



\$1.00

# Heyworth



March 512 2026 • Vol. 17 • No. 11 • 105 S Buchanan St • Heyworth, IL • (309) 454-5476

SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$50 in county • \$59 out of county • \$69 out of state

## Heyworth board approves development agreement for Prairie Fire Grill

By Peg Reynolds  
Heyworth Buzz

The Heyworth Village Board approved a Business District Development (BDD) agreement for Prairie Fire Grill during its regular meeting March 5.

The project and redevelopment agreement will reimburse 75 percent of eligible project costs, up to a maximum of \$50,000.

The board also approved a resolution to purchase an investigative software tool from Whooster Data Solutions for the Heyworth Police Department. Chief Eric Jones said the software will assist officers with investigations and case management, including locating people and witnesses, address searches and verification, fraud and identity management, anti-money laundering and asset recovery. The cost will not exceed \$300 for the first year.

Trustees also approved a resolution related to electrical energy aggregation for village facilities. The Stone River Group will serve as the village's energy aggregation consultant as the village prepares to replace its current agreement with Homefield Energy, which expires in April 2026. Stone River obtained proposals for the village, with Direct Energy appearing to be the lowest bidder for a two-year contract.

The board approved a special event permit and noise permit for American Legion Post 624 and Heyworth Connect to partially close Main Street during the America250 Fourth of July celebration.

A resolution supporting construction of a new Randolph

Township Fire Protection District station in Heyworth was removed from the agenda on the advice of Village Administrator and Attorney Geoff Dodds, who cited the village's Code of Ethics regarding actions tied to referendum questions.

In other reports, Mayor Eric Moore said he attended the Rural Community and Economic Development Conference in Springfield and plans to speak with Heyworth third-grade students about local and state government.

Village Clerk Stacy Shoemaker, reported February water bills were delivered late, so no late penalties will be assessed. Those bills are now due March 23.

Two AARP grant applications were submitted March 4 - a \$15,000 flagship grant and a \$20,000 demonstration grant - with award notifications expected in May.

For the \$1.6 million EPA Sewer Infiltration Reduction Project grant, the village has gained access to the reporting system and expects to draw funds for the sewer truck later this month.

Chief Jones reported February police activity including one accident, one retail theft, one shots-fired report and several public complaints and assists to other agencies.

Traffic enforcement included one accident and one citation for speeding. Officers also issued seven verbal warnings.

Dodds said construction work in the Arrowhead subdivision is nearing completion, with final pipe installation and driveway reconstruction wrapping up and yard restoration planned for this spring.

## Where are property taxes headed in 2026?

*What Heyworth voters should know ahead of the March 17 referendum*

By Carl Hinshaw & Billy McMacken  
Heyworth Buzz

With a March 17 referendum asking voters to approve funding for a new emergency services building in Heyworth, many residents are taking a closer look at where property taxes currently stand - and where they may be headed in the next tax cycle.

### Impact of the March 17 referendum

If approved, officials estimate the proposed EMS referendum would increase property taxes on a \$200,000 home by approximately \$192 annually. Higher-valued homes could see increases in the \$300 to \$500 range based on current projections.

The increase would be ongoing rather than a one-time assessment.

However, if voters approve the referendum, the tax would not appear on property tax bills issued this summer. Because of the way Illinois property taxes are structured, taxes paid in 2026 reflect levies set in 2025. As a result, the EMS tax would first appear on tax bills payable in 2027.

### Assessment increases continue

Property owners have also experienced rising township equalization factors - often referred to as multipliers - in recent years. These adjustments are applied to property assessments to help ensure they reflect current market values.

Two years ago the Randolph Township equalization factor was about 1.095. Last year it increased to approximately

### Estimated Property Tax Impact if EMS Referendum Passes

(Estimates based on current projections)

Estimated Home Value	Estimated Annual Increase
\$150,000 home	about \$145 per year
\$200,000 home	about \$192 per year
\$300,000 home	about \$288 per year
\$400,000 home	about \$384 per year
\$500,000 home	about \$480 per year
\$500,000 home	about \$480 per year

\* Actual tax amounts may vary based on final assessments and levy decisions.

Normalite Newspaper Group

1.108. According to Randolph Township Assessor Glenn Milton, an increase of around 8 percent or more could be expected next year if property values continue to rise. These adjustments reflect the strength of the local real estate market and are applied on top of previous assessment increases.

### Other taxes appearing on bills

Additional changes may also appear on property tax bills this summer.

A February 13 report by Charlie Schlenker of WGLT noted that a new taxing body - the Central Illinois Regional Airport Authority - will begin appearing on property tax bills for residents in Randolph Township and across rural McLean County.

According to CIRA Director Carl Olson, the tax is expected to cost about \$55 annually on a home valued around \$165,000, or about \$165 on a home valued near \$495,000.

### State-level changes

There has also been movement at the state level.

Illinois lawmakers recently approved an increase in the income limitation for the senior

citizen property tax assessment freeze. The threshold will rise from \$65,000 to \$75,000 for income earned in 2025, with gradual increases scheduled to reach \$79,000 over the next two years.

The change could allow additional senior homeowners to qualify for the program.

### Why Heyworth's tax base is smaller

A question some residents have asked is why Heyworth's tax base is smaller than many towns of similar size.

Most Central Illinois communities with populations around 3,000 include a larger mix of commercial, industrial and retail properties in their tax base. In Heyworth, the tax base is made up primarily of residential property.

That difference becomes important when a taxing body needs to fund major public projects such as a fire station or municipal building. Communities with more businesses often spread the cost across a wider tax base, reducing the burden placed

See Taxes on Page 8

## Heyworth man dies in workplace incident at Rivian warehouse in Normal

A Heyworth man died Thursday after an incident at a Rivian warehouse in north Normal in which he was pinned between a semitrailer and a loading dock, authorities said.

The Normal Fire Department said it responded at 1:40 p.m. Thursday to the Rivian warehouse at 301 W. Kerrick Road. A fire department spokesperson said the man had been trapped for approximately 20 minutes when they arrived.

Police arrived on the scene at approximately 1:44 p.m., after

receiving a report of a vehicle crash involving a pedestrian.

Firefighters freed the man, later identified as Kevin Lancaster, 61, of Heyworth, who was transported to Carle BroMenn Medical Center in critical condition. Authorities had requested a LifeFlight helicopter but the patient was taken by ambulance before the helicopter arrived. Crews cleared the scene by 3 p.m.

According to a joint press release from the Normal Police Department and McLean County

coroner, Lancaster died around 2:30 p.m. at the hospital.

A Rivian spokesperson said Lancaster was a contractor for the electric automaker.

"Safety at our facilities is our top priority," Rivian said in a statement. "Unfortunately this afternoon, a contractor passed away after an incident at our warehouse. Our sympathy and thoughts are with the contractor's family and friends. We are working with the Normal Police Department on its investigation."

## HES honor rolls

### High honor Fifth grade

**Mrs. Daughy** - Peyton Armstrong, Jackson Barnes, Noah Curry, Ella Dolbeare, Ava Goveia, Emy Loudenburg, Wyatt Milton

**Mrs. Riordan** - Luke Albert, Maeve Braden, Peyton Janvrin, Dacey Luebbering, Wyatt Moore, Otto Roeder, Lucas Sadilek, Blake Tjaden, Zoe Woolcott

**Mrs. Vaughn** - Delilah Anderson, Brodhi Bardon, Mack Foster, Jackson Lambert, Dex Riddle, Jack Wilkinson

### Sixth grade

**Mrs. Carlton** - Hannah Ashbeck, Elyanna Assani, Avery Ax, Madelyn Girdler, Hadley Haynes, Lucas Hull, Quinn Laesch, Ty Mosier, Luke Murphy,

Jack Pray, Peyton Skelton, Conner Slayback, Cora Snodgrass, Lucah Sprague

**Mrs. Graf** - Mackenzie Anderson, Lillian Bevers, Lucas Cline, Lindsey Hohulin, Reagan Holt, Jackson Jones, Gavin Karis, Brayden Karr, Olivia Martin, Julena Sarver, Dakota Skelton, Addyson Steve, Caroline Witte

**Mrs. Morse** - Layla Crow, Holden Johnson, Sadie O'Shea, Faith Peterson, Addelyn Slayback

### Honor Fifth grade

**Mrs. Daughy** - Luke Brammer, Heaven Daniels, Maddex Elliott, Drew Godfrey, Tessa Hohulin, Chase McCubbins, Cale Olson, Nolan Refugio

See Honor Rolls on Page 8

# Hodel, Quinton recognized as District 2 Proficiency winners



Matthew Hodel and Emma Quinton, Heyworth FFA members, were both selected as District FFA Proficiency winners in Service Learning and Equine Science Entrepreneurship, respectively.

Illinois FFA recognizes students in 48 different areas based on their work-based learning, also known as Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE). FFA members who demonstrate outstanding agricultural skills and competencies through record keeping, leadership, and scholastic achievement may be considered for this award. SAEs allow students to learn by doing, by either owning and operating an agricultural business, working or serving an internship at an agriculture-based business,

or conducting an agriculture-based scientific experiment and reporting results.

Both FFA members were selected as the District 2 winner by a committee of agriculture industry representatives and teachers knowledgeable in this work-based area.

Jolee Maharas also competed at the district competition as a Section 9 winner and qualifier. She qualified to compete in the area of Vegetable Production. She did a great job with her records and the chapter is proud of her accomplishments in making it to the district competition.

Matthew and Emma are now eligible to compete in the State FFA awards selection process in Mt. Zion on Saturday, March 21.

# Sharin' of the Green parade set for Saturday in Uptown Normal

The annual Sharin' of the Green Parade will bring a festive touch of Irish spirit to Uptown Normal on Saturday as the community gathers to celebrate and support local families.

The rain-or-shine event will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. and encourages participants and spectators to wear their best green attire while helping "share the green" by donating

to Brightpoint's Central Region Home Visiting program.

The parade route begins at the corner of Fell Street and North Street and travels east along North Street through Uptown Circle before ending at Linden Street.

Brightpoint has served families in McLean County and surrounding communities for more than 130 years. The

organization provides a wide range of services and programs and assists more than 3,000 children and families in the region each year.

Organizers say the event offers an opportunity for the community to come together, celebrate Irish heritage, and support a program that helps strengthen local families.

## Honor Rolls

Continued from Page 1

- Mrs. Riordan** - Ari Denny, Aubrey Francois, Rhett Kemp, Zariah Thomas, Weldon Van Fossan, Dylan Walker
- Mrs. Vaughn** - Clay Berry, Carmella Flores, Kennedy Holt, Robert Lewis, Mackenzie Oakes, Wade Raycraft, Grace Stiehl, Sam Stork
- Sixth grade**
- Mrs. Carlton** - Claire Hanrahan, Graham Havens, Jase Hawkins, Emery Ogborn, Teegan Steve
- Mrs. Graf** - Alesi Edwards, Samuel Kachelmuss, Mila Refugio, Landon Samples, Jakob Sherwood, Morgan Walker
- Mrs. Morse** - Jaxon Butler, Jordan Cotton, Ava Fever, Jerome Freeman, Tyler German, Eliana Godfrey, Kason Herald, Cole Kaufmann, Truett McMillan, Sebastian Reichert, Kellen Whitehead, Mya Wolf

## FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Announcing the Heyworth Elementary Student of the Month winners for displaying great courage. Courage was the February personality trait of the month. Congratulations to Lila, sixth grade; Luke, fifth grade; Deckard, fourth grade and Cooper, third grade.

## Taxes

Continued from Page 1

on homeowners.

Future commercial growth in Heyworth could help broaden the tax base and reduce that reliance on residential property taxes.

**Aging facilities**

Supporters of the referendum cite the age and limitations of current facilities as one reason for pursuing a new EMS building.

The current Heyworth fire station was built in 1956 and has served multiple community

functions over the decades. Other municipal facilities are also aging, including the village hall, which dates back more than 90 years.

A donated site has already been identified for the proposed EMS facility.

As voters prepare to head to the polls on or before March 17, officials encourage residents to review available information and consider how the proposal fits into the broader property tax picture.

## MOM'S PAMPERED AT GOD'S GARDEN PRESCHOOL



What a fabulous morning pampering our Mom's at God's Garden Preschool. We crafted, painted, played games and even did our make up and nails. What a wonderful morning of fellowship.

## Correction

A birthday announcement published recently for Earl Kaufman included an incorrect mailing address. The correct address for Earl Kaufman is: Earl Kaufman, 19324 Old Principal Road, Heyworth, IL 61745-7618

The Buzz apologizes for the error.

Deadline for news and advertising noon on Tuesday

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moraineviewrotary@gmail.com

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## SURPRISE VISIT



Mrs. Janvrin's fourth grade class had a special guest stop by: Noah Maloney. The students had written letters to Noah for Veterans Day, and he wanted to visit the classroom to personally thank them. Coincidentally, Zarah, Noah's sister, is a member of Janvrin's class. During his visit, students asked questions about Noah's army experiences and time in Kuwait. This surprise visit will no doubt be a cherished and memorable moment for everyone. Thank you for your service, Mr. Maloney.

## 2026 GIRLS BASKETBALL ALL-CONFERENCE

1ST TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE	
Dalia DeJesus – Dee-Mack	Mya Edwards – Eureka
Lily Sizmore – GCMS	Addy Freihaut – Tri-Valley
Macy Gochanour – Fieldcrest	Mya Edwards – El Paso-Gridley
Myli Ehrhardt – El Paso-	Karissa Cook – Heyworth
★ Unanimous selections: <i>DeJesus, Edwards</i>	

2ND TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE	
Jaelyn Nunley – Dee-Mack	Ivy Edwards – Eureka
Alia Riddle – Heyworth	Kenydl Spratt – LeRoy
Kaylee Magenheimer – Tri-Valley	Pru Mangan – Tremont
Lily Elston – Tremont	Lily Elston – Tremont

Honorable Mention All-Conference	ALL-DEFENSIVE TEAM
Anna Schmidgall – Dee-Mack	Dalia DeJesus – Dee-Mack
Sloan Gentes – El Paso-Gridley	Grace Hartwig – Heyworth
Edie Stauter – El Paso-Gridley	Avery Jost – Tremont
Skylar Knapp – Eureka	Elle Fesler – Tri-Valley
TerLynn Timmerman – Fieldcrest	Lily Wettstein – El Paso-Gridley
Vanessa Sides – Fisher	TerLynn Timmerman – Fieldcrest
Kora Edens – Flanagan-Cornell-Woodland	Lily Sizmore – GCMS

HONORABLE MENTION ALL-DEFENSIVE
Skylar Knapp – Eureka
Ava Price – Flanagan-Cornell-Woodland
Sadee Owens – LeRoy
Courtney Newsome – Ridgeview

# Cook, Riddle, Hartwig earn postseason honors for Heyworth

By CARL HINSHAW  
c.v.hinshaw@gmail.com

Heyworth girls basketball continues to build momentum - and the Hornets' success this winter Three Heyworth underclassmen who helped lead the Hornets to one of the program's strongest seasons in recent memory received postseason recognition.

Sophomore Karissa Cook, freshman Alia Riddle and sophomore Grace Hartwig were all honored following a 27-8 season that saw Heyworth advance to the IHSA Class 2A Sweet 16.

Cook was named Third Team All-State and First Team Heart of Illinois Conference after a standout offensive season. She averaged 19.0 points per game and finished with 665 total points while knocking down 70 three-pointers. Cook also contributed on the boards with 254 rebounds (7.3 per game) and earned First Team honors at the Heyworth Holiday Tournament.

Riddle made an immediate impact in her first varsity season. The freshman averaged 15.5 points per game, scoring 543 total points while connecting on 41 three-pointers. She was named Second Team All-HOIC and also earned First Team honors at the

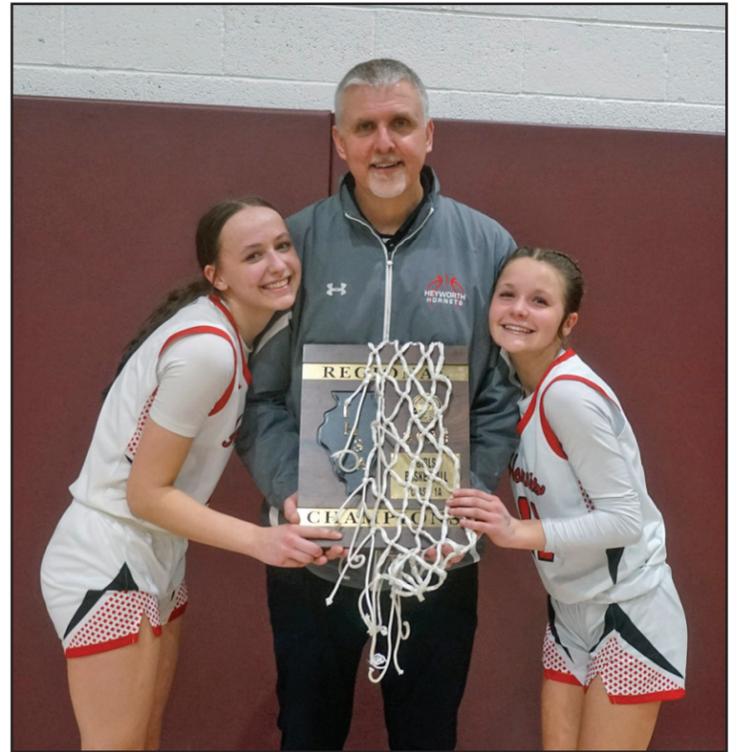


Photo by Carl Hinshaw

Karissa Cook (left) and Alia Riddle (right) flank Heyworth head coach Tom Eller. Cook, a sophomore, earned third Team All-State and First Team HOIC honors, while freshman Riddle was named Second Team HOIC. The duo helped lead the Hornets to a 27-8 record and a Class 2A Sweet 16 appearance.

Heyworth Holiday Tournament.

Hartwig earned HOIC All-Defense honors, recognizing her strong defensive play and contributions to the Hornets' success throughout the season.

success throughout the season.

Together, the trio helped power Heyworth's deep postseason run and will return next winter as key pieces of the Hornets' lineup.

# HHS to host middle school basketball championships

The 9th annual middle school championship series will begin Friday March 20 at various sites in the area. This is the second year that Heyworth has hosted the statewide event. No local or area teams will compete.

This is not to be confused with IHSA post season tournaments

that are winding up soon. Hosting the event serves as a fundraiser for Hornet basketball as we receive a fee of about \$6,500 for the weekend. This helps with varsity boys and girls basketball expenses for next year.

The finals will be held at IWU's Shirk Center.

## VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Thursday, March 12**  
4:30 p.m.-Softball at home vs. Cerro Gordo

**Friday, March 13**  
4 p.m.-Track at IWU vs. EPG

**Saturday, March 14**  
Noon-Track at U of I vs. Rantoul

**Monday, March 16**  
4:30 p.m.-Softball at home vs. Pleasant Plains

**Tuesday, March 17**  
4:30 p.m.-Baseball and softball at

home vs. Delavan

**Wednesday, March 18**  
4:30 p.m.-Baseball at Clinton

**Thursday, March 19**  
4:30 p.m.-Baseball and softball at Central A&M

**Friday, March 20**  
4:30 p.m.-Baseball at home vs. Henry-Senachwine  
4:30 p.m.-Softball at home vs. Maroa-Forsyth

## SEUSS WEEK AT HES



It's Seuss week! The kindergarten team is celebrating, "The Cat in the Hat" today!! - Mrs. Thompson, Ms. Wilmert, Mrs. Godfrey, and Mrs. Gerike.

# Hurricanes Black earn runner-up finish at Ridgeview Tournament



Team members are: front-Raegan Holt, Mackenzie Anderson, Olivia Martin, Layla Crow, Teegan Steve, Avery Ax; back-Victoria Crow (assistant coach), Morgan Walker, Faith Peterson, Lindsey Hohulin, Quinn Laesch, Hadley Haynes, Head Coach Jessie Steve

By Jessie Steve  
For the Buzz

The sixth grade Hurricanes Black delivered an outstanding performance at the Ridgeview Tournament, February 7, finishing in an impressive second place after a long and competitive day on the court.

The Hurricanes opened pool play with a strong showing, earning a decisive three-set victory over Kingsley. They later faced a tough matchup against Lexington, falling in two hard-fought sets that tested their resilience early in the tournament.

That determination carried into tournament play, where the Hurricanes truly found their stride. They powered past Calvary and followed up with another strong win against St. Mary's. In a thrilling rematch, the Hurricanes faced Lexington once

again and came out victorious in three sets, proving just how much they had grown throughout the day.

The championship match saw the Hurricanes take on the Prairie Central Hawks. After playing three straight games without a break, the Hurricanes gave everything they had, battling with heart and determination until the final point. Though they

ultimately came up short in the championship, their effort and grit were undeniable.

"These girls were absolutely incredible - never giving up, supporting one another, and representing their team with pride from start to finish."

Congratulations to the players and coaches on an incredible tournament run and a well-earned second-place finish.

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## LOOKING BACK

### 35 Years Ago March 12, 1981

- The Heyworth Frosh-Soph team captured the title at the 29th annual Hartsburg-Emden Invitational. The final game was one of the most exciting in recent years. The Hornets entered the final quarter down 15 points. A wicked press and outstanding rebounding by reserve Steve Jackson led the Hornets back. Brian Necessary, Corey Toepke, and Mike Shirk came up with big baskets. The regulation time ended in a tie. [In overtime] Mike Davis took the last shot which missed only to be tipped in by Necessary at the gun. It was a storybook ending.

- Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Toon, R.R. 1 Heyworth, are announcing the engagement of their daughter, Wanda, to Jon Outlaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Outlaw, R.R. 1, Heyworth.

- Heyworth Christian invites you to a "Celebration of Mortgage Burning" this Sunday, March 15th at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Hour.

### 40 Years Ago March 6, 1986

- Eight men from the Randolph Twp. Fire Dept. completed a 40 hour course given by the University of Illinois Fire Institute. These men received a certificate and are state certified instructors. Congratulations to these men: Chief Dennis Powell, Assistant Chief Allen Arrowsmith, Chief Apparatus Officer Bob Trotter, Captain Gary Shankel, Captain Mike Limer, Lt. Dave Sessions, Lt. Mark Ploense, Secretary Randy Richards.

- Mrs. Roy Schumaker entertained the E.O.T. Club at Dottie's Cafe Tuesday afternoon.

- The Golden Agers met Feb. 26th in the Legion Hall with 35 attending. The tables were appropriately decorated for St. Patrick's Day by hostesses Mrs. Ethel Seitz, and Mr. and Mrs. Linden Cusey. Genevieve

Honn played the piano as we sang "Happy Birthday" to Viola Pendleton, Ilene Buck, Glenn Story, and Carl Berkley. President Reagan and Carl Berkley were 75 years old on the 6th of Feb.

### 50 Years Ago March 11, 1976

- An eight acre tract of land north of the Village and east of Rt. 51, near the Pillsbury Elevator, was annexed and rezoned last Thursday at the Village Board meeting. A building of about 10,000 sq. ft. will be constructed on the site plus some storage bins.

- Cub Scout Pack 31 welcomed four new boys March 8th: William Embry, Troy Semple, James Brown, Jeff Geske.

- The Ben Funk Bicentennial Fine Arts program will be presented March 18th. The program, "America Is - A Bicentennial salute!" includes an all-school pupil cast. The Community Club will present its Bicentennial Project during a special ceremony. The project includes the restoration and framing of pictures of three persons who afforded leadership which resulted in the formation of the Ben Funk Consolidated School which had its beginning in the year of 1912. This restoration project is in memory of Benjamin F. Funk and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Funk.

### 65 Years Ago March 9, 1961

- The Band Boosters will present a Variety Show March 10 in the Heyworth Grade School Gym. One of the acts of the evening will be Carol England, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milam England of Bloomington, who will pantomime at the show. She is a Junior at Bloomington High School and appears on the Hi-Fi Club show every Saturday. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Lee Golden of Heyworth and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie England, formerly of Heyworth.

- The Heyworth Baptist Church will hold revival meetings March 12 through the 26th. The meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. each evening at the church 1 mile south and 1½ mile west of Heyworth. Rev. Dennis Blankenship, Evangelist, of Springfield will lead the meetings. Rev. John Pease is minister of the church.

- Mrs. Paul Peasley, Janice and Kathy and Mrs. Earl Peasley and granddaughters Jackie and Barbara went to see the bear cubs at the home of Dick Streckfuss of Randolph on Monday afternoon. These cubs, which are being bottle-fed, are very unusual pets and the Peasleys enjoyed the visit very much.

- An appreciation dinner was enjoyed Saturday night at the Sinorak in Bloomington by the basketball team, managers, cheerleaders, coaches, faculty, and families. Those on the team were, Dallas Wickenhauser, John Orendorff, Ted Amlong, Jim Kelly, Bill Philipps, Roger Wiseman, Ken Hancock, Stan Petty, Tom Newby, Dave O'Neal, Joe Weidner. The cheerleaders present were, Peg Koch, Carol Davis, Diane Hocker, Mary J. Koons, Donna Irons, Lana Clesson. The managers were J. C. Rees and Steve Hoyt. The coaches [and spouses] were Mr. and Mrs. Kissack, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton. (From the high school's section, "The Dictator")

### 75 Years Ago March 8, 1951

- There have been plenty of signs of spring this week. Robins and meadow larks are back. Youngsters have been roller skating and flying kites.

- The Heyworth Grade School lightweight team emerged victorious in the Little Six basketball tournament at Stanford last week by defeating Stanford 27 to 19. The Grade School heavyweight team placed second in the Little Six tourney in their division.

- The caucus of the Citizens'

party will be held March 14th in the Village Hall to name candidates for the village election in April.

- The Funks Grove Home Bureau met Wednesday at the home of Mrs. W. A. Barker. Assistant hostesses were Mrs. Jas. Goode, Mrs. Franklin Weidinger, Mrs. Leonard Collier, and Mrs. Jas. Camper. The Unit is sponsoring a square dance at the Ben Funk School Friday night. Committee in charge is Mrs. Ruby Tarvin, Mrs. Jo Peifer, Mrs. Forrest Quinn, and Mrs. James Moberly.

- The F.F.A. sponsored an all-school skating party on Monday night. About 43 attended and 22 rode the school bus with Mr. Dagley as driver. It seemed as everyone enjoyed themselves. (From the high school's section, "The Dictator")

### 100 Years Ago March 11, 1926

The chesty Bloomington High school basket ball team were given the surprise of their lives in the district tournament in that city last Friday night when Heyworth team came within one point of tying them, the latter only being nosed out 24 to 25 in a real battle. Previous to the game, the Bloomington papers had treated the game as a sort of joke, saying that the Bloomington subs would likely be used, in order to save the regulars for the real contests to follow. But the subs didn't get a chance, as it took all the ingenuity the regulars had to win. Here is the write-up both the Pantagraph and Bulletin used after the struggle was over: "Bloomington had a close call in its battle last night with Heyworth, the visitors showing unexpected strength and fighting like tigers all the way ... McClure, VanValey and Ball were the Heyworth mainstays ... Heyworth led at the half, 13-11, thanks to a basket by VanValey just as the period ended. The last half was nip and tuck and was not cinched until the pistol was fired. ... The Purple used the old stalling game the final five minutes. The tight battle kept the big crowd in an uproar, the evening games attracting a great throng."

Questions and comments regarding "Looking Back" may be sent to Sunny Portree at [randolphhistory.sp@gmail.com](mailto:randolphhistory.sp@gmail.com)

## EVENTS/NOTICES

### Auxiliary scholarship

Carl E Miller, Post #624 American Legion/Ladies Auxiliary and S.A.L. sponsors a one-year college scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. The scholarship Importance of Women in WWII." The winner will be asked and MUST read their essay at the annual Memorial Day Service in May.

Applications are due March 31. Applications are available by request at [Hayley@assemblenandmailgroup.com](mailto:Hayley@assemblenandmailgroup.com).

### Elementary Literary Festival is March 14

You are invited to the annual Heyworth Elementary Literary Festival on Saturday, March 14 at 9 a.m. Heyworth Elementary speech students will be performing their literary pieces in front of friends, family and community members. This is a free event for our community and everyone is welcome!

### S.A.L. Fish Fry Friday

Heyworth Sons of the American Legion Squadron 624 will be serving a walleye dinner with fries and coleslaw Friday, March 13 serving from 5 -7 p.m. The dinner will be \$10 with carry outs available. Kids meal chicken strips and fries for \$5.

### Rotary Club

Moraine View Rotary Club is celebrating its 4th anniversary as a club, Moraine View Rotary will meet Thursday, March 19, at the Station Saloon in Downs. The meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. Stay for supper afterwards. Bring family and friends. There will be a guest speaker from Chestnut Health Systems.

To learn more about the club, follow on Facebook or email [moraineviewrotary@gmail.com](mailto:moraineviewrotary@gmail.com).

### RTFD scholarship opportunity

Randolph Township Volunteer Fire Depart will be awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to deserving students. The David Sessions Memorial Scholarship was established in 2010 to assist Heyworth High School students with the burden of college expenses. Contact the school

See Calendar on Page 16

Put Your Classified Ad in 8 McLean County weekly papers

\$6 for 20 words, each additional word 10 cents

## Heyworth Area Churches

### Faith Fellowship Center

201 S. Buchanan St., Heyworth  
Parsonage: (309) 473-3763  
Chuck Brannock, Pastor  
[www.faithfellowshipcenter.org](http://www.faithfellowshipcenter.org)

### Full Gospel Church

107 E. Newton St., Heyworth, IL  
(309) 473-9940

Full of love, Full Life, Full of faith  
Pastor Spencer McPheron

(217) 377-4437

Associate Pastor Jeremy Sawyer  
(405) 532-3815

Student Pastor Kell Carr

(217) 259-3312

#### Sunday

10 a.m.-Morning worship and Sunday school classes for all ages

#### Wednesday

7 p.m.-Midweek Bible study  
Check us out on Facebook for weekly activities/events for all ages. Find out more on our website: [fgcupe.churchtrac.com](http://fgcupe.churchtrac.com)

### Heyworth Christian Church

308 N. Vine, Old Route 51 North  
Heyworth, IL 61745  
(309) 473-2771

Rondel Ramsey, pastor  
Candi Evans, Youth Minister  
(309) 825-3727

You can find our Sunday service recorded and church and youth activities on our website

Heyworthcc.com. Like us on

Facebook

#### Kings Kids

7 p.m.-Junior high every Tuesday

7 p.m.-Senior high every Wednesday

#### God's Garden Preschool

For information contact Miss Victoria

at 309-473-2771 or [Victoria@heyworthcc.com](mailto:Victoria@heyworthcc.com)

#### Small Groups

Groups meet Monday-Thursday. Sign up by calling, 309-473-2771.

### Heyworth First Baptist Church

(Southern Baptist Convention)

608 E. Cole St., Heyworth

(309) 473-2451

[heyworthfbc.org](http://heyworthfbc.org)

Pastor Dean Jones

#### Sunday

10:30 a.m.-Worship service, all ages

### New Horizon Christian Church

14038 E. 350 N. Rd

Heyworth, IL 61745

For more information about our church visit our website

[www.newhorizoncc.net](http://www.newhorizoncc.net)

email

[nhcc@newhorizoncc.net](mailto:nhcc@newhorizoncc.net)

Call the church office

(309) 473-2716

Office hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.,

Monday-

Find us on Facebook at New

Horizon Christian Church

### St. Patrick's Catholic Church

320 S. Locust St., Wapella

Business office 217-935-8510

Sacramental emergencies

309-397-3835

Fr. Thomas Szydlak

Todd Weber, Deacon

8:30 a.m.-Sunday Mass

Weekday Mass

Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m.

CCD classes during school year

Visit our website [www.saintpatrickwapella.org](http://www.saintpatrickwapella.org)

### United Church of Heyworth

(United Methodist)

Rev. Carl Johnston, pastor

302 E. Main St., Heyworth

[www.ucheyworth.com](http://www.ucheyworth.com)

Church: (309) 473-2223.

Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible.

Wireless hearing aids are available

in worship.

#### Sunday

10:15 a.m.-Sunday service with

Children's Church

**CATCH IT While You Can!**

**Menu:**  
Choice of Fish or Shrimp,  
2 Sides, Drink & Dessert  
Fish Filet Meal \$10  
6 Butterfly Shrimp Meal \$12  
1 Filet/3 Shrimp Meal \$12

St. John's  
Parish Center  
514 N. Monroe St.,  
Clinton, IL

Every Friday through March 27

**FISH DINNER**

OBITUARIES

Kevin W. Lancaster

Kevin W. Lancaster, age 61, of Heyworth, passed away on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at Carle Bro Men n Medical Center in Normal. His funeral service was held Tuesday, March 10, at Calvert & Metzler Memorial Home in Bloomington, with military rites accorded at the conclusion of the service by the Bloomington-Normal American Legion Honor Guard.

Inurnment will take place at a later date at Randolph Township Memorial Cemetery in Heyworth.

Kevin was born November 25, 1964, in Normal, the son of Roger and Juanita Paris Lancaster. He married Linda Sledge on February 2, 2002, in Normal. She survives.

Also surviving are his father, Roger E. Lancaster of Bloomington; two children, Anthony Ricketts of Herscher and Riley (Brandon) McGhee of Clinton; four grandchildren, Cooper, Braylon, Braxton and Brantley; one brother, Randall Lancaster of Carlock; and twin sisters, Brenda (Dan) Manypenny of Eddyville, KY, and Pamela Sharp of Dublin, TX. He is also survived by 14 nieces and nephews, 26 great-nieces and great-nephews, and one great-great-niece.

Kevin was preceded in death by his grandparents, his mother, Juanita Lancaster, and a great-nephew.

Kevin graduated from Olympia High School in 1983. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan, a Green Bay Packers football fan, an Olympia Spartans football fan and a supporter of Illinois State University women's basketball, where his favorite player was Addison Martin, No. 24.

Kevin served on the American Legion Honor Guard and participated in nine Honor Flights as a guardian for 11 veterans. He also volunteered on several community projects. His greatest passion was serving veterans.

Kevin worked in the warehouse at Orbis in Normal. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Please view the obituary and share condolences and memories online at www.calvertmemorial.com.

The family suggests memorials be made to Land of Lincoln Honor Flight or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Alfred Behrens

HEYWORTH - Sadly we announce the passing of our dear husband, father, and friend, Alfred Richard Behrens, Jr. - Rich to his family and friends. He was born to Alfred R. Behrens, Sr. and Alice Downs Behrens.

He spent his early childhood in Ellsworth His family moved to Heyworth, to his grandfather's farm when he was in middle school. He attended Heyworth High school where he was in sports, band, National Honor Society, yearbook committee, was class president and met his future wife.

He and Karen married after graduation, and as a team they put Rich through classes at ISU and then several years of a tool and die apprenticeship program. Rich worked at General Electric until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, son Jason and daughter-in-law Deb. Also his wife's siblings Laurel (Doug) Cummings, Cary (Christy Perschall) Cotner, John (Tracey) Cotner, all of whom he treated as his own siblings. He loved and adored all their children and grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents and sister-in law-Carla Parr.

He was a diehard science fiction fan, and tried to read every sci-fi book published. He and his family traveled to many states and loved state and national parks and hiking. He was a long-time blood donor, reaching almost ten gallons until his illness. One of his favorite times of the year was Christmas when he got to wear a Santa suit and ride in the village parade. He always made an effort to look at each child along the way and give them a big "Ho ho ho and Merry Christmas". He loved children and donated monthly to St. Jude's and the Shriner's Hospitals for Children. He was a bit of Santa in real life, often delivering treats to employees at our town hall, post office, and nurses at doctor and dentists offices.

Cremation rites were accorded and inurnment will be private. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

cheeseburger, green beans, fruit cocktail

Thursday - Hot ham & cheese on pretzel bun, popcorn chicken, dinner roll, mixed vegetables, applesauce cup

Friday - French bread pizza, turkey & cheese sub, Cheez-Its, fresh veggies, orange wedges

Church News

United Church

Thursday, March 12

10 a.m.-Bible Study

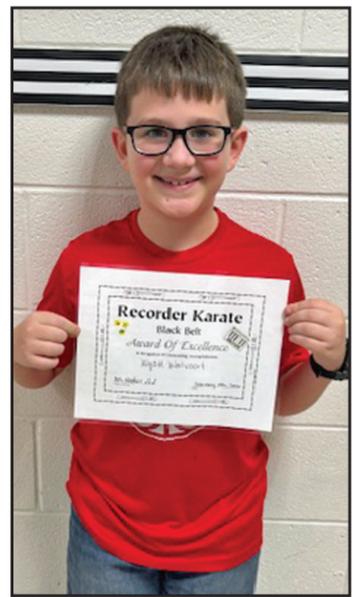
Wednesday, March 18

10 a.m.-Wednesday Bible study

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HEYWORTH ELEMENTARY



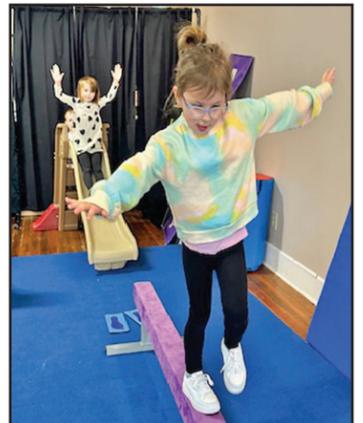
Mrs. Wepfer's Music class welcomed a guest speaker, Mr. Shreve, who taught sixth grade students the fundamentals of guitar playing and music composition.



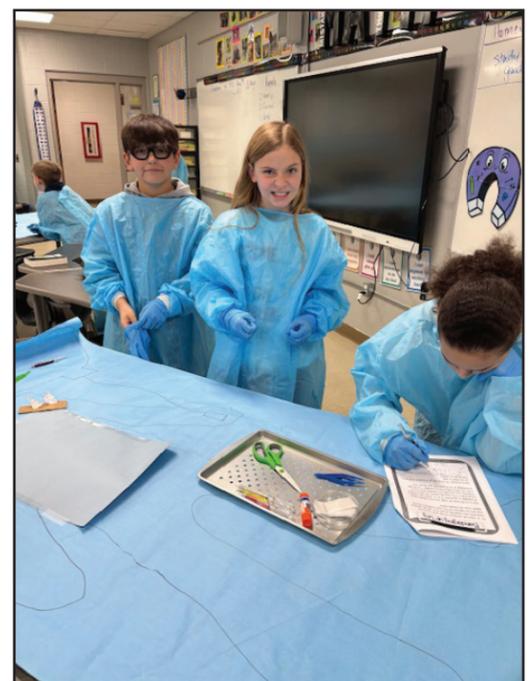
Congratulations Wyatt on earning your black belt for Recorder Karate in Music with Mrs. Wepfer!! Way to go!



Kindergarten learned about narrative art in Mrs. Duvenhage's Art class and then illustrated their own stories! They are now on exhibit! Please take some time to visit Heyworth Public Library and view thier masterpieces on display now until spring break.



Both Mrs. Dolbeare and Mrs. Boolman's PreK (a.m. and p.m.) classes visited J's Dance Studio last week! Students did some dancing to warm up, then tackled an obstacle course; next practiced some ninja moves before finalizing their amazing visit with parachute games.



Mrs. Daughy's 5th graders reviewed their knowledge of fractions with a fraction surgery in math class last week. They are ready to become future doctors

Calendar

Continued from Page 11

guidance counselor for the application form. The due date for applications is March 13.

School Lunch Menu

March 16-23

Monday - Mac & cheese bites, dinner roll, Bosco sticks w/ marinara, potato wedges. Peaches

Tuesday - Chicken nuggets, chicken Caesar wrap, mac n cheese, salad bar, kiwi, grapes

Wednesday - Rotini w/ meat sauce, garlic breadstick,

Subscribe to The Heyworth Buzz

\$50 in county • \$59 in state • \$69 out of state

The Normalite Newspaper Group, 1702 W. College Ave., Normal, IL 61761

