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Petitions for spring 2021 election now circulating

While the Nov. 3 General Election is a little over a month away, the process of setting the ballot for the spring 2021 election is already underway. Starting on Tuesday, Sept. 22, potential candidates for local political offices up for election in the April 2021 election have

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Grayville Chamber to move ahead with City-Wide Yard Sale

By T.J. HUG
Of The Navigator

Grayville will have its city-wide yard sale this fall. The Grayville Chamber of Commerce announced late Tuesday morning that it will commence with the yard sale in early October. "We will be going ahead with City-Wide Yard Sales on Saturday, Oct. 3," Chamber member Colleen Whyte stated in a press release. "It

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Zoning change to bring billboard to Grayville

By AMY WINTER
Of The Navigator

The Grayville City Council approved a zoning map change after a public hearing Monday night. 209 S. Court Street will change from a residential to commercial zone, allowing McPherson Outdoor, LLC to erect a 20-foot by 24-foot billboard structure. "It's going to be double-sided...similar to the one in Albion, correct?" Mayor Travis Thompson asked George McPherson, who was present at the

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Navigator seeks submissions for annual Vet Day Tab

The Navigator is seeking out help from area veterans for our annual Veterans Day Tab. Any veteran within our coverage area who would like to submit their military picture, rank and/or a write-up or summary of their service to their country is encouraged to send such materials to The Navigator's Albion or Grayville Offices. The Albion office is located at 19 West Main Street P.O. Box 10, while the Grayville office is situated at 113 North Middle Street. Submissions may also be sent via email to gatoreditor1@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions for the tab has been set for Thursday, Nov. 5. For more information, call our Albion office at 618-445-2355.

Buy the Barrel

The posted price for a barrel of Illinois Basin crude oil stood at \$32.31 as of Tuesday up \$2.05 cents from the last posted price, according to Countrymark Cooperative.



Albion applies for grant for \$2 million repaving

By AMY WINTER
Of The Navigator

Albion's Elm Street might get a brick repaving after all. The Albion City Council was informed of a grant that could cover 80 percent of the repaving project's cost by Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick engineering firm Vice President

Austin Ridgley during a special meeting of the council Friday evening. Ridgley estimated that the project would come with a \$2,054,237.95 price tag, leaving the city on the hook for \$410,847.59 should they pursue the project and obtain the grant. However, a \$150,000 potential donation from The Wolfe Foundation would lower that cost to \$260,847.59. Also,

some additional Motor Fuel Tax funding is expected to be distributed to municipalities throughout the state over the next few years, which would further reduce the burden of the city's matching funds. "Illinois, with their Local Rebuild Illinois Project Funds, in the next three years, you're going to get \$131,000 in extra MFT money," said Ridgley, "that you have to spend by

2025. "So if you use that for this, then that means you have to come up with \$129,000." With those Local Rebuild Illinois Funds, the city would be on the hook for \$129,830.59 for the more than \$2 million project. The city is also applying for

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Workers with Renaissance Roofing continue their effort to restore the Edwards County Courthouse Clocktower Monday afternoon. Photo by T.J. Hug.

EC Schools budget \$14,600 in the black

By AMY WINTER
Of The Navigator

The Edwards County Community School Unit School District #1 Board of Education unanimously passed the final 2020-2021 budget projecting to end the school year in the positive by \$14,600. Superintendent of Schools, David Cowger, presented the budget to the board in a public hearing Monday night. It was noted by Cowger that there were still a few unknown categoricals which would need to be factored in. He explained that funding for Special Education, for example, was still unknown. For transportation, COVID-19 impacted the State reimbursements from the end of last school year, and were still not available, making it difficult to portray accurate numbers for the current budget. He further noted to the BOE that it is possible that number will be different once the fiscal year is complete, partly due to anticipated additional costs associated with COVID-19

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FFA guides Egg-citing hen house journey in Grayville

By AMY WINTER
Of The Navigator

Two members of the Grayville FFA members have been raising chickens behind the high school as a part of their immersion-type Supervised Agricultural Experience. Isaac Rankin and Kadyn Cox, both sophomores at Grayville Junior/Senior High School, plunged into raising

chicken last school year. They started with just five chickens in January 2020 and nurtured them throughout the initial stages of the COVID pandemic and summer. In July, they added six more chickens to their flock. They currently have 10 chickens, as a raccoon did manage to get in the run, according to Isaac. They have a couple Rhode Island Reds, a couple Isa Browns and a few others they are still trying to iden-

tify. Isaac and Kadyn both mentioned that the ones they raised from chicks were much more people-friendly, but the ones they bought fully grown are seeming to come around. They shared that the coop and run had been built during the last school year, and their plan is to continue raising the chickens through graduation. Michaela Greathouse, their FFA advisor, stated, "I personally am so proud of these boys for stepping up and getting

this project started." She explained that the is always emphasizing the SAE projects in class and the myriad of opportunities they can provide. She noted, "...but not a lot of the students take the incentive to start a business with animals since so many of my students are non-traditional ag students and have never been around farm livestock."

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Award-winning band Judah First coming to Albion concert

By AMY WINTER
Of The Navigator

Judah First Band is an award-winning Christian band formed in 2015 from Mount Vernon. Coming from various musical styles, the divine placement of artists that make up the band create an addictive sound. Recently, the band was named Christian/Gospel Group of the Year at the 6th Annual Josie Music Awards held Sept. 5 in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. The Josie Music Awards is touted as the largest independent industry award show and prides themselves on the fact

that winners are selected by their talent, skill, material, professionalism and more - not by pressing a button to vote. Judah First Band is comprised of Ryan Overbey, on vocals and guitar, Carmen Overbey, Ryan's wife, who plays bass and Paul Catron, who plays the drums. "The band was created in 2015 literally at a grocery store in the produce section in Mount Vernon," according to Ryan Overbey. "Ryan and Carmen Overbey ran into Paul and Becky Catron in the produce section, started talking and realized they all had a lot in common



Judah First will be headlining the Albion Family Fun Day concert put on by the Albion Area Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 3. Photo provided.

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