

POLICE BRIEFS

Arrests

The following persons were arrested or taken into custody by law enforcement agencies in Livingston County and taken to the Livingston County Jail. These persons were either released after posting bond, remain in jail or are serving a sentence imposed by the court.

Molique D. Butler, 20, Pontiac, was charged by Pontiac Police with giving liquor to a minor and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. She was taken into custody in the 400 block of East Howard Street.

Joseph W. Ernst, 19, Villa Park, was charged by Fairbury Police with manufacture and/or delivery of more than 30 grams of cannabis, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken into custody in Forrest.

Tony M. Lamango, 31, Streator, was charged by Livingston County Sheriff's Police with driving while under the influence. He was taken into custody in Livingston County.

Jonathan L. Nash, 47, Bloomington, was

See 'ARRESTS' page A3

Grain prices

Closing bids — Feb. 20
Corn/Cash \$3.39
Beans/Cash \$9.89

Grain prices courtesy of Graymont Co-op

DAILY LEADER

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Lifestyle

QUESTIONS? Contact Joy Butler at 815-842-1153 or email to jbutler@pontiacdailyleader.com

Chamber welcomes Fiesta Motel



Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed new member Fiesta Motel by holding a ribbon cutting. Chamber members and city officials were on hand. The Fiesta Motel is under new management and is being renovated. PHOTO PROVIDED

Study shows white mold differences

URBANA — The fungus that causes white mold on soybeans and other crops behaves differently in the United States and Brazil, according to a new study completed at the University of Illinois.

“White mold, also known as Sclerotinia stem rot, occurs worldwide, and the pathogen attacks and causes disease in many different crops. In the U.S., the fungus needs a cold period like winter before it can produce microscopic spores that infect soybean flowers in the summer. But in Brazil, the fungus does not need a cold period to produce spores,” says Glen Hart-

man, a USDA Agricultural Research Service research plant pathologist and professor in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois.

There is concern that if Brazilian strains were imported or if U.S. strains became adapted to warmer temperatures, southern soybean farmers in the U.S. could face the disease. Due to its prevalence in the north-central region, white mold is often listed as one of the top ten soybean diseases in the country, and can result in significant yield losses.

To validate observations from the field, Hartman

and his team conducted laboratory tests to evaluate the ability of U.S. and Brazilian fungal strains to cause symptoms on soybeans, common beans, and canola plants with and without the fungus being exposed to cold temperatures beforehand.

Brazilian strains produced spores and infected plants without exposure to cold, but U.S. strains did not. “Brazilian isolates formed spores right away,” Hartman says.

The researchers wondered if the Brazilian strains were also better adapted to heat than U.S. strains, but they weren't. All strains, regardless of their origin, were more

likely to produce spores at a pleasant 68 degrees Fahrenheit than at 86.

The result may be good news for southern soybean farmers where the summer soybean season routinely reaches high temperatures. But Hartman notes that a few isolated outbreaks have been documented south of its usual area, in the St. Louis, Missouri, area and in Kentucky.

“That outbreak in Kentucky is kind of curious. I think that's the furthest south we've ever seen it in the U.S. in a summer crop,” he says. “If that happened once, can it keep going? We don't know, but it's out there.”

AROUND THE AREA

WEDNESDAY February 21

ODELL
Odell District 435 will offer free pre-school screenings for children birth to 5. Areas screened are vision, hearing, speech, language, learning, motor and social skills. Call 815-998-2272 for an appointment.

PONTIAC
 5 p.m.— **Lincoln Day Dinner** will be held at Pontiac Elks Lodge starting with a social hour. Buffet dinner follows at 6 p.m. Keynote speaker is Erika Harold, candidate for Illinois Attorney General. For more information, call 815-596-9160

PONTIAC
 7 - 8 p.m.— **Grace Christian School** will offer a free parenting seminar, “Getting to the Heart of Parenting” by Pastor Paul Tripp, facilitated by Pastor Jim Wolfe. Childcare will be available.

THURSDAY February 22

PONTIAC
 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.— **Pontiac Circle of Christ Child Society of Central Illinois** will meet at St. Mary's Parish Hall, 501 N. Chicago St. to make items for layettes that are donated to area hospitals, including OSF Saint James-John W. Albrecht Medical Center, for newborns of needy families. Anybody looking to sew these items or donate in other ways can contact Shari Paris at 815-419-8620.

PONTIAC

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.— **First United Methodist Church** will host a senior drop-in center with games, cards and socializing. Free lunch is available. Call the church at 815-842-1157 by 9:30 a.m. if a ride is needed or by 10:30 a.m. for lunch.

FRIDAY February 23

ODELL
 5 - 7:30 p.m.— **Odell Firemen** will have their annual “all you can eat” fish fry at the Odell Fire Station. There will be a 50/50 drawing and carry-outs will be available.

SUNDAY February 25

ODELL
 4 - 6:30 p.m.— **United Church of Odell** will have its annual chili supper at the Odell Fire Station with homemade chili, relishes, crackers, homemade pies, coffee, lemonade and hot dogs. Carry-outs will be available.

TUESDAY February 27

PONTIAC
 9:30 - 10 a.m.— **First United Methodist Church** will host a free sittercise class for senior citizens.

WEDNESDAY February 28

PONTIAC
 7 - 8 p.m.— **Grace Christian School** will offer a free parenting seminar, “Getting to the Heart of Parenting” by Pastor Paul Tripp, facilitated by Pastor Jim Wolfe. Childcare will be available.

THURSDAY March 1

PONTIAC
 6 - 7 p.m.— **Grace Episcopal Church** will host a support group for families dealing with substance abuse.

PONTIAC
 7 p.m.— **United Methodist Church** will host a support group for family and friends of loved ones dealing with mental illness.

FRIDAY March 2

STREATOR
Woodland District 5 will offer free pre-school screenings for children birth to 5. Areas screened are vision, hearing, speech, language, learning, motor and social skills. Call 815-672-2909, ext. 3 for an appointment.

SATURDAY March 3

CROPSEY
 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.— **Cropsey United Methodist Church** will host a pancake and sausage day. For meat

order, call 309-377-2431. A country store will be available.

TUESDAY March 6

PONTIAC
 9:30 - 10 a.m.— **First United Methodist Church** will host a free sittercise class for senior citizens.

WEDNESDAY March 7

FAIRBURY
Prairie Central West 8 will offer free pre-school screenings for children birth to 5. Areas screened are vision, hearing, speech, language, learning, motor and social skills. Call 815-945-2971 for an appointment.

PONTIAC
 7 - 8 p.m.— **Grace Christian School** will offer a free parenting seminar, “Getting to the Heart of Parenting” by Pastor Paul Tripp, facilitated by Pastor Jim Wolfe. Childcare will be available.

THURSDAY March 8

PLATELET DRIVE

Donors support valentine theme

FAIRBURY — Fairbury's February Platelet Drive featured a Valentine's Day theme of “sharing our love for those in need of platelets.”

On Friday, Feb. 2, donors were Matthew Brauman, Terry Belousek, Dale Stoller, Suzanne Bahler, Brenton Benway, Shane Aberle, Seth Miller, Louis Retter, John Vitzthum, Denise Brown, Ron Parrish and Ed Broerman.

Saturday, Feb. 3, the donors were Darryl Stiles, Dean Steidinger, Teresa Palen, Mike Lewallen, Bob Walter, Brianne Edelman, Deb Duffy and Bob Bode.

Platelets are a component of the blood that are given to patients on chemotherapy to offset the ill-effects of the cancer drugs on the blood. Platelets have a shelf life of only five days, which means that this product has to be continually replenished in order to meet the needs of patients receiving chemo.

Platelet donation requires a special commitment because it takes two hours or more and requires a needle in both arms. Whole blood is taken from one arm, and the platelets are removed. The remainder of the blood, along with some fluid, is infused back into the other arm.

Volunteers, who staff the kitchen and coordinate alternates, were Joann Slagel, Mary Beth Steidinger, Shirley Meenan, Joann VanAntwerp, Shirley Mitchell, Karilyn Newman and Karen Harms.

Platelet drives are held in Fairbury on the first Friday and the first Saturday of the month at the Legion Home at the corner of 4th Street and Pine. The next drive will be held on Friday, March 2, and on Saturday, March 3.

Appointments, which must be made in advance, may be scheduled by calling Karen Harms at 815 692-3890 or 815 848-6890.

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PONTIAC VFW POST 886

»» Come check out our new Menu! ««

Lunch
 Monday-Friday
 10:30am - 2:00pm

Dinner
 4:30pm - 9:00pm
 Saturday and Sunday
 11:00am - 9:00pm

Dining Room Closed Saturday, Feb 24

Carry Out - Delivery and Hall Rental

531 Lincoln Ave., Pontiac
 844-6726

GRAYMONT PTO

SOUP, SALAD & BREAD DINNER!

Adults: \$7
 Children 6-12 \$4
 Under 5 Free.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
Friday, Feb 23 4:30-7pm

Homemade Soups!
 Chicken Noodle, Minestrone, Vegetable Beef & Chili

Carry Outs Available
 Includes Prairie Farms
 Ice Cream and Drink

228 Lydia St., Graymont • 815-743-5346