

Wayne County Press

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Telephone 618-842-2662

Thursday, April 18, 2024



Working On Main

The old, wornout surface on East Main Street is shown being removed by Howell Paving. They made progress this week but much work remains.

Cisne Seniors Planning Trip To Washington; \$450 Per Student

by Amy Vaughan

Cisne High School Principal Kevin Bowen updated the North Wayne board Wednesday night on the intention to phase out the senior class trip to focus more on the Washington D.C. trip.

The DC trip is a "wonderful experience, but not as many kids go on this trip due to cost," he said. Even with the Podolsky family funding a portion of the trip for Wayne County seniors, each student still has to pay at least half of their way. This year, that cost amounted to about \$450, plus spending money on the trip.

Bowen said with making the DC trip the senior trip, it would bring the cost down and allow more students the ability to go.

In addition to the DC trip, this year's senior class is taking a day trip to St. Louis. By the time the class pays for expenses, bus, driver, etc. cost is about \$4,800 for a class of 19 students.

Agreement With Geff

A softball co-op agreement was approved between Cisne Middle School and Geff Grade School.

The co-op had been discussed for the current school year, but had to be put aside while Geff was still in a co-op with Jasper. Supt. Adam Ellis told board members the softball team numbers could use the three or four Geff players to help solidify the CMS program. The motion for the co-op agreement was brought by Steve Harrison and a second was given from Lance Endsley. The motion passed unanimously.

Briefs

In Today's Press

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Weather Forecast

Day	High	Low	Cond.
Friday	64	49	Cloudy
Saturday	61	45	Cloudy
Sunday	59	39	Cloudy
Monday	65	38	Sunny
Tuesday	63	48	Rain

Marriage Licenses

Name	Age
Justin Gill	27
Mt. Erie	
Whitney Reynolds	29
Mt. Erie	

The board approved the use of the CHS parking lot and track area for the July 5 fireworks display put on by the Village of Cisne. Rain date will be July 12.

The middle school science curriculum was approved to be updated to a different program, which only requires an annual fee of approximately \$600. This program has more real-life and hands-on experiments for the students.

Supt. Contract

Supt. Ellis reminded board members graduation dates were May 10 at 7 p.m. for CMS and May 11 at 2 p.m. for CHS. He noted the Pre-K graduation would be held on May 9th at 5:30 p.m. at Johnsonville Elementary School.

Supt. Ellis noted the nursing home in Cisne had asked if it would be possible to use district buses in case of an evacuation of their facility. An evacuation would be from their facility to the Bedford Fire Dept. station house. The district would only be providing the transportation, the nursing home and first responders would be responsible for moving the patients.

The board offered Supt. Ellis a new three-year contract following an executive session. The new contract begins on July 1, 2024. The district principals were given a 5.41 percent increase in their contract and were placed on a "two week after, two weeks before" contract. The board also approved a 5.41 percent increase in pay for all non-certified positions. Lauren Grace Conrad was hired to fill the CMS Math teaching position.

The board voted to increase the pay for substitute teachers for the upcoming school year to \$140 per day for retired teachers and \$125 per day for certified subs, plus \$15 per hour for non-certified subs.

District Projects

The perimeter for the new concession stand at the south ball field at CMS has been squared off, with concrete to be poured Thursday (today). The new concession building is ready for delivery and is scheduled to arrive on Monday, April 22.

The new doors at CMS will be painted after the school year wraps up on May 17. Work on the CHS boiler will resume after May 21.

Other Business

The resignation of Shaylene Todd as the CMS assistant softball coach was accepted by the board; and the board approved the dual credit partnership with the IECC District for the 2024-2025 school year.

While reviewing the district finances, it was noted all funds were in good standing, but during the June meet-

ing there would need to be a budget amendment for the building fund.

In routine business for the upcoming school year, the board accepted bids on dairy, LP, gas, diesel and rock. FS won the bid for LP gas, gasoline and diesel, while Carter & Sons won the rock bid. Each category only received one bid.

Scholar Bowl Team Wins

The CHS Scholar Bowl team won the regional for the first time in school history.

On April 24, the high school will hold recognition night for volleyball, cheer, basketball, scholar bowl, yearbook, baseball and softball. The event will begin at 6 p.m.

Senior exams will be on May 7 and 8. At the middle school level, Erick Atwood and Georgia Persinger represented CMS in the county Modern Woodmen speech contest.

The spring concert at the middle school will be held on May 6 at 6 p.m. Awards night will be held May 7 at 6 p.m.

Fire Destroys Boyleston Barn

Fire destroyed a large barn southwest of Boyleston Wednesday morning. The structure caught fire around 10:30 a.m. after a piece of tin from the roof blew off, lodged in some power lines and started to arc, said Fairfield Rural Fire Chief David Vaughan. The barn is located on the Rubenacker farm, southwest of Richland Church.

In addition to Fairfield Rural firemen, Wayne City firemen helped battle the blaze. Strong winds hampered firefighting efforts and water had to be hauled to the scene.

No injuries were reported. Firemen remained on scene for nearly three hours.

Wayne City Acreage Sold

Mermiller LLC of Wayne City has purchased 140 acres near Wayne City from Woods and Wings of Guntersville, Alabama.

The acreage sold for \$995,000.

Killed

Bonnie Man Run Over In Bluford Hit, Run

A hit and run crash claimed the life of a Bonnie man Sunday night.

Daniel Montgomery, 34, was riding an ATV in downtown Bluford when he ran into the side of an SUV on Markham lane. The impact threw Montgomery from his ATV onto the southbound lane of North Markham. Moments later, a southbound vehicle struck Montgomery as he lay in the road and continued south out of the

area. Witnesses described the vehicle that struck Montgomery as a dark sedan. Illinois State Police and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department are investigating the crash and are asking for help from the public in identifying the hit and run vehicle. If you have information, call the Jefferson County Crime Stoppers hotline at 618-242-8477.

School Year Winding Down

With the current school year winding down, Fairfield Grade School Supt. Kristina Gardner is accumulating surveys from teachers for suggested building changes during the summer.

The new \$173,000 chiller installed at Center Street school, will be made operational next week.

Supt. Gardner said 25 teachers will be enrolled for multi-sensory training to teach reading. And she briefed the District 112 school board on curriculum changes during their monthly

meeting Monday. She reported that the district's food service has a healthy balance of \$258,518 after expenses. Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, May 9.

The board hired Delilah White as a girl's varsity basketball coach; Gracie Musgrave was hired as a para-professional and Julie Hutson and Heather Laird were hired as long term substitute teachers.

Cisne Approves Bonds For Filtration Plant

The Village of Cisne Board adopted another round of water revenue bonds at Monday night's meeting, which "should be the last time," according to Mayor Roy Atwood.

The bonds will help finance the water filtration plant. The motion to approve the bonds passed unanimously.

Summer help was also hired. The high schoolers approved to work for the village were Spencer Brach, Kade Atwood, Logan Perkins and Wyatt Cordill.

A \$1,000 donation to the North Wayne Recreation Association was approved.

Mayor Atwood stated the town-wide yard sales will be held on May 4 and town-wide cleanup will be May 10. He also praised the work of Jennifer Eckleberry and Linda Barnard on the village's recent Easter Egg Hunt.

It was also noted the date for the village's fireworks will be July 5, with July 12 scheduled as a rain date.



Crowded Crowd

A picture of the substantial crowd that gathered for the 2024 Fairfield High School Prom late Saturday afternoon over the weekend. (Photo by Jarrod Pruitt.)

Ed Poshard, 90, Of Carmi, Dies; State Farm Insurance Agent

William "Ed" Poshard, 90, of Carmi died Thursday, April 11 at Linda E. White Hospice in Evansville. A U.S. Army veteran, he had been a State Farm insurance agent for 42 years. He was a member of the Ditney Ridge Baptist Church.

Private family services were held at the Campbell Funeral Home in Carmi with burial at Union Ridge Cemetery near New Haven.

Survivors include his children, William E. "Butch" (Gina) Poshard, Jr. of Larkspur, Colo. and Angela Lynn Eckert of Carbondale, Ill.; siblings, Glen (Jo) Poshard of Murphysboro and Madeline (John) Givens of New Haven, Ill.; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



WILLIAM "ED" POSHARD

Carol Williamson; 75, Dies; Lived In Cummings, Georgia

Caroline "Carol" (Englebright) Williamson, 75, of Cummings, Ga. died Sunday, April 14.

She was born in Carmi and grew up in Enfield.

A celebration of life service will be held at 1 Saturday, April 20 at the Campbell Funeral Home in Carmi with burial in Little Zion Cemetery near Enfield. Visitation will be 11 un-

til the time of service at the funeral home.

Survivors include her husband, Garree; two sons, Matthew (Elizabeth) Williamson of St. Louis and Nathan (Rebecca) Williamson of Atlanta, Ga.; a sister, Brenda Garrett of Enfield and two grandchildren, Piper and Abel Williamson.

Larry Borland, 64, Of Irvington, Dies; Retired Corrections

Larry Borland, 64, of Irvington died on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at his home.

Larry retired from the Department of Corrections in Centralia after 30 years of loyal service. After retirement, he drove a bus for KC Workshop in Centralia, and a van for DAV.

He truly loved driving for the workshop clients and DAV veterans.

Funeral Service

A celebration of life graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on today (Thursday), April 18, at Bailey Cemetery near Wayne City, with Pastor Steve Capps officiating.

Irvin Macz Funeral Home in Centralia is privileged to be assisting the family with arrangements.

Larry was born the youngest of nine, on June 29, 1959, the son of John and Anna (Flanigan) Borland in Mount Vernon.

He married his sweetheart and best friend, Donna Miller, on October 3, 1987, at Arrington Prairie (Bailey) General Baptist Church, near Wayne City, and she survives in Irvington.

Outdoor Appreciations

Larry had an appreciation for the outdoors, considering it his happy place. He could easily be found carefully caring for his lawn with precision mowing, to give his home great curb appeal.

He loved to watch the red birds and squirrels in his yard visit his feeder, and he made friends with his neighbor's ducks by offering them tasty treats.

His home was always decked out for Christmas and the Centralia Balloon Fest, as many would drive by to see his creations.

Partner

Larry had an amazing partner in his wife Donna. They did everything together and were blessed to visit beautiful destinations, with the Great Smokey Mountains being one of their favorites, as Larry searched for bear activity among the beauty of the mountains.

The couple also enjoyed taking Sunday drives together just to see where the road would take them and to look for deer.

Larry had a creative side, enjoying woodworking and refinishing, and making custom pieces that everyone admired.



LARRY BORLAND

Simply put, Larry was a really great guy. He was kind, generous, and the most amazing husband Donna could have ever asked for.

Survivors

Along with his beloved wife, Donna Borland, Larry is survived by his sisters Margaret Niederhofer, of Carlyle, Betty Fenton, of Centralia, Vickie (Chuch) Giallombardo, of Bradenton, Fla., and Sally (Allen) McCabe, of Dix; sister-in-law Dee Borland, of Centralia; brother-in-law Donnie (Linda) Miller, of Wayne City; many nieces and nephews; great-nieces and nephews; great-great-nieces and nephews; cousins; extended family members; and friends.

Larry was preceded in death by parents John and Anna Borland; brother John Borland; sisters Mary Jane Jacobson, and her husband Gary, and Peggy Smith, and her husband Weldon; baby sister Nancy Kay Borland; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ashley and Lois Miller; and brothers-in-law Bill Niederhofer, Charles Fenton, and Alan Loss.

In lieu of flowers and gifts, the family strongly requests memorials may be made in Larry's honor to Bailey Cemetery and will be accepted for the family at the Irvin Macz Funeral Home in Centralia, or by mail to: Bailey Cemetery 1165 County Highway 12 Wayne City, Illinois 62895.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family by visiting www.maczfuneralhomes.com and/or on the funeral home's Facebook page.

Shirley O. Shelton, 87, Dies; Jovac Employee

Shirley Ola Shelton, 87, of Wayne City, Illinois, formally of Sandwich, Illinois passed away April 16, 2024 at Stonebridge Memory Care Center in Mount Vernon.

Shirley worked at Jovac in North Aurora for many years. In 1999, Shirley moved back to Wayne City with her husband, Fred.



SHIRLEY O. SHELTON

Funeral Service

A visitation will be held Wednesday, April 24, from 10 to 11 at Archie Sanders Memorial Chapel in Wayne City. A Funeral service will begin at 11 with Reverend Jay Loucks officiating. Interment will follow at Thomason Cemetery in Wayne City. Memorials may be made in Shirley's honor to the charity of the donor's choice.

She was born June 10, 1936 in Jefferson County to Docia and Clyne Rapp.

Shirley was always a natural caregiver, and spent most of her life looking after her extended family in so many ways. She enjoyed quilting and cooking, especially for her family. Shirley was a classy but feisty lady who loved fiercely with all her heart. Her greatest joy in life was being a grandmother and spending time with her great-grandchildren.

The Survivors

Shirley leaves behind two sons, Roger (Valerie) Patterson and Gary Patterson; daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Patterson; three sisters, Melba Kissner, Joan (Bill) Braddy, Shelby (Ron) LeDuc; many grandchildren, including, Jason (Erin) Patterson, Christina (Hector) Garibay, Ashley Patterson, Kyle Patterson, Rebecca Rocco, and Jessica (Brandon) Baird; many great-

grandchildren, including Shelbi, Sienna, and Samuel Patterson, Jeremiah and Jaxson Garibay, Alexandria Rocco, Alexis Johnson, Holly (Bill) Whitlock, Alison and Philip Baird, and great-great-grandchildren, Karsyn and Lennox Whitlock. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, Docia and Clyne Rapp; step mother, Hattie Rapp; husband and love of her life, Fred A. Shelton; sister, Eleanor R. Purdy; brother, Jim Rapp; brother-in-law, Roy Kissner; eldest son, James Steven Patterson; two grandsons, Jeremiah Joshua Patterson and Richard D. Johnson.

Shirley will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff of Stonebridge Memory Care in Mount Vernon for their generous support and care of Shirley the last four years.

Call Hughey Funeral Home at 618-242-3348 or visit hugheyfh.com for further information.

Joan Dee Butts, 77, Dies

Joan Dee Butts, 77, of Grayville died Sunday, April 14 at Meadowbrook Skilled Nursing and Rehab in Grayville.

At Joan's request, there will be no services. The Campbell Funeral Home in Carmi is in charge of the arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Marlena McGhee of Harrisburg; her step-mother, Ruth McGhee; step-sisters, Connie Crider, Cathy Blazosky, Patricia Frakes and Priscilla Simmons; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

More Obits On Page 6

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Last Thursday, my brother Ed, a resident of Carmi, Illinois, passed away after leading a life of 90 years filled with meaning and purpose.

Throughout my entire life, my brother has been a great inspiration to me, having given me the benefit of his love and wisdom since I was a small boy. I could not begin to count the blessings that have accrued to my family and me over my lifetime as a result of my brother's influence on my life.

Some of my earliest memories as a child were Ed getting up at 4 am, still in his teens, packing a lunch bucket and heading out over ice slick roads to work in the oil fields. Whatever money he earned, he shared with the family, especially with my sisters and me who were still young and in school. Going into Norris City with him every Saturday morning and getting a burr haircut at Will Harlow's barbershop and washing his car for his Saturday night date were some of the highlights of my youth. He was my big brother who I always looked up to and was always proud of.

He finished high school and went to college while he was still in the Army, sent pictures home of far away places, told me in every letter to get a good education, and fueled my own dreams of learning and contributing to my fellow man.

When my sister, Jolene, was tragically killed in an automobile accident her senior year, I became depressed and wanted to drop out of high school. It was the sternest lecture, among many, that I received from him in my entire life for he was not always easy on me, but he was not going to let me fail.

But more than the dreams he inspired and the encouragement and the wisdom he shared, there was something else he gave me that only had to be observed. It's called work ethic and it's a little out of style today, but it never was with my brother.

When he got out of the Army, he became an insurance salesman going door to door in Indiana with no leads and no help. He had a goal of calling on a hundred households a day and he said most days, 99 doors would be slammed in his face, but he would make that one sale and the next day and the day after he'd do it all over again. After two years, his tenacity won him an interview with State Farm and he was awarded the agency in Carmi. He wasn't just a good insurance agent, he was a great insurance agent, leading the company in sales nearly every year. Late at night, early in the morning, anywhere, anytime a customer needed him, he was there to make the sale or cover the accident to help their family. He never sold them more than they required, and he never misrepresented what they were getting. He worked hard to get their business. He was honest, and people came to him knowing they would be treated fairly. He built trust in his business, and he cared about his customers, attending hundreds of their funerals and family events. He was awarded highest honors from State Farm on many occasions.

I know he was driven to become a successful businessman by the suffocating poverty of his youth because he never wanted his family to experience what he had to go through in his early life. He loved his country, loved his community, and was grateful for the opportunities he received, but above all he loved his family, cherished his kids and grandkids, worried about them, proud of them, maybe demanded more from them sometimes than they could give back, but his love was never in doubt.

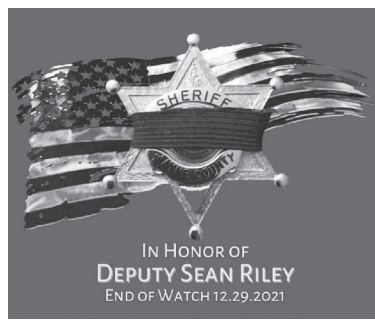
In a very real sense, my brother represented the best of what we stand for in this country. The old values. The enduring values. Family, honesty, hard work. I am proud of him. I will always be proud of him.

For the hundreds of friends and family who knew and cared for my brother, I thank you for the moments of your life you were able to share with my brother and for the respect and admiration you had for him.

Glenn Poshard



ED POSHARD



Police, Fire & Court

REPORT

Jolly Files Complaint; Wants Titles, Vehicles, Jewelry Back

Barely three months into a 17½ year prison sentence for armed violence, Ron Jolly of Fairfield has filed a lengthy motion asking the court to return a number of vehicles, titles, and jewelry seized as part of his arrest.

Jolly, 48, filed the 20-page pro se motion last month from his jail cell at the Graham Correctional Center at Hillsboro.

In his filing, Jolly alleges the State failed to hold up its end of a plea agreement reached when he entered a guilty plea to a Class-X felony charge of armed violence and a Class-4 felony of aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude.

Specifically, Jolly wants returned to his wife Desiree, a 2001 Dodge Ram Sport 4x4 pickup truck, a 1997 Ford Thunderbird, a car trailer, a 34-foot flatbed trailer, a 1999 Chevy Tahoe and a 1990 Chevy Suburban.

Additionally, he claims the State should return two sapphire rings valued at more than \$4,500 and an Alex Rodriguez gold rookie card. Jolly also alleges that the State has refused to release 11 vehicle titles to his wife that were seized as part of his case. The sentencing memorandum showed he was entitled to just 4 titles, and those were to be turned over to his attorney, Jonathan Turpin of Carmi.

Jolly does not dispute a long list of weapons and ammo seized by police.



RON JOLLY

Those items include a .22 caliber rifle, \$4,125 in cash (to be applied to costs and fees), a 9 mm Ruger with seven rounds, a .45 Uberti Hartford gun, a .45 caliber Colt; a Ruger 10-22 with scope, three magazines and 30 rounds of ammo; a .22 caliber long rifle, 63 9 mm rounds, another \$800 in cash, a black holster, a pair of brass knuckles, 75 rounds of .410 shotgun rounds and numerous other items of alleged contraband.

Jolly is also disputing how much "good time" he should be credited against his sentence. According to Jolly's calculations, he is entitled to 915 days of credit against his sentence. The request does not square with Judge Denton's Aud's sentencing memorandum which entitles him to only 115 days spent in local jail awaiting disposition of his case.

All of Jolly's allegations will be taken up during a video hearing set for May 14 in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Enfield Suspect Jailed; Crossville Woman Arrested

Derek E. Austin, 43, of Enfield was jailed Tuesday night after he allegedly choked his wife and forced her to the floor.

The incident happened shortly before 9 p.m. Tuesday at the couple's home in Enfield. The alleged victim, Kerri Austin, 46, told White County deputies that her husband had grabbed her by the neck and forcefully shoved her to the floor. He is also accused of wrestling a phone away from the victim to prevent her from calling for help.

According to a police report, Derek Austin allegedly grabbed Kerri after she threw a chair, and only tried to restrain her to prevent her from throwing anything else. No injuries were reported. Derek Austin was jailed on a Class-2 felony of aggravated domestic battery.

Karen S. Ward Sexton, 53, of Crossville was arrested Tuesday morning on an active White County warrant charging her with forgery/altering a document. The arrest was made shortly before 11 a.m. at her home in Crossville. Sexton was jailed pending a detention hearing before a judge.

Carmi Police Arrest Two

Donald Gene Todd, Jr, 60, of Enfield was arrested by Carmi City Police Monday afternoon on a charge of stalking and disorderly conduct following an incident at the Carmi Wal-Mart.

Todd was jailed on the Class-4 felony charge based on this being his second or subsequent arrest for stalking.

Joshua White, 34, of Flora was arrested by Carmi police Monday night on charges of driving on a revoked license and for having no insurance.

Police arrested White after a traffic stop shortly before 11:30 Monday night at Oak and Industrial Drive in Carmi. He was jailed pending a detention hearing before a judge.



DAKOTA J. GOODWIN

One Jailed For Hitting Jailer; Another Arrested On Warrant

Dakota J. Goodwin, 28, of Carmi was arrested Wednesday night on a charge of domestic battery following an incident on Stewart Street.

Goodwin is accused of battering a 35-year-old woman during an incident reported shortly after 9 p.m. After being taken to the county jail, Goodwin is accused of striking a corrections officer during the booking process. He is being held in the White County jail pending a detention hearing on both charges.

Jarrod Talley, 39, of Carmi was arrested early Thursday morning on a White County warrant charging him with burglary and theft under \$500.

Carmi police say they spotted Talley after responding to a report of suspicious activity on Fackney at 8th Street around 4:10 Thursday morning. He was booked at the county jail and released with pretrial conditions pending a court appearance.

Domestic Battery Arrest

Oscar C. Bartlett, 35, of Carmi was arrested on a White County warrant Tuesday morning charging him with domestic battery.

Bartlett was taken into custody without incident at his 313 5th Street home and lodged in the county jail pending a detention hearing.

Sharon K. Hamblin, 70, of Carmi reports someone stole several items from her carport and the sidewalk in front of her home. No value was given on the loss.

White Co. Deputies Arrest Four

Collin Ingram, 23, of rural Carmi was arrested Monday morning by White County police on a charge of domestic battery.

Ingram is accused of grabbing the 19-year-old female victim by the throat and spitting in her face. The alleged victim grabbed a baseball bat to protect herself after Ingram allegedly pinned her to a wall. The incident happened around 8:16 a.m. at a residence near Brownsville. Police said the argument was allegedly over a broken TV remote.

Chance M. Grein, 26, of Crossville was arrested April 10 for driving on a suspended or revoked license following a traffic stop on Hammill Street at Fourth in Crossville. The arrest was made shortly before 2 a.m. After his arrest, Grein was given a notice to appear in court May 7.

Shelby Holloman, 29, of Carmi was arrested last Saturday on a White County warrant charging her with failure to appear in court on a charge of criminal trespass. She was booked at the county jail pending a court appearance.

John Louis Torres, 37, of Bedford, Ind. was arrested Sunday night by White County police for not having a valid driver's license and obstructing identification.

Police stopped Torres' motorcycle on Route 1 near Norris City for crossing the center line. Torres allegedly gave the deputy three different dates of birth before police learned the suspect hadn't possessed a driver's license since 2011. He was booked into the county jail pending a court appearance. His motorcycle was towed from the scene.

Flora Man Arrested On Multiple Warrants

Murl Bridges, 40, of Flora, was arrested in Wayne County, wanted on multiple warrants.

He was arrested Tuesday on two warrants out of Clay and Lawrence Counties and a third warrant out of Richland County charging him with failure to appear on an aggravated battery charge.

Pleads Guilty To Theft

Anthony Tucker, an inmate at the Graham Correctional Center, pled guilty Tuesday to retail theft in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Two years of conditional charge was added to his sentence.



Fairfield Takes 5th

Fairfield FFA Livestock Judging team had a successful day at the Newton Livestock Judging Contest placing 5th. Individually Gracie Atwood placed 7th overall. Front l-r Lauren Wolfe, Remi Taylor, Alex Bond, Sarah Ruhl. Back l-r Wren Braddock, Gracie Atwood, Ava Kreiter, Jude Carter, and Ryan Vaughan.

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Wayne County Press Society News

by **Debbie Xanders**
Call 618.842.2662
or email
society@waycopress.com



DONALD K. WOOD

Don Wood Turning 90

Donald K. Wood of Fairfield will turn 90-years-old on April 28, 2024. Don is a retired teacher and coach. He started his career at Mills Prairie High School in 1960 and retired from Fairfield Community High School in 1993. Don and his wife, Linda, have three children and six grandchildren. They enjoy gardening, traveling, vol-

unteering and attending FCHS Mules sporting events.

An open house celebrating Don's 90th birthday will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at The Landing in Fairfield from 2-4 p.m. All friends and family are invited to attend.

No gifts, but cards are appreciated. If you are unable to attend, cards may

be mailed to Donald Wood, 2024 IL Hwy 15, Fairfield, IL 62837.

Lineman Rodeo

Frontier Community College Electrical Distribution Systems (EDS) Program will conduct a Lineman Rodeo on Saturday, April 20, beginning at 9 a.m.

EDS students will face off against one another in various events to show off the skills they have acquired in the program.

Everyone is encouraged to come out to support the students. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy free food and some friendly competition. There will be t-shirts available for \$20 each.

Jasper School Kindergarten Registration

Jasper School will conduct kindergarten registration this Friday, April 19, from 1-3 p.m. This registration is for children who are residents of Jasper Township and will be five-years-old on or before September 1, 2024.

Parents need to bring a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, current immunization records, and physical (including lead test), Social Security number, and proof of residence (e.g., utility bill, renter's receipt, bank statement).

Parents need to bring a certified

Church Of The Harvest Welcomes Marty Blackwelder

Marty Blackwelder will conduct services at Church of the Harvest in Wayne City on Saturday, April 20, at 7 p.m., and again on Sunday, April 21, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Feeding Kids Of Wayne County Food Drive

Feeding Kids of Wayne County will conduct a food drive on Saturday, April 20, in the Cisne, Johnsonville, and Mt. Erie area to pick up non-perishable food items. Anyone wishing to donate should contact Jessica Lane at 618-838-5270.

Items needed include canned vegetables, mac and cheese, Hamburger Helper, granola bars, Pop-Tarts, individual snacks and cereals, ravioli, spaghetti, canned spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, pudding, Jell-O, crackers, oatmeal packets, Ramen noodles, etc. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Checks can be made to Feeding Kids of Wayne County.

*More Society
On Page 5*



Tour Courthouse

Edwards County High School teacher Coen McDowell recently took students from his government classes to tour the Edwards County Courthouse.



New Hope School Speech Contest Winners

New Hope School recently conducted the school's speech contest, with the top three speakers being (l to r) Kamden Vaughan, third place, Gretchen Hooper, second place, and Jonah Desanti, first place. Jonah and Gretchen will advance to the county speech contest later this month.

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Wayne County CEO Trade Show

The Wayne County CEO Trade Show will be held Sunday, April 28, from 4-6 p.m. at Willow Creek, south of Fairfield. There will be 12 young entrepreneurs set up for business. Those participating are:

Reaghan Wells – FurFaction (homemade dog treats)
 Katherine Newman – Serenity Bath Co. (all natural goat milk soaps)
 Kathryn Keyser – Shine Again (custom jeweled clothing)
 Brianna Boone – Lulus (custom clothing)
 Lacey Tew – Lovely Lynn Catering (specialty baked goods)
 Rainey Loker – Rainey Made (homemade jewelry)

Kaylin Loker – Sweet Bliss (gluten free desserts)
 Chloe Owens – FLF Rabbity (registered bred rabbits for pets, meat and show)
 Lily Gacek – Lovely Graphics (school spirit wear)
 Ethan McElravy – For Him Clothing (Christian clothing)
 Ciara Turner – Flawless Cleaning Co. (cleaning service)
 Kennedy Elliott – Cake Pops For A Cause (cake pops, portion of proceeds to charity)

There is no entrance fee and everyone is encouraged to come shop and support this group of students in their efforts to start their own businesses.

Here For Eclipse Weekend

Arriving on Friday at the home of Diane Ward for the eclipse weekend were her sister from Crown Point, Indiana, Lynnette and Lloyd Kiser, and her other sister, Adrienne and Tito Ramos and their daughter, Natasha, from Largo, Florida.

Most of the weekend was spent at the home of Suzanne and Ryan Webb, Diane's daughter, where they had a very good view of the eclipse from Suzanne's back deck. The rest of the weekend was spent telling stories on one another and eating lots of good food. Everyone left for home on Tuesday morning.

Movie Night Rescheduled

The eclipse weekend movie night has been rescheduled for this Saturday, April 20, starting at 7:45 p.m. at Leo French Park, featuring "Wonka" with a special appearance by Will Wonka. This event is sponsored by Volunteers for a Progressive Fairfield.

Bluford Ruritan Club To Host Breakfast

The Bluford Ruritan Club will host their monthly all-you-can-eat breakfast Saturday, April 27, from 7-9 a.m. at the Ruritan Building. Cost is by donation. The menu will include sausage, pancakes, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, grits, coffee, orange juice, milk, and water.

Lions Club To Collect Eclipse Glasses

Wondering what to do with your old solar eclipse glasses? The Lions Club is collecting them to send to children in another country who will soon be experiencing an eclipse. Glasses may be dropped off at the Fairfield Public Library by May 31.

Kids Camp Fundraiser

New Beginnings Church will conduct their annual NBC Kids annual porkburger sale for Breakaway Kids Camp Saturday, April 20, beginning at 9 a.m. at the corner of First and Main Street. Proceeds will go to help offset the cost of Kids Camp.



Girl Scouts Visit Sweeties

Brownies and Juniors from Girl Scout Troop #8779 took a tour of Sweetie's in Wayne City on Saturday and enjoyed ice cream with Rhonda Willett, owner of Sweeties. Those enjoying the ice cream were (front l to r) Lillith Carlock and Evelyn Weir, and back, Karis Burkett, Jaycee Hough, owner Rhonda Willett, and Aurora Moyer.

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<p>2022 Dodge Challenger R/T B2266 - Gray, Black Top Pkg., Conv. Pkg., Roof, Alpine, 650 Miles \$39,995</p>	<p>2022 Chevy Colorado Z71 MT544A - Black, Crew, 4x4, V6, Leather, Loaded, 1,975 Miles \$38,995</p>	<p>2024 Chevy Camaro 2LT MT388B - White, Leather, RS, Loaded, 2,600 Miles \$38,500</p>	<p>2020 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon B2282 - Red, 2 Dr., 4x4, V6, 34,100 Miles \$34,995</p>	<p>2023 GMC Acadia SLT B229B - Gray, Leather, Loaded, 17,500 Miles \$31,995</p>
<p>2019 Cadillac XT4 Sport B2295A - Black, Loaded, 32,200 \$25,995</p>	<p>2019 Chevy Express Cargo Van B2251 - White, 6.0 V8, 98,200 Miles \$24,995</p>	<p>2022 Chevy Malibu LT B2297 - Blue, Auto, Loaded, 21,900 Miles \$22,995</p>	<p>2020 Chevy Equinox LT B2272 - Gray, FWD, Conv. Pkg., Loaded, 32,700 Miles \$22,965</p>	<p>2020 Chevy Equinox LT B2271 - Black, FWD, Conv. Pkg., Loaded, 39,000 Miles \$20,995</p>
<p>2022 Jeep Compass Latitude MT464B - Gray, 4x4, Auto, Loaded, 63,075 Miles \$19,995</p>	<p>2019 Mitsubishi Outlander SE B2295A - Gray, Loaded, 85,850 Miles \$18,500</p>	<p>2015 Lincoln MKX MT422A - Red, AWD, Leather, Roof, Loaded, New Tires 69,300 Miles \$17,995</p>	<p>2013 GMC Yukon Denali MT413A, Tan, AWD, V8, Roof, Leather, One Owner, 130,000 Miles \$14,995</p>	<p>2019 Chrysler Pacifica Touring MT519B - White, Leather, Loaded, 131,600 Miles \$13,995</p>

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<p>2024 GMC YUKON AT4 MT488 Htd. Seats, Steering, Leather, 3rd Row \$73,694</p>	<p>2024 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD CUSTOM MT502 Under Seat Storage, Front Recovery Hooks, Remote Start \$54,690</p>
<p>2024 GMC SIERRA 2500 HD PRO MT486 4WD, Bluetooth, Wireless Apple CarPlay \$53,509</p>	<p>2024 GMC SIERRA 1500 PRO MT531 4WD, Remote Start, 20" Wheels \$48,800</p>
<p>2024 CHEVY COLORADO Z71 MT515 4WD, Crew Cab, Sliding Rear Window, \$45,435</p>	<p>2024 GMC SIERRA 1500 PRO MT518 4WD, Remote Start, Power Lock & Lift Tailgate \$41,770</p>
<p>2024 GMC SIERRA 1500 PRO MT523 Push Button Start, Bench Seats, Stabilitrack w/ Trailer Sway \$39,555</p>	<p>2024 GMC TERRAIN AT4 MT503 Leather, Heated Seats & Steering, Rear Lift Gate \$35,985</p>
<p>2024 CHEVY EQUINOX LS MT524 Keyless Entry, Heated Mirrors \$26,675</p>	<p>2024 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT MT496 Roof Rails, Remote Start, Front H&C, USB Ports \$25,635</p>

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William Haywood Jr., Of Grayville, Dies; Vietnam War Veteran

William Thomas Haywood, Jr. a veteran of the Vietnam War and longtime resident of Grayville, passed away on January 24, 2024.

He worked as a maintenance cable splicer for General Telephone Electronics (GTE). Tom retired from GTE in 2002 after 30 years.

Funeral Service

His family has organized a celebration service to honor Tom's life and military service, which will be held at the Cook Funeral Chapel in Grayville on Saturday, April 27, from 10 to 12.

Tom was born on April 27, 1945 to Tom and Margaret (Whitehead) Haywood and graduated from Grayville High School before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in 1963. In the Air Force, he served as a jet engine mechanic until 1967.

After the war, Tom returned home and married Marsha Mills on August 20, 1969.

Again, feeling the call to serve, Tom continued his military service by enlisting in the Illinois Army National Guard in 1986.

Following his retirement from the National Guard, Tom moved with Marsha to Gulf Breeze, Fla., then to Anna, Tex.

The Survivors

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marsha, his two sons David (Yuri) and



WILLIAM T. HAYWOOD JR.

Jeff (Katheryn), four grandchildren (Christopher, Rebecca, Dylan, and Anabella), two great grandchildren (Landyn and Greenlee), his brothers Terry (Wanda), Tony, and Tracy (Debbie), and sister Merry.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter (Meagan).

In lieu of flowers and gifts, his family respectfully asks that you consider a charitable donation to the Wounded Warrior Project (<https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/>) or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (<https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude>).

Sam Williams, Jr., 91, Dies; Drilling Manager For Di-Kor

Sam Williams, Jr., 91, of Carmi died Sunday, April 14 at Hamilton Memorial Hospital in McLeansboro.

He worked as a drilling manager for Di-Kor and later for Frontier Kemper. He served as a deacon at the Enfield Christian Church.

Funeral services will be 10 Saturday, April 20 at Enfield Christian Church with burial at Enfield Cemetery. Visitation will be 5 - 7 pm Friday, April 19 at the church. Memorials may be made to the Enfield Christian Church and will be accepted at the church. The Campbell Funeral Home of Carmi is in charge of the arrangements.

Survivors include children, Eric (Jan) Williams of Argyle, TX, Julie (Mike) Daniel of O'Fallon, IL, Mike (Juli) Williams of Carmi and Tony (Irma) Williams of McLeansboro; special friend, Betty Pierson; 14 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.



SAM WILLIAMS JR.

Ronald E. Shelton, 83, Dies; Farmer

Ronald "Ronnie" Eldon Shelton, 83, of Wayne City, passed away on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at Crossroads Community Hospital in Mt. Vernon, surrounded by his family.

Ronnie was a farmer his whole life.

Funeral Service

Funeral services will be held at 1 on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at Young Funeral Home in Wayne City, with Pastor Ed Foley officiating.

Visitation will be held from 11 until the time of service. Interment will follow the funeral service at Mt. Zion/Farnsworth Cemetery, south of Keenes.

Ronnie was born October 11, 1940 in Paxton, Ill. to Howard & Ruby (Lathrop) Shelton. On June 6, 1982 he married Carol (Hutchcraft) Shelton, who survives. They were blessed with 41 years of marriage.

He was a member of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, south of Keenes, for many years and later became a member of the Epworth Methodist Church.

He loved taking care of his cows and goats, and driving tractors. He enjoyed family gatherings, fish fries, holding babies, and spending time with friends and family. He loved spending time with his wife Carol at his side. He always insisted that she sit right next to him. Ronnie never knew a stranger, and was always willing to help out someone in need. He was intelligent, kind, and funny. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather and he will be dearly missed.

The Survivors

Ronnie is survived by his wife Carol Shelton of Wayne City, six children: Debbie Blakey of Woodlawn; Scott (Catherine) Shelton of Dahlgren; Tina (Rick) Bray of Bluford; Misty (John) Kearbey of Du Quoin; Tonya Tuttle (and Doug Akers) of Belle Rive; and Rodney (Jeana) Shelton of Mt. Vernon; 12 grandchildren: Jacque (Steve) Withrow, Cody (Sara) Shelton, Felicia (Jeremy) Johnson, Nickolas (Maria) Tannahill, Amber Banks (and Wes Phillips), Coleton Kearbey, Tyler (Alyssa) Shelton, Lukas Shelton, Tristan Shelton, Emily Shelton, Matthew Shelton, and Katie Shelton, 17 great grandchildren, and two sisters-in-law: Diane Smith and Dixie Hutchcraft.

He was preceded in death by his parents Howard & Ruby Shelton, a baby brother Harold Shelton, a sister Marilyn Downey, 2 brothers-in-law: Stanley Hutchcraft and Mike Smith, and a son-in-law Darrell Blakey.



RONALD ELDON SHELTON

Online condolences, memories, and words of encouragement may be shared at www.youngfuneralhome.com.

Deborah L. Potter, 60, Dies; Homemaker

Deborah L. Potter, 60, of Fairfield, died at 3:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at her home.

She had been a homemaker.

No Services

Deborah's body is being cremated with no formal services or burial at this time. The Johnson and Vaughn Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Condolences can be made to the family at www.facebook.com/johnson-vaughnfuneralhome.

Debbie was born on December 8, 1963, in Elgin, Illinois, to George and Karla (Gladson) Dunning. In June, 2007, she married Richard "Rick" Potter.

The Survivors

Survivors include her husband Rick Potter of Fairfield, a daughter Heath-



DEBORAH L. POTTER

er Dunning of Savannah, Ga., three sons George (Shar Bannis) Dunning of Hamilton, OH., Jason Dunning of Evansville, and Anthony Dunning of Denver, Colo., and a stepdaughter Heather (Danny) Land of Albion, along with five grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents.



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Cisne Girls Keeping Faith After MTC Shutout

It's been a rough season for the Cisne High School softball team, which is 0-7 (0-3) after losing at home to Waltonville Tuesday in Midland Trail Conference (MTC) action, 19-0.

However, Coach Samantha Klingler continues to stay upbeat as the team takes steps toward rebuilding its program; it's just the second season after not fielding a team for a few years.

"We have been making contact with our bats, so I'm looking at that as a positive, even if it's not giving us the end results that we all want," she said. "I feel like the team does see the improvements we've made and knows what we still need to work on."

"While it is hard to stay positive, I try to reinforce 'let's look at the fielding or batting we did for that game. Did we catch pop flies and make good throws? Did we make contact with the ball?'"

Klingler added. "We have to look at what we have done well, and build from there."

Against the Spartans, the Runnin' Lions made just two errors and also managed a pair of hits: one apiece from junior Ella Krupp and freshman Rylie Backes.

The team is slated to visit Woodlawn for an MTC game Thursday (today), then faces a very busy conference schedule next week, hosting Red Hill Monday, Webber Tuesday, and Wayne City Thursday before going to Flora on Friday (non-conference).

It could be a tough few days, because Cisne will be without Kaylen Handy, Emily Mason, Kori Kessel, and Greta Moegelin, who will be on the senior trip. The upside is, it will give Cisne's younger players more experience all the way around.

"We've hit a fielding slump, so we'll be doing as many reps as possible with drills for the infield and outfield," Klingler said.

	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Waltonville	0	2	10	1	6	19	18	0
Cisne	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

Hitting: (C) Backes 1-2, Krupp 1-1. (W) Russell 2-2 (3rbi), E. Wangler 2-4 (4rbi), Tipton (rbi), Hernandez 1-2 (2rbi), Seddon 3-3 (3rbi), Rheude 1-1, Ullaut 2-4 (2rbi), Bergman 2-2, Wangler 2-4, Long 2-2 (rbi), Kirk (rbi), Newbury 1-1, Keith (rbi).
 2B: (W) E. Wangler, Russell, Seddon, Ullaut, Long.
 3B: (W) Newbury.
 HR: (W) Ullaut.
 WP: Ullaut (5 inn., 2h, 0r, 0e, 0w, 13so).
 LP: Kessel (5 inn., 18h, 19r, 19e, 10w, 0so, 1hr).



Sophomore first baseman Alivia Rice connects for an RBI single, one of two hits for the Lady Mule in a 3-2 loss to Hamilton County Tuesday. (Photo by Brian Turner)

Mules Drop Nonconference Road Game; Bounce Back For BDC Win

by Brian Turner

Fairfield and North Clay are not traditional rivals, but it is a matchup that likely holds a little different meaning to Mules baseball coach Chris Fleener, who is a Cardinal alum. So Monday's 3-2 loss at North Clay was a bitter-sweet defeat for Fleener's Mules.

The Mules did not score an earned run in the game, plating both of their early by taking a 2-0 lead in the top of the first. Those came with just one hit in the inning, a single by Logan Tullis, but they scored two runs when Dylan Fleener reached on an error. Landon Harrelson was also on base after he got hit by a pitch to lead off the game. The senior leads the team in free passes the hard way, getting hit four times this year.

Fairfield would go on to collect just four more hits over the next six innings, getting shut out over that span.

North Clay would tie the game in the bottom of the third, also scoring twice with just one hit. They drew two walks in the innings from Jake Easton, before an RBI single by Cayden Craig and a passed ball that scored Cody

Zimdars.

The Cardinals took the lead in the bottom of the fifth when Zimdars walked before singles from Craig and Carder Walden, the second of which scored the go-ahead run.

Fairfield dropped two games below .500 with the loss, at 6-8.

North Clay 3, Fairfield 2
 F—2-0-0-0-0-0-0—2
 N—0-0-2-0-1-0-x—3

	AB	R	H	BI
Harrelson	3	1	0	0
CKing	4	0	0	0
Tullis	3	1	1	0
CWhite	3	0	0	0
Fleener	3	0	1	0
KWhite	2	0	0	0
Olson	1	0	0	0
RMarshel	2	0	1	0
Puckett	1	0	1	0
JKing	2	0	1	0
Isaacs	1	0	0	0

HBP—K. White, Harrelson. E—Harrelson.

Pitching
 IP ER H K W

CWhite	2	0	2	1	0
Easton	.1	0	0	0	2
Harrelson	3.1	1	6	1	2
Grieve	0	0	0	0	1
Isaacs	.1	0	0	0	0

The Mules bounced back in a big way Tuesday, dominating a home conference game with Hamilton County for a 9-0 win. The win improved the Mules' league mark to 2-2, with both losses coming to Edwards County.

The Foxes never could get anything going against Fairfield starter Talan Hixenbaugh, who went the distance for the shutout win. In seven innings, he gave up just three hits, while striking out 10 and walking two.

Hamilton County's E. Kessler threw just three more pitches than Hixenbaugh (94 to 91), but gave up nine runs in those 94 pitches, six of which were earned.

Fairfield went up 3-0 in the bottom of the first inning and led the rest of the way. Logan Tullis had an RBI single in the opening inning, while Dylan Fleener drove in two with a single. The Mules tacked on two more in the bottom of the fourth, starting with a double from Fleener and helped out by two Foxes errors. Fleener continued his big day with a single that scored Keegan Downen.

The Mules put the nail in the coffin with three more runs in the bottom of the sixth, getting an RBI single from Jake Easton and a two-run double from Caleb King.

Fleener finished the game 3-for-3 at the plate with two RBIs. Tullis was 2-for-3.

Fairfield 9, Hamilton Co. 0
 H—0-0-0-0-0-0-0—0
 F—3-0-0-2-1-3-x—9

Harrelson	4	1	1	0
CKing	3	1	1	2
Downen	0	1	0	0
Tullis	3	1	2	1
Olson	0	0	0	0
CWhite	3	0	0	0
Fleener	3	1	3	2
KWhite	2	0	1	0
Puckett	2	2	0	1
Easton	3	1	1	1
JKing	2	0	0	0
Martin	1	0	0	0

BB—C. King, Olson, Puckett. 2B—C. King, Fleener. CS—Grieve. Tullis.

Pitching
 Hixenbaugh 7 0 3 10 2

Lady Mules Drop One-Run BDC Clash At Home To Lady Foxes

by Brian Turner

In low-scoring one-run games, it is easy to pick small moments where a play or two the other way make a big difference. The Fairfield Lady Mules certainly had a few in a 3-2 home loss to Hamilton County Tuesday at Southwest Park.

The loss was the third in a row for the Lady Mules, who fell to 1-3 in BDC play. The one win was a forfeit from Eldorado.

Fairfield senior Reagan Wells and Hamilton County's Kaylie Brake both shut out their opposing offenses over the first three innings. Wells was able to get out of the third unscathed despite two errors in the inning when Olivia Smith turned a double play to end the inning.

The Foxes broke through with a run in the fourth, getting singles from T. Boyd and A. Ashcraft, the second scoring the first. Fairfield quickly answered in the bottom of the fourth when Kayden Wells doubled in front of an RBI single by Alivia Rice. Rice would advance to second a sacrifice bunt, but was then thrown out stealing at third before a strikeout to end the inning before they could do any more damage.

Hamilton County would take the lead in the top of the sixth, starting with a break on a call when T. Boyd was called safe for an infield single. Photo evidence would indicate she should have been called out. T. Webb singled behind her, before Smith turned her second double play of the game on a hard liner righter to her. She got the lead runner, the one who should not have been on in the first place. The next batter, Ashcraft, took advantage of the extra opportunity, parking a vehicle over the right centerfield fence for a 3-1 lead.

Fairfield got one run back in the bottom of the sixth when Mabry Ellis roped a double to left and scored on a single by Kayden Wells. After turning two of their own, the Lady Mules had a chance at more snuffed when they hit into a double play to end the sixth. Fairfield went down in order in the seventh to end the game.

R. Wells took the loss, allowing three earned runs on nine hits. She struck out five and walked none. Brake got the win, allowing five hits over seven innings, while striking out eight and walking one.

K. Wells and Rice each had two hits, while M. Ellis had one. Ellis' double improved her OPS on the season to a team-high 1.412. Rice sits in second with a 1.324 after her two singles.

Fairfield (9-6) will host Gallatin County (0-8) Monday.

Hamilton Co. 3, Fairfield 2
 H—0-0-0-1-0-2-0—3
 F—0-0-0-1-0-1-0—2

	AB	R	H	BI
Smith	3	0	0	0
MEllis	2	1	1	0
KWells	3	0	2	1
Rice	3	0	2	1
Kirk	2	0	0	0
RWells	3	0	0	0
DEllis	3	0	0	0
Staton	2	0	0	0
Scott	2	0	0	0

BB—M. Ellis. 2B—K. Wells, M. Ellis. CS—Rice. E—Scott, M. Ellis 2, R. Wells.

Pitching
 IP ER H K W
 RWells 7 3 9 5 0



Kayden Wells was fired up after a double against Hamilton County Tuesday at Southwest Park. Wells had two hits and an RBI in a 3-2 loss for the Lady Mules. (Photo by Brian Turner)

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

TRIBUTE to the TRIBE



Kenzie Seidel
 is a sophomore on the softball team. Her parents are Dennis & Carissa Seidel



Klaire Stich
 is a junior on the softball team. Her parents are Kathy & Kelly Stich



Dutch Peyton
 is a sophomore on the baseball team. His parents are Jarod & April Peyton



Dawson Wood
 is a sophomore on the baseball team. His parents are Dusty & Tiffany Wood

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Mules Win Foxes Invitational; Place Fourth In Du Quoin Relays

by Brian Turner

Winning three events on the day, Justin Townsend's Fairfield Mules picked up a team invitational win Monday in McLeansboro, taking the Foxes Invitational by three points.

Fairfield piled up 123 points, edging BDC-rival Carmi by three. Those two squads ran away from the pack, with Centralia Christ Our Rock Lutheran in a distant third with 56 points.

The Mules' three wins came in the three longest individual races. Skylar Bladel won the 800-meter run in 2 minutes, 15.32 seconds, a personal best. Grant Jennette had the other two wins, with the sophomore winning the 1,600 in 4:58.59 after winning the 3,200 in 10:52.71.

Trey Mason placed second in the 300 hurdles, behind Christopher's Gauge Schlake. Fairfield also finished second in a pair of field events. Discus specialist Jackson Lamczyk threw 126 feet, 3 inches for second place behind Johnston City's Carson Murrar.

In the high jump, senior Trent Bliss cleared 6-4, one inch behind Carmi's Mitchel Edwards. The 6-4 jump tied Bliss' career best. Aiden Dunn placed second in the pole vault, clearing 10-6. Fairfield freshman Justin Johnson racked up points in the sprints. He placed third in the 200, fourth in the 100 and fifth in the 400.

Foxes Invitational

Team—Fairfield 123, Carmi 120, Christ Our Rock 56, Christopher 55, Sesser-Valier 52, Mt. Carmel 43, Hamilton County 34, Johnston City 33, Gallatin County 14, Marion Agape Christian 9, Eldorado 6, Vienna 4, Goreville 2, NCOE 1, Woodlawn 1.

100—1, Blayne Sisson, MC, 11.13. 2, Dez Malone, SV, 11.23. 4, Justin Johnson, F, 11.53. 7, Michael Barner, F, 11.81.

200—1, Beck Huff, CWC, 23.6. 2, Arda Gencel, CORL, 23.64. 3, Johnson, F, 24.08. 4, Miller Simpson, F, 24.26.

400—1, Jayde Albright, CWC, 53.34. 2, Isaiah Lyons, CORL, 54.46. 5, Johnson, F, 56.04. 6, Holt Gilbert, F, 56.39.

800—1, Skylar Bladel, F, 2:15.32. 2, Samuel Traiteur, CZR, 2:18.09. 9, Jarret Vaughan, F, 2:28.72.

1,600—1, Grant Jennette, F, 4:58.59. 2, Andrew Benham, CWC, 5:03.90. 6, Kanyen Lingafelter, F, 5:40.05.

3,200—1, Jennette, F, 10:52.71. 2, Braiden Respondek, GC, 11:06.02. 5, Vance Vanway, F, 13:10.59.

110 Hurdles—1, Landyn Mitchell, CORL, 15.46. 2, Gauge Schlake, CZR, 15.85. 7, Braxton Galihier, F, 19.33. 8, Aaron Allums, F, 21.26.

300 Hurdles—1, Schlake, CZR, 42.43. 2, Trey Mason, F, 42.44. 7, Galher, F, 48.66.

400 Relay—1, Carmi, 45.28. 2, Fairfield (Simpson, Trey Mason, Sargent, Barner), 45.35.

800 Relay—1, Sesser-Valier, 1:37.29. 2, Marion Agape, 1:37.66. 3, Fairfield (Simpson, Robson, Sargent, Barner), 1:37.98.

1,600 Relay—1, Sesser-Valier, 3:49.89. 2, CZR, 3:50.07. 3, Fairfield (Bladel, Jennette, Lewis, Mason), 3:55.91.

3,200 Relay—1, Carmi, 9:26.3. 2, Fairfield (Cuff, Gacek, Bladel, Lewis), 9:27.8.

Shot Put—1, Evan Sanders, JC, 46-6. 2, Nate Diego, JC, 45.5. 3, Chris Graver, F, 44-2. 7, Keegan Bare, 38-6.

Discus—1, Carson Murrar, JC, 136-3. 2, Jackson Lamczyk, F, 126-3. 5, Eric Lock, F, 115-0.

High Jump—1, Mitchel Edwards, C, 6-5. 2, Trent Bliss, F, 6-4. 10, Jaylen Maners, F, 5-4.

Pole Vault—1, Brody Webb, HC, 11-0. 2, Aiden Dunn, F, 10-6. 5, Jude Carter, F, 8-0.

Long Jump—1, Sisson, MC, 19-11. 2, Schlake, CZR, 19-11. 14, Barner, F, 16-1.5. 19, Maners, 12-2.5.

The Mules stepped up in weight class Tuesday in the Bob Karnes Relays in Du Quoin, finishing tied for fourth against mostly River-To-River teams.

Host Du Quoin won the day with 99 points, followed by Harrisburg and Benton. Fairfield and Herrin tied with 59 points.

Fairfield got two wins on the day, with Aiden Dunn winning the pole vault, clearing 3.05 meters, and Lamczyk winning the discus with a throw of 45.34 meters.

The Mules best finish in the relays came from the 1,600 relay team of Jennette, Trey Mason, Holt Gilbert and Johnson. They placed second behind Harrisburg. Jennette also placed third in the 1,600, just ahead of teammate Treyton Lewis in fourth.

Bliss once again placed second in the high jump, clearing 1.83 meters (roughly 6-0).

Bob Karnes Relays

Team—Du Quoin 99, Harrisburg 85, Benton 79, Fairfield 59, Herrin 59, West Frankfort 41, Nashville 27, Webber 23, Sparta 3.

100—1, Triston Webb, DQ, 11.16. 2, Da'Marion Johnson, DQ, 11.42. 7, Johnson, F, 12.01.

1,600—1, Kaden Blades, B, 4:41.74. 3, Jennette, F, 5:14.22. 4, Treyton Lewis, F, 5:14.38.

110 Hurdles—1, Adrian Mann, H, 15.35. 2, Tony Keene, H, 15.37. 8, Galihier, F, 20.1. 10, Allums, F, 21.63.

400 Relay—1, Du Quoin, 43.05. 2, Herrin, 44.38. 5, Fairfield (Barner, Mason, Sargent, Simpson), 1:38.36.

800 Relay—1, Herrin, 1:32.07. 2, Du Quoin, 1:32.38. 7, Fairfield (Barner, Mason, Sargent, Simpson), 1:38.36.

1,600 Relay—1, Harrisburg, 3:33.11. 2, Fairfield (Jennette, Mason, Gilbert, Johnson), 3:43.47.

1,600 Relay Freshmen—1, Harrisburg, 4:00.82. 2, Benton, 4:03.97. 3, Fairfield (Bladel, Lingafelter, Maners, Lewis), 4:04.66.

3,200 Relay—1, Herrin, 8:28.45. 2, Du Quoin, 8:49.57. 5, Fairfield (Jennette, Gacek, Cuff, Bladel), 9:19.15.

Short Medley Relay—1, Herrin, 3:40.39. 2, Benton, 3:51.11. 5, Fairfield (Gilbert, Robson, Sargent, Lewis), 4:01.28.

Distance Medley Relay—1, Benton, 10:35. 2, Du Quoin, 11:45.08. 5, Fairfield (Vanway, Vaughan, Lewis, Cuff), 13:07.

440 Hurdle Shuttle—1, Harrisburg, 1:07.09. 2, Du Quoin, 1:13.45. 4, Fairfield (Allums, Galihier, Mason, Mason), 1:20.85.

Shot Put—1, Cash Mydler, DQ, 15.14. 2, Brynner Inman, N, 13.93. 7, Chris Graver, F, 12.68. 14, Jayden Wilson, 11.54. 24, Bentley Rogers, F, 9.92. 30, Jack Copeland, F, 8.36.

Discus—1, Jackson Lamczyk, F, 45.34. 2, John Blumhorst, N, 43.88. 15, Eric Locke, F, 35.16. 21, Graver, 27.28. 23, Cooper Berg, F, 26.79.

High Jump—1, Brady Melvin, WF, 1.9. 2, Bliss, F, 1.83. 10, Maners, F, 1.68. 11, Owen Gruen, F, 1.68.

Pole Vault—1, Dunn, F, 3.05. 2, Stetson Cornman, H, 2.9. 6, Scotty Cuff, F, 2.74. 10, Carter, F, 2.29.

Freshman Southpaw Lifts Waltonville Past Cisne, 4-0

A left-handed freshman threw a no-hit shutout Tuesday to lift visiting Waltonville to a 4-0 victory over the Cisne High School baseball team.

Brian Mann issued only three walks across seven innings while striking out nine. In addition, sophomore Gage Peterson delivered a pair of RBIs as the Spartans improved to 10-4 overall and 5-0 in the Midland Trail Conference (MTC).

Cisne fell to 4-4 (2-1).

"He (Mann) did a very good job at keeping us off balance, and we just couldn't make anything happen at the plate," said Cisne Coach Justin Car-

son. "We fielded well, and when they put the ball in play we made the plays we needed to."

"They are just a very solid baseball team up and down the lineup."

The Runnin' Lions did well on the hill. Gavyn Harrell absorbed the loss, but struck out six across four frames while Hagen Howard delivered three strikeouts.

"We pitched well enough to win; just a couple of pitches we would like to have back," Carson said.

The Runnin' Lions will try to even up their MTC record Thursday (today) at Woodlawn, then will visit Oblong

Friday for a non-conference game.

"We have to improve on our hitting, which from the beginning of the year I knew was an area we would need to focus on to be successful," Carson said.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	R	H	E
Waltonville	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	4	5	1
Cisne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	0

Hitting: (W) Mann 2-4 (rbi), Peterson 1-3 (2rbi), Mensar 1-3 (rbi), Galloway 1-2.
2B: (W) Galloway.
HR: (W) Peterson, Mensar.
WP: Mann (7 inn., 0h, 0r, 0er, 3w, 9so).
LP: Harrell (4 inn., 3h, 3r, 3er, 2w, 6so, 2hr), Howard (3 inn., 2h, 1r, 1er, 0w, 3so).

Mental Toughness Is Focus For Lady Indians, Now 2-9

If there's one thing that Coach Jessica Shelton wants to see develop in her Wayne City High School softball team, it's a little more mental toughness.

"The girls need to focus on letting go of the first few errors that occur and not let the mentality of the game beat them," she said, following a 15-0 loss at Zeigler-Royalton on Monday and a 10-0 loss at home to Odin on Tuesday. "Against Z-R we fell apart in the third inning and we just couldn't hit until about the fourth, but it was too late."

The Tornados (8-12) opened the flood gate in the third frame, scoring 13 runs. They were led at the plate by senior Hayley Pasquino and freshman Caitlyn DeWeerd, who both batted in

three runs. Wayne City managed three hits.

Junior Addison Furlow picked up the W while freshman Adi Stich absorbed the loss.

Odin upped its mark to 6-10 with the win over the Tribe. Stats for the Fighting Eagles were unavailable, but the Lady Indians picked up hits from Kenna Anselment and Alayna White. Josie Greenwalt was the losing pitcher, "but she pitched a great game," Shelton said.

"The girls just hit off her, but our defense made a couple of errors in the first inning, and that's where they scored all but two runs on us," Shelton said. "Kenzie Seidel had a great double

play, catching in center and throwing to first, but (overall) our defense struggled and we just couldn't get enough hits to score."

"This is what we will focus on, moving forward."

The Lady Indians are 2-9 overall, but 1-0 in the Midland Trail Conference (MTC) with a 17-7 win over Red Hill last month. They've got some big league games coming up: at Webber this Friday, April 19, then continuing on the road vs. Woodlawn April 22, Cisne April 25, and Waltonville April 26.

"The girls are really looking forward to it," Shelton said.

FCHS PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Ian Puckett
is a sophomore on the baseball team. His parents are Fred & Marcia Puckett



Logan Hodges
is a sophomore on the baseball team. His parents are JR & Staci Hodges



Alivia Rice
is a sophomore on the softball team. Her parents are Ryan & Carrie Rice



Nicolas Munoz
is a sophomore on the tennis team. His parents are Jorge & Tara Munoz



Nykia Staton
is a sophomore on the softball team. Her parent is Shirley Staton



Harlee Scott
is a sophomore on the softball team. Her parents are Jimmy & Leah Scott



Brock Johnson
is a sophomore on the tennis team. His parents are Thomas & Ashlee Johnson



Grady Simpson
is a sophomore on the tennis team. His parents are Nathan & Jessica Simpson



Israel Sargent
is a junior on the track team. His parents are John & Heather Sargent and Carl & Jessi Wright


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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK


ROAR from the DIAMOND




Audrey "Izzy" Serles
is a junior on the softball team. Her parents are Jason Serles & MaryAnn Shreve



Kayden Dagg
is a junior on the baseball team. His parents are Tyler & Brandi Dagg




Gavyn Harrell
is a junior on the baseball team. His parents are Dustin & Nicole Harrell



Cooper Bowen
is a junior on the baseball team. His parents are Kevin & Beth Bowen

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Lady Mules Compete In Benton Invite; Ella Sager Wins Mile

by Brian Turner

Running in the Don Webb Invitational in Benton Monday, the Fairfield Lady Mules track team placed eighth out of 17 teams overall.

Marion won the day with 96 points, followed by Herrin in second place and Carbondale in third, with the bigger schools dominating the day. Host Benton was fourth. Fairfield was the highest placing Black Diamond school in the field.

Fairfield got one win on the day, from junior Ella Sager, who won the 3,200-meter run in 13 minutes, 3.06 seconds. She also placed second in the 1,600 in 5:45.29, a season-best for her there in the shorter race of the two.

The Lady Mules also got a second-place finish from freshman Wren Braddock in the high jump. She was one of three girls to clear 4 feet, 10 inches. Du Quoin's Ellee Green won with the fewest scratches, while Braddock tied for second.

Don Webb Invitational

Team—Marion 96, Herrin 78.33, Carbondale 60, Benton 52, Harrisburg 50, Pinckneyville 47, Du Quoin 30, Fairfield 27, Sesser-Valier 23, West Frankfort 21, Carmi 20.33, Goreville 12, Johnston City 11.33, Christ Our Rock 9, Massac County 8, Vienna 7, Eldorado 6.

100—1, Gemma Kinkade, B, 12.86. 2, Isa Greer, M, 13.1. 15, Myra Copeland, F, 14.34. 25, Myler Jackson, F, 15.94.

200—1, Kincade, B, 26.95. 2, Karli Mann, H, 27.43. 9, Wren Braddock, F, 29.15. 28, Selah Sork, F, 34.91.

400—1, Sydney Ragon, WF, 1:01.46. 2, Linlee Beck, M, 1:04.07. 15, Mabrey Foster, F, 1:19.43.

800—1, Ellary Blakey, H, 2:25.62. 2, Vanessa Teel, P, 2:32.72. 14, Remi Taylor, F, 2:50.5. 20, Adi Hickey, F, 3:04.69.

1,600—1, Blakey, H, 5:38.91. 2, Ella Sager, F, 5:46.29. 11, Taylor, F, 6:36.95.

3,200—1, Sager, F, 13:03.06. 2, Sarah McKowen, CORL, 13:26.42. 7, Elanie Vanway, F, 14:30.89.

100 Hurdles—1, Gabby Shires, Ha, 16.14. 2, Brenna Stearns, M, 16:59. 8, Emily Vaughan, F, 19:03.

300 Hurdles—1, Stearns, M, 47.25. 2, Isabella Phillips, DQ, 48.95. 6, Vaughan, F, 54.02. 12, Jaycie Couch, F, 1:00.5.

Continued on Page 10

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Technologies by Troy Computers, Security Cameras, Networking, Long Range WIFI

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Wayne County Press Classifieds Get Results. Call 618-842-2662 For Details.

MISC FOR SALE

AERUS-ELECTROLUX Sales/Service. Free pickup/delivery. Call an authorized Representative for special prices. MARGARET LANE 618-897-2653 618-925-5454

WANTED Will haul away for free any old refrigerators, stoves, furnaces, air conditioners, mowers, any other metal. 618-599-4304 Doug Jordan

Pets

LOW INCOME WAYNE COUNTY RESIDENTS SAVE \$20 when you spay/neuter your cats/dogs! Click and print at www.arfcares.com

REAL ESTATE

Homes

Notice The Administrator of the Estate of Joann Barbara Root, deceased, has a residence for sale located at 2128 County Road 490 East, Xenia, Illinois. If interested in purchasing this residence, send a written notice to John C. Robison, Jr., 302 East Main Street, Fairfield, Illinois 62837. BY: s/Yvonne Winters

FOR RENT

House

Rental Assistance (for private rental units) for elderly, disabled persons and families with children is available thru the Section 8 Voucher Program. Apply at the Fairfield Hi-Rise office, 303 North First Street, Fairfield, Illinois or call 618-842-9008 for more information.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Apartment

The Edwards County Housing Authority is accepting applications for income based apartments in Albion and West Salem. All utilities are included with charge for electric overages. Pick up applications at 125 West Cherry Street in Albion.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

SALES

Rummage Sales

AD DEADLINE All classified ads must be into the Press by 9:00 a.m. on the date of publication. Ads may be emailed to classifieds@waycopress.com, faxed to 618-842-7912, or brought in.

AUTO & TRUCKS

Trucks

The Edwards County Sheriff's Office is selling by sealed bid, a 2012 Ram 1500 pickup truck. This was a patrol vehicle for the Sheriff's Department. The truck runs and drives, it needs the AC charged. The truck can be inspected Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Bids can be dropped off or mailed to the Sheriff's Office, 50 East Main Street, Suite One, Albion, IL 62806 commencing Monday, April 8, 2024 through Thursday, May 8, 2024. Bids will be opened Thursday, May 8, 2024 at 3 p.m. in the Sheriff's Office. The Edwards County Sheriff's Office retains the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

WANTED

Wanted

Wanted: Big and small yards to mow. Have references. Call or text Rawleigh Bailey 618-516-1222, leave message if no answer.

Wanted To Do Garden tilling and bush hogging. No job too big or too small. 618-599-3252

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted

Western Wayne Water District is now accepting resumes for a Water Maintenance position. Resumes must be turned in by April 20. Mailing address: PO Box 336, Wayne City, IL 62895. Office: 620 County Highway 12, Wayne City, IL 62895

Several Immediate Openings Up to \$18.30/Hour Call SIWI 618-662-7494 or apply at 116 East North Ave., Flora, IL 62839.

HELP WANTED

New Hope Community Consolidated School District #6 will be accepting applications for Elementary Education Teacher for 2024-2025 school year. Applicants must have a valid Illinois teaching license. Salary and benefits as per the salary schedule in collective bargaining agreement. Send resume, copy of license, references, and transcripts to Julie Harrelson, New Hope CCSD #6, 1804 County Road 445N, Fairfield, IL 62837. Deadline to apply: Friday, May 3, 2024. Any questions call 618-842-3296.

B-Way Design and Decorating, LLC has one full-time and one part-time opening for our installation crew. Carpentry, flooring and tile skills helpful. Wages based on experience. Must be able to pass a drug test and have a valid driver's license. Also looking for construction trade subcontractors and painters. Apply in person. 618-842-9216. 1000 East Main Street, Fairfield, IL 62837.

AUCTIONS

General Auction

Auctioneer Call Paul Gibson Over 50 years experience Phone 618-673-2622 or cell 618-838-1454 or www.auctionzip.com ID 6414 Remember our job is to help you!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Large Consignment Auction located at the Cisne Park, Cisne, Illinois 62823 This Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 12 noon.

Now accepting consignments of cars, trucks, 4-wheelers, tools, antiques, riding mowers, clean household, barn items, guns. If you have items to sell this weekend call Paul at 618-838-1454. For photos and updates, go to our website www.auctionzip.com ID-6414

PAUL GIBSON AUCTION COMPANY 618-673-2622 or cell 618-838-1454 Lic.# 440.000.405 Planning an auction, give us a call Over 50 years experience

NOTICES

Announcements

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Press Payment Policy

Classified Ads, Card of Thanks, Birthday Ads, Reunions, and In Memoriam placed by individuals must be paid in advance.

Fairfield American Legion Auxiliary 176 will start BINGO back upstairs, Friday, May 3, 7 p.m. Must be 18 to play. Hope to see you there. Everyone welcome. Chairman Louise Jones

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Lady Mules Compete In Benton Invite...

Continued from Page 9

400 Relay—1, Marion, 50.54. 2, Herrin, 51.04. 11, Fairfield (Vaughan, Robbins, Copeland, Braddock), 55.97.
 800 Relay—1, Carbondale, 1:53.21. 2, Harrisburg, 1:53.94. 7, Fairfield (Vaughan, Turner, Copeland, Braddock), 1:58.19.
 1,600 Relay—1, Marion, 4:18.3. 2, Carbondale, 4:29.74. 10, Fairfield (Poster, Couch, Turner, Vanway), 5:08.59.

3,200 Relay—1, Carbondale, 10:51.17. 2, Pinckneyville, 10:53.63. 10, Fairfield (Taylor, Kirk, Couch, Hickey), 13:14.03.
 Shot Put—1, Maya Rounds, SV, 38-7. 2, Torrie Rider, CWC, 35-5. 9, Hunter Kirk, F, 28-4. 19, Annalise Mourey, F, 24-9.
 Discus—1, Rounds, SV, 113-3. 2, Ashlyn Rager, CWC, 103-1. 6, Macie Edwards, F, 90-10. 18, Abby Hedden, F, 70-4.
 High Jump—1, Ellee Green, DQ, 4-10. 2, Jacqueline Dill, P, 4-10. 2, Wren Braddock, F, 4-10.

7, Mabrey Foster, F, 4-8.
 Pole Vault—1, Cece Franks, Ha, 10-6. 2, McCayla Rowatt, M, 10-0. 7, Taylor, F, 7-0. 9, Ciara Turner, F, 6-0.
 Long Jump—1, Kincake, B, 17-0-75. 2, Torionne Deville, C, 16-0.5. 11, Emersyn Robbins, F, 14-7. 13, Copeland, F, 14-0.
 Triple Jump—1, Mann, H, 36-5. 2, Alaiyah Penn, C, 35-0. 8, C. Turner, F, 30-9.5. 14, Sork, F, 25-8.5.

Tribe Taking It One Game At A Time, MTC Slate On Uptick

The Wayne City High School baseball team might be 0-7 on the season, but Coach Jaxon King is encouraged by the improvement he's seeing as the Indians head into the thick of their Midland Trail Conference (MTC) schedule. "We've played well, but we still have to limit our errors and walks," said King, whose team lost at Zeigler-Royalton on Monday, 12-2, and at home to Odin on Tuesday, 9-6. "But we're putting balls in play—and good things are happening." One of those good things came from freshman Marschell Mays, who stormed Z-R's Tornados with 2-for-3 at-bats before delivering a 4-for-4 effort and a pair of RBIs vs. Odin. Sophomore Dawson Wood had two hits against Z-R while freshman Landis Musgrave went 2-for-4 against the Eagles. "At-bat, our effort has been increasing with every game," King

noted. "We're laying out for balls and hustling everything out, we've just had an inning or two in each game where we've struggled. Once we eliminate those, we will be able to compete in most games." Wayne City has played just one MTC game so far, a 9-1 loss to Red Hill, but will try to chalk up some Ws as their league play hits full-swing in the coming days. The Tribe has four conference showdowns in a row: at home vs. Webber this Friday, April 19th, followed by games at Woodlawn April 22, Cisne April 25, and Waltonville April 26. "Our schedule next week will be packed, but we're trying to take it one game at a time, one inning at a time," said King, who doesn't have a single senior on his team—and just two juniors. "If we can win innings, we will eventually win ball games."

	1	2	3	4	5	6	R	H	E		
WC	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	8	1		
ZR	0	0	7	3	1	1	12	7	2		
Hitting: (WC) Wood 2-2, Mays 2-3, Caudle 1-3 (rbi), Gregory 1-3, Brown 1-3, Musgrave 1-2, Schuster (rbi), (ZR) Foster 2-4, Hudgens (rbi), Freeman 1-4 (3rbi), Cole 1-1 (rbi), Butler (rbi), Harbison (2rbi), Mays 1-3, Reese-Phillips 2-3 (3rbi).											
2B: (ZR) Foster, Reese-Phillips. HR: (ZR) Freeman. WP: McCoy (6 inn., 8h, 2r, 2er, 2w, 5so). LP: Schuster (2.1 inn., 1h, 6r, 6er, 7w, 0so), Musgrave (0.2 inn., 3h, 3r, 2er, 2w, 0so, 1hr), Beehn (1 inn., 0h, 1r, 1er, 2w, 0so), Musgrave (1.1 inn., 3h, 2r, 1er, 2w, 0so).											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	R	H	E
Odin	2	0	2	0	2	3	0	0	9	5	4
WC	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	X	6	9	4
Hitting: (WC) Wood 1-4, Mays 4-4 (2rbi), Musgrave 2-4, Gregory 1-4, Peyton 1-3. (O) Purcell 2-3 (2rbi), Arnold 2-4, Jourdan 1-4 (rbi), Parrish (rbi). 2B: (WC) Musgrave. WP: Voelkel (7 inn., 8h, 6r, 1er, 3so). LP: Brown (3r, 3er, 3w, 0so), Wood (5 inn., 5h, 6r, 1er, 3w, 5so), Gregory (2 inn., 0h, 0r, 0er, 2w, 4so).											

Current Estate Tax Burden On Family Farms

by Hannah Spangler

FarmWeek Jeff Brooks, Whiteside County Farm Bureau member, faced an unprecedented challenge when he lost his father in 2023 — the weight of the Illinois estate tax. "This burden is putting pressure on the current operations of our family farm," Brooks testified April 12 before members of the Illinois House Revenue and Finance Committee. "In March of 2023, still coping with my father's passing, we learned the amount of a significant payment that was still due on our farming operation." The committee heard testimony on HB 4600, the Family Farm Preservation Act, sponsored by state Rep. Sharon Chung, D-Bloomington. "Illinois' No. 1 industry is in farming with 96% of Illinois farms being family-owned," Chung said. "HB 4600 addresses the discrepancy between escalating farm estate evaluations and annual farm income." The

Family Farm Preservation Act, an Illinois Farm Bureau initiative, if adopted, would create a \$6 million true exemption to the estate tax for family farms, tied to inflation. Additionally, the bill would allow a surviving spouse to utilize their own estate tax exemption and any unused exemption from the deceased spouse upon their passing. Brooks said his father risked his life savings to put a payment down on their 120-acre farm, an investment meant to provide stability for the family's future. "Two weeks before my father's passing, we were able to make the final payment on the last farm we would purchase together," he said. Assets resulting from years of hard work might now have to be sold by Brooks, a fourth-generation family farmer. "We were not prepared for the complexity, expenses and sometimes confusion of this undertaking. Thus far, we have spent over \$64,000 in professional fees just to have an accurate estate tax return filed." And without a change in the current policy, he said he will have to do

this again when his mother passes. "The death of a loved one should not force families to have to sell the farm," IFB President Brian Duncan said. "This current Illinois estate tax hits normal, everyday Illinois family farmers who do not make millions of dollars." Brooks said he hopes the legislation passes so his daughters and other Illinois farm families won't have to endure the same struggle in the future. "As I reflect upon my father's passing, the greatest disappointment I have was that we spent too much time discussing how the Illinois estate tax was going to affect our operation," Brooks said. "I wish I would have spent more time talking with him about the new baby calves, how the crops looked and the latest technology." This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

PET ADOPTION

Meet Lulu! Lulu has hip dysplasia, but that doesn't slow her down one bit. She loves to run and play.

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