

PANTHERS 64, LIONS 18

The Panthers dominated the Lions throughout the entire game Saturday.

With the help of Drew Rogers and his 16 points in the first quarter, the Panthers led 23-3 heading into the second quarter.

The Panthers reserves got serious with their scoring and the Panthers held a 39-5 lead at the half.

The third quarter belonged to Panthers' player Drew Rogers as he added 10 of their 13 points scored helped boost the deficit to 52-9.

Still the Panthers were not comfortable with their lead and continued to drive to the basket defeating the Lions 64 - 18.

Drew Rogers led the Panthers scoring with 26 points. Landon Nugent added 7 points while Kipton Bradford, Dawson Rogers, Luke Stuck and Karic Mason each had 6 points. Finishing the scoring madness was Sean Dun with 4 points and Carter Delashmit with 1 point.

John Heelan had a big day for the Lions with 12 points. Samantha Kindred helped out with 3 points, Faith Smith with 2 points and Cash Kuglin with a free

throw.

BEARS 47, CARDINALS 11

The first quarter of the third game of the afternoon was evenly matched as the Bears held a two-point lead through the first quarter at 6-4. The Bears dominated the Cardinals in the second period though and raced out to a 23-6 lead at halftime.

The Bears hit the floor again after the half and increased their lead to 39-11. The Cardinals were unable to score in the fourth quarter as the Bears won the contest 47-11.

Parker Sanders was the leading scorer for the Bears with 11 points. Jacob Staley put in five buckets for 10 points. Nathan Fonner finished with 8 points and Gabriel Roush had 7. Conner Little had a bucket and a free throw for 3 points. Austin Pardi, Ian Theirl, Eyan Keys and Charlie Ford each had 2 points.

Leading the Cardinals was Dylan Lucas with 4 points. Myah Bartos, Carter Eastham and Bella Moreschi each had a bucket and Carter Crippes had a single free throw.

TIGERS 49, HAWKS 26

There was a lot of scor-

ing taking place during the last game of the afternoon. The Tigers got hot in the opening quarter and led the Hawks 15-4. The Hawks were unrelenting though and battled back during the second quarter to trail just 27-20 at halftime.

When both teams returned to the court in the third quarter, the Tigers took control and never looked back as they pumped in 14 points while holding the Hawks to four points. With a 41-24 lead at the beginning of the fourth quarter, the Tigers went on to seal the deal, winning by 23 points.

Koen Brinkerhoff was the leading scorer for the Tigers as he finished with 12 points. Mazie Hawkins added another 11. Garrett Rigdon had a hot day with 8 points. Brody Whitaker finished with 6 points. Ty King

and Brayden Rogers each had 4 points and Cooper Keys and Macy Bicknell had 2 points each.

Madox Hutchings led the Hawks with an impressive 16 points. He had an impressive showing at the

free throw line as well, connecting on 8 of 14 attempts. Bradley Litteral ended the game with 5 points. Lincoln Livesay and Alivyah Lankster had a bucket each and Andre Calhoun had a free throw.

Family Owned and Operated Since 1950
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL • WASTE REMOVAL

217-465-3335



- Spring Clean-Up
- Winter Preparation

INGRUM WASTE DISPOSAL, PARIS, IL

"Where Service Makes the Difference"

4yd-40yd ROLL OFF CONTAINERS AVAILABLE

www.ingrumwastedisposal.com

kathyingrum@hotmail.com

Wind farms support local communities.

The Harvest Ridge Wind Farm will provide about **\$850,000** to the Shiloh School District in tax payments within the first year.

The school district will receive about **\$19 million** from the wind farm over the next 30 years.



edp renewables



the REC
Youth & Community Recreation Center
of East Central Illinois, Inc.

PARIS REC CENTER
109 E Madison St
Paris, IL 61944
(P) 217 466 9622

parisreccenter.com

EXPECT MORE, GET MORE

The Prairie Press
101 N. Central Ave., Paris
217-921-3216
www.prairiepress.net

Nobody covers Edgar County sports better than The Prairie Press. Nobody.



The Prairie Press

101 N. Central

Paris, Illinois

217-921-3216

MUSICAL

FROM PAGE 1A

Cast members include Emily Wells, Jayden Bishop, Emma Cox, Vivian Moore, Wyatt Parrish, Alaina Boren, Josie Swinford, Dakota Fonner, Addison Martin, Gaige Burks, Savannah Reed, Skylar Foote, Zoey Parks, Piper Mitchell, Madison Huffman, Kindall Plummer, Aubree Leader, Sydney Melton, Aidean Creech, Bryan Smith, Rya Burks, Sage Gladding, Claire Maschino, Audrey Miller, Haylee Clark, Jenna Wieland, Aubrey Griffin, Jace Adkison, Greta Hall, Addison Martin, Jace Hand, Kyndal Ball, John Heelin, Cooper Keys, Samantha Kindred, Jay Peterson, Hannah Riggs, Alecia Shumaker, Jo Jo Simmons, Bryan Smith, Lilly Stafford and Jayden Wombles.

The next school production following the Crestwood musical is "Newsies," presented by Paris High School and directed by Laughlin. The performance is April 5-7 at the Paris Center of Fine Arts.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Sage Gladding, wearing the sweater, and Greta Hall have a secret in the Crestwood Junior High School play "My Son Pinocchio."



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Hayden David plays the puppeteer in one of the musical numbers from the Crestwood Junior High School production of "My Son Pinocchio." The puppets, left to right, are: Aubrey Griffin, Sydney Melton, Samantha Kindred and Josie Swinford.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Addison Martin is the perfect machine-made child coming from the device created by Greta Hall's (background) character in "My Son Pinocchio."



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

These young women strike a pose at the end of a dance routine in "My Son Pinocchio." Left to right the Crestwood Junior High School students are: Claire Maschino, Kindall Plummer, Savannah Reed and Lilly Stafford.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

One of the big numbers in "My Son Pinocchio" features a high-kick line as part of the dance routine. Crestwood Junior High School students are in rehearsal now for the performance.



Gary Henry/The Prairie Press

Piper Mitchell sings the lead song in the "Pleasure Island" production number in the Crestwood Junior High School performance of "My Son Pinocchio."

Sunday, February 24

Tingley Reception Center
504 E. Edgar Street
Paris, IL

1:00 p.m. show

\$20 per child

\$10 per adult

Superhero attire is optional!



SUPERHEROES!

Please join us for a Superhero Party that includes an interactive Superhero show, Superhero-inspired activities, take home gifts and a photograph of your child with **SPIDER MAN AND WONDER WOMAN.**

Ticket requests only online...go to event link
<https://perksuperheroparty.eventbrite.com>

Make check payable to PERK
Mail check to PERK, PO BOX 84, Paris, IL 61944
Must include email address on check memo line to receive receipt.

Proceeds benefit the
PERK Mentoring Program
perkprograms@gmail.com



Dimond Financial Consultants, LLC



Barnstormers in Southern Illinois

A portion of Southern Illinois is distinctly known as Little Egypt.



ALLEN ENGLEBRIGHT
OLD CODGER

This part of our state reeked with deadly violence in the 1920s. The biggest problem was created with best intentions by the U.S. Congress – Prohibition.

It turned out to be perhaps the worst decision our federal government ever made. The beer and whiskey continued to flow by popular demand. The U.S. lost huge tax revenues.

Gangsters provided bootleg joints and thrived nicely. You've probably never heard of Elmer Kane or Henry Mundale. Barnstormers, from Iowa, they were airplane pilots back in the post-World War I era, who flew bi-wing planes. They flew from town to town, landed on grass strips or pastures, performed maneuvers and gladly flew any takers for a fee. Many adventurous Americans were anxious to hop in one of the two seats for their first aircraft ride.

I tried to secure details about Kane and Mundale by entering their names on the Internet. No luck. I even submitted Iowa barnstormers as a topic. All I found was a high school in Des Moines whose sports teams are called the Barnstormers, but I do possess three gangster history books that reveal their identities.

The two pilots were buddies who traveled together, each flying his separate plane. Kane's was a Curtiss Jenny. Perhaps Mundale's was the same. I don't know. The Jenny was popular as a pilot trainer in WW I, though not a combat aircraft.

Funny thing, though. While these two guys barnstormed in Little Egypt in 1926, the Jenny became a bomber. It happened quite by accident because Kane's plane developed engine trouble as he flew above Benton. Kane guided it down safely, but one might say he plunged it into the Twilight Zone. Of all the rotten luck, he landed smack-dab in the midst of Shelton Gang country.

Kane and Mundale were conveniently found by the Sheltons and asked to drop some bombs on Shady Rest, a tavern just west of Harrisburg 30 miles southeast. That was headquarters for their chief rival, Charlie Birger's Gang.

The Birgers were angry because the Sheltons had tossed some dynamite at a barbecue stand next to the Shady Rest. Thrown in haste, it missed, damaging a nearby house instead. Now the Sheltons realized the value of the plane. They could bomb from the air. The pilots were promised \$1,000 cash and a nice Cadillac automobile.

The lowans dared not refuse to fly the mission. These gangsters bullied and often killed. That night, while the pilots

See CODGER, Page 9B



Special to The Prairie Press

Some of the foods Abraham Lincoln probably ate include, clockwise from top right, French almond cake, gingerbread men, cornbread, biscuits and chicken.

Food for Lincoln's birthday

BY GARY HENRY
ghenry@prairiepress.net

Abraham Lincoln is such an iconic figure in American history it is easy to forget he was human and like all humans needed to eat.

During the nearly 154 years since Lincoln's assassination, historians have searched for every scrap of information trying to understand this complex man. The consensus is Lincoln was not an epicure, and was largely indifferent to food. He ate to fuel the body rather than delighting in food and the social enjoyment of the table.

Much of the information comes from after the fact sources who claimed some connection with Lincoln and therefore able to talk about the president's preferences. These sources don't always agree.

Col. William H. Crook was Lincoln's last bodyguard, and he is credited with saying Lincoln was a hearty eater and was especially fond of bacon for breakfast. Not so according to John Hay. As one of Lincoln's private secretaries, Hay had an intimate look at life inside the White House.

Hay acknowledged Lincoln enjoyed a good cup of coffee, which often was the president's breakfast, occasionally augmented with one egg to accompany the hot beverage. A common lunch was a biscuit, some fruit and a glass of milk. Another meal might be fruit, nuts, crackers and water.

Hay claimed Lincoln ate less food than anyone he knew.

The strain of the presidency sometimes robbed Lincoln of his appetite, and on one occasion Mary Lincoln asked a White House cook if she knew how to prepare chicken fricassee with gravy and biscuits, one of his favorite meals, in hopes of tempting her husband to eat.

It is important to remember 19th century food terms are not always consistent with the 21st century. The bacon Crook claimed Lincoln consumed was not a specific cut from the hog such as the packaged bacon sold in modern grocery stores. People in the 19th century referred to any cut of pork that was salted and smoked for preservation as bacon.

Fricassee is more a type of cooking than it is a specific dish or recipe. It generally involves cooking cut up meat, braising it and serving with a white sauce. All kinds of meat can be prepared as fricassee, including game.

The waste not want not situation on the frontier of Lincoln's youth

GINGERBREAD

- 1 pound of flour
- 1 level tsp salt
- 1 level tsp baking soda
- 1 level tsp ground ginger
- 1 level tsp baking powder
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- ¾ cup of butter
- ½ cup molasses
- ½ cup corn syrup
- 1 cup milk
- 1 egg, beaten

Grease and line a 9-inch square cake pan. Sift the dry ingredients into a mixing bowl.

In a saucepan, warm the sugar, but-

ter, molasses and corn syrup sufficient to melt the butter, but do not boil. Mix in the milk and beaten egg.

Make a well in the dry ingredients, quickly pour in the liquid and mix. Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake in a moderate oven (325 degrees) for 90 minutes, or until the gingerbread is light to the touch.



CHICKEN FRICASSEE

- 2 medium-sized chickens
- salt and pepper
- butter the size of an egg (4 Tbsp)
- ½ cup flour
- 1 cup milk
- ½ cup white wine (optional since Lincoln did not consume alcohol)

Halve the chickens into breasts, legs and wings. Fill a pan with enough water to cover the chicken pieces and bring to a boil without the chicken in the water. Lower the heat, add the chicken and salt and pepper. Simmer until the meat is tender. Reserve the liquid as stock.

Melt the butter and stir in the flour. Heat the mixture for about a minute before adding the milk and ½ cup of the reserved chicken stock. Stir carefully for a few minutes, then add the wine if using. Put the chicken into the white sauce and cook until the meat is again heated throughout. Season to preference and serve.



BEATEN BISCUITS

- 2 cups flour
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- ¼ cup shortening
- ½ cup ice water

Mix the dry ingredients together. Cut in the shortening and add enough water to create a stiff dough. Use a mallet to beat the dough until it is smooth being sure to fold frequently. This step takes

about 20 minutes. Roll out the dough and cut with a small cookie cutter and bake in a moderately warm oven (375 degrees).



converted tough old roosters and hens that stopped producing eggs into chicken fricassee.

Lincoln was fond of apples and his wife tried to keep the White House well stocked with the fruit. The apples Lincoln ate were not the red delicious, golden delicious and Granny Smiths that dominate supermarket produce sections. Modern American consumers have approximately 90 apple

varieties, if they can find that many, to purchase. According to the U.S. Apple Association, there were more 600 registered apple varieties in 1859. The Brooklyn Botanical Garden puts the number of 19th century American apple varieties at 14,000.

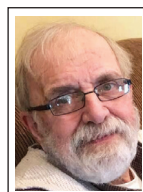
It isn't known if Lincoln had a favorite variety but some options available had names like New York

See BIRTHDAY, Page 9B

Claim has some flaws

The angel Goldenrod walked into my favorite bar and plopped down beside me.

He ordered a Black Russian, which he dispatched quickly, and called the bartender to refill his glass. The bartender was ahead of him, having had a revelation.



HARRY REYNOLDS
ANOTHER LOOK

Goldenrod was introduced to the world on March 2, 1969, in a column inspired by the Higher Authority. The angel fell short of my expectation.

Herein, we give a detailed portrait of Goldenrod, which will greatly disappoint those who think of angels as pure creatures, wearing robes as white as driven snow; wings, both mighty and beautiful; and shiny halos.

We commence our description with the robe, which was grimy, with tears in it in no particular order – just tattered. It may have been nibbled on by a plague of moths.

His robe reminded me of an off-the-rack, cheap suit; similar to the involuntary choice by an editor (me), who though paid a meager salary for his fake news, nevertheless, was required to deal with politicians, business people, etc.

Goldenrod's halo was tarnished, dented and propped at a sharp angle on his head, not through any fault of its own, but being preferred by the angel, who regarded it as jaunty. Had it been a baseball cap, the brim would have been turned to the back.

Feathers stuck out at fantastic and grotesque angles. He got them from a dealer down under, if you get the drift, certainly not from the celestial parts store. Dirty as his robe, the prospect of efficiency in flight was difficult, to be generous.

"What do you want, Goldenrod?" I asked, which was a valid question, given his absence since 2008, when the newspaper, citing my impending 65th birthday, sent me away, in the wake of a big party. I feasted on a large cake, surrounded by fellow workers, who said they would miss me. They gave me a Leatherman knife.

When that was done, a couple of gorillas threw me into the alley.

"The Higher Authority wanted to set something straight. White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders claimed that God wanted Donald Trump to become President of the United States. The boss says she is, in the manner of the modus operandi of the White House, lying."

I was stunned, having been convinced by Sanders, that God, indeed, wanted Trump to be president, though, I wondered how that could be, given the president's propensity to tell – let's put it mildly – fibs. Not to mention being a rampant narcissist, braggart, calling critics disparaging names and dispatching emissaries to pay off hookers.

See REYNOLDS, Page 2B

Lunar flash reveals our daily encounters with meteors

During the full blood moon eclipse Jan. 21, Paris' own Mark Killion shot some great pictures and so did many local amateurs. Media was saturated with wonderful pictures.

Many of those images had more detail in them than was appreciated. The relief of crater walls and mountain ranges is highlighted in the red glow of earth-shine. What most missed was a bright flash on the lower left side of the moon.

The picture had to be taken at the exact moment but many photos did show it. The bright flash was a massive explosion on the moon's surface. A meteorite smashed directly into the moon during the eclipse. This

was the first impact flash ever seen during a lunar eclipse.

The object was a 22-pound rock, about a foot across and moving at 36,000 mph when it hit. A small crater formed as a result of the impact.

Space material bombards the moon daily, but it is mostly dust to sand grain size pieces. This is not unique to the moon because the Earth is pelted by 70,000 pounds of rock material every day. The difference is the moon has no atmosphere so anything on a collision course hits the ground where Earth's atmosphere disintegrates all the smaller material.

The debris flying through space is mostly left over from

4.5 billion years ago when the solar system formed. It's stuff never pulled together by gravity into large masses but in a way is still being swept up by planets and moons.

Scientists classify solid items orbiting around the solar system by size and makeup. If it is mostly ice and frozen gas, then it's a comet.

A rock smaller than 100 yards across is classified as a meteoroid. These are rocks from the size of a football field

down to sand grains. If it's bigger than a football field, then it's called an asteroid. Some of these are a quarter the size of our moon.

The biggest asteroids are called planetoids. Pluto, which many people memorized in elementary school as one of the planets, lost its planetary status in 2006 when astronomers reclassified it as a planetoid. It exists out in the Kuiper Belt, which is full of planetoids.

The suffix "oid" added to a word indicates like or resemblance. It usually means incomplete or imperfect and has common usage in science and math.

Space near the Earth is full of meteoroids. Most are

tiny flakes probably left from long ago asteroid collisions. Astronauts recently completed a surface check of the International Space Station.

After 20 years in space, the outer skin is covered in small dents and pinholes. This was anticipated and the outer surface is made to take small punctures somewhat like a self-sealing tire.

A meteoroid becomes a meteor when it enters a planet's atmosphere. The average speed is over 30,000 mph, and when they reach the thicker stratosphere the friction raises the temperature of the rock to 3,000 degrees F. At that temperature, flakes disintegrate and small rocks leave a streak

of sparks like an old muffler dragging on the highway.

Unless the rock is larger than a basketball it will completely vaporize in a complex of sparks. This happens about 50 miles above the surface and creates a shooting star flash across the sky. The biggest make it lower down with a big streaking tail.

Hearing a buzzing zip across the sky means it was really close. A fireball is when it explodes just miles above the surface. Much of the dust swept from the top of cabinets and other places is actually meteor dust, which is an important source of micronutrients in our fields.

See SULLIVAN, Page 9B



TERRY SULLIVAN
ARMCHAIR SCIENCE

Hidden Garden
Antiques Store Hours
Wed - Fri 9-5
Sat 9-3

Antiques & Tea Room
Tea Room Hours
Wed - Sat 11-2

Specials

Wed 02/13: Chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans & roll	Thur 02/14: Gourmet pork chop, baked potato, green beans & roll	Fri 02/15: Diner burger, macaroni 'n cheese & choice of salad
---	---	---

Saturday's special will be "Chef's Choice" along with sandwiches, soup and salad(s).

116 N Illinois • Chrisman, IL
(West side of the square)
(217) 251-2636

Always Homemade!

MILESTONES

Staley anniversary

Paul and Sherry Staley of Paris will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at the First United Methodist Church, 324 W Court St, Paris.

The couple was married March 1, 1969, at the Ashmore Presbyterian Church.

Paul and Sherry have three daughters Angela Staley-Henne and husband

Jeff; Michelle Staley and husband Rob Lusk; and Janenne Lackey and husband Mike. They have three grandchildren Elliot Lusk and wife Kate, Libby Lusk and Oliver Staley-Henne.

Paul and Sherry operated Pumpkin Works for 26 years prior to retiring this past fall. The couple requests no gifts.



Buchanan anniversary

Ed and Virginia Buchanan, née Cole, of Charleston marked 68 years of marriage Feb. 3.

The couple married Feb. 3, 1951, at Corinth, Miss. He is a retired educator and well-known sports official. She is a former glass collector/dealer

and serves as a resource for other glass collectors.

They have three daughters, Janet Bunch, Patti Fennessey and Karen Buchanan; and three granddaughters, Allison, Kameron and Sheaffer.



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

REYNOLDS

FROM PAGE 1B

"So, Trump was not endorsed by God?"

"Of course not," the angel replied. "But, the boss wanted Nancy Pelosi to be Speaker of the House. She sure kicked Donald's arse (an archaic word for you-know-what)."

"Where are you going?" I asked.

"Don't worry," replied

Goldenrod, "I will be back to rescue you when those Make America Great Again guys come for you after they read this column."

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

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

The Paris Public Library added the following books to the collection during January.

- FICTION**
- Freefall – Jessica Barry
 - The Indigo Girl – Natasha Boyd
 - Portrait of a Sister – Laura Bradford
 - The New Iberia Blues (large print) – James Lee Burke
 - The Best of Us (large print) – Robyn Carr
 - Antique Blues – Jane K. Cleland
 - Misty Shadows of Hope 1870 – Ginny Dye
 - Judgment – Joseph Finder
 - Siege of Stone – Terry Goodkind
 - The Heart Between Us – Lindsay Harrel
 - An Anonymous Girl – Greer Hendricks
 - The Boy (+ large print) – Tami Hoag
 - Toxic – Lydia Kang
 - Untouchable (large print) – Jayne Ann Krentz
 - The Rule of Law – John Lescroart
 - Liar Liar – James Patterson
- NONFICTION**
- Niki Jabbour's Veggie Garden Remix – Niki Jabbour
 - The Edge of Anarchy – Jack Kelly
 - Dementia Sucks – Tracey S. Lawrence
 - Caring for a Loved One with Dementia – Marguerite Manteau-Rao
 - The First Conspiracy – Brad Meltzer
 - Are U OK? – Kati Morton
 - 101 Law Forms for Personal Use – Nolo (reference)
 - Your Successful Farm Business – Joel Salatin
 - Inheritance – Dani Shapiro
 - The Pain Companion – Sarah Anne Shockley
 - Attracting Native Pollinators – Xerces Society
 - Farming with Native Beneficial Insects – Xerces Society

TOPS groups meet

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

TOPS #IL 2318 met Tuesday, Feb. 6, with 16 members weighing in and attending the meeting.

Club members recognized were: Gale Arbuckle, TOPS weekly loser; Mari- on Pate, KOPS weekly loser and KOPS drawing winner; Jayne Peters, three-week

loser; Myndy Wooten, top walker and top cyclist; and Patty Felgenhauer, top exerciser.

TOPS #IL 2318 meets every Tuesday in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Weigh in is 5:45-6 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. More information is available by calling 217-808-0078 or 217-822-6300.

Not advertising ...

is like blowing kisses in the dark.
You know what you're doing, but no one else does!
The Prairie Press 101 N. Central Ave., Paris • 217-921-3216

JOIN THE FUN!
Faith in Action of Edgar Co,
15th Annual Chili & Soup Cook-Off
Saturday, February 16th
Enter your favorite Soup or Chili!
WIN PRIZES & Support Faith in Action

Lake Ridge Christian Church
Family Life Center
122 E. Steidl Road, Paris

For more information, contact:
FIAEC, 217-466-6388

Here for You. Here to Stay.

Meet Melissa Tovey

"Being from Paris, I have such an appreciation for what the community has to offer, especially now that I have kids of my own."

Melissa Mathias Tovey, Vice President, Regional Deposit Manager, manages the First Mid branches and deposit staff in Paris, Marshall and Martinsville. She started working at First Bank & Trust 19 years ago as a bank teller, and has successfully advanced into her current role by demonstrating great leadership and banking knowledge.

A fun fact about Melissa is that she was crowned the May Fete Queen in 1998. After graduating from Eastern Illinois University, she taught kindergarten and first grade at Chrisman Elementary School for seven years before joining the banking industry full-time. Melissa currently lives in Fairmount, IL, with her husband, Aaron, and her two children.

Stop by our Paris location to reconnect with Melissa, and to find out how she can help you achieve your financial goals.

CRESTWOOD HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION



Special to The Prairie Press

A chapter of the National Junior Honor Society was recently organized at Crestwood School and the first group of students was inducted. Pictured are the inductees and parents. Front row, left to right, Beth Graham, Lily Graham, Charlie Perry, Deming Hawkins, Robert Wells, Trinity Tingley, Missy Tingley, Kaitlyn Coombes and Jill Coombes. Second row, left to right, Colleen Perry, Gina Gladding, Sage Gladding, Tiel Hawkins, Danette Young, Kendra Young, Matt Young, Emily Wells,

MAYO SPELLING BEE



Special to The Prairie Press

Winners of the annual Mayo Middle School Spelling Bee are, left to right, Khushi Patel, second place; Ethan Vice, first place; and Will Templeton, third place.

January blood drive survives vortex

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Despite the severe weather, the Red Cross received 50 units of blood during the Jan. 28 blood drive.

Volunteers helping at the January blood drive were: Linda Brown, Kay Haddix, Mary Lou Wilson, Bruce and Sharon Wilken, Bob McHenry, Rosemary Ogle and Nancy Englebright.

Lions Club volunteers were Brad and Sharon Cash and

Dan and Velda Vice. The Matt Sullivan family also helped in setting up for the drive.

Susan Stafford completed her eight-gallon donation, and Brian Murphy reached the 10-gallon level. Sydney Fox was a first-time donor.

The Grace Lutheran Church members served the food canteen with donations from Monical's, McDonald's and Larson, Woodyard and Henson.

The next blood drive is

Feb. 25 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, and members of the First United Methodist Church are in charge of the food canteen.

The Red Cross encourages all eligible donors to help ensure a sufficient blood supply. All blood types are needed, and all donors are appreciated.

Appointments for the Feb. 25 blood draw may be made by calling Nancy Englebright, 217-465-6494. Walk-ins are also welcome.

First Mid
BANK & TRUST

Financial Solutions
for every step of life.

BANKING | WEALTH MANAGEMENT | INSURANCE

Paris • 101 S. Central Ave. • 465-6381
firstmid.com

Member FDIC

African American women played role in WWII

Black female heroes made sure U.S. WWII forces got their mail

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS
www.history.com

An army unit known as the Six Triple Eight had a specific mission in World War II: to sort and clear a two-year backlog of mail for Americans stationed in Europe. Between the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Red Cross and uniformed civilian specialists, that amounted to seven million people waiting for mail.

And the responsibility to deliver all of it fell on the shoulders of 855 African-American women.

From February 1945 to March 1946, the women of the 6888 Central Postal Directory Battalion distributed mail in warehouses in England and France. Because of a shortage of resources and manpower, letters and packages had been accumulating in warehouses for months.

Part of the Women's Army Corps, known as WACs, the 6888 had a motto, "No mail, low morale." But these women did far more than distribute letters and packages. As the largest contingent of black women to ever serve overseas, they dispelled stereotypes and represented a change in racial and gender roles in the military.

When the United States entered World War II after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, there was no escaping the fact women would be essential to the war effort. With American men serving abroad, there were countless communications, technical, medical and administrative roles that needed to be filled. The Women's Army Corps — originally created as a volunteer division in 1942 until it was fully incorporated into the Army by law in 1943 — became the solution.

WACs attracted women from all socio-economic backgrounds, including low-skilled workers and educated professionals. As documented in the military's official history of the 6888th, black women became WACs from the beginning. Civil rights activist and educator Mary McLeod Bethune, a personal friend of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and a special assistant to the war secretary, handpicked many of them.

Black women were encouraged to become WACs because they were told they wouldn't face discrimination. In other divisions, such as the Navy, black women were excluded almost entirely, and the Army Nurse Corps only allowed 500 black nurses to serve despite thousands who applied.

Becoming a WAC also gave African-American women, often denied employment in civilian jobs, a chance for economic stability. Others hoped for better race relations, as described in scholar Brenda L. Moore's book, "To Serve My Country, To Serve My Race: The Story of the Only African American WACs Stationed Overseas during World War II." One WAC Elaine Bennett said she joined, "because I

See MAIL, Page 4B

Eliminating the measles

It took centuries of science and effort to corral humanity's most contagious disease

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

It took more than a decade for scientists to develop a single-shot vaccine that worked to fend off the measles without causing high fevers and rashes.

Then health officials had to convince people to use it.

Until the vaccine's debut in 1963, many considered measles, which still killed 500 Americans a year and hospitalized 48,000, an inevitable childhood disease that everyone had to suffer through.

"Measles was such a common disease and its mortality was comparatively low," says Graham Mooney, an associate professor at the Johns Hopkins Institute of the History of Medicine. "People had more problems than measles."

One of the earliest accounts of measles comes from a Persian doctor named Rhazes in the 9th century, but it wasn't until 1757 that Scottish doctor Francis Home discovered it was caused by a pathogen and first attempted to make a vaccine. By then, measles was a worldwide killer.

"It's an ancient disease, but it really became globally important with increased global explorations from the 16th century on," says Mooney. As the most contagious disease humans had ever faced, measles was virtually guaranteed after exposure.

Deaths were greatest in populations with no immunity, such as island nations. An 1875 outbreak in Fiji wiped out up to a third of the population in four months, and

Hawaii's first outbreak in 1848 similarly killed up to a third of the population, just two decades later the king and queen contracted it and died on a trip to England.

Though mortality rates eventually began falling, epidemics could still be devastating. In 1916, 12,000 people died of measles, and three out of four deaths were children under 5 years old. But that same year, a pair of French doctors found measles antibodies in patients' blood. They showed how the antibodies could protect others from developing the disease, laying the groundwork for developing a vaccine.

By the 1950s, measles deaths had dropped to only 400 to 500 a year, thanks to the availability of antibiotics

and improvements in sanitation, medical supportive care and nutrition, says Paul Offit, chief of division of infectious diseases at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and director of their Vaccine Education Center. (Though antibiotics couldn't treat a viral illness, bacterial pneumonia was one of measles' deadliest complications.)

Still, nearly everyone got it. The disease led to an estimated 48,000 hospitalizations a year from complications such as ear infections, croup, diarrhea and pneumonia. About 1,000 children a year developed encephalitis, brain swelling that could cause intellectual disability or death.

Among those parents left reeling from the death of their children from the disease was

children's author Roald Dahl, who watched his daughter die from measles encephalitis in 1962. He would later dedicate his book, "The BFG," to his daughter's memory.

Even surviving a measles infection didn't end your risk of death: a very rare, fatal complication called subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE) could develop one to two decades later, causing gradual deterioration until the person entered a coma and eventually died.

A measles vaccine would lighten a huge public health burden, and scientist John Enders at Boston Children's Hospital was determined to make one.

When a measles outbreak hit a boys boarding school

See MEASLES, Page 4B

LINCOLN HAD TWO LOVING MOTHERS



Special to The Prairie Press

Abraham Lincoln made a special trip to Coles County to visit and say goodbye to his stepmother Sarah Bush Lincoln before leaving for Washington to assume the presidency. The two had a truly affectionate relationship.

Women who shaped Lincoln

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS
www.history.com

On the winter morning of January 31, 1861, Abraham Lincoln stepped inside a secluded farmhouse seemingly adrift on the vast Illinois prairie. The president-elect had left his hometown of Springfield only once in the eight months since garnering the Republican presidential nomination — in order to finally meet his running mate, Hannibal Hamlin, in person—but he had one special goodbye that he needed to deliver in person before departing Illinois for his inauguration. Inside that cozy farmhouse tucked underneath a blanket of snow, Lincoln bent down his lanky frame and embraced the wizened woman he called "Mother," not the woman who gave birth to him, however, but the stepmother who helped to set him on the path to the White House.

Nancy Hanks Lincoln, who gave birth to the Great Emancipator on Feb. 12, 1809, had instilled the virtues of honesty and compassion in her son and sowed the seeds of his intellectual curiosity. Although lacking a formal education of her own, Nancy Lincoln impressed the importance of learning and reading on her young boy as they moved about the Kentucky and Indiana frontier. When his mother suddenly died in 1818 after drinking milk tainted with poisonous white snakeroot, nine-year-old Abraham was devastated.

Fourteen months later, Lincoln's father, Thomas, returned to his former haunt of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and called on Sarah Bush Johnston. The pair had known each other from the Lincolns' former time in Elizabethtown, and as soon as the widow Johnston, who had lost her husband in an 1816 cholera epidemic, answered the knock on the door, Thomas proposed. Once he agreed to pay off her late husband's outstanding debts, Sarah accepted the matrimonial offer. Widow and widower wed on Dec. 2, 1819.

Thomas Lincoln brought Sarah and her three children back to his small Indiana cabin to live with his two surviving children, Abraham and sister Sarah. Thomas Lincoln's new wife found Indiana to be wild and desolate, and the same could have been said about feral young Abraham. Sarah Lincoln dressed him up so that he looked more human and brought a woman's touch to their sparse cabin. "She very quickly turned things around," says Jeff Oppenheimer, author of "That Nation Might Live," an historical novel based on his extensive research into the strong bond between Lincoln and his stepmother. "They were living on dirt floors. Sarah had Thomas put in a wooden floor, fix the roof and whitewash the house. Within weeks, it was a whole new household. They became human again."

As testimony to the nurturing of Nancy Lincoln, whom her son began



Special to The Prairie Press

This is a speculative image of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's mother. She died when her son was only nine after drinking tainted milk.

to call his angel mother, Sarah Lincoln found her new stepson to be a model child. "Abe was the best boy I ever saw," she said years later after his death. "I can say what scarcely one woman — a mother — can say in a thousand and it is this — Abe never gave me a cross word or look and never refused in fact, or even in appearance, to do anything I requested." Sarah also vouched for Honest Abe's long-standing reputation

See LINCOLN, Page 4B

Recalling childhood brings nostalgia

There is much to be learned from the past; and once history gets a hold of you, it is hard to believe that so many people don't really pay attention to it.



ROGER STANLEY

I am caught in the days of yesteryear, and it seems that I can't make an escape. Maybe digging up and then putting down information about many of the days gone by will help alleviate my problem. Then once I am finished with it maybe I can get back to the future.

The one-room country schools were great. I have always said if you had a good teacher it was rewarding and if you had a bad teacher it was simply horrible. It was the best of times, or it was the worst of times. To me it depended on the way you looked at going to school. Was it just because you had to and your parents enforced that rule, or was it because you really were dumb enough you needed to, or maybe you just loved doing it.

Every once in a while I see on Face Book about growing up in the 40s and 50s and all the things we did and noting what we didn't have. Maybe it just proves we were lucky to have survived. I don't look at it quite that way though because I think it is what made us strong enough to prosper. We didn't need the stuff that kids nowadays think is so important to make us happy.

Yes, we did play in dusty old haylofts and as far as I remember none of us boys and girls ever got really hurt. We may have had a sneezing fit or two, a few bruises and bumps, but we had fun. We swung from ropes attached to the

See STANLEY, Page 4B

Medicine has changed over the years ...

Our customer service hasn't.

Pearman PHARMACY

116 West Court Street
Paris, IL
(217) 465-8455

Steve Benefiel, R.Ph. Dustin Melton, R.Ph.
Denise Allanson, R.Ph. Missy Speicher, PharmD
Jackie Owen, PharmD

PARIS CLINIC PHARMACY
217-465-4114

In The Horizon Health Paris Clinic
Paris, IL
Justine Bogue PharmD

GOOD NEIGHBOR PHARMACY



TUSCANY
STEAK AND PASTA HOUSE

OPEN 7 days a week! 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sunday Brunch Buffet - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
\$7.99 includes drink (child)
\$8.99 includes drink (adult)

Now taking reservations for Valentine's Day!

Rocky's back....new menu coming soon!
1218 N. Main Street • Paris, IL • 217.466.1610



REUSE THE NEWS
Recycle this newspaper



JD LANDSCAPING & REFUSE

- Roll Off Container Service
- Residential & Commercial Trash Service
- Residential & Commercial Lawn Service
- Gravel for Driveway Repair
- Mulch

217-463-1765

P.O. Box 921 • Paris, IL 61944
"Locally Owned & Operated"



Wiper Blade Special!

SAVE \$10 On 2 Rain-X Silicone® AdvantEdge™ Wiper Blades (After Mail-In Rebate)

Vadas Auto Parts
138 E. Court St. Paris, IL
(217) 465-8551

Mon - Fri 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sun 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



WMMC 105.9

GREATEST HITS of the 60s, 70s, 80s & 90s
and free money, too!

Play the WHEEL OF JACK
twice every weekday!

Mornings 5:30-9
Afternoons 2-5

You could win **\$1000** or **\$2000** on **Double Jack Thursday!**

NOW STREAMING 24 HOURS A DAY!
Listen online at **wmmcradio.com**

Find us on Facebook!

MEASLES

FROM PAGE 3B

about 45 minutes outside Boston in January 1954, Enders sent one of his researchers, Thomas Peebles, to collect blood samples. Peebles drew blood from infected boys, telling each one, "Young man, you are standing on the frontiers of science. We are trying to grow this virus for the first time. If we do, your name will go into our scientific report of the discovery. Now this will hurt a little. Are you game?"

Within a month, Peebles had isolated the virus from the blood of 13-year-old David Edmonston. By 1958, the Boston Children's team had a live virus measles vaccine to test in disabled children institutionalized at Fernald School and Willowbrook State School, where close living quarters increased

infection risk during outbreaks.

But the virus in the vaccine wasn't weak enough: Most children developed high fevers and rashes similar to mild measles. Enders then shared the strain with other scientists, including Maurice Hilleman, the top Merck scientist responsible for developing more vaccines than any other person in history.

"It was toxic as hell," Hilleman told Offit, a protege of Hilleman, who recounted the conversation in his biography of Hilleman. "Some children had fevers so high that they had seizures."

After turning to other experts, researchers came up with a way to grow the vaccine safely in eggs and give the vaccine with a simultaneous shot of measles antibodies to reduce side effects. By March 21, 1963, the FDA licensed the first live virus measles vaccine, Merck's

Rubeovax.

Other measles vaccines were soon approved, including an inactivated (non-live) one that same month with fewer side effects but less protection. It was pulled from the market in 1968, the same year Hilleman refined the vaccine into the one used today — one without the severe side effects and which didn't require the extra shot of measles antibodies.

By then, measles cases had dropped by 90 percent, and the CDC had already declared a plan to eliminate measles two years earlier. The next step was persuading parents to immunize their children.

"Many mothers simply have not been educated about the benefits of and need for immunization," noted the New York State Department of Health in 1971. That same year, Hilleman combined measles, mumps

and rubella vaccines into the single MMR shot to cut down kids' total jabs.

But it wasn't until widespread school vaccination requirements and permanent federal funding that the country began inching toward measles elimination, finally achieved in 2000. (While cases of measles still crop up, the Centers for Disease Control defines elimination of a disease as the absence of continuous disease transmission for 12 months or more in a specific geographic area.)

"Relatively few people are alive now who witnessed epidemics of those diseases and their effects," says Stanley Plotkin, the scientist who developed the mumps vaccine used in today's MMR.

"As somebody who practiced university pediatrics in the 1950s and 60s, I don't take those diseases lightly at all."

LINCOLN

FROM PAGE 3B

for integrity. "He never told me a lie in his life — never evaded, never equivocated, never dodged."

Sarah filled the enormous void in Lincoln's life after the loss of his biological mother. Although likely illiterate herself, she furthered Nancy's work in cultivating Abe's reading comprehension and intellect. Sarah quenched her stepson's thirst for knowledge by providing him with books to read. "Sarah had an appreciation for the value of an education," Oppenheimer says. "She recognized early on there was something special about this boy and defended his right to pursue his intellectual development."

Stepmother and stepson quickly forged a loving bond. "His mind and mine, what little I had, seemed to run together, move in the same direction," Sarah said. She treated Lincoln as if he was her flesh-and-blood by offering love, kindness and encouragement. He returned the affection, calling her "Mother." In 1861 Lincoln confided to a relative that his stepmother,



Special to The Prairie Press
Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, south of Charleston, has a recreation of the two-room cabin Thomas and Sarah Lincoln called home after settling on the Goosenest Prairie. Lincoln occasionally visited here, but his last visit with his stepmother took place in the home of another relative.

"had been his best friend in this world and that no son could love a mother more than he loved her."

When Thomas Lincoln died in 1851, Sarah found herself a widow once again. Lincoln helped to support his stepmother and maintained a 40-acre plot for her on the Illinois plains. As Lincoln departed his stepmother's side on his 1861 visit, tears welled

up in her blue-gray eyes. Sarah had never wanted him to run for president, fearful that something would happen to him. When her premonition was fulfilled four years later and the news from Ford's Theatre arrived, Sarah pulled her apron over her face, began to sob and cried out, "They've killed him. I knew they would. I knew they would."

When Sarah died in 1869, she was buried in a black woolen dress given to her by her stepson during their final reunion, a token of appreciation for all she had done for him. "She recognized a boy of tremendous talent and saw the diamond when virtually everyone else around this gangly, awkward boy saw the rough," Oppenheimer says. "That's what mothers do."

STANLEY

FROM PAGE 3B

rafters, made hay tunnels and hidden rooms in the straw but no one ever suffocated.

When we found a barn with good floors we even had roller skating parties in them. We didn't need TV, cell phones and motor powered every things.

I remember milking in the evenings and listening to the Lone Ranger on the radio, picking potato bugs off the taters and either squishing them or putting them in a jar with kerosene. That was a lot more fun than hoeing the weeds and working the ground for planting 'cause we did everything by hand and backbone.

Some times we got to help clean out the barn and that was fun in two different ways. We got to smell the

different aromas of that stuff that came off in layers and we learned to count as we kept track of how many forkfuls it took to fill the spreader. We then got to have the most fun of all when that spreader was full and we took her out to the pasture with the old "A" John Deere.

We circled until we figured out which way the wind was and then spread accordingly so we didn't throw that stuff down our backs. Of course our parents didn't let us get too wild and we grew up stronger in more ways than one, depending on how strong the wind was that day.

We didn't spend all day in the barn lots or the fields because there was stuff to do around the house.

We carried in water from the pump house along with coals and cobs for the kitchen range and the old baseburner.

We even figured out how to shake the ashes out of the baseburner without getting the dust on the floor. That was pretty much achieved by getting the dust on our face and arms.

We ate well because we were hungry and knew where the food came from. We slept well because we were tired and didn't fuss about going to bed. We didn't get bored because we usually worked and played hard, and we went to bed at 8 o'clock. My folks went to bed then too because four in the morning was just a few hours away.

I don't begrudge what the kids have today, but sometimes I think they missed something growing up in the great generation that we did.

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

MAIL

FROM PAGE 3B

wanted to prove to myself, and maybe to the world, that we [African Americans] would give what we had back to the United States as a confirmation that we were full-fledged citizens."

But discrimination still infiltrated the Women's Army Corps. Despite advertisements that ran in black newspapers, there were African American women who were denied WAC applications at local recruitment centers. And for the 6,500 black women who did become WACs, their experiences were entirely segregated. The number of black WACs could never exceed 10 percent, which matched the proportion of blacks in the national population.

The jobs for WACs were numerous, including switchboard operator, mechanic, chauffeur, cook, typist and clerk. However, some black WACs found themselves routinely given menial tasks, such as janitorial duties, even if they had the skills to do more substantive work.

But the stresses of war changed the trajectory of black women in November 1944, when the war department lifted a ban on black WACs serving overseas. Led by African

American Commander Charity Adams Earley, the 6888 Central Postal Directory was formed—an all-black, female group of 824 enlisted women, and 31 officers. Within the selected battalion, most had finished high school, several had some years of college and a few had completed a degree.

After their training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, which entailed crawling under logs with gas masks and jumping over trenches, the 6888th sailed across the Atlantic, arriving in Birmingham, England, in February 1945.

In unheated and poorly lit buildings, some with rodents rummaging through spoiled cookies and cakes, the 6888 took on its mission of clearing an enormous backlog of undelivered mail.

Divided into three separate, 8-hour shifts, the women worked around the clock seven days a week. They kept track of 7 million identification cards with serial numbers to distinguish between soldiers with the same names. They investigated incomplete addresses and also had the unfortunate task of returning mail addressed to soldiers who had been killed.

To their relief, the 6888 had a congenial relationship with the Birmingham community.

It was common for residents to invite the women over for tea, a sharp contrast to the segregated American Red Cross clubs the 6888th couldn't enter.

After finishing their task in Birmingham, in June 1945, the 6888 transferred to Rouen, France, where they carried on, with admiration from the French, and cleared the backlog. Next they left for Paris in October 1945, where they remained, distributing mail to Americans longing to hear from their loved ones, until their mission was completed in March 1946.

While the work was taxing, as an all-black, female unit overseas, they understood the significance of their presence.

"They knew what they did would reflect on all other black people," said Gregory S. Cooke, an historian at Drexel University, whose documentary, "Invisible Warriors: African American Women in World War II," highlights African American Rosie the Riveters. "The Tuskegee Airmen, the 6888 represented all black people. Had they failed, all black people would fail. And that was part of the thinking going into the war. The black battalions had the burden that their role in the war was about something much bigger than themselves."

IRS creates 'church parking tax'

While not significant enough to deeply damage church finances, pastors worry about new precedent

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Like houses of worship across the U.S., Calvary Church in Santa Ana, Calif., typically hasn't had to worry about filing a federal tax form.

But an obscure provision in the corporate tax overhaul approved by the Republican-controlled Congress at the end of 2017 may change that.

That provision imposes a 21 percent tax on employee parking benefits provided by thousands of congregations and nonprofits from coast to coast.

To pay that tax, some churches may have to file form 990-T paperwork with the IRS if they provide parking for employees.

"No one is ever excited to pay more taxes, especially on what used to be free parking for our employees, but we will comply with whatever the final guidance is on the new tax," said Michael Welles, executive pastor of Calvary Church, a Southern

California megachurch with 2,200 weekend attendees and a \$5.5 million annual budget. "We would rather invest our funds into helping our community."

Many pastors said they were unaware of the new tax.

Others said they had reviewed the interim guidance on the tax — contained in a 24-page document issued by the Treasury Department this past December — and determined the new provision won't affect their congregation.

"This is not something which causes me concern," said Patrick Ford, preaching minister for the West Islip Church of Christ on Long Island, N.Y. "Although we have significant parking-related costs for snow removal, we do not have any spaces reserved for staff."

Even if the church did have dedicated parking for staffers, said Ford, it wouldn't be enough to trigger the tax, based on the reporting threshold the

IRS has established. But determining that requires a fair amount of computations.

The fact houses of worship must make those calculations has upset leaders of national organizations — from the Jewish Federation of North America to the National Council of Nonprofits — that advocate for faith groups and charities.

Brian W. Walsh, a Washington, D.C.-based attorney and executive director of the Faith and Giving Coalition, said the tax sets a terrible precedent.

"When you tax the fringe benefits that churches, synagogues, mosques and other houses of worship offer their employees, you're taking money directly away from their ability to operate," he said.

A for-profit company, said Walsh, can pass the cost of the tax on to customers. A church or other house of worship can't do that.

"They can't raise prices," he said. "They typically operate on

very slim margins. So it can be a huge impact financially."

Beyond the financial cost, Walsh said he objects to the tax on principle.

"It really runs counter to basic American values about how we understand the proper relationship between the church and the state," he said. "So that alone is a reason why this provision should be repealed."

According to The Wall Street Journal, parking and transportation benefits were deductible for for-profit employers prior to the tax overhaul. When those deductions were eliminated, the rules for nonprofit employers were implemented to keep them from gaining an advantage in areas such as transportation costs and parking benefits.

A survey of more than 700 nonprofits found the new tax on transportation fringe benefits will divert an average of about \$12,000 per year from each charity's mission, accord-

ing to the Independent Sector.

The IRS' complicated formula prompted the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission to publish a recent primer titled "Does your church need to pay the 'parking lot tax?'"

"For 350,000 churches and more than 1 million nonprofits, it's going to create a tremendous headache — first of all to calculate how much does their parking benefit cost and then to figure out how much they owe," said Galen Carey, vice president of government relations for the National Association of Evangelicals, based in Washington, D.C.

"In many cases, they'll probably pay more to accountants to figure this out than the actual amount of the tax," Carey told RNS.

A simple way for many churches to avoid the tax might be to remove any reserved parking signs for church employees such as the pastor, since the cal-

culcation considers how many parking spaces are reserved for employees versus the general public.

If churches take down those signs by March 31 of this year, the IRS said that they won't be subject to the tax provisions that went into effect on Jan. 1, 2018.

"So that's a deadline fast approaching," Carey said.

Churches subject to the tax were supposed to begin making quarterly payments last year, although the IRS guidance offered a temporary reprieve on penalties.

The first form 990-T for those who must file it for calendar year 2018 is due by May 15 of this year.

More than 2,700 congregations and nonprofits signed a petition the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability sent to Congress last year, calling for a full repeal of the little-known provision in the Tax

See **TAX**, Page 6B

We all need perspective

Have you ever had someone come up to you and tell you, "I have some good news and some bad news, which do you want to hear first?"

Many people say, "I want to hear the bad news first." Others would rather hear the good news first. Of course that reminds me of a story about a young girl who was away at college and had not seen her parents for quite a while. It had been a difficult semester and she told her parents she was going to concentrate on her studies and would not be home for a while. The next they heard from her was in this letter.

"I'm sorry to be so long in writing. Unfortunately, all my stationery was destroyed the night our dorm was set on fire by demonstrators. I'm out of the hospital now, and the doctors say my eyesight should return, sooner or later. The wonderful boy, Bill, who rescued me from the fire, kindly offered to share his little apartment with me until the dorm is rebuilt. He comes from a good family, so you won't be surprised when I tell you we're going to be married. In fact, since you've always wanted a grandchild, you'll be glad to know that you'll be grandparents next month."

P.S. Please disregard the above practice in English composition. There was no fire, I haven't been in the hospital, I'm not pregnant and I don't even have a steady boyfriend. But I did get a D in French and an F in Chemistry, and I just wanted to be sure you received this news in the proper perspective."

Perspective does make a difference. A piece of news may sound good to one person and terrible to another.

For instance, let's look at a man named George who loved to play golf and decided to start a golf league on Sunday morning, because the course was full every other day. He sent a letter to everyone he knew who played golf to join the league starting next Sunday. George waited a couple of days and received many replies to his invitation.

Some people were delighted, and some were not. One of the people who was not was his pastor. In his letter, the pastor reminded George he was the liturgist this coming Sunday and

See **PASTOR**, Page 6B

GAINING SOMETHING IN TRANSLATION



Suzanne Williams/ The Prairie Press

Kansas resident Josiah Nichols is pictured with his first two books in the series "Using Hermeneutics." He instructs readers how to read and understand the Bible through demonstrations and interpretations of the books of Romans.

Comprehending the Bible

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS
swilliamsprairiepress@gmail.com

KANSAS- A local author is on a mission to help others to learn how to read the Bible for comprehension.

Kansas resident Josiah Nichols recently released book, "Romans Roadblocks: Using Hermeneutics to Discover the Essentials of the Christian Faith," both explains and demonstrates how to read the sacred scriptures.

"The Bible is actually relatively easy to understand if you read it literally in its historical and grammatical content," said Nichols.

Currently an employee of Hershey's Company in Robinson, Nichols earned a bachelor's degree in Bible and preaching ministry and is currently attending online college through the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

"My favorite part of preaching is studying the Bible," he said. "I wished to do something like that so I started doing it and that is where the series originated."

The first book in the series, "When My Ox Gores My Neighbor: Using Hermeneutics to Travel from Mt. Sinai to Mt. Zion," was released a couple of years ago while his newest release, the second in the using hermeneutics series is now available on amazon.com for \$14.95 and on Kindle for \$3.99.

Hermeneutics is the branch of knowledge that deals with interpretation, especially of the Bible or literary texts. It also explains how to share Christian faith and what the gospel is about.

He also noted it is important to correctly read the Bible to understand the text.

"A lot of people read the Bible to see what it means to them when it is meant to be interpreted literally as it was written," added Nichols.

He eases worshippers' fears about reading the Bible, which was originally written thousands of years ago by many authors and has been rewritten in different languages many times through history.

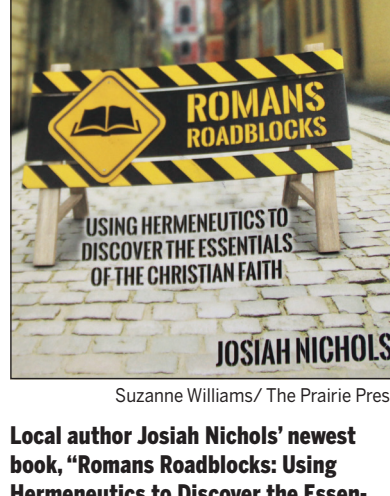
Nichols encourages people not to be intimidated. His method of hermeneutics depends on a literal reading of the scripture through an understanding of history, grammar and context. The new book, he said, demonstrates how to do that.

"The road to eternal life is built on the essential truths that I uncover in my book, but they could be roadblocks for those who reject them, hence the name is "Romans Roadblocks," said Nichols.

He rereads the Bible every six months and then studies the specific context that stands out to him on each reading.

"The harder portions of the Bible to understand are made easier to understand by the simpler portions of the Bible," he said, adding the simpler portions are more prevalent.

As an example, Nichols said a day in Biblical literature is 24 hours from sunset to sunset and the creation story in Genesis relates God created the heavens and Earth in six literal days before one day of rest.



Suzanne Williams/ The Prairie Press

Local author Josiah Nichols' newest book, "Romans Roadblocks: Using Hermeneutics to Discover the Essentials of the Christian Faith," was recently released on Amazon for \$14.95. The book is also available from the Kansas resident for \$10 through his Facebook page Using Hermeneutics Series.

My hope is for this most recent book to teach the reader the essential truths of Christianity."

"Romans Roadblocks" is also available in softback from Nichols directly from his hermeneutics series Facebook site. He is also willing to teach the Bible and is available for sermons and motivational speaking by contacting him through the Facebook page.

Search for scrolls reveals dipute over West Bank artifacts

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

When pieces of ancient pottery and never-before-seen scroll fragments began making their way to the antiquities black market a few years ago, archaeologists suspected looters had found a new cache of Dead Sea Scrolls.

Determined to discover and protect whatever scrolls might still be hidden in the parched Judean desert, a joint team of archaeologists from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., began excavating some of the unexplored caves near Qumran, where all known Dead Sea Scrolls were found in the 1940s and 1950s.

"The concern was that the caves were being ransacked by locals who were illegally selling them," said Randall Price, a professor of biblical and Judaic studies at Liberty University and co-director of the excavation, which began three years ago. "The Geneva Convention permits salvage excavations to try to recover items before they're lost to history."

If and when Price's team unearths additional Dead Sea Scrolls or other artifacts, both Palestinians and Israelis will be sure to claim ownership.

The question of ownership comes at a particularly sensitive time in Israeli-Palestinian relations. Palestinian leaders have stepped up their bid for statehood by claiming Jews are colonial invaders to the region and denying Jewish religious or historical ties to the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Israeli leaders counter by arguing both territories were parts of the biblical land of Israel, according to the Hebrew Bible.

On Dec. 31, Israel and the U.S. severed their membership in UNESCO, a world heritage preservation body, after it designated ancient Jewish holy sites such as the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron and Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem as Palestinian heritage sites.

Qumran is in the West Bank — territory Israel captured from Jordan during the 1967 Middle East War — which Palestinians say will be part of their future state.

Although international law assigns ownership of artifacts to the country where the excavation is taking

See **SCROLLS**, Page 6B

Lincoln Trail Family Restaurant

Taking reservations for **Valentine's Day Dinner**
217-826-8831

Winter Hours
 Thursday and Friday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Saturday 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Closed Monday-Wednesday

Lincoln Trail State Park, Marshall, IL • 2 miles south of Marshall on Route 1
 For more info visit our page at facebook.com/LincolnTrailRestaurant

A&R SERVICE AND SUPPLY

"ANYTHING FROM THE ROOF TO THE SEWER"
 PARIS, ILLINOIS

Concerned about home & Farm Security? WE CAN HELP!

Call us today and let's talk about our affordable systems

Electrical (house rewiring and entrance upgrades),
 Technology/Computer, Surveillance Cameras,
 Security Systems, Handyman Service

- Installation and Service Repair of all Makes and Models
- No Job to Big or to Small • 32 Years Experience, Industrial Maintenance • Fully Insured and Bonded
- Cant Find a Part or Fuse you need, Call us we can Help!

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE QUOTE
217-251-8354
Sam Roberts

In print. Online. On-the-go.

The Prairie Press

www.prairiepress.net

KNOWLEDGE IS FREE — AND NOW DELIVERED
 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

Mother and Son **Fun Night**

Enjoy a special evening with dancing, games and activities for moms with their boys!

Feb. 16 @ 6 p.m. - KC Hall

Dancing & games hosted by Zach Lueken

We will serve snacks, drinks and sweet treats. We have a photographer ready to take your photos. **All ages welcome!**

Tickets \$20 per mom/son couple with additional boys \$5

For more information contact **The Hall 465-1085 or Johna Todd 217-822-7623**

Freed from prison, pastor hopes to return to Turkey

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Pastor Andrew Brunson, the American evangelical imprisoned in Turkey for almost two years, says he'd like to return to that country someday.

For now, he is grateful to be on U.S. soil.

"We would love to go back. We love the people because we believe God loves the people there and we want to show God's love to them," he said Wednesday, Feb. 6, recalling fondly the decades he and his wife spent there before he was sent to prison on terrorism-related charges the U.S. declared were false.

"We spent 25 years in Turkey and someday we hope the conditions will be right for us to go back," he said.

Brunson, who had pastored a small church in the coastal city of Izmir, spoke briefly at a reception in his honor hosted by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, an independent nonpartisan watchdog.

Brunson recalled that USCIRF commissioners were among the first people to visit him in prison after his arrest in October 2016. The North Carolinian said the commissioners helped him to know he was not forgotten during his time in prison.

"It was a real boost to me and encouraged me," said Brunson, adding one of the commissioners at the time, Sandra Jolley, brought him an illustrated Book of Psalms, "which was a comfort to me over the rest of my time there."

Brunson was moved to house arrest in July 2018 and freed by a Turkish court a few months later in October.

His wife, Norine, added they realize, "not all stories end the way ours did." She expressed her appreciation for the support they have received.

"We are grateful for all the efforts, all the prayers and in the end," she said, "we have to give glory to God."

Her husband also expressed

his concerns about people of Christian and Muslim faiths who he believes remain imprisoned unjustly in the Muslim-majority nation.

"I have many friends in prison in Turkey now who should not be in prison and many families have been destroyed," he said.

Andrew Brunson, who plans to publish a book in the fall about his experience, also noted there are other Americans detained in Turkey who need to be remembered.

"I hope that there will be continued interest in getting them released," he said. "I don't think any of them are guilty either."

Commissioner Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, spoke of his fellow commissioners' advocacy for Brunson and how he had been at a hearing that led to Brunson's release.

"I had the privilege and the honor of being there in the courtroom when the unexpected occurred," said Per-

kins. "But I think a lot of folks across the country of different religious backgrounds and traditions had been praying for Pastor Andrew Brunson and we had the privilege of seeing those prayers answered as I accompanied the Brunsons home back here to the United States in October."

The event featuring Brunson and held at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center highlighted USCIRF's Religious Prisoners of Conscience Project.

Commissioner Gayle Manchin, vice chair of USCIRF, stressed the efforts to bring home detained people is a human struggle that supersedes politics.

"Many of us in this room are mothers and fathers and so I ask you to pause just for a minute and reflect on the fact that this weekend the Brunsons' daughter is getting married and Rev. Brunson will be there to walk his daughter down the aisle," she said. "They will be a family living in freedom again."

SCROLLS

FROM PAGE 5B

place, the status of the disputed West Bank is not so clear-cut, some experts say. The Palestinians do not have an independent state, and Israel, which most countries consider an occupying force, has not annexed the territory.

Legally, a conquering nation is prohibited from removing artifacts from another's land, "but with the West Bank, it's not so simple," said Aren Maeir, a professor of archaeology at Bar-Ilan University.

"It can be argued that the territory wasn't conquered," he said, referring to the territory's history.

In 1947, the United Nations voted to create a Jewish state alongside an Arab state in then-British Mandatory Palestine.

The following year, Jordan and other Arab countries attacked Israel, hoping to destroy it. When that failed, Jordan

seized control of the West Bank and East Jerusalem, but its rule was never recognized.

Many of the Dead Sea Scrolls, which contain the ancient Hebrew and Aramaic texts that form the basis of the Hebrew Bible's canon, were discovered when Jordan ruled the territory from 1948 to 1967.

Under the 1993 Oslo Peace Accord, the Palestinian Authority was given civil control over large swaths of the West Bank, but not the Qumran region, in what is called Area C.

"This isn't currently Palestinian territory, and I don't think there is any substantive claim that objects found in Area C would have to be returned to the Palestinians," Maeir said.

A report by the International Humanitarian Law Resource disagrees.

"Israel's archaeological activities in Area C of the West Bank are in violation of its customary obligations under IHL, IHRL and the UNESCO legal frame-

work," the report states.

This view is shared by Ahmed Rjoob, general director of the World Heritage unit at the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

"The Dead Sea Scrolls and other artifacts belong to the Palestinians because they were found on Palestinian land. That applies even before 1948 when there was the British Mandate and during the years when Jordan ruled," Rjoob said.

Rjoob said two or three months ago, the Palestinian Authority asked UNESCO to pressure Israel into returning the scrolls and other artifacts to a museum in East Jerusalem, which Palestinians hope will be the capital of their eventual state.

Eugene Kontorovich, an international law professor at George Mason University in Arlington, Va., insists the Palestinians have no claims on the scrolls.

"The Palestinian government neither discovered them

nor bought them. Indeed, a Palestinian Arab government did not even claim to exist at the time," he said. "As a matter of cultural rights, these artifacts are part of the historical posterity of the Jewish people, and arguments to the contrary are attempts to erase Jewish history."

Price cannot envision Israel ever giving the items to the Palestinians, whom he says claim the scrolls and related artifacts are part of their history and culture. But he argues, "there was no known Palestinian people," at the time the artifacts were created.

The Dead Sea Scrolls, he said, help scholars understand Jewish texts, customs and laws. Many of them are copies of the Hebrew Bible and are written in Hebrew and Aramaic.

As such, they should reside in Israel, he said.

"This isn't about politics and religion and ownership but saving the past from being lost to the people whose heritage this is," he said.

TAX

FROM PAGE 5B

Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

So far, that repeal hasn't happened.

"One of the confusing things about this new tax is that it is an income tax on expenses, not income," said Dan Busby, president of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, based in Virginia. "And it is a tax applied to tax-exempt organizations, including church,

for providing parking to its employees that perform the tax-exempt functions of the organization."

While some lawmakers have been willing to repeal the tax, others have demanded different changes in the corporate tax code as a condition for doing so, Busby said.

The federal government has projected that it will raise \$1.7 billion from churches and charities over the next 10 years from the parking and commuter benefits tax, he

added.

"Raising taxes to offset the repeal of this onerous provision is generally considered to be a nonstarter in the Senate," Busby said. "ECFA continues to hope for repeal of the parking tax in the short term."

Back at Calvary Church, Welles keeps watching updates from organizations such as the ECFA to see if the tax will be repealed.

Based on his interpretation of the latest guidance, the pastor said, he doesn't believe his church will owe much. Cal-

vary Church's parking serves the general public, and the congregation has no reserved spaces for employees.

"We do realize that we don't pay income taxes, and we have exemptions for property taxes, so our goal is to invest those dollars we would have paid in taxes into our community in volunteer hours or direct contributions," Welles said. "We will continue to do that whether or not we have to pay parking taxes, but we will just have less available from which to bless others."

PASTOR

FROM PAGE 5B

had given his word to be at worship.

He also wrote, "George you decide if it is more important to you to play golf or come to worship."

Thinking as a golfer, George

We are ... **Edgar County.**
 The Prairie Press
 101 N. Central Ave., Paris
 217-921-3216

wanted to play golf, thinking as a Christian, he knew he needed to be at worship. That was a very important decision for George, and one that might have eternal consequences.

If George decides to keep his commitment to God and to his church, he will have a reward in his eternal life. Blowing it off and playing golf with his friends may have an immediate but not long lasting reward. What's your perspective?

(The Rev. Joe Tomich is pastor at Paris First United Methodist Church. Email him at pjtomich@yahoo.com. Pastor's Perspective is provided by the Paris Ministerial Fellowship.)

Double YOUR IMPACT

Online ADVERTISING!

Come join a winning team!

Manpower 217-465-1024

Pearman PHARMACY

NEAL TIRE AND AUTO SERVICE

First Mid BANK & TRUST

PROSPECT BANK
 The Opportunity Bank
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER • MEMBER FDIC

FRISSE & BREWSTER LAW OFFICES

DORSETT Ford

1500 N. Michigan P.O. Box 259 • Marshall, Illinois 62441

Bus. Phone: (217) 826-2346 | Toll Free: 1-866-826-FORD

Shawn Walton
 Sales Representative
 Cell Ph: (217) 822-8077

BANKRUPTCY

BASE FEE \$700 PLUS FILING FEE
 60,000 CASES SINGLE CH7
 9 IL OFFICES PAYMENT PLANS

ILLINOIS' LARGEST BANKRUPTCY ONLY LAW FIRM

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code.

WWW.BCYHELP.COM

OSTLING & ASSOCIATES **345-2525**
 TOLL FREE 844-563-4203

Lars Eric Ostling

The Prairie Press

101 N. Central Ave., Paris • 217-921-3216

Check out what we have to offer at prairiepress.net

Cattle numbers steady in 2018

Herd expansion and liquidation trends held even, USDA predicts steer prices will be similar to last year

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

URBANA — Normally, at this time of year, the cattle industry focuses on information contained in the USDA's Jan. 1 estimates of the U.S. cattle herd. The Cattle Inventory report provides a wealth of information to market participants including estimates of the all cattle and calves inventory; both the beef and dairy cow inventories; and an estimate of the prior year's calf crop, according to Purdue University agricultural economist James Mintert.

"This year, however, USDA extended the data collection period because of the government shutdown," Mintert says. "The inventory estimates will be provided as of Jan. 31 instead of Jan. 1, with the report scheduled for release on Feb. 28. As a result, we're left

to speculate regarding what information the report might contain," he adds.

"U.S. cow-calf producers have been expanding the size of their herds since 2014, when the all cattle and calves inventory bottomed out at 88.5 million head. This time a year ago, the all cattle and calves inventory stood at 94.4 million head, nearly 7 percent larger than four years earlier," Mintert says.

So, what happened to the size of the herd in 2018? Did U.S. producers continue to increase their herds in 2018 or did expansion grind to a halt?

"One of the best long-term indicators regarding the expansion or contraction of the cattle herd is the ratio of female slaughter (cows and heifers) to steer slaughter. During expansionary phases female slaughter declines relative to

steer slaughter as producers hold back females to expand their herds," Mintert explains.

"When expansion starts to slow or producers shift into herd liquidation, female slaughter increases relative to that of steers. Let's take a look at the recent data to see if it conforms to this pattern," he says.

In 2013, the most recent year of herd liquidation, female slaughter as a percent of steer slaughter was relatively high at 96 percent. When expansion got underway female slaughter began falling, declining to 89 percent in 2014. Female slaughter fell even more sharply the next two years as herd expansion accelerated.

"For example, in 2015 the ratio was 82 percent and in 2016 the ratio was 80 percent. The first sign that the industry's expansion phase

was slowing down appeared in 2017 when the ratio of females to steers in the slaughter mix rose to 86 percent," Mintert says.

"What was the ratio in 2018? Based upon USDA's weekly slaughter estimates, female slaughter as a percentage of steer slaughter rose to about 92 percent during 2018. The implication is that expansion during 2018 did indeed come to a halt, but it does not look like the industry shifted into a liquidation phase. Instead, the odds appear to be quite high that the size of the nation's cattle herd remained essentially unchanged during 2018," Mintert says.

What does that mean for future beef supplies and prices?

"Commercial beef production in the U.S. during 2018 totaled 26.9 billion pounds, about 2.6 percent more than

a year earlier. But per capita beef supplies at 57 pounds were virtually unchanged from 2017, largely because of a small improvement in beef exports combined with a modest decline in beef imports. Commercial beef production appears likely to rise in 2019, but improvements in foreign trade could offset the modest production increase once again, leaving domestic per capita supplies unchanged for the second year in a row," Mintert explains.

USDA's five-market average price for fed steers last year was about \$117 per cwt. With little change in beef supplies expected this year, fed steer prices are likely to average near their year-ago level. Prices for 500-600 pound steers in Kentucky averaged about \$154 per cwt. in 2018, up 3 percent compared to a year earlier

when they averaged \$149 per cwt. Prices in early 2019 started the year off weaker than 12 months earlier, averaging just \$135 per cwt. during January.

"Widespread losses by cattle feeders during the last half of 2018 weakened feeders' demand for calves, as did severe winter weather in January, as they attempt to purchase calves and feeders that generate more attractive breakeven prices," Mintert says. "Calf prices in Kentucky this upcoming year are expected to average below 2018's average, but the decline in the annual average is likely to be smaller than what took place in January. Look for Kentucky steer calves to average in the \$140s during 2018, assuming no significant crop production problems that would push feed grain prices up substantially this summer and fall."

Gardening gives amazing benefits

While homeowners busily garden for aesthetic and/or economic reasons, research



increasingly shows they are reaping physical and psychological benefits. That's right. Gardening is good for you.

One of the most obvious benefits is exercise. Most tasks provide moderate exercise with several weighing in on the strenuous side.

Bones benefit especially from gardening because most of it is load-bearing exercise. Think about all the shoveling, lifting and toting involved in so many of the requisite chores associated with plant production. Vitamin D from the sun also helps bones, although exposure to ultra-violet rays is a negative.

Gardeners have long sung the therapeutic praises of digging in the dirt. Now we know why. It's due to a strain of bacterium called *Mycobacterium vaccae* that triggers the release of serotonin, which elevates moods and decreases anxiety.

Gardeners come in contact with this beneficial bacterium in a variety of ways. We inhale it while disturbing the soil, encounter it in our home-grown vegetables or it enters a cut in our skin. *M. vaccae* is currently being tested as a treatment for cancer, Crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

Studies proved years ago that both a view of flowers and trees outside, or flowers and foliage inside reduces job stress. Several years ago, I wrote about a study that concluded hospital patients convalesced better when they had plants in their rooms.

We also know leafy green plants clean the air in our homes and workplaces by removing low levels of chemicals like formaldehyde. At the same time, they add oxygen to the air.

Officials in Chicago noticed that inner city housing developments with fresh vegetation had roughly half the crime of developments without.

If security is an issue in your neighborhood, growing thorny shrubs under ground floor windows helps discourage break-ins.

What about the benefits to your pocket? Well-landscaped homes, especially trees increase the value of your property. Trees that shade the house and A/C unit decrease power bills. And, don't forget all the free vegetables and fruit.

See **MASTER**, Page 8B

HOPING TO CONTINUE A TREND



General Motors President Mark Reuss unveils the Chevrolet Silverado HD at Flint Assembly, Tuesday, Feb. 5, in Flint, Mich. Pickups from the Detroit automakers were the three top-selling vehicles in the U.S. last year, totaling more than 2 million in sales. Heavy-duty versions, with bigger frames, beds, interiors and engines, make up about 30 percent of that.

Detroit has hot pickup lines

Detroit 3 all roll out heavy-duty pickup models this year

BY TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Nicole Foster-Beck asks a lot of the heavy-duty pickup truck she uses on her 43-acre horse farm east of Dallas.

Aside from the daily hauling, her 2015 GMC Sierra has to be powerful enough to pull a heavy eight-horse trailer to competitions, yet cushy enough to keep people comfortable on trips as far away as Kentucky.

She's exactly the customer that all three Detroit automakers will be courting this year when they roll out new or substantially updated heavy-duty versions of their trucks. It's the first time that all three are revamping their heavy-duty trucks at the same time in years, which almost certainly will touch off a battle of ads and specifications.

Pickups from the Detroit automakers were the three top-selling vehicles in the U.S. last year, totaling more than 2 million in sales. Heavy-duty versions, with bigger frames, beds, interiors and engines, make up about 30 percent of

that. They're for those who need to tow and haul big things. Most buyers pull trailers with heavy items including boats, horses and recreational campers that can weigh around 10 tons. Many are used to pull trailers laden with equipment to job sites.

"Capability is really important for these folks," said Sandor Pizar, truck marketing manager for General Motors' Chevrolet brand. "They're often times towing something that's even more valuable than the truck itself. It enables what their lifestyle is."

There's a lot at stake for the automakers, who get most of their profits from trucks. Around 90 percent of heavy-duty buyers spend thousands extra for powerful diesel engines, and many go for pricey luxury and safety features, paying as much as \$80,000 for a fully decked-out truck.

They also do their homework. "Hauling a horse is not just like hauling around hay," said Foster-Beck, who trains show horses at Foster Farm 20 minutes from downtown Dallas. "Your ability to accelerate when you need to, your ability to brake gently. Those things really matter."

All three companies are offering cameras and other electronics to help with towing, backing and viewing sur-

rounding traffic, features that also are important to heavy-duty buyers.

Fiat Chrysler's Ram brand started this year's contest, unveiling a new heavy-duty pickup in January. The 2019 Ram, which goes on sale in April, has an optional 400-horsepower, 6.7-liter six-cylinder diesel with 1,000 pound-feet of torque. The company says it can pull more than 35,000 pounds and carry 7,680 pounds in its bed. Torque, a measure of rotational force, is a big deal for buyers because it's needed especially when pulling trailers up big hills.

General Motors' GMC brand was next with the heavy-duty Sierra. Its 6.6-liter V8 diesel has 445 horsepower and 910 pound feet of torque. In unveiling the heavy-duty Chevrolet Silverado Tuesday, GM said it can tow up to 35,500 pounds with the diesel. The Silverado is nearly identical to the Sierra, which is a little more posh.

Both GM trucks also will get a new 401-horsepower 6.6L V8 gas engine with 464 pound-feet of torque and what GM says is stronger towing capability than its previous gas engine trucks.

The Silverado comes out in the middle of the year and the Sierra in late

See **TRUCKS**, Page 8B



All three Detroit automakers are rolling out new heavy-duty pickup trucks this year — including Ford — courting buyers who tow heavy trailers for work or recreation. The introductions are sure to spark claims about horsepower, torque, towing capacity and payload hauling.

Special to The Prairie Press

Heading for the Brexit

Two hundred and forty-three years after the not-yet United States declared its independence in a lengthy letter to England's King George III, the old enemies are, yet again, new allies.

This time, however, it's an unlikely alliance of defiance; both are challenging international institutions like the World Trade Organization and the European Union (E.U.) which some lawmakers say interfere — and, worse, illegitimately overrule — their sovereign laws of state.

The complaints, however, aren't out of left field; both have the support of voters. For the U.S., it came in the Nov. 2016 election of President Donald J. Trump. For the United Kingdom (U.K.), it was the June 2016 triumph of Brexit — shorthand for British exit, or its move to leave the E.U., the 28-nation quilt that stretches from Hungary to Northern Ireland.

But like Mr. Trump's victory here, the Brexit win ignited as much controversy as it quelled. First, it split the U.K. as a union; voters in Northern Ireland and Scotland voted to stay while voters in England and Wales voted to leave. It also divided the U.K.'s ruling political party, the Conservatives, who, then led by David Cameron, openly opposed Brexit until they were for it after its slim 1.8 percent win.

U.K. farmers, however, were not on the fence. According to Farmers Weekly, a British farming magazine, 53 percent supported Brexit despite a pre-vote estimate that it could cost them up to 60 percent of their annual income, the percentage of U.K. farm income received through E.U.'s agricultural subsidy programs.

Much of that support hinged on the belief that U.K. food exports would find better markets—even in scorned Europe — after being unleashed from the E.U.'s trade and environmental rules.

There was scant evidence to confirm it, though. In fact, in Jan. 2017, Informa Agribusiness Intelligence estimated the loss of E.U. farm subsidies could mean 90 percent of U.K. farms would face collapse.

After the dire forecast, the U.K. government stepped in to promise to make up any E.U. shortfall through 2020, and longer if needed. How it hopes to do so remains unclear.

What is crystal clear, however, is that U.K. politicians have no idea on how to deliver the democracy voters demanded in 2016. Two years of tough negotiations between the E.U.




ALAN GUEBERT
FARM AND FOOD FILE

See **GUEBERT**, Page 8B

We Understand Commitment

You can rely on Edward Jones for one-on-one attention, our quality-focused investment philosophy and straight talk about your financial needs. Contact an Edward Jones financial advisor today.



Derrick L. Lorenzen
Financial Advisor
11773 Il Hwy 1
Paris, IL 61944-8309
217-463-4774

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Tariff payments boosting farmer confidence

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

With Trump tariff payments boosting Corn Belt farm revenue, farmer confidence shot to its highest level since last June, just before the trade war began against China, said the monthly Ag Economy Barometer published by Purdue University. Producers polled by Purdue said they expect ag exports to increase in the years ahead, an indirect sign they expect a beneficial resolution with China.

President Trump has set a March 1 deadline for a Sino-U.S. agreement or he will order a steep increase, to 25 percent, in tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese products. China retaliated against previous U.S. tariffs by setting high duties on U.S. goods, including farm exports. The most prominent ag target is soybeans. China used to buy 1 in 3 bushels of the U.S. crop. Sales have plummeted, although China said it would buy 5 million tonnes of the oil-

seed this month while bilateral negotiations are held.

Purdue said its ag barometer, a gauge of farmer sentiment, climbed 16 points in January, its first survey of producers since the administration announced a second round of Trump tariff payments, officially the Market Facilitation Program, and since the enactment of the 2018 farm law. "Both of [them] appear to have helped boost farmer sentiment," said Purdue.

As of Monday, the USDA had sent \$6.41 billion in cash to producers, with an additional \$1.2 billion in payments possible from claims that were being processed. Nearly 805,000 applications have been submitted. February 14 is the deadline to apply. As expected, soybeans are the leading commodity for payments, and the top states for payments, Illinois and Iowa, are the premiere soybean producers.

For months, analysts have said Chinese leaders are well aware of the impact felt by

farmers, a loyal Trump bloc, when it it buys or shuns U.S. soybeans.

"What's going to happen with respect to trade negotiations continues to weigh heavily on U.S. farmers' minds," wrote Purdue economists James Mintert and Michael Langemeier in discussing the results of the survey. A larger portion of grain and livestock producers, 63 percent, believe ag exports will increase over the next five years than the 59 percent registered in the preceding poll. And more farmers believe they will be better off financially a year from now than did a month ago.

A large majority of U.S. growers are sticking with soybeans despite low market prices and lost sales due to the trade war, according to the Purdue survey. Two thirds say they will plant the same amount of soybeans as in 2018, and 8 percent say they will plant more.

One quarter say they will reduce their soybean plantings, roughly the same as the 30 per-

cent who said in November they would scale back. There may be a slight thaw in plans. In November, 69 percent of those planning a reduction said they would slash plantings by more than 10 percent; this time, 58 percent would reduce plantings by more than 10 percent. The USDA has projected a 7 percent drop in soybean area this spring, to 82.5 million acres, while wheat and corn gain land.

In recent weeks, soybean prices have strengthened in comparison to corn, the most popular alternative crop. The price increases indicate widespread belief a settlement will restart U.S. soybean exports, say analysts.

Without higher domestic or foreign demand, "Soybean acreage seems destined to be well above levels necessary to produce an average price in the mid-\$9 range and meet the cost of production in Illinois," said economist Todd Hobbs, of the University of Illinois on the farmdoc Daily blog.

Ph. 217-269-2826

Call us for all your catering needs.

Chrisman Cafe

132 N. Illinois St. • Chrisman, IL 61924

Hrs: Sunday & Monday 6 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tuesday - Saturday 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

Breakfast Buffet: Saturday & Sunday 7 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Lunch Buffet: Everyday 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Supper Buffet: Tuesday-Saturday 4 p.m.-8 p.m.

Delivery: NEW! Offering local deliveries!

Don't know what to do with your TAX RETURN?

Let us help you **FILL UP** your **FREEZER**



Retail Meat
Custom Butchering

Edgar County Locker
116 E. Steidl Rd. 810 N. 2nd St.
Paris, IL 61944 Marshall, IL 62441
(217)466-5000 (217) 826-6543

Retail Meat/Custom Butchering
edgarcountyllocker@gmail.com

HANDY MAN EXCAVATION



CJ BECHER
217-251-9717

I'll do it all, just ask!

*Deck cleaning/staining * Fencing
* Tear outs * Trim work * Drywall * Small excavation/land clearing * Demolition

Lincoln's land in Coles County to sell at auction

40 acres in Coles County, IL once owned by Abraham Lincoln, are part of 590-acre auction

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

An interesting bit of history comes up for sale February 12 in Charleston.

One parcel of a nine-tract, 590-acre land auction in Coles County is a 30-acre tract that used to be owned by Abraham Lincoln.

Yes, the Abraham Lincoln – the 16th president of the United States.

Scott Wingert, who operates the auction sale bill website Midwest Auction, wrote an interesting blog post about the upcoming sale, which is being conducted by one of his friends, Michael Stanfield of Stanfield Auction.

In short, before Abraham Lincoln became president, he bought 40 acres for his father, Thomas, paying \$200 for the lot. He leased the land back to his father for \$1 for the rest of his father's life.

According to Wingert's blog post, the Best family bought 30 of those acres at a foreclosure auction in January 1989. In all, they bought 125 acres that day, for \$98,500 total.

In a phone interview, Stanfield says the upcoming sale

has been heavily advertised. The whole package is good farmland, but the aura surrounding the Lincoln parcel is significant. Will that single parcel have extra value due to its historical significance?

"I really feel like, from the interest I have had, there could be," Stanfield told Successful Farming magazine in a phone interview. "It lays almost totally adjacent to the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park."

According to Ron Best, one of the five siblings who owns Best Farms, Inc., the 30-acre tract his family bought in 1989 was originally part of a 40-acre piece Abraham Lincoln bought in 1841. Ten acres of that tract were split off that piece, with 6 acres becoming part of the Illinois State Park and 4 acres put into a trust.

The Best family bought the land 30 years ago because it is contiguous to the rest of the family farm. The truth is, the land's primary value is growing corn and soybeans. It isn't as if Abraham Lincoln's top hat will be auctioned off, Best points out. "Thirty acres can't sit on a shelf," he says. "From my standpoint, it doesn't have a lot of extra value" because of who owned it.

That doesn't mean the Best family doesn't appreciate the historic significance of the property. Actually, the Lincolns and the Bests go back several generations. Thomas

Lincoln (the president's father) and Sarah Bush (the president's stepmother) came to Coles County, from Kentucky. The Best family emigrated from the same area.

"They were close neighbors and the families interacted," says Best, whose great-grandfather was 12 years old when Abraham Lincoln came through Coles County and stopped at the grade school on his way to Washington, D.C. where he was set to take office as the nation's president. "My great-grandfather was one of the kids who shook his hands."

Still, based on Best's research, Abraham Lincoln had little to do with Coles County, despite his father and stepmother living there. "According to one account I read, family members were begging Abraham to see his father the last two years prior to his father's death," Best says. "He never did."

Upon Thomas Lincoln's death in 1851, the lease was transferred to the president's stepbrother, John D. Johnston. Best has a copy of the original deed, as the original is locked away in the Coles County Courthouse.

The Best family is selling the farm simply because the five siblings are ready to retire and liquidate the family corporation.

In a phone interview, Stanfield says he is privileged to sell

the Bests' land.

Ron Best is a lifelong friend, he says. "I'm honored to sell the property."

The land auction – which happens to be on Lincoln's birthday in a hotel on Lincoln Avenue in downtown Charleston – will feature high-quality land, which Stanfield rates as very good Class B.

The entire package is nearly 100 percent contiguous, with the exception of a 40-acre parcel ½ mile north of the rest of the property. The last three years, corn yields have ranged from 190 to 238 bushels per acre; beans have ranged from 65 to 77 bushels per acre across the farm.

The Crop Productivity Index on the farm across all 590 acres averages 129.2 with a range between 100 and 144. Predominant soil types are Fincastle, Toronto and Raub silt loams.

Two tracts have improvements, including 45,000 bushels of grain storage and a machine shed on a two-acre parcel, and three metal machine sheds on a 70-acre parcel.

There is a history of grid soil samples on the property, and in 2017, about 550 tons of lime were spread across the acreage.

Due to the significance of the property, Stanfield expects a good crowd on Tuesday. As for the Best family, the end of an era means the family members can have a good life.

ILLINOIS Extension

Saturday February 16 4:00p.m.

4-H TACK AUCTION

go.illinois.edu/tack

Clark County Illinois Extension Office Marshall, IL

Benefits Clark Co. 4-H Horse & Pony Program

University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils
Cooperating | Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, call 217-826-5422.

MASTER

FROM PAGE 7B

This winter fill your home with houseplants. This spring get outside and play in the dirt. You will be better for it. If you need suggestions on what to plant, call the Master Gardeners of Edgar County Extension at 217-465-8585

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

TRUCKS

FROM PAGE 7B

summer.

Ford also is unveiling a new Super Duty version of the F-Series Tuesday and putting it on display at the Chicago auto show. It didn't release power numbers but said the new truck, due out in the fall, will offer the company's highest-ever towing and payload ratings. Ford also added a larger 7.3-liter V8 gasoline engine to its lineup, joining a smaller V8 and a 6.7-liter diesel. The larger gasoline V8 gives people more towing ability at a cost lower than a diesel, said Todd Eckert, Ford's truck marketing manager.

Prices haven't been announced for any of the trucks.

GUEBERT

FROM PAGE 7B

and British Prime Minister Theresa May (who became leader when Cameron resigned after backing the wrong Brexit horse) collapsed in ruin Jan. 15 when May was crushed by an overwhelming anti-deal vote in Parliament's House of Commons.

Worse, perhaps, many of the nay votes came from May's own Conservative colleagues who — as if to confirm there always will be an England — overwhelmingly supported her the next day when the opposition Labor Party called for (and lost) a vote of no confidence in her leadership.

May's Brexit loss and her no-confidence win, however, doesn't mean Brexit is dead or that a second, national

Brexit vote will be held. Brexit is Brexit, she has said, and political leaders are duty bound to honor the 2016 results.

U.K. farmers are equally stiff-lipped. Recent polling shows their 2016 support, 53 percent to leave, remains solid despite the likely loss of generous E.U. farm payments and some, maybe most, of the 62 percent of U.K. ag exports now sold into the E.U.

So why do it?

Because, as Prime Minister Theresa May has said repeatedly, it's what the voters said they want. As such, right, wrong, or indifferent, the search for a workable Brexit will continue.

Which raises a simple question: Is there such a thing as a workable Brexit? The answer, so far, is no.

Which leads to an even more elemental question: While nations around the world are establishing deeper financial, cultural, and manufacturing links through blockchain technologies, artificial intelligence and global trade, why would any nation burn most of its political capital to remove itself from this more-integrated future to become an island of antiquity?

In your search for an answer, remember the U.K. isn't the only nation looking to go it alone in today's increasingly interconnected world. Many leaders in its former colony are advocating the same thing.

(Alan Guebert is an award-winning agricultural journalist and expert who was raised on an 720-acre, dairy-cow southern Illinois dairy farm. Email him at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.)

No-Reserve Farm Equipment Closeout

(Retirement Auction)

Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 11:00 A.M.
620 S. York St • Martinsville Agriculture Fair Grounds • Martinsville, IL

Phil and Carol Brown

2009 John Deere 9670 Combine 4x4 2,141 machine hours 1153 separator, new blower, unloading auger, 20.8R42 front duals 95%, 28L26 rear 90%, serial H09670S730583; 2012 John Deere 608C corn head 8 row, approx 3,500 total acres, serial vcx745437; Unverferth T25 head trailer serial A38420225; 2008 John Deere 635F platform serial approx 1,000 acres per year serial 720984; Unverferth H130 head trailer ext. to 35ft serial A40850443; Killbros 30ft head trailer dolly front; 2004 Ag Chem 1064 rognator, 3,427 hours, 100ft booms, Raven Starlink GPS, Raven monitor, light bar; 2000 John Deere 8320 tractor 6,009 hours, Firestone 480/80R46 70%, serial RW8320P011944; 2003 John Deere 9400 tractor4x4, 7,687 hours, 710/70R42 duals, 5 remotes, serial RW9400P031603; 2006 John Deere 9520 tractor 7,261 hours RW9520E042692, 1,135 hours on new motor, new bearings & seals on both axles; 1988 John Deere 4450 tractor FWA, 3 remotes, 7,151 hours serial RW4450P031625; 2011 John Deere 1790C 16-32 split row planter serial 740241, refuge tank, Precision corn units, air bag row press down, individual row shutoff, has hyd hood up to run seed wagon; 2015 7431-33 Landoll VT Plus w/rolling basket serial 74G1405827; 1999 876 Landall Tilloll 35ft 01M9801364, new blades and beater bar; Meridian 4 box tender Titan 4SE Honda motor; J&M 875 Auger Cart serial 3138 w/scales, back camera & auger camera, auger flighting 1 year old; J&M TF12 30ft Rolling basket serial 2423; 1232-27 Sunflower disk w/harrow; serial 1291-278; Unverferth Model 220 Rolling Basket 33ft; 1979 Fruehauf 38ft hopper bottom grain trailer; John Deere 7000 6 row 30" planter serial 094830A; Krause Disk Chisel Model 4517A 17 shank serial 1438 w/levelers; Case IH 490 Cutter disk 33ft; Bush Hog 12715 Legend 15ft pull type rotary mower; Bush Hog 2615 Legion 15ft pull type rotary mower, 12-03862; DMI 5300 15 knife tool bar w/Hiniker monitor; 1998 Kenworth Grain Truck Tandem w/push axle, 786,141 miles, Cummins L10, vin 1NKNL59XORJ622064, 18ft Omaha Aluminum Bed high sides; 1998 International Tandem grain truck 185,600 miles AL300F International motor, 18ft Aluminum Kann bed; 1997 Freightliner Tandem grain truck 315,574 miles 18ft Aluminum Wayne bed Cat 3126 Engine; Eversman 650 dirt scraper 6.5-yard serial 6505250; EZ Trail 475 Auger Cart; 1000-gal Aluminum tandem nurse trailer stainless tank w/Chem inductor; Center dump pintle hitch tandem grain trailer w/air brake

Online bidding available • Well Maintained Equipment!
Phil Brown cell: (217) 232-5489

(217) 857-1507
SchmidAuction.com
909 E Main St. • Teutopolis, IL 62467

Trent D. Schmid – Auctioneer
Richard D. Schmid – Auctioneer

SCHMID AUCTION
IL Auction Firm License No.: 444.000399

Buy 1 Admission, GET 1 FREE!

FEBRUARY 22-24 • Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center

2019 National PHEASANT FEST & Quail Classic

FEDERAL

Daily admission: \$10.00 Adults • \$5.00 Ages 6-16 • 5 & under FREE!

No Cash Value. One coupon per person, per day. Coupon not valid for use with the membership/3-day admission package.

PheasantFest.org

SULLIVAN

FROM PAGE 1B

Perhaps the most extraordinary meteor set ever observed was Feb. 9, 1913. On that night, observers along the US-Canadian border and several ships at sea independently reported a mysterious meteor procession. All reports matched with the event described as a train of meteors, one after another, moving horizontally and spaced evenly apart. The large flaming objects moved horizontally and each remained in view

for almost a minute. When the angle is right and the original rock big enough there is some left to collide with the ground. The charred rock hitting the surface is classified as a meteorite. A meteorite surviving the trip through the atmosphere is usually pebble sized at the time of impact and the small rock blends in the soil. Near the poles a rock embedded in the upper ice layers is likely a meteorite and much easier to identify. These extraterrestrial gemstones can be more

valuable than diamonds. Christie's Auction House expects a meteorite found in Siberia to bring more than \$20,000. While they have interesting crystal patterns, meteorites are worth even more to science. Meteorites offer a rare insight into the composition and formation of the solar system. Only a few per year are found, sometimes from a totally unexpected source. A few meteorites found on Earth are rocks from Mars. During especially violent Martian volcanic eruptions, material was

ejected into space and some has landed on Earth. At least one of the samples brought back from the moon by Apollo astronauts was a rock from Earth. They theorize an asteroid impact long ago blasted Earth material into space where some later impacted the moon. Astronauts picked the rock up and brought it home. It is quite rare for a rock on a collision course with Earth to make it through the atmosphere and remain large enough to do damage. There was a 1954

case when a meteorite hit an Alabama woman, and a parked car in New York was hit in 1992. The real fear is an asteroid the size of a mountain impacting the Earth with more power than a nuclear explosion. This happens every few million years. John Hopkins University scientists are working with NASA to test a rocket probe to target an asteroid. The objective is to see if they can target and impact into a small asteroid with enough momentum to change its trajectory. It only takes a

micro-change at a great distance to shift the angle and completely miss the Earth. This is precision target shooting at a nearly invisible object, and the initial odds are low. They are going to try, but this is a challenge far greater than any trick shot ever attempted by Annie Oakley in Old West shows. (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 sullivant@shiloh1.us)

Puzzles

ANSWERS ON PAGE 9B

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

CODGER

FROM PAGE 1B

slept in a home friendly to the Sheltons, Birger hoodlums drove past and sprayed Tommy gun fire. That unnerved the guests. Furthermore, they nervously watched the Sheltons rig three packages for airdrop, wrapped with telephone wire, containing dynamite and nitroglycerine, something scary to carry aboard the plane. Kane flew the Jenny. A Shelton gangster sat fidgety in the back seat. Shady Rest was located. Kane circled, then flew overhead. Gunfire erupted at the plane from the ground, but missed. Two of the bombs tossed overboard failed to explode on impact. They missed the target, anyway. Bomb number three did explode, missed Shady Rest, but instead blew up a cockfighting arena, killing Birger's favorite pet, a bulldog, plus a captive eagle. A few days later, Kane and Mundale enjoyed the friendly landscape of Iowa. Not too friendly, however, because the

Cadillac they'd accepted was tracked down by law officers as stolen property. They paid a \$100 fine and served 60 days in jail.

As for Charlie Birger, the attempted bombing raid angered him so much that he and his thugs launched a killing rage. Their victims included a mayor, a state trooper and the trooper's wife.

The gang became fast acquainted with lifetime prison sentences and the gallows. Charlie Birger, himself, enjoyed the distinction of being the last person legally hanged in Illinois - 1928. The Sheltons lived on for a couple more decades.

Kane and Mundale never cared much for flying in Illinois after that. The bombing attack was a tactical failure, but it yielded positive results - the ultimate end of the Birger Gang.

(Allen "Big Al" Englebright is a retired schoolteacher and storyteller. Contact him at [The Prairie Press, 101 N. Main, Paris, Ill., 61944.](mailto:Allen@ThePrairiePress.com))

BIRTHDAY

FROM PAGE 1B

Pippin, Kentucky Red Streak, Illinois Red and Funkhouser. Apples also came in a variety of shapes, colors and textures.

The foods people eat as a child growing up sets their tastes and preferences for life. It is possible to expand the palate beyond that experience for those willing to be adventurous but the foods of youth still bring comfort and satisfaction.

Lincoln grew up poor in the backwoods and frontier areas of Kentucky and Indiana. As an adult, he struck out on his own in New Salem, another crude frontier hamlet. Game and freshwater fish were likely some of the foods he ate in those places, although there is scant evidence Lincoln actually hunted or fished.

These experiences developed a preference for simple dishes, which is echoed by a rare statement Lincoln made

about food. He expressed such a fondness for corncakes that he could eat them as fast as two women could cook them.

Simple dishes were on the menu for Lincoln's first inaugural dinner: mock turtle soup, corned beef and cabbage, parsley potatoes, blackberry pie and coffee. The second inaugural was a much different and French-influenced affair consisting of about 64 separate dishes, including the option for calf's foot and wine jellies.

The 210th anniversary of Lincoln's birth is Tuesday, Feb. 12. If anybody wants to honor the memory of the 16th president, replicating the first inaugural meal is probably a doable project. The basic meal can be augmented by adding some other things Lincoln liked, such as his mother's gingerbread men, Mary Lincoln's white almond cake and throw in some of his other favorites like corncakes and pickled oysters.

MARY LINCOLN'S WHITE ALMOND CAKE (ADAPTED)

- | 1 cup blanched almonds cut and chopped to a coarse flour
- | 1 cup butter
- | 2 cups sugar
- | 3 tsp baking powder
- | 1 cup milk
- | 6 egg whites
- | 1 tsp vanilla extract
- | confectionary sugar
- | Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease and flour a Bundt cake pan.
- | Cream butter and sugar. Sift the flour and baking powder

three times. Add the flour to the creamed butter and sugar, alternating with the milk. When the liquid is incorporated, stir in the almonds and beat well.

Beat the egg whites to make stiff peaks and fold into the batter. Add the vanilla.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake for an hour or until it passes the toothpick test.

Let cool on a wire rack. After the cake has cooled dust with confectioners sugar. Another option is to cover with a basic white icing and sprinkle with almonds.



M	A	L	T			A	S	H		M	A	M	A					
A	L	O	E	S		I	T	O		O	D	E	R					
S	C	R	A	P	E	O	R	R		M	O	L	A					
H	A	I	L	E	R	L	A	M		E	N	I	D					
						C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A			
C	A	R	O	U	S	E				E	N	E	T	S				
P	I	M	P	L	E	D				S	E	I						
A	N	A	S	A						T	R	O	V	E				
						T	S	H		A	M	E	N	D	E	D		
						C	A	E	C	A		P	A	R	A	D	E	D
						C	O	R	D	I	L	L	E	R	A			
A	L	A	I			A	T	E		S	T	A	B	L	E			
B	A	R	S			T	E	A		H	E	A	L	E	D			
B	I	S	E			I	R	S		S	H	A	D	E				
A	M	E	S			C	S	T		S	H	A	N					

CROSSWORD

- Across**
1. Make ale
 5. Residue
 8. Female parent
 12. Succulent plants
 14. OJ's judge
 15. Czech river
 16. Embarrassing predicament
 18. NHL legend Bobby
 19. Sunfish
 20. One who acclaim
 21. On the __: running away
 22. Oklahoma's "Wheat Capital"
 23. The Golden State
 26. Merrymake
 30. Siberian nomads
 31. Pock-marked
 32. Baleen whale
 33. Leaf-footed bug genus
 34. Treasure
 39. Tanzanian shilling
 42. Changed
 44. Intestinal pouches
 46. Walked in a celebratory way
 47. South American mountain chain
 49. Jai __, sport
 50. Consumed
 51. Firm
 56. Pubs
 57. Leafy drink
 58. Cured
 59. Northern wind of France
 60. Tax collector
 61. Respite from the sun
 62. American spy Aldrich
 63. Central Standard Time
 64. Myanmar ethnic group
- Clues Down**
1. Crush
 2. Razorbill genus
 3. "Full House" actress Loughlin
 4. Bluish green
 5. Garlic mayonnaise
 6. Attacks repeatedly
 7. Secretion
 8. Special instance
 9. A handsome youth loved by Aphrodite
 10. Tree genus in the mahogany family
 11. Israeli city
 13. Formed a theory
 17. Remove
 24. Type of light
 25. Repeats
 26. Certified public accountant
 27. River in eastern France
 28. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
 29. Special __: military group
 35. Ribonucleic acid
 36. Not even
 37. Power transmission belt
 38. Doctor of Education
 40. Type of nerve
 41. Types of tops
 42. Large primate
 43. Flooded, low-lying land
 44. Gritty
 45. Gets up
 47. Stake
 48. Not the most
 49. Swedish rock group
 52. Expresses pleasure
 53. Expression of boredom
 54. Queen of Sparta
 55. Where Adam and Eve were placed at the Creation

BRIEFLY

GOP lawmaker aims to cut local property taxes

SPRINGFIELD – A bill that would slash local property taxes by 10 percent over the next two years has been introduced in the Illinois House.

State Rep. David McSweeney (R-Barrington Hills) introduced that legislation Monday, Feb. 4. After a two-year phase in, it would permanently cap local taxes at that lower level unless local voters approve a tax increase in a referendum.

House Bill 320 is just one of a number of efforts in the General Assembly to put more state controls on local property taxes. Another, Senate Bill 81, by Sen. Julie Morrison (D-Deerfield), would, with certain exceptions, cap individual property assessment increases at no more than 20 percent a year.

Lobby groups representing local units of government, which rely on property taxes as a major source of revenue, are expected to work hard against any such measures. The Illinois Municipal League in particular has a standing position this year of opposing any legislation to freeze property tax rates or reduce local taxing authority.

Pritzker touts state's tourism assets

SPRINGFIELD—Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker said Illinois' strength is its citizens at an awards dinner for tourism excellence Monday night, Feb. 4.

The Land of Lincoln has Chicago and Galena, Shawnee National Forest and Starved Rock State Park, but the 114 million visitors who visited the state in 2017 came because it's "home to the greatest people in the world."

"Chefs and wait staff, hotel managers and clerks, designers and shopkeepers, welcoming people from across the world to our state and showing them everything that is good about Illinois," Pritzker said in his speech.

"We're powered by some of the most decent, hard working, dedicated and kind people in the world," he continued.

The governor said in 2017, Illinois' tourism industry added \$3 billion in revenue to the state and local governments, supporting more than 337,000 jobs.

Bill would require faster reporting of opioid dispensing

SPRINGFIELD – Pharmacies in Illinois would have less time to report dispensing opioid medications and other controlled substances under a bill making its way through the General Assembly.

The House Human Services Committee on Wednesday advanced a bill that would require pharmacies to file those reports by the end of the business day on which controlled substances are dispensed. Current law gives them until the end of the following business day.

"It ensures that medical providers have a complete picture of what their patients are taking so that they're not over-prescribing opioids to patients who misuse or, actually, frequently then sell the fraudulent medication," Rep. Katie Stuart, D-Edwardsville, the bill's sponsor, told the committee during testimony.

She said the bill is an attempt to prevent what she called doctor shopping. Under current law, she said, people trying to obtain illicit doses can visit multiple doctors over a 48-hour period and receive multiple prescriptions before any of those prescriptions are reported.

Revising college admissions

Proposal for uniform admissions standards ignites controversy; Rep. Thamedi counters

BY PETER HANCOCK
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – A proposal to automatically admit students to any public college or university in Illinois if they meet certain standards is running into opposition, primarily from the University of Illinois system.

Rep. André Thapedi (D-Chicago), who was unsuccessful in pushing through similar legislation in 2018, is sponsoring a revised proposal this year to guarantee that any student who graduates from an accredited high school in Illinois and who meets certain academic standards would be guaranteed admission to any of the state's public higher education institutions.

Thapedi told a House committee Thursday the primary aim of the bill is, "to keep our best and our brightest students here in Illinois," many of whom, he said, leave Illinois to attend college elsewhere.

But he also said it's intended

as a form of affirmative action for minority students and other under-represented groups on Illinois college campuses. He specifically pointed to U of I's Urbana-Champaign campus as a source of concern because of its small proportion of minority student enrollment — 5.2 percent African-American and 9.3 percent Hispanic.

"That's pretty much the lowest in the entire state, so perhaps that's the reason why there's some hesitancy on their part to support this proposal," Thapedi said.

U of I officials said while they support Thapedi's goal of keeping more Illinois students in the state, and of increasing minority enrollment in higher education, the lawmaker's proposal could lead to the automatic admission of students who are not prepared to succeed at institutions like U of I.

"As a tier-one research institution, we are not configured at Urbana-Champaign to provide a great deal of remedial education for students who

are not ready for an advanced college curriculum," said Kevin Pitts, vice provost for Undergraduate Education at U of I. "Fortunately, we have a community college and a regional university system in this state that can help in that respect, and as a consequence we take well over 1,000 transfer students a year."

Thapedi responded that under his plan schools wouldn't be forced to admit unqualified students. He said the bill provides a two-part test for automatic admission: the students must have graduated in the top 10 percent of their class and they must have ACT or SAT scores that meet the benchmark qualifications for admission to the school where they are applying.

"So the question that the kids are going to be ill-equipped to be successful, potentially, it just doesn't really catch much muster, in my view," Thapedi said.

The bill also provides that for schools that do not rank their students, officials from

that school may instead send a letter or other form of certification explaining where the student would have ranked, if the school did use rankings, a provision that Thapedi said addresses concerns raised in last year's bill.

And it provides the U of I Urbana-Champaign campus would not be required to give automatic admissions to more than 75 percent of an incoming freshman class.

But some members of the committee, mainly Republicans, expressed skepticism at that. Rep. Terri Bryant (R-Murphysboro), for example, noted high school students can boost their grade point averages by taking only easy classes. And some, she said, are good test-takers who can score high on standardized tests, even though they may not really understand the questions or the material.

"I would just say that there could be students who would need some remedial education prior to going to school," Bry-

ant said. Rep. Norine Hammond (R-Macomb) said she was concerned that requiring schools to admit freshmen from the top 10 percent of their high school class could squeeze out otherwise qualified students from the lower 90 percent.

Meanwhile, Rep. Jeff Keicher (R-Sycamore) suggested it might be better to start with a pilot program, starting with what he called the directional schools — Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Illinois Universities.

"I am fully open to doing that," Thapedi said. "But you should know that as long as the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana is in opposition, it's a tough call. They drive it. What they say kind of goes."

The committee took no action on the bill Thursday. Thapedi said he plans to continue working with the universities, lawmakers and other stakeholders in higher education to come up with a final bill that would address their concerns.

MINIMUM WAGE MOVES UP



Capitol News Illinois

State Sen. Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood, speaks during a news conference Thursday, Feb. 7, in Gov. J.B. Pritzker's office following the Senate's vote to approve Senate Bill 1, which raises the state's minimum wage to \$15 per hour over a six-year period. Lightford was the bill's Senate sponsor.

Dems submit wage bill

House sponsor believes minimum wage bill will pass without amendments

BY JERRY NOWICKI
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – A bill to raise Illinois' minimum wage passed the state Senate on partisan lines Thursday, Feb. 7, after Gov. J.B. Pritzker made a personal appeal to Democratic lawmakers at a private caucus prior to the vote.

Senate Bill 1 received only Democratic votes as it passed by a 39-18 margin, putting the onus on the Illinois House to get the bill to Pritzker's desk by his requested deadline of Feb. 20, when he is scheduled to give his budget address.

While no Republicans voted for the bill — and several spoke against it on the floor citing concerns about businesses leaving the state, unforeseen costs on schools and universities, and the potential for job loss for low-wage employees — Pritzker said conservative voices helped shape the legislation.

"I talked personally with several senators to make sure their ideas were incorporated. I talked with many of the interest groups that represent businesses, and Republican interests, to incorporate those into the bill," Pritzker said during a news conference in his office at which no elected Republicans were present.

Interest groups are expected to continue to lobby for changes when the bill is heard in the House — particularly for an amendment to include a regional rollout of the minimum wage for lower rates downstate. But Rep. Will Guzzardi, a Chicago Democrat and SB1's House sponsor, said as far as he's concerned, his chamber should approve the current Senate version.

"I feel very confident that we will pass Senate Bill 1 as the Senate passed it," Guzzardi said. "I don't see the need for us to make any further changes to the legislation right here before us."

If approved as is, the minimum wage



Jerry Nowicki/Capitol News Illinois

Gov. J.B. Pritzker talks with state Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Chicago) before addressing Senate Democrats in their private caucus regarding a minimum wage hike Thursday, Feb. 7. Shortly after the caucus, the Senate Democrats voted unanimously to approve the minimum wage bill without Republican support.

will be phased in over six years, starting with an increase from \$8.25 to \$9.25 on Jan. 1, 2020, before increasing to \$10 on July 1, 2020, and \$11 on Jan. 1, 2021. After that, it would increase by \$1 every year until it hits \$15 in 2025.

Kimberly Lightford, a Maywood Democrat and the bill's Senate sponsor, said compromise is reflected in the six-year rollout and in a small business tax credit which won't affect Chicago businesses until the wage exceeds Chicago's minimum, which is currently \$12.

The tax credit is available to businesses with fewer than 50 full-time equivalent employees, which means businesses that pay less than 2,000 employee hours in a one-week period.

The credit would start at 25 percent of the difference between the current minimum wage and an employee's wage in the final quarter of the previous calendar year. It would decrease by 4 percent each year until it hits 5 percent in the final two years.

Employers with 2,000 or fewer employee hours will be able to take advantage of the credit for 7 years, while employees with 200 or fewer employee hours will be able to take advantage of

the credit for 8 years.

But Senate Republicans said those assurances are not enough for businesses, and the wages would force property tax hikes by increasing costs for K-12 schools, and will lead to greater requests for state appropriations from colleges and universities.

Sen. Jason Barickman, a Bloomington Republican, said he was told by Illinois State University the bill would cost \$600,000 in year one alone due to the campus's employment of 5,000 to 6,000 student employees.

Sen. Chapin Rose, a Mahomet Republican, said when fully implemented, the wage increase would represent a 17 percent cut to the general revenue fund for Eastern Illinois University, and a 12 percent cost for University of Illinois systemwide, with a \$57 million effect on the Champaign-Urbana campus alone.

But Pritzker said during his news conference that higher wages for people in college towns increases economic activity, and Lightford said universities are in poor financial situations as a residual effect of a budget impasse presided over by Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner.

Increasing revenue by closing tax loopholes

BY GRANT MORGAN
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
gmorgan@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD -- Admitting it will take two years to see any new revenue from a progressive state income tax, Fair Economy Illinois has ideas for raising money in the meantime.

Joined by several lawmakers, including House Majority Leader Greg Harris (D-Chicago), the progressive advocacy group had a news conference Wednesday to lay out plans for raising \$433 million in new state revenue.

The first plan, sponsored as House Bill 2085 and Senate Bill 1115 by Rep. Harris and Sen. Heather Steans (D-Chicago), would curb some loopholes in offshore tax havens. The group estimates this could bring in \$318 million.

"Illinois right now is losing \$1.3 billion in taxes that corporations or wealthy individuals have managed to shelter in other countries," Harris said.

The bills specifically address water's edge tax reporting, a way of shifting a domestic business's or individual's profits to an offshore entity where different taxes apply.

Fair Economy Illinois' second plan is to eliminate the retailers' discount tax break, which is estimated to bring in \$115 million.

Rep. Will Gazzardi (D-Chicago) is sponsoring House Bill 2079, which he says covers an obscure provision in Illinois law from more than 100 years ago that has gotten out of control.

According to Gazzardi, Illinois collects sales tax dollars from retailers, but rebates a portion of those dollars to help cover a business's cost of calculating the sales tax. He added they don't need millions in tax breaks for something that can be cheaply and easily done with modern software.

But the consequences of the law are serious. Walmart, according to Fair Economy's release, retains more than \$8 million a year through this provision.

The bill would, however, keep the sales tax calculation rebate for small businesses — up to \$1,000.

With this cap in place, the bill would not affect 85 percent of the businesses in Illinois.

HAVE YOUR SAY

CONTACT US: NANCY ZEMAN, 217-921-3216
nzeman@prairiepress.net

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

SEN. CHAPIN ROSE (R)
217-607-1853
www.senchapinrose.com

SEN. DALE A. RIGHTER (R)
217-235-6033
www.dalerighter.com

REP. BRAD HOLBROOK (R)
217-782-8388
www.rephalbrook.com

REP. CHRIS MILLER (R)
217-558-1040
repcmiller.com