

# County Journal

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WE wish YOU A Merry CHRISTMAS

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Letters to Santa Pgs. 25-39

## Parents say school isn't taking allergy seriously

By Travis Lott

Parents of a student at Steeleville Grade School met with the school board Monday night because they do not feel their daughter, who suffers from a severe peanut allergy, is being adequately protected while attending school.

Adelynn Knop, 9, is a fourth-grader.

She was diagnosed with the peanut allergy at the age of 2. That is a young age for a child to be diagnosed with an allergy, as Adelynn's father said most doctors will not test a child for allergies if they are under the age of 5.

Stephanie and Chad Knop, Adelynn's parents, have altered their lives to protect their daughter and have requested the school make reasonable accommodations to do the same. They don't feel those accommodations are being entirely met.

The Knops have met with school Superintendent Stephanie Mulholland to draw up a Section 504 Plan, but Adelynn's mother said she doesn't believe the plan is being followed.

Mulholland said she wrote the plan last school year and reviewed it with the Knops.

She said the plan is updated yearly as circumstances and teachers change for Adelynn.

When the County Journal requested comment from Mulholland on some of the items the Knops felt weren't being followed in the plan, she declined to go



Adelynn Knop

into detail.

"(The questions) are getting a little more than what I'm comfortable with," Mulholland said. "I still have to work with them to make the school safe for Adelynn."

During the meeting, Chad Knop read a prepared statement to the board.

"It seems that every year since we've started (at Steeleville Grade School) we have had some sort of major issue," Chad said. "This is a life or death issue."

The Knops requested that the board consider making the school completely nut-free.

"It can be done, and we've been told (by Steeleville administration) it can't be done," Chad said.

Chad said that food allergies, especially nut allergies, are on the rise across the nation.

Adelynn's allergy is so severe that even a miniscule exposure to peanuts could cause major problems. The Knops feel as though the school isn't taking the is-

sue seriously.

"It would be like you walking up to a vat of poison and not being worried about it," Chad said. "She's worried about it."

"If (Adelynn's) not feeling safe at school, there's no learning happening," Stephanie added.

Chad told the board that they have consulted an attorney for advice on their options. One of the options they were given, Chad said, was that if the school could not provide adequate accommodations, then the school may have to pay for Adelynn to attend a school that would accommodate her allergy. He said that would be required under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Once Chad indicated that he had spoken with an attorney, the board made a motion to enter into executive session. However, they did not specifically state at the time of the motion what exemption they were applying that allowed them to enter into closed session. Mulholland later said that they closed the meeting due to potential litigation.

While potential litigation is a valid exemption under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Stephanie told the County Journal that the couple had not threatened litigation, nor did they have any intention to sue the school. They had merely sought advice from an attorney.

However, Mulholland said she didn't take the mention of an attorney lightly.

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Governor Bruce Rauner, center, addresses workers at Roeslein Modular Fabrication, as founder and CEO Rudi Roeslein, left, and Senator Paul Schimpf look on.

## Rauner visits businesses in Red Bud

Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner paid a visit to Randolph County December 15, making stops at two businesses in Red Bud.

First seen by the governor, who was accompanied by state Senator Paul Schimpf, was Schnickelfritz Bakery, where Rauner and Schimpf ate doughnuts and signed a holiday message for troops serving overseas, which will be included with a shipment of cookies the bakery is sending to a soldier stationed in Iraq.

Rauner and Schimpf then toured the Roeslein Modular Fabrication plant, a 375,000-square-foot facility on 17 acres in Red Bud. Roeslein's Red Bud facility employs 184 people who fabricate structural steel and pipe, process modules and skids and craft pre-assembled systems that help companies reduce labor cost, increase safety and reduce overall costs.

"Illinois government could use Roeslein's expertise to improve cost savings and service quality," Rauner said.

The tour was conducted by CEO and cofounder Rudi Roeslein, company President Dave May and other company executives.

"From a global manufacturer like Roeslein to small family businesses, our local employers form the bedrock of the communities they serve, boosting both the regional and state economies," said Schimpf. "I'm glad we had an opportunity to recognize one of our local employers for their continued investment in the region and the important role they play in the lives and economic well-being of Red Bud and beyond."

"As a company who has been in the industry for nearly 30 years, we've seen the transition of manufacturing, and we are proud to continuously provide American-made products and services to our customers across more than 55 countries worldwide," said May. "We are thrilled that Governor Rauner and Senator Schimpf have noticed our hard work and dedication and took time out of their day to visit our manufacturing facility in Red Bud and discuss our company history and our progressive movement forward."

"We look forward to working with them in the future as we continue to grow our business."

## What is a Section 504 Plan?

By Travis Lott

The Knop family has a Section 504 Plan in place for their daughter Adelynn.

So, what is a 504 Plan? Adelynn Knop, 9, of Steeleville suffers from a severe peanut allergy in which contact with peanut products can lead to a long list of debilitating symptoms.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 considers most allergies and asthma as disabilities covered by federal protections.

According to the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act was the first disability civil rights law enacted in the United States. It prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in programs that receive federal financial assistance—such as a public school—and was a precursor to the Americans with

Disabilities Act.

Section 504 protects people with disabilities from exclusion and unequal treatment in schools, jobs and the community.

Stephanie Knop, Adelynn's mother, provided the County Journal with a copy of Adelynn's 504 Plan.

The plan states that the services contained in the document are to be provided to Adelynn by school administration, faculty and staff.

The plan requires the school to train staff on common causes of the allergy reactions and emergencies, recognizing symptoms, responding to emergencies, administering medications, including the epinephrine pen, commonly known as an Epi Pen, and to maintain a copy of the plan to be provided to Adelynn's teacher or any substitute teacher.

It is required that a staff

member be trained in administering the medication and that staff member is present during school hours and at all school-related events.

The plan prohibits students who share a classroom or activity with Adelynn from distributing, exchanging or consuming peanuts during the class or activity. It requires any student who knows of Adelynn's allergy and still exposes her or threatens to expose her be disciplined appropriately.

Antiseptic wipes must be provided to the student and teacher to make sure that work spaces are not contaminated by the allergen.

The 504 Plan also covers bus transportation provided by the district. The bus driver is required to receive training, assign Adelynn a seat at the front of the bus and to not allow students to exchange or distribute any food on the bus.

## Police show the true spirit of the Christmas season

By Travis Lott

Santa doesn't always wear red. Sometimes, he comes dressed in blue.

That was what around 80 children discovered December 17, when the Randolph County sheriff's deputies and police officers of Chester, Steeleville and Red Bud held the first Cops and Kids at Christmas event at Chester Walmart.

Through donations from local individuals and businesses, each of the 80 children were able to spend \$150 apiece to make their Christmas a little brighter.

The children were of all ages and came from all parts of Randolph County. They were selected for the program

based on economic need.

"We've been wanting to do something like this for a while now," said Red Bud Police Chief John Brittingham.

The dozens of police officers who showed up Sunday night were there voluntarily, and they were paired with kids to help them shop.

"Each one of them, in their own way, knows how important this is," Brittingham said of the officers.

Sheriff Shannon Wolff said he was thankful for the community's generosity and for the opportunity to make Christmas memories with these kids.

"It's just awesome to see the smiles on their faces," Wolff

said.

Wolff was also struck by some of the things he saw while walking around with the kids and officers.

"I saw one kid buying food," Wolff said. "That just tells you a lot."

At one point, Steeleville Police Chief Jim Zeidler was paired with two little girls ages 5 and 6.

Zeidler took them to a cart to begin shopping and asked them what they wanted to look at first.

"Shoes," squeaked the small voice of the youngest girl.

The older girl agreed that they both needed shoes.

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Randolph County deputy Aaron Middendorf shops with Shayne Zimmer, 9, of Steeleville. Behind them are Chester Police Chief Ryan Coffey and Steeleville Chief Jim Zeidler.



# police

## Truck turns over

A Sparta man was seriously injured when the semi he was driving overturned just before 4 p.m. December 13 in Perry County.

The crash occurred on a curve on Route 154 near Porcupine Road several miles east of the Cutler tee.

State police identified the driver as 27-year-old Mark Duty.

According to the accident report, Duty was headed east when his truck ran off the right side of the road and onto the shoulder.



The accident scene on Route 154 near Porcupine Road east of Cutler tee.

Police said when Duty attempted to steer back onto the roadway, he overcorrected, and the truck overturned.

Duty sustained multiple injuries and was flown from the scene to St. Louis University Hospital. He has since

been released.

Duty was hauling a lime, which spilled across both lanes of the highway. The road

was closed for about 30 minutes until cleanup was complete.

He was ticketed for improper lane usage.

## Menard fire in Chester

The Chester Fire Department was called to Menard Correctional Center at 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

A fire was reported at an electrical transformer outside the walls. Firemen stood by until someone from Ameren arrived to make repairs.

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## Police incidents for the week

Jesse S. Tucker, 22, of Altamont was arrested December 14 by Sparta police on a Perry County warrant for larceny. He was taken to the Perry County Jail.

Marcus A. Hurley, 27, of Sparta was arrested December 16 by Sparta police on a Randolph County warrant for failure to appear in court on a battery charge. He posted bond and was released.

Jesse Tucker, 22, of Sparta was arrested December 14 by the Perry County Sheriff's Department on a warrant for failure to appear in court on a petty theft charge. He was taken to jail. Bond was set at \$750 cash.

Gale Graul of Ava was ticketed December 6 by the Randolph County Sheriff's Department for accumulation of junk and trash on his property in Randolph County. A hearing is set for January 8.

Neighbors say rats come from Graul's neglected property just outside Coulterville.

James Bailey, 45, of Pinckneyville was arrested December 16 by the Perry County Sheriff's Department for driving while license revoked, no valid registration, possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was taken to jail pending the setting of bond.

Tim Inman of Farmington, Missouri reported to the Perry County Sheriff's Department that while he was driving on Route 150 near the Cutler tee, someone in a vehicle he met threw eggs at his vehicle, cracking his windshield.

Kasey T. Payne, 26, of Marissa was arrested December 11 by the Randolph County sheriff's office on a Randolph County warrant for forgery. Payne was released on a recogni-

zance bond.

Ashley N. Gibson, 31, of Anna was arrested December 12 by the Randolph County sheriff's office on a Union County warrant for failure to appear in court for speeding. She posted bond.

Sherry D. Bailey, 45, of Chester was arrested December 13 by Chester police on a Jackson County warrant for contempt of court. She posted bond.

Samantha M. Valigura, 25, of Sparta was arrested December 13 by the Randolph County sheriff's office for possession of a controlled substance and possession of a narcotic instrument. She was jailed.

Kenneth P. Jones, 42, of Prairie du Rocher was arrested December 15 by Prairie du Rocher police on a Randolph County warrant for failure to appear in court on a criminal damage to property

charge. He was jailed.

Matthew A. Smith, 19, of Chester was arrested December 17 by Chester police for DUI, illegal transportation of an alcoholic beverage and speeding. He was released by order of the state's attorney.

Dylan S. Smith, 21, of New Athens was arrested December 17 by state police in Randolph County for DUI, driving an uninsured vehicle, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and illegal lane usage. He posted bond.

David G. Glen, 21, of Ellis Grove was arrested December 17 by Chester police for DUI and improper parking on a roadway. He posted bond.

Cameron R. Hopper, 18, of Chester was arrested December 17 by the Randolph County sheriff's office for driving on a suspended license. Hopper posted bond.

## Ellis Grove house heavily damaged

A house in Ellis Grove was heavily damaged by fire December 16. The alarm was sounded at 11:30 a.m.

Ellis Grove Fire Chief Mike Jackson said the fire was at 717 Seymour Lake Road, the home of the Ben Meirs family.

The fire started in the home's basement from an electric space heater. Damage to the basement was heavy.

Jackson said one basement room was considered a total loss.

There was heat, smoke and water damage throughout the basement with smoke damage upstairs.

Chester assisted Ellis Grove in fighting the fire.

A piece of farm equipment is believed to have pulled down an electric service wire and meter from

a house at 1504 State Street in Chester December 15 at about 5:10 p.m.

The accident broke the neutral line into the house, causing 110 volts to become 220 volts, damaging some home appliances and equipment. As of this week, police were still trying to find the equipment operator.

Chester firemen were called to Per-

ryville December 16 at 1:23 a.m. to a house fire at 307 Quinn Street. Chester stayed on the scene for about an hour.

The fire was traced to a wood-burning stove.

At 3:50 p.m. Saturday, Chester firemen went to 1040 Henry Street, where a space heater burned out an electrical outlet. There was some smoke damage.

## Randolph Co. court dispositions

The following cases have been terminated in Randolph County court.

Brandon Jones of Sparta, criminal damage to property, guilty, conditional discharge, fine.

John Ehlinger, no

address given, violation of an order, guilty, fine, conditional discharge; stalking, dismissed.

Calvin McCree of Steeleville, domestic battery, guilty, fine, conditional discharge.

Lance Menard of St.

Mary, Missouri, carry/possess a firearm in public, court supervision, fine.

Oscar Carmona-Gallegos of Percy, no license/used vehicle dealer, court supervision, fine.

Tommy Lawless

of Coulterville, DUI, guilty, jail less time served, fine.

## Ernsting returns home

Nick Ernsting, 20, of Steeleville has returned home after spending over a week in a hospital due to injuries he sustained from a December 8 one-vehicle rollover crash.

The morning of December 8, Ernsting was driving his white GMC pick-up truck northbound on North Sparta Street outside Steeleville north of Blackstump road.

According to the Randolph County Sheriff's Department accident report, at 7:59 a.m., Ernsting's truck exited the right side of the roadway, and he lost control of the vehicle. He crossed back over the road, where his truck overturned.

The truck continued to overturn as it traveled back over the roadway before exiting the right side

again.

Ernsting was ejected. He was flown to St. Louis University Hospital.

According to his mother Gina, Ernsting suffered a fractured pelvis, two fractures to his lower back, a broken collarbone, six fractured ribs and a laceration to his spleen. She said Nick was able to come home from the hospital December 18.

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# Randolph court dispositions

Randolph County State's Attorney Jeremy Walker has listed the latest court action.

**Tabitha Rice**  
Tabitha M. Rice, 26, of Willisville pleaded guilty December 4 to unlawful possession of methamphetamine. She was sentenced to two years in prison.

Rice admitted to possessing fewer than five grams of meth located during an October 6 traffic stop in Steeleville.

"Rice had a prior methamphetamine offense in Perry County in 2013 and a possession of a controlled substance conviction in Randolph County in 2015," said Walker. "We are all for people getting help, but after two convictions and you keep using, it is our position you should go to DOC and try the treatment and forced sobriety DOC has to offer."

**James Reese**  
James M. Reese, 34, of Coulterville pleaded guilty December 4 to unlawful possession of methamphetamine. He was sentenced to four years in prison.

Reese admitted to possessing fewer than five grams of meth located during a September 5 traffic stop in Coulterville.

"Reese was on probation for a methamphetamine offense in St. Clair County at the time of his arrest," said Walker. "For that reason, we did not believe probation was an adequate punishment."

"We recommended Reese for treatment at Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center in East St. Louis, which has a great drug treatment program, specializing in methamphetamine addiction."

**Shaquille Bulliner**  
Shaquille D. Bulliner, 23, of Sparta pleaded guilty December 4 to possession of a weapon by a felon. He was sentenced to four years in prison.

During the plea, Bulliner admitted to possessing a firearm in Sparta August 8 after having been convicted of a felony.

"This offense is not eligible for probation and requires a DOC sentence," said Walker. "Bulliner previously had been to DOC for a three-year stint in 2012. Therefore, we obtained an additional year over the prior sentence. Bulliner will still be a young man when he gets out; for that reason, we hope this time it sinks in that you cannot continue to break the law."

**David Shemonia**  
David L. Shemonia, 50, of Baldwin pleaded guilty December 4 to retail theft.

He was sentenced to two years of probation and is to remain in the Randolph County Jail until placed in residential treatment.

Shemonia admitted to stealing items with a value of \$300 from Buchheit in Sparta September 24. He was on first offender probation for a methamphetamine-related offense at

the time he committed this crime.

Walker said the probation in that case was terminated, and a conviction, which would not have been entered against him had he completed probation, was entered on his record.

Shemonia was convicted of this offense and will now stay in jail for treatment.

**John Ehlinger**  
John J. Ehlinger, 29, of St. Louis pleaded guilty December 4 to violation of an order of protection. He was placed on conditional discharge for two years, with the condition to have no contact with the victim or her family.

A related, but separate, charge of stalking was dismissed with leave to reinstate, pursuant to the plea.

Ehlinger admitted to reaching out to the victim on social media, after having been served with an order of protection.

"I met with the victim and her family regarding the disposition," said Walker. "All the victim wanted was for the defendant to leave her alone."

**Brandon Jones**  
Brandon L. Jones, 28, of Sparta pleaded guilty December 4 to a reduced charge of criminal damage to property, a Class A misdemeanor.

He was ordered to pay restitution.

Jones admitted to damaging an apartment building door in Sparta August 25.

"Sometimes I joke with people that we really only need two charges in our criminal justice system, misdemeanor stupid and felony stupid," said Walker. "Damaging a door to an apartment complex seemed misdemeanor stupid to me, especially when we have money from bond to substantially pay for the damage. Therefore, we reduced the charge and will get the landlord restitution."

**Perry Nesbitt**  
Perry J. Nesbitt, 23, of Sparta pleaded guilty December 11 to theft over \$500.

He was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay restitution.

Nesbitt admitted to taking \$800 cash from the Chester Police Department October 16.

"He was to work as a confidential informant and was given the money to purchase drugs, not for his services, but was to purchase a quantity of methamphetamine with the \$800," said Walker. "However, he took off, and we did not see him until a warrant secured his arrest."

"Nesbitt has prior felonies but no prior DOC commitments. Based on his criminal records and the need to show we do not show favoritism to those who are to cooperate with law enforcement, a DOC sentence seemed necessary and appropriate."

**Bradley Sronce**  
Bradley L. Sronce, 55, of Oakdale pleaded guilty December 11 to theft over \$500. He was sentenced to four years

in prison.

Sronce admitted to stealing a 1995 pickup truck in Coulterville September 25.

"Sronce recently served three years in prison for a similar offense and probably deserved more time," said Walker. "However, he was found in Kansas with the vehicle. Therefore, if we went to trial, we would have had to pay a Kansas state trooper to come to Randolph County and testify regarding what he was told and saw. To save money, we took the plea."

**Joshua Woolard**  
Joshua J. Woolard, 34, of Willisville pleaded guilty December 11 to unlawful possession of methamphetamine. He was sentenced to three years in prison to run concurrently with a Perry County meth-related charge.

Woolard had an additional charge of possession of meth dismissed.

He admitted to possessing fewer than five grams of meth located during an April 7 traffic stop by a Randolph County sheriff's deputy.

Woolard had no prior history before the April 7 incident. However, he was later arrested in Perry County for an offense and another offense in Randolph County.

**Derrick Downey**  
Derrick L. Downey, 33, of Chester pleaded guilty December 11 to aggravated battery. He was sentenced to 90 days in jail and probation for two years, with conditions to stay away from the victim and seek counseling for mental health and substance abuse issues.

Downey admitted to causing bruising on the back of a boy under age 13, the son of his girlfriend, July 28 in Chester.

**Travis Lailer**  
Travis L. Lailer, 26, of Chester was sentenced December 11 to 30 months of probation following a sentencing hearing.

Lailer had previously pleaded guilty to criminal damage to property regarding an incident occurring September 12 near Chester.

During the sentencing hearing, the state requested a term of two years in prison, with a boot camp recommendation.

Lailer successfully argued for a term of probation. He was incarcerated from the date of the offense to the time of his sentencing.

"Lailer pleaded guilty to damaging a driveway by doing an excessive burnout on the driveway," said Walker. "Evidence at the sentencing hearing showed he did not have a driver's license and was likely under the influence of alcohol."

"Furthermore, evidence showed Lailer had been on probation as recently as last year for burglary. Based on all of this, we did not feel probation was appropriate."

These cases were heard by Judges Richard Brown and Gene Gross.

## Items confiscated

# State issues roundup of deer season violations

Citations and warnings were issued during deer season.

More than 1,800 citations and warnings were issued during the recent firearm deer hunting season in Illinois.

Conservation police enforced wildlife laws and hunting regulations in the form of 971 written warnings and 831 citations for hunting-related violations statewide from November 13 through December 4.

Officers seized 16 firearms from violators, along with more

than 430 pounds of deer meat, eight deer antlers/skulls, five deer heads, one truck, one utility vehicle, as well as archery equipment, tree stands, trail cameras, bait samples, permits, illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia.

"Our conservation police officers want hunters to be safe," said Rafael Gutierrez, chief of the IDNR conservation police. "We remind (hunters) to make sure their elevated tree stands are secure and in good working order and that they always use

a fall arrest system harness to be as safe as possible when hunting."

"We also want poachers and other violators to know that our officers are in the field with them, and violators will face charges if they are hunting illegally."

Hunters checked in more than 80,000 deer during the season.

Only four hunting-related accidents were reported, three of them involving injuries from tree stand falls, according to Illinois Department of Natural Resources conservation police.

# Merry Christmas

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R28751A	'14 Ford Fusion SE, Roof	\$11,499			\$9,998
R28817A	'11 Ford Taurus Limited	\$11,789			\$10,988
R28820A	'13 Chrysler 200 Limited, 40K	\$12,825			\$11,988
5241A	'14 Dodge Dart GT, 45K	\$13,998			\$12,990
P28839	'12 Ford Fusion SE, "14K"	\$13,699			\$12,988
5360A	'14 Ford Escape SE, 47K	\$14,999			\$13,927
P28830	'13 Ford C-Max Hybrid, 27K	\$14,990			\$13,960
5318B	'13 Ford Edge SEL, "24K"	\$18,595			\$17,998
R28774A	'15 Lincoln MKC, Loaded	\$26,488			\$24,988
R28805	'14 Ford F-150 4X4 Crew, 20K	\$32,999			\$31,970
R28793	'16 Ford F-150 4X4 Crew, 14K	\$36,498			\$35,015

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# Opinions

Editorial Staff:  
Jerry Willis | Larry Willis  
Travis Lott | Dan Zobel

## Meacham Madness

By: John Meacham

### A tale of two stories

As I sat in the Old Firehouse Event Center in West Frankfort last Thursday and listened to a New York Times reporter discuss a situation she'd written about in February when an undocumented alien was arrested by immigration officials and supported by many in his community, I thought, *I've heard this story sometime, somewhere before.*

Then it occurred to me that I'd written about a very similar situation myself in 1974 when I was a reporter for the Daily & Sunday Herald in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.

The Times headlined Monica Davey's article: He's a Local Pillar in a Trump Town. Now He Could Be Deported.

The subject of her article was a man named Carlos who had entered the United States sometime in the 1990s and started, but never completed, an application for citizenship. Davey wrote that his effort: ... stalled somewhere along the way. Some call him a symbol of the many undocumented immigrants who are threatened by the Trump administration's promised crackdown but who have contributed to their communities.

At his trial, Ernest had character references from his plant supervisor and coworkers, a realtor, a nurse and a dentist, all of whom said they considered him reliable and trustworthy.

When he escaped, Ernest had served two years and seven months of a 15-year sentence for assault with intent to commit rape. (He told me he was innocent of that charge.)

The judge added two years to Ernest's original sentence but suspended the new sentence on condition Ernest not break any penal rules for five years.

The Herald headlined mine: Captured Prison Escaper Hopes For Better Life Now. It was about a man named Ernest who escaped from Caledonia Prison in Halifax County and eluded authorities for nearly five years. Under a false name, he lived in Chesterfield County, Virginia, held a job, bought a house and married.

Carlos and Ernest each made many friends in their communities. Many West Frankfort residents said Carlos, who managed a Mexican restaurant in that town, was a model citizen.

During Thursday's program, Mayor Tom Jordan recalled that Carlos had supported the fire department, law enforcement, the local high school and other charities.

On the negative side, Carlos had two DUI convictions in 2007. (He told the Times he's since quit drinking.)

Carlos is free on bond while his case is pending.

Cindy Buys, an immigration law specialist and associate dean of the SIU School of Law, told those who attended the West Frankfort forum that immigration courts are backlogged. She said standing in the community is one factor officials

Continued on Page 5

## Editor's Space

By Jerry Willis

### Christmases past

At almost 70 years of age, I can still remember Christmas as a child.

Those were years of anticipation. One of my favorite presents came in 1962 when I received a Ken Boyer model Rawlings six-fingered baseball glove. It was cold outside, but after I opened it, I had to play catch with someone.

It was a beautiful glove, and today would cost \$300. Back then it was about \$25.

Just the smell of that leather was exciting. I still have that old glove, and my grandson uses it once in a while when we play catch.

Another big year was when I received a Crossman BB pistol and holster. The gun looks like an Old West pistol and fires using CO2 cartridges.

I still have the gun, but I don't know if you can still buy the cartridges. I haven't fired it in years.

Those presents were easy for me to covet, because they were both for sale at Kayo's, so my parents just had to take them off the shelf and put them under the tree.

Probably one of the most memorable Christmas presents as a kid was in 1967 when all I asked for was a set of mag wheels for my Ford Fairlane. I had no real expectations of getting them.

That year, I had a couple of small packages under the tree, so I really had no idea that there would be mags in my future.

However, one of the presents contained just a note. It read: Go look in the garage.

There they were, four beautiful mag wheels. They looked great on my car.

Now, the Christmas fun is more being with and watching my family, especially the grandsons, open their gifts and remembering when I was in their shoes.

Yeah, Christmas is an outstanding time for kids. Merry Christmas to all of our readers.

## Christmas is about the magic

### Kudos to Shop with a Cop program

would immediately run for the toy aisle—and many did. Good. That's what kids are supposed to do.

That's what made it so heartwrenching, when one 5-year-old girl made a beeline for the shoes. She and her sister, 6, both wanted new shoes before anything else.

Such a moment makes everything else that we have fretted over seem so trivial.

There is no adequate combination of words to describe the magic

that filled the eyes of these kids as they walked around with police officers to pick out their gifts.

To those officers and everyone who made that event possible—fine job. We look forward to the next one.

As much as we try to make everything perfect this Christmas, it's important to remember that the magic of Christmas does not have to be so complicated.

It's as simple as a child waking up to

find that the cookies he or she left for Santa are gone, that the carrots outside were eaten by Rudolph and company. This is their proof that Santa, and magic, are real.

The smiles on their faces, the unfiltered excitement—that's what this is about.

So, as you meet with family and friends this season, don't forget to take a minute to look around, really see the people you're with; because as magical as this time of year is, these moments are fleeting, and these memories are irreplaceable.

From everyone at the County Journal: Merry Christmas.

## A Musing View®

By: Martha Peebles

### As the Christmas tree turns

## Beware of rotating Christmas tree stands

Every year at Christmas time, I'm always excited to put up my rotating Christmas tree.

Several years ago, after Christmas, I purchased a rotating tree stand on sale for \$7. It was a great find until I got it home and my tree would not fit in it. The next adventure was finding a new tree with the exact sized tree pole measuring only 1 1/8 inches in width.

Sometimes, in the end, a bargain ends up costing us more time, trouble and money.

It was a scavenger hunt, as I wandered from store to store with a tape measure in my purse. Eventually, I found one that fit perfectly. Applying decorations are a snap, as I stand in one place while the tree spins—no more crawling around trying to get a few decorations on the backside. The lights are a bit more challenging as it seems like a race against time to get them in place, but I'm getting quite good at it.

This year, we put up the tree and adorned it

with lights, Santa Claus heads, birds, little mittens, bulbs, jingle bells and a Santa hat topper. It seemed a little off-kilter as if it was heavier on one side. Rearranging the ornaments didn't seem to help much, and every now and then, we heard a funny noise.

Even though the tree is artificial, Bill kept thinking there might be a squirrel crawling around in there, like in the movie "Christmas Vacation."

Days went by, and the tree kept spinning. That is, until last night when we were nestled snugly on the couch. As usual, Bill let me

pick the movie, and within 10 minutes, I was asleep. He's always left stuck on the couch with my head on his lap finishing a movie he didn't want to watch in the first place. Isn't this a true gesture of love? Unfortunately, this romantic scene quickly came to an end when we heard a crash in the dining room.

Awakening from a sound sleep, adrenalin poured into my bloodstream by the bucket load, thinking that something has crashed through our dining room window, like a vehicle, a deer or a meteor, I was on my feet and ready for fight

or flight. By the time we figured out that the Christmas tree had toppled over, we were both shaken and a bit confused.

We tried to place the tree back into the stand without any luck until we looked under the tree skirt and figured out that the stand had cracked open and a leg had broken off. Apparently, the noise we had been hearing was the plastic giving way under stress. It was disheartening to see the guts and oily gears inside the thing. Why don't they make these things out of something sturdy, such as steel? Of course, then it might last forever, and we can't have that in today's disposable world.

Right now, while our tree is leaning against the counter with ornaments scattered across the floor, I'm calling all stores to find another rotating tree stand.

Just my luck, Hobby Lobby has several. They're even on sale at 50 percent off.

Here we go again.

## It's My Turn

By Larry Willis

### It's not easy to buy me a present

## Hitting the power button while standing in water

family's retail store, Kayo's Superama.

Dad was pretty sneaky, though. Take that Crossman BB gun for example. He only had one in stock, and he knew I really wanted it (because I had told him seemingly hundreds of times).

But two weeks before Christmas that year, I came home from school one day, and that gun was no longer in its display case. Dad said someone came in and bought it.

What could I say? After all, that's why Mom and Dad were in business—to sell things to customers.

But as I got older, I became harder to buy for.

It has really become an issue the past 10 years or so. Mom has

come through in recent years with gift cards to Guitar Center. I can always use drumsticks, drum heads and other music incidentals.

However, LeeAnn has pretty much given up on buying me a Christmas present, mostly because I don't hint about what I want like I used to, except maybe heading for warmer weather when it gets cold here.

Now don't get me wrong. Most all of my gifts from LeeAnn have been practical, thoughtful and useful. Take the Norelco electric shaver she got me a couple of years ago. It's the one that you can use while taking a shower.

I really like it and use it mostly when I don't feel like dragging out

the disposable razor and shaving cream. But there is just something unnatural about turning on an electrical appliance, albeit a low voltage one, while standing in water. Yes, I do tend to hesitate a bit when I hit the on-switch.

Maybe I am subconsciously remembering that episode of "Columbo" where twin nephews kill their rich uncle by turning on a hand kitchen mixer and throwing it into the tub where the uncle is taking a bath.

Of course, Columbo figured it out and got his man, or should I say, men.

And, in the words of Lt. Columbo, just one thing: I will always use and appreciate a gift card to a good restaurant. And as coincidence would have it, that's what the staff gave me today at our office Christmas lunch get-together, for which I am very grateful.

## Policies Of The county Journal

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## River Stages

Mississippi At Chester  
Flood Stage 27 Ft.

Dec. 14.....	5.6
Dec. 15.....	5.5
Dec. 16.....	4.5
Dec. 17.....	4.4
Dec. 18.....	3.9
Dec. 19.....	3.5
Dec. 20.....	3.5

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They can also be faxed to 497-2607 or emailed to [cjournal@egyptian.net](mailto:cjournal@egyptian.net).

Letters should be as brief as possible and must be signed by the author. Include a telephone number for verification. Your phone number will not be published.

# Peanut allergy...From Page 1

"I know what (the Knops) said (in the meeting), and I know that can change in a heartbeat," Mulholland said.

Don Craven, an attorney from Springfield and media law expert who represents newspapers within the Illinois Press Association, said this exemption probably did not fit.

"There has to be a reasonable probability that there will be litigation," Craven said.

While the board was meeting in closed session, the Knops gave the County Journal a couple of examples of issues they have had with their daughter at the school.

"They said that Adelynn has described incidents of students taunting her, even going as far as holding peanut products in her face.

Last year, when Adelynn was in third grade, the class was studying the Chinese New Year, and one of the students brought in peanuts. Because of the peanuts, Adelynn had to sit in the hallway while the class finished its project.

"Kids asked if she was in trouble," Stephanie said.

Stephanie said she doesn't blame Adelynn's teachers and even went as far as to say that her current teacher is Adelynn's biggest advocate at the school.

Chad has also had to resort to taking Adelynn to school instead of her riding the bus, because she had been the subject of taunts from other students on the bus.

Stephanie said she fears the perceived lack of protections for Adelynn, especially since she and Chad both work so far away, Stephanie for the Illinois Department of Transportation office in Carbondale and Chad for Metrolink in St. Louis.

Additionally, she said Steelville does not have a school nurse on staff.

She also said she would hate for anyone on the school board to think that she is against them.

"I know every single one of (the board members) in there," Stephanie said. "I don't want to make a stink."

However, she said it has come to a point that something has to be done.

"I've given them five years to have a plan,"

she said.

During the closed session, the board called the Knops into the board room to finish the discussion privately.

While the County Journal was not allowed to hear that discussion, Stephanie informed the newspaper of what was discussed.

She said the board had decided to send home a letter to parents informing them of the peanut allergy, and that fourth-grade students bringing snacks to school would be the subject of a search to make sure that none of the snacks contained peanut products.

Stephanie said the board members did not seem to be aware of her daughter's peanut allergy, even though her Section 504 Plan requires school administration to be notified.

"They were all dumbfounded," she said.

Mulholland said she had informed the board of Adelynn's allergy. However, there have been new board members elected to serve on the board since the plan was put in place.

Mulholland said she informed the board members prior to the meeting that the issue would be discussed.

While applying the peanut rules to one classroom may be a viable option for this school year, Stephanie said that when Adelynn enters fifth grade next year, she will start switching classrooms for different subjects.

As a fourth-grader, Adelynn still does go to the computer lab and library. When she is in the computer lab, Stephanie said the school is required to give her antiseptic wipes to clear her area of any potential contaminants.

"According to my 9-year-old, that's not happening," she said.

Stephanie said she wishes there was more education about peanut allergies available to the students. Education on the risks could prevent some students from teasing Adelynn about her allergy, which is something she can't control.

She said her daughter worries that the increased rules surrounding her allergy will only intensify teasing at school.

"She told me, 'Mom,

they're already teasing me at school. They're already blaming me as the reason they can't bring snacks in,'" Stephanie said.

However, Mulholland said other students teasing Adelynn would not be tolerated.

"That would be dealt with as a bullying issue," Mulholland said.

All in all, Stephanie said she is glad Mulholland and the board took the time to listen to her about this issue.

"I just wish they would be more proactive," Stephanie said. "I think they could be more aggressive. I think they are taking this lightheartedly, but this is a lot more than that for our family."

Mulholland said she, too, hopes to come to a resolution that benefits everyone.

"Myself and the school want the same things that (Adelynn's parents) want," Mulholland said. "The piece that's difficult to control is what other people do."

"There are procedures and precautions you can take, but we're not going to search and seize every student every day."

In speaking with other schools in the area, the County Journal has found they mostly deal with peanut allergies on a case-by-case basis.

Tim Lochhead, principal of Chester Grade School said the school handles each student's case individually. He said the school has placed educational posters around the school about allergies, and the school's electronic database flags students with food allergies so the cooks and other staff can be made aware of the issue at every turn.

"Our cooks are especially made well aware of each child," Lochhead said.

He also said the school nurse makes a point to educate those handling students with allergies about the risks and procedures for managing that student's health and that the severity varies greatly.

"We've even made entire wings of the school nut free," Lochhead said.

However, the more drastic measures such as that are only put into place if a student has a severe allergy.

Sandy Jackson, the nurse at Sparta Lin-

coln School, said Lincoln also has a database that flags students with food allergies, so staff can be aware of their condition.

Jackson said the first thing she does when a student has an allergy is notify the teacher.

Jackson said that, generally, peanuts are not allowed in any classroom in the school.

"If Sparta were to have a severe student, we would designate a table for them, and they could have a friend sit with them as long as that friend doesn't have any peanut products in their lunch," Jackson said.

While Steelville does not have a nurse on site, Mulholland said at least six staff members in the school are trained to use the Epi Pen each year. Furthermore, she said the school staff is made well aware of Adelynn's allergy, although there is no electronic database such as in Sparta or Chester.

"It's called face-to-face communication," Mulholland said. "They have the list, and they are aware."

Some school districts, such as Mount Vernon, have gone completely nut free.

According to information obtained from the Mount Vernon website, the school has banned all peanut or tree nut products from school lunches or even lunches brought from home.

The school's website states: Food allergies are on the rise and can cause severe, systemic, potentially fatal allergic reaction called anaphylaxis in allergic individuals. Peanut and tree nut allergies account for most fatal and near-fatal anaphylactic reactions. Allergic individuals can experience anaphylaxis if they touch, inhale or ingest even the slightest trace or residue of the allergen.

Symptoms include impaired breathing, swelling in the throat and sudden drop in blood pressure, according to the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.


Stephanie described the first time Adelynn had a reaction at age 2, when she bit into a Snickers.

"She spit the candy back into my hand and started clawing at her throat," she said.

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# Kids shopping...From Page 1

"Most kids would never say they want shoes over toys," Zeidler said, "but if they want shoes, we're going to get them shoes."

Zeidler was asked what he thought about this program and the opportunity to provide for these kids.

"It's completely awesome," he said, looking down at the little girls as they picked out their new shoes.

Wolff said, aside from getting to provide a better Christmas for these kids, he sees an opportunity to build

relationships between the police officers and the next generation of the community.

Brittingham echoed Wolff's point, saying that this was one more step to foster good relationships.

"When they need us, we're there, and they know us," Brittingham said. "That's the kind of community policing we've tried to foster."

Chester Police Chief Ryan Coffey said he was happy to be able to share that evening with the kids, and he hopes the program

will grow.

Coffey said the officers, all of whom came together as a committee to put this event together, are discussing benefits and fundraisers to hold throughout the year to expand the program.

Aside from the donations the program received, Walmart worked with the officers to provide tax-free gifts and the store space, and Casey's General Store catered the event with pizza and doughnuts.

To donate to next

year's program, contact any of the participating law enforcement offices. Checks should be made out to Cops and Kids at Christmas.

Sparta also has its own shop with a cop program.

# Meacham From Page 4

take into consideration.

I don't know how Carlos' story will end nor do I know how Ernest's story ended.

I do know that these cases show how difficult it can be to apply a general opinion like "Illegal aliens should be rounded up and deported," or "Judges should throw the book at criminals" to specific cases.

One West Frankfort resident told Davey he supported Donald Trump and still does but added, "It's hard to be black and white on this, because there may be people like Carlos."

As Johnny Cash sang, "I'll tell you, boys, there ain't no easy runs."

If I had the solution to that predicament, I'd make a present of it to the whole world.

I don't, so I'll just say Merry Christmas.



Steelville officer Adam Diercks helped this little girl try on a pair of shoes.

# LST returning to Chester

By Dan Zobel

The USS LST 325 is officially returning to Chester.

Mayor Tom Page announced the news during the December 18 city council meeting.

The LST 325, which is a decommissioned United States landing ship tank, will dock at Chester September 6-10 and will coincide with the Popeye Picnic.

"We're looking forward to it," Page said.

Brian Congiardo, a member of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association SEMO Chapter, said the different organizations that sent in letters went a long way with the MVPA.

"This will be a unique event," Congiardo said. "They were really pleased the last time they were here. It's rare for them to come to a city this size even once. They are looking forward to coming back."

The approximately 330-foot-long LST was at the Chester riverfront in September 2011. The vessel was one of 1,051 LSTs built during World War II. It is the last fully operational LST in the United

States.

In 2011, 7,500 people attended the daily tours offered on the ship.

In other news, Page said he will be meeting with a representative from the Illinois comptroller's office December 21.

Page said he plans to talk to the representative about the Menard Correctional Center budget and the state's unpaid water, sewer and gas bills.

Chester is still owed \$1,054,203 from Menard, according to Page.

"This is not Menard," Page said. "This comes out of the comptroller's office."

The council approved an ordinance authorizing the agreement to terminate the reciprocal lease agreement with Southern Illinois Sand Company and enter into a new lease agreement.

Alderman Ray Allison voted no on the motion.

Allison cited one sentence in the agreement, where it stated the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Coast Guard shall not be allowed to dock at Southern Illinois Sand Company

real estate.

"I would like to see that sentence deleted," Allison said. "I don't agree with it."

The land in question is near the boat ramp, according to city attorney Jeff Kerkhaver.

Kerkhaver said the Corps and Coast Guard could tie up on the city's other property.

Kerkhaver explained that Chester entered into an agreement in 1985 with Southern Illinois Sand that gave the company rights to dock on city property. At that time, Chester used Illinois Department of Natural Resources funds to build the boat ramp.

The council ratified action of the gas committee to purchase gas futures for January and February.

For January, Alderman Dan Ohlau said the cost of gas is \$2.64 per unit, which is down from the \$3.93 price it was in January 2017.

"We don't see January gas this inexpensive often," Ohlau said.

Zane Wallace and Caleb Golding were approved to attend the full-time police academy.

## Coulterville goes with Nordic

By Jeff Blair

Nordic Energy will supply the electricity for eight commercial energy accounts for the village of Coulterville for the next two years.

After a short discussion, the town board voted Monday night to authorize the contract with Nordic. The rate will be \$0.05 per kilowatt hour.

The board approved

the meeting schedule for the coming year. Meetings will be held the first and third Monday of the month unless there is a Monday holiday, in which case the meeting will be held the first Tuesday.

The village Christmas house lighting contest winners were announced. Harold Kirkpatrick at 400

West Palm Street was awarded most creative. Randy Steele at 1005 South Main Street won the Clark Griswold award, and Jean Spreitzer at 204 East Maple won Charlie Browniest.

It was noted that the Coulterville Police Department and VFW Post 6865 recently held the Shop with a Cop and Vet at Sparta Walmart.

## W'ville discusses fees for turning water back on

In November, the Willisville Town Board discussed an ordinance that would have set a \$250 fee to restore water service after regular working hours to a customer who had his water shut off for non-payment of the bill.

Of the \$250 to be paid, \$100 would go to the town worker who performed the work.

However, resident Lonnie Fulkerson raised a question as to the legalities of paying a worker more than time-and-a-half overtime.

As it turned out, Fulkerson was right.

At this month's meeting Tuesday night, the matter was discussed again.

Attorney Aaron Atkins said payment to employees must be commensurate with the town's costs, and a court would probably not uphold such a payment system.

The board decided to forego the ordinance and require that customers who don't pay their bills on time and get their service shut

off will have to pay their bill and all fees due during the next business day to get service restored. There will be no after-hours service.

The board agreed.

There was some confusion about action last month on the hobby animal ordinance, which allows residents to keep animals such as chickens and rabbits.

Atkins said he thought the ordinance was tabled last month. The County Journal story last month also indicated that no action had been taken.

However, the board minutes from last month indicated it had been passed.

"I don't really remember," said Mayor Clarence Warner.

As it stands, the ordinance is law.

In other action, the board agreed to give maintenance worker Daltyn Becker a \$1 an hour raise to \$9.50.

Warner said before the next meeting, the board should be thinking about a possible water rate increase.

Kinkaid raised it rates to the town months ago.

The stop sign ordinance will be amended for action next month. It will include new signs on Harris, Dolce, Alms and Birch streets and Reiman Drive.

Gary Hayden was named as the new zoning board president.

Police officer Austin Dyer reported on a ticket he wrote in November.

Dyer said some residents had a boarder, Carrie Bunton, they wanted to leave their house. There were some disputes, and Dyer was called to the house more than once.

Finally Bunton moved out. She wanted police to go back to the house and make sure her property was safe while she moved other items.

Dyer went back where the homeowners were moving Bunton's belongings, and he allegedly found a cannabis pipe.

Bunton was given a ticket for possession of cannabis paraphernalia.



## Student council

The Sparta High School student council, sponsored by Abbey Miles and Terry Mezo, recently helped deliver food items to the Delta Theta Tau Sorority in Sparta. The items were used to fill Christmas baskets for local families in need. Approximately 1,679 cans were donated by Sparta Lincoln students. Above from left are student council members Eric Renner, Mallory Buckner and Anita Burns.

## Tilden plans to clean up

By Dan Zobel

Tilden should soon have its plan of attack for a trailer it is attempting to clean up in town.

Mayor Jeff Zimmermann, still filling in for Curtis Forcum, reported at the town's December 19 board meeting that the owner of the trailer has two options.

Zimmermann said a letter has been sent to the owner asking him to sign over the deed of the trailer to the town.

If the owner does not choose that option, Zimmermann said the town will go through the legal system to claim the right to clean up the trailer then put a lien on the property.

The trailer is located at 651 N. Railroad Street.

"Hopefully, he'll sign it over to us," Zimmermann said.

In other news, Tilden received a good report from Tim Allgire of Testing Analysis and Control of Swansea in regards to the town's lagoon.

Zimmermann said Allgire noted that the lagoon is in pretty good shape. Allgire will send a full report to the town with suggestions of how to make the lagoon still better and

last longer.

Board member Jerry Laramore reported that he issued four written and one verbal warnings for code violations.

He said most people in town will clean up what needs taken care of when they receive a notice, but there are about three people who are written up consistently.

Laramore said he is slow to issue tickets, but he might have to get the process moving.

Board member Kevin Holliday said he is working to fix the POW flag at the cemetery.

Zimmermann said that by next spring, the town might need to get a new hydrant in front of the water tower.

The current hydrant has been broken for quite some time. He said everything could be fixed for under \$1,000.

Board member Preston Glodo said he contacted the Department of Transportation about the possibility of a crosswalk by the library.

Glodo said he was told that the DOT normally will do this if there are at least 100 people who cross the street per day.

While that is not the case in Tilden, Glodo

said there are some provisions that could allow Tilden to get a crosswalk for the area.

Board member Jessica Lea said since she last reported on lights getting broken out and adults sleeping at the park, that issue has gone away.

Lea purchased a camera that can take a picture every 10 seconds. She said she is working on figuring out the best place to put it at the park.

The board held off attempting to turn over zoning board matters to the county.

Zimmermann said he is still waiting to see if anybody in town is interested in taking over the zoning board.

"It will not be an easy process either way," Zimmermann said. "We need to exhaust all of our efforts in town."

Glodo said he recently spoke with Forcum. Glodo said Forcum is adamant about giving zoning responsibility back to the county.

The board passed its tax levy ordinance. The total amount levied is \$64,700, with total appropriations at \$724,100.

The board also passed a sexual harassment prohibition ordinance.

## Chester's 29th Christmas On The River 2017 Evergreen Cemetery Signs Of Remembrance

### Card of Thanks

We wish to thank the people who took time to honor their family member(s) or friend(s) with a sign on the 2017 Signs of Remembrance Memorial Christmas Drive in Chester's Evergreen Cemetery. The signs were placed along the drives in the Cemetery and are viewable from dawn to dusk everyday. They will remain there through the month of December. Thanks to Cemetery Sexton, Mr. Mark Gibbs, for letting the signs be placed along the cemetery drives. Thank you to Charles Bargman and Josh Straight for sorting and placing the signs along the drives. Please say thank you to these men for providing their time and effort in creating the 2017 Signs of Remembrance Memorial Christmas Drive.

Sincerely,  
Linda Sympon & Norma Baughman, Sign Committee Co-Chairs

#### Thanks to the following people for their remembrance's this year

Richard & Beverly Allison	Mary Ann Koeneman	Steve & Joann Springer
Margo Asselmeier & Lynn Powley	Memorial for John & Rose Leaders	Marlene Seymour
Steve & Kathy Belcher	Harold & Judy Kirm	Memorial For Barbara Tiller
Bertha Mae Blechle	Memorial for James L. Monfredini	Kevin & Tracy Woods
Steve Sympon	Ron & Shelley Nitzsche	Paul Zemlyn
Friend of Dr. Barbara L. Brown	Glenn & Betty McCoy	Mildred Layton
Steve & Joann Springer	Friend of Adrian Perkins	Lois McConkey
Wib & Julia Saak	Russ & Linda Rader	BV Gals
Cohen Memorial Fund	Memorial for Wayne Ramsey	Dodie Cress
Don & Juanita Daschka	Mike & Donna Ritter	Ernie Bartels
Memorial for John Dettmer	Clifford & Jean Jungewaelter	Lois Tindall
Jerry & Wanda Eggemeyer	Bill & Evelyn Schuwerk	Ruth Rednour
Dennis & Cheryl McDonald	Memorial For James "Jim" Shields	Gary Rust
Ray & Ilene Allison	Don & Joby McAdams	Marty & Karen Bert
Gary & Carolyn Schwent	Memorial for Mr. & Mrs. E. J. "Dutch" Uffelmann	Leonard & Barbara Hanger & Family
Ron & Norma Baughman	Memorial for Travis Young	
Carol Usher	Memorial for Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Ramsey	
A.G. Bierman	Mike & Janet Vasquez	Organizations Or Businesses:
Mike Howie	Donna Cowan	Alpaha Upsilon Master
Jim & Linda Sympon	Dale Grott	Beta Sigma Phi
The Buatte Family	Barbara Hall	American Legion
Patti Carter	Glenn & Lois Harris	Alva Courier Post 487
Don & Mary Alice Welge	Peggyann Helmers	American Legion Alva Courier Post 487 Auxiliary
Donna Clendenin	Trevar & Susan Vasquez	Buena Vista National Bank
Andrea Costilow	David & Kimberly Grass	Chester Chamber of Commerce
Beth Hartenberger	Kerry & Sherry Johnson	Chester Electrical Supply, Inc.
Connie Holzum	Jo Koeneman	Chester Insurance Agency
Ray & Janice Dettmer	Mike & Leslie Young	Chester Masonic Lodge 72
Alan & Carla Draves	Dean Lochhead	Chester Rotary Club
Donna Eggemeyer	Bruce & Mary Brown	Chester Women's Club
Tom & Cathy Sauer	Sandra Starr	Gilster-Mary Lee Corp.
Debra Sternberg	Martha McDonald	Knights of Columbus Council 3790
David & Lynn Meinhardt	Memorial for Alex Nordmeyer	Rozier's Country Market
Memorial For James "Jim" Grah	Donna Ramsey	State Farm Insurance - Paul Gentry
Judy Lagow	Jeanne Eastridge	VFW Post 3553
Family of Timmy Hartman	Roger & Ruth Petrowske	VFW Post 3553 Auxiliary
Roger & Connie Holley	Judy Shields	
Friend of Albert & Joyce Hopkins	Friend of Willard & Elvera Rathert	
Gary & Gaynelle Frazer	Linda Roth & Brian Roth	
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Kerkhaver	Friend of Ernest "Ernie Schuchert	

## Celebrating 70 Years

### Tilden Elevator

1947-2017

In March 1947 Lyle and Nina Mulholland purchased the Tilden Mill & Elevator Company. Three generations of the Mulholland family have been a part of the elevator's history. Lyle & Nina owned and managed the business together until 1967. Daughter Catherine joined the business in 1967, and son Sam started full time in 1976. Grandchildren Scott and Becky Meyer and Brandon and Lucas Vinyard also worked summers.

After 70 years in business, even though we no longer own the grain elevator portion, we still enjoy our working relationships and friendships developed over the years with you, our faithful customers, many of whom are second and third generation. We want to thank you for helping us to reach this 70th anniversary milestone.

All of us at Tilden Elevator wish you and your families a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR. We are looking forward to continuing our services with you in 2018.



**Marissa carolers**  
Marissa fourth-grade Girl Scouts went Christmas caroling around town December 13. They are shown singing in the Marissa library.



**Chester Christmas program**  
Chester Grade School first through fourth-grade students performed a Christmas concert December 14 at Colbert Gym. Above are third and fourth-grade students, and below are teachers watching the program. Photos by Jim Beers



**Agronomy competition**  
From left are Marissa FFA members Emma Schmierbach, Kade Portz, Kyle Ralphs, Tyler Lewis and Haley Wagner. The team recently placed seventh in Section 22 agronomy career development competition at Valmeyer High School. Submitted by Rachel Hall, reporter



**Special guest**  
The Marissa library's December 18 Reading Club was visited by Santa and Mrs. Claus. The 29 children who attended were thrilled to have Santa read a book to them, and later, they were able to visit with him and receive a small gift, a book and candy. Snacks were provided and a Christmas movie was shown. Submitted by Carol Mercer

## Cutler inks new sheriff's contract

Cutler will continue with its police protection coming from the Perry County Sheriff's Department.

At the December 7 meeting, the board approved a new contract with the sheriff's office. A deputy will continue to patrol a maximum of 20 hours a week in Cutler.

The village will pay the county \$16.50 an hour, which is up from \$15 an hour.

The sheriff's office has cut deputies because of budget constraints issued by the county board.

The Cutler board approved a resolution to have Mayor Joe Loucks sign a grant agreement for the radium reduction project. The grant, which comes from the federal government through the state, is for \$258,325.

The board approved Christmas bonuses. Full-time workers will receive \$200 and part-time \$25. Board members will receive a \$35 bonus.

The prizes for the Christmas lighting contest were approved. First place will get \$50, second \$30 and third \$10.

The board approved a new sexual harassment policy. Many other towns are passing the same type of document.

It was agreed to buy a new copy machine from Stiles Office Equipment

## Shorts weeks, early copy

The County Journal will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Because of the short weeks, news and advertising copy must be in early—by Friday, December 22 and Friday, December 29, December 22.

for \$2,673. The town will continue its mission to acquire an old piece of military equipment for display in the park.

Village Clerk Pat Boyce has been working with the U.S. Army Donation Program in hopes of obtaining some salvage, surplus equipment. The equipment would be for display only.



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# Homes decorated for the Christmas season



The Buddy and Debbie Newton home on George Street in Ava



The Brian Hille home just outside Cutler comes complete with recorded Christmas music.



Often a contest winner, the Roy and Teet Conway home in Cutler



The Roy Ehlers home in Campbell Hill



A home along Broad Street in Evansville is well lighted



Along Route 4/13 just east of Marissa



The Leo and Diane Hagene home along Cutler-Trico Road just west of Trico High School



Well-decorated homes located on Swanwick Street in Chester



On Booster Street in Evansville near the American Legion hall



The Jordan and Melissa Wilks home in Willisville



Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ruebke won first place and \$100 in the Steeleville home lighting contest. Their house is at 404 Queen Ann Court. Second place and \$80 went to Scott Mueller at 401 S. Garfield, third and \$65 to Rick Czapl at 905 W. Shawneetown Trail, fourth and \$45 to Dave and Cindy Sickmeyer at 505 S. Park and fifth and \$35 to Dawn Grefe at 310 W. Harold. The contest was sponsored by the chamber of commerce with donations from the town, Jaycees, Eagles and Eagles auxiliary.



The Zach Hoyt family home on Main Street in Ava

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## Shopping with the cops

The Sparta Police Department held its Shop with a Cop program last Saturday at Walmart. Assistant Chief Jeremy Kempfer said the department received \$5,000 in donations for the program, which

gave each child \$100 with which to shop. "They can shop for themselves or gifts for others," said Kempfer. "We divide them into groups, and they go shopping with one of our officers." The program is open

for ages 3-12. "This year we took all of the kids who signed up," said Kempfer. Most of the kids headed first for the toy section, but some then went to clothing and other items in the store.



Kids and Sparta police pose for a photo before starting their shopping trip Saturday.



Isabelle Mathis and Asia Rodriguez shop with officer Ralph Jones.



Above are Coulterville officer Ernie Ford, Samantha Cole, Annaliese Howell and David Cole. Below, front row from left are Nixon Hormann, Parker Little and Jenna Shelton. Back: officer Bob O'Rear, Mike Shaw, Jim Geggie and Kenny Adkins.



## Shopping with cop, veteran

Officers from the Coulterville Police Department and veterans from Coulterville VFW Post 6865 met at Sparta Walmart December 16 for the first Shop with a Cop and Veteran event. With donations from

Coulterville Banking Center, Pistol City, Casey's and Coulterville VFW, as well as individual donations, the event was a success. The police and veterans met with six kids and took them shopping. "This is a great pro-

gram that was started this year," said Coulterville Police Chief Jason Schlesinger. "It lets the youth of our town learn more about the police officers and veterans from their community. We hope to only grow the program next year."

## Holiday Hams

**Double Smoked Bone-In Ham**

Whole   15 Lbs.	Half   8 Lbs.	
<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>\$3<sup>19</sup></b>	8 Lbs.
Lb.	Lb.	

**Spiral Sliced Half Ham \$3<sup>19</sup> Lb.**

### Holiday Items

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Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
MILD CHEDDAR CHEESE	PROVOLONE CHEESE	HABANERO CHEESE
<b>\$3<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>\$3<sup>59</sup></b>	<b>\$5<sup>59</sup></b>
Lb.	Lb.	Lb.

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# business

## Hospital recognized for exceptional quality care

During a recent ceremony held in Champaign, the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network recognized Memorial Hospital in Chester for its ongoing commitment to exceptional quality of care.

As part of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program, Memorial Hospital and other critical access hospitals were asked to voluntarily participate in four defined domains of quality outcomes. These four domains include patient safety/inpatient, patient engagement,

care transitions and outpatient measures.

"Often, in rural hospitals, having a devoted staff member to abstract and submit this data can be both time-consuming and burdensome," said Angie Charlet, ICAHN director of Quality, Educational Services and Compliance. "This hospital realizes how important quality of care and an engaged staff is for its patients. From its top leadership throughout the facility, each strives for continued quality on a daily basis, and that is what we are celebrating today."

Memorial Hospital

was recognized for its quality of care outcomes for participating in all measures in all four domains, demonstrating top performance over two quarters in the care transitions domain by a greater than 95 percent quality score.

"We are very proud of our team for achieving this level of excellence in health quality," said Brett Bollmann, Memorial Hospital CEO. "This is truly a team effort that recognizes our dedication to delivering a health care experience that our patients and staff can be proud of."



### Series finale

Sparta Community Hospital held the last of its 12-month Live Well, Stay Well series December 14 at the Westminster fellowship hall. Pharmacist Dr. Meredith Klausing presented Getting the Best Results from Your Medications. Those who attended enjoyed Know Your Meds Bingo and refreshments. Details of wellness programs to be presented by the hospital in 2018 will be announced soon.

## Employees get cardiac training

Seven employees from Pinckneyville Community Hospital completed Advanced Cardiac Life Support training December 5.

Those employees were Mary Faulkner, Nicole Akins, Devin Fisher, Morgan Gailbraith, Chandler Cannon, Beth Inman and Connie Bush.

The ACLS course covers skills needed to handle a cardiac arrest, heart attack, stroke and post-resuscitation care.

The training uses simulated clinical scenarios requiring active, hands-on partici-



From left are Mary Faulkner, Nicole Akins, Devin Fisher, Morgan Gailbraith, Chandler Cannon, Beth Inman and Connie Bush.

individually, part of a team and as a team leader.



### FNB recognizes employees

First National Bank of Steeleville held its Christmas party at the Steeleville Legion December 9. Employees and guests enjoyed a meal prepared by the American Legion Auxiliary and received gifts. Employees who received service awards are, from left, Angela Truluck, 10 years of service; Ali Brockmeyer, 2 years; Karen Jacobus, 5 years; Jamie Mueller, 5 years; and Carol Wolters, 30 years. Bank President Tom Brockling presented the awards. Not pictured are Tammy Gaetz, 10 years of service, and Tasha Shemoney, 5 years.

## Wolters will retire from bank

First National Bank of Steeleville will hold a retirement celebration and open house at the Percy Banking Center Tuesday, January 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to recognize the retirement of customer service representative Carol Wolters, who has been with the bank for 30 years.

Wolters began working at Percy Banking Center in November of 1987, when it opened for business as the Percy Branch.

She came to FNB Steeleville with 20 years of banking experience and is retiring with a total of 50 years in banking.

"I've been counting money since I was 17 years old, and I'm ready for a change," Wolters said.

Wolters said she is looking forward to spending more time on the farm with her

*'I've been counting money since I was 17'*

husband Don and looks forward to whatever the future has to hold.



Carol Wolters



### Prairie State donates to kids

Three members of Prairie State Energy Campus of Washington County are shown with donated gifts and hygiene products to be given to 16 children from eight families at Sparta Lincoln Elementary School. Prairie State has donated to families in need for the past five years.

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**Found under the tree**

The Sparta Head Start class has been studying trees throughout December. Shown, Toby Perez, Dominic Kupihea and Gannon Moore observe items they found under a tree.



**Visit from Santa**

Sparta Head Start was visited by Santa during its December family activity day. Shown are Alayna Owens, Sarah Pierce, Kataleya Claybourn, Kyra Claybourn, Aalliyah King, Jaiceon Baker, Gannon Moore, Saraya Spivey, Ashe Hooten, Levi Nash, Ella Walker, Sha'Nylah Jackson, Dominic Kupihea, Rayden Wilson, Jack Baker, Toby Perez, Santa, Bonnie Schaber and Amanda McConachie.

**Percy hires new attorney**

There will be a new attorney to represent Percy in any matters involving court visits. The village board of trustees was forced to review their legal counsel after the attorney they were using, Jordan Gremmels of Chester, raised his price to \$600 per month, regardless of whether or not he has to attend the courthouse for any matter. The village hired

Tracey Welge of Chester, who will work for \$150 per hour based on actual work performed. In other news, Percy village employees will be mandated to sign an updated sexual harassment policy. The policy comes from the one recently passed by the Illinois Municipal League in response to the rash of recent high-profile accusations sur-

rounding sexual misconduct. The village also approved Christmas bonuses for employees. Full-time employees will receive \$100 and part-time \$50.

**Otten earns master's degree**

Christina Otten of Campbellsville, Kentucky, has earned a master's degree in business administration from Campbellsville University in

Campbellsville, Kentucky. Otten was presented her diploma during a commencement ceremony December 29.

**Stuff the Turkey exceeds its goal**

First State Bank of Campbell Hill, along with its branch locations, exceeded its goal of collecting 2,000 canned and non-perishable food items during its fourth annual Stuff the Turkey food drive, when they amassed 2,800 items in November. The bank matched the donations, bringing the total up to 5,600, which were distributed to food pantries in Ava, Steeleville, Coulterville and Cutler. Students from Trico, Steeleville, St. Mark's

and Coulterville elementary schools were able to get in on the drive by participating in a coloring contest. Thanksgiving coloring sheets were distributed to the students, and entries to the contest were submitted with a food item. Winners were drawn at the end of the month and received \$25 from the bank. The winners were Willow Hohgreffe Fry, Campbell Hill; Adeline Foster, Coulterville; and Liz Foshie, Steeleville.

**January recycling is scheduled in Sparta**

Sparta will hold its city recycling collection Saturday, January 6 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Washington Street. The collection will include disposal of

used Christmas lights for this one event only. Do not bring wrapping paper, bows or ribbon because those materials are not recyclable.

**Ring It In 2018!**

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El Jimador Tequila 750 ML	\$18.99	Early Times 1.75	\$17.99	Smoking Loon Wine	\$5.99	St. James Cranberry Wine	\$7.99	Ketel One 750 ML	\$22.99		

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# school news

## Chester committee talks about old school building

*Not sitting on enough for the \$6 million needed*

By Dan Zobel

To renovate or to build?

That is a decision the Chester school board could have to make down the road in regards to the 1925 section of Chester High School.

Superintendent Brian Pasero met December 15 with facility committee members Dan Colvis and Trent Vasquez to discuss the high school, grade school and new land the district purchased earlier this year.

"It goes without saying, the concern is the 1925 building," Pasero said. "My understanding is there is upkeep being done, but there is no getting around the age of the building."

Pasero cautioned that there are no plans in place to do anything drastic with the facilities, but it is important to lay out a plan of attack and figure out the biggest needs of the district.

"I don't think anything will be in the near future, but we need to start having these discussions," Pasero said. "We don't want to be caught without a plan. These are just conversation starters and gives us a starting point."

Pasero noted that the district is on the 2004 Construction Grant waiting list, but that grant has been suspended until further notice.

The district could receive \$2.29 million through the grant, with \$762,000 matching funds from the district—if the grant is ever rewarded.

"Thirteen years later, though, costs have gone up, and that wouldn't pay for (the facility) we currently have," Pasero said.

With the 1925 section of the high school being three stories tall, Pasero cited a project that Crab Orchard recently did when it tore down a three-story building

and replaced it with a one-story facility. He said that project cost around \$6 million.

Pasero also noted that the Chester Grade School gymnasium alone was \$5.87 million.

"If we wanted to replace the whole (1925 section), it would cost more," Pasero said. "Our current bonding ability is not close to being able to do that."

Pasero said some factors the state considers in regards to the construction grant are natural disasters, over crowding, consolidation and severe and continuing health and life safety matters.

"With roof leaks that occurred, it makes you wonder what it looks like inside of the beams," Vasquez said.

Pasero went on to say the state also considers special legislation and renovation.

"I don't know how easy it is to pass legislation to increase bond limits to help cover costs," Pasero said. "In regards to renovation, we've had requests to have the hallways painted for a facelift, but we still need to look at the structure itself."

The district purchased land near the high school off State Street across from the Best Western Hotel earlier this year. That land could be a potential location for a new high school building.

"I don't know what it takes to get land ready," Pasero said. "These are just options. I'm not saying we need to lean toward a new building or the other way."

The facility tax the district receives from the county could also help.

"That tax has been fantastic as far as the district is concerned," Pasero said. "It is a big bonus for general upkeep."

Pasero said that this year, the district is on pace to receive at least

\$640,000 from the tax, with \$500,000 being delegated for bond payments.

Overall, as of July, the district is sitting on around \$1.4 million in facility tax money.

"We're not sitting on enough, currently, for the \$6 million needed," Pasero said. "We're not there yet for a new building for what we have saved and our bonding ability. It is not too far away, though, to talk about what we're interested in, whether that is to renovate or build a new building."

"I will continue to investigate and look for the best route for the overall benefit of our students."

The group agreed that renovating definitely needs to be investigated to see whether the district could save money when the time comes.

Colvis added that it could be wise to have Baysinger Architects of Marion look at the steel structures of the 1925 section and come back to the district with suggestions and recommendations.

"That could give us options to look at down the road," Colvis said.

Colvis also noted that there was an architect study on the building two or three years ago that the district should locate and work from.

"We definitely want something that will be long lasting," Pasero said.

In regards to the grade school, Pasero said it is in pretty good shape, and the recent HVAC replacement in the band room went well.

Pasero said he has spoken with Baysinger about getting quotes on what it would cost to replace other HVAC units in the building over time.

"I commend the county for the sales tax," Pasero said. "It is a big plus. It goes a long way with two big buildings."



### Trico's state scholars

Trico High School recently recognized its Illinois State Scholars. Front row from left are Ellie Kuhlman, Kara Bunselmeyer, Skyler Ellison and Keeley Winters. Back row: Jade Kranawetter, Ryan Vogt, Hailey Nagel and Superintendent Larry Level.



### Marissa FFA competes

Marissa FFA placed third in the Section 22 agriculture communications career development at Waterloo High School. Participating were, from left, Allison Bollmeier (first in news writing), Sam Stoddard, Rachel Hall (third in opinion editorial), Kelsey Campbell, Austin Sabo (second in electronic media), Haylie Mayer, Cameron Bowlby and Kaylei Conway. Submitted by Rachel Hall, reporter

## Marissa sets new real estate tax rate

The school tax rate is going up slightly in the Marissa area.

At the December 18 meeting, the board approved a new tax rate of \$6.57 for each \$100 assessed valuation. The new rate represents a five-cent increase over last year.

The board approved food service bids. Only one bid, from Kohls, was received.

A new three-year contract was approved with Scheffel/Boyle Accountants of Belleville to perform the district's audit.

The board approved the pre-school grant for \$172,452 and to apply for the Circle 3 Ag Grant.

Tyson Rheinecker was hired as a high school teacher. He has a master's degree and five years of teaching experience.

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YOKOHAMA AVID ENVIgor	FALKEN SN250	FALKEN ZE950
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215/55R-16 \$101.00	P185NR-15 \$79.00	215/60R-16 \$79.00
225/45R-16 \$101.00	P185NR-15 \$79.00	225/50R-17 \$99.00
225/40R-16 \$101.00	P185NR-15 \$79.00	225/50R-17 \$99.00
225/40R-17 \$112.00	P185NR-15 \$79.00	225/50R-18 \$140.00
225/35R-17 \$115.00	P185NR-15 \$79.00	225/50R-18 \$140.00

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P225/75R-15	\$128.00
P225/75R-15	\$131.00
P245/70R-16	\$144.00
P245/75R-16	\$146.00
P255/70R-16	\$149.00
P255/75R-16	\$159.00
P245/70R-17	\$159.00
P245/70R-17	\$164.00
P275/55R-20	\$199.00

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• New Tires

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# Sparta will discuss SWIC dual education program

In the weeks and months ahead, the Sparta school board and administrators will be discussing a dual education program with Southwestern Illinois College.

High School Principal Scott Beckley brought up the subject at the December 14 school board meeting.

Beckley said the program would be open to as many as 12 high school students who could earn high school and college credit at the same time and receive an associate degree with their high school diplomas.

The students would attend a SWIC campus for two years starting with their junior year. Beckley said the program could begin next school year.

College tuition would be \$4,800 per student per the two-year program.

There will be a lot to discuss before any program begins, according to Beckley.

He said he had no idea how many Sparta students would be involved in the program, which is already offered in Chester, Steeleville, Red Bud and Coulterville.

In other news from the meeting, the board approved the tax levy in the amount of \$3.8 million plus \$795,000 for bond and interest needs.

The annual computer lease for the entire dis-

*Familiar program in Randolph County as all other public high schools take part in the program through SWIC*

trict was approved in the amount of \$44,632.

The board approved a December 29 overnight trip to Decatur for the high school wrestling team.

Evansville Principal Jayson Baker said his school conducted a successful active shooter drill with the help of the sheriff's office.

Lincoln Principal Amy Price noted that the school had donated more than 1,600 canned goods for the Delta Theta Sorority's food basket program.

Superintendent Gabe Schwemmer announced her shout out people for the month.

From the high school, they are Dan Langwith, who donates many items to the schools, and student Kayla Cowell; from Evansville, parent Pat Frazier and

student Zach Cheek; from Lincoln, Steve Walker, a school mentor, and student Evan Schulein.

The board said the Illinois Empower pilot program will try to find money for the district to hire consultants.

With the program, the high school could have a 2 p.m. dismissal two days a month, so teachers could have collaboration time.

In personnel matters, Eric Bayless resigned as assistant track coach at the high school.

Freddy Miller was hired as a full-time aide at Lincoln and Jennifer Reed as a six-hour cook at Lincoln.

Jake Schlich was approved as a volunteer assistant basketball coach at Evansville.



From left are Zach Cheek, Kayla Cowell, Evan Schulein and Superintendent Gabe Schwemmer.



## Donating to sorority

The Sparta Lincoln Elementary School Beta Club recently donated 1,642 cans of food for the Delta Theta Sorority's Christmas food baskets. The sorority, shown, receives names of those in need from the Ministerial Alliance and distributes the food accordingly.

## Christ Our Savior has many activities

Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School in Evansville is staying busy.

The FFA will sponsor a baby product drive for Life Network of Southern Illinois through January 26.

Life Network clients are especially in need of baby swings, Aveeno lotion and wash and Dreft laundry detergent, but all donations will be appreciated.

The FFA recently

helped Santa and Mrs. Claus at Buchheit in Sparta.

The students performed activities such as coloring Christmas pictures with the children as they waited in line to share their lists with Santa.

The school office will be closed December 22-26. It will be open from 9 to 3 December 27-29. The regular hours of 8 to 4 will resume January 2.



From left around Mrs. Claus and Santa are FFA members Brie Luebke, Riley Smith, Lexi Luebke and Megan Schulte.

## Christmas kitty

Stevie is an 8-month-old black and white tuxedo who is as sweet as pie. He was found abandoned as a kitten and would love the chance to make your family complete. To adopt Stevie, call the Perry County Humane Society at 542-3647.



## Annual Treasurer's Report For the City of Sparta, Illinois

For fiscal year ending March 31, 2017

Revenue Summary All Funds	GENERAL	TIF	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	ENTERPRISES FUNDS WATER & SEWER
Beginning Fund Balance	6,998,909	211,349		
Revenues	4,135,255	917,844	110,351	2,093,838
Expeditures	3,702,520	469,901	304,785	2,192,218
Other Financing Sources(Uses)				-29,857
Transfers In (Out)	548,323	300,000	0	-886,079
Ending Fund Balance	6,882,921	359,292	146,624	5,251,011

### Vendor Paid - All Funds For Fiscal year ending March 31, 2017

Admiral Parkway Inc.	72,321	Policeman's Benevolent & Protection	5,288
Alan Farris, Attorney	79,211	Principal Financial Group Insurance	31,804
Allied 100	2,540	Quivey Sanitation Inc.	8,280
Am Arbor Services, Inc	12,690	Ralph Jones	3,983
Amateur Trapshooting Association	5,000	Randolph County Abstract	2,765
Ameren IP	80,804	Randolph County Progress Committee	6,453
American Legal Publishing	11,050	R.E. Pedrotti Co., Inc.	6,986
Andrews Plumlee Inc.	25,000	Red Dot Construction Inc.	369,221
Arthur J. Gallagher RMS Inc.	114,517	Rhutasel & Associates, Inc.	43,844
Baker & Taylor	3,902	Roger's Redi Mix Inc.	43,605
Bank of Belleville	66,014	Ron Hunsche Excavating, Inc.	4,210
BCBS of IL	38,931	Sheffel Boyle	42,030
Beelman Logistics LLC Corporation	9,081	Schreiber, LLC	14,899
Benoist Brothers Supply Co.	3017	Scott David Opolka	3,000
Best Hometown Bank	250,000	Sentinel Emergency Solutions	9,541
Blackboard	2,880	Sidener Environmental	3,949
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	238,038	Southwestern Illinois College	8,984
Brenntag Mid-South Inc.	55,545	Sparta Little League Football	5,000
C.O. Bannister Excavating Inc.	18,582	Sparta Postmaster	10,398
Card Services	40,274	Sparta Stingrays Swim Team	9,444
Cedar Chem, LLC	13,775	Sparta Unit District 140	244,348
Chester National Bank	222,000	Sparta VFW Post	4,425
Cintas Corporation Inc.	6,858	Spear Corporation	18,722
City of Sparta	1,858,005	Standard Insurance Company RC	7,470
City of Sparta Accounts Payable	3,799,943	Svanda Chevrolet-olds Inc.	8,705
City of Sparta Payroll Account	2,534,565	T&T Lawn Service	12,520
City of Sparta W&S Interest & Principal	100,000	T.G. Rankin Company Inc.	9,868
Clark Baird Smith LLP	5,328	Teamsters Local 50	8,682
Communication Revolving Fund	7,173	TECA Contracting	13,054
Constellation New Energy Gas Division	6,393	The Bank of New York Mellon Debt Ser.	496,400
County Journal	9,796	The Bank of New York Mellon Trust	470,539
CTS	24,664	Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen Inc.	5,335
Danny Hanna	2,973	TNEMEC Co. Inc.	5,797
Dobbs Auto Center Inc.	2,983	Toshiba Financial Company	10,321
Eagle Stone	2,507	Trikota	39,760
Egyptian Electric Cooperative	3,662	United Auto Sales Inc.	40,659
First National Bank of Sparta	92,402	United Healthcare	229,288
Fort Miller FAB3 Corp	2,514	United Systems & Software Inc.	6,143
Frontier	16,685	USA Bluebook Inc.	30,349
Galls	3,992	Vision Service Plan-(IL)	3,942
Gary Steele	3,970	Walmart	8,282
Ginger Allard	6,191	Warner Communications Corp. Inc.	10,237
Harms Excavating & Landscaping Inc.	66,657	Washington National Ins. Co.	4,518
HD Supply Waterworks, LTD	47,653	Water Solutions Unlimited Inc.	3,128
Helen Erline Cane, Inc.	3,600	WEX Bank	46,209
Henson's Septic Service Inc.	4,465	Woody's Municipal Supply Inc.	49,318
HM&G Engineers Inc.	237,803	Wright Do-It-Center	26,390
Homefield Energy	245,589	All Vendors less than \$2500	159,509
Illinois Environmental Protection	141,854		
Illinois Public Risk Fund	101,479		
IMCO Supply Co. Inc.	50,935		
Iron Ford	15,598		
John Deere Financial/Buchheits	10,870		
JTC Petroleum Co.	10,772		
Julia Hayes	5,200		
Kohlen Concrete Products	5,624		
Kurtis R. Clay	35,898		
L&L Tire Service	2,503		
LPL Financial	830,000		
Luby Equipment Services	56,972		
Minton Insurance & Associates	5,945		
Missouri Petroleum Products Co.	9,164		
Morrow Brothers Ford Inc.	26,859		
Motor Pump & Services LLC	48,970		
NAPA Auto Parts of Sparta	28,094		
New Concept Construction Inc.	3,150		
Nuway Concrete Forms Southeast	4,277		
Office Depot	4,084		
Olgetree Deakins	30,681		
PDC Laboratories Inc.	7,454		
Pershing LLC FBD City of Sparta	665,016		
Petty Cash	6,300		

**Total 15,176,844**

Under \$25,000	\$25,000-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$74,999
Carl R. Adams	Terrace L. Jallivay	Ginger L. Allard
John Adams	Steven N. Johnson	Brian E. Adams
Zachary J. Adams	Mario Jones	David L. Bierman
Justin L. Baker	Darrel Juenger	Jamie C. Brooks
Jay M. Baue	Michael R. Kelley	Scott A. Buckner
Betty M. Brammeier	Travis R. Kempfer	Susan P. Colbert
Nathaniel T. Britt	Robert D. Klausinger	Melissa J. Kemper
Robert A. Brittingham	Brandon J. Lanton	Daniel L. Hanna
Lyle M. Bullner	Lacey B. Markley	John S. Hood
Arlita M. Burns	Cody A. Martin	Ralph D. Jones
Brian P. Castens	Dana Ann E. Martin	Jeremy P. Kempler
Carol June Cohoon	Kendra N. Martinez	Shawn L. Kirkland
Jeffrey A. Colbert	Grace B. McDonald	Sean Lukes
Joe Deuschmann	Verna L. Moxler	Eric E. Miles
Bradley R. Gielow	David L. Nellis	Richard D. Prest
Michael A. Hall	Alyze M. Nesbitt	Cody E. Mahan
Susan M. Hall	Lilith D. Owens	Brenda K. Sullivan
Travis S. Hall	Dillard D. Patterson Jr.	Gary W. Wasson
Brianna M. Hanks	Zachary A. Peters	Eric R. Steely
Gary E. Hanna	Ashley L. Pickering	Corey A. Stork
Joshua D. Hanna	Carol J. Pirtle	Jesse C. Thomas
Justin L. Hanna	Susan M. Pirtle	William E. Vansant Jr.
Chard L. Harvey	Timothy Rucks	
Christopher J. Haury	Thomas J. Sauer	
Elizabeth M. Haury	Jason L. Schlimme	
Jeffrey L. Hergenroeder	Theresa M. Simpson	
Stacie M. Hicks	Ross A. Slaven	
Bruce L. Hill	Sydney L. Smith	
Naseur S. Hobbs	Elizabeth M. Haury	
Virginia L. Hoback	Michael R. Springston	
Matthew M. Holdman	Gary D. Stephens	
Kevin L. Holliday	Marvin L. Stewart	
Stephen W. Holliday	Patricia A. Stewart	
	Ashley M. Walker	
	Nathaniel L. Ward	
	Katherine A. Williams	
	Dara J. Wilson	
	Eli A. Wittenborn	
	Brandy A. Zahringer	

**Total: \$2,121,421.27**

**ATTENTION QUIVEY SANITATION, INC.**  
**Trash Customers HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

All Monday Customers Will Be Picked Up On Their Normal Days Mondays, Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

With The Exception Of Chester Water Customers Monday & Tuesday Pick-Ups Will Be One Day Late (Tuesday & Wednesday Pick-Up) Thursday & Friday Route Will Remain The Same

# obituaries

**SHERRY L. WUNDERLICH**

Sherry L. Wunderlich, 61, of Ava, died Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

She was born February 3, 1956 in Centreville to Earl and Carmel Triplett Hubbs.

Sherry married Robert Wunderlich August 10, 2002 in Jamaica. He survives.

She received her bachelor's degree in nursing and worked as a clinical nurse manager and also a teacher at John A. Logan College.

Sherry taught Sunday School at Clarmin Baptist Church and had been a Girl Scout leader. She was a talented musician and played the piano, saxophone and clarinet. She was a member of Sparta Community Choir and enjoyed spending time outdoors and camping.

She is also survived by son Matthew (Melissa) Wilkerson of Oakdale, stepchildren Amanda Wunderlich of Ellis Grove and Aaron Wunderlich of Cutler, brothers Earl (Yvette) Hubbs of Millstadt and Keith (Nancy) Hubbs of Waterloo, sisters Rita Hubbs of Hecker, Terri Kenney of Benton, Kentucky, Denise (Rob) Collins and Kimberly Stamm of Belleville and Lori (Roger) Schmidt of Hardin, Kentucky, stepbrothers James (Janet) Woodrome and Wayne Presley of Texas, grandchildren Courtney, Gavin, Kylie and Blake Wilkerson, great-grandchild Evelyn Dahlia Wilkerson, brother-in-law Russell (Julie) Wunderlich of Colorado, sisters-in-law Jane Faust of Colorado and Sharon (Frank) Wheeler of Wyoming, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter Michelle Renee Laramore, nephew Jordan Brandenburger, niece Sarah Christine Hubbs and in-laws Robert and Ella Wunderlich.

Memorial services were held at 3 p.m. Sunday, December 17, 2017 at Welge-Pechacek Funeral Home in Red Bud, with Pastor Matt Friz officiating.

Memorials may be made to American Kidney Foundation. Sign the guest book at [wfh.net](http://wfh.net).



**TOMMY RAY RYAN**

Tommy Ray Ryan, 69, of Millstadt, died Saturday, December 16, 2017 at Red Bud Regional Hospital.

He was a retired locomotive engineer from Missouri Pacific/Union Pacific Railroad.

He was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Floraville, Illinois.

Tommy was a U. S. Marine Corps veteran, having served in Vietnam from 1966-1967 and being discharged in 1970.

He was born August 24, 1948 in Anna to Roy Lee and Nancy Turner Ryan.

Tommy married Daryl Byrd. She survives.

He is also survived by his service dog and companion Dasie Rae, brother Terry Rhodes, sisters Vicky Rodgers and Patsy Ryan, brothers-in-law Jan (Marsha) Byrd and Jim (Connie) Green, sisters-in-law Donna (Ray) Welch and Sharla (Harold) Welch, aunt Shirley Turner, cousin Jerry Bittle, nieces and nephews Monica, Tracey, Sherry, Terry Lee "TL," Travis, Denise, Brittany, Mark (Becca) Byrd, Jeff (Cecilia) Welch, Jody (Sharon) Welch, Monica (Jason) Toney, Martin (Elaine) Welch, Myra (Brian) Martin, Michele (Russell) Chapman, Timothy (Maki) Green and Beverly (Gardner) Holland and his brothers in arms Delta 1/5 U. S. Marine Corps.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Randy Ryan and sister-in-law Lawonna Green.

Visitation is Thursday, December 21, 2017 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Leesman Funeral Home in Millstadt and Friday from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Floraville. Services will follow, with Rev. Matt Friz officiating. Burial with military honors will be in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Hospital. Sign the guest book at [leesmanfuneralhome.com](http://leesmanfuneralhome.com).



**STACEY LEE HILL**

Stacey Lee Hill, 52, of Evansville, Indiana, died Saturday, December 9, 2017.

She was born in Red Bud June 29, 1965 to Prentice "Pete" and Hazel Laufer Wilson.

Stacey attended Sparta Lincoln Grade School. During her high school years in Salem, Illinois, she was an honor student and played on the volleyball team, managing and keeping statistics for the volleyball and track teams. She also traveled with a large Christian singing group, sharing her beautiful voice. She graduated in 1983 from high school then attended the University of Evansville to study nursing and graduated in 1984.

Stacey began her nursing career at Welborn Baptist Hospital. She worked 30 years as a registered nurse, spending many years at St. Mary's Medical Center in the ICU. She retired from the Evansville VA Health Care Center a year ago.

She loved to travel, and one of her favorite places was Hawaii. To celebrate her 50th birthday, she traveled to the island of Belize with her two sisters and daughter.

She is survived by daughter Sarah Olivia Hill of Evansville, parents of Sparta, sisters Gail (Neal) Alford of Evansville and Kathy (Danny) Eggemeyer of Steeleville, brother Matthew (Jacquie) Wilson of Central, South Carolina, nieces and nephews James "Scott" Taylor II, Dr. Joseph Taylor, Dr. Michael Taylor, Heather and Ryan Wilson, Autumn Halfacre and Danielle Eggemeyer.

A celebration of Stacey's life was held at 10 a.m. Saturday, December 16, 2017 at Browning Funeral Home in Evansville, with Rev. John Charles officiating. Private burial was in Union Cemetery in Schuline.



**MARK S. KING**

Mark S. King, 61, of Ava, died Monday, December 11, 2017 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. He was born July 30, 1956 in St. Louis to Loren and Betty D. Westen King.

Mark was a retired construction laborer and a member of Ava Assembly of God Church.

He is survived by son Brian King of Campbell Hill, stepson Kevin Padgett of Marion, brothers Lawerance King and Jeff King of Ava, Richard Alan King of Ft. Dodge, Iowa and Roger Fred King of Helena, Montana.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents and sister Brenda K. King.

It was his wish to be cremated, and there will be a private service at a later date.

Wilson's Funeral Home in Ava is in charge of arrangements. Sign the guest book at [wilsonsfuneralhome.net](http://wilsonsfuneralhome.net).

**IRENE JUNE MCCORMICK**

Irene June McCormick, 75, of Chester, died at 1:10 p.m. Saturday, December 16, 2017 at her home.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at Pechacek-McClure Funeral Home in Chester, with Rev. Phil Keeton officiating. Burial was in Ebenezer Cemetery in Rockwood.

Memorials may be given to the family. Sign the guest book at [pmfh.net](http://pmfh.net).

**MARY ELLEN WELTEN**

Mary Ellen Welten, 78, of Sparta, died Sunday, December 17, 2017 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

McDaniel and Lee Funeral Home in Sparta is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be given to the family. Sign the guest book at [mcdanielfh.com](http://mcdanielfh.com).



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**New Year's Weekend**

**Prime  
Rib  
Dinner**

Plus All Your Southside Favorites

Reservations Suggested  
For Large Groups

Saturday, Dec. 30  
11:00am-9:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 31  
4:00-9:00pm



903 S. St. Louis St. • Sparta • 443-2200

WE WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

*New Year's*  
**HANGOVER PARTY**

**New Year's Day Open At 11am**

**DJ & Karaoke  
TOUCH OF GLASS**

**Ham & Beans** **Bloody Marys**  
**After 2pm** **Mimosas** **\$2**

**Queen of Hearts**

**New Drawing Starts  
Sunday,  
January 7**

Drawings Will Be Sundays At 7pm

Progressive **\$3,000**  
Jackpot

**50/50 DRAWING  
EACH WEEK**

**TICKETS**  
\$1 Each  
6 For \$5  
15 for \$10

Everyone Welcome To Enter Raffle.  
Tickets Available For Purchase All Week.

**New Year's Eve**  
Free Juke Box • Open Til 2am  
*Bring Your Own Snacks*

**OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY AT 4PM**

**FISH FRY** Friday, Dec. 15 • 4-8PM  
**EVERY  
FRIDAY!**



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# society

## Evansville News

By Eloise Kueker  
449-2043

It seems like Christmas was a long way off just a short time ago, and now it is here. Let's keep in mind during these busy times what the true meaning of Christmas is all about. We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas.

So for a little fun how about a Christmas trivia. 1. In the song "Frosty the Snowman," what made Frosty come to life? 2. What well-known Christmas carol became the first song ever broadcast from space in 1965? 3. What was Rudolph's father's name? 4. What carol does the Peanuts

gang sing at the end of "A Charlie Brown Christmas?" 5. How many gifts would you receive if you received all of the gifts in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas?" 6. What is the name of the rabbit in the magic hat in "Frosty the Snowman?" 7. Who narrated the original TV show "How the Grinch Stole Christmas?" 8. What part is Sally, Charlie Brown's sister, asked to perform in the Christmas play? 9. The Grinch is as cuddly as a what? 10. What does Alvin want for Christmas in the "Chipmunk Song?"

1. An old silk hat
2. "Jingle Bells"
3. Donner
4. "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
5. 364
6. Hocus Pocus
7. Boris Karloff
8. A shepard's (Linus)

wife

9. Cactus
10. A hula hoop

Happy December birthday to Randy Haskenhoff, Dave Walter, Jada Long and Hallie Valleroy.

The village hall will be closed December 21 through January 2. There will be limited hours December 27.

Reminder that there are designated snow routes in the village, and parking is not permitted on these routes when snow falls.

Any vehicles parked along a snow route when snow falls will be towed at the owner's expense.

**January Calendar**

- 9 Legion auxiliary
- 10 Legion
- 11 School board
- 15 Fire department

**Evansville Enterprise**  
**January 6, 1939**

While men were loading feed at the Evansville Hatchery and Feed Store, a mule became frightened and started to run away.

Rolla Phegley, the owner of the team, was thrown to the ground and dragged about 30 feet.

Joseph Schoenberger, who has been an amateur boxer, has turned professional and is now an instructor at the Harry Cook Boxing Gym in St. Louis.

Mary Rose Nathalie, 2-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Simpson, passed away after a brief illness.

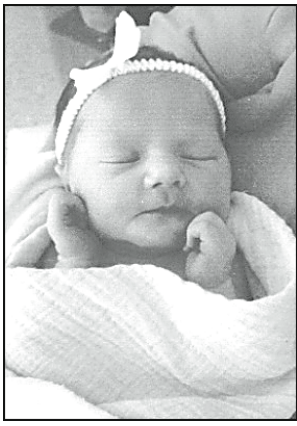
The first baby to be born in 1939 in our area was a boy born to Mr. and Mrs. Calla Howie on New Year's Day.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Kempfer December 28 and was named Kenneth.



**Celebrates 50th**

Leslie Dale Hill and Madelyn Montgomery Hill have spent the past six months celebrating their golden anniversary. They were married June 24, 1967 at Coulterville Methodist Church. The couple has two children Laura (Gerry) Whitley of Du Quoin and Paul (Shelly) Hill of Portland, Oregon and three grandchildren Katrina and Olivia Whitley of Du Quoin and Nikolaus Hill of Portland.



## Coulterville and Swanwick News

By Diana Cole  
758-2880

Valerie Keller and Grant McKinley are home visiting from Texas. On Saturday morning, we had breakfast at Pistol City with Bobby Keller.

Pistol City was also the place for break-

fast for Peggy Bowlby, Ruth Nutt and Norbert Huether.

The VFW post and auxiliary had a Christmas party Saturday. Members and their families attended. The food was catered by Buretta's from Nashville. Music was provided by The Doc Murry Band.

Bobby Keller, Valerie Keller, Grant McKinley, Pat and Sissy Keller had lunch at Oakdale Country Kitchen Sunday.

David and I took our grandkids to Portrait Innovation in Fairview Heights for family pictures. Afterwards, some of us went to Olive Garden to wait on the pictures. It was a nice visit with all those who could attend.

Congratulations to Brooke and Tyler Mitchell on the birth of their new son Max. He joins a sister Mia.

Jim Craig is home visiting his sister Jean Craig.

## S'ville senior site activities, menu

**Activities**  
**December 25-29**

MONDAY: Closed.  
TUESDAY: Birthday bingo at 10.  
WEDNESDAY: Bingo at 10.  
THURSDAY-FRIDAY: Closed.

**Menu**  
TUESDAY: Baked chicken breast, broccoli casserole, spinach salad, pears.  
WEDNESDAY: Chili, grilled cheese, layered salad, cottage cheese, pineapple.  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 965-3134 extension 5 by 9:30 a.m. to make a reservation.

## Bench

Shawn Bench and Haley Johnson of Coulterville are the parents of a daughter. Willow Raye Bench was born Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at Memorial East Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds 6 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Mike and Kathy Johnson. Maternal great-grandparents are Bill and Genny Pippin of Coulterville.

Paternal grandmother is Martha Christian of Matewan, West Virginia. Paternal great-grandparents are Rockford and Mae Looney of Matewan.

## Chester seniors

**Activities**  
**December 27-29.**

TUESDAY: Closed.  
WEDNESDAY: Prize bingo at 10. Nickel bingo after lunch.  
THURSDAY: Quilting at 8:30.  
FRIDAY: Bingo at 10.

**Menu**

WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, succotash, fruit, biscuit.  
THURSDAY: Fried chicken, whipped potatoes, gravy, broccoli, fruit.  
FRIDAY: Pork sausage/cabbage, mashed potatoes, gravy, lima beans, biscuit, peaches.

Prices at center \$4, home-delivered \$4.25.

Lunch is served at 11:30. Call 826-5108 by 9 to make a reservation.

## Sparta senior site activities, menu

**Activities**  
**December 25-29**

MONDAY-TUESDAY: Closed.  
WEDNESDAY: Exercise at 10. Closing at 12:30.  
THURSDAY: Chorus at 10. Bingo w/Carla.  
FRIDAY: Exercise at 10. Chorus to RCCC.

**Menu**

WEDNESDAY: Beef/noodles, stewed tomatoes, fruit.  
THURSDAY: Meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, green beans, jello w/fruit.  
FRIDAY: Chicken breast/gravy, rice, black beans, glazed carrots, cookies.

Prices: Seniors \$4, others and carry-outs \$6, home-delivered \$4.25.

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8-3, Friday 8-2. Meal hours 11:30-noon.

Clothing store: 9-3. For more information, call 443-4020.

*Card Of Thanks*

Thank you to all the wonderful people who touched us during Helen Korando's final trip on earth...

*Ken Rowold - over and above generosity*  
*Three Springs Staff · Hospice*  
*Chester Hospital · MedStar*  
*Estates of Perryville*  
*Wilson's Funeral Home*

May God Bless,  
Larry & Mary Korando



## Lloyd

Ryan and Dana Lloyd of Ellis Grove are the parents of a son. Hunter James Lloyd was born at 7:14 a.m. Sunday, October 29, 2017. He weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Lloyd and Carolyn Schoenbeck of Ellis Grove.

Paternal grandparents are Darren and Rosellen Sawh of Coulterville and Jim and Lisa Lloyd of Willisville.

## Divorce granted

Donald Eugne Beshears, petitioner, Jennifer Kay Beshears. Dissolution of marriage was granted December 4, 2017.

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First Baptist, Ava | Ava Missionary Baptist | Kinkaid Christian Church  
Sato Baptist | Pleasant Hill Christian Church | Denmark Baptist  
Crain Baptist | Ava Assembly of God | First National Bank of Ava  
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Thanks also to Trico for their support and to all the students who volunteered their time to help sort donated items. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Most of all, thanks to the community for your overwhelming support for this program in our inaugural year. We were blown away by the number of people who donated gifts or money for the children in the Trico school district. Because of you, we were able to provide gifts for 140 children.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and look forward to working with you in 2018!

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

**Christmas**

Heather Ogle, Candice Cotter, Nickie Estel, Kristin Anderson and the Ava Volunteer Fire Department

*In Loving Memory*

**David Michael Lillard II**

June 1, 1981 - December 24, 2004

Another year has come and gone, but never a day goes by that we don't think about you. Always know that we love you and you're always in our hearts.

*All our love,  
Mom, Rich, Melissa,  
Nick, Caleigh and  
Grandma Jane*



This photo shows the expanded dugouts, a portion of the new infield surface and the concrete block and screen backstop at main ball field in Ava. The renovations were made possible with the help of a \$10,000 grant from the Elizabeth Smysor Trust Fund and many donations of materials and volunteer time.

## Smysor trust money used to upgrade Ava diamond

A \$10,000 grant from the Elizabeth A. Smysor Charitable Trust has been used to completely overhaul the boys ball diamond in Ava.

The project will help keep water drained from the field and provide better safety for fans and players.

The project began with the donation of 25 tons of clay dirt by Casey and Jaime Lodge and material for the warning track donated by Kinkaid Stone.

The dirt and material were hauled by Brad Heins and Heins Farms, and Trico Little League board volunteers leveled it. Mike Reiman donated a tractor and tiller to work the clay fill.

Next, 100 tons of Dura Edge red crushed brick and golf course sand

*With lots of other donations, volunteer hours*

were added. That mixture enables the field to drain quickly and reduces rainouts of ball games, usually allowing play within two hours following a one-inch rain.

A warning track has been added as a water buffer to hold material on the field and keep it from eroding.

A 62-foot retaining wall four blocks high was added for the back-

stop. That labor was donated by Sid, Tom, Mike, Greg and Michael Rathert.

Fencing was replaced with a 7-foot-high chain link fence to protect fans from foul balls.

The dugouts were refurbished and have been deepened by two feet.

Sod was replaced around the entire perimeter, and A&I Electrical donated labor to move electric wiring for the scoreboard.

Garrett Thies, Jacob Lodge, Kaden Wilson, Kanon Wilson, Loren Eggemeyer and John Rees were among those who helped with the overall project.

The Trico Little League Board hopes to renovate the girls diamond in the near future.



## Basketball players assist seniors

Basketball players from Steeleville assisted at the Steeleville Senior Center Christmas party last week. Village Clerk Rebecca Kiehna said the young men were respectful and helpful. Shown are Zach Graham, Grant Millsap, Scotty Maxwell, Kaleb Knop, Chase Newby, Reid Harriss, Jacoby Gross, Zach Mevert, Jordan Hood, Braden Wilson, Avery Hamilton, Christian Rees, Eli Rushing and Lane Lazenby. Not shown are coaches Dan Harriss and Jason Rednour.

## Peace Lutheran's Christmas schedule

Peace Lutheran Church in Steeleville has a number of holiday worship opportunities.

The Saturday advent service will begin at 6 p.m.

The Sunday advent worship is at 9 a.m. Sunday school will follow.

Sunday evening, there will be a Christmas Eve service at 6:30. It will include the children's Christmas program. Holy Communion will be offered. There will also be a Christmas Eve

*Christmas Eve program is set for Sunday at 6:30 p.m.*

candlelight service of carols and communion at 11 in the evening.

The Christmas morning service will start at 9.

The public is invited to attend all services.



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# sports

By: Dan Zobel

## Sheldon wins individual title at Cumberland Tournament

The Sparta High School wrestling team had some high achievements December 16 at the Cumberland Tournament.

As a team, the Bulldogs placed 11th out of 19 schools with a score of 77.

That score included one first-place finish, two fourth-place marks and a sixth-place honor.

Teams finishing ahead of Sparta were Mt. Carmel (191), Monticello (179.5), Lawrenceville (146), Fith-

ian Oakwood (144), Toledo Cumberland (130), Mt. Olive (113.5), Warrensburg-Latham (113), Robinson (96), Harrisburg (95) and Effingham (92.5).

Sparta placed in front of Shelbyville (65), Carlyle (53), Decatur Eisenhower (49), Benton (32.5), Herrin (15), Metro-East Lutheran (3), Goreville (0) and Breese Mater Dei (0).

For Sparta, Clayton Sheldon earned the top spot in the 220-pound weight class.

Ethan Evans picked

*Three other Bulldog wrestlers earn medals as Sparta places 11th overall as a team*

up fourth at 138 and Drake Schulein fourth at 182. Isaac Evans brought in sixth at 195. The Bulldogs will

have nearly two weeks between matches, when they will compete next Friday, December 29 at the Argenta Duals.



Pictured are coach Rob Kirk with Sparta wrestlers Ethan Evans, Clayton Sheldon, Drake Schulein and Isaac Evans.

## A night to remember

*Bollman 3-ball lifts Chester over Trico in triple overtime*

By Dan Zobel

It was a night that will not soon be forgotten for those in attendance or listening on the radio.

The players of the Chester and Trico high school boys basketball teams went blow for blow for four quarters then three overtime periods in a game filled with high-end must-see drama that included a dunk to force the last overtime and a huge late 3-pointer.

In the end, it was the visiting Yellow Jackets who emerged victorious, topping the Pioneers 73-70 in an emotional affair that was not decided until the final buzzer sounded.

"I think it just goes to show how tough we were when it came down to it," said Chester coach Brad Norman. "They were just kind of refusing to lose. It seemed like we put ourselves in a hole each overtime and had to come back. "We continued to come back and come back in situations we hadn't been in yet. That was really neat and cool to go through that process and see how they would respond."

On a night when many heroes had the chance to emerge, it was Drake Bollman who delivered what turned out to be the largest dagger of the night.

The score was tied at 68 with under a minute to play in the third overtime.

Trico's Nick Compton stole a Jake Haberberger pass near the top of the key and raced to the other end for a bucket to put the Pioneers in the lead, 70-68.



Chester's Keith Kiner gets a shot up over Trico defenders Carter Naile and Ryan Vogt December 15 during the first half of the Yellow Jacket win over the Pioneers.

Haberberger pushed the ball back up the floor, penetrated into the lane and whipped the ball to the left corner to an awaiting Bollman.

In one fluid motion, Bollman calmly fired away from beyond the 3-point arc and buried the 3-pointer with just under 20 seconds to play to pull the Yellow Jackets ahead, 71-70.

"What was really cool about it was the composure he had after he hit it," Norman said. "A timeout was called later, and in the timeout, he wasn't worried about celebrating. He was much more worried about what we needed to do to get a stop. He works hard. He deserved that moment."

Following the Bollman 3-pointer, Trico ran back up the court at Chester.

Compton drove the lane and tossed up a driving right-handed runner that rimmed out, and Haberberger pulled down the re-



Trico's Jared Meyerhoff attacks the basket December 15 in the Pioneer loss to Chester.

bound and was fouled with just under five seconds remaining.

Haberberger made both free throws.

Trico rushed the ball up to halfcourt and called a timeout with 2.5 seconds on the clock, down by three

points, 73-70.

"The way Jake Haberberger handled the ball under pressure was key," Norman said. "He had a couple of turnovers that hurt, but he hit big free throws. He made two free throws to help put us into over-

time and two more to extend it to a three-point lead in the last overtime, which was huge. His composure was really good and his game overall was much better."

With the way the game had played out to that point, the 2.5 seconds on the clock felt like more than enough for Trico to have a chance to force a fourth extra period.

On the ensuing inbounds play, Compton took the ball out near his own bench.

Pioneer leading scorer Jared Meyerhoff, who scored 22 points in the game, including a pair of 3-pointers, received the ball off a screen on the left wing.

He pivoted toward the goal and got a good look on a 3-ball from about five feet behind the arc. Meyerhoff's shot, however, bounced off the backboard and rim before falling to the floor as

Continued on Page 19

## Teams of the Week

**Boys Basketball**  
Despite falling Tuesday at home by five points to non-conference opponent Anna-Jonesboro, the Chester High School boys basketball is the team of the week.

The Yellow Jackets take the honors thanks to a triple-overtime battle they won over Trico at Trico in a Black Diamond Conference West Division showdown.

Chester pulled out everything it could to secure that emotional victory that improved the team to 2-1 in the conference and kept them in the BDC race.

The loss to A-J dropped the Yellow Jackets to 7-3 overall but should continue to help this team learn and grow as it heads into the holiday break.

Chester will not be in action again until the Sesser-Valier Tournament December 26-30.

**Girls Basketball**  
With a couple of teams remaining idle until holiday tournaments, the Red Bud High School girls basketball team got a quick start to things by wrapping up in third place at the Gibault Candy Cane Classic.

Despite losing to eventual tournament champion Columbia in the tournament semifinals, Red Bud bounced back December 16 to take down host Gibault by 15 points to claim third at the tournament for the second straight season.

At 10-4, Red Bud would have equaled the start to the season it had a year ago if it defeated New Athens (6-5) December 20 in a Cahokia Conference Kaskaskia Division battle.

## Behind Ziebold, Birchler, Red Bud off to best start in six years

By Dan Zobel

Even after Red Bud's loss to Wesclin Tuesday night, the Musketeers are off to their best start to a season in six years.

Red Bud sits at 7-3 overall this season, 3-0 in the Cahokia Conference Kaskaskia Division.

The seven wins are the first time the Musketeers have had seven victories before January since the 2011-12 campaign.

"First and foremost, we've probably taken advantage of our schedule a little bit," said coach C.J. Crusier, who is in his first year in charge of the program. "We're not going to be numb to that, but we have found a way to win close games. Sometimes, it's hard to win close games, and it's a lot easier to find a way to lose them. We've fallen on the correct side of those close games so far."

Of Red Bud's 10 games, seven have been decided by single digits. The Musketeers are 6-1 in those contests.

As Crusier admitted, the competition level so far has been a little different than in past seasons, as Red Bud is in its first year of the Cahokia Conference Kaskaskia Division, as opposed to the Mississippi Division where it had resided, and is home to teams like Wesclin and Freeburg, which Red Bud will face Friday.

"It's nice to have these wins under our belt, but three are in conference; and we didn't have those conference schools last year," Crusier said. "We were playing Breese Central, Columbia and those types of teams, and it didn't work out that well. We'll get a stern test this week because we're back against our old conference opponents. We'll see what we're made of this week."

Continued on Page 19



Red Bud's Griffin Ziebold elevates toward the basket December 16 against Valmeyer.



Red Bud's Alex Birchler scores in transition December 16 over Valmeyer's Andrew Whipple.

# Bowling standings

## Steeleville

	Won	Lost
<b>Monday Early</b>		
Dolls w/Balls	72	19
Brunzee's Divas	55	36
Mixed Nuts	48	43
1st Natl. Bank	42	49
County Journal	32	59
U Iron Workers	24	67
<b>High Team Game</b>		
Mixed Nuts 745		
<b>High Team Series</b>		
Dolls With Balls 2089		
<b>High Ind. Game</b>		
Emma Ritter 236		
<b>High Ind. Series</b>		
Emma Ritter 563		

<b>Tuesday Early</b>		
Shiloh Deuces	121.5	53.5
Pistol City	120.5	54.5
NAPA	92.5	82.5
Farm Bureau	91.5	83.5
Glory Bowl	91	84
Shiloh Aces	80	95
Victor's	67.5	107.5
Andy's Auto Body	62	113
Menard Auto	56.5	118.5
<b>High Team Game</b>		
Pistol City 1286		
<b>High Team Series</b>		
NAPA 3748		
<b>High Ind. Game</b>		
Jim Bert 244		
<b>High Ind. Series</b>		
Kris Beshears 661		

<b>Thursday Early</b>		
Pistol City	93	47
Pocket Pounders	93	47
Mevert's Auto	90	50
Chester Eagles	87.5	52.5
Eaton Ins.	86	54
Windy Hill Farms	76.5	63.5
Peace Lutheran	68	72
Sparta Equip.	56.5	83.5
S'ville Natl. Bk	51.5	88.5
Chester Natl. Bk.	51	89
Broadway Tavern	48	92
Hillside Auto	39	101
<b>High Team Game</b>		
Chester Natl. Bank	1223	
<b>High Team Series</b>		
Chester Natl. Bank	3467	
<b>High Ind. Game</b>		
Mark Beare 270		
<b>High Ind. Series</b>		
Mark Beare 755		

# Warrior bowling

The Steeleville High School bowling team finished off the first part of its season December 13, when the Warriors battled Waterloo at West Park Columbia.

Steeleville lost all three games but put up solid scores. Waterloo took the first game 1,054-959, second 1,002-905 and third 964-881.

"We bowled well," said Steeleville coach Tom Craig. "Waterloo has a pretty good program. They just did a little better than us."

Noah Middendorf bowled the high game and high series for Steeleville with a 230 and 604.

The next Warrior match will be December 27 against Freeburg at Bel-Air Bowl in Belleville.

The only other scheduled regular season match for the Warriors will be January 6 at the Carterville Invitational.

Regionals are January 13.

"I'm proud of the kids so far," Craig said. "They've all bowled well and have dramatically improved from last year. We have been competitive in all of our matches."

# Military appreciation

The third annual Military Appreciation Night at Sparta High School is next Wednesday, January 27 during the Sparta boys basketball game against Marissa-Coulterville.

All military veterans will get into the game free of charge and will be honored during a special ceremony at halftime of the varsity game.

This year's proceeds will be donated to the Sparta American Legion and Coulterville VFW.

To raise funds, Military Appreciation Night shirts (\$10) and hooded sweatshirts (\$20) are available for purchase.

For more information, call Abbey Miles at 443-4341 extension 181 or email her at [amil@sparta.k12.il.us](mailto:amil@sparta.k12.il.us).

Meteor fans can purchase their military night apparel through Amy Howell at Coulterville High School at 758-2881.

# Red Bud girls basketball third at Candy Cane Classic

## Harbaugh grabs 10 boards in finale

The Red Bud High School girls basketball team continued its hot start to the season with a third-place finish December 16 at the Gibault Candy Cane Classic.

It was the second year in a row the Lady Musketeers have placed third at the tournament.

Red Bud is 10-4 overall on the season after going 2-1 in tournament play.

Sophie Richards represented the Lady Musketeers on the all-tournament team.

Columbia won the tournament for the second straight time by defeating Alton Marquette, 60-50, in the title game.

Host Gibault placed fourth, Roxana fifth, East Alton-Wood River sixth, Waterloo seventh and Valmeyer eighth.

### Red Bud 34 Gibault 19

Sophie Richards scored 12 points, and Makenzie Harbaugh pulled down 10 rebounds December 16, when the Lady Musketeers rolled to a win

over the Lady Hawks in the third-place game.

Red Bud held Gibault scoreless in the first quarter and led 14-0. The Lady Musketeers were up 22-7 at the half and 32-13 going into the fourth quarter.

Richards added five rebounds. Sophia Koesterer scored 10 points, including two of the team's three 3-pointers, and dished out six assists. Harbaugh added seven points, including a 3-ball, two assists and two steals.

The Lady Musketeers made just 5-of-13 free throws. Gibault was good on all four of its free throw attempts. Maddie Davis, who scored seven points, made the only Lady Hawk 3-pointer.

### Columbia 54 Red Bud 21

The Lady Musketeers struggled to shoot December 14, and Red Bud was blown out by Columbia in the semi-finals of the tournament.

The Lady Eagles built a 17-3 lead after one quarter against



The Red Bud girls basketball team and coaches

Red Bud and led 29-13 at the half. Columbia's advantage ballooned to 50-21 going into the fourth, a period in which the Lady Musketeers were shut out.

Red Bud only made 22 percent of their shots. Sophie Richards led the team with seven points, three assists and three steals. Sophia Koesterer added five points and Alyssa Heller four rebounds.

The Lady Musketeers made 5-of-8 free throws and two 3-pointers, one each by Koesterer and Alyssa Cowell.

Columbia was good on 8-of-11 free throws and two 3-balls, one by Aryn Henke, who finished with a game high 21 points.



Red Bud's Makenzie Harbaugh looks to pass to teammate Alyssa Cowell December 14 against Columbia.

# Trico girls basketball recovers to hold off Sparta, 42-36

By Dan Zobel

All wins are not created equal.

Trico made under 50 percent of its free throws and less than 30 percent of its field goals December 14, but Myah Kelley led the Pioneers with 13 points; and Trico used a 10-1 fourth-quarter run to defeat Sparta, 42-36, at home in a nonconference prep girls basketball clash.

"We're definitely going to spend some practice time shooting some free throws," said Trico coach Tyler Coleman. "It wasn't pretty at the line tonight. Overall, we've been getting our butts kicked a little bit in the strong conference we play in, so I was pretty happy to have this game tonight where we could compete, and our girls did just enough to win."

Trico made only 18-of-43 free throws, 8-of-22 in the second half, and connected on just 26 percent of its field goals.

Sparta, though, did not fare much better, as the Lady Bulldogs made 22 percent of their shots and suffered through foul trouble.

Five Sparta players, four of whom were starters, fouled out of the game.

"I was happy with the team overall," said Sparta coach Grace Hernandez. "We just have to work on last-minute game time situations. It didn't help that we had five girls foul out with just 10 on the team. Then, I was relying on freshmen to play up a level, though they did pretty good and kept the score about where it was."

Sparta trailed by as many as seven points, 30-23, late in the third quarter before mounting a comeback against Trico.

The Lady Bulldogs went on an 8-0 run, spanning to the 6:07 mark of the fourth quarter to grab a 31-30 lead, their first advantage since they led 2-0 in the first quarter.

During the run, Alacyia Williams scored four points, including a right hook to put Sparta ahead.

Amyia Henry scored a bucket in transition during the stretch for two of her game high 18 points, 14 of which came in the first half before Trico switched from its 2-3 zone defense into a box-and-one on her.

"We gave up the 14 points (to Henry) in



Trico's Myah Kelley looks to make a move December 14 against Sparta defender Alacyia Williams.

the first half, and she killed us," Coleman said. "When we switched to the box-and-one, that was the whole key. We found a way to shut her down and take Sparta's only scorer out of it and force the other girls to beat us. That was the key to the win tonight."

The Pioneers answered Sparta's run with a 10-1 stretch of their own to take a 40-32 advantage with 1:36 remaining.

Izzy Pierceall got the key stretch started with a driving score. Kristyn Reiman then scored back-to-back buckets on the right block, receiving perfect passes from Pierceall and Juhle Prange.

"We had four girls on the floor with four fouls, and they didn't want to foul out of the game, so they were kind of stepping back and letting girls shoot layups," Hernandez said. "I understand wanting to play, but we have to actually play while we're out there. That hurt us and let (Trico) get that jump on us. You still have to play defense."

Trico finished off the run with a pair of Kelley free throws, and Megan Wettig made a foul shot.

"(Sparta) was in foul trouble pretty much the whole game," Coleman said. "I just told the girls you have to be more aggressive. We let them back in the game because we stopped applying pressure. When we started attacking again and our guards started to

lead late in the first quarter after Kelley connected on a pair of free throws. She scored seven points in the opening quarter and 10 in the first half, including a pair of 3-pointers.

"(Kelley) had a heck of a game," Coleman said. "She was ready to attack and shoot. She had a few games where she struggled at the beginning of the season, but in every game she is building confidence. She's looking better and better each time."

Sparta's shooting woes were apparent from the start, as the Lady Bulldogs made just 2-of-11 shots in the first quarter, including 1-of-8 from behind the arc.

Not possessing a true post player, Sparta did not stray from its strategy and continued to fire away at will against the Trico defense.

"I don't have any sort of false thoughts that we have a post player on the team," Hernandez said. "If Shawna (Smith) gets the ball in there, she has some moves and can go up, but as a shooter, you keep shooting until the shots drop."

"Amyia got a couple to fall after that. She kind of got shut down at the end, but you can't score if you can't shoot. I would rather

take that than a turnover in the paint. We'll take what we can get."

Henry did bury a 3-ball to cut the Sparta deficit to 10-7, and the Lady Bulldogs trailed 12-8 after one quarter.

Trico extended its lead to 19-12 midway through the second quarter, getting a key 3-pointer from Kelley.

Henry answered with her second 3-pointer of the game, and Williams scored on a drive to make it 19-17.

Juhle Prange converted a 3-point play for Trico to push the lead back to 22-19.

Sparta scored five of the last seven points of the half, including another 3-ball from Henry, to make it 24-22 at the half.

The Lady Bulldogs finished the game 3-of-25 from behind the arc, missing all seven of their 3-point attempts in the second half. Sparta made only 5-of-13 free throws.

Williams and Daniela Sangurima scored seven points apiece.

Trico was good on 2-of-7 3-pointers. Prange chipped in nine points, all in the first half. Pierceall scored all five of her points in the second half.

Trico committed 21 turnovers, while Sparta had 12.

The Pioneers out rebounded Sparta 52-34.

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## Chester beats Trico...From Page 17

time expired. "We went into half-time up by one point, and I told coach (Daron) Meyerhoff we need to be thinking about end of game situations," said Trico coach Dan King, who was filling in for Andrew Wilson, who missed the game for his grandmother's funeral. "We got the situation in the last overtime and got the ball to the spot we wanted at the timeout. We drew up the play for Jared and (Chester) put (Keith) Kiner on the in-bounder so (Jared) had to catch the ball a little higher. He did get a good look. Sometimes those go in, and sometimes those go out."

Both teams hit shots early in the game, and Trico led 12-11 after one quarter.

The Pioneers still held the upper hand at halftime with a 22-21 advantage.

In the third, Trico stepped on the gas and outscored Chester 19-7 in the period to drive ahead, 41-28.

Meyerhoff scored 10 of his points in the quarter, and Seth Myers added seven of his 11 points.

Chester, though, flipped the script in the fourth quarter and outscored the Pioneers 24-11 in those eight minutes to knot the game at 52.

"We were up by about 15 at one point, and Chester turned the pressure back up on us," King said. "We had about five turnovers right in a row, and they got back in the game. In the first half, we handled the pressure and got lay-ups in transition. "Mentally, though, we had a little lapse, and the boys were a little fatigued. This

group has to learn how to win tight games. None of them have been involved in a game quite like this."

Five Yellow Jackets scored in the period, including seven points from Ian Reith and a pair of 3-pointers from Jake Cushman.

Contributions from everybody was key for Chester, as the team was working without two main players in Josh Haberberger and Nick Heffernan, who were suspended for the game after being ejected three days earlier in a win over Waterloo.

"Early in the game, we were kind of afraid of not being able to go as far on the bench, and we were playing a little soft," Norman said. "Ultimately, in the fourth, we played a lot more aggressive and more desperate. We forced some turnovers, got to the rim and got better shots."

"Colin (Wingerter) probably ran the floor on defense more than anybody else. The way he and Keith (Kiner) trapped in the corner forced several turnovers. It was a great overall effort by everybody."

Neither team shot well from the free-throw line in the game, as Chester made only 9-of-17 at the charity stripe and Trico 20-of-33.

The Pioneers had those free throws magnified in the fourth quarter and overtime, as Trico connected on just 10-of-20 foul shots during that time.

Both teams scored seven points in the first overtime, sending it to the second extra period at 59-59.

In the second overtime, with Trico leading 63-61 and under 30 seconds to play,

Chester worked the ball to Keith Kiner on the right wing.

Kiner dribbled twice with his left hand into the lane before elevating between two Trico defenders for an emphatic two-handed dunk with five seconds on the clock to force the third overtime.

"(Kiner) wanted the ball," Norman said. "He's been much more verbal about wanting the ball and has confidence with it. We've been trying to get him to turn the corner on that play a lot because sometimes he just needs to get to the rim. He did it, and it was nice to see."

"There were a lot of firsts for me in this game. That's the first time I've seen a dunk take a team into overtime. We know he's capable of that."

Kiner finished the game with 22 points. Reith added 14, 12 after the third quarter. Haberberger tallied 12 points, Cushman nine and Bollman nine. Wingerter poured in seven. Cushman made three of the team's six 3-pointers.

Three other Trico players scored in double figures besides Meyerhoff and Myers, as Carter Naile added 12 points, Ryan Vogt 11 and Compton 10. Gavin Thies chipped in four points, including a 3-pointer in overtime.

Trico made six 3-pointers, including two by Myers and one from Vogt.

"We just talked to the kids about how they played hard and tried to do the right things," King said. "For the most part, we did those things. Anytime you can play that hard for that long, it's kind of a positive."

## High school boys basketball roundup

### Anna-Jonesboro 47 Chester 42

Ian Reith scored 14 points and Keith Kiner 12 December 19, but the Yellow Jackets could not get over the hump at home in a nonconference bout with the Wildcats.

Chester (7-3) trailed 11-9 after one quarter and 25-19 at the half. The Yellow Jackets cut their deficit to 38-36 going into the fourth quarter but could not get their offense going in the final period.

Reith scored 10 of his points in the second half. Kiner tallied nine of his in the third quarter. Drake Bollman added nine points, all in the first half, including the team's only 3-pointer.

Chester made 5-of-7 free throws and Anna-Jonesboro 7-of-12. The Wildcats buried six 3-pointers. Jake Parr led the team with 12 points.

### Christopher 65 Trico 55

Carter Naile exploded for 20 points December 19, but it was not enough for the Pioneers, who lost on the road in Black Diamond Conference West Division game.

Trico (4-5, 0-2 BDC) fell behind 15-10 after one quarter and 32-23 at the half. Christopher held a 49-41 lead going into the fourth.

Naile scored 10 of his points in the fourth quarter. Jared Meyerhoff added 14 points, 12 in the third quarter. Seth Myers chipped in eight points and Ryan Vogt six.

Trico hit 6-of-10 free throws and Gavin Thies made the only Pioneer 3-pointer.

Christopher capitalized on 17-of-20 free throws and four 3-pointers, three by Dalton Saeger, who scored 17 points. Bradley Young also tacked on 17 points.

### Du Quoin 64 Sparta 53

Jonathan Williams scored 12 points December 19, but the Bulldogs could not hold off Du Quoin in an SIRR Mississippi battle.

The Bulldogs were up 25-22 at the half but trailed 40-39 going into the fourth.

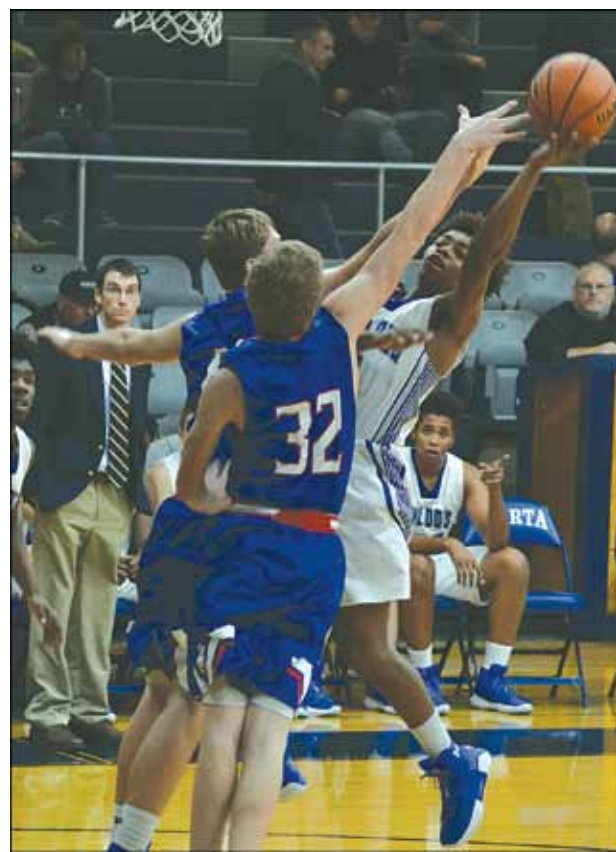
Carlos Keen added six points. Sparta made only 8-of-20 free throws.

Du Quoin had four players score in double figures, and the Indians were 17-of-21 at the charity stripe.

### Wesclin 56 Red Bud 33

The Musketeers struggled for much of the first quarter December 19, and Red Bud lost for the 12th straight time to the Warriors, as the Musketeers were blown out at home in a nonconference battle.

Red Bud (7-3) turned the ball over 11 times in the opening quarter and trailed 22-4 after one quarter. The Musketeers were behind 35-12 at the half and



A Sparta player gets met near the basket by a pair of Nashville defenders December 15 in the Bulldog loss to the Hornets.

### 54-27 going into the fourth.

Griffin Ziebold scored 10 points for Red Bud. Alex Birchler was limited to just two points.

Wesclin made 9-of-13 free throws and five 3-pointers. Brandon Courtney led the team with 11 points.

### Pinckneyville 81 Herrin 35

Dawson Yates scored 22 points for the second straight game, and the Panthers shot over 60 percent from the field, when they rolled over the Tigers on the road December 16 in a nonconference battle.

Pinckneyville (9-0) also made 10 3-pointers in game for the second straight contest. JC Moll (15 points) and Kyle Kreger (11 points) each buried a trio of 3-balls and Yates two.

Moll led the team with seven assists.

The Panthers were good on 9-of-10 free throws and Herrin 10-of-15. The Tigers made five 3-pointers. Drew Ringel led the team with nine points.

### Red Bud 44 Valmeyer 41

Griffin Ziebold scored 25 points December 16, and the Musketeers built a strong first-quarter lead and held off the Pirates at home in a Cahokia Conference Kaskaskia Division contest.

Red Bud, which is 3-0 in the conference, ran out to an 18-9 lead after eight minutes. The Musketeers had their advantage cut to 25-22 at the half but led 30-26 going into the final quarter.

Ziebold knocked down four of the five Musketeer 3-pointers. Alex Birchler added 10 points, and Blake Cowell hit a 3-pointer.

Red Bud made only 7-of-20 free throws and Valmeyer 8-of-12. The Pirates made a trio of 3-balls. Cole Juelfs had 14 Valmeyer points.

### Murphysboro 56 Sparta 35

### Sparta 35

Carlos Keen tallied 11 points and Jonah Boston added 10, but the Bulldogs fell behind big early in a home nonconference loss to the Red Devils.

Murphysboro plowed ahead 11-4 after one quarter and 27-12 at the half. The Red Devil lead went out to 47-26 going into the fourth.

Sparta made four 3-pointers, two by Keen.

The Bulldogs were good on 5-of-8 free throws and Murphysboro 6-of-10. The Red Devils made eight 3-pointers, three from Jeremy House, who paced Murphysboro with 19 points.

### Pinckneyville 73 Du Quoin 60

The Panthers opened the game on fire December 15 at Du Quoin, and Pinckneyville finished with 10 3-pointers in a big road SIRR Mississippi victory over the rival Indians.

The Panthers, who are 2-0 in conference play, charged ahead 24-10 after eight minutes. Pinckneyville still led 44-29 at the half and 60-42 going into the fourth.

Dawson Yates (22 points) and JC Moll (16 points) each made three Panther 3-balls.

Pinckneyville made 21-of-28 free throws and Du Quoin 14-of-16. The Indians made eight 3-pointers.

### Okawville 63 Steeleville 53

Owen Gross poured in 25 points for the Warriors December 15, but a rough third quarter kept Steeleville from pulling off an upset of the Rocks at Okawville in a nonconference battle.

Steeleville (5-5) trailed 28-25 at the half and were outscored 19-8 in the third to head into the fourth, down 47-33.

### December 15 Score

Nashville 52  
Sparta 16

## Red Bud off to fast start...From Page 17

The two stalwarts behind the Red Bud resurgence are seniors guard Griffin Ziebold and forward Alex Birchler.

"It's just been a lot of heart and soul with them," Crusier said. "When they get the fire in their belly, start rolling and feeling good about themselves, you have to go to them and utilize that. Hopefully, the other guys have picked up on that."

"We've put together some pretty good fourth quarters this year, and those two guys have pretty much been the glue. There might have been times where they have felt frustrated during the game, but at the end of the game, we usually lean on them, and they keep us together and are able to make the big play. I've been pleased with them so far."

The duo is no stranger to one another, as they have both been standouts for a Musketeer football team that has made the post-season the past two years, with Ziebold at quarterback and Birchler at receiver.

"(The chemistry) is huge," Ziebold said. "Just to be able to trust a guy to be able to pass it to him and know he will go finish for you and know when he has the ball in his hands, he can make something happen."

"Our other guys are stepping up and scoring points to, but when you look at Alex, with as big and athletic as he is, it's a confidence booster when you pass him the ball."

The last two years on the football field, Birchler has accounted for nearly 1,500 receiving yards from the arm of Ziebold.

This year, on the basketball court, the pair has combined to average 26 points, 10 rebounds and four steals per game.

sonally, we've not taken over, but we have had a big role in scoring," Birchler said. "We've been best friends since I can remember and have played sports together. We can just read each other's minds a lot. It's a lot of fun playing with him in all of the three sports we play."

Birchler has especially seen a jump in production on the hardwood, as he has increased his scoring output from 6.6 points per game as a junior to leading the team at 13.3 this season.

His two points against Wesclin were just the second time this year he has been held under double digits.

"I've just been using my size and have been able to get to the basket," Birchler said. "I've been able to draw fouls and have an impact on scoring."

Ziebold leads the team in assists again this season in addition to his scoring output.

He said his experience as a quarterback helps him to be a leader on the floor.

"In football, you see 11 guys, and in basketball, you see five," Ziebold said. "I wouldn't say it's easier, but being a quarterback definitely helps me see the floor a little bit. Also, with football, you kind of have more of an aggressive mentality. While you have to control it a little bit in basketball, that mentality helps get you open and get to the rim a little more."

Both players credited the team's defensive play as a key for the fast start to the season.

"Our defensive presence has really stood out," Ziebold said. "We have a lot of length on the defensive end, and that makes it tougher for a bigger team that can also drive the ball. Our offense has struggled a little bit, but our defense keeps us in games, and we have found ways to score enough points to win."

Red Bud has held teams to just 41.4 points per game this season and has held opponents under 40 points four times.

"Just playing defense the way we have so far has stood out," Birchler said. "We have more chemistry this year, too. Last year, we were pretty young and had a lot of juniors playing. This year, we've just kind of come together as a team."

Of Red Bud's three losses, one came to Steeleville at the Trico/Murphysboro tournament when Birchler was on a football recruiting trip.

With Birchler back in the lineup the following week, the Musketeers beat Steeleville on the Warriors' home floor for a big early season Kaskaskia Division victory.

Wesclin and Harrisburg have dealt Red Bud its other two losses, and both of those teams have just one loss to their names.

The last time the Musketeers won more than seven games in a season before January was in 2006, when Red Bud ultimately went 18-14 and advanced to a regional title game.

Red Bud will play at Freeburg Friday for a chance at win number eight, which would equal the total amount of victories the Musketeers had last season.

"Freeburg is no slouch," Ziebold said. "Our biggest thing is to go there and compete, let our defense keep us in the game and hope whenever the buzzer sounds that our offense is good enough to win."

"It's not what we want, but if we come out with losses (against Wesclin and Freeburg) but know we can compete against good 2A and 3A schools, that will be a big confidence booster."

"If we have any kinks, they will definitely be exploited, so we'll know what we need to work on."

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# Holiday tournaments

## Duster Thomas Hoops Classic (Boys)

The Pinckneyville High School boys basketball team will look to repeat as champions December 29 and 30 at its own Duster Thomas Hoops Classic.

Twelve teams will again participate in the unique two-day format that splits teams into four pools before entering bracketed play on the second day of the tournament.

Last year, Pinckneyville was victorious over Benton for the tournament title. Carterville placed third and Waterloo Gibault fourth.

Trico, on the other hand, did not pick up a victory in tournament play and wound up in 12th.

This year, Pinckneyville will be in Pool A with Olney and Roxana.

Trico will start in Pool C with Carterville and Trenton-Wesclin.

Pool B will showcase Benton, Cissna Park and Greenville, while Pool D will be made up of Jerseyville, Du Quoin and Elverado.

### Tournament Schedule

December 29

Thomas Gym

9:00 - Trenton-Wesclin vs. Trico  
10:30 - Greenville vs. Cissna Park  
2:00 - Olney vs. Roxana  
3:30 - Jerseyville vs. Du Quoin  
7:00 - Pinckneyville vs. Olney  
8:30 - Benton vs. Greenville

### Auxiliary Gym

9:00 - Roxana vs. Pinckneyville  
10:30 - Elverado vs. Jerseyville  
2:00 - Carterville vs. Trenton-Wesclin  
3:30 - Cissna Park vs. Benton  
7:00 - Trico vs. Carterville  
8:30 - Du Quoin vs. Elverado

December 30

### Gold Bracket (Thomas Gym)

Game 1 - Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st, noon  
Game 2 - Pool C 1st vs. Pool D 1st, 1:30  
Third-place - Game 1 Loser vs. Game 2 Loser, 7:00  
Championship - Game 1 Winner vs. Game 2 Winner, 8:30

### Silver Bracket (Thomas Gym)

Game 1 - Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd, 9:00  
Game 2 - Pool C 2nd vs. Pool D 2nd, 10:30  
Seventh-place - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2, 4:00  
Fifth-place - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 5:30

### Bronze Bracket (Auxiliary Gym)

Game 1 - Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd, 9:00  
Game 2 - Pool C 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd, 10:30  
11th-place - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2, 4:00  
Ninth-place - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 5:30

## Lebanon Christmas Tournament (Girls)

The Chester, Steelevelle, Red Bud, Marissa-Coulterville and Sparta prep girls basketball teams will return to the Lebanon Christmas Tournament December 26-29 over the holiday break.

Last year, of the area teams, Chester finished the highest, when it claimed the consolation trophy.

Class 1A stalwart Lebanon will return this year to defend its title as the top seed.

Also last year, Mount Olive earned second, Christ Our Rock third, Columbia fourth and Du Quoin fifth.

### Tournament Schedule

\*seeds in parentheses

December 26

Game 1 - Carlyle (6) vs. New Athens (11), 9:30  
Game 2 - Christ Our Rock (3) vs. M-C (14), 11:00  
Game 3 - Red Bud (7) vs. Du Quoin (10), 12:30  
Game 4 - Freeburg (2) vs. Roxana (15), 2:00  
Game 5 - Columbia (5) vs. Chester (12), 3:30  
Game 6 - Greenville (4) vs. Wesclin (13), 5:00  
Game 7 - Steelevelle (8) vs. Piasa Southwestern (9), 6:30  
Game 8 - Lebanon (1) vs. Sparta (16), 8:00

December 27

Game 9 - Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4, 9:30  
Game 10 - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2, 11:00  
Game 11 - Loser Game 7 vs. Loser Game 8, 12:30  
Game 12 - Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 6, 2:00  
Game 13 - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 3:30  
Game 14 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 5:00  
Game 15 - Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8, 6:30  
Game 16 - Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 8:00

December 28

Game 17 - Winner Game 11 vs. Winner Game 12, 12:30  
Game 18 - Winner Game 9 vs. Winner Game 10, 2:00  
Game 19 - Loser Game 15 vs. Loser Game 16, 3:30  
Game 20 - Loser Game 13 vs. Loser Game 14, 5:00  
Game 21 - Winner Game 13 vs. Winner Game 14, 6:30  
Game 22 - Winner Game 15 vs. Winner Game 16, 8:00

December 29

Consolation - Winner Game 17 vs. Winner Game 18, 3:30  
Fifth-place - Winner Game 19 vs. Winner Game 20, 5:00  
Third-place - Loser Game 21 vs. Loser Game 22, 6:30  
Championship - Winner Game 21 vs. Winner Game 22, 8:00

## Columbia/Freeburg Holiday Tournament (Boys)

The Sparta High School boys basketball team will participate again the Columbia/Freeburg Tournament December 27-30 during Christmas break.

This year, the tournament will field 11 teams. There will be two four-team pools, as well as three other teams that will play each other and teams from each pool.

Pool A will consist of Civic Memorial, Columbia, Freeburg and Gibault. Pool B will have Alton Marquette, Lebanon, Triad and Waterloo.

The three remaining teams are Sparta,

Dupo and Valmeyer. These three will play four games over the course of the first three days of the tournament but will not compete on the final day of the tournament.

Last year, Sparta went 0-5 at the tournament and placed 10th.

Alton Marquette returns as the defending champion, having beat Columbia in last season's title game. Triad placed third and Civic Memorial fourth.

### Tournament Schedule

December 27

10:00 - Sparta vs. Valmeyer  
11:30 - Triad vs. Leba-

## Sesser-Valier Holiday Tournament (Boys)

The Chester, Steelevelle and Marissa-Coulterville prep boys basketball teams have been slated to the same side of the bracket for the Sesser-Valier Holiday Tournament December 26-29.

Last year, Chester lost to Goreville in the fifth-place game after eliminating Steelevelle in the fifth-place bracket semifinals. Marissa-Coulterville was eliminated by Goreville in the fifth-place semifinals.

Christopher is the returning champion. The Bearcats defeated Waltonville last year for the crown. Sesser-Valier earned third and Woodlawn fourth.

This year, the top eight seeds of the 16-team bracket in order are Woodlawn, Goreville, Christopher, Sesser-Valier, Cobden, Chester, Steelevelle and Johnston City.

### Tournament Schedule

December 26

Game 1 - Chester vs. New Athens, 9:00  
Game 2 - Christopher vs. Galatia, 10:30  
Game 3 - Steelevelle vs. Century, noon  
Game 4 - Goreville vs. Marissa-Coulterville, 1:30  
Game 5 - Johnston City vs. Odin, 3:30  
Game 6 - Woodlawn vs. Zeigler-Royalton, 5:00  
Game 7 - Cobden vs. Thompsonville, 6:30  
Game 8 - Sesser-Valier vs. Waltonville, 8:00

December 27

Game 9 - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2, 9:00  
Game 10 - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 10:30  
Game 11 - Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4, noon  
Game 12 - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 1:30  
Game 13 - Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 6, 3:30  
Game 14 - Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 5:00  
Game 15 - Loser Game 7 vs. Loser Game 8, 6:30  
Game 16 - Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8, 8:00

December 28

Game 17 - Winner Game 9 vs. Winner Game 11, 10:30  
Game 18 - Loser Game 10 vs. Loser Game 12, noon  
Game 19 - Winner Game 10 vs. Winner Game 12, 1:30  
Game 20 - Winner Game 13 vs. Winner Game 15, 5:00  
Game 21 - Loser Game 14 vs. Loser Game 16, 6:30  
Game 22 - Winner Game 14 vs. Winner Game 16, 8:00

December 29

Consolation - Winner Game 17 vs. Winner Game 20, noon  
Fifth-place - Winner Game 18 vs. Winner Game 21, 1:30  
Third-place - Loser Game 19 vs. Loser Game 22, 3:00  
Championship - Winner Game 19 vs. Winner Game 22, 7:00

## Rangerette Christmas Classic (Girls)

The Pinckneyville High School girls basketball team will participate in the Rangerette Christmas Classic December 27-29 in Benton this season over the holiday break.

The tournament features 12 teams broken up into four three-team pools.

The Lady Panthers will join Marion and Benton in Pool A.

Pool B will consist of Union County, Kentucky, Christopher and Carterville. Pool C will have Herrin, Hamilton County and Mt. Vernon. Pool D will be filled with Harrisburg, Vienna and Meridian.

### Tournament Schedule

December 27

East Gym

9:00 - Marion vs. Pinckneyville  
10:30 - Union County vs. Christopher  
1:30 - Benton vs. Marion  
3:00 - Meridian vs. Harrisburg  
6:00 - Hamilton County vs. Mt. Vernon  
7:30 - Vienna vs. Meridian

### Rich Herrin Gym

9:00 - Herrin vs. Hamilton County  
10:30 - Harrisburg vs. Vienna  
1:30 - Mt. Vernon vs. Herrin  
3:00 - Carterville vs. Union County  
6:00 - Pinckneyville vs. Benton  
7:30 - Vienna vs. Meridian

December 28

East Gym

Game 1 - Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd, 3:00  
Game 3 - Pool C 3rd vs. Pool D 3rd, 4:30  
Rich Herrin Gym  
Game 2 - Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd, 3:00  
Game 4 - Pool C 2nd vs. Pool D 2nd, 4:30  
Game 5 - Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st, 6:00  
Game 6 - Pool C 1st vs. Pool D 1st, 7:30

December 29

East Gym

11th-place - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 3, 3:00  
Ninth-place - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 3, 4:30

### Rich Herrin Gym

Seventh-place - Loser Game 2 vs. Loser Game 4, 3:00  
Fifth-place - Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 4, 4:30  
Third-place - Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 6, 6:00  
Championship - Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 7:30

non

1:00 - Freeburg vs. Dupo  
2:30 - Valmeyer vs. Waterloo  
4:00 - Civic Memorial vs. Waterloo  
5:30 - Columbia vs. Freeburg  
7:00 - Waterloo vs. Marquette

December 28

10:00 - Sparta vs. Dupo  
11:30 - Gibault vs. Valmeyer  
1:00 - Lebanon vs. Marquette  
2:30 - Triad vs. Sparta  
4:00 - Freeburg vs. Gibault  
5:30 - Civic Memorial vs. Columbia  
7:00 - Waterloo vs.

Triad

December 29

10:00 - Valmeyer vs. Dupo  
11:30 - Sparta vs. Lebanon  
1:00 - Freeburg vs. Civic Memorial  
2:30 - Dupo vs. Columbia  
4:00 - Lebanon vs. Waterloo  
5:30 - Marquette vs. Triad  
7:00 - Columbia vs. Gibault

December 30

2:00 - Pool A 4th vs. Pool B 4th  
3:30 - Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd  
5:00 - Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd  
6:30 - Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st



## Conference champs

The Marissa Junior High Lady Comet girls basketball team recently won the Cahokia Conference Championship at Columbia High School. The Lady Comets defeated Columbia in the title game after taking care of business against Smithton in the opening round and Freeburg in the semifinals. Pictured from left in the front row are Annie Vallarrea, Emilyn Mueller, Hannah Krause, Tori Bateman and Emma Smith. Middle row: Carligh Rhodes, Autumn Gilley, Brooke Kempfer and coach Stephanie Pitchford. Back row: coach Mike Parker, Grace Middendorf, Bree Portz, Ashley Kempfer, Kylie Landi, Justice Brenning and Grace Zimmer.

## Prep girls hoops results

### Anna-Jonesboro 44 Sparta 42

Daniela Sangurima scored 10 points and Amyia Henry added nine December 18, but the Lady Bulldogs struggled at the free-throw line and fell just short of their first victory of the season in a loss to the Lady Wildcats at home in SIRR Mississippi play.

Sparta (0-13, 0-5 SIRR Mississippi) jumped out to a 16-9 lead after the first quarter, getting five points from Henry in the quarter. A-J stormed back in the second quarter to take a 25-24 lead into the half.

In the third quarter, Sparta's offense went cold, and the Lady Wildcats held a 32-30 advantage into the fourth.

Sangurima made 8-of-13 free throws for Sparta, but the rest of the team combined to go 0-of-8 at the charity stripe.

Erianna Henry scored eight points, including two of the team's four 3-pointers. Shawna Smith chipped in six points, all in the first half.

A-J was only 11-of-23 at the free-throw line and made three 3-pointers, one by Angel Helm, who led all scorers with 13 points.

### New Athens 41 Marissa-Coulterville 31

After a week-long layoff, the Lady Meteors got off to a slow start December 18 at New Athens, and M-C lost in Cahokia Conference Kaskaskia Division action at New Athens.

The Lady Meteors (4-5, 2-2 Cahokia) trailed 10-3 after one quarter and 24-13 at the half. The score was 30-19 going into the final period.

Emily Smith paced M-C with 10 points, including the team's lone 3-pointer. Hailey Krause chipped in six points, and three Lady Meteors scored four points each.

M-C made 8-of-14 free throws and New Athens 2-of-8. The Lady Yellow Jackets made five 3-pointers, three by Brooke Jansen (11 points).

### Vienna 59 Trico 32

Juhle Prange tallied 16 points December 18, but a slow start doomed the Pioneers at home against the Lady Eagles in a Black Diamond Conference West Division battle.

Vienna raced out to a 17-5 lead after one quarter against Trico. The Pioneers hung within 32-18 at the half, but the deficit went up to 49-29 going into the fourth.

Prange scored 11 of her points in the first half. Sam Cottom added six points for Trico.

The Pioneers hit 10-of-16 shots at the charity stripe and Vienna 10-of-21. The

Lady Eagles made one 3-pointer. Lindsey Hohlhubner led three Vienna scorers with 13 points.

Trico holds a record of 3-10 overall and 1-5 in conference play. The Pioneers will not play again until January 2 in the Lady Jacket Mid-Winter Classic at Chester.

### Okawville 34 Pinckneyville 23

Megan Breslin and Kenzie Rushing accounted for eight Pinckneyville points apiece December 16, but the Lady Panthers lost to a one-loss Okawville team in a nonconference bout at Pinckneyville.

It is the second time the Lady Panthers, 6-5 overall, have lost to the Lady Rockets this season. Pinckneyville trailed 12-5 after one quarter and 20-9 at the half. The score was 24-15 heading into the fourth.

The Lady Panthers made only 33 percent of their field goals. Breslin picked up two blocked shots and three rebounds. Kiya Hagene made the team's only 3-pointer.

Pinckneyville hit 4-of-8 free throws; 4-of-6 were by Breslin.

### Carterville 77 Sparta 42

Amyia Henry caught fire for 19 points December 16, but the Lady Bulldogs could not keep pace with the high-powered Lady Lions at Carterville in an SIRR Mississippi clash.

Sparta trailed 26-13 after one quarter and 48-19 at the half. The Carterville lead went up to 68-29 going into the fourth.

Henry scored 13 of her points in the second half. She made a pair of 3-pointers in the first two quarters. Erianna Henry made a trio of 3-pointers and scored nine points. Daniela Sangurima chipped in six points.

Sparta made 7-of-14 free throws.

### S-VW 84 Trico 15

The Pioneers did not score until nearly two minutes into the second quarter December 13, and Trico was destroyed by Sesser-Valier-Waltonville in a road Black Diamond Conference West Division game.

The Lady Red Devils powered ahead 23-0 after one quarter and were up 25-0 before Kristyn Reiman scored a Trico bucket at the 6:31 mark of the second quarter.

Megan Wettig scored five points to lead Trico.

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SMALL ENGINE REPAIR  
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ECHO • INGERSOLL  
ARIENS • GRAVELY  
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**Riders in Sparta**

The Legion Riders of the Steepleville American Legion met with veterans at the Randolph County Care Center in Sparta, Three Springs Lodge in Chester, Coulterville nursing home and in Red Bud Saturday. They took along special gifts of American flag blankets and gift cards for resident veterans. Above, Alan Gerstenschlager of Sparta, Mike Jones and Melania Jones of Marissa hand out presents to veterans at Randolph County Care Center.



**Visiting veterans**

Don and Carol Hatcher and Brian Thomas of the Legion Riders visited the Manor at Craig Farms and Three Springs Lodge in Chester December 16 to pay a holiday visit to veterans. All veterans were given American flag fleece blankets and other small gifts and some items the men personally requested. The top photo was taken at Manor At Craig Farms. From left are Carl Tiller, Floyd Morgan, Frank Derickson, James Jeremiah, Clifton Bierman, Glenn Ohlau, Norman Fraembs, Carol Hatcher, Don Hatcher, Brian Thomas, Tony Hennrich and Omer Rieckenberg. The photo at right was taken at Three Springs Lodge. From left are Delbert Niemeyer, Everett Caupert, Don Hatcher, Earl Marks, Alvin Wunderlich, Brian Thomas, Carol Hatcher, Wib Saak and Delbert Jany. Not shown are Loren "Slim" Kothe and Frank O'Connor.

**Randolph ending vaccination program**

*Board reviewing RCCC candidates*

**By Dan Zobel**

The vaccines for children program is no longer needed.

Stephanie Martin, administrator of the Randolph County Health Department, told the county board of commissioners December 15 during its regular meeting that the program will end December 31 in Randolph County.

Martin explained that the program was started as a way to help children who receive public aid get vaccinated. With the Affordable Care Act, there should be no uninsured children.

In other news, the board approved a resolution for motor fuel tax funds for highway maintenance.

The resolution included awarding rock and hauling contracts to Beelman Logistics of East St. Louis at \$25,770 for Road District 1 and \$17,980 for Road District 4.

Both bids came in under the estimate.

"The prices are very close

to past years," said Mike Riebeling, county engineer. "There was a slight uptick in rock cost."

There was a third bid of \$26,970 from Beelman for Road District 4 that was rejected because the bid should not have included the cost of rock.

The board approved the appellate prosecutor resolution, which helps the county in regards to appeals.

Quarterly board meeting dates were set through March, to start at 9 a.m. January 12 and 26, February 9 and 23 and March 9 and 23.

Commissioner Marc Kiehna said interviews with five applicants for the administrator position at the Randolph County Care Center were scheduled for December 18 and 19.

"We believe they're strong (candidates)," Kiehna said. "We look forward to meeting them in person and seeing what they have to offer."

Administrator Ken Slavens will retire in January.

**Jackson will sing at Trinity Church**

Trinity Presbyterian Church in Sparta will present Christmas with Monty Jackson Saturday, December 23 at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend an evening of Christmas music with the gifted singer.


The church is located at 301 W. Broadway.




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H&R Block Emerald Advances® line of credit and H&R Block Emerald Savings® offered through Boff Federal Bank, Member FDIC. H&R Block Emerald Prepaid Mastercard® issued by Boff Federal Bank pursuant to a license by Mastercard International Incorporated. All products subject to ID verification. Line of credit subject to credit and underwriting approval. Fees apply. Products offered at participating offices. Promotional period 11/16/2017 - 12/29/2017. Emerald Financial Services, LLC is a registered agent of Boff Federal Bank. Mastercard is a registered trademark, and the circles design is a trademark of Mastercard International Incorporated. Emerald Advance is a tax refund-related credit product and Emerald Card is a tax refund-related deposit product. ©2017 HRB Tax Group, Inc. EAFLYERENG

## Machete

### Guisine and Bar

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618-295-7104**

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Hours Both Locations:  
 Sunday 12:00pm - 9:00pm  
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 Friday & Saturday 11:00am - 10:00pm

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# classifieds

Phone: 618-497-8272  
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Deadline: Tuesday At 2pm

## FOR RENT

FOR RENT IN SPARTA: 2 & 3-bedroom mobile homes in park. Also mobile home lots in park. Private mobile home lots for sale. Call Ronnie Johnson. 618-443-3325.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom in Sparta. Full basement, nice neighborhood. Phone 618-317-5281.

FOR RENT: Newly remodeled, 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartments in Steeleville and Trico area. Call 618-559-3525 or visit www.southernillinoisshomebuyers.com.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 1-bath mobile home in Percy. Fenced in back yard, storage shed. 618-443-7737.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 1-bath mobile home in Percy. Fenced in back yard, storage shed. 618-443-7737.

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FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 1-bath mobile home in Percy. Fenced in back yard, storage shed. 618-443-7737.

FOR RENT: 1 & 2 bedroom apartments in Sparta. Water & trash provided. No pets. Background check, references & security deposit required. Broker owned. \$425/mo. and \$550/mo. 618-791-3289.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom mobile home on private lot in Coulterville. No more than 2 occupants. No pets. Non-smokers. \$450/mo. Deposit & references. Water & trash included. 618-758-1015.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 1-bath mobile home in Percy. Fenced in back yard, storage shed. 618-443-7737.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 1-bath mobile home in Percy. Fenced in back yard, storage shed. 618-443-7737.

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## APPLIANCES

FOR SALE: Refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, freezers, propane stoves. Guaranteed. Tilley's Used Appliances, 518 E. Park Street, DuQuoin, 618-542-6810.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 17-06 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE VII: TRAFFIC; CHAPTER 70: GENERAL PROVISIONS; BY CREATING SUBSECTION GOLF CARTS & UTILITY-TERRAIN VEHICLES; CODE OF ORDINANCES CITY OF SPARTA, ILLINOIS

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Sparta, Randolph County, Illinois: Section 1: That Title VII: Traffic; Chapter 70: General Regulations; be amended by adding subsection Golf Carts & Utility-Terrain Vehicles as follows:

- "CHAPTER 70: GENERAL PROVISIONS Section General Provisions 70.01 Adoption of Illinois Vehicle Code by reference 70.02 Zones of quiet 70.03 No turning signs and turning markers 70.04 Location of city parking control signs 70.05 Use of roller skates, coasters or similar devices 70.06 Squealing or screeching tires 70.07 Driving on closed or barricaded streets prohibited

- Golf Carts & Utility-Terrain Vehicles 70.10 Generally 70.11 Definitions 70.12 Requirements 70.13 Permits 70.14 Violations

- Parades 70.20 Definitions 70.21 Permit required

### Golf Carts & Utility-Terrain Vehicles

§ 70.10 GENERALLY. Golf carts and utility-terrain vehicles, as defined and qualified herein shall be allowed on City streets under the conditions as stated herein.

§ 70.11 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

GOLF CART. A vehicle specifically designed and intended for the purposes of transporting one (1) or more persons and their golf clubs or maintenance equipment while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a public or private golf course.

UTILITY-TERRAIN VEHICLE. A self-propelled, electronically powered four wheeled motor vehicle or a self-propelled gasoline powered four wheeled motor vehicle with an engine displacement under one thousand two hundred (1,200) cubic centimeters which is capable of attaining in one (1) mile a speed more than twenty (20) miles per hour but not more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour and which conforms to the federal regulations under Title 49 C.F.R. Part 571.500.

CITY STREETS. Any of the streets within the boundaries of the City of Sparta.

§ 70.12 REQUIREMENTS. All persons wishing to operate a golf cart or an utility-terrain vehicle on the City streets must ensure compliance with the following requirements:

- (A) Proof of current liability insurance. (B) Must be certified with the City and have the vehicles inspected by the Police Chief or designated representative as provided in Section 70.13. (C) Must display City decal on the rear of the vehicle. (D) Must have a current, valid Illinois driver's license. (E) Must be twenty-one (21) years of age. (F) Golf carts must be equipped as follows: (1) Horn; (2) Brakes and brake lights; (3) Turn signals; (4) A steering wheel apparatus; (5) Tires; (6) Rearview mirror; (7) Approved "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblem on the rear of the vehicle (625 ILCS 5/12-709); (8) Headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the front which must illuminate when in operation; (9) Tail lamp that emits a red light visible from at least one hundred (100) feet from the rear which must be illuminated when in operation; and (10) Any additional requirements which may be amended to 65 ILCS 5/11-1428 or the Illinois Motor Vehicle Code.

(G) Utility-Terrain Vehicles must be equipped as follows:

- (1) Brakes and brake lights; (2) Turn signals on the front and rear; (3) A steering apparatus; (4) Tires; (5) Rearview mirror; (6) Approved "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblem on the rear of the vehicle (625 ILCS 5/12-709); (7) Headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the front which must illuminate when in operation; (8) Tail lamp that emits a red light visible from at least one hundred (100) feet from the rear which must be illuminated when in operation; and (9) Any additional requirements which may be amended to 65 ILCS 5/11-1428 or the Illinois Motor Vehicle Code.

(H) Must obey all traffic laws of the State of Illinois and City.

(I) Must be operated only on City streets, except where prohibited.

(J) Shall not be operated on rights-of-way (ditches), sidewalks or in City parks other than parking areas.

(K) May not be operated on streets, highways and roads under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation (Illinois State Route 4 and 154) or the County Highway Department except to cross at designated streets.

(L) Must not be operated in excess of posted speed limit and, with respect to utility-terrain vehicles, may not exceed thirty-five (35) miles per hour.

(M) A person operating or who is in actual physical control of a golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle as described herein on a roadway while under the influence is subject to Section 11-500 through 11-502 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (625 ILCS 5/11-500 - 11-502).

§ 70.13 PERMITS. (A) No person shall operate a qualified golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle without first obtaining a permit from the City Clerk as provided herein. Permits shall be for a period of one (1) year from April 1st through March 31st and renewed annually. The fee for a permit is Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per year. Said fee shall not be prorated.

(B) Application for a new or renewed permit shall be made on a form provided by the City Clerk, which shall include:

- (1) Name and address of the applicant; (2) Name of liability insurance carrier along with photocopy of insurance card specifically for the vehicle to be operated pursuant to the permit;

(3) The serial number, make, model and description of golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle; (4) Signed Waiver of Liability by applicant releasing the City and agreeing to indemnify and hold the City harmless from any and all future claims resulting from the operation of their golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle on the City Streets; and (5) Such other information as the City may require.

(C) Prior to issuance or renewal of a permit, the following conditions must be met:

(1) The vehicle must be inspected by the Chief of Police (or designee) to ensure that the vehicle is safe to operate on City streets and is in compliance with this subsection and with the State of Illinois Motor Vehicle Code;

(2) The applicant must provide evidence of insurance in compliance with the provisions of the Illinois Statutes regarding minimum liability insurance form passenger motor vehicles to be operated on the roads of the State of Illinois. Insurance coverage is to be verified to be in effect by the Police Department; and

(3) A physically handicapped applicant must submit a letter signed by their physician certifying that the applicant is able to safely operate a qualified golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle on City streets.

(D) The City may suspend or revoke a permit granted hereunder upon a finding that the holder thereof has violated any provision of this subsection or there is evidence that permittee cannot safely operate a qualified golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle on the designated roadways.

§ 70.14 VIOLATIONS. Any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall be subject to penalty pursuant to Section 70.99 of the Traffic Code.

Section 2: That all ordinances or any part of any ordinance in conflict with any provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3: Any section or provision of this Ordinance that is construed to be invalid or void shall not effect the remaining sections or provisions which shall remain in full force and effect thereafter.

Section 4: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect commencing April 1, 2018, upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sparta, Illinois, on the 11th day of December, A.D. 2017, and deposited and filed in the office of the City Clerk of said City on that date.

### ELECTED COMMISSIONERS: 5

AYE: Kelley, Klausing, Schlimme

NAY: Hanna & Stephens

ABSENT: Angie Peters City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Sparta, Illinois, this 11th day of December 2017.

Jason Schlimme Mayor

### ATTEST:

Angie Peters City Clerk

Published in The County Journal, a newspaper of general circulation, on the 21st day of December 2017.

Angie Peters City Clerk

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the matter of the Estate of KEITH ALLEN JOHNSON, II, Deceased.

No. 17-P-13

### NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned, Keith A. Johnson, Administrator of the Estate of Keith Allen Johnson, II, deceased, will commencing at the hour of 10:00 AM on the 27th day of January, 2017, at 207 Sunset Street, Sparta, Illinois, 62286, sell to the highest and best bidder the personal property, household furniture, furnishings and kitchen appliances owned by Keith Allen Johnson, II and also at the hour of 10:00 AM on said day offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real estate owned by Keith Allen Johnson, II, to-wit:

Lots 24 and 25 of "Northtown Meadows Subdivision," reference being had to the plat thereof recorded in the Recorder's Office Randolph County, Illinois, as shown by Plat "1" on page 89, dated July 19, 1973 and recorded August 10, 1973.

Except the coal, gas and other minerals underlying the surface of said land and all rights and easements in favor of the state of said coal, gas and other minerals.

PAID: 19-157-003-00

Property Address: 207 Sunset Drive Sparta, IL 62286

Commonly known as 207 Sunset Drive, Sparta, Illinois 62286 and consisting of a residence with a kitchen, dining room, living room, three bedrooms, one and a half bath, laundry facilities in first level and garage.

The administrator reserves the right to reject any and all bids for the above described real estate. The sale of the real estate is contingent upon court approval.

Terms of sale on the real estate: 10% down payment on the day of sale, balance payable within thirty (30) days after court approval of the sale, deed delivered upon payment of the unpaid balance with possession given upon payment of the unpaid balance and delivery of deed. Title insurance provided by the Estate

and taxes prorated to date of sale.

Terms of sale on personal property: Cash or personal check on day of sale. Dated this 16th day of December 2017.

Keith A. Johnson, Administrator of the Estate of Keith Allen Johnson II, deceased

Burmester Auction Services 10025 South Prairie Road Red Bud, IL 62278 Dale Burmester, Auctioneer

Jason E. Coffey #6285941 FISHER, KERKHOVER, COFFEY & GREMMELS LAW OFFICE Attorneys for Estate 1300 1/2 Swanwick Street, PO Box 191 Chester, IL 62233-0191 Telephone: 618-826-5021 Fax: 618-826-5024 Email: fkcglaw@gmail.com

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Request of Proposal for Audit Services The Village of Marissa invites qualified independent certified public accounting firms to submit audit proposals providing audit services for the fiscal years 2018, 2019 & 2020.

All proposals must be received at 111 North Main Street no later than 2:00 pm on March 19, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened at 2:30 pm on March 19, 2018.

Carol Laumbattus Village Clerk 618-295-2351

### Public Notice Permit #416 Renewal #1:

Peabody Gateway North Mining, LLC, 701 Market St. St., Louis, MO 63101, has submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines & Minerals, an application to renew mining permit #416 for the Gateway North Mine. The Gateway North Mine Surface Facilities are located approximately 1/2 Mile West of Coulterville, Illinois, in portions of Sections 11, 14, 15, 22 and 23 T4S, R5W of Coulterville Township, Randolph County. The Gateway North Mine shadow area is located in Sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, and 14 T4S, R5W of Coulterville Township, Randolph County, also in Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of T4S, R4W of Perry County, also in Sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, and 36 T3S, R5W Lively Grove Township, Washington County, also in Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 T3S, R4W Oakdale Township, Washington County. Peabody Gateway North Mining, LLC currently maintains surety bond in the amount of \$1,579,000 to cover reclamation liabilities associated with Mining Permit #416. Pursuant to 62 Il Adm. Code 1774.15b)2(C) the performance bond in effect for the operation will continue in full force and effect for the permit renewal. Any additional bond required by the Department pursuant to 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1800 will be provided as directed. Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the offices of the County Clerks, at the County Courthouses in Chester, Nashville and Pinckneyville, Illinois, and at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals, Benton, IL Field Office. Written comments, objections or requests for informal conferences or public hearings may be submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals, 1 Natural Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

0-12-21

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN ILLINOIS RANDOLPH COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHANNA ROSE CARRIGAN HACKER, Deceased

No. 17-P-81

### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Johanna Rose Carrigan Hacker. Letters of Office were issued on November 27, 2017, to Frank Darron Dailey and Deena L. Dailey of 1 Longview Drive, Springfield, IL 62712, as Co-Administrators with Will Annexed, and whose attorneys of record are Arbeiter Law Office, 1019 State Street, PO Box 367, Chester, Illinois 62233.

0-12-28

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the matter of the Estate of KEITH ALLEN JOHNSON, II, Deceased.

No. 17-P-13

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Except the coal, gas and other minerals underlying the surface of said land and all rights and easements in favor of the state of said coal, gas and other minerals.

PAID: 19-157-003-00

Property Address: 207 Sunset Drive Sparta, IL 62286

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All proposals must be received at 111 North Main Street no later than 2:00 pm on March 19, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened at 2:30 pm on March 19, 2018.

Carol Laumbattus Village Clerk 618-295-2351

**For Rent In STEELEVILLE**  
Now taking applications for 62 years or older, disabled or handicapped regardless of age, for one-bedroom apartments. Free water, sewer and trash pickup. Off-street parking. On-site laundry facilities. Appliances furnished.  
For additional information, contact Jennifer Ross at (618) 965-3676  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**For Rent In CHESTER**  
Now taking applications for 62 years or older, disabled or handicapped regardless of age, for one-bedroom apartments. Free water, sewer and trash pickup. Off-street parking. On-site laundry facilities. Appliances furnished.  
For additional information, contact Jennifer Ross at (618) 826-2802.  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE: Built-Mor Buildings. 24x40, \$8,835; 30x50, \$12,873; 40x60, \$19,472; 50x70, \$28,806 Erected, choice of colors. 732-8704 or 237-0792 or go to builtmorbuildings.com.  
FOR SALE: Oak & Hickory firewood. Delivery available. Call Jordan at 618-318-1679.  
CENTRAL BOILER CERTIFIED CLASSIC EDGE OUTDOOR FURNACES: Exceptional performance and value. Call today! Slover Outdoor Heating, 618-496-3285.

**REAL ESTATE**  
RENT TO OWN: Beautiful country home located at 4698 Rachel Lane. Recently updated new carpet, paint, roof & much more. 3 bed, 2 bath, full unfinished dry basement with lots of potential. Large front porch & back deck, central heat & air. 8.5 wooded acres with great deer/turkey hunting on private drive. Steeleville school district. Call 618-559-3525 or visit southernillinoisshomebuyers.com.  
RENT TO OWN: Why rent when you can own. Located 310 E. Pine, Percy. Great neighborhood. 1000 sq. ft. Home won't last long with current renovations, attractive owner finance options & rock bottom price. This is an opportunity you won't want to miss. Call 618-559-3525 or visit southernillinoisshomebuyers.com.

**STORAGE**  
LARGE & SMALL STORAGE & RV COUNTRY LIVING: Full hook up electric, sewer & water. Rte. 153 Storage Coulterville, IL. 2 miles north of town on Rte. 153. 618-979-3953.

**LIVESTOCK**  
FRUITLAND LIVESTOCK SALES 7505 U.S. Highway 61 Jackson, MO 63755 573-243-4255 Cattle Every Tuesday 12:30pm  
MONTHLY FEATURES 3rd Friday - 10:00am Sheep & Goats 4th Tuesday - 11:00am Pigs  
Neal Franke, Manager 573-382-0003 Steve Preusser 573-833-6432 Ken Carney, Auctioneer 573-568-2353 Joe McMurtry 618-443-2435

**SERVICES**  
R&M Heating & Cooling Guaranteed Lowest Price 618-578-1721 Licensed & Bonded

**FARMLAND**  
FARMLAND FOR RENT: 785 tillable acres on Wolverine Rd., Perry County. Cash rent and/or crop share bids accepted. Call 618-559-6811 for more info. Bids due by January 15, 2018.

**T. W. Construction**  
ROOFING • REMODELING • DECKS • DRYWALL • SIDING SEAMLESS GUTTERING • POLE BARN • BARN REPAIRS ROOM ADDITIONS • NEW CONSTRUCTION • GARAGES • ETC.  
Tom Wilhite Carpenter  
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**Memory Care Center**

Cedarhurst Assisted Living Center in Sparta held an open house December 15 for its new Memory Care Center, located next door to the existing facility. The Memory Care Center will be housing for those with memory issues such as Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Shown above are community members during the ribbon cutting. Below is a shot of the main lobby.



**Five local SEMO scholarships**

Five local high school seniors were recently awarded scholarships to attend Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau. Karson Colvis of Chester, Emma Fritsche of Red Bud, Sadie

Stefani of Evansville and Hannah Porter of Pinckneyville earned the Midwest Achievement Award and Residence Life Leadership Award. Colvis is the daughter of Dan and Tracy

Colvis. Fritsche is the daughter of Eric and Jennifer Fritsche. Porter is the daughter of Marty Porter and Beth Miller-Porter. Stefani, of Red Bud High School, is the

daughter of Stephen and Susan Stefani. Parker Sondag of Red Bud, the son of Bobbi and Allen Gill, received the President's Scholarship and Midwest Achievement Award.



**Westminster Christmas pageant**

The youth of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sparta performed "The Birth of Jesus" during the December 17 worship service. Through narration and songs, the Christmas story was shared with the congregation. Pictured is a scene from the pageant. After worship, youth were treated to cookies and punch.

**Pinckneyville approves two new structures in city park**

**By Jeff Blair**  
There will be two new structures at the Pinckneyville city park after action by the city council at its December 11 meeting.

The American Thresherman Association presented a proposal to construct a 22x31-foot portable carport just north of the grandstand. Thresherman representatives Josh Giacomo and Tom Garner said the building would be available for other events in addition to the annual steam, gas and threshing show. Commissioner Kevin

Hicks argued that there had been talk in the past about not blocking the north end of the grandstand with buildings.

The threshermen also want to construct a second pavilion inside the race track near the Boy Scout food stand.

Commissioners Sam Peradotta said while they should not approve a large number of new buildings, this would be something that would benefit many groups.

The request to construct the buildings was approved, with Hicks casting the lone no vote.

In other notes, Chad Rushing from Raymond James asked the city council for business district tax funds to construct a new building on the town square. Rushing said the building would be a two-story structure located next to Parker Heating and Air.

Rushing added that the building would be designed to fit in with the existing buildings on the square.

The council approved the request.

The commissioners accepted the resignation of Chuck McElvain as a captain on the fire

department.

Rob Opp was appointed as captain to replace him.

The council also re-appointed Tom Bardele as a captain on the department, Curtis Miller and David Pearson as second lieutenants and Kevin Kelly and Alan McClurkin as first lieutenants.

A resolution was approved declaring two vacancies on the police department. Officers Nick McLaughlin and Jeff Thornton have accepted positions with other departments and will be leaving Pinckneyville.



**Caroling at Cedarhurst**

Head Start of Sparta recently went Christmas caroling at Cedarhurst Assisted Living Center. Included in this picture are Coalton Hemmings, Addison Williams, Niklaus Lewis, Tawny Morrison, Lynleigh Moore, Roman Richardson, Latoya Laws, Litzy Lopez, Isaac Jacobs and Kendrick Johnson.

# real estate

## Real estate transactions

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**County Clerk & Recorder**  
**WARRANTY DEEDS**  
 Claud J. Watters & Ann S. Watters to Patricia E. Phillips Lt 6 Blk 1 Voges 2nd Addn Consideration \$55,000  
 Barbara J. Walters

& Bruce E. Walters to James D. Hartmann & Tereena D. Hartmann SE SW Sec 26 6-6 Consideration \$88,000  
 Knuckles Properties LLC to TCK Holdings LLC NW NW Sec 7 5-5 Consideration \$37,100  
 Dennis A. McMath to Buena Vista National Bank Lts 16 & 17 Blk 49

Swanwick S/D  
 Kile W. Westerman to Suzanne Hall SE Sec 8 7-6 Consideration \$68,000  
 Carl G. King & Lisa King to David Morrow & Tanya Heggemeier Lt 5 Blk 3 Will 1st S/D Consideration \$46,810  
 Sharon A. Hall to Kile W. Westerman Consideration \$99,000

Robert M. Kloepper, Tammy L. Kloepper & Daniel L. Kloepper to Robert M. Kloepper, Tammy L. Kloepper & Emilie A. Kloepper NW Sec 8 4-7  
 Shelby Jean Wetzell to Gregory Dean Wetzell & Shelby Jean Wetzell Family Trust, Gregory Dan Wetzell & Shelby Jean Wetzell SW SW Sec 22; NW NW Sec 28; SE SE Sec 21 5-8  
 Johnny R. Inman to First Class Automotive Inc. Lts 11 & 12 Stratton Addn

Bluestem Properties LLC to Commercial Capital Inc. Lt 6 Andrew Addn  
 Joseph W. Conterman Jr. to Barbara A. Conterman & Joseph W. Conterman Jr.

French Valley Properties & J.W. Conterman to Barbara A. Conterman & Joseph W. Conterman Jr.

French Valley Properties & J.W. Conterman to Barbara A. Conterman & Joseph W. Conterman Jr.

**FOR PERRY COUNTY**  
**Josh Gross**  
**County Clerk & Recorder**

**WARRANTY DEEDS**  
 Earl Lee Spain & Jane Ellen Spain to Barry L. Spain, Kevin D. Spain & Scott A. Spain Lt 8 Blk 9 SB Eaton Addn

Bryan Patrick Johnson & Hilary J. Johnson to Amy L. McCollum Lts 3 & 4 & Pt Lt 5 Dennis Dudas 1st Addn Consideration \$35,000

Carla K. Moore to Bell Zebada Moore, Carla K. Moore, Christopher Winters & Crystal Winters NW NW Sec 8 6-1  
 Fannie Mae & Federal National Mortgage Association to Amy D. Koehn Creek, Amy D. Creek Koehn & Luke W. Koehn Lts 3 & 4 Blk 3 EXCEPT MINERALS

Geo T. Walls Addn Consideration \$118,900  
 Frances L. Stanley to Angela Sheehan & David M. Sheehan Lt 9 Blk 2 EXCEPT MINERALS Mifflin Brayshaws Addn Consideration \$13,900

Jeffrey Scott Davis to Amy L. Chapman & Michael W. Chapman Pt Lt 5 Jones 2nd Addn Consideration \$46,900  
 Hidden Lakes Inc. to Gayla Hammel & Ronald L. Hammel Pt EXCEPT MINERALS NE Sec 8 6-1 Consideration \$11,660

Lawrence J. Smelter & Shirley A. Smelter to Tyler M. Rankin & Mark S. Rojek Pt EXCEPT MINERALS NW NE Sec 24 4-2 Consideration \$60,000

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**We own the property free and clear. We don't want to write a large check to the IRS for taxes on the gain.**

**How do we avoid this?**  
 The sellers can do a 1031 like-kind tax deferred exchange. This means that they may defer payment of taxes on their gain from sale by exchanging into a like-kind property. (Like-kind may be other qualifying properties that the IRS deem acceptable as like-kind to include apartments, retail centers, office, industrial buildings, or other investment alternatives.)

**I need more income than the current cash rents I am receiving in order to be comfortable in retirement.**

**How can I do that?**  
 By exchanging into some of the alternative investments, you not only will avoid and defer payment of taxes on your gain, but you will also be able to structure the investment income you need through these other investment opportunities.

**Selling and leaving the farm to heirs.**

**How do I accomplish that and defer gains?**  
 Easily. You can still defer the gains into alternative investments, for instance, retail centers or apartment portfolios with each of your designated heirs' names as beneficiaries. These real estate portfolio alternative investments offer the regular income distributions as well as appreciation and depreciation with shared distributions at time of sale or disposition. This is "no hassle" real estate ownership, with all management headaches handled within the portfolio itself. At such time as the beneficiaries would own the property, they, too, would become "hassle free" owners, with all previous terms and conditions in place.

**My accountant says that I not only need to find a replacement property to meet the taxable gain amount, but also the loan-to-value percentage that was applicable in the previous property. How can that be accomplished?**

That can be accomplished by choosing the property that meets those particular parameters with both the taxable amount and the loan-to-value; a blended combination of one or more properties may be the alternative to accomplishing this for the 1031 to be successful. Recently we worked with an owner on a 1031 exchange to defer over \$1.5 million in gain, and a 70% loan-to-value. This was accomplished with a blend of two alternative investment offerings (apartment complex and pharmacy portfolios) to achieve the necessary criteria to meet the IRS regulations and approval of his accountant.

Any other questions you may have, we are most willing to answer and have our experts offer their professional opinions. Just contact us. We look forward to assisting you. Contact us to schedule a private consultation to further answer your questions and concerns.

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From All Of Us  
At The  
County Journal

# Merry Christmas

And Happy New Year!



Larry Willis

Kristin Anderson

Johnny Falkenheim

LeeAnn Willis

Jerry Willis

Dot Willis

Sarah Kranawetter

Brianna Huseman

Travis Lott

Dan Zobel

Judy Rieckenberg

Dave Wahlman

Rhonda Schatte

John Falkenheim Sr.

Robin Knop

Ryan Smith

Wayne Eldridge

Mike Thorbin

Thank you for welcoming  
us into your homes and  
businesses this past year

*We look forward to  
seeing you in 2018!*



*St. Mary Kindergarten  
Trisha Gary's class*

Dear Santa,  
What is your favorite cookie? Mine is chocolate chip. I really want a baby alive. I will leave you some cookies.  
Love, Aubree

Dear Santa,  
What is your favorite thing to do? I really like just hanging out with my dad. Will you please bring me a nerf gun and maybe a DS. I will have some Oreos waiting for you.  
Love, Kevin

Dear Santa,  
Who is your favorite reindeer? I like Rudolph the best because his nose is red. I would really like a plane/mobil for Christmas. I hope you like the cookies and milk I will leave you.  
Love, Jackson

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I am really excited about Christmas. I really want a Barbie house and some new Barbies. I will have some cookies and milk waiting for you.  
Love, Alivia

*Pre-3 Students  
St. Mary's School  
Eleanor Clendenin's class*

Dear Santa,  
I want a barn toy with animals, some games to play with Millie & Charlotte, blocks to build a house with, candy, & lots of good food on Christmas. I hope it snows so

your sled will go on my roof.  
Love,  
Matt With

Dear Santa,  
I really want trains! Red, blue, & pink ones! I want a fishing pole so I can go fishing with my dad and catch a BIG fish. And I want fast shoes! I will leave you some cookies to eat and please say hi to my dog.  
Love,  
Lucas Maes

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa! I really want trains, big trucks, green shoes, a Pepa Pig movie, and some chocolate candy. My sister Natalie likes animals if you want to bring her something.  
Love,  
Nolan Bova

Dear Santa,  
Oh yeah! I want a mini phone, a purple bear, maybe a lamp for my room, dress-up things and dress-up tail boots! If I see you Santa, I'll tell you all of this stuff. I hope I get to see you and Rudolph!  
Love,  
Emerson Williams

Dear Santa,  
I wish I could have a ball for playing catch, a red bear, Puma shoes, some fancy boots, a book about princesses, and more Barbies for my Barbie pop-up camper. I'll see you on Christmas and my sister and I will leave food for the reindeer.  
Love,  
Reagyn Brewer

Dear Santa,  
Can I have a Barbie Dream House, a Ninja Turtle movie

for my brother Jack, a Frozen ornament for my tree, and a Frozen puzzle? I also want a kitchen set too so I can cook things for my family.  
Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love,  
Breanna Johnson

Dear Santa,  
I would like a BIG train set, a green dinosaur toy, and a car to drive for real. I want Paw Patrol underwear too! I also want blocks like the ones at school so I can build things like houses and barns to park tractors and cars in. See you on Christmas!  
Love,  
Timothy Greene

*St. Mary Pre-K  
Jane Lachhead's class*

Dear Santa,  
I am so excited about Christmas! I would really like an underwater robo thing and a Star Wars Lego set. I also want a Batman bike and some new t-shirts. Can one of the t-shirts have a Christmas cat on it? Thank you, Santa! You are great!  
Love,  
Blake, 5

Dear Santa,  
I have been really good! I can't wait until Christmas! I would like a mouse friend whose body is white all over, the wheels are all white too and there are blue stars on it. And I would like Tyler the tiger and you put chicken in his mouth and then I would like a robot cat this is pink and shiny. Thank you, Santa!  
Love,  
Anna, 4

Dear Santa,  
This year I would really like an American Girl doll and I would like to go to the American Girl shop to have my hair done. I would also like some Shopkins toys and a hatchimal! Thank you, Santa, for being so good to me!  
Love,  
Charlotte, 5

Dear Santa,  
What kind of cookies do you and the reindeer like? I would like a Vampire House, a tea set and a Vampire stuffed animal. I also want a hatchimal nursery, some Play-Doh, and some hamsters in a house that moves! Please, come soon, Santa!  
Love,  
Ella, 5

Dear Santa,  
I am very excited about Christmas! I would like a Vampire house and a Princess Barbie house. I definitely need a new bike! Purple would be awesome! And I think a play tent would be fun too! Will it snow for Christmas?  
Love,  
Harper, 5

Dear Santa,  
I hope you can bring me an American Girl doll who is in class and a L.O.L Surprise doll and a stuffed animal bear. Can I also have a two wheeler bike and some new Play-Doh? Hurry, Santa! I love you!  
Love,  
Kelsey, 4

Dear Santa,  
Christmas is so fun! I can't wait! I would like you to bring me a real baby doll that will close its eyes. I'll need

some baby doll clothes and diapers and a baby stroller. I want some Shopkins toys but they can't be too small or my dog will eat them. I want a people castle and some play people. Thank you, Santa!  
Love,  
Kendall, 4

Dear Santa,  
I would like a purple electric carriage, a roaring lion and he has a yellow toy with him, a toy puppy that barks. Can you also bring a big Vampire doll and some Shopkins toys? I will leave some cookies and milk for you, Santa! Please, come soon!  
Love,  
Lilly, 5

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait until Christmas! Please come soon, Santa! I would like a stuffed animal (any kind is fine!), a new bookbag, a movie like My Little Pony and a new scooter (mine is an old one). And could you bring me a new pink and purple bike? I have been very good, Santa! Thank you!  
Love,  
Mckenzie, 5

Dear Santa,  
I want a big toy Hatchimal and a toy baby who talks and says, "I love you, Mommy!" and you can give the baby a shower. I would love to have a little blue monkey that holds onto your finger, and 5 L.O.L. Surprise dolls! Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love,  
Melanie, 4  
Dear Santa,  
I want a new Mario dice game, a monster ball, a Mo-

nopoly game and some Hot Wheels cars. I would also really like a new Mario ball, and some Mario movies. Be safe, Santa, while you and the reindeer are flying!  
Love,  
Parker, 4

Dear Santa,  
What is your favorite cookie? Me and my mom will make you cookies and leave you some milk! I would really like some new Barbies, some cute new boots and some Ariel shoes! We need some collars for Jake and Sadie! And can I have a boy bunny, and a pink scooter? I love you, Santa! What do your reindeer eat?  
Love,  
Penelope, 4

Dear Santa,  
I would like some hockey jerseys and some hockey Legos. I also want a blue Hot Wheels car and some new trucks to play with. Can you send me to a Blues game? Oh, and I want a movie all about hockey! I love you so much, Santa!  
Love,  
Zane, 4

*St. Mary's 2nd grade*

Dear Santa,  
I am 6 years old. I like baseball. How is Rodo? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like nerf guns. I will leave milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Cole

Continued on next page...

**Merry Christmas**  
We Wish You A Healthy, Happy And Prosperous 2018!  
**VILLAGE OF COULTERVILLE**  
Steve Marlow, Mayor  
Mary Shaw, City Clerk  
Dale Schumer, Treasurer  
Jason Schlosinger, Police Chief  
Scott Wine - Linda Harvey  
Bryan Dyson - Tabitha Knope - Roger Long

**SEASONS GREETINGS!**  
May this holiday season bring to your door peace and joy and so much more. We appreciate the support you've given us and wish you and yours a happy holiday!  
Tavis Gordon and The Hillside Gang  
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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
Delivering wishes merry & bright to all of our friends and neighbors at Christmas time. A heartfelt thanks for your friendship & support. We wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year!  
**Randolph County DEMOCRATS**

Have a holly jolly Christmas!  
Old-Fashioned Wishes For Friendship & Fun This Yuletide!  
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Bring Home The Holiday Spirit  
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Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like spiderman. Do you like Spiderman? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like action figures and monster trucks. I would also like a beast toy, guitar, gummy bears, and a hatchimal. I have a red door.  
Love,  
Eli

like some books and a swing set. I would also like a Santa coloring book.  
Love,  
Blake

of Legos. I would also like Hot W/ls. My house is big and brft.  
Love,  
Ty

would like a chachem. I would also like a robot. I am going to put milk and cookies for you and rander kerets.  
Love,  
Adalyn

Dear Santa,  
Have your reindeer been getting along or have they not been getting along? Can I have a remote control car please and a little kitten? Can my brother have a PlayStation 5? My sister wants an iPhone 8.  
I love you,  
Drevan Bramlett

Dear Santa,  
When will my elf come? Do you like the cookies that Mrs. Claus makes? For Christmas I want a new sled and a little school set. Can you bring my brother more warm clothes and more baby toys?  
Merry Christmas!  
Jaycie Thies

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like to play basketball. How does the slaye wrck? Thank you for the bowe and arrowe last year. I would like a nintendow switch. I would also like a new Ipod. I would also like a smart woch. Be warre of my dog.  
Your friend,  
Rusty

Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old. I like cats. How is Roodof? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like a hachimal. I would also like a guitar and nintendow switch. Beware of my dog.  
Love,  
Gage

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like cats. How is Roodof? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like a hachimus. I am given you melk and cookies.  
Love,  
Laurey

Trico 1st grade  
Dawn Farris' class

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph? How are you? For Christmas I want a bike that is black. I also want a kitten. Tate wants a toy tiger.  
I love you,  
Eli Schaber

Dear Santa,  
Has Mrs. Claus baked the cookies? Are the reindeer playing games? Can I get a bike and a puppy? Can I get a kitty and some clothes? Can I get a Christmas tree?  
Hugs and Kisses  
Reese Giacomo

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. My favrit core is blue and red. How are the rindear doing? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like an xbox 1 game. I sut lego shy and moor batman lagos. I will leve you cooces.  
Love,  
Jack

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like to ride my bike. How is Roodolf? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like a drone with your ipad and I would also like a DS. I would also like a fone. Bewar of my dog.  
Love, Marlie

Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old. I like to ride my bike. What is your favorite food? Thank you for the 3DS last year. I would like a game call let's go fishing. I have a brown hoas.  
Love,  
Taylor

Dear Santa,  
Is Mrs. Claus baking cookies? I want a puppy and a cat.  
Love,  
Edgar Marquez

Dear Santa,  
How are you reindeer and elves? Is Mrs. Claus making cookies? Can I have a helicopter for Christmas please? Can I have a ball please? Can I have a dog please?  
Merry Christmas!  
Gage Clover

Dear Santa,  
Can you show me a picture of the elves? Will you make it to my house? Can you please get me a kitten and a puppy? Can you get my sister some make up from Sephora?  
Yours Truly,  
Ethan Ellison

Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old. I like puppies. What is your favorite cookie? Thank you for the hopscoth last year. I would like a tablet, christem tree and peanow. I will leve the freplace open for you.  
Love,  
Vanessa

Dear Santa,  
I am 6 years old. I like dogs. How mine elfs do you have? I would like a DS3. I will leve cookis.  
Love,  
Cannon

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like blue. How big is your bag? Thank you for the presents last year. I would like a DS, aipod, and may some ve toy gamis. Be ware of my two dogs.  
Love,  
Joe

Dear Santa,  
Has Mrs. Claus been good? Has Rudolph been good? Can I have a hover board please. Can I have a RC Car?  
I love you,  
Veronika Turner

Dear Mr. C,  
How much mail do you get in a year? How do you stay warm? What is the degrees at the North Pole? Please can I have a Nintendo Switch and the movie "A Dog's Purpose" I will already have an ipod.  
Love,  
Embry

Dear Santa,  
Did you go on vacation? Are you making toys? How is Rudolph? Is Mrs. Claus making cookies? Can I please get a race car? Can I get a Lego halo?  
I love you,  
Rylan Jokerest

Dear Santa,  
I am 6 years old. I like the color blue. What is your favorite color? Thank you for the Ds last year. I would

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I like to play sokr. Hows Roodof? Thank you for the gifts last year. I would like a drum set and a pet dog and a Lego set. I will levev milk and cookee for you.  
Love,  
Reed

Dear Santa,  
I am Brandon and I am 8 years old. I like Tene Titans Go, the show. How meny rander do you hav? thank you for the playstasn. I would like Mincraft, robotic stuff, and a new DS3. My house is bik and has a pool.  
Love,  
Brandon

Dear Santa,  
Did you know that my elf's name is Neko? How is Rudolph doing? For Christmas I want a Fingerling and a phone watch. Can I get a LG phone?  
Hugs and Kisses,  
Gracie Graves XOXO

Dear Santa,  
Are the elves doing ok? I love Christmas. Is Rudolph real? I want spy gear. I want to spend time with my family?  
Merry Christmas  
Brody Fisher

Dear Santa,  
My elf's name is Poppy. How's Mrs. Claus doing? Please can you give me a Barbie and a swim suit.  
Chloe Carev

Continued on next page...

**Building Wishes For A Merry Christmas!**

We want to thank you for your continued support and wish you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons.

Your Friends At  
**Nevois construction**

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**City Of SPARTA ILLINOIS**

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Jason Schlimme

COMMISSIONERS  
Michael Kelley • Bobby Klausing  
Gary Hanna • Gary Stephens

CITY CLERK  
Angie Peters

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**Merry Christmas**

**HARMS**  
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Here's hoping the holiday season delivers all of the best gifts to you and yours.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
SATURDAY, DEC. 23 9:00AM-NOON  
MONDAY, DEC. 25 CLOSED  
SATURDAY, DEC. 30 9:00AM-NOON  
MONDAY, JAN. 1 CLOSED

**CHESTER NATIONAL BANK**

Chester 1112 State Street 826-5038  
Sparta 165 W. Broadway 443-2151

Member FDIC



Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? Have they been building toys? How are the reindeer? For Christmas I want an American Girl doll and a chipmunk and a dog.  
I love you,  
Yessica Perez

Dear Santa,  
You're very nice. What do you feed the reindeer to eat? This year I would like an X-Box. I would also like a Drift Car. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Love,  
Evin

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves doing? What is Mrs. Claus doing? I have been good at home. I really would like a tablet. I would also like a Nerf gun. Please get my brother an Xbox. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Wyatt

and a drum. Please bring my mom a new jeep. Thank you Santa.  
Love,  
Riley

Dear Santa,  
Is it true that you have Rudolph? How cold is it at the North Pole? I have been trying to be good. I would like a fly reel. I would also like bait casting rod and reel, a video drone, some stuffed animals of fish, and the cat a rumba. Thank you Santa.  
Love,  
Parker

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I have been very good at home. I want a real phone and Jo Jo Siwa earmuff. My sister has been wanting a new softball bag. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Jaida

Dear Santa,  
Are your reindeer being good? How is Rudolph? How are you? Can I have a toy dog for Christmas? Can I have the game Pokemon? Can you give my brother, Noah a moon rock?  
Merry Christmas!  
Zander Radford

.....  
*Trico First Grade  
Mrs. Lovel's class*

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Are you stressed on the job? I have tried to be good. I really really want Batman Legos. I really really want a bat bot. Please bring my Nintendo switch.  
Love,  
Jase

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves doing? How cold is it? I was good to my baby brother. I would like a lol surprise. I also want an I phone 10. Please bring a puppet for Garrison. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Ayla

Dear Santa,  
How does your reindeer fly? How is Rudolph feeling? I have been a good boy. Please pretty please bring me a real phone. Thank you Santa.  
Love,  
Gabriella

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus doing? Are you getting stressed over the night? I have tried to be good. I really want a real phone. I really want a bat bot. Please bring Shalee a computer. Thank you for the presents.  
Love,  
Carter

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing Santa? Do your elves give you milk? I have tried to be a good girl. I would really like an iPod touch. I would also like a hair color. Please bring my grandpa Steve a tape measure and dog treats for my dog Lose. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Natalie

Dear Santa,  
Are you ready for Christmas? Has Mrs. Claus been making many cookies? Can I have a DS for Christmas? Can my sister have a Barbie doll with a horse?  
Merry Christmas,  
Brynlea Keller

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? How are your reindeer? I tried to be a good girl. I would like a real phone please. I would like to give my dad a new hat. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Mariah

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer doing? How many presents do you have? For Christmas I want a little car and a tablet. I am a good girl. Thank you for the presents. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Angelica

Dear Santa,  
How does your reindeer fly? How is Rudolph feeling? I have been a good boy. Please pretty please bring me a real phone. Thank you Santa.  
Love,  
Wade

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I tried to be really good. I would really like to get a bat. I would like an iPod 6. Please bring Abby a basketball. Merry Christmas.  
From,  
Braden

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? I have been a good girl. I want a cooking set. I want you to bring mom a ring. Merry Christmas Santa.  
Love,  
Chloe

Dear Santa,  
Is the Christmas tree decorated yet? Are the elves making toys? For Christmas I want a pogo stick and Easy Braids. Can Rivers get a Batman toy and can Redek get a Santa toy?  
Merry Christmas,  
Rozalyn Gentry

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How are the elves doing? Santa I have tried to be a good boy. I want a gun that is blue. I would also like a phone with wifi please Santa. Can you please Santa? I love you Santa.  
Love,  
AJ

Dear Santa,  
How do you see in the dark? How do your elves make toys? I have been a good girl. I would really like to get a cooking set. I would like a real phone. I love you Santa.  
Love, McHilynn

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? How is Rudolph? Santa, I tried to be a good boy. I would really like to get games. I would also like a cooking set. Please bring my mom makeup. I love your elves.  
Love,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my present last year. How is Rudolph doing? This year I would like a stuffed Rudolph for little Tony. I would also like an O.S and clothes for little Tony. I will leave you a note by the tree along with milk, cookies, and orange juice.  
Love,  
JJ and Tony

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? I have been a good girl. I want a cooking set. I want you to bring mom a ring. Merry Christmas Santa.  
Love,  
Chloe

Continued on next page...

*From Our Flock To Yours, Go Our Best Wishes For A Blessed Christmas And A Happy New Year!*

Peace  
& Goodwill to All

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Delivering Holiday Cheer

*May Your Holiday Be Filled With Laughter And Love!*

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of people we'd like to thank this holiday season. We appreciate your business, and we hope to continue serving you in the year ahead.

May your list of holiday blessings be a very long one!

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*From All Of Us To All Of You*

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*From All Of Us At*

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*Christmas Blessings*

*In hopes for a Christmas filled with peace and joy, we extend our glad tidings of the season to one and all. May the coming year hold special times for you and your family.*

*From the staff and residents of the*

**randolph county care center**  
312 W. Belmont • Sparta



Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Is Rudolph ok? I tried to be good. I would really like a Nerf gun. I would also like a phone. I would also like you to give me something from my dad. I like your reindeer.  
Love,  
Xavier

Dear Santa,  
My name is Austin and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a race car that does spin-outs. I would also like pajamas that zip and a drone.  
Love,  
Austin

Dear Santa,  
How is the reindeer doing? I have been a good boy. Please give me an Xbox Live ticket and two controllers for the play station 3. I want for my mom a white shirt and white pants. For my dad I want a car for kids that look like a real car. For my baby brother I want little cars. Thank you Santa.  
From,  
Christopher

My name is Jaxon and I am 7 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a guitar, a pogo stick and a key board. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jaxon

My name is Roselene and I am 7 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a stuffed animal for my new sister and a car drone for my self. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Roselene

**St. Mark's first grade  
Mrs. Malawry's class**

Dear Santa,  
My name is Katelynn and I am 7 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a Jasmine costume with a wig and a tablet of my own. I'm sorry for fighting with my mom.  
Love,  
Katelynn

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jacob and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a basketball and a basketball hoop. I would also like a phone for my will.  
Love,  
Jacob

Dear Santa,  
My name is Liam and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a Fingerling and a phone of my own. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Liam

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jack and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas, please bring me a black robo and some soygear. A flying drone would be nice too. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jack

**Coulterville 2nd grade  
Mrs. Turner's class**

Dear Santa,  
How are you, Mrs. Clause and Rudolph doing? I hear you are coming to town. I raked the leaves yesterday. Here is my Christmas list. I want a drone with a camera and a minecraft Lego set. Please and thank you.  
Love,  
Mathew

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I want to see you. I really want a Baby Alive and candy. I love candy! It is the best food. I will see you when it is Christmas.  
Love,  
Maycee

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I want a doll and a book. I have been good this year.  
Love,  
Kady

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want to see you. I want my dad a car for Christmas.  
Love,  
Camden

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? I want a doll house, a Jojo doll and LOL dolls for Christmas.  
Love,  
Alexis

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph? How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? If

you want to know how I'm doing, I'm fine. I want my stocking to be filled with LOL dolls.  
Love,  
Raegan R.

Dear Santa,  
How is Cupid? I have been good today. I want a bike, a slime kit, a coke set and a pair of socks. I will leave you cookies. I will leave your reindeer some food, too.  
Love,  
Analese

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. can I have a Poppy Troll?  
Love,  
Raegen

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I have been very good this year. I've been listening in class. My elf has been very funny! This year I want a camera for Christmas. And I want a bike.  
Love,  
Kynlee

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I listen to my MOM and dad. Santa I want a "Frozen" book backpack, pencil and stocking for Christmas. Can I have a Harry Potter book and pencil?  
Love,  
Rylee

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Santa, can I have a boy doll, girl doll, gallium, clothes, LOL dolls, pet ship, pens and glue.  
Love,  
Hope

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? I am good in class. Can I please have an LOL doll?  
Love,  
Marg Alice

Dear Santa,  
How are you, Mrs. Claus, Cupid and Dasher and all the others doing? I've been cleaning my room every now and then. I would love my stocking to be full of dolls and candy. Thank you!  
Love, your friend,  
Kryssi

Dear Santa,  
How are you and your elves doing? I want a drone, an Xbox one and a scooter.  
Your friend  
Sean

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I am ok. What is Mrs. Claus Rudolph and Dasher? Can I have make-up, a game station and Barbie dolls.  
Love,  
Jazmin

**Lincoln first grade  
Miss Schuessler's class**

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring a vackm for my mom. I would like a MyMad tail. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Peyton

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring slime

for my sistr. I would like a babe alive. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Jacen

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring a doll for my sister. I would like a slippers. I hope ou like the cucees. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Lillian

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a game for my bruthr. I would like a nintendos. I hope that you have a Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Evan

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a ring for my mom. I would like a fight sphr. I hope ou like my cookees.  
Love,  
Jenna

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a hamr for my dad. I would like a nin tin doe swich. I hope you have a safe trip. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Baine Orr

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a flower for my mom. I would like a dinosar. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Tristen

Continued on next page...

**Happy Holidays To All Of You**  
Wishing You And Yours A Holiday Season Rich With Joy And Happiness. Thank You For Your Patronage. We Look Forward To Seeing You Next Year.  
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*Wishing You A Delightful Holiday*  
Here's hoping your season is illuminated by faith, love, joy and friendship.  
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We Wish You The Special Gifts Of Christmas!  
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*We Hope Your Holidays Are The Happiest*  
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*merry christmas*  
WISHING YOU AN ABUNDANTLY BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON!  
From All Of Us At..  
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we wish you a very  
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City of Ava

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Downtown Sparta  
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304 W. Grant  
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758.2822



Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a ring for my mom. I would like a car. I hope u like my cooces.  
Love,  
Cooper

like a video game. I hope you don't get stuck. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Josh

Ples bring me toys. I want a fingerlgs. I want hatchimal. A ring would be great too.  
Love,  
Kaylee Jeffers

Karlow Perez  
Dear Santa,  
I hope you make it. I want a hatchamal. I want fingerling. A mak-up set would be great too! Thanks Santa.  
Love,  
Josie Jeffers.

a new baby doll, My Little Pony, new Barbie with pink clothes.  
Love,  
EMMA

and Legos. Please bring my sister, Avery, a Luvabella doll. Please tell Rudolph I said hello! I hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
Your friend,  
Corinne

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a hener for my mom. I would like a play stasher. I hope you like the cookes. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jakhai

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring a toy cat for dad. I would like a pony. I hope you like my cooking. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Aerrianna

Dear Santa,  
I love Santa. I want a Hello dream house. I want a puppy. A Make-up.  
Love,  
Eden Wallace

Dear Santa,  
I left you some cookies and milk. I want make-up. I want a pony blanket. Lots of Shopkins is great too.  
Love,  
Adalie Cunningham

Dear Santa,  
I want new clothes, tablet, trains, red play doh and red shoes.  
Love,  
Carter

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I want orbeaz soothing spa, hitting net, earrings, gizmpopal watch 2, sandals, l pone size 6 or 7, dresses for summer, glittery case for my iphone. I will leave cookies on the table of Christmas Eve!  
Your friend,  
Karsen Wedemeyer

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a flower for my mom. I would like a Legomine craft. I hope you have a safe trip. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Hank

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring a toy cat for dad. I would like a pony. I hope you like my cooking. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Piper

Dear Santa,  
I love Rudoph the radeer. I want a food truck, paw patrol, xbox 316. I want bus. A puppy would be too.  
Love,  
Gabe Taylor

Dear Santa,  
I love your ringdeer. I want fake money. I want a ring. A sopkin blanket would be great. I can't wait to see you.  
Love,  
Khloe Mollet

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I want a dirt bike.  
Love,  
Baralee Boyster

.....  
*Steeleville 2nd grade Mrs. Mayer's class*

Dear Santa,  
I have my elfs already. There names are Elfie and Snowball. I would like Baby Alive dolls, My life accessories and Luvabella doll. Those are the 3 things I want. I have other things on my list but I want other kids to get gifts too!  
Your friend,  
Libby

Dear Santa,  
This year for Christmas I want Lego sets. I would also like a remote control truck too please. I will be leaving out cookies and milk for you; also food for the reindeer. Hope you and Mrs Claus are doing great. God Bless you & be safe on Christmas Eve night.  
Your friend,  
Zane Bogenpohl

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a toy for my babe cusin Max. I would like a viteo game. I hope you have a safe trip. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Peter

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring a tablet for my mom. I would like a tablet. I hope you like cuckles. Hope you do not get stuck at the North Pole. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jayston

Dear Santa,  
I hope I am not on the nodea list. I love our roado. I want a baby alive. I want a make-up set. A daddy and mom would be great too.  
Love,  
Targji Williams

Dear Santa,  
I love your reindeer. I want a dirt bike, money that has 100 on it also nice.  
Love,  
Brayden McDaniels

Dear Santa,  
I would like horses and their stables and a sewing kit. More toy dragons, play mobile dragons sets. I would like to have a kitten.  
Your friend,  
Jordan Walker

Dear Santa,  
I hope you had a great year. A few things I would like for Christmas are a big hot wheels track with lots of hot wheels, a computer, a phone, a soccer set, a lego set, lego games, transformer books, and a drum set. Thanks I have been very good this year.  
Your friend,  
Russell

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring a tone for my sistr. I would like a necklace. I hope you have a grate day. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Adriana

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring flower for my mom. I would like a toy car. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. I hope you like my cookies  
Love,  
Christian

Dear Santa,  
Its ok if u do not mac it to my has. I want a X box 316, sled, puppy, doll. Se senta.  
Love,  
Lukas

Dear Santa,  
I like your elfs. I want Barbies. I want some money. A paw patrol would be great too. Thanks Santa.  
Love,  
Kylan Penny

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. I would like a Baby Alive snacking Sarah

Continued on next page...

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. Pleas bring a Lagoon park for my frend. I would

.....  
*Lincoln first grade Mrs. Rahn's class*

Dear Santa,

**Hairy Plumbing**  
Wishes You a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR  
All Our Work Guaranteed  
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filled with laughter & love. To Your Family From Ours  
  
**Steeleville Stone, Inc.**  
Steeleville • 965-9050


Wishing you a blessed and MERRY CHRISTMAS  
From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another  
  
**Wilson's Funeral Homes, LTD**  
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We're glad to express our appreciation for your business and support.  
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• Chester Sports Apparel

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
Best Wishes To All For A Beautiful Holiday Season  
  
**Jerry F. Costello II**  
116th District State Representative  
124 Locust Red Bud, IL 62278  
(618) 282-7284

  
*Season's Greetings*  
A warm thanks to our loyal customers for another successful year.  
Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
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Joy to all!  
  
**Lodge of the 4 Paws**  
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May the Miracle of Christmas fill your heart with joy.  
Here's hoping your holiday is blessed with the perfect combination of peace, harmony and joy.  
**Knight Hawk**  
Knight Hawk Coal, LLC  
500 Cutler-Trico Road • Percy



Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like more magic tree house books and baseball cards. I would also like some workbooks please. I would like some paper and markers. Also some dresses.  
Your friend,  
Karlie Kranz

food for your deer. I would like a Michael Jordan face clock, because I am really into sports. I hope I get to see you this year. I love you Santa. I will really miss our Elf, Elfe.  
Your friend,  
Beven Herbert Rubach

Dear Santa,  
I have been a little bad this year, but good enough. I should be on the nice list. I am going to give you cookies and milk this year like always. I really like pandas and game devices, (but I already asked my parents for panda stuff). I would like for you to get me a T.V. and a Nintendo Switch for Christmas please. I love you Santa!  
Your friend,  
lynlee Casandra Rubach

**Steeleville 2nd grade Mrs. Jones class**

Dear Santa,  
My name is Liam. I am in the 2nd grade. This year I would really like a remote controlled car and snake. I would also really like a tablet that I won't have to share with my little brother Braven. I want a watch to help me keep the time, an Avengers coloring book and a learning book to color in. Thank you so much Santa!  
Your friend,  
Liam Wittenborn

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Finger ling, a bath bomb maker, a big Eve doll and Bingo, please.

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing?  
Your friend,  
Emma Woods

**Steeleville first grade Mrs. Wedemeyer's class**

Dear Santa,  
Please can I have 100 Teddy Bears. Can I have 1 action figure. Can I have a boat and a ball please. Can I have bubble.  
Love,  
Haydon Miller

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? for Christmas can I please have a pink bow and arrow, a pink BB gun and a Moana doll. I would like some books too. I will leave you some of my grandpa's best cookies.  
Teagen Paterson

Dear Santa,  
I love the Elfs you sint me and my bruther. I hope you have a very good Christmas Santa Claus. I like you Santa Claus and I hope your Elf too. and I like the Elfs in the northpole.  
Hillari

Dear Santa,  
I want a skateboard and a Starlord toy gun and a Iron man mask for Christmas. I also want MATH to come home safe from Iraq. I promise I have been good this year.  
Love,  
Austin

Dear Santa,  
I wish I could sit on your lap and tell you about myself and what I would like for Christmas. And I would like to see your reindeer. you are my favoret persen and Christmas is about giving not about getting. I am glad that I get to see you.  
Love,  
Elizabeth

Dear Santa,  
I was a good boy this year. I would like a Paw patrol toy. I would also like a Power Ranger Ninja Steel Morphor and a new Nerf gun. Thank you for Reading!  
Love,  
Rain Zhu

Dear Santa,  
I wish you a Merry Christmas. this year I would like Go American girl doll and a snack and noodles baby Alive. I have been good this year by helping my MOMMY with dishes and trying to listen and loving every one in the world.  
Love,  
Arabella Mallender

Dear Santa,  
I have been bad some times, but I promise to be good every day because I want lots of toys and for me and my family to have the best Christmas ever.  
Love,  
Neil

Dear Santa,  
I want a live pet and a robot. I have been a good boy because I help my MOM

do dishes.  
Love,  
RheH

Dear Santa,  
I want toys and an American girl doll. I also want a doll house, some clothes, and a four wheeler and some shoes. I love you.  
Love,  
Haylie

Dear Santa,  
Pleas I want a American girl doll, and a kitchen and a living room and a dog and a bath room and a baby alive doll and a new back pack for my American girl doll and a bed.  
Love,  
Elli

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like an American boy doll Logan, an ipod, a Wii Just Dance game, crafting stuff and a robe. How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Jingles made it safely to our house. I will be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Rylan

Dear Santa,  
I think I have ben good. I want a dog it is a pug. It is name is Lucy and a dog for my American girl doll, and a kitchen and a bed and living room and a Jojo my life doll.  
Love,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie house and a Stuff animal and magnifs blue pillow.

Love,  
Bailey

Dear Santa,  
I want a Nintendo Switch and a Remote Control Helicopter. Lets see Santa I want alot of Lgo's. OOO I want a well hot wheels and a hot wheels track thing. Not to much ELSE I WANT. Just hope I've been good to get one of those presents. From the one and only Asyrus.

Dear Santa,  
How is rudo? How do the elves make toys? How do the reindeers fly? How do the elves fly? Can I please have a American girl and Moana Movie bunkbed, real puppy and Jojo coloring book and a camera easy braids baby a live arts paints canvas new tennis shoes.  
Love,  
Alyana

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas! I want for Christmas a rollingchay, a computer, a whistle, a ship, a ipod. I want these things for Christmas. Merry Christmas Santa. Have a good night.  
Love,  
Raegan

Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolph real? Hope you are staying warm at the North Pole. I've been trying to be good. I would like to have a computer and a tablet for Christmas. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Deven

Continued on next page...

**Merry Christmas**

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Fax (618) 853-4443  
rmyerscough@finc.net

**Happy Holidays!**  
WE WISH YOU GREAT JOY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON. MAY LOVE AND PEACE ABIDE WITH YOU AND YOURS ALL THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS. AND IN THE DAYS TO COME.

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We Wish You A **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

With warm wishes for a happy holiday season, along with heartfelt thanks for your friendship and goodwill.

**ROE**  
Regional Office Of Education  
Monroe/Randolph Counties

**Kelton Davis**  
Regional Superintendent Of Schools

**Wishing You Great Happiness This Holiday & Beyond.**

We hope we have the pleasure of serving you again soon!

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*May Peace And Joy Be Yours At Christmas!*

**Nashville Memorial Co.**  
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To Everyone From The **City Of Pinckneyville**

**Robert L. Spencer, Mayor**  
Commissioners  
William Stotlar • Sammy Peradotta  
Kevin Hicks • David Stone

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**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Warm wishes for a happy holiday season, along with heartfelt thanks for your friendship and support this past year.

**Randolph County REPUBLICANS**  
www.randolphgop.com

**HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE Christmas**

**OKC AUTO BODY**  
New Location

**SPARTA | 443-6060**  
www.overkillcustominc.net



Dear Santa,  
My name is JJ and I am a good boy. I want a green phone and a x box 360 and a tablet. And hows our reindeer? Ill leave some milk and cookies to eat.  
Love,  
J.J. Stork

Love,  
Kattlyn  
.....  
*Marissa 2nd grade Mrs. Schneider's class*

Dear Santa,  
Do you have an extra elf? Our class needs one...well, we do have a paper one. Do you make elfs? Anyway I would like a purple camera and cow girl boots. Also I would like a cow girl hat that's pink and a light blue shirt that has a hood. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Ruby Leemon

Dear Santa,  
I will like some blush. I want my sister to get some lipstick. I want to get my MOM a necklace. My dad wants a new key chain. Thank you Santa!  
Love,  
Emily Rthchason

Dear Santa,  
Is your reindeer nice today? Please can you get me a new bike? Can you get Lucas a new tablet? I like you so much because you are very nice. Can ou get Blake a new phone?  
Love,  
Cariee Cato

Dear Santa,  
Can I please have a Nintendo Switch and can Drew have a X-box one-5? How are the reindeer? How you and Mrs. Claus? Talk to you later.  
Love,  
Christopher Chappell

Dear Santa,  
How are you elves doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? May I have cowboy boots and a cowboy hat? Also I want two phones with all the games. Can I have some cool sunglasses too?  
Love,  
Jason Waeltz

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How are the raindeer doing? Hey Santa can elf on the shelf talk? This year please bring me a box of lego. Please bring my brother Hayden a speaker and please bring blake a book. Also please bring me a dog.  
Love,  
Cam Steinwagner

Dear Santa,  
I want a PS4 for Christmas. I will leave you cookies and milk and we might leave your reindeer some carrots. How are you doing? I've been good. I also want a four-wheeler for Christmas. are your elves ready yet? It is fun findin the elf on the shelf.  
Love,  
Ky Portz

Dear Santa,  
I want a laulachpatop please. I want a mac ook T please. I'm leaving cookies for you. I'm leaving oat meal for the reindeer. You are really cool, Santa.  
Love,  
Chloe Fletcher

Dear Santa,  
Can I please get a new tablet and some gloves?

Can you please get my MOM and dad and brothers new coats? Also can you get Chloe a dog house? Thank you for giving me a toy and stuff my family needs.  
Love,  
Mandy Soles

Dear Santa,  
I will leave the cookies and milk and carrots on the fireplace. Please can I have a snow machine? My brother wants a toy truck. My dog wants a ball. My dad wants a new pair of boots. My MOM wants a new dress.  
Love,  
Davin Galle

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. Please bring me a Monster High doll. How are you doing? I am going to leave carrots for your reindeer. I will be counting on you. My MOM needs makeup. Please bring lipstick for her.  
Love,  
Elizabeth Kernan

Dear Santa,  
Can my MOM have a tall elephant? Can my dad have a spaker? For my brother he is a baby so he wants a spongebob toys. Thank you. I don't want anything this year.  
Love,  
Gahvin Crawford

Dear Santa,  
I like how your beard is white as snow. I want clothes please. Santa get my baby sister a kitty cat toy for Christmas. Please I like your

clothes. They're nice. I like your reindeer Rudolph.  
Love,  
Mason Peek

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Can you bring my sister a fingerling please? Can you bring a fingerling for me too? Can you bring me a hamster cage too please? Thank you.  
Love,  
Avery Wright

Dear Santa,  
All of your reindeer are so cute. How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Santa what I really want is a polaroid camera please. I will leave cookies and milk this year. you are the best. What I really want is a picture of you and Mrs. Claus, the elves, and the reindeer.  
Love,  
Lillian Schwartzkopf

Dear Santa,  
I want some chapter books, Tike Diary of 9 Wimpy Klds. How are you doing Santa? And how are Dasher, Pranser, Vixon, Rudolph, Bltzin and he rest of the reindeer? My brother might want an X-box ones, mimies P4 version. How is Mrs. Claus. How are the elves doing.  
Your friend,  
Elliot Sinn

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus doing? How are your elves? I really want a Nintendo Switch for Christmas. I have been good this year. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Your friend,  
Robbie Trail  
.....  
*Marissa 2nd grade Mrs. Fetti's class*

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Santa I would like a laptop because I can play games like hide and seek. Nerf war and you Tube. I would like a dog toy for my dog. I need a toy for my friends.  
Elhan  
Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? I ned a coat, I ned par av guvs, I ned a par av shz. I wot a skateboard. I wot kadin to gt a now/bk. I ned a coat because my coat has a hol.  
Love,  
Jayson

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I wants a American girl doll and I wants a dog and I wants a Ipad and I wants a tv for my family and I wants for my family a computer and I wants for my friend a American girl doll and a Ipad.  
Love,  
Mackeyla

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I needsome new snow boots because the fur on them will keep my feet warm. I need a new snow hat because it will keep my head warm. I want Mackenzie to have some L.P.S. I want Elizabeth to have a new doll. I want to have a new doll because it would be fun to play.  
Love,  
EMILY

Continued on next page...

*Have a holly jolly Christmas!*

Thank you for your patronage throughout the past year. We look forward to serving you again next year.

**Ken Hall Electric, Inc.**  
12112 State Rte. 154 | Sparta | 443-3013

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**AUTOADDICTS**  
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*Wishing you and yours a*  
**Happy Holiday**

**BOBBY KLAUSING**  
For Randolph Co. Clerk

*Wishing you and yours A*  
**Merry Christmas**

**BOWER Truck Service**

**AVA**  
426-3056

**With Thoughts Of You At Christmastime**

As the holiday season approaches, our hearts are warmed by thoughts of the many good people we've had the opportunity to serve this year. You've certainly brightened our year! Thank you for your support and loyalty. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

**Coleman Lawn Equipment**  
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210 E. Walnut | Carbondale | 529-0181

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West Pine Street | Percy

*With Every Wish For A Very*  
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

*From my family to yours,*  
**Cypress GIBSON**  
Candidate For Randolph County Clerk 2018

**Merry Christmas**  
*To You & Yours From All Of Us At The Manor At Craig Farms!*

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Wishes You A  
*Merry Christmas*  
And  
*Happy Holidays*

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Dear Santa,  
How are you? I need sum of this stuff for this winter. Please get me this red sweater for Christmas and no glitter because I like red. It is my favorite color. I don't like glitter. I want coat for Christmas please because I don't have that many coats at my house. Next, I want a four wheeler that is real because I want to ride with my cousins. Can I please have a skateboard because my Dad said I am not getting you one for Christmas but you asked Santa for one.  
Love,  
Lexi

winter coat because it is cold in the winter.  
Love,  
Anthony

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want a paper because I want to draw. I want a bike because I can ride my bike having friends on for Christmas. I want toys for my dogs because my dogs need new toys.  
Love,  
Jozee

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want a cat. I want a sweater. I need a hat. I need a shirt. I want w/vaH to have a shirt. I want Emma to have a new pair of socks.  
Love,  
Elliot Baker

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the reindeer, Mrs. Claus and the elves doing? Can I please have a pair of mittens, so I don't get cold, and a new pair of boots so I can have a pair for the snow! Can I also have a watch, so I can look what time it is? Can I have some slime, so I don't get board? Kalin have chalk to make four square boxes, so he can and ky can play? Can ky have a little train?  
Love,  
Braydon

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want some roller skates, so I can skate in the house. Can I have a American Girl doll Jeep because I like to play American

Girl Dolls at my house, and some American Girl dolls school supplies because I want some socks because I am runing out of socks. I hope Charlie gets a puppy for Christmas. Thank you.  
Love,  
Lillian Dill

Dear Santa,  
How are you? All I need is a toy bear so I'm not scared at night. I need a friend so I'm not lonely. I want you to come to Branson to show the Christmas spirit to everyone. I want my sister, brother, Mom and Dad to have a good Christmas.  
Love,  
Ayla

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I need a sweatshirt so I could stay warm. I need a scarf so my neck could stay warm. I want toy cars so I could play with them. I want a Christmas movie so I could watch it. I want to give my brother a bike so he can have fun. I want to give my dad tools so he can work on stuff.  
Love,  
Shaun

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I need an iPhone 5S so I could call my mom. I need a science project because I will get to make stuff. I want art so I could draw. I want a scooter so I could do tricks on it. I think that Jordan should have a bike so he can ride it to school. I think that my big brother have a laptop so he

could text his friends on it.  
Love,  
Gavin

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want LP'S because I love LP'S. I need a new bed to sleep on. I need new boots to wear. Please give Emily LP'S because Emily has been helping me. Please give Ayla some LP'S because she was so nice to me.  
Love,  
Kenzie

Dear Santa,  
How are you? This year I want a doll because I'm starting a collection. I also want a Barbie house because I need a place to put my Barbies. I need a scarf because it keeps me warm in the winter. I need a hat to cover my head. Also, can you give my Mom a Bath Bomb? Also, please give my Dad a screw driver.  
Love,  
Haleigh

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are your Reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus? I need a new coat, so I'm not cold. I need a boy's basketball so I can play basketball. I want a sled, so I can ride down hills. I want a ball, so I can play kickball. I need a Flash uniform so I can give it to ky because he likes Flash. I need a ring, so I can wear it to school. I need blue and yellow shoes, so I can wear them to school. I want a radio, so I can give it to my brother so he can play

Music. I need a ring so I can give it to my Mom.  
Love,  
Kadin

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? I need a jacket because I need to be warm. I want to be with my family because I love my family. Please give Ben screw drivers because he has screw drivers on his list. Please give John a screw driver because he would like that. I want gum because I like gum. I need tennis shoes because my tennis shoes I have now are old.  
Love,  
Shelby

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want a robot because it moves. I want a toy YoYo because I like to play with them. I need headphones for my tablet. I need a flashlight because I can't see in the dark. I want Braydon to have a cool ball because he likes to play kic ball. I want Jayson to have a lego set because he likes legos.  
Love,  
Jordan

Dear Santa,  
I want a new pair of shoes for Christmas. I want a new book and some new socks. Have my name on it. I am giving your reindeer some carrots. I am also making some cookies and milk for you. It is going to be on a table and you will have a plate.

Love,  
Carter Gerald

.....

*Trico 2nd grade  
Mrs. Granada's class*

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? This year for Christmas I would like a badk itball cards, bassball cards, a PS4 and a lot of basketbal Jrzis. Happy Holidays!  
Love,  
Ryder

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How are the reindeer doing? What kind of cookies do you want? What kind of milk do you want? This year for Christmas I would like a Drone Blaster. Thank you!  
Love,  
Piper

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? This year for Christmas I want a tablet and a American girl doll, a Justice gift card and a puppy. I also want a new bike. That is all I want.  
Love,  
Kaydence

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? This year for Christmas I would like a phone, pokemon cards and toys and spiderman toy. Have a good Christmas.  
Love,  
Flavio

Continued on next page...

*In the spirit of the season, we're glad to have the opportunity to bestow our thanks for your continued support. May this be a time that lives up to and exceeds all of your expectations, one that's filled with laughter and merriment, story and song, good food and good cheer all season long!*

**Happy Holidays, One And All!**

**Human Service Center**

**SHIFT INTO HOLIDAY GEAR!**

Everyone here is all revved up to wish you a high-powered holiday celebration, where everything runs smoothly!

**NAPA AUTO TIRE AND PARTS**

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515 S. Main • Red Bud • 282-6787 | 409 S. Main • Pinckneyville • 357-6030  
511 S. Clinton • New Athens • 457-3353

**Merry Christmas**

We wish you and yours a festive Christmas. Thank you for being our customer and friend.

**Loos Excavating, Inc.**

Pinckneyville ~ 357-3384

**We're Hoping Your Christmas Is Sew Special.**

**BERNINA**  
At **Fancyworks**  
Marissa ~ 295-2909

*Seasons Greetings And Best Wishes For Good Health, Happiness And Prosperity In The Coming Year!*

*Village of Campbell Hill*

**Happy Holidays!**

We wish you and your family a season full of fun and great times!

**Village of Percy**

*Peace on Earth*

*Because we truly appreciate your business, we're very glad to have this opportunity to thank you, our valued customer, for your patronage, and we extend our best wishes for a happy holiday season and prosperous new year.*

**Dave, Evelyn, Amanda, Rebecca, Tawna & Natalie**

**SCHNEIDEWIND INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**

748 State Rte. 13 ~ Marissa ~ (618) 295-2304

**Let The Holiday Spirit Ring!**

It's the most wonderful time of year to celebrate kindness, friendship and family. We wish you all the best this holiday season.

*Village of Willisville*

**MAY PEACE AND JOY BE YOURS THIS SEASON!**

**THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO SERVE YOU!**

**WILLIAMS Heating & Air, Inc.**

**STEELEVILLE • 965-2040**

**Love, Peace, Prosperity**

We wish you and yours a festive Christmas filled with the best gifts of all: love, joy, friendship, peace and prosperity.

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We will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1

Steven G. Falkenheim, CPA • Sheila L. Uchtmann, CPA

165 West Broadway • PO Box 263 • Sparta • 443-5254  
1650 State St. • Chester • 826-2065  
104 Summit Ave. • Red Bud • 282-2884

May Your Homes And Your Hearts Be Filled With The True Spirit Of Christmas.

**Merry Christmas!**

**Sam's Material & More, Inc.**

309 S. Beaucoup | Pinckneyville | 618-357-6612

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

May the gifts of joy, peace and happiness be yours this holiday season and throughout the year ahead.

Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Open Tuesdays 9-5

**Rowold Hardware**

1300 Swanwick Street | Chester | 826-5061

**Happy Holidays!**

Heartiest greetings and best wishes for your happiness at Christmastime and throughout the coming year!

**Randolph County Treasurer's Office**

Justin Jeffers, Dawn Hartman, Carla White and Megann Williams



Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer?  
This year for Christmas I want a paint stash and a Zak storm toy! Thank you!  
Love,  
Brandon

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? This year for Christmas I want some books and a basket for my bike and a pair of wheels.  
I love Crismisel!  
Love,  
Cheyenne

Dear Santa,  
Are your elves doing good? This year I want a motherskile for Chrismis. Next I want a shotgun for Chrismis. Than I want a nutehr video game. Thank you!  
Love,  
Logan R.

Dear Santa,  
How are you today? how was yore sumer? I have ben good this yere. This year I want for Crimas the Amuican doll. Have a good yere!  
Love  
Lilly

candy and cake. For vom some cooking things and shoes. For dad a gun and a deer.  
I love Chrmas.  
Love,  
Sawyer

Minyan. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Love,  
Bella

Dear Santa,  
Who is you mom and Dad? how old are you? how are you doing? Who meny elv's do you have? how is Mrs. Clowes doing? how old is Mrs. Clawes. This year for Christmas I would like a toy angel for under the tree. Have a safe flight!  
Love,  
Aliviah

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? This year for Christmas I want a basketball cort and I want a baissball field and I want the 20 things on my list. Have a good flight!  
Love,  
Logan H.  
Dear Santa,  
How old are you? This year for Christmas I want a Amergin grill doll hros and the hros plase. Aladd head bands. An iPod and suproses. Happy Holidays!  
Love,  
Aubrey

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? This year for Christmas I would like a new playsa-sion 3, a new par of Jeens please and that's all. Marry Chrstmas!  
Love,  
Mason

Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolf ok? Is his nose still glowing? This year I wode lik a Paw Patrol toys a snowmovil for a kide, a moder skoder, a hoche that you can teech, a pet bird toy, al-nosors and a chactor. Hope you get all the presents to the kids on time!  
Love,  
David

Dear Santa,  
Hi! My name is William. please tell pom pom to be a better elf on the self because she made a mess big mess. Please send a note back. I want a tomputer. That's it. By, by, I'm done here. Now its my brother's tern. He wants the batbot. he's been biting me a lot.  
By, by.  
Love,  
William

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old my name is Lily is it fun working at the northpole. Elf are so cute. What is your favite reindeer. Is pompom a girl or boy? Even if people don't bvin in you I do Santa your my huro for Christmas. Can I have a nofbow and scoter and more shopkins for my MOM some kichin soplis and for dad some tols. I love you Santa. I hope you have a grat Christmas.  
Love,  
Lily

Dear Santa,  
Have you seen anybody been nice? This year for Christmas I would like feegrkeebgs, a puppy and teluscope. I hope its safe!  
Love,  
Annabella

Dear Santa,  
How old are you? This year for Christmas can you give me all the toys I want. Because I bleve in you and the touth fere a Sasaman and the Eastir bunny. I bleve in all of you. I love you all!  
Love,  
Alexandra

Dear Santa,  
Is your reindeer ok? This year I want a Monster hinge Doll for Christmas. I been good all year long. Jack tacets turns with me. Thank you!  
Love,  
Allison

Dear Santa,  
How have you been Santa? This year for Crismis I would like a ninto swich. Ml sacant crismis wish is a noo tablit. Have a saf trip!  
Love,  
Justin

Dear Santa,  
My name is Halley. I am 8 years old. I go to school at Trico. How old are you. What is your favorite drink. What is your favorite color. I would like a pair of clothes. And some new shoes. And some new makeup. I would like it if you could bring my MOM a pair of house shoes. And some clothes. And some makeup. I hope you have a gret Christmas.  
Love,  
Halley

Dear Santa,  
My name is Leila. I am 7 years old. Christmas is my favert holiday. How is Sogey and make sher that he will be good. How are the raders? For Christmas I wold like a rele horse. I asole will like a hchvol to can I have ipad to. My sister will like abiguikan a book and a ipad like me. I hop you have a grate Christmas.  
Love,  
Leila

Dear Santa,  
you will like my cookees. This year for Christmas I want 20 dollars and 100 pokeevon cards and a pensol for my house, that's all. I hope you have a very good Christmas.  
Love,  
Hunter

Dear Santa,  
Has there been a snow storm in the north pole? This year for Christmas I want to have toys Santa! A ven good Santa. Jesus you ben rely good. thank you Love you Santa,  
Love,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? This year for Christmas I would like cozmio and lazer tag and a nerf car and a x-box 1. That is all I want. Merry Chrstmas!  
Love,  
Jay

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How is Mrs. clowes doing? This year for Crismis I want a drem tent. Thank you!  
Love,  
Adalynn

Dear Santa,  
My name is Bella smith I am very excited about chrntmas. we are very lucky to have presents cus uf you. I wold like a hubber bord. I would like a lot of mack up. Lite pink hair diy. Please bring my sister Brooke vr glasses she has ben good this year. Please bring my brother a reavot control

Dear Santa,  
My name is Klynn. I love the gif you giev me. Wat is your fretd coerk. For Chrstmas woud like a dog bed. An sum dandey. And a hachml. I lover you santa. My MOM watsa prfroom ples.  
Love,  
Klynn

.....  
*Trico 2nd grade Mrs. Gilliam's class*  
Dear Santa,  
My name is Sawyer. I am 7 years old I like cookies and milk. Pom pom made a mess. I want a pet dog? Can I have a pet horse? For Silas some

Continued on next page...

**Merry Christmas From All Of Us!**  
We thank you for your valued business and wish you and your loved ones a bounty of glad tidings this holiday season.  
**CHESTER INSURANCE AGENCY**  
1200 Swanwick • Chester  
826-5457  
www.chesterinsuranceagency.com

May Your Christmas Be Filled With Peace, Love And Happiness.  
**Kempfer Insurance Service**  
Sandra Kempfer, Agent  
Coulterville  
758-2582

**WISHING YOU CARTS FULL OF HOLIDAY CHEER!**  
Closing Christmas Eve at 5pm.  
Closed Christmas day.  
Closing New Year's eve at 5pm.  
Open til 2pm New Year's day.  
**Rozier's**  
800 Chester Center  
Chester | 826-4564

**Best Wishes**  
Here's To Wishing Everyone A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year!  
**dormakaba**  
1003 W. Broadway • Steeleville • 965-3491

SEASONS GREETINGS!  
May you and your family have a blessed Christmas season!  
**EMPIRE EARTH & CONCRETE Company**  
SEPTIC SYSTEMS • FLAT WORK • FOUNDATIONS  
CLEANING • DITCHING • STAMPING REFINISHED  
618-758-1104

Season's Greetings  
Hope the season delivers much good cheer and many good times. With sincere thanks to all who have visited us this year. Your kind friendship makes it all worthwhile.  
**North County Savings Bank**  
RED BUD  
282-3939

Warm Wishes At Christmas  
We hope your family and friends are able to gather together to share this very special time of year.  
**Happy Holidays!**  
Fisher, Kerkhover, Coffey & Gremmels Law Office  
edward J. Fisher  
r. Jeffrey Kerkhover  
Jason e. coffey  
Jordan D. Gremmels  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
chester  
826-5021

May This Season Bring To Your Door Peace And Joy And So Much More.  
We Appreciate The Support You've Given Us And Wish You And Yours A Very Merry Christmas!  
**Ebbler, Inc.**  
103 S. Second • PERCY • 497-8341

Keeping The Season Bright!  
Gail Knop Tax Specialist  
**It All Adds Up**  
Call Early To Schedule Your Appointment!  
304 E. Broadway • Steeleville  
965-3456

May your holiday season be filled with love and happiness!  
**NEAL'S HEATING & COOLING**  
909 N. Main • Marissa • 295-3402

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
Wishing you and yours the best this holiday season.  
**J & S Service Center**  
1399 W. BROADWAY | SPARTA | 443-2244

**Hope It's Special**  
May the holiday season fill you with happiness.  
Thanks for your generous support this past year. We look forward to serving you in the year to come.  
**Victor's MEDICENTER PHARMACY**  
2323 Old Plank rd.  
Chester • 826-2511  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM - 6PM  
CLOSED WEEKENDS  
**Tony's MEDICENTER PHARMACY**  
324 W. broadway  
Steeleville • 965-3511  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM - 6PM  
SATURDAY 8AM - 2PM



Dear Santa,  
My name is Karter. I'm 7 years old. I go to school at Trico Elementary School. I am very excited for Christmas how old are you santa. I want a three wheel skoter. A toy bmx bike I want a toy dirt bike and my dog piper needs tow toys.  
Love,  
Karter

Dear Santa,  
My name is Emma. I am 8 years old. My favorite thing about Chstmas is getting surprised with presents. Who is your favorite reindeer? Do you have a favorite kind of cookie? What is you and Miss Claus doing? I wish it was Christmas. For Christmas I would like a play car. Also I would like chotes and a Santahat. I would like to get abed for my parents. I would like a play phone for my little sister. For my big sister stuff animals. For my broters video games. For my dog and cats toys and treats. I hope you have a great Chstmas.  
Love,  
EMMA

DAD want's a new toy car. Faith want's a new car too. My name is Dixie. I am 7 yrs old and I am a Stootin at Trico Elementary school. I am so excited about Christmas. What is your favorite ranedear. What is your favorite kind of Cookie and dren. I would like a new pair of slippers. Can u bring my dogs Some new toy's. I hope u have a great Christmas. I can't wate to see what u bring me.  
Happy Christmas.  
Love,  
Dixie

sister want asopisk and my brother wants a groshee gang? I love chshmis?  
Love,  
Jaden

switch and super Mario maker.  
Love,  
Kane Hinnerichs

eboard for Christmas. A Reborn doll and a new born doll. I wish you a Merry Christmas.  
Alayna Holland

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jason and I am 7 years old. I like to open presnt at Christmas. I like to play in snow. what do you do at christmas. And what kind of cookie do you like because I want to make you one and also I would want for chrismas a mini car and a car with a contoler for Christmas and a lego set. Please bring my broter a cool board game please give amy a new tablet andj a sordonline game and bring my dad a board game to and bring my MOM music disc and bring in a cool belt and a computer and bring a cool music song and bring a cool baby toy for me and bring k more baby stuuf and a ring.  
Love,  
Jason

Dear Santa,  
My name is Tyson SIMMS. I am 8 years old. Your ELF is making a mess in my class room. I am in secent grade. How meny rain dear do you have? what kind of cookies do you like? how hard is your job? I want a new ball. For my MOM I want a ticket to survivor also 2 tickets to a camis game and 2 tickets to disny would. I want to have the best Christmas ever!!!! I want for my dog a stuff anile and a toy bone. For me I want call of duty number 1 and 2. I hoop I get my stuff.  
Love,  
Tyson

Dear santa claus,  
My name is Kaylee. I am 8 years old. I like to do is play with my hadit for Christmas even I am a suttt and I am a gril do have you collie it is your favorite kind of cookie for Christmas. I would like a mrvad doll simer and sien geneix palee lol doll and pet a raddit brabey doll and my litte poney and a qennu doll rine for my MOM and for dad is lol and sisl and for my siser and for my bother is a car and for cast is a new rope and for jack is a new toy rope wait to see what you bring me.  
Love,  
Kaylee

Dear Santa,  
My name is Natalie. I am 7 years old. I am in 2th grad. I Love my family. What do you like to do for fun? I am veay excited aabout Christmas. For Christmas I would like some more books to read. A nutther thing I would like some more clering books. What I would for Christmas is ply fasy sky hiy. Can you bring my cats a new scratch box. Can you bring my cats some cat toys. Can you bring my dad some tols. Can you bring my MOM some more make up. Can you bring my brother some walk. I hop you have a good Christmas. I can't wat to see what you got me.  
Love,  
Natalie

Dear Santa,  
My name is Colton. I am 8 years old. I love Christmas. Its my faveret holiday. My school is Trico elementary school. Who is your faverete elf on the shelf. what is your faverete cookie. what is the best kid on the nice list. DEAR SANTA I would like a niddoswich. I also want a ipad. I would like a piece of cake. I am done by by. my brother wants abigelmo. My dad wants a fishing lwer. My MOM wants a fttbit. By by by have a great chrtmas.  
Love,  
Colton

Dear Santa,  
What have you been doing? How are the reindeer? I would like Pie Face and an Elf on the Shelf, a Hot wheels tracks. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.  
Jace Ivan

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like some legos and some nerf gun. for Christmas. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.  
Javin Kobus

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? I would like a fttbit. I want a Njnga Turtle for Colten. I want a gun for my dad. What do you want?  
Kaiyn Maynard

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the reindeers? This year I would like a puppy that comes with food and poops it out. Also a little dog bed. And a Hatchimal. Have a Merry Christmas Santa.  
Mairten Paez

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing for Christmas? Please can I have a camera for me and my MOM. I want a corlis suit. I want a black lab puppy. Santa I will miss you.  
Lucas Rather

.....  
*Trico 2nd grade Mrs. Ruebke's class*

Dear Santa,  
How are you. How is Mrs. Claus? I would like a tablet for Christmas. I would like a Big doll house and a doll for my sister. I would like treats for my dog. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Jaci Farris

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Is Rudolph good? Are the elves making toys? I would like a phone 7. I hope your elves are good.  
Maddax Rees

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the elves? I would like a Hov-

Continued on next page...

*Our Christmas Wish To You*  
**May Your Battery Be Charged & Your Antifreeze Be Full.**  
**May Your Holiday Be Merry & Bright!**

Marty, Tim, Charlie, Michelle & Karen  
**BERT'S AUTO SERVICE**  
CHESTER • 826-4156

May your holiday season be filled with love and happiness!

**MOODY'S**  
Health Mart PHARMACY  
109 East Broadway Sparta  
(618) 443-2715

Wishing you a bumper crop of happiness and love during this holiday season and in the year to come!

**Randolph County Farm Bureau**  
1403 Hillcrest Drive | Sparta | 443-4511

*Merry Christmas!*

**Wehrheim Mercantile**  
Baldwin • 785-2615

**HO, HO, HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

Delivering wishes merry and bright to all of our friends and neighbors at Christmastime!

With sincere thanks for your loyal support, we wish you and yours a very merry Christmas!

[WWW.STEARNSFURNITURE.COM](http://WWW.STEARNSFURNITURE.COM)  
**STEARNS FURNITURE CO.**  
Closed Christmas Eve & Day and New Year's Eve & Day  
155 Stevenson Dr.  
Sparta • (618) 443-3494

May The Joy Of The Season Embrace You With Its Warmth And Wonder

**Village Of Steeleville**

~Mayor Bob Sutton~

**TRUSTEES**  
Andy Gerlach • Tim Eichenseer • Carlos Barbour  
Cindy Sickmeyer • Larry Ruebke  
Jana Bollmann-Young

**CHRISTMAS JOY**

From Our Family to Yours!

**R & R Country Care**  
Ruma ~ 282-8585

Have a Holly Jolly Christmas Day

Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

**Hook, Line & Sinker**  
5636 State Rte. 4 | Steeleville | 965-2444

From All Of Us To All Of You...

**Merry Christmas!**

from your friends at

**WEIR**  
CHEVROLET BUICK GMC  
Red Bud • 282-2353  
FORD  
Red Bud • 282-2375

Thanks, friends, for another wonderful year!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**THE VILLAGE BANK**  
Proudly Serving Marissa For 10 Years  
720 E. Lyons • Marissa, Illinois  
(618) 295-2746  
[www.villagebank.info](http://www.villagebank.info)

**SEASON GREETINGS**

To Our Valued Customers, Neighbors, & Friends

**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
Sat. Dec. 23...8:00AM-2:00PM  
Sun. Dec. 24...CLOSED  
Mon. Dec. 25...CLOSED

~

Sat. Dec. 30...8:00AM-2:00PM  
Sun. Dec. 31...CLOSED  
Mon. Jan 1...CLOSED

**PLAZA TIRE SERVICE**  
THE QUICK CHANGE ARTIST  
1310 North Market Street  
Sparta • 443-5300  
[www.plazatireservice.com](http://www.plazatireservice.com)



Dear Santa,  
How are you? Santa are you busy? I would like toys for Christmas. I would like an Elf on a Shelf. I would like a UFO Magic Ball. I hope you have a saff flyt.  
Sky Huhman

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Is Rudolph ready to fly? For Christmas I would like a PS4. I would like a Fight spinner. I would like a puppy. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Evelyn Taylor

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? I would like a I-fone 7 and a non-nom nail polish that I can make it my self. and a UFO magic ball. Have a great Christmas.  
Avrie Blair

Dear Santa,  
How are you Santa? I would like a F16. I would like a dirt bike and a UFO Magic Ball. I hope you have a good time.  
Sustin Jacques

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves doing? I would like for Christmas a Hoverboard. Another thing I want is a camera. For Christmas a third thing I want for Christmas is a new gun. The gun I want is a shotgun and handcuffs and I hope you have a break after Christmas. Happy Christmas.  
Kaisen Queen

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like a robot dinosaur for my brother. I would like a glass cat for my mom. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Cora Norris

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Rudolph? I would like a baby reborn with staff. I would like a warm blanket for my mom. I would like a special bracelet for my sister. Merry Christmas Santa.  
Bailey May Thies

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Is Rudolph being good? I would like a game for my PS4. I would like a bike. I would like a Carlos

Jacket. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Mason Wooley

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the elves? I would like a car for my moms and a lot of pet shops for my sister. I would like batteries for my self. I hope you have a great Christmas.  
JJ Rexaller Mathery

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are your elves? I would like a Elagty-five and new grafix.  
Talan Williams

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I would like a pencil that changes colors. I would like a Elsa dot set. I would like a skirt that has circles on it and if you put your hand on it and slide down it until it makes a picture or a different color. I hope you have a great Christmas break.  
Love,  
Brooke Asbury

.....  
*Trico Kindergarten  
Mrs. Lindner's class*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Mickey Mouse race car, a new bike, and a Mario Wii. My brother Dice wants Matchboxes. My sister Lily wants a Barbie & my sister Diamond wants a baby toy. My mom needs a purse and my dad needs a video game.  
Love,  
Lorenzo

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a fidget spinner, a big unicorn stuffed animal & a big Hatchimal. Leila wants a horse Hatchimal. Mom needs socks, and dad needs a gun with bullets. Gracie my dog wants a BIG bone.  
Love,  
Addilyn

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a NERF Rival Nemesis, a Drone with a camera & a Nintendo Switch with Splatoon 2. Bring a camera for my mawmaw &

a new TV for my pawpaw.  
Love,  
Carter

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Disney Frozen Sleigh to ride on. I would also like a JoJo doll for my sister. Please bring my dad a Twister game. My mom would like a new phone as well as a My Little Pony Swimming Seapony. My sister would also love to get a Hatchimal.  
Love,  
Idalia

Dear Santa,  
Please bring ma a Hatchimals Surprise, A Doc McStuffins Baby All in One Nursery & a Hover board. Bring a American Girl cradle for my sister Hayden. My dad wants video games & My mom needs a phone case and a Spinpop for it.  
Love,  
Savannah

Dear Santa,  
I would like the Garbage Truck Dusty. I would also like the Nerf Rival Nemesis. Could you please bring my brother a GPS Shadow Drone with Follow me technology? My mom would like a little live pets cuddles my Dream Kitten. A monster Sam Grave Digger would be nice for my dad.  
Love,  
Kayden

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Paw Patrol life-sized lookout tower. I would also like the Nerf Rival Nemesis. Could you please bring my dad a GPS Shadow Drone with follow me technology? My brother would like Star Wars bedding. Would you please bring my sister a big L.O.L. Surprise? A new phone for my mom would be nice.  
Love,  
Wyatt

Dear Santa,  
I would live a Disney Descendants Fashion doll and a Razor Hovertrax Hoverboard. Could you please bring my friend Leila a Shimmer and Shine Blind Bottle. I think my dad would really

love a new Xbox game. My mom would love to get a new phone case and a Fujifilm instax mini camera.  
Love,  
Elodie

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for letting us have toys. Please bring me a remote control Jeep, a Drone with a camera, & a water squirter. Bring my sister a Frozen Sleigh Ride-On and a Soffy Doggy game. Bring flowers for my mom & a jet for my dad.  
Love,  
Zachery

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me Shimmer & Shine Dancing Genies Z pack, a Holiday doll & Shimmer & Shine Teenie Genies Blind Bottles. Bring headphones for my sister & bikes for my brothers. My mom likes board games & video games for my dad.  
Love,  
Kenzie

Dear Santa,  
I would like a hatchimal. I would also like a Disney Cars McQueen tool kit. Could you please bring my cousin Maycee a Doc McStuffins Baby All in on Nursery? Could you also bring my brother Myles a Fizz Maker Playset? My brother would also like a Gas Powered Go-Kart.  
Love,  
Mason

Dear Santa,  
I would like the Paw Patrol Artic Pup Set. I would also like a hatchimal. Could you please bring my mom a new phone? My dad would also like a new phone.  
Love,  
Pablo

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Fseh EMS, Shopkins & a Shopkins Shoppies Boombox. Bring transformers for my sister Katie, makeup for my mom & hats for my dad. My grandma wants makeup too.  
Love,  
Ella

Dear Santa,  
I would like a dirt bike for Christmas. I would also like a new keyboard to play mu-

sic. Could you please bring my brother a Monster Sam Grave Digger? He would also like a new bike. My mom would like a new phone.  
Love,  
Blake

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a blue car, a PJ Masks Light-Up Cat car & a Paw Patrol tower. Ty wants a blue bicycle. Trey likes firetrucks. My mom wants quarters and a Mickey Mouse toy for my dad.  
Love,  
Addison

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Paw Patrol Lookout Tower, a Sea Patroller Vehicle, a Paw Patrol Artic Pup Gift Set. Bring onsie pajamas for my sister Myia. Bring new phones for my mom & dad.  
Love,  
Andrew

Dear Santa,  
I would love to get a new Nintendo 3DS game and a Nintendo Switch for Christmas. My baby sister would like a Disney Frozen Elsa doll. My dad wants a Spin Pop for his phone. Could you also bring my mom a pink camera and a new phone. My little brother Gunner would really like a Disney Cars 3 ultimate Florida speedway track and a Lightning McQueen Ride on.  
Love,  
Drake

Dear Santa,  
I would like a big hatchima. I would also like a JoJo doll. Could you please bring my cousin Kaleigh a little live Pets Cuddles My Dream Kitten? My cousin Mason really likes legos and cars. Could you also bring my friend Maya a My Little Pony Pinkie Pie Swimming Seapony?  
Love,  
Paisley

.....  
*Trico 1st Grade  
Mrs. Edgar's class*

Dear Santa,  
Have my cousins been

bad? Has my mom been good? My dad would like a dog. My mom would like an elf. Mayson would like a cat. I would like a JoJo doll.  
Love,  
Kraighynn

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? My dog, Ollie, needs a pack of bones. My dad needs a bike. My Grandma's cat, Annie, would like a new Chew toy. My mom needs a bike. My sister would like a Hatchimal. I would like a phone for Christmas. I'll leave cookies and milk for you.  
Sincerely,  
Hayden

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the elves? I want a Hatchimal. Mom wants a cotton candy maker.  
Love,  
Myia

Dear Santa,  
How do you make presents? How do your reindeer fly? My sister and I want a cotton candy maker. Mom and dad want a blanket.  
Love,  
Ethan

Dear Santa,  
Have my friends been good? Have my cousins been good? My mom wants makeup. I want a puppy. My daddy wants a game.  
Love,  
Balle

Dear Santa,  
How are you Santa? I wish I could see my grandpa again. My grandma wants a dishwasher and a new house. I want an Xbox 360 and a mini Polaris Ranger.  
Love,  
Lyle

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Clause? How are the elves? For Christmas, my sister and I want the Sister Location toys. My mom and my dad said they do not want anything.  
Love,  
Landon

Continued on next page...

*Old-Fashioned Christmas Wishes!*  
Here's hoping that this holiday season is just like the ones you used to know.  
Thank you for all your support.

# Sparta Chamber

The Sparta Area Chamber Of Commerce

Let your homes and hearts be warm with the spirit of Christmas!



**Merry Christmas!**  
**SHAW PHARMACY**  
219 N. Main Street • Marissa • 295-2241

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**Melanie Johnson**  
Republican Candidate for Randolph County Clerk

Season's Greetings & Happy New Year



**Doug Sachtleben**  
Candidate for Randolph County Supervisor of Assessments

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*




**Deborah Hoelscher**  
CANDIDATE FOR RANDOLPH CO. TREASURER

*May your holidays be decorated with the light of friendship, the warm glow of family and loved ones, and the sound of laughter.*

**Have a very Merry Christmas!**

**Carlos Barbour**  
randolph county coroner  
Dani, Janice, Elizabeth, Steve & Bobby



**RING-IN THE Holidays**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from us to you!

**Randolph County Commissioners**  
ron White, chairman  
David Holder • Marc Kiehna

**Merry Christmas**  
May it be bright and glad, And your New Year... the best you ever had.

**Shamrock Real Estate**  
9 East Jackson  
Pinckneyville • 357-5333

**Have A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!**

**Grecian Steak House**  
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618-357-3809

*Best and warmest*

**CHRISTMAS WISHES**

*for you and your FAMILY*



**Randolph County Sheriff's Office**  
Shannon Wolff, Sheriff



Dear Santa,  
Why did my elf on the shelf stay in the same spot just turned? My dogs need bones, lots of bones. My cats need lots of food. I want a Hatchimal for Christmas.  
Sincerely,  
Chloe

My sister wants a pony. I want a Hatchimal.  
Love,  
Apigall

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? My dad wants a bow and arrow and my sisters want a stocking. I want light up shoes, please. My mom wants more makeup.  
Love,  
KJM

Dear Santa,  
Have my cousins been good? How are the elves? My mom wants an elf. My cousin wants a Hatchimal. I want a ball. I will give you some cookies and milk.  
Live,  
Alana

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the elves? My brothers would like Legos for Christmas. Mom really wants a new clock. I want a Batman toy.  
Love,  
Korbin

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How is my dad? My mom does not want anything. Dante wants a watch. I want a Biscuit toy and a Baby Alive.  
Love,  
Patience

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are the elves? My sister really wants a laptop. My dad really wants a DVD player. My mom really wants some new makeup. I really want a new phone case.  
Love,  
Molly

Dear Santa,  
Have my sisters been good? How are the rein-

deer? My sister wants a Sky choo-choo train. My mom wants a mop. My dad wants two shoes. I want a Shopkin.  
Love,  
Scarlet

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? How are the elves? My dad wants a hammer. My sister wants a Hatchimal. I want a laptop.  
Love,  
McKenzie

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Are you excited for Christmas? Could you bring my mom a new car? My dad wants a new hat. I want a four-wheeler.  
Love,  
Travis

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? My baby sister wants a Barbie. My mom wants makeup. I want makeup.  
Love,  
Lilly

.....  
*Trico Kindergarten  
Mrs. Jones class*

Dear Santa,  
I wish I could get a bunch of money for Christmas. I would save it. I would also like to have a Lightning McQueen tool kit. Kevin and Didier want us all to get balls so we can play together. I think Kimberly wants to have dolls or a Hatchimals.  
Love,  
Ricky M.

Dear Santa,  
I have never moved my name at school. I want a LOL big surprise that is golden and has a handle. I also want Fin-

gerlings. Please bring my dog, Cookie, a bone. I also want a Fur Real Tiger. My brother would love a Nerf gun.  
Love,  
Sarea D.

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? I've been good. Can I please have the Hot Wheels Ultimate garage, a Lightning McQueen tool kit, and a Monster Truck to ride on. My mom has one phone but I want her to have two like my dad. I will teach my dad to play the guitar if you bring him one.  
Love,  
Brantley

Dear Santa,  
I like your reindeer. I like that you come to my house. I want you to bring me a Batman Super Spaceship and a go-cart. And mostly I want Paw Patrol toys. I've been good. Mom wants a brand new candle and bring daddy a new 4-wheeler.  
Love,  
Landon M.

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I have been good this year. How are your elves? Can I please have a New Bright Dash Cam Vehicle for Christmas? I would also like a Hybrid Stunt Drone. My brother Landon would like a Drone too.  
Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I've been good this year. Can I please have a flipsee

girl? I would also like a Doc McStuffins Baby All in One Nursery for Christmas. My brother would like a Star Wars sleep set. My little brother would enjoy a new Spider-Man for Christmas.  
Love,  
Brooklynn S.

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I have been good this year. Can I please have a New Bright Dash Cam Vehicle for Christmas? I would also like a New Bright Pro Reaper Vehicle for my brother Will.  
Love,  
Toby F.

Dear Santa,  
Can I please have the Capture the Mouse game (mouse trap)? And I want a transformer and a Justice League ship. My brother can have the "chicken" game and the "beater up" game so we can both play. And he can have Legos. My mom can have forks because we have zero forks in our house and my dad can have smokes cause he smokes. And jewelry for my mom and a guitar for my dad.  
Love,  
Payton H.

Dear Santa,  
How are the Elves at the North Pole? I have stayed on green all year in Kindergarten. Can I please have a Hatchimal Surprise for Christmas? I would also like the Soggy Doggy game. Could you please bring my sister a Christmas shirt? I will

leave you a lot of milk and cookies on Christmas Eve.  
Love,  
Mackenzie B.

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? I'm good at my mom's house. I want a drone, a PJ masks car and Cat boy, and a Batbot. I want a little fire truck for the baby because my mom is pregnant.  
Love,  
Chase S.

Dear Santa,  
I want a Hatchimals Surprise and a Jojo doll. I've been good. Please can you get mommy make-up. My brothers like Minion toys. Zoe likes clothes. Bring daddy pillows.  
Love,  
Willia B.

Dear Santa,  
How's your reindeer? I think I want the Shaggy Dog game. I want the Hot Wheels Ultimate Garage and I want a Nintendo DS because it's AWESOME! I've been very good. I always get on green at school.  
Love,  
Lucas H.

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? Is the North Pole cold? I have been really good this year. Can I please have a Flipzoo chair for Christmas? I would also love a Disney Tangled Bow and Arrow.  
Love,  
Zariah S.

Continued on next page...

**MERRY.**  
**Christmas**

May the gifts of joy, peace, happiness and health be yours this holiday season and throughout the year ahead.

**Pinckneyville Community Hospital**  
Leading the way to a healthier tomorrow.

5383 State Route 154  
Pinckneyville, IL 62274  
618-357-2187  
www.pvillehosp.org

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Thanks For Your Patronage This Past Year. We Look Forward To Serving You Next Year!

Dean, Mike & Jason

**LOCHHEAD'S SERVICE STATION**  
916 Lehman Drive  
Chester • 826-3125  
Monday - Friday 7:30am-5pm  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

*Merry Christmas!*

Warmest Wishes To You And Your Family This Holiday Season!

**City Of Chester**

**Mayor Tom Page**  
**City Aldermen**  
Nancy Crossland, Russ Rader, Dan Geisen, Dr. Robert Platt, Mike Blechle, Dan Ohlau, Donnie Clark & Ray Allison  
City Clerk Bethany Berner • Treasurer Donna Clendenin

*Merry Christmas*

May it be bright and glad, And your New Year... the best you ever had.

**Shamrock Real Estate**  
9 East Jackson  
Pinckneyville • 357-5333



**It's That Magic Time Of Year**

It's that magic time of year again. The Holidays are here. Children's programs. Santa and sleigh rides. Good times with friends and family. Enjoy the Holidays, and remember to shop locally whenever you can. From all of us at the bank, we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**First National Bank Of Sparta**

Broadway & Market • PO Box 377 • Sparta, Illinois 62286

**(618) 443-2187**

FDIC

*Lori, Ethan, Garrett, and Senator Paul Schimpf*  
*Wish you a happy and blessed Christmas!*

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www.citizens4schimpf.com



Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer?  
Rudolph is my favorite reindeer. I have been really good this year. I have stayed on green in my kindergarten class all year. Can I please have a Disney Junior Doc McStuffins Nursery for Christmas. I would also love a Princess carriage.  
Love,  
Caroline H.

Dear Santa,  
What are you and the reindeer doing? I want a big Paw Patrol Lookout Tower and a PJ masks light up car. My bubby wants a batbot and magic tracks. My sissa wants a big Hatchimals and Fingerlings. My dad wants a drone.  
Love,  
Jared C.

Dear Santa,  
How are you and your deer? I want an Elsa sled and Doc McStuffins toys and a Hatchimal. Bring grandma the mouse trap game. She likes to play games. I want you to bring grandpa the puppy dog game where you give him a shower and he shakes (Soggy Doggy).  
Love,  
Makyah V.

Dear Santa,  
I've been good. I've been being good to my friends. How are your reindeer? I would like two Shimmer and Shine genie dolls with pink and blue genie bottles. I want my Little Ponies too and I like Hatchimals! Can you bring me a Princess Carriage?? It's at Walmart.  
Love,  
Kenley H.

Dear Santa,  
I love you! Please give me a Pop Solo Karaoke Microphone and new headphones for when I'm in high school. When I'm in high school, I also want a phone (a pinkish one). My dad needs a new phone because his doesn't work.

My sister likes Paw Patrol. We could share the lookout tower. And then my mom needs a new TV for her and one for the playroom.  
Love,  
Kaylyn H.

Dear Santa,  
I want a Frozen sleigh car to ride. I like Paw Patrol and a ball pit. Bring the baby a chair and boy and girl jammies. I want Barbie dolls too. I've been good.  
Love,  
Maria O.

.....  
**Trico Kindergarten Mrs. Thoms class**  
Dear Santa,  
Hi! How is Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl. Please bring me a big Hatchimals Surprises/ a Project MxSmart Pixel purse, an of Dragons, Fairies & Wizards Fairy Wand/ a Disney Pixar Coco Interactive guitar, a Shimmer and Shine Magical Genie Palace, a Little People Disney Princess Magical Wand palace, a Little People Disney Princess and a Minnie's Happy Helpers Home Sweet Headquarters. I am happy for Christmas.  
Love,  
Braci G.

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl. Please bring me a Pikmi Pops Jumbo pack, a Fingerlings monkey, a L.O.L. Surprise! Big Surprise, a Project Mc2 Smart Pixel purse, Disney Junior Mickey and the Roadster Racers RC car (pink), Doc McStuffins Baby All-in-one nursery, Doc McStuffins First Responders backpack and Doctor's bag sets, Shimmer and Shine Magic Mermaid bath dolls, and Shimmer and Shine Masquerade ball doll 3 pack. Please bring Bristol presents too. I am excited about Christmas.  
Love,  
Noelle A.

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? I've been pretty good this year. I want a Power wheel and a Batbot for Christmas. I want a shirt for my mom and underwear for my dad. He really likes those.  
Love,  
Dominick

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I have been a good girl. I hope my elf, Snowflake is coming back. For Christmas I would like a new bed, mattress and sleeping bags. I would also like a Shopkins Store, an iPhone, a HugMe and a Unicorn pillow. I will leave you cookies.  
Love,  
Lalia M.

Dear Santa,  
I love you Santa. How are your reindeers doing? I'd like to have a DC Super Friends Batbot for Christmas. I've been really good this year even with my daddy being gone. I can't wait for Christmas morning when you come to my house.  
Love,  
Joshua V.

Dear Santa,  
Hello! How are the elves? I have been a good girl. I would like a Doc McStuffins Baby All-in-one nursery, Onies Inflator Mego Starter Pack, Glimmies Glimmer, a Soggy Doggy game, Pie Face game, Veti in my Spagheti, an Imaginarium City Studio dollhouse or Peppa Pig Lights & Sounds Home, and Doc McStuffins toy hospital care cart. I'll leave you cookies.  
Love,  
AsRinity L.

Dear Santa,  
What's up Santa? Claus? How are the reindeer. I've been a good boy. I would like a 12-volt power wheels boomerang ride-on/ a Nintendo Switch/ a Nerf Rival Nemesis MXVII-10K blaster, Uvaginex DC Super Friends

Batbot Xtreme, a boy guitar, P.J Masks Rival Racers track set, Playmobil Ghostbusters vehicles & play set, Pie Face Sky High, Nerf N-Strike Elite Terrascout Remote Control Drone Blaster, a Nerf Clinch pack, and Nerf N-Strike Mega Mastodon Blaster. Please bring gifts for my brothers too. I'm excited for Christmas. I also want WWE Championship Takedown rings.  
Love,  
Brydon H.

Dear Santa,  
Hi! How are the reindeer? I love reindeer. I have been a good girl. Would you please bring me some new shoes, exercise balls to sit on, an exercise mat in pink, some necklace beads, a computer with games on it. I would also like some ornaments for my big tree and my small tree. Could you please bring my grandma a purple carpe, my sister a pink bouncy ball, and mommy a striped Santa shirt. I will leave you cookies and chocolate milk.  
Love,  
Rallyn F.

Dear Santa,  
Hi! How are the reindeer? I have been a good boy. What are the elves doing. I want a camper playhouse, a Nintendo Switch, Imaginext HC Super Friends Batbot Xtreme, a Power Wheels Boomerang Ride-on, Power Rangers Ninja Steel lion fire fortress 20" Zord, Nerf Rival Nemesis Blaster, a Paw Patrol Sea Patroller, and a Little People Construction set. Please bring my brothers gifts too. Also I would like an Imaginext Serpent Strike Pyramid, Little Tikes tire twister, and Little Tikes P.C. Sheelz bumper cars. I can't wait for Christmas.  
Love,  
Eric M.

Dear Santa,  
I love you! How are the reindeer? I am a good girl. I would like a Project Mc2 Smart Pixel purse, Hatchi-

mals Surprise (big), Fur Real Friends Roarin Ivory the Playful Tiger, Pikmi Surprise! Jumbo Pack, Doc McStuffins Baby All-in-one nursery, Shimmer and Shine Magical Genie Palace, Doc McStuffins toy hospital care cart, Doc McStuffins 1st Responder backpack and also doctor's bag sets, and Doc McStuffins get better baby Cece also, Shimmer and Shine magic Mermaid bath dolls. Finally I really want a robot baby cat. I can't wait for you to come.  
Love,  
Faith M.

Dear Santa,  
Hi! How are the reindeer? I think I've been a good boy. For Christmas I would like an electric scooter, A Paw Patrol Sea Patroller, a 12-volt power wheels boomerang ride-on, an Imaginext DC Super Friends Batbot, a Sky Viper drone (My dad wants one too). I would also like a John Deere Gator in Camo, an electric dirt bike/ and a hover board. Would you please bring presents for my sister too. I hope you have a safe trip.  
Love,  
Gannon B.

Dear Santa,  
Hello! How is Mrs. Claus? How do I get to meet you? I have been a good boy. I would like to have Mickey and the Roadster Racer Garage with cars and a Mickey Mouse pillow for Christmas. Would you bring a doll house for my sister and a TV for mommy and daddy.  
Love,  
Joseph K.

Dear Santa,  
What is up? How are your reindeer? I have been very good this year! I would like Minnie's Happy Helper's home, P.J Masks sing & talk plush toys, Shimmer and Shine Magical Genie Palace, Doc McStuffins Baby All-in-one nursery, and a T.J. Masks tent. That is it. Please

bring my brothers presents too. There names are Galgan and Madox Hunter. We will leave you milk, cookies and stuff.  
Love,  
Kenley H.

Dear Santa,  
Hello! How is Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl. Would you please bring me a L.O.L. doll, a Paw Patrol chair for me and my brother, a firefighter's outfit with a microphone, a deluxe slime creations kit, a little shopping cart, an L.O.L. Big Surprise, a snowman pillow, a teepee, some foam, an ABC form mat, a mail purse and mail box, and an angel costume. Please bring presents for my brother. I hope you have a safe trip.  
Love,  
Lauren E.

Continued on next page...

**Merry Christmas**  
*Hope everything goes smoothly for you and your loved ones during this fun-filled season.*  
Thanks so much for stopping by!  
Jeani, Melissa & Laura  
**Style Seller Hair Salon**  
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Marissa ~ 295-2064

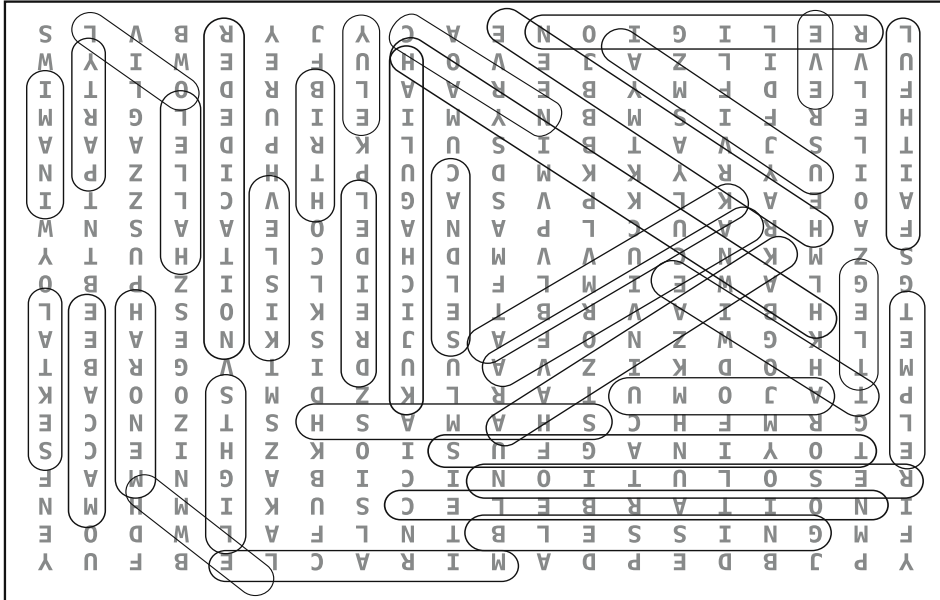
# DECEMBER HOLIDAYS WORD SEARCH

Y	P	J	B	D	E	P	D	A	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	B	F	U	Y
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## WORDS

- AFRICA
- BIRTH
- BLESSING
- CANDLES
- CELEBRATION
- CORN
- DREIDEL
- EIGHT
- EVE
- FAITHFUL
- GELT
- HALLEL
- HANUKKIYAH
- HARAMBEE
- IMANI
- KISLEV
- KUJICHAGULIA
- KUUMBA
- KWANZAA
- LATKES
- LIGHTS
- MACCABEE
- MENORAH
- MIRACLE
- NIA
- OIL
- PARTY
- REDEDICATION
- RELIGION
- RESOLUTION
- SHAMASH
- SUFGANIYOT
- TEMPLE
- UJIMA
- UMOJA
- YULE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.



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Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How are the reindeer? Are they ready for the big trip? I deserve lots of presents because I've been a good girl. I would like a L.O.L. Surprise: a Pkmi Pops Surprise Jumbo Pack, a Project Mc2 Smart Pixel purse, a Monkey Fingerlings, Oonies Inflator Mega starter pack, and Kidi Buzz. Would you please bring my brothers gifts too. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
P.S. I also would like a Greedy Granny game.  
Love,  
Peighton T.

PAW Patrol Sea patroller.  
Love,  
Treyton H.  
  
Dear Santa,  
Hie Santal How are your reindeer doing? I have been a good boy. Can I please have a Nerf Rival Nemesis, MXVTJ-10K blaster; a Nintendo switch; a 12-volt Power Wheels Boomerang Ride-on; a guitar; Rusty Rive's Botasaur (Toys R Us); Mickey and Minnie the Roadster racers RC cars (I want the red one); a Leap Frog 2-in-1 LeapTop Touch (green & white); a ride on train; Nerf Mega Twinshoot and also Nerf N-Strike Mega Mastodon Blaster. Would you please bring toys for Travis too? I can't wait for Christmas.  
Love,  
Wesley W.

*Chester first grade  
Mrs. Martinez's class*

Dear Santa,  
How dus your elfs mak toese? I like your soot. For crismis I sunt a sel phone and a babby dolce.  
Love,  
Bailey Cross  
  
Dear Santa,  
Can you fly. I like you. I wunt a Mogl bat boe.  
Sincerely,  
Luke Whitchoise

Dear Santa,  
How do you not get stuck in th echimney? I like your reindeer. I want a iPhone and a Nerf gun Sarde, Nerf bulls and a Pet elf.  
Love,  
Draedan Duncan

Dear Santa,  
I like your suit. Can I ride Rudolph? I wuld like a iPhone and a stupht lowiml like Rudolph, a toy trtle and a iPhone cas and a Fins and a Baby Deer and a elf.  
Sincerely,  
Gracey Carle

Dear Santa,  
I like yer reindeer. How do you get on the roof? Plez can I hav a Filipa Zoo and a fake Kumputr.  
Sincerely,  
Josie Gaertner

Dear Santa,  
How are you Santa? I wut a phone! I like your reindeer. Mare Kpismis! I sut sum lite up shoes! And a nrf gun!  
Sincerely,  
Derrick Coffey

Dear Santa,  
How do you not get stuck in the chimney? I like the nort Polue. Can I plesse have a Nurf gun and a figit spinr and a toy spider.  
Love,  
Logan Hoskin

Dear Santa,  
How do your reindeer fly? I like your suit. Will you plesse give me a Nerf gun and more figit spinrs. Plesse and thank you.  
Love,  
Preston Lifer

Dear Santa,  
How do you not get stuck in the chimney? I like your Elfes make toys. Ples can I have a jeep and a barbre

set.  
Sincerely,  
Maggie Britt  
  
Dear Santa,  
Wut is your favorite kulr? I like your belt. I wot a toy truck.  
Sincerely,  
Sawyer Ebers

Dear Santa,  
Can your randeer fly? I like your randeer. Can I hav a new video game? Mj little bruthr wunts that too. Thank you!  
Sincerely,  
Henry Cortes

Dear Santa,  
How do you not get stuck in the chimney? I like your soot. Can I hav a transfrm? I like toys.

Sincerely,  
Danny

Dear Santa,  
How are your rader! I like your hatt! I wut a dog.  
Love,  
Julie Jackson

Dear Santa,  
How do your reindeer fly! I like your reindeer. Can I please have a nerf gun. can I hav a guitar.  
Love,  
Evelyn McKinney

*E'ville kindergarten  
Mrs. Montroy's class*

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer! Why can't I come out at night and see you and give you a big hug? How are the elves doing? I want a boat a little bit big so I can go fishing off it. I want an electric motorboat, and I want a key and a steering wheel so I can steer the boat. I want a box so if I catch a fish I can put it in there, and I want a throttle so I can go fast and slow. I want a trailer for the boat. I want a toy John Deere tractor.  
Love,  
Wyatt

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas Santa Claus. I want a brand new book about my little ponies and an American Girl Doll.  
Love,  
Aly

Dear Santa,  
I would like some separate Minnie and Mickey color books and a basketball and some marbles.  
Love,  
Avery

Dear Santa,  
I would like Shopkins, Pick-me Pops, that's all. I will leave you cookies.  
Love,  
Ella

Dear Santa,  
I would like a crib and sleds and a scooter and skates. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Ellie

Dear Santa,  
I want a little game that's Minecraft and a puppy that poops. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Gavin

Dear Santa,  
I want a basketball and a computer and a star and a movie and a tv. How does your sleigh fly? I love you.  
Love,  
Gus

Dear Santa,  
I want a Fingerling and LOL Surprise Pet. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Lucy

Dear Santa,  
I want phone that has Minecraft and Mario on it and a gun game. I want a kid tv. How does your sleigh fly?  
Love,  
Jack

Dear Santa,  
I want Luigi's Dark Mansion Wll and a Minecraft Wll game. Maybe an Adventure Wll game and a tv. I'm gonna give you a hamburger, no a cookie (joke) and a Mario Wll game too.  
Love,  
Jaiden

Dear Santa,  
I want a Golden Pegasus Rail. Then a super rail Pegasus, Minecraft 4D Xbox. I will leave cookies and a glass of milk and more and I will bake some if I ask my mom.  
Love,  
Jaxon

Dear Santa,  
I want a rainbow box, a new wand and marbles. I will leave you some cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Kale

Dear Santa,  
Can I please have a reborn baby and some Shopkins? Can I please have some reborn baby toys and changing stuff and diapers? What's your reindees' name and how do they fly?  
Love,  
Kynlea

Dear Santa,  
I want Fingerlings, ice skates, a metal detector to find gold and a snow sled. How do your reindeer fly? how does your sled fly? How can the reindeer carry your sled?  
Love,  
Willow

Dear Santa,  
My name is Luke. For Christmas, I want a IPAD and a Light Saber and Xbox. I'm leaving cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Luke

Dear Santa,  
I want marbles and a fake snowman and a little toy pig and a pretend Barbie box. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Peyton

*Evansville 2nd grade*

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Clas? this is what I want. I want a WVE ring. I want some playdce. I want a nref gun. I wish for my grandma back.  
With Love,  
Brayden Reynolds

Dear Santa,  
I want a buckel! I want 10,000 pecans. I want a doll. I want some sand science.

I want a diare. I want 10 pens and a dress. How old are you??? 72?  
With Love,  
Sarah Elizabeth Kjsro

Dear Santa,  
Does Rudolph's nose really glow? If it does then shin Rudolph shin! I want for Christmas is a heatwave two headed dragon. I wish I could tell you more, but that is all.  
With Love,  
Logan Smith

Dear Santa,  
I want to know can I have a picture of Rudolph? I want new school shoes. I want a Xbox and one and one x. I want a hover board. I want a new phone for my dad.  
With Love,  
Cody Cissell

Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is my front tooth. I want Rudolph the red nose reindeer. All I want for Christmas is a little snow machine. I want for Christmas is a bike. I want for Christmas is a stuffed animal that is Rudolph.  
With Love,  
Bella Hood

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer doing? I have bin good this yers. I have bin helping mi mom and dad. I have bin helping her fed the dogs. I want a kombi for my dad and a necklace for my mom.  
Leland Schlueter

Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is a dirt bike and some tools. How are your reindeer? Are the other kids being good? I want a trampoline.  
With Love,  
Tammy Hoffman

Dear Santa,  
I only have then things on my list. I don't have to have all of them. How are your reindeer? I hope their fine. On the back of this note I will make a note for you. Merry Christmas.  
With Love,  
Alexia Zveigart  
(From back) Merry Christmas I love you.

Dear Santa,  
How is rodolph doing? How is dancer doing? How is Prancer doing? How is Blitsin doing? How is Prantser doing? I want a slay!!!  
Love,  
Weston Brockmeyer

*Lincoln first grade  
Mrs. McMasters' class*

Dear Santa,  
I rele wut a fon. I rele wut a Brbe. I rele wut cose. I rele wut BaBa.  
Love,  
Kathlyne Hatley

Dear Santa,  
I ant a Bare Beey Jojo. I also want dresup stuff and Hiye heels. I rilee want a poe glowstik. But I rilee want lip stik.  
Love,  
Arianna Presttto

Dear Santa,  
I wut a boox. I wut diamonds. I wut diamond slime. I wut fak horse. I wut a fak

zoo. I wut Harley dol. I wut a bike. I like u.  
Love,  
Rylee

Dear Santa,  
I wunt a bik and a Baseeb pup.  
Love,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
I wut a pogosik and I wut a fone and I wut a bike and a ipade. how is rudph.  
Love,  
CJ

Dear Santa,  
I what a BrBee. and I what a dress and what a caters and I what a Bose. Fak you Santa. HJ rodof.  
Love,  
Makayla Hurley

Dear Santa,  
I want a softball bat, a lip stick, a lagoe set, a Omd doll. What I rilee ant is a Aya doll. Be cerfil cuming Santa.  
Love,  
Nora

Dear Santa,  
I wud like a yoyo. I wut tke slim, I wud lle a Kndl. I wud loove a Basal hup. I hop u hv a good trip.  
Love,  
Patrick

Dear Santa,  
I wunt sum lip glos and I sum i shid shads and Santa mabey the tew ti Ntans. I wunt jewelry and I wunt sum i shads. hafe a nis trip.  
Love,  
Jakob

Dear Santa,  
the things I wunt are a bandee blast and a pupee sup and the things i rilee wunt are peakcro plush and a foxee hound. How are the randeere dooeeng.  
Love,  
Kleshlea

Dear Santa,  
Can I hav a gutr. Can I hav fone. can I hav a wokee fak toy. Can I hav a Security camr. How's Rodof.  
Love,  
Axton

Dear Santa,  
I want a tablit. And a pekuchoo and a kindl. But I wood rilee like a exbox350. I hop Santa dusint git stuc.  
Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa,  
I wood like some fansee nansee books, and I would like some snoo Christmas pj but the things I would like the most is some pladce sest and spending time with favilee.  
Molly Soderlund

Dear Santa,  
I want a xbox. I foe e, foe+ball, Jordan 12.  
Love,  
Jaasiah

Dear Santa,  
I want a babe alive. I want a babe bed. I wan a babe. I want a babe stroller. I want Disne prinses. How is it going in the North Pole.  
Love,  
Isabell Jalivay

Dear Santa,  
I wud like a pc coast guard ship, arc helcptor. Mree crismas to you.  
Lov,  
Thomas

May your days be

*merry*  
AND *bright*

# coming events

**Christmas Day**  
OPEN AT NOON

Join Us For A Great Time, Without The Disappointing Presents.  
-FREE APPETIZERS & SNACKS

**OPEN** **TIME-OUT**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE** **BAR & GRILL**  
**REGULAR HOURS**

115 N. 3RD STREET • COULTEVILLE • 758-2848

**Visit Santa**  
In Front Of  
Steeleville Village Hall

**Thursday, Dec. 21**  
6-7pm

**Saturday, Dec. 23**  
10am-Noon



Friday, Dec. 22  
Music By  
**Chris Chamness**

Saturday, Dec. 23  
Karaoke By Sam

**Christmas Day**  
Open At 5PM

**STROKERZ**  
Saloon  
114 Russell St. • Willisville • 497-8109

**New Year's Day**  
hangover party

Open To The Public **1:00PM-11:00PM**

**\$2.00 Blood Marys**  
**DJ DICK FITZWELL 3-7PM**  
**SHOT SPECIALS**

**SPARTA EAGLES**  
112 East Main • Sparta • 443-4011

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**  
Celebrate Here!

**SUNDAY**  
December 31 • 8PM-Midnight

Music By: **Left Overboard**  
Party Favors • Champagne At Midnight  
Public Welcome • No Cover Charge

**CHRISTMAS EVE** | Closing at 10pm  
**CHRISTMAS DAY** | Open at 5pm

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM EVERYONE AT...**  
**STEELEVILLE EAGLES**  
201 West Broadway • 965-9076

**Queen Of Hearts**  
FRIDAY, DEC. 22 Drawing at 8:30pm  
**ESTIMATED JACKPOT \$3,900**

**CHRISTMAS SCAVENGER HUNT**  
Sat. December 23  
LEAVE AT 7PM  
MUSIC BY: BOOZE BROTHERS

Saturday, December 30  
MUSIC BY: GARY GRISOM  
**New Year's Eve**  
PARTY WITH TERRI MEYER  
8PM - 1AM

Evansville American Legion  
1001 Booster Street • (618) 853-2302

Perry Co. Sportsman Club

**Pinochle TOURNAMENT**

**Monday, January 1, 2018**  
Doors Open At 10am • Tournament At Noon  
Perry Co. Sportsman Club Clubhouse  
6155 White Walnut Rd., Pinckneyville  
- Everyone Welcome -

**HAM & BEANS AND CORNBREAD**  
**BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES**  
**ANY QUESTIONS CALL**  
Al (618) 246-8045 or Mary Ann (618) 559-8883

**Dinner & Dance**  
January 1, 2018  
**All-You-Can-Eat DINNER**  
4pm-6pm  
\$15  
Chicken & Dumplings, Fried Chicken, Ribs, Sausage Links, Ham & Beans, Cole Slaw, Dressing, Cranberry Sauce

**DANCE 6pm-10pm**  
**MITCH & FRIENDS**

Music By  
**Kaskaskia VFW Post 3553**  
939 State St. ~ Chester ~ 826-3411

**AUCTION**  
Thur., December 28th at 5PM  
**MULTIPLE ESTATE & CONSIGNMENT & PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION**  
Over 100 Units selling at 7PM

Call to Consign your truck, car, ATV, RV, motorcycle, or boat in advance.  
Dealers welcome! Online bidding!

Multiple Rings starting at 5pm selling ANTIQUES; COINS; SILVER; JEWELRY; CASUAL & FINE FURNITURE; COLLECTIBLES; APPLIANCES; GLASSWARE; KITCHEN & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS; PICTURES & FRAMES; LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT & SO MUCH MORE!! Consign items on Wed., Dec 27, 12:00-5:00PM. Check us out on facebook.com or auctionzip.com

Auction Held At the NEW  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY EVENT CENTER  
1550 E State Route 15, Belleville, IL

www.adamsauctions.com  
**ADAM'S AUCTION**  
618-234-8751



**THERE WILL BE NO BINGO DUE TO THE HOLIDAY!**  
Bingo Will Resume January 9

**RAFFLE \$2,000**  
IL Bingo Lic. B02445

~ Every Wednesday ~  
**Queen Of Hearts Progressive Jackpot \$58,900**

DRAWING 7:30PM  
LAST TICKET SOLD AT 7:15PM  
Win Over \$100 In Cash Prizes • Gun Raffle Chances • Queen Of Hearts Chances

Over 10 Ways To Win! Estimated Jackpot For Dec. 27  
Additional Drawings 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Kitchen Open 5pm-8pm Burgers, Grilled Chicken Sandwiches & Wings

Lunch Special Wed., Dec. 27 • 11am - 1pm • Fried Chicken

**FISH FRY**  
FRIDAY, DEC. 22 • 4PM-7PM

**IMO'S PIZZA**  
Available Every Day  
Dine In Or Carry-Out

**New Year's Eve Party**  
Music: CODY & PAULA  
By: DYNAMIC DUO  
Free Party Favors & Champagne Toast  
OPEN 'TIL 2AM • NO COVER CHARGE

Please Support Your Local Veterans Club

**Kaskaskia VFW Post 3553**  
939 State St • Chester • 618-826-3411


**Christmas Eve.. NOON-8PM**  
**Christmas Day.. 1-9PM**

Visit With  
**SANTA**



**Saturday, December 23**  
1-3pm  
Willisville Firehouse

**FIND EVERYTHING FROM CAREERS TO CARS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**



County Journal  
497-8272

**Queen Of Hearts**  
Last Tickets Sold At 7pm

**Progressive Jackpot \$509,450**

Drawing Thursday, Dec. 21 • 8pm

**Live Video Poker & Slots** 50/50 Drawings  
27 Cards Left!

must have wristband to enter large hall. Large hall limited to 400 occupants. must be 21 or older to enter Legion.


**NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER & DANCE PARTY**  
**SCATTERGUN JACK**

**DINNER & DANCE** SOCIAL HOUR: 5-6PM  
\$40 COUPLE • \$25 SINGLE DINNER: 6:15PM

**DANCE** Advanced Tickets  
\$25 COUPLE • \$15 SINGLE Available At Legion  
Party Favors & Champagne At Midnight

**American Legion**  
B.B.K. Post 480  
303 S. Chester • Steeleville • 965-3362

**Don't Miss Out On The Fun!**



Check Out All The Weekend's Events In Our Coming Events Section!

**COUNTY JOURNAL**