

# The buzz, the bad and the biting: EEE hits birds in West Monroe

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that feed on birds.”  
The dry weather, combined with the low number of bird-biting mosquitoes, indicate that aerial spraying is not warranted at this time.

“We will continue our monitoring program with the state health department. If conditions change, we could possibly consider spraying at some point in the future,” said Smith.

People can reduce their chances of being exposed to EEE and other viruses carried by mosquitoes by using insect repellents, wearing protective clothing, and by reducing the mosquito population around their homes.

To help reduce the risk of mosquito bites, Smith advises people to:

- Wear shoes, long pants with bottoms tucked into boots or socks, and a long-sleeved shirt when outdoors for long periods of time, or when many mosquitoes are most active (between dusk and dawn).
- Use mosquito repellent according to label directions when outdoors for long peri-

ods of time and when mosquitoes are most active.

- Empty pails, swimming pool covers, flower pots and other containers of standing water around the home and yard.

- Remove all discarded tires from around your property.
- Replace or repair broken screens.

Insect repellents that contain DEET are effective but should be used with caution.

“DEET comes in many different concentrations, with percentages ranging from as low as five percent to as high as 100 percent,” said Smith. “Make sure to read the label for safety instructions and always follow the directions on the package.”

For more information about EEE and other viruses that are transmitted by mosquitoes, call the Oswego County Health Department at 349-3564 or 1-800-596-3200, ext. 3564, or visit the New York State Department of Health Web site at [www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/eastern\\_equine\\_enkephalitis/fact\\_shee.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/eastern_equine_enkephalitis/fact_shee.htm).

# Tiballi chosen to lead city school board

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his first term on the board. Members also approved Julie Burger to become the next

principal of Leighton School, according to District Clerk Bill Foley.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 24 at 4:30 p.m.

# ‘All Things Harry’ happening at the Oswego Public Library

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trivia contest.  
“We didn’t know it would be such a big hit,” said Furnari, as to the series when it first started. The library has pre-ordered three copies of the new book to start, as Furnari mentioned that more people have begun to buy the books as they came out.

“We had a waiting list a mile long,” said Furnari, as to the previous books. There is a waiting list for the seventh book as well, and people are encouraged to sign up.

As for the controversy that has followed the Harry Potter books in the past, it seems to have been absent from the Oswego area.

“We really never had an issue with that,” said Furnari. “People are very open minded here.”

# City kids arrive for some summer fun

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The Sharkey family will host Destiny Rivera, 11, for the fifth consecutive year this summer adding one more to the three children she already has at home. “She fit right into our family the moment she got here,” Sharkey said.

Over the years Destiny has impacted the family by giving them a glimpse into a different culture.

“I guess you could say she’s taught us a few things,” Sharkey said. “We went down to visit her family last summer so it was nice to see how they live down there and what their environment is like compared to what we have up here.”

The family always has a variety of fun activities planned for Destiny’s visits including trips to Niagara Falls and Cooperstown. Destiny says she has a lot fun in Oswego and likes going camping, going to the beach and swimming.

Along with the kids that have been in the program for years there are also some first timers, kids that may be leaving their home in New York City for the first time.

Holly Dempsey of Brewerton and her “Fresh Air kid,” six year old Keyshawn Crewley are in the program for the first time this summer.

Keyshawn was very nervous about leaving home for Oswego, but was assured by everyone around him that it would be OK and he would have a lot of fun.

Getting started with the program because she had it around when she was younger, Dempsey and her family are excited about spending time with Keyshawn and having fun.

“We have a pool, we will go camping and all that good stuff,” Dempsey said.

directed by Chairperson Christina Mendez a special education teacher who has been involved with the organization for five years and chairperson for two.

Mendez says she found out about the fund and became involved because her husband was a fresh air child when he was young.

The fund is still accepting

hosts for their August trip, and Mendez in encouraging everyone in the Oswego area to consider hosting. “We’d love more host families,” she said.

For more information Christina Mendez can be contacted at 342-1961 or the Fresh Air Fund’s Web site, [www.freshair.org](http://www.freshair.org).



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Harrison Wilde photo  
Jamie Flesher, Client services Director and Jennifer Dievendorf, the Center’s Executive Director, count pennies, after completing their annual baby bottle campaign. The Pregnancy Care Center of Oswego County held an open house Tuesday to celebrate their new location. The Center, now in its 23rd year, has recently moved to 140 W. Utica St. in Oswego. “The new location has provided us with additional rooms for counseling, storage and material resources. We now have a kitchen and a room for group meetings as well,” said Dievendorf. The Pregnancy Care Center is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and provides pregnancy tests, options counseling, individual and couples counseling, parenting education and post-abortion counseling. All services at the Center are free of charge. For more information about the Center and the services they provide you may contact them at (315) 343-4866 or e-mail them at [baby@pccoswego.org](mailto:baby@pccoswego.org).

# Mayor touts economic prospects

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ities,” he said. “I had a quick meet and greet with the new port director and saw the type of activity that was going on there. ... I see possibilities.”

Gunderson said that the assets within the city, like the port, canal and lakefront, are great and should be maximized. “Port accessibility ... is probably an under utilized asset for all of New York.”

With Harborfest only a couple short weeks away, Gunderson was disappointed

that he couldn’t have scheduled his trip during the celebrations. “Possibilities for increasing entertainment are great. I wish I could stick around for Harborfest,” he said.

He did, however, say that he would be back in the area soon enough to help stimulate more economic growth. “I’d like to encourage some developers to come see what I’ve seen out here.”

Nominated for the position by Gov. Eliot Spitzer, Gunderson has been under fire throughout his short term for

residing in the affluent Saratoga Springs area. Upon accepting the position, Gunderson said he would look for a home in the Buffalo area where economic plights are much greater. Although he has still not relocated, Gunderson maintains that his place of residence will not affect the way his does his job. He is reported to be searching for another home, yet will not move out of his current home given its proximity to the capital where he conducts a portion of his duties.

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