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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2015

Lena's new Twisted Metal Collision Center gets the job done right the first time

By Tony Carton
Editor

LENA — Whether you require major or minor auto body damage repair, Twisted Metal Collision Center is here to help offering dent and scratch repair, automotive painting, fender and bumper repair and more.

"We fix vehicles large and small as far as body work including accidents and deer hits," said Dawn Thyberg who co-owns Twisted Metal Collision Center with husband Tim.

She said they do not focus on mechanical work, but if there is something mechanical that needs to be done they can quickly refer a customer to any of several qualified mechanics in town.

"We specialize in collision work, but we do restorations as well," said Thyberg. "People have fancy vehicles that they may want painted or fixed up; we can do that also, but mostly we work in the collision end of auto repair."

The Thybergs took over the business in early September this year from Troy and Rhonda Pokoj when it was Checkered Flag.

"Tim started in September and I started in October because things were picking up and he needed someone out front on the counter, so he could focus on the repairs," she said. "I take the calls, schedule the appointments and pay the bills. I'm more the face of the company and the guys do all the repair work."

Tim has been doing auto body repair work since high school. He received certification through the auto program at Highland Community College and worked in Freeport at Metal Specialties and Gates Auto Body. When the Pokojs at Checkered Flag were look-



Tracy Siegner photo

Tim and Dawn Thyberg have taken over operations at the Checkered Flag body shop in Lena and are providing quality auto body repairs at their new Twisted Metal Collision Center.

ing to sell the location they approached Tim and the rest is history.

"Tim wanted his own business and it's all fit together at just the right time and here we are with Twisted Metal Collision Center," she said. "We're still new and folks still come in looking for Troy, but now it's Tim and I and we're ready to meet the needs of our clientele."

Tim Thyberg said he's always done the "hard hit" repair jobs.

"That's basically what I went to school and other trainings to learn," he said. "Technology is changing and metals used in auto manufacturing are changing, so the new methods of repair are what I'm bringing to the table here in Lena."

His plans for the future

include expansion.

"I would like to see our business increase to where we are putting out an average of five to ten cars a week," he said. "I currently have one employee and would like to see some growth in that area as well."

His one employee is Le-Win graduate Jamie Campbell.

"I want to be able to continue hiring from the Lena community," Thyberg said. "There is a lot of talent here and I'm glad to be in a position to support this community."

He said he is currently doing

all the painting in the shop, but would like to bring in someone to handle that position full time.

"That's still a ways off, but I would like to bring in someone as soon as our business dictates," said Thyberg. "We use all PPG products and quality is always our priority. We try to provide friendly service including pickup and delivery. There is an occasional scratch that isn't part of the big repair, but if a customer wants it taken care of, we're glad to do it."

The Thybergs are active with

the Lena Area Special Event Runners or L.A.S.E.R. and strongly believe in supporting the community.

"We helped with the car show and the Shakedown," he said. "Dawn has a degree in computer design and she took over some of the LASER social media. She also designed and loads the Lena Events web page."

To learn more about the services available through Twisted Metal Collision Center visit the shop at 216 W Railroad St, in Lena or call (815) 369-2965.

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LENA LIBRARY NEWS

By Dixie Althoff/Director
LENA — I hope you weren't too confused over the last article. It was under Pearl City Library News instead of Lena Library News. Our apologies to our readers and to Pearl City readers. Mistakes do happen.

Book discussion was held November 18. . Some of the

books discussed were:

The Last Midwife by Sandra Dallas, See Me by Nicholas Sparks, Season to Taste by Molly Birnbaum, Kane & Abel by Jeffrey Archer, Miracle at Augusta by James Patterson, and Angels Walking by Karen Kingsbury. We had some good discussion over some very interesting books.

Our discussion group will not meet in December, but we will be meeting again January 27 at 9:30 a.m. Plan to join us. We always have lots of fun!

Last week the after school group made autumn owls for a snack. The kids enjoy making their snack almost as much as eating it! The owls were very cute and I am sure they were

very tasty too! This week they made Thanksgiving posters for a contest. There are some nice ones! Stop in and take a peek.

The preschoolers have had a couple of busy weeks too. Last week they made "thankful trees". There were some special fingerprint leaves on the trees. Each tree had written on what the child was thankful for. They were very cute! It is always interesting to see what each one says they are thankful for.

The book Bear Says Thanks was read and turkey songs were sung. This week the Thanksgiving theme continued with a T is for Turkey tracer sheet. The children then colored in the turkey using a pattern for the feathers. Some very colorful birds! Books read this week were Ten Fat Turkeys and If You See a Kitten. Thanksgiving songs were also sung. Lots of fun pushed into an hour slot.

New chilly wintery fiction reads: All Dressed in White by Mary Higgins Clark, Guilty by David Baldacci, Magic Strings of Frankie Presto by Mitch Albom, Mistletoe Inn by Richard Paul Evans, Promise by

Robert Crais, Tricky Twenty-Two by Janet Evanovich, and Sidney Sheldon's Reckless by Tilly Bagshawe. New non-fiction: Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown, and Love Without Limits by Nick Vujicic.

New DVDS: Terminator: Genisys, Max, Inside Out, Vacation, Jeff Dunham: Unhinged in Hollywood, Tomorrowland, Jurassic World, Pixels, and Paw Patrol: Winter Rescues.

Upcoming events:

December 4: The library will be participating in the annual Christmas Walk.

We will be open 5pm-8pm. Free cookies and hot chocolate.

December 15: Santa will be with us 10 a.m.--11a.m.

December 16: Santa will be with us 10 a.m.--11 a.m.

Lots of children's books on the for sale/donations shelves. Stop in and take a look.

Maybe an old favorite is there.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Take time to reflect on all you really have to be thankful for.

Watch the Shopper's Guide for further events.

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SAT. 9AM-2PM**



Lena-Winslow topples Orion in Girl's Basketball

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

LENA — With game play held at Morrison, with the 2015-2016 winter sports season getting underway, the Lena-Winslow Lady Panthers pulled out a victory, 52-46, over Orion.

Nicole Moest had 19 points in the win, with Kenzie Temperly adding 17 more.

Bri Haight scored 14 points, in the victory for Lena-Winslow.

With the Lady Panthers struggling to keep pace with Orion's style of attack, during the first half of play, a five-point deficit

at the half looked to be a fairly acceptable position for Lena-Winslow to reside.

The first half defensive strategy, however, was not as effective as it would become, later in the game.

In the second half, the Lady Panthers made their move, made their stops and allowed victory to be claimed, with pressure points scored down the stretch, from the line.

Orion's Taylor McCunn scored 15 points with her teammate, Ashlie McCunn adding 11, in the tournament game played at the home of the Lady Mustangs.

St. Paul's celebrates Advent

KENT — November 29 marks the first Sunday in Advent, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Sunnyside Road in Kent will light the first Advent candle during their 10 a.m. family worship. Lecturer will be Jeanne Hill, and Organist will be Deb Winning. Pastor Carole Andres will deliver the sermon entitled "What Are We Waiting For."

This also begins a new church year with a wake-up call that Christ is coming soon. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ! Who comes among us this day as the Word and Meal that strengthen our faith in the promises of God.

Join us for worship during this Advent Season and prepare to meet the Lord! We are located in the suburbs of Kent. For more information, call 232-4010.

PEARL CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

November 18

PEARL CITY — President Bremmer called the Regular Meeting to order @ 6:30 p.m.

After Roll Call the Board approved the November 18, 2015 agenda.

Recognition of Guests and public comments were allowed. No comments were made.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the minutes from the October 22, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, closed session minutes from the October 22, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, Bills Payable, October Payroll, and Course and Tuition reimbursement for Lauren Krause for 4 ESL courses.

Informational Items:

Don Benning from "The Benning Group" presented the 2014-15 Financial Audit to the Board.

Scott Johnson from "Richard L. Johnson Associates" presented the 10 Year Health Life Safety Survey to the Board of Education.

Mrs. Wallace, Elementary Principal reported:

Provided information on the parent involvement activity called "Monday Morning Muffins". A group of parents were invited to receive information about the web site, Skyward, tips on contacting and communicating with teachers. We will have

several more of these events this year focusing on questions and topics from the parents feedback.

Informed the Board that the elementary had 100% contact with parents either face to face at a conference or via a phone call.

Provided the Board the "Continuum of Services" Pyramid.

Mrs. Mandrell, JH/HS Principal reported:

Announced that the Veteran's Day Ceremony was a huge success! Special thanks go out the committee and Bill Johnson for working together to pull off such a special ceremony for our local Veteran's. We had 16 vets come to the celebration.

Provided the Board the results of the Parent/Teacher Conferences Survey.

Informed the Board that on November 16 – Jeffrey Dean, author of Truth For Schools, came and spoke to 7- 12 grade. This assembly touched on bullying, suicide, self-esteem, divorce, cutting, sex, dating, eating disorders, sexting, internet safety, drugs, alcohol, cell-phone smarts, character, and influence.

Presented student discipline up through 11/11/15.

Mr. Thill, Superintendent reported the following:

Provided the Board information and pricing to replace the existing lights in the new gym and the pricing to fix lights on

two light poles on the baseball field.

Informed the board that the district has not received any mandated categorical payments from the State.

Informed the Board there is the potential of not receiving general state aid payments at the end of the year due to the financial crisis that the State of Illinois is in.

New Business:

Approved the equipment usage request by the train show organizers in Lena for the use of our floor tarp with the stipulation that they needed to have an insurance policy in case of damage to the tarp.

Approved the use of the elementary gym for a men's basketball league. Organizers will work with the AD to coordinate

gym availability.

Approved a summer driver's education program to be run through the school.

Approved a resolution declining requests to accept non-resident "choice students" from neighboring districts identified under school improvement as one of their corrective measures under "No Child Left Behind".

Approved the 10 Year Health Life Safety Survey.

Approved the Resolution for the Estimated Tax Levy for 2015. The estimated Levy is requesting a 4.72% increase for next year. The District is not required to hold a "Truth in Taxation Hearing" as the request is below 5%, but has chosen to do so anyway. This Hearing will be at 6:20 p.m. on December 16, in the School

Library.

Approved Phil Krolow as a classroom volunteer, Jace Kempel as a boys basketball volunteer, Chad McPeck as a HS volleyball volunteer, and Riley Asche as a weight room supervisor volunteer.

Held a first reading of the following amended/new board policies: 2:100, 2:150, 2:150-AP, 2:200, 2:220-E2, 4:120-AP, 4:170, 4:170-AP1, 5:90, 5:100, 5:100-AP, 5:120-AP1, 5:185-AP, 6:15, 6:50, 6:60, 6:160, 6:280, 6:30, 6:310, 6:315, 6:320, 6:340, 7:50, 7:50-AP, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:140-E, 7:290, 7:290-AP, 7:300, 7:300-E1, 7:305, 7:340, 7:340-AP1, 7:340-AP1, E1, 8:30.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

The Highland Choral Music Department presents Handel's 'Messiah'

FREEPORT — The Highland Choral Music Department's annual performance of George F. Handel's "Messiah" will take place Sunday, December 6, at United Presbyterian Church, 302 W. Stephenson Street in Freeport. Celebrating its 14th consecutive season, the performance will begin at 3 p.m.

The annual production is a compliment of chamber orchestra, guest soloists and chorists who will perform Part I of Handel's momentous work. The chorus will be made up of members of the Highland Chorale and the Highland Chamber Singers. Soloists will be Megan Besley, Katherine Calcamuggio, Scott Chachula and Todd von Felker.

"Written in 1742, no musical work in western civilization has thrived more than Handel's Messiah," Allen Redford, director of music at Highland Community College, said. "Each year we look forward to the performance of this most joyous choral masterpiece."

Megan Besley is a native of Freeport and a highly lauded performer who has consistently delighted audiences across the country with her performances. She is delighted to join HCC for their annual Messiah performance, one of her favorite works to perform.

Katherine Calcamuggio is an award-winning mezzo-soprano who has been featured in important roles across the United States, eliciting kudos for her "soaring, rich voice" (The Miami Herald). This will be Katherine's second year as guest artist for the HCC Mes-

siah concert.

Scott Chachula is a versatile performer whose repertoire ranges between opera, musical theatre and dramatic roles. Highland is thrilled to welcome Scott back as tenor soloist for his 5th Messiah performance.

Todd von Felker has been praised for his rich, vibrant voice. He has performed on the main stages of such noted opera companies as Florentine Opera, New Orleans Opera, Pensacola Opera and Union Avenue Opera of St Louis. This will be Todd's first performance with the Highland music department.

Tickets for the event are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for students. Tickets may be purchased online at www.highland.edu or by contacting the HCC Box Office from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 815.599.3718.

For more information about Highland's choral music performances, contact Director Allen Redford, at allen.redford@highland.edu or call 815.599.3568

Superintendents from across Illinois call for an equitable school funding formula

STATELINE — Representatives from Chicago Public Schools (CPS) as well as Chicago-area and downstate districts stressed that Illinois' funding system is the most regressive in the nation. That means disadvantaged students who require the most support to educate are the ones who receive the least funding.

The superintendents presented on the impact Illinois' inequitable education funding system has on specific constituencies including downstate schools, Black and Latino students, and low-income students. They reminded board members that the role of state funding is to promote equity and argued that ISBE has a responsibility to correct the current funding system.

"Seventy percent of our schools have over ninety percent of low-income students," said Ginger Ostro, Chief Financial Officer of Chicago Public Schools. "There is dramatic inequity in how funding is structured. It's time to fix the broken education funding formula."

Most of the speakers belong

to the Funding IL's Future Coalition, a group of almost two hundred organizations and school districts that has been fighting for a more equitable funding formula that would better target state dollars where they are most needed

According to a weighted definition of adequate funding, which considers student needs, some Illinois school districts are under spending on education by up to \$9,500 per student

"You've heard from districts today who are thousands of dollars per pupil short of what they need," said Robin Steans, Executive Director of Advance Illinois, a statewide public education advocacy group and coalition member. "Consider the academic and social consequences of that shortfall. And, for every district that is here today, there are dozens more around the state struggling with the same challenge."

Inequity in the state's funding formula leads to great gaps in adequacy between the richest and poorest districts. The poorest 20% of districts in Illinois only achieve 73% of funding adequacy while the wealthiest

20% reach 139% of funding adequacy on average.

"Our communities are taxing themselves at 118% of the state average, and we are only able to fund our students at 75% of the adequacy target," said Dr. Tony Sanders, CEO of U46 in the Elgin area, the state's second largest school district. "We need an equitable funding formula that uses the precious few state dollars we have to drive adequacy throughout the state."

Districts testifying on the funding crisis included Aurora East, Aurora West, Berwyn South, Chicago Public Schools, East Moline, Elgin U-46, North Chicago, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield, and Waukegan.

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The Pearl City Outreach/Food Pantry Committee would like to thank everyone who donated food or money this year. May each of you be blessed this Thanksgiving.

226339

VIEWPOINT

SENATE WEEK IN REVIEW

Nov. 16-20,

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois' budget impasse is heading toward its sixth month, as a Nov. 18 meeting with the Governor and other legislative leaders was postponed to allow House Speaker Michael Madigan time to attend a family funeral out of state.

Gov. Bruce Rauner announced late last week that the budget meeting will be moved to early December.

Meanwhile, the Rauner Administration continued to work collaboratively with Illinois labor unions, with the administration announcing that another set of new collective bargaining agreements have been reached with several unions.

Budget meeting postponed to December

The previously announced budget meeting between the four legislative leaders and Gov. Rauner, set to take place on Nov. 18, has been postponed.

Speaker Madigan announced late last week he would be unable to attend the meeting because of a family funeral in another state.

To allow the Speaker time with his family and to ensure that all legislative leaders are represented during budget discussions, Gov. Rauner rescheduled the meeting for Dec. 1.

Budget blackout

The consequences of the ongoing budget impasse continued to spread during the week, with yet another vendor threatening to cut off services due to the state's inability to pay its bills on time.

Southwestern Electric Cooperative Inc. located in the southern part of the state has issued the state a final notice letter, saying disconnections will begin if the company does not see payment by Dec. 1. Southwestern notes they are a not-for-profit utility service and without payment from members, they cannot meet their bill demands.

Their pleas for payment echo those of City Water, Light, and Power (CWLP) of Springfield, which is reportedly owed almost \$3 million from the state. However, CWLP has not indicated they will act upon their disconnection notices as of yet.

As more and more vendors continue to cut ties with the state

or threaten to cut off services to state due to lack of payment, Senate Republicans continue their call for passing a balanced budget tied with structural reforms needed to right the state's fiscal ship and move Illinois forward.

Rauner announces deals with several labor unions

The Rauner Administration announced this week that new four-year collective bargaining agreements have been reached with a number of labor unions, including Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 1 Chicago, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters,

and several others.

Emphasizing the Administration's willingness to work with labor, Gov. Rauner has now negotiated new collective bargaining contracts with 17 different bargaining units, representing more than 5,000 state employees.

Terms of the most recent agreements include:

The state will expand the existing group health insurance program by offering employees a variety of new options.

A new performance incentive program to reward employees with bonuses for cost-saving measures and meeting or exceeding performance standards.

A new, collaborative managed

competition program that allows management and the unions to work together to provide low-cost alternatives to outsourcing.

A reduction in the payout for accumulated unused vacation from 75 to 45 days for employees hired after Jan. 1, 2016.

Continuation of a 40-hour work week with overtime earned after 40 hours.

A program to enable the State of Illinois to address minority underutilization in state government.

Increased training and certification opportunities for employees.

Continuation of the prevailing rate system administered by the Illinois Department of Labor.

USDA Rural Development Funding assists Illinois producers

CHAMPAIGN — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that USDA is awarding loans and grants that will help more than 1,100 rural small businesses and agricultural producers reduce energy usage and costs in their operations. The funding is for energy efficiency improvements and/or renewable energy systems. In Illinois, 42 producers and small businesses are recipients of this funding which totals \$1,566,148. The projects are being financed through USDA Rural Development's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

"Rural business owners, including agricultural producers, are blending these energy saving measures into their operations to help reduce their carbon foot-

print and cut operational costs," said Colleen Callahan, USDA Rural Development Director for Illinois. "The Rural Energy for America Program helps fund these projects that are mutually beneficial for the environment and the business's bottom line."

Among the Illinois projects funded:

Four County Renewable Energy, LLC in Elizabeth has been approved for an \$89,125 grant to install a 126.5kW solar photovoltaic system, which will result in the generation of 176,600 kWh. The proposed system is projected to generate enough energy to power 16 homes.

A Winnebago County pro-

ducer has been approved for a \$33,511 grant to replace a diesel irrigation system with an electric powered pump that is estimated to reduce energy by 76%.

A Coles County producer will use a \$40,413 grant to help finance the installation of a 51kW solar photovoltaic system, which will result in 100% energy replacement annually.

A Wabash County producer has been approved for a \$30,522 grant to upgrade an existing grain drying system that is estimated to reduce energy by 35%.

Funding of each award is contingent upon the recipient meeting the terms of the grant agreement.

Applications are current-

ly being accepted for future REAP funding. For application deadlines and details on how to apply, contact Mary Warren, Rural Energy Coordinator in Illinois, at 217-403-6218.

Congress created the Rural Energy for America Program in the 2002 Farm Bill. Because of the success of the program, Congress reauthorized REAP in the 2014 Farm Bill with guaranteed funding of at least \$50 million annually for the duration of the five-year bill. The 2014 Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past seven years while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers.

Glendenning attends Advanced Mutual Manager Academy at Grinnell Mutual

PEARL CITY — Luke Glendenning of Loran Mutual in Pearl City, IL completed Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company's Advanced Mutual Manager Academy held Nov. 9-11 in Grinnell, Iowa. Glendenning joined 64 participants from throughout the Midwest. Managers learned more about a variety of topics, including contractual responsibilities, preparing for state exams, dwelling and homeowners RPM and rate study, and emerging issues. They also received extended training on management, claims, underwriting, reinsurance, marketing, and technology.

"We want to provide our mutual managers with the tools they need to move their businesses forward — practical

information that they can use in their offices when they return," said Rick Tjarks, Grinnell Mutual assistant vice president of Reinsurance. "In today's changing insurance industry it

is also important for mutual managers to stay current and network with their peers. The Academy offers a great opportunity for that."

The American Red Cross and Knights of Columbus to host Elizabeth blood drive

ELIZABETH —The American Red Cross will conduct a blood drive in Elizabeth on Tuesday, December 8. The nurses and supporting medical personnel will be at the Elizabeth Community Building from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The local council of the Knights of Columbus

with members from Elizabeth, Hanover and Scales Mound will assist by supplying necessary non-medical services.

As always, there will be friends and neighbors in need of your donation. Please help the coming weeks to truly be a season of joy.

THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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ON THE RECORD

OBITUARIES



Channing Melvin Blair-Gille

PEARL CITY — Channing Melvin Blair-Gille, age 5 of Pearl City, IL, passed away Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at home with his family. He was born February 21, 2010 to Shawn Gille and Lindsey (Blair) Miller.

Channing had a great smile and laugh. He spoke with his eyes and a sparkling personality that could never be forgotten. He enjoyed school and watching cartoons. He loved family get-togethers and being around his family and friends. We may have only had him for a short time, but he was a blessing and an inspiration to each and every one of us. "yeah yeah yeah." "I love you."

Channing is survived by his parents, Shawn (Brianna Bresnahan) Gille of Stockton, IL and Lindsey (Zach) Miller of Pearl City; sisters, Kaydence (9), Mya (6), Raelyn (3), Kadence (4 months); brother, Oakley (7 weeks); his grandparents, Brett and Bonnie Jones of Stockton, Dan and Nancy Gille of Madison, WI, Marcia Blair of Stockton, John (Deb Jordan) Blair of Stockton, and Tom & Tam Miller of Lanark, IL; great grandparents, Bob & Bev Gille, Linda & Bob Dick, Teresa Jones, Helen & Gene Schamberger, Inez Pierce, Richard Fiene, and Russell Miller; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

There will be a private family gathering. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared with his family at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

Irene Crandall

ELIZABETH — Irene Crandall, age 87, of Elizabeth, Illinois, passed away peacefully November 19, 2015, with her loving husband, John by her

side. She was born March 17, 1928. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, November 24, at the Zion Presbyterian Church in Schapville. Inurnment will take place in the Zion Presbyterian Cemetery, Schapville. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials may be given to the Zion Presbyterian Church in Schapville in Irene's memory. Friends and family are invited to share in Irene's life at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Ruby S. Smith

APPLE RIVER — Ruby S. Smith age 94, passed away on Saturday November 21, 2015 at Liberty Village Manor Court in Freeport, IL. She was born on October 20, 1921 to Paul and Louise (Mensimer) Smith. She married Anthony "Tony" Smith in May of 1940 at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, IA. She and her husband worked for Savanna Ordinance Depot during the Korean War. She worked at Micro Switch in Warren from 1954-1986 for 33 years and retired in 1986.

She is survived by her husband Anthony "Tony" Smith of Apple River, IL, sons; Jack

BIRTH

Hayes Jacobs

PEARL CITY — Jessie Jacobs and Danielle Rogers of Freeport, Ill. are the parents of a son Hayes Todd Jacobs born Saturday November 14, 2015 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport. Hayes has a sister Gabriella, 11 and Drew, 14. Grandparents are Tracy Jacobs and Duane and Carol Price all of Freeport, Doug and Cheryl Rogers of Janesville, Wis. and Jeff and Dawn Brandt. Great grandparents are August and Rosie Jacobs of Pearl City, Ill.

Smith of Apple River, IL and David Smith of Stevens Point, WI, one sister Janetta (Virgil) Smith of Waupaca, Wi and one sister-in-law; Shirley Smith of Apple River, IL. and numerous cousins.

She enjoyed crossword puzzles, game shows on TV, cro-

cheting and quilting.

Ruby was preceded in death by her parents and brother Stanley Smith.

Funeral services were Tuesday November 24, at the Bartlett-Leamon Funeral Home.

Visitation preceded the services.

Burial will be in West Ella Cemetery in Apple River, IL.

Officiating will be Pastor Ryan Bare.

A memorial has been established in her name.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

Pet Talk: Intervertebral Disc Disease in Dogs

STATELINE — Shock absorption between our bones is essential to perform normal physical activities. Just like humans, dogs can injure their bones and their joints, making every day mobility a challenge. In intervertebral disc disease (IVDD) the intervertebral discs, or cushions in between the bones of the spine, can degenerate from an injury or as dogs age.

Intervertebral discs are cartilage tissue between the spinal bones, or vertebrae, that act as shock absorbers during movement. Deterioration of the discs make them brittle and weak, so that the normal forces applied during movement cannot be effectively cushioned. This often leads to deformed or ruptured discs, which can press on the spinal cord above them, resulting in signs that range from neck or back pain to complete paralysis of the limbs.

Canine IVDD occurs in two main categories: Type I and Type II. In Type I of the disease, the inner portion of the disc is calcified, or hardened. This occurs quickly and leaves the disc brittle and more prone to rupture. Type II develops slowly, and the discs become hardened and more fibrous over time, eventually bulging out and applying pressure to the spinal cord.

Though both types of IVDD are caused by degeneration of discs, dogs may be more at risk for one type of IVDD than the other. Dr. Beth Boudreau, clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M Col-

lege of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, explained what breed of dogs are more at risk for the disease. "For Type I disc disease, breed plays a big role," she said. "Chondrodystrophic dogs, which are canines that have genetic differences that cause skeletal disorders, are more at risk for IVDD than other breeds because their discs may undergo very early degeneration. There are many chondrodystrophic breeds, including the Dachshund, the French Bulldog, Corgi, Beagle, Basset Hound and Miniature Poodle. For Type II disc disease, any breed of dog may be affected. Because of the slower nature of development for type of disc disease, dogs with this problem tend to be older than those with Type I disc disease."

If your dog shows an unwillingness to jump, has pain or weakness in the rear legs, cries out in pain, or displays a reduced appetite and activity level, you should consider taking them to the veterinarian for an examination. Diagnosis for IVDD starts with a complete neurologic exam by your veterinarian and possible X-rays, but is confirmed with an MRI or other advanced imaging.

If diagnosed with IVDD, your dog will not have to endure pain for the rest of its life. There are two main types of treatment available for IVDD: medical management and surgery.

"Medical management involves managing pain associated with disc disease in addition to a period of strict rest, to give the stretched or ruptured disc time to heal itself," Boudreau said. "This is most appropriate for less affected patients, especially those that are having signs for the first time. Alternatively, surgery can be performed to remove abnormal disc material that is encroaching on the spinal cord. This treatment option is recommended for patients who are more severely affected, or for dogs that do not improve with medical management."

Though IVDD is manageable in dogs, prevention is the best way to keep your pet pain-free even in breeds that are at a higher risk for disc degeneration. Feeding Fido a balanced diet and helping him maintain a healthy weight can reduce stress on the neck and backbone. If your dog tends to pull on the leash while on a walk, invest in a harness to ease even more stress off the neck. Keeping steps next to the bed or couch may also prevent your dog from jumping and developing an injury. These simple steps are a great way to keep you pet safe and healthy.

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the Web at vetmed.tamu.edu/pet-talk.

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Weddings • Seniors • Families

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DEADLINES

News Items

Friday at 4 p.m. the week prior in the Lena Office on a space available basis.

Display Ads

Friday noon the week prior to publication.

Classified Ads

Friday at 4 p.m. the week prior to publication.

Legals

Friday at 4 p.m. the week prior to publication.

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The only things selling faster than the homemade donuts at the bake sale hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Kent at the State Bank in Pearl City were the chocolate mint brownies.

ST. PAUL'S BAKE SALE



Tracy Siegner photos

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Kent held a bake sale at the State Bank in Pearl City and this particular dessert table was one of the busier stations at the sale.

Join our "Community Enchanted Forest"

Individuals, organizations, churches, groups or businesses can decorate a tree that represents you! Bring your Enchanted Tree - any size or color, your decorations and lights - and help us create an Enchanted Forest in our front windows. Electricity will be available. All ages and groups are welcome! Decorating will begin the day after Thanksgiving and must be complete by Thursday, December 10th. Please call 815-369-4561 for details.

Christmas Open House

Friday, December 11 ~ 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Food ~ Refreshments ~ Door prizes

Community Supper

Wednesday, December 16 ~ 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Location: Lena Living Center
All ages welcome! No cost - no obligation.
Just good food and good fellowship.

Lena Living Center

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The pre-packaged caramel corn sold quickly at the bake sale hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Kent at the State Bank in Pearl City.

Lena United Methodist Church to host Holiday Cookie Walk and Chili

LENA — Lena United Methodist Church will be having a Holiday Cookie Walk and Chili Supper as part of Lena Business & Professional Association Night. We will be serving chili, pumpkin bars or

Texas sheet cake, ham salad or egg salad sandwiches and beverage. Carry outs will be available. Mark your calendars for December 4 to join us and the Lena businesses for a family night out.

Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Lena for breakfast

LENA — Children bring mom and dad to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus on one of their last stops before they head back to the North Pole. "Breakfast with Santa" will be held at the Lena Fire Station on Saturday December 12, 2015 from 8a.m.-10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$5 for ages 8 to

adult, \$2.50 for ages 4-7 and children under 3 are free. Enjoy a delicious all you can eat breakfast, games and pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus. For further information call 815-369-5351. This event is sponsored by the Lena Community Park District.

Associate Circuit Judge Hauser to seek office

STATELINE — Associate Circuit Judge James Hauser announced Saturday that he will seek the office of Resident Circuit Court Judge in the upcoming election.

“Judge Hauser has been an excellent judge for the last nine years and is one of the most qualified candidates,” said State Representative Brian Stewart. “He deserves your consideration for Circuit Judge.”

Retired Presiding Circuit Judge Theresa L. Ursin reacted to the announcement, “Judge Hauser is experienced, efficient and knowledgeable,” said Judge Ursin. “He has been an excellent Associate Judge and is unquestionably the best choice for Circuit Judge.” Hauser cur-

rently serves as an Associate Circuit Court Judge, a position appointed by the elected Circuit Court Judges throughout the 15th Judicial Circuit.

Judge Hauser was born and raised in Freeport where he attended Aquin High School. He obtained his Associates degree from Highland College in 1983. Judge Hauser then earned his Bachelor degree from the University of Iowa before going to law school at Marquette University and began his legal career shortly after graduation in 1988.

During law school, Hauser was a Federal Law Clerk for United States Magistrate Judge P. Michael Mahoney. “I have known Jim Hauser all of his

life,” said Judge Mahoney. “Jim Hauser is an outstanding person. In addition, he has been an outstanding judge for Stephenson County. The people of Stephenson County will be well-served by electing Jim Circuit Judge. No finer candidate could be found. I wholeheartedly recommend The Honorable Jim Hauser as the person who will do the best job for Stephenson County as Circuit Judge”.

After graduating from law school, he was a Federal Law Clerk in Denver, Colorado and then went to practice with a trial firm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Judge Hauser and his family were anxious to return to Freeport and 18 years ago did

just that. He practiced law at Mahoney and Hauser where he was a partner with his brother, Rick Hauser, and Tim Mahoney. Judge Hauser has been on the bench since December of 2006.

“I have been honored to serve my community as Associate Circuit Court Judge and look forward to continuing to serve as Resident Circuit Court Judge and meeting the additional challenges the position will bring,” Hauser said. “There’s more that I can do for the people of Northwest Illinois, and I hope they give me the opportunity.”

Hauser has a lengthy list of service to the region beyond his years on – and before – the bench. He has been an Aquin Booster and helped chair the Aquin Open since he moved back home. In addition, he has been involved with several fund raising programs including the funds to build the disc golf course at Krape Park. He was also one of the initial Board of Directors of the committee to build Little Cubs Field and has served as a Board member for

See OFFICE, Page 9

Winter weather forces delay in Forreston Thanksgiving Tournament

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

FORRESTON — With winter weather, reportedly assailing the area, with between six and 16 inches of snow falling on Friday night, Nov. 20 into Saturday, Nov. 21, the annual Forreston Girls’ Thanksgiving Tournament Classic, scheduled to hit the floor on Friday night, saw game play delayed, until conditions were deemed much safer for travel.

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As roadways became a little clearer, as the afternoon progressed, other teams began to make their way to the Holiday Tournament in Forreston.

In the 4 p.m. game, Winnebago and Eastland, both within 30 minutes of the Ogle County location battled to make their way to the tournament and onto the floor.

Stockton stuck around for the 5:30 p.m. game on Saturday, as they faced the Rochelle Hubs.

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Christian Life and Forreston closed night three, as they were featured in the 8 p.m. game.

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Rochelle and Christian Life

follow with Stockton and Eastland playing their game prior to the tournament closer between the Hubs and the Cardinals, scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.

The 2015-2016 winter sports season for the area boys’ basketball teams began this week, with many squads from the NUIC playing at conference host locations, across northern Illinois, in their own Holiday Tip-off Classics.

Girl Scouts seek award nominations for local volunteers

STATELINE — Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI) is deeply thankful for its nearly 2,500 volunteers who act as troop leaders, Girl Scout Cookie Chairs, and in a variety of other time-consuming and effort-demanding positions that enable local girls to fully participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. These exceptional people generously donate their time and talent free of charge to prepare the country’s next generation of female leaders.

GSNI is currently seeking award nominations for worthy Girl Scout volunteers from the community. If you’ve had a positive experience with a Girl Scout troop leader or any Girl Scout volunteer, visit <http://www.girlscoutsni.org/volunteer-resources> to nominate them for an award. Awards include Volunteer of Excellence, Appreciation Pin, Honor Pin, Thanks Badge, Thanks Badge II, President’s Award, and Hall of Fame Award. New this year, all nominations—with the exception of Hall of

Fame—can be submitted via an easy, online form.

Please join GSNI in recognizing these women and men who are inspiring the young girls of today to become the strong foundation of tomorrow!

We’re Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois

We believe every girl can change the world. Our girls develop leadership skills in 16 counties including parts or all of Boone, Carroll, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago. We help girls build courage, confidence, and character, so they can make the world a better place by inspiring them to discover their inner strength, talents, and passions. And with programs from Stomp Rockets to Camp Explorers, there’s a chance for every girl to do something amazing! We’re Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, or join, visit www.girlscoutsni.org or call 1-800-242-5591.

Galena Rotary offers ‘Cyber Security....Who’s In Your Computer’ roundtable discussion

GALENA — The 28th annual Community Roundtable sponsored by the Galena Rotary Club, in cooperation with Galena Gazette Publications and Eagle Resort & Spa, will be held Wednesday, January 13, at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa.

Anyone who owns a computer and/or other digital devices (i.e., tablet, smart phone) will want to attend this Roundtable. Three professionals in the field of cyber security will present important information you need to know. Three presentations pin-pointing specific users are to be made:

The Big Picture...cyber security on a global and national basis. What’s happening today, what’s being done now and in the future?

Large & Small Businesses....What’s at risk and what

possible actions can be taken to protect your business and customers/clients

The Individual User..... Identifying the risks and what can you do to protect yourself and your information from computer fraud and identity theft

After each presentation, questions from the floor will be entertained.

Doors open 12:30p.m. with the event beginning at 1p.m. and ending at 5p.m. Cost for the event is \$25 if you pre-register or \$30 at the door. Pre-registration forms will be available at most Jo Daviess county banks and the Galena Gazette in early December. Pre-registration forms will also be available on the Galena Rotary website: www.galenarotary.org Sign up now as pre-registration ends January 6.

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4-H Camp – change your child's life with a fun and educational experience

STATELINE — Registration for 4-H Camp '16 is open. 4-H Camp '16 is set for June 13-17, 2016 at Camp Benson in Mount Carroll. Sign up today to get your child in on all of the amazing fun!

4-H Camp is a five-day, four-night residential camping experience that is conducted cooperatively by University of Illinois Extension staff in DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties and the professional staff at Camp Benson.

Historically, parents have sent their children to 4-H Camp for a variety of reasons: to have fun, to make new friends, to develop new skills, to be physically active, and to appreciate nature. 4-H Camp is about way more than one week of fun. Sending your child to 4-H Camp will allow them to create memories they will carry with them through adulthood. 4-H camp teaches youth to make good decisions, build their self-confidence, become independent, and gain the ability to work well with others. These are skills that will help youth develop into strong adult leaders. In addition, 4-H camp counselors devote much of their personal time to ensure today's camp-

ers have the same great experience they did as children.

Campers at 4-H Camp will check-in from 6:00-6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016 and check-out from 6:00-6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 17, 2016. During camp week, youth will engage in a variety of activities designed to challenge, educate and entertain. Two or three free-choice periods will be offered daily and will include options such as: hiking, riflery, nature study, rock climbing, arts and crafts, archery, kayaking, crate stacking, team building challenges, survival skills, scrapbooking, zip-lining, swimming, dance/cheerleading, and GPS scavenger hunts. Evening activities will be provided by the 4-H camp counselors from the co-sponsoring counties and include campfires, a games night, and a talent show. It's guaranteed to be a blast.

4-H Camp is open to all boys and girls, ages 8-14 by June 13, 2016. 4-H membership is not required; however all participants will be expected to comply with the same high behavior standards expected of 4-H'ers.

Cost is \$245 until March 1. After that date, the price goes up to \$260. All camp fees

must be paid in full by June 1, 2016. Download a camper application on-line at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/jsw/stephenson4h/2293.html> or you can register online at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/bdo/> and click on the 2016 4-H Camp link. You may also call the Jo Daviess County Extension at 815-858-2273, Ogle County Extension at 815-732-2191, Stephenson County Extension at 815-235-4125, or Winnebago County Extension at 815-986-4357. Slots for boys and girls cabins will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

About 4-H: Illinois 4-H strives to help youth learn skills for living. 4-H programs are offered in every Illinois county by University of Illinois Extension. Illinois 4-H aims to impact the lives of 250,000 youth each year through sustained learning clubs and groups and short-term programming. 4-H is a community of seven million young people around the world learning leadership, citizenship, & life skills. For more information on any of these events, contact University of Illinois Extension-Stephenson County at 815-235-4125.



Courtesy photo

Kindergartener pays it forward

Pearl City Kindergartner Krista Woodley donates a basket of assorted cereals to the school's food drive.



Courtesy photo

Food Drive a Success

A food drive for the Golden Meals/Meals On Wheels program was a huge success. Lisa Lobdell, Lena Living Center, Bryan Badger, Presence St Joseph, Diane Randecker, Golden Meals, Cheryl Johnson, Oakley Courts Assisted Living and Savanna Reed, Presence St. Joseph spearheaded the effort and collected specific canned foods that the agency could use. Due to the lack of a State budget, the Golden Meals/Meals on Wheels program have been short on food supplies.

The Golden Meals agency supplies on site meals and meals for seniors in Stephenson or Jo Daviess Counties. Thanks to all who donated to make this food drive successful.

Highland Gallery hosts Visual Art Faculty Exhibit

FREEPORT — The Highland Gallery features work by current HCC Visual Arts faculty members through Tuesday, December 8 at the Ferguson Fine Arts Center. This annual event shows recent works by faculty that are on display and available for contemplation, stimulation, and discussion as a featured exhibit for the Fall 2015 semester.

"Faculty members of the HCC Visual Arts program are professional artists, as well as instructors, working within a diverse range of media, content, and image concerns," explains Highland Gallery Director Robert Apolloni. "Their individualized style and approach creates an exhibit showcasing traditional as well as contemporary concerns. A faculty art exhibition, comprised solely of works created by faculty members, is scholarly – and this exhibit illustrates the com-

mitment of HCC Visual Arts faculty to pursue continued research and artistry outside of the class room setting." This exhibit will feature the works of the following artists:

- Bob Apolloni: Drawing, Design, and Intro to Art Instructor
- Reed Bakken, Pottery Instructor
- Jim Planting, Drawing, Design, and Painting Instructor
- Sam Tucibat, Graphic Design and Photography Instructor

This exhibit is partially sponsored by SOVA and HCC Activities.

Highland Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information about the gallery or Highland's Visual Arts program, contact Robert Apolloni at 815.599.3479 or bob.apolloni@highland.edu.

Stephenson County 4-H hosts award and volunteer recognition event

FREEPORT — November 15 set the stage for the annual Stephenson County 4-H Award & Volunteer Recognition event held at the Eagles Club in Freeport. This annual event is held to award 4-H members for their outstanding accomplishments throughout the year and recognize 4-H volunteers for all the time and energy they give to make Stephenson County 4-H the best it can be. Emcees for the event were Kyla Glendenning, a six-year member of Florence Crickets 4-H Club, and Asa Lake, an eight-year member of Lena Live Wires 4-H Club.

Prior to the event, 4-H members are judged on award applications they fill out and turn in at the county level. "The award applications are a way for 4-H'ers to explain progress and challenges they faced while completing their projects," states Lori Tessendorf, Program Coordinator. "It also gives them a chance to highlight other activities they've participated in at the club, county, and state levels both within and outside of 4-H.

Awards were given in the following project areas: Matthew Bronkema of Pearl City Hornets for Achievement, Animal Science, and Personal Development; Magen Busker of Country Cuzins for Achievement, Animal Science, Food, Nutrition & Health, and Home & Family; Mary Engelkens of Rainbow Rangers for Achievement and Food, Nutrition & Health; Megan Hayunga of Freeport Fantastics for Achievement and Personal Development; Bria

Koester of Country Cuzins for Animal Science and Personal Development; Zakary Krahmer of Lena Lucky Clovers for Animal Science; Anna Kuper of Florence Crickets for Animal Science and Home & Family; Leah Kuper of Florence Crickets for Animal Science and Personal Development; Michelle Marck of Freeport Fantastics for Food, Nutrition & Health and Personal Development; Kaylen Miller of Snappy Snazzers for Animal Science; Hayden Roth of Snappy Snazzers for Animal Science; Ross Stabenow of Lena Lucky Clovers for Animal Science; and Jennifer Wuebbels of Freeport Fantastics for Food, Nutrition & Health

This year's Top First-Year 4-H members included: Jasmine Brinkmeier (Country Cuzins), Hannah Pecoraro (Lena Live Wires), Gavin Roth (Snappy Snazzers), Cole Weber (Country Cuzins), Lauren Witte (Freeport Fantastics) and Elizabeth Wuebbels (Freeport Fantastics). Top First Year Clothing winner Elizabeth Wuebbels (Freeport Fantastics); Top First-Year Beef winner Ross Stabenow (Lena Lucky Clovers); Top First-Year Dairy winner Jasmine Brinkmeier (Country Cuzins); National Dairy Conference nominee Megan Hayunga (Freeport Fantastics) and Bria Koester (Country Cuzins); and Holstein-Friesian Association nominee Magen Busker (Country Cuzins), Bria Koester (Country Cuzins) and Kaylen Miller (Snappy Snazzers).

Caroline Otto (Florence Crickets) was the 4-H Program Book Cover winner. The following Club Officers were also recognized: Gavin and Hayden

Roth (Snappy Snazzers) for Scrapbook; Davis Rockets 4-H Club for Recreation; Alanna Pals (Freeport Fantastics) for Club Reporter; Kenda Snyder (Lena Live Wires) and TJ Wingert (Pearl City Hornets) for Treasurers; Zakary Krahmer (Lena Lucky Clovers) for Secretary; Kevyn-Ann Sutter and Joe Werkheiser (both Lena Live Wires) for Co-Presidents; and Zack Brinkmeier, Grant Curry, Cody Kluck, Meg Tessendorf, and TJ Winger (all from Pearl City Hornets) for Officer Team of the Year.

Sixteen adult volunteers who reached a milestone year of 1, 5, 10, 15, and 20 years for being leaders in a 4-H club were given special recognition. The one-year leaders were: Ann DeZell (Pearl Valley Rangers), Amy Hesselbacher (Freeport Fantastics), Carrie Julius (Whiz Kids), Stephanie Mitchell (Country Cuzins) and Troy Pettis (Davis Rockets); Five-year leaders were: Josh Bolen (German Valley Golden Eagles), Debbie Crain (Lena Live Wires), Gail Engelkens (Rainbow Rangers), Marsha Lott (Florence Crickets) and Darci Wierema-Sutter (Lena Live Wires). Ten-year leaders were: Marie Bronkema (Pearl City Hornets), Marlyse Johnson (Pearl Valley Rangers) and Trent Wingert (Pearl City Hornets). The fifteen-year leader was Rita Koch (Country Cuzins), and the twenty-year leader was Julie Miller (Davis Rockets). Pat Yeagle (Snappy Snazzers), who has served many, many years and given so much to the 4-H program, was recognized for reaching her 36-year anniversary.

Barb Marck of Freeport Fan-

tastics was also chosen as the 2015 Adult Volunteer of the Year and the Club Leader Team of the Year award was given to Bonnie Campbell, Larry Campbell, Julie Miller, and Troy Pettis from the Davis Rockets 4-H Club.

Club of the Year is awarded to a large club with 20 members or more and a small club with 19 members or less. Selection is made from applications submitted by the club, detailing yearly activities and volunteer and youth involvement. This year's Large Club of the Year is Snappy Snazzers. This year's Small Club of the Year is Davis Rockets.

The I Dare You award was given to Magen Hayunga of Freeport Fantastics for her excellence in character, balanced personal development, and for demonstrating qualities of constructive leadership. She is encouraged to develop herself personally and to improve her leadership skills by reading William Danforth's I Dare You book and then passing on the information to others to help them develop their leadership abilities.

The Engelkens Family (Brian, Carol, Mark, Katie, Brandon and Adam) were recognized as the Family of the Year. This family started its 4-H career more than 15 years ago and has participated as a family at the Ag Breakfast, the Pork Chop Dinner, and the 4-H recruitment booth at the fair. They are county and state 4-H show champions, are always actively promoting 4-H through local events, and very involved with their church and teaching.

The Top 4-H'er award is the

most prestigious award a member can receive at the county level. The Top 4-H'er award was given to Mary Engelkens of the Rainbow Rangers 4-H Club. When reading Mary's award application, she stated, "I really love 4-H and enjoy doing things in my club and at the county and state levels. I have learned to make the best better through my 4-H experience and projects.

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• OFFICE

Continued from page 7

the Freeport Area Church Cooperative.

The race now consists of Judge Hauser and Rockford attorney Andrew T. Smith, who announced his candidacy several months ago. Judge Hauser's campaign committee consists of former Stephenson County Treasurer Andrew M. Smith, retired Resident Circuit Judge Theresa L. Ursin, and Attorneys Rick Hauser and Tim Mahoney.

Winter weather forces delay in Forreston Thanksgiving Tournament

By **Chris Johnson**
Reporter

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN

LENA — This week we will celebrate family and food—can't think of a better combination. After the celebration and the turkey has been carved, leftovers are stashed in the refrigerator. This week's column will give you some ideas of what to do with the leftover turkey. It will also give you a start on our next holiday.

The first recipe is for a turkey soup. You can use the leftover turkey, cube it, and put it in a soup that is hearty with barley and spinach. Remember that the spinach will wilt and be just a little taste and not the main ingredient. This soup can be made and frozen—leave the spinach out until you are ready to cook and serve it. This dish

is a great way to use some of that turkey.

Turkey & Vegetable Barley Soup

1 T. oil
5 medium carrots, chopped
1 medium onion, chopped
2/3 C. quick-cooking barley
6 C. chicken broth
2 C. cubed cooked turkey breast
2 C. fresh baby spinach
1/2 t. pepper

In a large saucepan, heat oil over medium high heat. Add carrots and onion; cook and stir 4-5 minutes or until carrots are crisp-tender.

Stir in barley and broth; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, 10-15 minutes or until carrots and barley are tender. Stir in turkey, spinach and pepper; heat through.

This next recipe has main meal written all over it. You have a vegetable in the peppers, some stuffing, and turkey. It is also very colorful. Kraft makes a great sun dried tomato vinaigrette dressing. If you have leftover stuffing, you can use it in the peppers. The cheese makes the whole meal taste great.

Turkey & Stuffing Stuffed Peppers

1 green pepper, cut lengthwise in half and seeded
1 red pepper, cut lengthwise in half and seeded
1 yellow pepper, cut lengthwise in half and seeded
1 onion chopped
1/2 C. Sun Dried Tomato Vinaigrette Dressing
1 1/2 C. stuffing
2 oz. cream cheese, softened and cubed
1 1/2 C. shredded three cheese

Preheat the oven to 400. Place the pepper halves, cut sides up in a 9 x 13 baking dish which has been sprayed with cooking spray. Bake 10 minutes.

In a large nonstick skillet, cook onions in salad dressing on medium heat 5 minutes or until crisp tender, stirring frequently. Remove from heat. Stir in turkey, stuffing, cream cheese, and half of the cheese; spoon into pepper halves. Cover and bake for 15 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese; bake, uncovered for 5 minutes or until cheese is melted and filling is heated through.

Are you looking for a great way to use up those acorn squash? This is a whole meal in a half of an acorn squash. I use Uncle Ben's Long Grain Wild Rice—not the quick cooking kind. You can use the



The not so skinny cook

leftover bread cubes from the bag you used at Thanksgiving. To make it vegetarian, you can use vegetable broth rather than chicken broth. This squash is a main meal with a salad and bread. It combines all the great flavors of fall. You could start the acorn squash in the microwave so that it doesn't take so long. Enjoy the great tastes of fall!

Wild Rice Stuffed Acorn Squash

4 acorn squash, halved lengthwise and seeded
5 T. butter
1 1/2 C. diced onion
1 clove garlic, minced
1 C. chopped fresh mushrooms
1 pkg. (6 oz.) long grain and wild rice mix, including the flavor packet
2/4 C. chicken or vegetable broth
1/2 C. dried cranberries
3/4 C. diced celery
1/2 of a 12 oz. bag of seasoned stuffing
1/2 C. chopped pecans
5 T. chopped fresh parsley or 5 t. of dried parsley
1/4 t. salt

Bake the squash:

Preheat the oven to 350. Lightly grease 2 large rimmed baking sheets. Put the squash, cut sides down, on the baking sheets. Bake squash, switching position of sheets halfway through, until just tender when pierced with a knife, about 50-60 minutes. Remove from oven and keep the oven on.

Stuffing:

Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Cook 1 cup onion and garlic, stirring, until the onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Reduce the heat to medium-low and then add mushrooms and cook, stirring until they give off their juices, about 5 minutes. Add the rice mix (not the flavor packet) and cook stirring until the vegetables begin to brown, about 5 minutes. Stir in 1 1/2 cups of broth, flavor packet and cranberries, and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to low and simmer the rice, covered, or until tender

and liquid is absorbed, about 20 minutes. Remove pan from heat and fluff the mixture with a fork, and let stand, covered, 5 minutes. Fluff with a fork once again

Stuff the squash:

Gently toss cooked rice mixture with stuffing, pecans, parsley and salt in a large bowl. Spoon the filling into the squash cavities, patting it down gently to level, then mound as much of remaining filling as possible on top of each squash. Return stuffed squash to oven and bake until stuffing is hot, 15-20 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley

This main meal casserole is a great way to use up with any of that turkey you still have left. If you put three cups of the cubed turkey in the freezer, you can pull it out to make this recipe in two weeks when turkey will taste good again. The noodles are blanched—cooked for only one minute, so they won't get gummy. If you don't have panko bread crumbs, you can use just plain ones. The panko bread crumbs make the topping a little more crunchy.

Turkey Noodle Casserole

12 oz. wide egg noodles
4 T. unsalted butter
1 C. diced onions
1 C. small baby carrots
1 C. sliced celery
2 t. dried thyme
1/3 C. flour
4 1/2 C. chicken broth
1 C. heavy cream
3 C. chopped, cooked turkey
2 C. shredded Cheddar
1 C. frozen peas
2 T. chopped fresh parsley or 2 t. dried parsley
3 T. lemon juice
Salt and pepper to taste

Topping:

1 1/2 C. shredded Parmesan
1 1/2 C. panko bread crumbs
3 T. unsalted butter melted
2 T. minced fresh parsley or 2 t. dried parsley
Zest of 1 lemon (optional)

Preheat the oven to 350. Coat a 3-qt. baking dish with nonstick spray. Blanch the noodles in a large pot of boiling salted water for 1 minute. Drain noodles in a colander and rinse with cold water to stop the cooking; drain.

Heat 4 tablespoons of butter in same pot over medium. Add onions, carrots, celery, and thyme; sweat the vegetables, covered until vegetables soften, about 5 minutes. Stir in flour and cook for 2 minutes.

So

Much to be
Thankful For



For family, for fortune,
For freedom to believe
We pause to give thanks
For all we receive

Happy Thanksgiving Day



Leamon Funeral Homes

Lena Orangeville Warren Winslow

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See RECIPES, Page 12

CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

"God's purpose for your life"

By Pastor Rick Bader
St. John's Lutheran Church, Lena

LENA — There are hundreds of books out there on finding God's purpose for your life. But more often than not, we make it a lot more complicated than it needs to be. Our work, our use of spiritual gifts, our creative outlets, and our day to day choices are all ultimately acts of worship to our God.

Yes, even our day-to-day monotony equals worship to our God! We need those words to soak deep into our soul and breathe life into this very moment. I've had to block out a lot of excess noise coming my way lately and I've had lots of discussions with myself. So, if you walk by my office and hear me jabbering away with no one else present—that's what I'm doing. But I also hear voices—voices that say, "You could have done so much more with what you were given. Wasted potential."

I know my calling and worth aren't defined by how large a church I serve, how much my salary is, the leadership positions I hold; yet at varying times of my life, when things seem to be the same old thing over and over again, it's hard not to wonder what I've missed.

And then I hear Mordecai reminding Esther in the Bible, "For such a time as this," and it fires me up. The Lord has called, equipped, and appointed us to do amazing things right where we are, wherever we work, and wherever we serve. It's nothing earth shattering, but it sure whips up my passion and purpose for making the ordinary, extraordinary.

I've been convicted over and over again that I need to stop guessing and waiting and wondering what the next big thing is because often the elusive "thing" that matters most is for us to dive in right where we are planted. God shows up repeatedly when I decide to "be all in" regardless of how I feel about my circumstances at the moment.

If you are called to paint a masterpiece, by all means paint and use your gift to reflect the glory of God. If you are called to make cookies for your family, it's not just another chore; you are feeding the next generation of world changers. If you are called to file papers,

do correspondence, or answer the phone for your boss, you are fulfilling a sacred calling to serve and lift up those around you.

We are in God's will when we are doing what He called us to do at this very moment. It looks different for me than it does for you. It may be in a classroom, at home, in an office, or in ministry. No job or gifting or calling is greater than another when we are in His will.

The nameless Samaritan woman who repented at the well was just as much in God's will as Queen Esther when she saved the Jewish people and ultimately an entire nation. The young boy who shared his five loaves and two fish was just as much in God's will as a rich man who would give everything he had to the Lord. Jesus was just as much in God's will when He was a carpenter as He was dying on a cross! Never doubt your incredible value in God's eyes. You are worthy! You are needed! You are amazing! Be all in right where you are!

Martin Luther King Jr. said it well: "If it falls to your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven composed music... Sweep streets like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth will have to pause and say: Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his/her job well."

We are in God's will when we are doing what He called us to do at this very moment! Give thanks with a grateful heart that God opened His heart toward us and gave us His Son to rescue us from sin, death, and Satan. Give thanks with all your heart as you take the good news of Jesus with you wherever you serve.

ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

411 West Catlin Street,
Elizabeth IL, 61028
815-858-3334
Pastor Mike Nesbit

Sunday School & Bible Study at 8:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship at 7 p.m.

217762

St. John's Lutheran Church

PEARL CITY — You're invited to join us at St. John's to celebrate the season of Advent starting on November 29. The worship service will be led by Pastor Ekstrand and the 1st candle of Advent will be lit. Whirl Sunday School and Confirmation will meet at 10:15 a.m. after worship. All Sunday School youth are encouraged to stay after Sunday School for the Christmas Pageant practice at 11 a.m. You're encouraged to help decorate the church after worship followed by a Chili and Oyster lunch.

Members and non-members alike are welcome to participate in two different Bible Studies at St. John's. The Monday evening bible study is at 7 p.m. and features a discussion titled "The Psalms". Join us on Monday evenings as we come to understand more vividly the cries and celebrations expressed through the Psalms, and how they intimately relate to our lives even today. The Thursday morning bible study is held at 9:30. The discussion continues to focus on "Genesis:" A Narrative from the Mouths of the Hebrew People of God. You are welcome to join in on any or all of the bible studies! Both bible studies are held in the Conference Room of the Lower Level. The door on the east side of the building will be open for the bible studies.

St. John's will host a Family Christmas Program on Sunday, December 13 immediately following worship. The Chancel Choir will sing and the Sunday School youth will perform in "The Mouses' Tale," a Christmas pageant. You're welcome to join St. John's celebrate the Christmas season with Christmas Eve services at 5 and 9 p.m. and on Christmas Day at 9 a.m.

Willow/Kent United Methodist Churches

WILLOW/KENT — Willow/Kent UMC will worship together Sunday Nov 29 at Willow UMC at 9 a.m. with Pastor Brenda Morris giving the message. All are invited and welcome; this is the beginning of the Advent season. Also welcome to stay for the fellowship following.

Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. using the lessons in the devotional "Upper Room"; using the Holy Bible for references; making for interesting studies. All are invited and welcome. Willow UMC is located about 7 miles SE of Stockton, IL on Willow Rd. For more info call 815-601-6742.

Lena United Methodist Church schedules Angel Tree and Cookie Walk

LENA — As we start the season of Advent and remember the birth of our Savior we have many opportunities to continue the mission of Jesus; helping those in need any way we can. We remember his birth because of the hope that he brought for us all. On November 29 names of children will be on our Angel Tree waiting for someone to select their name to help that child add some happiness and hope to their Christmas. Information about the child will help you in providing a gift for them. Gifts should be returned to the church by December 13. On Saturday December 4 there will be a chili supper and cookie walk at the Lena United Methodist Church from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. This is part of the Lena Christmas Walk sponsored by

the Lena Business and Professional Association. Come, enjoy a bowl of Chili and help us celebrate Christmas.

Our bible study Not a Silent Night continues on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and also on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. as we look at the coming birth of Jesus through the eyes of Mary.

We catch up with Paul on his second missionary trip as he enters Thessalonica after being beaten and thrown in prison in Philippi. Paul would arrive in Thessalonica with his wounds still healing. Paul would have continued to preach the good news of Jesus Christ. Proclaiming those believing in Christ

would be forgiven for their sins. Some of the Jewish synagogue leaders would become jealous and would oppose Paul, Silas and Timothy. The new believers in Thessalonica helped Paul, Silas and Timothy escape from the crowd and continue on to Berea where they were welcomed. Paul, Silas and Timothy continued to preach in Berea and many accepted the good news of Christ. With the help of new Christians in Berea Paul was escorted to Athens (a symbol of Greek culture and philosophy). Silas and Timothy stayed in Berea to continue their teaching. Join us next time as Paul sees Athens for the first time.

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF LENA

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Rev. Scott Wilson
Assoc. Pastor of Youth

Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School/ABF 8:45 a.m.
AWANA-Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.
Junior and Senior High
Youth Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

220097



Pearl City United Methodist Church

411 S. Main Street, Pearl City

Ham Dinner & UMW Bake Sale

Sunday, December 6th 11am-2pm

Serving: Ham, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Applesauce, Rolls, Coffee, Water, Lemonade...and PIE!!

\$8.00 per adult • \$5.00 per child (12 and under)

Carry outs available

226856

• **RECIPES**

Continued from page 10

Stir broth and cream and bring to a boil; reduce the heat and simmer until mixture thickens, about 2-3 minutes.

Stir in the noodles, turkey, cheddar, peas, parsley, and lemon juice until combined; season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle topping over the casserole, top with lemon zest and bake until bubbly and brown, 25-30 minutes. Transfer casserole to a rack and let rest 5-10 minutes.

I have had a call for apple sheet cake. This cake uses both fresh and dried apples. Part of the flavor comes from apple butter (they have great apple butter at the Red Barn). The maple frosting makes this a delicious dessert.

Apple Sheet Cake

- 2 medium baking apples
- 1/3 C. butter, melted
- 1 2/3 C. packed dark brown sugar
- 1 C. apple butter
- 2 eggs
- 2 t. vanilla
- 1 2/3 C. flour
- 1 t. baking powder
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1 C. finely chopped dried apples

Frosting:
 1/2 C. powdered sugar
 1 T. melted butter
 1 T. maple syrup
 1 T. milk
 1/4 t. vanilla

Frosting: In a small bowl, stir together powdered sugar, melted butter, maple syrup, milk, and vanilla until smooth.

Preheat oven to 350. Grease a 9 x 13 baking pan; set aside. Peel, core, and coarsely shred one apple using a box grater; thinly slice remaining apple. Cover and set aside.

In a large bowl whisk together butter, brown sugar, apple butter, eggs, and vanilla until smooth. Add the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt; whisk to combine. Fold in the dried and fresh shredded apple. Spread batter into the prepared pan. Arrange apple slices over batter.

Bake 40 minutes or until golden and a toothpick inserted near center comes out clean. Remove to a wire rack.

Pour Maple Icing over hot cake; spread evenly. Cool completely. Dust with cinnamon.

The first of our tour of bars/cookies for Christmas begins this week. This bar is a moist and yummy treat that uses orange as its main flavoring. You can substitute Clementines for the oranges if you want a more tart taste to the cookie. Enjoy this neat way to have fruit and sweet in a cookie.

Cranberry Citrus Bars

- 1 1/2 C. flour
- 1/2 C. dried cranberries
- 1/4 C. powdered sugar
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1 C. cold butter, cubed

Filling:
 5 large eggs
 1 3/4 C. sugar
 3 T. cornstarch
 2 T. butter, melted
 1-2 T. grated orange peel
 1/3 C. orange juice
 1 t. vanilla
 1/2 t. salt
 Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350. Line a 9 13 baking pan with foil, letting ends extend up and over sides, grease foil.

Place flour, cranberries, powdered sugar and salt in a food processor; pulse until blended. Add butter; pulse until butter

is the size of peas. Press onto the bottom of prepared pan. Bake 14-18 minutes or until edges are golden brown.

In a large bowl, whisk eggs, sugar, cornstarch, melted butter, orange peel, juice, vanilla and salt until blended. Pour over the warm crust. Bake 18-22 minutes longer or until the filling is set. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. Dust with confectioner's sugar. Lifting with foil, remove from pan and cut into bars. Refrigerate leftovers.

This coming weekend on November 28, we celebrate Small Business Saturday. It is a great way to support your hometown or the hometowns in your area. Black Friday was for the big guys; this shopping day is for the little guys. Remember in Lena that the little guys provide a service for all of us—we are lucky to have a grocery store, a hardware store, a floral and gift shop, a meat market, a cheese store, a drug store with beautiful cards, an antiques and collectible store, a great shop to buy hand-made

kitchen utensils, and a clothing store. We are lucky to have a place to take our pictures to be framed and a health food store. We can also go and exercise all those Thanksgiving pounds off. After shopping we can go visit any number of our wonderful eating places. If you are from the area towns, be sure to stop and see those merchants who are your neighbors and friends. We need each other, and we need to support each other. This was not a paid political announcement; it is just a reminder to support those around us.

If you are looking for a great gift idea, the Lena Historical Society is once again selling cheese and sausage Christmas gift boxes. The cheese (Muenster, Marble and Cheddar) is from our local cheese factory—Torkelson Cheese, and the sausage is from Lena Maid Meats. The packaging is all ready for you to give as a gift. You can order your boxes by calling Cindy Drye at Cindy's Beauty Shop, 815-369-4030 or Eleanor Holmes at 815-369-

4304 or by mail to: Lena Area Historical Society, Box 620, Lena, IL 61048. The boxes are \$25.00 each. All orders must be made by November 30. Payment is not required until the boxes are picked up on December 12, 2015, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the museum. Did I mention that these boxes are easily mailed? This box is a great idea for a Christmas gift that shows off our local products.

I am hoping that you all have a great and blessed Thanksgiving. Enjoy a good meal, a good visit, and a good nap! Don't wear yourself out after the big day shopping and save some money to buy some things in your town. As we put Thanksgiving to bed, we are getting ready for Christmas. We are looking for some Christmas cookie recipes. If you have some recipes to share, you can contact us in person, by mail, or email us at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 213 S. Center St. or email scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

Around the Northern Hills

STATELINE — Happy Thanksgiving from the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau! Thanksgiving Day is a time to offer thanks, for family gatherings, and holiday meals. Please be safe as you travel during this Thanksgiving holiday. Our office will be closed November 26 and 27 to enjoy Thanksgiving with our families.

As we come upon the holiday season, many people think of the foodbanks to help out people in need. Did you know that milk is one of the most-requested, yet least-donated items at Feeding America Food Banks. One in 6 kids rely on Feeding America Food Banks in a year. Here's a way you can help. Go to <https://milklife.com/give> to donate. Coupons are distributed through our closest Feeding America Food Bank, the River Bend in Davenport. It sends vouchers to food pantries within its service area (which includes Jo Daviess County).

Showing Support with Farm Toys for Tots...

Farmers and ranchers make up less than 2% of the U.S. population, which means agricultural literacy is more important than ever. As the 2015 Holiday season approaches that literacy is at stake again as a group is petitioning Walmart to stop selling the "ERTL Big Farm Livestock Hauler". This petition claims that the toy represents the senseless slaugh-



ANNETTE MCLANE

ter of animals. These trailers are used to move animals to many locations from farm to farm and other destinations. The agriculture community has teamed up to start a campaign collect donations and use the proceeds to purchase toys that will be donated to Toys For Tots. Specifically these funds donated will be used to purchase these toy trailers and other farm-themed toys. Farmers and ranchers around the country will distribute the toys to Toys for Tots drop-off locations from sea to shining sea. To contribute to this program visit the Farm Toys for Tots GoFundMe page and donate to the campaign. The link to donate is <https://www.gofundme.com/farmtoysfortots>.

Agriculture has always been a cornerstone of our nation's way of life. As wise stewards and innovative entrepreneurs, our dedicated farmers and ranchers improve our well-being by working to ensure a healthy and abundant agricultural supply. As we prepare for our Thanksgiving celebration, it is a special time to reflect on the bounty most of us enjoy every day. It is a time to remember that our food, and products used to produce our clothing, housing, medicines, fuel and other products used on a daily basis didn't just appear in a store. They got there thanks to a tremendous partnership of farmers and ranchers, processors, brokers, truckers, shippers, advertisers, wholesalers, and retailers.

National Farm-City Week, the seven days leading to and including Thanksgiving Day, has been proclaimed each year by the President of the United States to emphasize the successful partnerships between rural and urban residents who make our food and fiber system the envy of the world.

"Partners in Progress" is the ongoing theme of Farm-City Week. The key is the interdependence among those who produce the products, those who consume the products, and all those in the production

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Tips for Handling a 911 Emergency

- 1.) Make sure House Number is Visible and Large Enough to Read from the Street
- 2.) Turn Porch Light On
- 3.) Unlock Door (if able)
- 4.) Secure Pets

NUIC Basketball hits the courts in northern Illinois

By **Chris Johnson**
Reporter

WARREN — As the 2015-2016 winter sports season got underway across the State of Illinois, teams from East Dubuque to South Beloit saw their first action, some featured in northern Stephenson County as they participated in an annual classic.

nents already received their first taste of NUIC play, as games were played in the Warren Girl's Turkey Tournament.

The Durand Lady Bulldogs topped Warren, 57-51, on Wednesday Nov. 18, as the annual Thanksgiving classic began, with the winter sports season commencing.

Following the opening night loss, Warren faced Oak Park-River Forest in game two.

Details on that contest are unavailable at this time.

The host Lady Warriors corralled the Orangeville Lady Broncos, 83-37 in their night three match, as Galena upset East Dubuque, 55-47 during game play.

Early season rakings show the NUIC, once again, contains some of the more talented programs in the State's small-schools division.

According to information obtained through various web-based Illinois sports outlets, such as the IHSA and Max-Preps, Durand is expected to be one of the "teams to beat", from northern Illinois.

The Lady Bulldogs were positioned just outside the top ten, as the winter basketball season tipped off.

Many teams will be attempting to track down Durand, as well as other State-recognized

programs, such as Stockton, Polo and East Dubuque, during this season. Upsets are expected to occur on a regular basis.

The Lady Pirates are expected to have a solid season, even though, at this point, the State Rankings don't reflect that.

Lena-Winslow is also one of those programs, along with the Dakota Lady Indians, who are expected to field very competitive programs in 2016.

Madigan releases annual holiday safe shopping guide

CHICAGO — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today released her annual Safe Shopping Guide highlighting hazardous toys, children's products and household items that have been recalled over the past year to help Illinois families ensure their home is safe for the holidays. In addition, the guide details practices that should be used with many popular holiday gifts with Internet access, including smartphones, gaming consoles and tablets.

The 2015 Safe Shopping Guide includes detailed descriptions and photographs of nearly 100 children's products recalled in the last year — from popular children's toys and games that pose choking hazards to children's furniture and playsets that pose entrapment or falling risks.

This year's edition also addresses another risk parents confront every day: keeping their children safe online. The digital age has created a new landscape that presents new dangers to children in particular, who can be vulnerable when using the Internet, online games or apps. Madigan's office offers specific tips parents can follow to ensure their children use these ubiquitous Internet-accessible devices safely.

"Today's kids are interested and skilled in the latest technology," said Madigan. "While there are many benefits to our kids using technology, there are pitfalls and dangers every parent should be aware of. Luckily, implementing a few rules and practices can promote safe and positive online experiences for our children."

Recent data illustrate the need for parents to be more aware of how their children are using technology and engaging others online. For example, while 91 percent of parents believe they are well informed about what their teens do online and on their cell phones, only 21 percent of teens think their parents are very well informed about their online behavior. In addition, approximately 93 percent

of parents say they have set rules or limits regarding Internet use, but these rules do not include parents checking their children's online behavior.

To help parents navigate these issues, this year's guide offers tips for parents to create safe and positive online experiences for children of all ages:

Maintain open communication with your child about technology and the appropriate uses of it.

Make sure your child knows they cannot be anonymous on the Internet.

Talk to your child about what should never be posted online and the dangers of posting too much information.

Explain that posting online is just like writing in permanent marker — it cannot be erased.

Engage your child in continuous conversations about how to behave online.

Complete a "use agreement" with your child and talk about respecting others online. Establish and enforce household

rules for technology usage.

Discuss why strong passwords are important, how to create them and the need to keep them private. Obtain all passwords for devices and apps.

Stay informed on your child's Internet habits, review their user history and observe their social media activity. Know who their friends and followers are.

Be aware of changes in your child's behavior that may indicate cyberbullying.

Never threaten to take away your child's phone or Internet access. This could prevent them from approaching you in the future about online problems.

For more information or assistance, Attorney General Madigan urged Illinois residents to contact her office's Internet Safety Team at 1-888-414-7678 or email them at e-info@atg.state.il.us to con-

See GUIDE, Page 18



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North of Mt. Carroll on Rt. 78. left on Elizabeth Blacktop 2.8 miles,
then left on West Point Road, 1.8 miles to lane on left.

226905

Airgonna Willson says:



Freeport (Cedarville) — nearly 3,000 sq ft home, master bedroom, family room (with balcony) overlooking living area below, with fireplace. 3 season room. Wooded 1.85 acres. Bank owned. Now \$169,000!



Pearl City — 2-3 (one non-conforming) bedroom ranch home with gorgeous kitchen cabinetry, 2 family room areas! Quiet location. Close to school, park district. Just \$99,900!

What are you thankful for this year? I'm thankful for punkin' pie!





Pearl City — 4 acre farmette, Great Room addition with fireplace, many outbuildings, great for horses! \$189,900



Kent — 4 bedroom ranch home with brand new Lower Level Family/Workout/Media Room! Open floor plan — kitchen/dining/living areas, main floor laundry. Country views! NOW \$89,900!



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Holiday Magic

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Lena Library
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We will be open during the Christmas Walk
 Friday, December 4th
 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- Serving Refreshments
- Children's Activity

Shop Local for the Holidays
 The Lena Historical Society is offering two great ideas for your Christmas gifts this year.

Cheese & Sausage Gift Box - \$25.00
 3 Cheeses (Muenster, Marble & Cheddar) from Torkelson Cheese
 1 Sausage log from A.J.'s Lena Maid Meats

2016 Calendar \$6.00
 This year's theme is "Transportation Through the Years" featuring local pictures of all forms of transportation

Cheese boxes and calendars may be ordered by calling Cindy at 815-369-4030. Deadline for cheese boxes is Nov. 30. They must be picked up on Saturday, Dec. 12 at the museum from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. The calendars will be available for purchase at the following businesses: Cindy's Beauty Salon, Lena Mercantile and Engel's Jewelry (Mondays only)

All purchases are fundraisers for the Lena Historical Society and will help support their endeavors to preserve the history of Lena.

2015 Parade Entry Form
HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS
 Theme: "Winter Wonderland"

Business or Activity Name: _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Phone Number: _____
 Plan on Entering: _____ Float _____ Walking in Group
 _____ Other (please describe)

This year, we hope that we will help us grow and make this part of the village's annual events. We would like the parade to be a "Lighted parade", this means that the more lights the better on your float or your person. Give it lots of thought, but have fun. This year there are few rules and regulations, just keep it appropriate for all ages and make great use of our theme, "Winter Wonderland." Open to all Business, youth groups, etc.

Please return form to by December 1st to:
 DeVoe Floral, 216 Main Street, Lena, IL
 Questions?? Call Lisa Lobdell 815-369-4561 or Paris Hughes 815-369-5549
 Lena Business and Professional Association

LBPA HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS
 2015 Theme: "Winter Wonderland"

WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST
LBPA Members

Business Name: _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Address: _____

Windows will be judged based on four categories:
 1. Use of Theme
 2. Originality (Unique design and creative use of lights & decorations)
 3. Arrangement (Display and placement of decorations)
 4. Overall Presentation

This form must be returned by November 30 to DeVoe Floral

Judging will be done between noon on December 3 and noon on December 4.

Questions?? Please call Lisa Lobdell 815-369-4561 or Paris Hughes 815-369-5549

LBPA HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS
 2015 Theme: "Winter Wonderland"

Home & Yard Decorating Contest
 To be judged by the Beautification Committee of the LBPA

Business Name: _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Address: _____

Homes & Yards will be judged based on four categories:
 1. Use of Theme
 2. Originality (Unique design and creative use of lights & decorations)
 3. Arrangement (Display and placement of decorations)
 4. Overall Presentation

This form must be returned by November 30 to DeVoe Floral

Judging will be done between noon on December 3 and noon on December 4.

Questions?? Please call Lisa Lobdell 815-369-4561 or Paris Hughes 815-369-5549



Christmas Wishes do Come True

Join DeVoe Floral in bringing in the Holidays for Lena's Hometown Christmas "Winter Wonderland."
 Open Friday, December 4 until 8:30 p.m.
 Refreshments and Treats
 In-Store Specials, Door Prizes and "surprise" specials.

Saturday, Open 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

DeVoe FLORAL
 216 W. Main St. • Lena, IL
 815-369-5549
 HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 DeVoeFloral@yahoo.com

Shop Cafe 217
 Espresso & Bakery Shoppe
 815-291-7829

This Holiday Season!

• Gourmet Cupcake Gift Boxes • Gift Certificates

Warm up with a latte or hot chocolate before the parade!
 Friday, Dec. 4 evening hours: 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Thursday - Friday 6:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 405 S. Schuyler St. • Lena

Lena's Hometown Christmas
"Winter Wonderland"
 Friday, December 4
 5 - 8:30 p.m.

- Meet & Greet Santa & Mrs. Claus at Engel's Jewelry following the parade
- Deposit Letters to Santa in his mail box (they will be personally answered by Santa)
- Tree Lighting & lighted parade 6 p.m.
- Horse drawn carriage rides depart from parking lot next to Pat Brown Realtors - Free to public
- Community Giving Tree - DeVoe Floral
- Refreshments & Treats
- Merchant Christmas Walk
- Family Fun, Reading & Treats - Lena Library
- Cookie Walk and Chili Supper - Lena United Methodist
- Check out my Friend's Closet - Christmas Store after the parade for Christmas Items. Open until 8 p.m.
- Local Home & Yard Decorating contest
- Business Window Decorating contest

Photo provided

Stockton FFA team competes in the annual Meats Career Development Event

On Saturday November 14, four members of the Stockton FFA headed to Eickman's Processing Co. in Seward, IL to compete in the Meats CDE. While there the students had to identify 33 retail cuts of meat, quality and yield grade carcasses, judge hams, ribs, and pork carcasses. Olivia Kepner, Alissa Dehn, Hannah Brudi, and Heather Musser placed first. All of the team members placed in the top 10 individuals with Hanna Brudi placing 1st, Heather Musser placing 5th, Olivia Kepner placing 7th, and Alissa Dehn placing 8th.



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A Gift you can't stop smiling about!

\$100 OFF Teeth Whitening

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 (815)947-3700

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 Stockton Dental Center
 120 West Front Avenue
 Stockton, IL 61085
 www.stocktondental.com
 A licensed Illinois General Dentist

815-947-3700

For All Your Advertising Needs
 Call Cyndee Stiefel
 Shopper's Guide • 815-369-4112
 The Scoop Today • 815-947-3353

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CONVENIENCE AND PERFORMANCE

Chamber of Commerce
STOCKTON
 Gateway To Jo Daviess County

Stockton Chamber of Commerce Presents:

Friday, December 4

- Free Hot Chocolate and Cookies, Coupon for sandwich discounts. *Courtesy of Subway of Stockton
- 5:30pm - Crowning of Miss Merry Christmas & Little Jack Frost at the Christmas "Tree" lighting & caroling
- 11am-2pm - Boy Scout Soup/Chili Luncheon, Scout Hall
- Stockton Bowling Lanes, open bowling 6pm-close
- Savvy Scavengers - In store specials and drawings
- Stockton Hardware - Stockton Cheese Samples

Saturday, December 5

- 9am-3pm - Holy Cross Christmas Bazaar
- 10am - Story Hour with Santa, Stockton Township Library
- 11am - Santa Arrives by Fire Truck to Stella's Café
- 11am-2pm - Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, weather dependent. Across from Casey's
- 11:30-1:30pm - Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus, Stella's Café & Catering
- 11am-2pm - Stockton Strong will present a themed movie showing at Stockton Bowling Lanes @ 2pm
- Stockton Floral & Gifts - In store specials and drawings.
- Hartig Drug - In store promotions and drawings.
- Ink & Paper - All River Road Talent Art Drive. Free coffee and Mimosas

IT'S A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Starting At **\$1099.50**

MEDIUM-DUTY DUAL-STAGE:
 Ideal for medium driveways and walkways

27" Clearing Width
 Briggs & Stratton 1150 Snow Series™ OHV Engine
 Free Hand™ Control - For easy use of controls while operating
 Dual-trigger steering for effortless maneuverability

M1227E

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 Hours: M-F 8-5; Sat 8-3 or by appointment

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LEGALS

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

The summary must be published in the local newspaper.

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by December 1, 2015. Individuals wanting to review this Annual Statement of Affairs should contact:

LENA-WINSLOW CUSD NO. 202	401 Fremont Street	815-369-3101	7:00 am-4:00 pm
<small>School District/Joint Agreement Name</small>	<small>Address</small>	<small>Telephone</small>	<small>Office Hours</small>

Also by **January 15, 2016** the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the **Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015**, will be posted on the Illinois State Board of Education's website@ www.isbe.net.

SUMMARY: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district/joint agreement for the past fiscal year.

Statement of Operations as of June 30, 2015

		Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000	3,247,199	856,105	679,863	277,542	305,833	8,178	48,482	107,869	75,750
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to Another District	2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Sources	3000	2,351,192	0	0	171,761	0	0	0	26,000	0
Federal Sources	4000	513,522	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		6,111,913	856,105	679,863	449,303	305,833	8,178	48,482	133,869	75,750
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		6,006,869	877,057	673,200	437,115	284,099	269,051		123,869	22,556
Other Sources/Uses of Funds		0	101,681	(12,834)	0	0	4,000,000	0	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances - July 1, 2014		3,500,687	1,045,467	95,855	676,997	111,079	9,222	353,616	96,144	159,883
Other Changes in Fund Balances		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances June 30, 2015		3,605,731	1,126,196	89,684	689,185	132,813	3,748,349	402,098	106,144	213,077

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000: Asche, Stephanie; Bartell, Gary; Benhoff, Eric; Bentes, Kathleen; Blackmore, Heather K; Boyle, Anthony C; Brinker, Marybeth; Brinkmeier, Kathleen; Brown, Peter; Butson, Marsha; Determan, Mary; Feiner, Jane; Flanagan, Terrence; Fore, Jan; Fryer, Gena; Gagnon, Terrance; Gilley, Tipton; Graf, Jamie; Gregerson, H.Timothy; Hillmer, Katherine; Jacobs, Barbara; Kempel, Lori; Kneiss-Smith, Mary Anne; Kryder, Ben; Kunce, Julie; Leamon, Kimberly; Logemann, William; McClaran, Tammy; McIntyre, David; Mensendike, Ray; Mickel, Betty; Mills, Alexander; Moest, Barbara; Pospischil, Mary; Reed, Jenna; Reuter, Jeff; Schneiderman, Steven; Schwartz, Haley; Searby, Barbara; Sleezer, Kathleen; Strohecker, Jerilyn; Sturtevant, Derek; Taft, Michael; Tresemer, Donald; Unger, David; Williams, Lindsay; Zier, Collin. **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999:** Adkins, Patricia; Anderson, Rebecca; Blakeley, Jessica; Blakely, Mark; Blakely, Matthew; Boyer, Hannah; Daughenbaugh, Tamarah; Fry, Tabitha; Hahne, Ryan; Hasselman, Jessica; Huneke, Kelli; Jones, Kristin; Larson, Kari; Linden, Andrea; March, Jason; Matz, Stephanie; Ortiz, Jacqueline; Pieper, Kelli; Rickels, Austin; Tiesman, Kristin; Werhane, Nick; Wirtz, William. **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999:** Amendt, Susan; Arendt, Conor; Bader, Alice; Baldauf, Brooke; Benson, Heather; Benson, Kyle; Chrisman, Brent; Chrisman, Holly; Copus, Barbara; Eilders, Peggy; Erb, Susan; Fore, Thomas; Freedlund, Brianne; Gallagher, Joanne; Kleckler, Jayne; Linnemann, Katrina; Meador, Mary; Milder, Kimberly; Modica, Mary; Monigold, Debra; Nicholas, Susan; Noller, Sara; Polhill, K.; Price, Leslie; Raab, Katy; Richardson, Erin; Robinson, James; Sargent, Stacy; Smargiassi, Brenda; Smargiassi, Thomas; Stevens, Catherine; Stich, Lisa; Thill, MaryBeth; Thomasson, Kara; Trone, Margaret; Voreis, Linda; Woodley, Jamie. **Salary Range: 60,000 - \$89,999:** Arand, Richard; Gerbode, Mary; Kryder, Karen; Kuehl, Mark; Lobdell, Andy; McCabe, James; Milder, Kevin; Stich, Scott. **Salary Range: \$90,000 and over:** Chiles, Thomas.

Janicke, Janice; Kampas, Julie; Kampmeier, Sandy; Keene, Troy; Keltner, Sandra; Klentz, Nancy; Knight, Joyce; Koehler, Leonard; Krogull, Douglas; Kryder, Ben; Kuckles, Jacqueline; Longamore, Donald; Lotz, Steve; Matthews, Ray; Meier, Darcia; Morhardt, Peter; Naese, Violet; Nielsen, Heidi; Oellerich, Curt; Offerman, Brenda; Phillips, Larry; Price, Eugenia; Rahn, Gigi; Reed, Kaytlyn; Reining, Doral; Rich, Gary; Rife, John; Roberts, Larry; Runkle, Sharon; Russell, Kay; Russell, Roger; Saavedra, Carol; Schrader, Pamela; Schriner, Cara; Schultz, Angela; Schulz, Roger; Shultz, Megan; Shumaker, Cynthia; Simler, Linda; Simmons, Adron; Spinhirne, Dawn; Stamm, Marlen; Stich, Tammy; Taft, Michael; Thede, Megan; Thill, Michael; Tippet, Stacey; Toman, Bernard; Tootelian, Nicola; Trost, Mae; Trost, Pauline; Vendel, Richard; Wise, Alice; Wybourn, Nick; Wybourn, Ryan; Wybourn, Tammy. **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999:** Crothers, Julie; Jacobs, Jesse; Klaas, Kirk; Koertner, Jean; Lobdell, Kim; Lobdell, Nancy; Reed, Duane; Schierloh, Darcy; Smith, Brian; Wells, Jerry; Winning, Debra; Wybourn, Doug. **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999:** Knoll, Leigh; Lieb, Amy; Townsend, Gerald. **Salary Range: \$60,000 and over:** Hoff, David.

Payments over \$2,500, excluding wages and salaries.

Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount
Aero Group, Inc.	3,352.50
All American Sports Corp.	8,009.05
Ally	3,498.60
Amazon.Com	16,392.34
Apple Inc.	3,459.99
Arc Design Resources Inc	6,120.00
Baker & Taylor	5,201.44
Benning Group Llc	14,000.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	500,318.73
Cdi Computer Dealers Inc	31,678.28
Cdw Government, Inc.	6,451.98
Checked Flag Autobody	4,332.40
Civil Constructors, Inc	20,151.00
Community Bank	726,247.21
Community Bank HSA	54,453.91
Connor Co.	10,965.11
Constellation Proliance Llc	19,493.85
Crescent Electric Supply	2,915.74
Delta Dental Of Illinois	55,765.62
Doc's Excavating, Inc.	7,100.00
Earthgrains Baking Companies, Inc.	5,657.78
Entre Computer Solutions	48,624.78
Follett School Solutions	8,274.59
Freeport Glass Company	20,455.78
Freeport Industrial Roof	8,389.00
Freeport Rug/Linoleum, Inc	6,708.90
Freeport Sch Dist No 145	11,214.49
Gill'S Freeport Disposal	6,704.33
Grainger	21,383.88
Houghton Mifflin Company	6,545.21
Illinois Assoc School Bds	7,715.00

Illinois Fiber Resources Group	7,200.00
Illinois Municipal Retire	163,022.50
ING Common Remitter	62,600.00
Ironwood Environmental Inc	19,950.00
John Deere Financial Holland & Sons	4,657.95
Kimball Midwest	6,951.48
Kurt'S Polar Air, Inc.	4,822.47
Larson & Darby Inc	98,051.24
Le-Win Dental Ins	45,778.77
Le-Win Vision Ins	5,315.47
Le-Win Health Ins	500,241.52
Le-Win Dist Revolving Fd	7,044.33
Le-Win ESPA	19,420.66
Le-Win H.S. Activity Fund	5,306.09
Le-Win Teachers Assn	36,761.94
L-W HS Revolving Fund	17,594.11
L-W JH Revolving Fund	6,086.42
Mcgraw-Hill Education	5,537.61
Midamerican Energy	50,560.63
Midland Paper	3,596.70
Midwest Transit Equip.Inc	9,189.40
Monroe Clinic	2,624.00
Monticello Sports	3,663.00
Musco Lighting	5,900.00
Nicor Gas	5,998.41
NIUnet	4,800.00
Northwest Sp. Ed. Coop.	176,993.76
Paxton/Patterson Llc	6,375.05
Pearson Education	6,803.89
Performance Food Service	108,875.83
Perma-Bound	2,725.82
Pioneer Manufacturing Co.	2,671.72
Prairie State Insurance Cooperative	114,017.00
Quill Corporation	3,642.60
Regional Office Of Ed.	3,239.00
Renaissance Learning, Inc	4,925.30
Rockford Bd. Of Education	3,470.48
Sams Club	3,218.14
Santander Leasing	157,164.00
School Specialty	11,974.49
Sheraton	2,630.28
Siemens Building Tech.	6,632.50
Staples	3,150.22
Stephenson Service Co	46,506.74
Stevesblinds	6,536.95
Supplyworks	43,624.48
T.H.I.S. Fund	50,663.79
Teacher Retirement System	324,441.24
Terracon Consultants Inc	5,200.00
The Bank Of New York Mellon	673,200.00
TrueBlue Llc	5,260.14
Tyler Technologies	2,815.97
USbank	14,949.00
Village Of Lena	9,589.40
Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson P.C.	5,598.00
Werhane Enterprises, Ltd	32,692.66
West Music Company	5,304.41

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 25, 2015)

• **MCLANE**

Continued from page 12

and marketing chain between the producer and the consumer.

Farmers and ranchers do not work alone. Farm workers, researchers, processors, shippers, truck drivers, inspectors, wholesalers, agribusinesses, marketers, advertisers, retailers and consumers all play important roles in the incredible productivity of our nation's food and fiber system. Agriculture employs more than 24 million workers who annually contribute more than \$1.3 trillion to our gross domestic product.

This week, as we gather with family and friends around the Thanksgiving table, it is fitting that we count among our

blessings the vital farm-city partnerships that have done so much to improve the quality of our lives. Rural and urban communities working together have made the most of our rich agricultural resources, and they continue to contribute to our health and well-being and to the strength of our economy.

Thank you to all those who make the Farm-City connection so successful

Farm Fun Fact: According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, more than 45 million turkeys are cooked and eaten in the U.S. at Thanksgiving—that's one sixth of all turkeys sold in the U.S. each year. American per capita consumption of turkeys has soared from 8.3 pounds in 1975 to 18.5 pounds in 1997 and has remained stable at about 16 pounds since 2011.



Photo provided

Lena-Winslow FFA chapter members Brock Gobeli, Nicole Moest, Kendra Snyder, Jordon Oellerich, and Laurel Flynn comprised the team that placed second at the recent dairy products CDE.

Say You Saw It In
The Shopper's Guide

LEGALS

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION

Public Notice is hereby given that on **November 9, 2015**, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephenson County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: **Chestnut Outfitters** located at **311 W. Chestnut, Freeport, IL 61032**.

Dated November 9, 2015

VICIR. OTTE

Stephenson County Clerk
by *HB*

Heather Becker Deputy
(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

Nov. 18, 25 & Dec. 2, 2015)

226123

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION

Public Notice is hereby given that on **November 13, 2015**, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephenson County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: **River's Edge Salon** located at **1022 Riverside Drive, Freeport, Illinois 61032**

Dated November 13, 2015

VICIR. OTTE

Stephenson County Clerk
by *DEBORAH A. SMITH*

Deputy

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

Nov. 18, 25 & Dec. 2, 2015)

226219

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From our family to yours, we wish you the happiest of Thanksgiving holidays. Join us in taking a moment to think about and celebrate all of life's many blessings.

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Le-Win FFA places second in Dairy Products contest

LENA — Can you tell the difference between sharp and mild Cheddar? Havarti and Provolone? What color is Gouda cheese? On November 18, nine schools from section one competed in the dairy products career development. At this event students judged a variety of items related to the dairy industry. The contest is broken up into seven categories: ten cheese identifications, reading a California Mastitis test, differentiating between real and artificial dairy products, identifying defects in milk samples, a written test on their dairy

knowledge, critiquing milker head units and a team test on herd profitability. Students competed in each of these areas and then had their total scores calculated. Lena-Winslow placed second overall at the contest and also had two individuals place in the top ten. Lena chapter member Jordon Oellerich, currently serving as the section one president did a wonderful job and placed second overall and Kendra Snyder, Lena-Winslow Chapter President placed eighth overall. Congratulations to all of the individuals and schools that competed.

• **GUIDE**

Continued from page 13

nect with an Internet Safety Specialist. Madigan's Internet Safety Team regularly provides schools, teachers, students and parents with online safety tips, helping children understand the importance of using safe online practices.

"We thank Attorney General Madigan for continuing to highlight dangerous recalled products and other potential

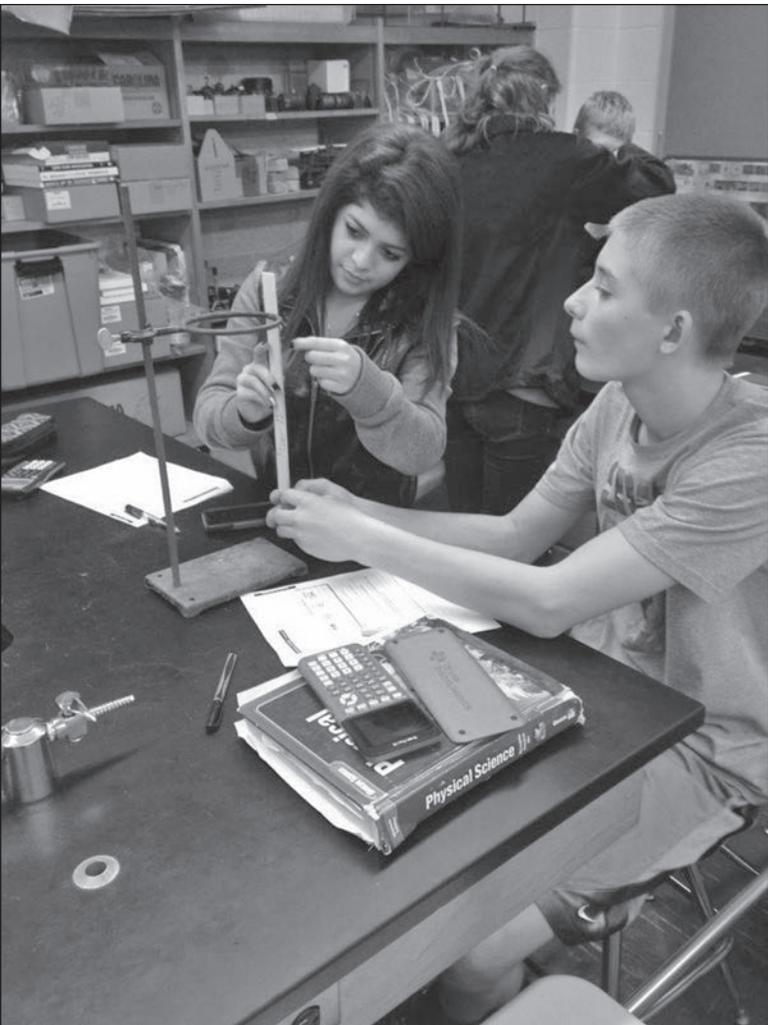
dangers to children," said Kids in Danger Executive Director Nancy Cowles. "This is an exciting and fun time of year, and the Safe Shopping Guide helps ensure it's a safe time of year as well."

"The Attorney General's Office has long been on the forefront of ensuring our children are safe from many dangers around them," said Abe Scarr, Illinois PIRG Director. "This year is no different. The Attorney General's Office has offered real, practical advice for keeping children safe online, which is critical information in today's digital age."

Consumers can view and download the 2015 Safe Shopping Guide at Madigan's website or by calling the Attorney General's Recall Hotline for a print copy at 1-888-414-7678.

PHOTOS Available Online at
info@rvpublishing.com

Purchase photos from our paper.



Courtesy photo

Transferring energy

Pearl City High School Students Brisa Hinojosa and Dylan Ditsworth observe the transfer of potential to kinetic energy while completing a lab using a pendulum during Physical Science class



Courtesy photo

Stockton FFA team competes in the annual Meats Career Development Event

On Saturday November 14, four members of the Stockton FFA headed to Eickman's Processing Co. in Seward, IL to compete in the Meats CDE. While there the students had to identify 33 retail cuts of meat, quality and yield grade carcasses, judge hams, ribs, and pork carcasses. Olivia Kepner, Alissa Dehn, Hannah Brudi, and Heather Musser placed first. All of the team members placed in the top 10 individuals with Hanna Brudi placing 1st, Heather Musser placing 5th, Olivia Kepner placing 7th, and Alissa Dehn placing 8th.

Lena KOA earns prestigious 2016 KOA President's and Founder's Award

LENA — The Lena KOA has earned the prestigious 2016 KOA President's and Founder's Awards from Campgrounds of America Inc., the world's largest system of family-friendly, open-to-the-public campgrounds.

The awards were presented Wednesday, November 18 at KOA's Annual International Convention in Daytona Beach, Florida. KOA is celebrating its 53rd Anniversary in 2015. The KOA President's Awards are presented annually to campgrounds that receive high scores in customer service from their campers, and also receive high scores in KOA's annual

Campground Quality Review. The KOA Founder's Award is named in honor of Dave Drum, who founded KOA on the banks of the Yellowstone River in Billings, Montana in 1962. It is given to those KOA campgrounds that attained the very top scores in both customer service and the KOA Quality Review.

KOA surveys hundreds of thousands of campers each year regarding their KOA camping experience, and those surveys are used as a basis for the awards.

"We know that our overall success at KOA hinges on the experience our campground

owners provide to our guests," said KOA President Pat Hittmeier. "Our owners just keep getting better and better at providing great camping for our guests. At the same time, they continue to invest in their KOA properties to add activities and amenities that ensure our success in the future." "It's an honor to recognize these great KOA owners for their efforts," Hittmeier said. "The KOA President's Award and KOA Founder's Award are well deserved"

To find out more about this KOA any of the other 490 KOAs in the U.S. or Canada, go to www.KOA.com.

Lady Panthers win at Morrison Classic

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

LENA — With a favorable tournament mark, in game play at Morrison High School, the Lena-Winslow Lady Panthers took down one of the programs many across the NUIC are keeping their eyes on, the West Carroll Lady Thunder, 39-31.

Following the eight-point win, the Lady Panthers moved

into the position of claiming the Morrison Tournament title.

The tournament wins also sent a message across the NUIC that the Lena-Winslow Lady Panthers are going to be a handful in 2016.

Bri Haight took the lead for Lena-Winslow as she scored 13 points in the decision over West Carroll. Kenzie Temperly added 12 and Nicole Moest tallied 11.

It was a comeback win for Lena-Winslow in the game, as they trailed by a basket at the end of the first period of play.

However, fortunes switched at the half, as Temperly, Moest and Haight enhanced their barrage, helping Lena-Winslow outscore West Carroll by 13 points in the period, to jump out to a 28-17 lead, at the halftime break.

West Carroll was led by Hayley Guilinger and Josi

Anderson, who scored ten points each.

It was the second comeback win for the Lady Panthers, in the season opening tournament.

Those types of victories will occur for Lena-Winslow this year.

In the NUIC, the multiple player attack the Lady Panthers have shown will be difficult to defend.

If the trend continues, success will continue.

The conference has seen its share of All-State athletes, who had the capacity to change the flow of a game, but a multi-headed attack will win-out, in the long run.

A balanced attack is what the Lady Panthers have found success with so far, in early season action. To succeed in the NUIC, they may have to continue with that strategy.

At this time of Thanksgiving Celebration our thoughts turn gratefully to you with warm appreciation. We extend to you our Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy Thanksgiving Day.

From our Sales Staff -
Pat, Faye and Bill
And our Office Staff -
Lisa & Linda

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUT ALL OUR LISTINGS ON OUR WEBSITES:

www.patbrownrealtor.com • www.NorthwesternIllinoisHomes.com

www.realtor.com • www.billscheider.net

FOR MORE INFORMATION,

E-MAIL: patb@aeroinc.net

OR GIVE US A CALL



Pat Brown Realtors
(815) 369-5599



OR FOR LONG DISTANCE CALL TOLL FREE - 1-866-369-5599

Celebrating Families In Business

Support Your Local Businesses

91146

Small business tips for a challenging economy

As the world's economy becomes more and more challenging, small business owners need to find ways to keep their business afloat. Here are some tips to maintaining good customer relations while managing the bottom line:

Invest in technology

Maintaining your computer systems is vital to keeping your business running smoothly. If you're not a technical whiz and you don't want to pay for ongoing information technology support, consider Macintosh computers for your business. Although they cost a little more initially, many people find the investment pays back in ease of use and longer life. More companies are releasing business software that runs on the Mac and you can also use a program such as Parallels to run any needed Windows-only software on the Mac. Investing in technology will allow you to implement other cost-saving processes and programs.

Share files and data

When you share a centralized database and critical files between computers, it can increase productivity. For example, if a customer gets a

new phone number or moves, updating it in the central database that everyone uses will keep you connected to customers. "Synchronization and file sharing are easy and intuitive on the Mac and these were key reasons driving the move to Mac," says John Ives, who runs a defense-industry consulting firm and recently made the switch to Mac.

Communicate with your customers and prospects efficiently

In a tougher economy, don't stop marketing, just do it more efficiently. Rather than sending out direct mail, consider e-mail marketing as a way to reach out to customers and prospects alike. Using a tool such as a CardScan contact management system, you can capture all your contact information electronically. Scan and read all your business cards with the card reader and use "drag-and-drop" to capture e-mail signatures or prospect contact information from Web sites. Using CardScan software, you can create and assign categories for your contacts. If you meet a group of prospects at a meeting, scan in the cards, assign the category with the meeting



name and then you can send targeted follow-up e-mails to these prospects in just a few steps.

CardScan for Mac also keeps a photo of each business card, so you can flip through the various images of them on your computer, rather than losing them in a folder or a pocket. For business-owners on the go, the scanner plugs directly

into your laptop's USB power source, allowing you to scan your cards on a bus, in the hotel or on an airplane – before you return to the home office.

With over 7200 contacts, Ives, needs to be organized. Using a CardScan system, he quickly enters notes for contacts such as special interests or where he met the person. "I can type in a few letters or words

and instantly find the one person I need with the CardScan system," he says. "It's very easy to use and synchronizing to Address Book ensures we are using accurate and up-to-date information."

Get your business online

Many small businesses put off building a Web site, or they let it get out of date because it costs money to maintain. But there are now many non-technical and free tools to build and maintain a Web presence. For example, using WordPress, an open-source blogging tool, you can build a blog that looks professional and is very easy to maintain. It's also a more modern approach to communicate with customers and prospects.

Use inexpensive creative resources

If you need photos, illustrations or graphics for your marketing materials or blog, resist the urge to use the amateur-looking clip art packaged with your software programs. Instead try inexpensive online sources such as iStockphoto.com for low-cost photos and graphics, or tempatemonster.com for Web templates and blog themes.

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After successfully operating an auto body repair shop (Checkedered Flag Auto Body) in Lena for 14 1/2 years, Troy and Rhonda Pokoj recently made the decision to relocate both their home and business to rural Apple River. Checkedered Flag Collisions & Customs, which opened in October 2015, is located at 4933 N. Scout Camp Road, just outside of Apple Canyon Lake. "When we heard the body shop in Scales Mound was closing due to Bob Wachter's retirement, we felt this was a perfect opportunity for me to downsize from the large business I had established in Lena and to serve an area that was losing one of their well-established shops." As property owners of Apple Canyon Lake, it has been our dream to relocate to this provide all of the same quality Auto Body services that he provided in Lena. Rhonda is transitioning most of her office duties back to Troy as he returns to his "roots" of a smaller one man shop. Smaller does not mean lesser

quality repairs! The shop is fully licensed and bonded, works with all insurance carriers and on all makes and models. Troy has over 35 years of experience and his new shop is equipped with a full frame machine, computerized paint mixing, and offers free estimates and courtesy cars while your vehicle is in for repairs. "We have had amazing support from the surrounding communities in just the short time we have been open", says Troy. We are excited to see how this business grows in the years to come!" "Stop in and CHECK us out!"

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Given the intense focus on fiscal discipline today, it's only natural that businesses of all sizes are looking for opportunities to reduce costs and increase profitability.

One of the first steps a company takes to save money is to figure out how it spends money, with whom, for what and the number of suppliers with whom it conducts business. A recent survey reveals some interesting insights as to how this process works for supply management executives nationwide.

The survey, conducted by the largest supply management association in the world, the Institute for Supply Management (ISM), and Staples Contract Division indicates that 90 percent of supply management executives are involved in some sort of formal analysis to identify areas in which they can save and consolidate vendors.

Of those surveyed, 86 percent are currently looking for ways to consolidate vendors, with 70 percent reducing the number of their suppliers and 76 percent expecting to further reduce the number of suppliers over the next two years.

For many of these companies, office supplies are the first product to consolidate on. Office supplies are commonly a "proving ground" category for what eventually become broader changes in the way an organization purchases

products and services.

While price is very important, many other factors should be considered when choosing suppliers, such as the quality of the goods or services to be purchased.

"Businesses should look for suppliers that not only set themselves apart by offering goods and services of superior quality for the right price, but also act as strategic consultants that help set and achieve annual savings goals and provide ongoing recommendations for refining purchases over time," says Tom Heisroth, President, Staples National Advantage, Staples Contract Division.

As a buyer, a company should look for the lowest total delivered cost that includes other components such as the costs of ordering, transportation, handling, inventory, credit and accounts payable.

In the end, businesses can set themselves apart by taking steps that minimize the costs of doing business. Such steps include working with suppliers that provide e-commerce capabilities that reduce ordering and payment costs, as well as work proactively with their customers to reduce costs.

To learn more about how to effectively analyze costs and select the right suppliers, visit www.StaplesContract.com or call (877) 520-5465.

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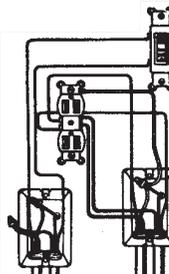
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