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# SECTION

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February 15, 2023

## BRIEFS

### Weather forecast

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a southwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to 13 to 18 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 36 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. South southwest wind 9 to 14 mph becoming east southeast after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 19. Breezy.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 29. Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 19.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 45. Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 30.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 52. Breezy.

### Congratulations

Carthage College in Wisconsin has named Owen Knoebel of Oakland to the dean's list for academic excellence during the Fall 2022 term.

### Employer award

Consolidated Communications a broadband and business communications provider, announced it has been named a U.S. Best-in-Class Employer by Gallagher for the second year in a row.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from Gallagher as a top employer for the second year in a row," said Vivian Schott, vice president of Human Resources for Consolidated. "From building out our fiber network, to providing an industry-leading customer experience, our employees do amazing work every day. We aim to engage and inspire our employees to do great things. We are very proud of the significant impact our employees make to improve the lives of our customers, building stronger communities, as we create a better future with gigabit fiber broadband." Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 26.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.

## Jarman Hospital first opened 103 years ago

By Carolyn Cloyd

When Douglas-Jarman Memorial Hospital in Tuscola closed its doors in 1990, the Decatur Herald and Review said in its Aug. 23, 1990 edition, that for locals it was "like losing an old friend."

While other medical facilities were willing to fill the sudden gap in medical care caused by Jarman Hospital's closure, it undoubtedly brought a jarring change to the lives of those who would no longer walk the halls as an employee, for those who found the Tuscola-based hospital convenient for medical care and for visiting sick relatives and friends, and for the many Douglas County residents who had never remembered a time when there was not a Jarman Hospital in their midst.

The idea of a hospital based in the Douglas County seat was seriously conceived by a local philanthropist in 1914 and finally came to fruition in 1919. In the 71 years Jarman Hospital had been in operation, countless Douglas County residents were born and died and were doctored and nursed there.

When the brand-new Sarah A. Jarman Memorial Hospital in Tuscola opened its doors for public inspection on Saturday, Jan. 4 and Sunday, Jan. 5, 1919, a reported 1,000 people showed up, despite the cold weather and frozen roads, to inspect the beautiful new facility. The hospital began admitting patients on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 1919.



NOW CALLED JARMAN PLAZA, the "new" hospital was painted grey last spring. Owner Chris Robinson has converted the building into residential and office space.

On Jan. 1, 1919, the Champaign Daily News described the new hospital as being the "finest building of its kind in the country," and said that while some hospitals might be larger, none of them "excels the local building for up to the minute equipment and construction."

The two-story hospital was built of red brick, trimmed with white stone, and topped with a red

tile roof. The interior of the building consisted of birch woodwork, mahogany doors, and floors of "superstone composition." There were kitchens equipped for dieticians on both of the main floors, two operating rooms, sterilization rooms, a nursery, an isolation ward, and the hospital even boasted an elevator that connected all of the floors, from the second story all of the way to the full basement. Other modern conveniences included a house telephone system, a signaling system that allowed patients to summon nurses with electric lights operated from their beds, and a vacuum cleaning plant with connections on every floor.

The Sarah A. Jarman Memorial Hospital was a great coup for Douglas County and the location of the hospital within the county was a convenience that was particularly necessary to residents at the time it was built when roads were still mostly dirt tracks and some poorer residents still utilized horses for transportation. The hospital was made possible through the largesse of William F. Jarman, a

prominent Camargo businessman.

William F. Jarman was born in Madison County, Kentucky of Sept. 7, 1843, the son of William H. Jarman and Amanda Clark Jarman.

William H. Jarman was a farmer but not successful, for whatever reason, and the family was said to be of little means. The Jarmans moved to Douglas County and made their new home in Camargo when the younger William was about 10 years old. The younger William soon found work as a farm hand and attended school. Young William's father died in 1857 at the age of 42, and his mother died in 1859 at the age of 43.

The hard-working young William eventually saved enough money to purchase a store in Camargo, sometimes referred to as a general store but Jarman was listed as "keeping a drug store" on the 1880 U.S. Census, and shrewdly invested in a great deal of land. According to the Tuscola History Book (written by Linda Brewer and Judy Landeck and sponsored

See JARMAN on page 6



JARMAN HOSPITAL as it looked a year ago.

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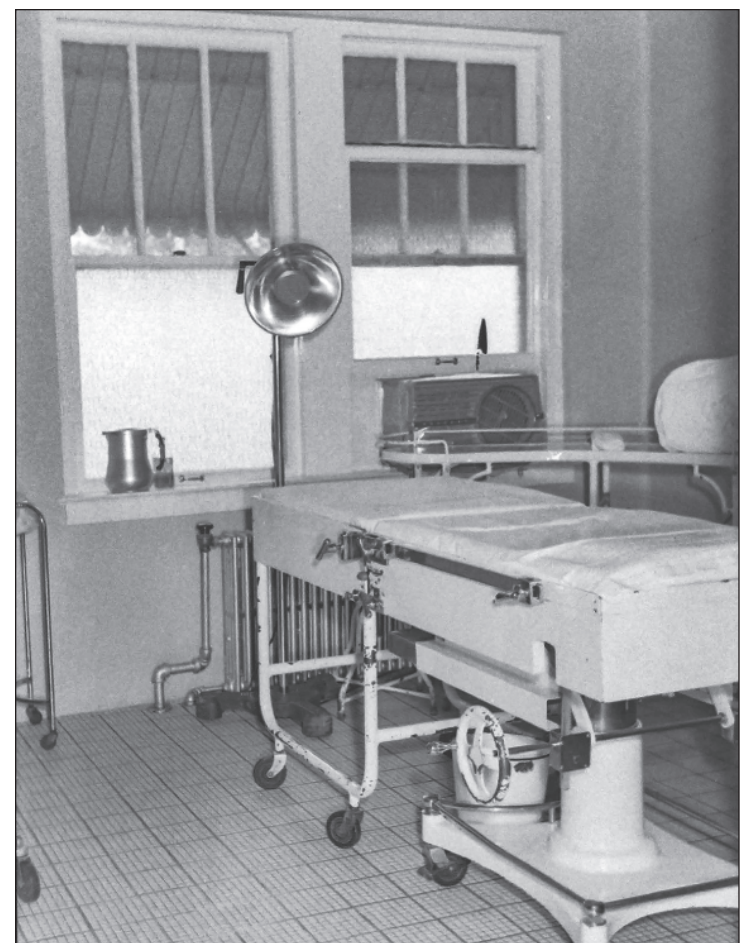
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