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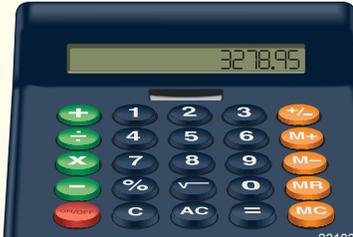
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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 2016

Orangeville falls after claiming early lead

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

ORANGEVILLE — The Orangeville Lady Broncos fell to the Pecatonica Lady Indians 53-40 in a conference match on Friday, Jan. 15.

In a solid team effort, with eight players etching their names into the scoring columns, the Lady Broncos still struggled to keep pace with the athletic Indians.

Orangeville took the first quarter lead, outscoring Pecatonica by a basket, 10-8 and carried that momentum through the second period.

After two quarters, Orangeville had the 25-23 lead.

A devastating third quarter, in which Pecatonica scored 22 points, doomed the Lady Broncos, as they saw their lead extinguished as the Lady Indians jumped ahead 45-34.

In the fourth quarter, Oran-

Lena-Winslow looking for consistency

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

LENA — The Lena-Winslow Lady Panthers have hit a rough patch in their last few games as the defense has been porous at times, with their nightly opponents taking advantage.

In recent matches against some of the top-tier teams in the NUIC, Lena-Winslow struggled to find their offense, dropping two of three decisions.

In a contest against Dakota on Tuesday, Jan. 12, some answers were found as the Lady Panthers pulled out a win over the Lady Indians, 42-26, with Bri Haight

geville tacked on six points, coming up short and dropping the NUIC decision.

Velich led the Lady Broncos with nine points as Riemer and Baker add six each. Watson and Schofield ended the night with five points scored.

Pecatonica was led by Schulze who scored 16. Southard added eleven and Heitter tipped in ten.

Following a Jan. 19 match against Dakota, Orangeville hosts South Beloit on Jan. 22 before inviting the conference leading Durand Lady Bulldogs into town on Jan. 28.

The regular season wraps up for Orangeville with consecutive road games in Pecatonica and at Ashton-Franklin Center.

The 2016 Class 1A Regional begins the week of Feb. 8.

Lena-Winslow and Rockford Christian Life have been chosen by the IHSAA to host the opening round games.

and Nicole Moest scoring 13 points each.

With an early lead, improved at the half, the Lady Panthers closed the night, shutting down Cramer and Dakota and taking the game by 16.

On Thursday Jan. 14 the Lady Panthers faced a team many think has the potential to go a long way into the post season, East Dubuque, but fell by eleven to the conference lead challenger 51-40.

Haight pounded down 18 points in the win with Kenzie Temperly adding twelve.

See **PANTHERS**, Page 11



Putting on the Ritz

Tracy Siegner photo

A virtual army of volunteers came in on Christmas day to serve the ninth annual free Christmas dinner with the Jacobs family at the Pearl City American Legion hall.

Lena Business and Professional Association thanks Giving Tree participants

LENA — We would like to extend a thank you to all the businesses, owners and staff that took part in our Giving Tree. This is truly a worthwhile cause that helps families in need. We know they appreciated your kindness and

thoughtfulness. We as an association appreciated how our businesses and community comes together especially in times like these. It is good to a part of a community that cares for one another. Again, our thanks for all you do.



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Pearl City fifth graders practice the Spirit of Giving

PEARL CITY — Mrs. Brouhard's fifth grade class at Pearl City Elementary was in the spirit of giving this holiday season. They opted out of the traditional \$5 grab bag gift for their classroom Christmas party. Instead, they all pooled their money and purchased a pig and a flock of chicks through Heifer International.

They studied the saying "Give a man a fish, and he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he eats for a lifetime", which is a principle of Heifer International. They provide animals to people to help them grow their own food, and earn money for their families.

The students decided this would be a much more beneficial thing to do than receiving a \$5 gift that they would probably only play with a few times. Many of the students were even more generous, donating more than the \$5 they would have spent on a grab bag gift. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the Random Acts of Kindness project the class did during the month of December.



Courtesy photo
Pearl City fifth graders Addie Bremmer, Brea Musser, Seth Townsend, Sam Snetcher, Rayce Stichter, Adrianna Maltry, Aiden Dampman (back row) Cade Monks, Hunter Vick, Jon Dinderman, Kenzee Evans, Emma Boyer, Emily Saeger, Rozlyne Feld (Middle Row) and Dylan Olvera (front) all pooled their money and purchased a pig and a flock of chicks through Heifer International.

Homeowners eligible for home repair loans and grants

OREGON — Some homeowners in Northern Illinois are eligible to apply for home repair grants and low interest home improvement loans, thanks to a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development program.

A Rural Development repair loan is similar to a home improvement loan. The money must be used to improve or modernize homes, make them safer and more sanitary, or

remove health and safety hazards. Examples of eligible repairs include roofing, siding, windows, foundation repairs, kitchen cabinets, septic system, furnace/air conditioning. The maximum loan amount is \$20,000. Loans can be made for a term of 20 years at one percent interest. The applicant needs to own and occupy the home, have acceptable credit, be able to repay the loan, and meet very low income guidelines. For example, a family

of 4 in Stephenson County can earn up to \$29,950 and still qualify.

A limited number of home repair grants are also available to applicants who meet very low income guidelines, are 62 years of age or older and demonstrate an inability to make loan payments. There is a \$7,500 lifetime limit on repair

grant funds. Grant funds can only be used to address health, safety or accessibility issues for the home. Unlike loans, grants do not have to be repaid. Grants are frequently made in conjunction with small loans.

The Oregon Rural Development office serves seven Northern Illinois counties including Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo

Daviess, Kane, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago. To learn more about this program, homeowners are encouraged to contact Amy Johnson in the Oregon office at (815) 732-6127, ext. 4. More information is also available at <http://www.rd.usda.gov/il> Eligibility rules apply.

Booth registration now being accepted for 2016 Stephenson County Home Show

STATELINE — Reservations are now being accepted for booths at the 2016 Annual Stephenson County Home Show which will take place March 19 and 20 at the YMCA / Highland Community College Sports Complex. Set up for the booths will be March

18. The Home Show will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show annually features area businesses including investment companies, contractors, communications experts, healthcare providers, insurance agents, landscaping

contractors, heating and air conditioning contractors, furniture and appliance dealers and many more.

Businesses interested in having a booth should contact the Home Show Coordinator

See REGISTRATION, Page 4

Regional Transportation Committee meeting notice

STATELINE — The next Regional Transportation Committee meeting for Region 1 (Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties) will be held on Thursday, Jan. 28, at 10 a.m. at the Freeport Public Library located at 100 E. Douglas St. in Freeport. Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend as well as anyone that is interested in public transit.

The Regional Transportation Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP). HSTP identifies transportation needs and develops solutions to improve transpor-

tation services for the general public. An emphasis is placed on seniors, people with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes, and veterans.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has formed an agreement with North Central Illinois Council of Governments (NCICG) for the purposes of preparing, implementing, and updating the plan for Region 1 (Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties) and Region 3 (Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle, and Putnam Counties). For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, contact Shug Grosenbach at (815) 433-5830.

Monroe Clinic's Certified Application Counselors offer Affordable Care Act assistance

STATELINE — With just a few days remaining to sign up and participate in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) insurance marketplace, we at Monroe Clinic would like to offer a helping hand. The healthcare.gov website and application process can be daunting. are available to assist – whether you get your care at Monroe Clinic or not.

Helping community members to access healthcare is a natural extension of our organization's mission "... to create healthy communities through God's healing spirit."

Please take advantage of this free service at

one of the upcoming workshops on Jan. 19 and 21 or simply call 608-324-2870 to set up an appointment. The service is free.

I encourage every individual to find a "healthcare home" that can help them to address health challenges and can act as a partner on the journey to healthier living.

With healthier community members we build healthier, more productive communities that provide growth and better living for all.

For details on the times and locations of the workshops go to www.monroeclinic.org/affordablecareact

VIEWPOINT

SENATE WEEK IN REVIEW

January 11-15

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Senate returned to the Capitol Jan. 13 to start the 2016 legislative session with many of the issues from 2015 still unresolved.

Earlier in the week, Senate Leader Christine Radogno (R-Lemont) addressed the state's long-term fiscal challenges, and the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (COGFA) produced a sobering report about manufacturing in Illinois and the state's tax receipts.

In other action, Senate Republicans are taking a stand against the scourge of human trafficking by boosting worldwide awareness efforts.

Senate Leader Radogno addresses the City Club

On Jan. 11, Radogno discussed the challenges facing Illinois during a speech at the City Club of Chicago. Despite the state's seven-month budget impasse,

• REGISTRATION

Continued from page 3

Immediately as the exhibit hall is well over half sold out. The starting price for a 6' x 8' booth is \$235 and larger booths are available while they last.

Last year's show featured over 80 businesses and attracted more than 3500 area residents. A map of the show along with packets to sign up can be found at abcadsonline.com.

Democrat majority legislative leaders are failing to negotiate on much-needed reforms and are cancelling legislative session days.

Radogno said the fiscal forecast for Illinois is "bleak" if the legislative majorities refuse to come to the table. With no meaningful reforms or revenue enhancements, Illinois is projected to have a \$5 billion hole in the Fiscal Year 2016 budget and by June 30, the state could have \$9 billion in unpaid bills. The Governor's Office of Management and Budget recently released three-year fiscal projections mandated by state statute, and those numbers are even more disturbing.

Illinois' current "autopilot" budget — the result of a number of court orders and consent decrees — will move the state's backlog of bills to \$25 billion by June 30, 2020. Radogno also said she believes House Speaker Michael Madigan will do anything to maintain the "status quo" despite the catastrophic

damage, if no action is taken.

Radogno's speech to the City Club of Chicago can be viewed at <http://senategop.state.il.us/News/RecentNews/TabId/121/p/65281/v/2000/video-radogno-addresses-city-club-of-chicago.aspx>.

Manufacturing numbers in Illinois continue decline

COGFA released its December report showing a number of disturbing trends with Illinois' economy and the state's fiscal health. COGFA's report shows that Chicago manufacturing indicators are falling to lows that have not been witnessed since the initial aftermath of the 2008 Great Recession.

Chicago unemployment numbers ticked up slightly during the fourth quarter of

Third annual economic summit a success

ROCK ISLAND — Congresswoman Cheri Bustos hosted the Third Annual Economic Summit at Augustana College, building upon roundtables she hosted earlier this year with manufacturers in Rockford, Peoria, and the Quad-Cities. This year's summit focused on developing solutions to address the skills gap in the manufacturing industry, and the challenge of retaining young talent in the region. Congresswoman Bustos was joined by more than 100 stakeholders from industry, labor, educational institutions, local government, recent graduates, and students.

"Revitalizing our manufacturing industry and improving the economy in northern, western and central Illinois have been my main priorities since I was first elected to Congress," said Congresswoman Bustos. "I'm proud we've convened a diverse group of stakeholders to develop solutions that will help close the skills gap, which is one of the main concerns I hear again and again from employers and manufacturers across our region. One of my goals in hosting this summit was to help create and facilitate localized talent pipelines, where both employers and educational institutions can work together to prepare the workforce of tomorrow for good paying jobs right here in our manufacturing triangle."

"This summit was a vital step

forward," said David Boulay, President of the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center and the Economic Summit's keynote speaker. "The manufacturing skills gap is well documented and is a real challenge for employers in Illinois. But by convening leaders from industry, education, and everywhere in between, this event will begin to move us from describing challenges to creating solutions."

"Like many small manufacturers in Illinois, FRANTZ Manufacturing is facing an aging workforce and a shortage of skilled applicants to operate and maintain the machinery that produces our products," said John Gvozdzjak, President and Chief Operating Officer of FRANTZ Manufacturing Company. "Addressing the skills gap is critical

Human trafficking awareness efforts

January 11 was observed as Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

In the greater Chicago area, between 16,000 and 25,000 women and girls are estimated to be exploited by human trafficking each year. The average age of entry into the commercial sex industry in the U.S. is 12 years old. Ninety-five percent of vic-

tims experienced physical or sexual violence during trafficking.

Senate Republicans took part in a video discussing the tragic effects human trafficking has on its victims.

State Sen. Karen McConaughay (R-West Dundee) has taken the lead on these issues by working with several of her legislative colleagues to host several town hall meetings across suburban Chicago.

Twenty-one Senators from both sides of the aisle are sponsoring House Bill 2822 to create a state task force that will address ways to combat human trafficking and the negative effects it has communities throughout Illinois. The task force will submit a report to the General Assembly by June 30.



Courtesy photo

Manufacturers, elected officials, educational institutions, students, and recent graduates join Rep. Bustos to discuss solutions to close the skills gap in the manufacturing industry

so manufacturers can continue to produce quality products to compete in today's global economy. Manufacturers need to lead on this issue, and I am pleased that Congresswoman Bustos has organized this summit so that stakeholders can have these conversations."

"Civic engagement is among the most important outcomes we seek to instill in our students, and so any opportunity to model meaningful discourse around complex issues is welcome," said Steven Bahls, President of Augustana College. "My colleagues and I are grateful to Representative Cheri Bustos for the invitation to partner on the Economic Summit, and to help in bringing together leaders from across our region to address issues of vital importance to all of us."

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ON THE RECORD

OBITUARIES

Janet L. DeVone

FREEPORT — Janet L. DeVone 75, passed away at her home on Saturday Jan. 16, 2016. She was born on October 19, 1940 in Midland, MI to Melvin and Blanche (Cross) Berryhill. She married George DeVone on Feb. 20, 1965 in Englewood, CA. She worked in data processing for Swiss Colony and then later for FHN Memorial Hospital where she retired from.

She is survived by three sons; Kevin (Angela) Berryhill of Monroe, WI, Matthew (fiancée Bobbie Norton) DeVone and Christopher (Paula) DeVone of Greenville, OH. Ten grandchildren; Krisarah, Kristene, Amanda, Joel, Alyssa, Jacob, Fantasia, Taisha, Seth and Devan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three brothers; Eldon, Buddy and Lonnie.

Private family services will be held.

A memorial has been estab-

lished in her name.

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

Link/Hovis family

SAVANNA — A family; Mother, Haylee Hovis, age 22; Father, Scott Link, age 26; baby daughter, Raelynn, age 1; and their baby to be born, all were sadly taken from us on Saturday morning, Jan. 16, 2016 as the result of a single vehicle accident near Hanover, Illinois. A memorial gathering will be held from 3 – 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20, at the Law-Jones Funeral Home, Savanna. Memorials may be given in their memory. Condolences may be shared at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Norman "Pete" D. Feltmeyer

LANARK — Norman "Pete" D. Feltmeyer, age 86, of Lanark, Illinois, passed away at FHN Hospital in Freeport, Illi-

2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport. Grandparents are Mike and Gianni Dinderman of Pearl City. Jeff and Brenda Hoppe and Frank and Dawn Hansberry all of Beloit, WI. Great grandmother is Fran Hansberry of Beloit.

Katherine Merboth

MOUNT CARROLL — Daniel and Melinda Merboth of Mt. Carroll, are the parents of a daughter Katherine Claire Merboth born Tuesday Jan. 12, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital; Freeport, IL. Katherine joins a sister McKenzie Ann Merboth, 23 months. Grandparents are Ron and Carol Clark of Pearl City, Edward Merboth, Jr., Lanark, and Jim and Pennie Dykema of Mt. Carroll. Great grandmothers are Betty Merboth of Lanark and Jeanette Judas of Mt. Carroll.

nois on Friday, Jan. 15, 2016. A funeral service will be held 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, at the Lanark United Methodist Church in Lanark with Pastor Jarrod Severing officiating. Burial will take place in the Lanark Cemetery, Lanark. Visitation will be held 4 – 7:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 22, at the Lanark United Methodist Church, with a masonic service held at 3:30 p.m. prior to visitation. Memorials may be given to the Lanark Volunteer Fire Department, Honor Flight, and the Lanark United Methodist Church in Pete's memory. Friends and family are invited to share in Pete's life at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Pete was born May 30, 1929, in Freeport, the son of George and Hermena (Bantli) Feltmeyer. He attended Mt. Juliette Country School, Stockton, and graduated from Stockton High School with the Class of 1948. Pete operated the Lanark Gulf Gas Station, worked as service manager for Warner's Farm Service in Lanark, and later drove truck for Roger's Ready Mix in Lanark, and then Fischer Excavating, retiring in 2004. On July 1, 1955, Pete married the love of his life Lorraine Kant at the Warren Methodist Church in Warren, Illinois. They celebrated sixty years of marriage.

Pete was a member of the Plum River Masonic Lodge #544 in Stockton where he was a 32nd Degree Mason, Lanark Volunteer Fire Department, Lanark City Council Alderman, and the Lanark United Methodist Church. He enjoyed dancing when he was young, woodworking, going to the river on weekends to camp with friends, and spending time on his houseboat that he built with his brother-in-law, Bud Kant. Most of all Pete was most noted for never missing any of his grandchildren's sports or music events at Eastland. Pete especially enjoyed spending time these last two years with

two new great-grandchildren, Benton and Ryan.

Pete will be dearly missed by his loving wife of sixty years, Lorraine; son Mike (Darcie) Feltmeyer of Lanark; three grandchildren, Jordan (Cindy) Feltmeyer of Lanark, Caleb (Amanda) Feltmeyer of Winnebago, Logan Feltmeyer (Eric Gibbs) of Lanark; two great-grandchildren, Benton Michael and Ryan Autumn Feltmeyer; four sisters in-law, Marie Kant, Donna Feltmeyer, Pauline Feltmeyer, and LaVonne Feltmeyer; numerous nieces and nephews, and special friends, Jerry and Jan Frye; Dr. Ken Eichholz Jr. and Toni Warfield plus four granddogs. Pete was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Marie Radford, brothers, Hernando (Ozzie), Allen, Nolan, Paul and Herman Feltmeyer. Mother and Father-in-law, Mabel and Herman Kant; brothers-in law, Lowell "Bud" Kant, Jack Radford, Leo Kant, Harold Carlson, Melvin Heidenreich, sisters-in-law Lucille Feltmeyer, Marge Heidenreich, Mildred Carlson, Virginia Murphy, nephews, Jimmy Feltmeyer, Bob Feltmeyer, Neil Heidenreich, Rodney Heidenreich, and great niece, Jessica McPeek.

Royletta E. Price

LENA — Royletta E. Price, 95, formerly of McConnell, passed away Jan. 12, 2016 at the Lena Living Center in Lena, IL. She was born on Aug. 18, 1920 in Oneco Town-



ship to Roy and Edith (Stabenow) Kilian.

Royletta married Donald Price on Sept. 25, 1938 at the Little Brown Church in Iowa. She worked at Burgess battery for 45 years until her retirement.

Royletta was a member of the McConnell United Methodist Church and the American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoyed spending time with her family, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by two sons: Ulan (Cindy) Price of Freeport, IL and Wayne (Lou) Price of Orangeville, IL; grandchildren- Shane Price of Janesville, WI, Tiffany (Scott) Simanek of Long Grove, IL, Cory (Zoila) Price of New Port Beach, CA, Cara (Ric) Arand of McConnell, IL, Todd (Hang) Meneke of Texas; great grandchildren- Lainey, Ethan and Josie Simanek, Carlie, Emily, Hanna and Mia Diffenderfer, Mackenzie and Maddy Arand; and sister Thurla Yost of California.

Royletta is preceded in death by her parents, husband Donald on June 1, 1977, daughter Karen Price, son Terry Price, two sisters Josephine Gross and Ruby Crooks.

Visitation was held Saturday, Jan. 16, at the McConnell United Methodist Church in McConnell, IL.

The funeral service was at the church.

Officiating the service was Ernie Stabenow.

A memorial has been established for the McConnell United Methodist Church

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

BIRTHS

Mallana Bridgeman

FREEPORT — Crystal Heyes is the mother of a daughter Mallana Ann Marie Bridgeman born Wednesday Jan. 6, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport, Ill. Mallana has a brother Zechariah Bridgeman, 2. Grandparents are Todd and Heyes of Stockton, Ill. and Dana Hammer and Mike Donovan of Shullburg, Wis. Great grandparents are Dorothy and Gordan Heyes.

Zachary Davis

STOCKTON — Jennifer Weipert and Robert Davis of Stockton, Ill. are the parents of a son Zachary Robert Davis born Thursday Jan. 14, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport. Zachary has two sisters Alyssa Reed, 5 and Danika Bergman, 4 and a brother Caleb Reed 12. Grandparents are Teresa Orth and Steve Roberts of Stockton, Kathy and Matt Gray of Oregon, IL. and Roger and Deb Davis of Freeport. Great grandparents are Sharon Orth of Hanover, IL. and Shirley Hintz of Stockton.

Ultan Hansberry

PEARL CITY — Vanessa Dinderman and Jonathan Hansberry of Pearl City are the parents of son Ultan Tyler Hansberry born Thursday Jan. 7,

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Highland faculty and staff receive Excellence Awards

FREEPORT — Highland Community College employees joined fellow colleagues on Jan. 7, to honor individuals with this year's Excellence Award and Opel Award. The awards recognize employees for quality work, creativity, honesty, integrity, self-development and excellence in their professional relationships.

A committee made up of Excellence Awards recipients from the precious two years selected the winners in the following categories: full-time faculty, administrative/professional staff, and part-time employee. This year's recipients were Justin Ebert, Shelly Perkins, and Rebecca Anderson. The annual Opel Award was presented to Jim Phillips by the HCC Foundation.

Full-time Faculty: Justin Ebert of Oregon is an agriculture instructor and advisor

for the Ag Club. Justin works with agriculture industry leaders and many area farmers to offer the best for his students. Students have given excellent feedback about his teaching style and the hands-on projects he develops. He has taken his students on many site trips to be able to offer them real-world experiences. His relationship with the farming community has helped Highland acquire land for class projects, which has also resulted in donations to the program. He also speaks to area high school students to promote the field of agriculture and the program offered through Highland.

Administrative/Professional Staff: Shelly Perkins of Stockton is the Cafeteria Manager at Highland. Each day, Shelly makes it a point to build on the relationship she has with her customers, which are students,

staff and visitors at Highland. She is known for the extra care she has for the students who come to the cafeteria each day, and is free with a hug to each student who needs a little extra. In the two years she has been at Highland, she was improved the quality of the food. She is truly student focused. Shelly also organizes a clothing drive every year for the benefit of students in need. Students can then shop the cafeteria for clothing in a non-threatening way, so they are not embarrassed.

Part-time Employee: Rebecca Anderson of Forreton is the Training Coordinator for the HCC Business Institute. She has been instrumental in helping to develop the newly launched Lifelong Learning initiative. She has a strong commitment to excellence and

is able to gather and assimilate information from a vast array of sources. As a Business Institute team member, she works with other team members who have high praise for her quality of work and ability to be a strong team player. She was able to re-establish and create a well-defined working relationship with the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Consortium (IMEC). This relationship allowed her to coordinate two events with IMEC on campus, which provided great exposure for the College.

Opel Award: The Highland Community College Foundation annually recognizes one employee with the Opel Award, named for one of Highland's founders, Don Opel. The award recognizes employees who go "above and beyond" in

serving or promoting the College. This year the Foundation presented the award to Jim Phillips of Forreton, History and Political Science instructor. Jim exemplifies what this award is about by stepping up to take on the role of interim Dean of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts. Even with the challenges of overseeing a department and being an instructor for his students, Jim was instrumental in guiding and facilitating the creation of two new programs and the restoration of the full-time theatre instructor position. He is a key advocate for the fine arts and the increased commitment to strengthening the infrastructure for the arts at Highland. He also teaches classes for the Leadership Institute, a partnership between local organizations and Highland.

HCC announces 2015 Service Award recipients

FREEPORT — Highland Community College employees were recognized for their years of service as part of the Opening Days activities on Jan. 7. The 2015 Service Award Recipients included the following:

Five years: Sandy Dunmore, Financial Aid Specialist II; Pete Fink, Network Administrator; Jeff Flowers, First Shift Lead Custodian; Mike Gunderson, Audio Visual Specialist; Rich Jacobs, Instructor and Alicia Kepner, Instructor

Ten years: Doug Bock, Trustee; Andria Cornelius, Coordinator, Accounting; Melissa Johnson, Coordinator, Early Childhood Education; Jeremy Monigold, Instructor; Heather Moore, Student Advisor; Anthony Sago, Director, Student Support Services; Michael Skwara, User

Services, Librarian; Renee Welch, Payroll Specialist and Jim Yeager, Instructor

Fifteen years: Joani Bardell, Administrative Assistant; William Buehler, Fine Arts Assistant; Thedford Jackson, Student Advisor (Transfer Coordinator); Carolyn Petsche, Director, Learning and Transitional Education Services; Jim Phillips, Instructor; Patricia Potter, Administrative Applications Administrator and Kenny Rausch, Maintenance Mechanic

Twenty years: Steven Gollmer, Third Shift Custodian; Sandy Johnson, Executive Assistant; Clinton Stansbury, Second Shift Custodian and Teresa Williams, Purchasing and Insurance Specialist

Twenty-five years: Scott Anderson, Dean of Business and Technology.

League of Women Voters to host Candidate Forum

FREEPORT — The League of Women Voters of Freeport will be hosting a Candidate Forum on Tuesday, Feb. 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau in Freeport. The Forum will be cosponsored by the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. Alan Wenzel, director of the Highland Leadership Institute, will serve as moderator for the event.

All candidates in contested races for Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Judge, State's Attorney and Stephenson County Board are

being invited to participate in the forum. The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Judge candidates are James Hauser and Andrew Smith. State's Attorney candidates are Anthony Coon and Carl H. Larson. The Stephenson County Board candidates include Ronnie J. Bush and Bernie Mrugala (District B), Edward Mulligan and Rebecca Quiggle (District C), William "Bill" Hadley and Steven F. Potempa (District E), Brian Batease and Anthony Kuhlemeier (District G), Jerome (Jerry) Pardus and David Schexnayder

(District H), Steven Fricke and Andy (Andrew) Kuhlemeier (District J), Mark B. Diddens and David (Dave) Van Matre (District K) and Jerry Clay and Jim Pinter (District L).

The candidates will respond to a series of questions that are broad-based and issues-oriented. They will not receive the questions in advance of the forum.

The voters of Stephenson County are encouraged to attend this important event. The Primary Election is Tuesday, March 15.

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Pearl City chases away Thunder in boys' hoops

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

PEARL CITY — The Pearl City Wolves fought past West Carroll in boys' NUIC basketball action, winning the cross-county contest 54-43.

A 19-point first quarter effort pushed the Wolves in front, as they found a way to shut down the outside game, from three-point land, keeping the Thunder silent through the first half.

West Carroll's twelve-point first quarter output, followed by a twelve-point second quarter kept hope alive, as Pearl City's offense found a rhythm.

At the half, the Wolves held the 35-24 lead.

West Carroll's best chance to come back materialized early in the second half, as they put 15 points up, while holding Pearl City back, allowing only seven.

After three, West Carroll had cut into the Pearl City advantage and found themselves down by just three points, 42-39.

The fourth quarter would not be as favorable for the visitors, as West Carroll could only score four points in the period, as the Wolves offense came alive from the free throw line, where they connected on seven-of-ten chances, scoring twelve in the period.

Pearl City held on for the eleven-point victory.

Over the next two weeks of regular season play, Pearl City finds itself with a schedule that features showdowns with Eastland, Pecatonica and Polo, as they continue to position themselves in anticipation of the Class 1A seeding meeting on Thursday, Feb. 11.

The Class 1A Boys' Basketball Regional begins the week of Feb. 26 for Pearl City, as they join up with familiar foes from the NUIC regular season, including Lena-Winslow, Freeport Aquin, Orangeville and Scales Mound.

The IHSA has selected East Dubuque and Dakota as the Regional hosts, when the tournament starts later in February.

Warren's winning ways challenged in NUIC play

By Chris Johnson
Reporter

WARREN — Now that less than a handful of games remain for the Warren Lady Warriors, each win pushes them closer to a top seed in the upcoming 2016 Class 1A Regional, to be played at Lena-Winslow and Rockford Christian Life beginning Feb. 8.

Each loss, subsequently, pushes them into a possible direct path with the number one seed in the upcoming playoffs.

Since a 33-point win over Wauconda on Jan. 6, the Lady Warriors have dropped two straight contests.

On Jan. 14, River Ridge/Scales Mound had their way with their visitors from the east, winning 48-43, bringing to a halt the momentum carried from the recent Championship at Paw Paw for Warren.

Warren could not find their offense early, as they found themselves down by twelve points after the first period of play and saw River Ridge take control after putting 17 points in the books.

Bri Lehman scored seven points for River Ridge with Tabria Thomas adding six.

Warren was led by Allison Kubat in the opening frame, as she scored all of the Lady Warriors' points.

The second quarter would be a little more consistent for War-

ren, after they found a way to get the ball through the net, outpacing River Ridge/Scales Mound in the frame by three points.

At the half, River Ridge maintained the edge, up 26-17.

An even more productive third period greeted Warren after they scored twelve points in the frame, with Thomas leading the way with her six points.

After three, the River Ridge lead continued to slip, with just the final period to go.

An exchange of baskets, with another slight edge favoring Warren in the final period helped bring the comeback to mind, but the shots wouldn't fall late, as River Ridge held on for the upset win.

With five games to go in the regular season, Warren knows if it wins out, they will have a legitimate chance to battle for a top seed in the upcoming Regional, meaning a showdown with Durand could be looming.

Warriors looking for offense

The boys' basketball team at Warren has been busy over the past few weeks of the season, as they have been refining their style of play, with the post-season, now, just about a month away.

There is still a lot of basketball to play for Warren, as they attempted to rediscover their winning ways in a cross-border

clash with Black Hawk out of South Wayne, WI, in a match played on Jan. 12.

The visitors, however, had their way, winning by three points, 48-45.

After scoring twelve points in the opening period and following that up with an additional ten in the second, Warren found themselves down by three points at the half, 25-22.

Black Hawk scored 13 points in the third quarter and found themselves tied, heading into the final period, after Warren put 16 into the books, led by Zach Vondra and his ten points in the period.

After three, the game was all square at 38.

In the fourth quarter, Warren scored seven points, which would not be enough, as Black Hawk scored ten in the period, knocking down their free throw attempts at a clip of 80 percent.

Vondra ended the night with 17 points, leading his Warriors.

Jared Brinkmeier added eleven with Ben Hicks connecting for eight points.

Warren faces Galena on the road on Jan. 24, before a non-conference clash with the Zee-Bees from Zion-Benton on Jan. 27.

Scales Mound pays a visit, as Warren re-enters NUIC action on Feb. 4, before another showdown with the Galena Pirates, on the road, on Feb. 12.

Garbage increased nearly fifteen percent during December holidays

By Courtney Dufford
Reporter

STATELINE — The weeks around Christmas and New Years can be a fun and festive time. However, with the additional parties, gift giving, and large meals also comes an increase in the amount of waste we generate. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that household waste increases by 25% between Thanksgiving and New Years Day every year—that's an extra 1 million tons!

Locally, Greg Jury, the Municipal Marketing Manager at Rock River Environmental Services, estimates that the quantity of waste increased by 10-15% in Northern Illinois

during the two-week holiday period in 2015. "Obviously, there is more volume- presents, Christmas trees, and everything you throw away afterwards."

Rock River Environmental Services owns Gills Freeport, the hauling company that operates in Lena, Stockton, Warren, Winslow, and other Northern Illinois towns. During the holidays and throughout the year, trash is collected curbside, compacted at the Freeport transfer station, and then hauled daily to the Winnebago Landfill.

"The holiday season brings more waste and rough weather", says Jury, "but the waste industry always operates on a 5 day workweek".

Jury notes that only roughly 3% of the holiday waste increase is in recyclables- the other 10-12% is destined for the landfill. Data on waste is usually measured by weight, and recyclables are typically lighter than trash. "For example, someone might get a new chair for Christmas and throw the old one away."

Jeff Theien, the operating manager at the Winnebago

Landfill, adds, "There is more paper and cardboard/packaging materials present in the couple of weeks following the holidays. Operations aren't greatly affected by the winter- just plow the snow and make sure the equipment is ready for the extreme cold temperatures."

The Winnebago Landfill has been operating at its current location since 1972 and receives around 5,000 tons of garbage a day, mostly from households. The current location will reach capacity in about 3 years. A 222 acre expansion will allow the facility to continue receiving waste for another 20 years.

However, those extra holiday trimmings and trappings

do not inertly take up space. The Winnebago Landfill generates methane, a greenhouse gas that has a 25% greater impact on climate change pound for pound than carbon. According to the US EPA, landfills are the third largest source of methane in the US.

Although increased waste generation negatively impacts climate change, there may be little incentive for local residents to decrease their trash during the holidays and throughout the year. Most municipalities charge their residents a set landfill fee which doesn't reflect how much, or little, they throw away. In Warren, this fee recently increased

to \$15.82/month and applies evenly to both thrifty and wasteful households.

Perhaps a good 2016 New Years resolution for your household could be to voluntarily reduce the waste you generate during the holidays and every day. Buying items with less packaging, refurbishing or finding a new home for that old chair, and giving gifts of experiences rather than things are all ways to make 2016 a less wasteful year.

A little levity to lighten your day

There were two astronauts in a rocket cruising around in space. Astronaut #1 says, "Everyone is going to the moon, let's go to the sun!" Astronaut #2 says, "We can't go to the sun, if we get within, like 13 feet of it we will burn up!" Astronaut # 1 says, "Then let's go at night."

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Lena Area Special Event Runners to host Winterfest - break out those boat drinks

Information compiled by **Tony Carton**
Editor

LENA — Lena Area Special Event Runners (L.A.S.E.R.) is hosting Winterfest, a Lena Community Holiday Event Jan. 23 - 31.

Start the festivities at Coach's Golf & Grill and kick off the fun filled week by hosting a concert featuring Nashville Recording Artist and Lena Area favorite, Corey Cox. Don't miss the 8pm -Midnight show when a new tradition will be featured: an Inaugural King and Queen will be crowned. The King

and Queen will reign over the Winterfest Activities and be of service until next year's event, when the royal ritual will be repeated.

On Monday Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m., a Little Miss and Mr. Winterfest contest will be held at the Lena Living Center. Entry forms are currently available at the Lena Living Center during business hours and due by Jan. 19. Ages eligible for the competition are 3 years old through fifth grade. It is required entrants reside in the Le-Win School District. For more information, please contact Lisa at 815 369 4561.

On Tuesday, A Mexican Winter will be held at The Rafters Restaurant. Specials will feature \$1.00 Tacos, \$2.00 Tecate, \$3.00 Tequila and much more. For more information, contact Jaime at The Rafters 815-369-5330.

On Wednesday afternoon/evening, a downtown Wine Walk will be featured at Natural Healing Express, Fluegels and DeVoe Floral. For details contact Susan at 317-409-1500.

On Thursday, AJ's Lena Maid Meats will feature a Canned Food Drive. Anyone who makes a Food donation on that date will receive 10% off their retail purchase on that day. For details contact Marcia at 815-369-4523.

Be sure to slide through the downtown and visit those various businesses running specials throughout the Winterfest week.

This week is a fun filled family time that celebrates small town life during the coldest of days.

"We are reviving a long time tradition by agreeing to host Winterfest," said L.A.S.E.R. President Ross Vehmeier. "We look forward to many people having fun in Lena, coming together as a community and letting off a little steam during the chilly days of winter. When our small, get-it-done group of

Board Members agreed to do this, I had a big smile on my face. Being a life-long Lena Resident, I have fond memories of Bed Races on Main Street, Tricycle Races at the Iron Horse Tap and of course the crazy scavenger hunt that provided some serious competition with a lot of laughs. It is my anticipation that bringing back these events, along with the new ones we have in store will help bring Lena folks closer together and give us some much needed stress relief. And, quite possibly, enjoy some beers."

The Friday, Jan. 29 activities include a Scavenger Hunt beginning at 7 p.m. at the Lena Brewing Company and the Tricycle Races at 9:00 p.m. at the Iron Horse Tap.

The Saturday, Jan. 30 events include: a pancake breakfast will be held at Lena Methodist Church from 7 to 10 a.m. Kids games at Lions Park from 10-noon. Volleyball Tournament from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Winter War Games (bed races, tug-o-war, tricycle jousting) from Noon until 3 p.m. "Uptown", Blizzard Jousting. Also a Spaghetti Dinner beginning at 6 p.m. - hosted by the Lena Fire Department and a Blizzard Ball at the Lena Community Center.

Sunday, Jan. 31 features: Family Day from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lake Le-Aqua-Na which is sledding and a 2.2 Run/Walk. Also, there will be Snowmobile Rodeo/Races at the Rafters from 1-3 p.m. Also,

there will be new exhibition event called SnowCar at the Rafters from 1:00-3:00 pm. Local businesses will sponsor a Snowcar along with a local driver. When one last car is remaining in operating condition or the Master of Ceremonies declares a "winner", the competition will end and the SnowCar Team will earn the Title of Inaugural SnowCar Master. There is no charge to witness this first time event. Please bring your own chairs.

The weekend will end with the burning of discarded Christmas Trees. The Winterfest Celebration truly has something for the whole family.

Hey, don't miss it! If you can't change your latitudes at least mark this week on your calendars and watch for future announcements.

"L.A.S.E.R. is a positive, dynamic and progressive organization focused on promoting Lena Area Events for the benefits of regional residents, businesses, deserving groups and overall community enrichment," said L.A.S.E.R. secretary Jaime Heddinger. "That's our motto. We had a fabulous time putting together the Lena Shakedown (a mega-event held in Late Summer) and on the heels of that success, we decided to band together and have some fun during the winter. We are hoping for great attendance and support from the community as well as to provide a platform of fellowship for those brave enough to join us."

If you would like to be a part of Winterfest -please contact Jaime Heddinger @ Jaime@lenabrewing.com or 815-275-0714.

Annual spaghetti dinner to benefit Madonna Renewal Center

FREEPORT — The second annual spaghetti dinner benefiting the Madonna Renewal Center will be held Tuesday, Feb. 9, from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church, 303 S. Galena, Freeport.

Madonna Renewal Center is a safe haven that will offer hope and healing to women in need, and offers a 12 to 24 month program for young adult pregnant women and their infants. The objective is to empower women through variety of structured curriculum that nurture personal worth and love for their

children. The curriculum will aid each person to acquire self-esteem and develop practical life skills for employment and independent living.

All proceeds will be used for the renovation of the Madonna Renewal Center. Tickets pre-sale are \$7 and \$8 at the door. The menu will feature Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Beverage and Dessert. Tickets may be purchased from MRC committee members, Mary's Mantle, St. Joseph's Church office, or by contacting Mary Julius at 815-238-0695.



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WARREN WOMAN'S CLUB UP-DATE

WARREN — Well, the holidays are over and it's a New Year. Hope everyone received what they expected for Christmas, I know I did.

Terri Reid an author from Freeport was kind enough to speak of her lives work and about the books she wrote. "Thank You", Terri your talk was very interesting, hope you will join us again in the future.

President Ruth started the meeting and she proceeded to have the committee reports read. Then by-law revisions were voted on and passed by the attending members. A suggestion that a \$25 donation be given to the Public Improve-

See UP-DATE, Page 12

CHURCH NOTES

PASTOR'S CORNER

John – The Gospel of Light and Life

By Gary Rich – Lay Servant
Lena United Methodist Church

LENA — John the Gospel of Light and Life is a new book just released, written by Adam Hamilton, the senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. Matthew, Mark and Luke are the Synoptic Gospels; Synoptic meaning “to see together”. These three books are very similar and share many stories and are a general outline of Jesus’ life. They describe the Kingdom of God. (Kingdom is mentioned seventy-five times in Matthew, Mark and Luke). In the Gospel of John, Jesus is presented as the source of life. While the Synoptic Gospels calls people to follow Jesus. The Gospel of John shows us a Jesus who calls people to believe in him.

The Gospel of John was written after all the disciples except John had been put to death. John was the last living witness from the first apostles. John is a spiritual commentary on Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. As we read John, Adam Hamilton encourages us to answer three questions as we read each passage. *What is said in this passage

about Jesus? * In this passage, how does Jesus bring life to me? * What response do these verses require of me? In John 20:31 we read, “These things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.” Join us, starting February 7 for six lessons of this Lenten study of the Gospel of John, to help you find new life in Christ’s name.

Lena United Methodist Church will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast as part of Winterfest on Jan. 30, from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, apple sauce, and beverages will be served. Cost: Adults - \$6 and children under 10 - \$4.

Join us at Lena United Methodist Church on Sunday morning at 9 a.m. for the service and fellowship time after. Sunday school is at 10:30.

“Putting 2016 into Perspective”

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

LENA — I’ve worn glasses since Fifth Grade! I thought everyone saw what I saw. I would sit in the classroom and have to squint at the chalkboard to see the teach-

er’s grammar lesson or math problems that we were to copy down. (Remember this is before copy machines.)

One day each student in our class had to do a vision test with the school nurse. I failed the test and found myself headed to an optometrist to be checked out. I came away with these super sturdy (and nerdy) frames with thick lenses.

On the ride home I could read street signs that I hadn’t noticed before. The next day at school the writing on the chalkboard was big and bold. I didn’t have to squint any longer. My whole world brightened up. Though I didn’t like the frames (weren’t a whole lot of choices back in the old days) I could definitely see more clearly.

It was kind of unsettling to realize that the way I had been seeing the world was not actually how the world looked. My reality wasn’t real. What I had believed had actually been a blurred vision of the world.

These days I am very much aware of how much I need glasses. I can’t get up at night and go to the bathroom without putting my glasses on. (It’s okay, I’m getting old.) When I don’t have my glasses

on, I miss a lot. Despite my daily reminders that my vision cannot always be trusted, I forget that when it comes to matters of the heart and soul and life.

We are well on our way into a new year. I have my vision as to what the new year is supposed to look like! But what if what I believe the new year is supposed to look like isn’t true? What if my perspective was left on the night stand with my glasses? What if our vision is as blurry as the chalkboard in my fifth grade school room?

If you begin feeling anxious or sad or bitter when you see the new year unfolding before you, close your eyes, take a deep breath, and take another look.

Look for a reality check. Have you been spending too much time on making the new year perfect? If you’ve been reading articles on “366 Things You Must Do in 2016” and it makes you hyperventilate, or want to curl up on the couch and hibernate until 2017—stop reading them.

Take the focus off self. If you have been looking at all the pictures taken at Christmas time with family and friends and think they all need to be photo-shopped to remove the

wrinkles, the gray, the weight, etc—you need a new perspective. Nothing gives you a new perspective faster than helping others. Whether it’s helping someone who is ill, helping out a struggling family, babysitting the grandkids—can help you forget your own burdens and remember all the good you do have.

Look for the blessings. If you are worried about old wounds from 2015 entering 2016 not yet healed, grief that is still fresh, and the regrets that cloud over each day—the joy is still there—you might just need to put your spiritual glasses on. If the new year ahead looks intimidating, look for the blessings. Start with the small things and count them. Each morning thank God for another day. Give thanks for family and friends—those near and far. Thank God that the 366 days of 2016 (yup! It’s leap year) are going to come at you only one at a time. You only have to deal with one day at a time.

Look for Christ’s strength. If you’re still crying over your loss, if the cold dark days of winter depress you, and if your home seems empty after all the commotion of the Christmas season, or a thousand different things are burdening your heart—know that God is still there in each day, still loves you in every way, and will strengthen you with His grace to overflowing. Seeing life clearly through the cross of Christ and the empty tomb will give you a new perspective.

A pair of glasses rocked my life many years ago, and I truly believe that seeing life through Christ in 2016 will change our perspective on life as well. Count your blessings in 2016 and pray for that laser focus on Jesus this year.

St. John's Lutheran Church to hold annual meeting

PEARL CITY — You’re welcome to St. John’s Lutheran Church on Sunday, Jan. 24 for the Third Sunday of Epiphany worship service. Pastor Ekstrand will lead the worship service that will include the Joy Choir. Following worship, Whirl Sunday School and Confirmation will be held. The Outreach and Stewardship committees will meet at 10:15 a.m. A planning meeting for the Book Nook group will be in Luther Hall at 10:15 a.m. Pastor Ekstrand will have the second of two classes for fourth grade youth and those older that would like to receive their First Communion at 11 a.m. The SPOTS (fifth and sixth grades) youth group will meet at 11 a.m. upstairs at the Youth and Family Center.

The Fifth Quarter (seventh and eighth grades) youth group will meet at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 24 followed by the Genesis (high school)

youth group will meet at 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the Youth and Family Center.

The Annual meeting of the St. John’s Congregation will be on Jan. 31 immediately following worship. Please plan to attend. Annual books will be assembled at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 21. You’re welcome to help out!

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 discus-

sion 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.

Upcoming Dates: St. John’s will host their annual Pancake and Sausage Supper on Feb. 3, at 4 p.m. Ash Wednesday services will be at noon and 7 p.m. on Feb. 10. Pastor Ekstrand will hold Stations of the Cross at Noon on Fridays during Lent starting on Feb. 12.

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Winter months prompt heating and carbon monoxide warnings

STATELINE — With the winter months upon us, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is reminding homeowners about the fire dangers associated with heating equipment. Improper use of such equipment like portable or stationary space heaters, wood burning stoves and fireplaces can be incredibly dangerous, and their misuse is a leading cause of U.S. home fire deaths. According to NFPA, half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February. More than half of the home heating fire deaths resulted from fires that started when something that could

burn, like upholstered furniture, clothing, blankets and bedding, was too close to heating equipment.

During the colder months there is also an increased risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Fuel-burning equipment, including vehicles and generators running in an attached garage, can produce dangerous levels of CO and should be vented to the outside to avoid it from building up in your home. In a 2012 NFPA report, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine such calls per hour in

2010. The number of incidents jumped 96 percent from 40,900 incidents reported in 2003. This surge, according to NFPA, is most likely due to the increased use of CO detectors, which alert people to the presence of CO.

Some heating equipment requires proper installation to reduce the risk of fire injuries. When installing wood burning stoves or gas heaters, NFPA recommends following the manufacturer's instructions or having a professional perform the installation.

Installing and maintaining CO alarms can also help reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. If you smell gas in your gas heater or other appliance, do not light it. Leave the home immediately and call

your local fire department or gas company.

To ensure a safe and cozy winter this year, NFPA offers some easy tips to follow:

Use your oven to cook food only. Never use it to heat your home.

Hire a qualified professional to clean and inspect heating equipment and chimneys every year.

Turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.

Place a sturdy screen in front of your fireplace to prevent sparks from flying into the room, and burn only dry, seasoned wood. Allow ashes to cool before disposing them in a metal container, and ensure that they are kept a safe distance

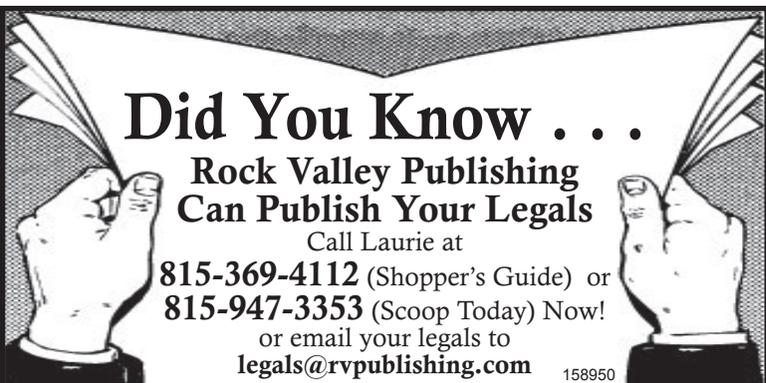
from the home.

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.

During and after a snowstorm make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.

Test smoke alarms and CO alarms monthly. Properly maintained alarms can save lives in the event of a fire.

Find additional resources including tips sheets, videos, reports and more about heating safety and carbon monoxide by visiting NFPA's website.



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Pet Talk: Pet transportation safety

STATELINE — The holiday season has ended, meaning most families are returning from their travels. For some people, pets are a part of the celebration and are included in travel plans. While some pets are easy travel companions, others are better left at home in the care of a trusted friend or neighbor. Even if visiting your veterinarian is the most you travel with your pet, every owner should understand pet transportation safety.

When making travel decisions, it is important to consider your pet's behavior, health, and daily needs. For example, if your destination will not allow you to spend time with Fido and include his daily exercise, then it is best he stay at home. As a general rule, most cats are more comfortable in their home environment and should probably stay home during family trips.

Taking your pet to the veterinarian for a quick check up will also help you decide if your pet is healthy enough for travel, especially if your pet will be traveling by airline. Your pet's behavior is also a deciding factor in allowing them to travel. For instance, a playful and energetic puppy may not appreciate riding in a kennel for several hours.

Traveling by car is the most common way to transport pets, but many owners do not know the safest way to allow furry friends to ride in the car. Dr. James Barr, clinical assistant

professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, explained the best way to transport your pet by car. "The best way to transport pets in a car is to restrain them in some way," he said. "If you have a small dog or cat, then they should be placed in a pet carrier. They will be safer and less likely to climb in your lap and interfere with driving. Although this may not be feasible in larger dogs, there are a number of seat belt devices that can be used for dogs to limit their mobility in the car."

In addition, it is also recommended to keep pets in the back seat to prevent them from being a distraction from the road. You may also consider inviting a friend or family member along to help watch the pets. On long road trips, this will allow you the opportunity to buy snacks or refuel while your pets are under the supervision of your friend.

It is common for pet owners to allow their dog to put their head out the window, but the reality is that this can be dangerous. Although Fido may enjoy the fresh air, he can potentially be injured by debris. "There are a couple of problems that arise when a dog has his head outside of a moving car window," Barr said. "The first is the possibility that something could hit them at high speed, such as bugs, sticks, or other debris. This is especially problematic for the dog's eyes. The next problem is with the possibility

that the pet could jump out of the window and severely injure themselves."

In addition to these safety tips, it is also important to never leave your pet unattended in the car. Having a friend with you to help watch the pets while traveling will solve most dangers associated with leaving pets alone.

Although some veterinarians may not recommend allowing your pet to travel by airline, it is not impossible. "The most important thing when it comes to airline transport is to ensure your pet is healthy enough to make the trip," said Barr. "Airlines generally require that you have a veterinarian sign a health certificate to prove your pet is healthy enough for travel. If the pet is to ride in the cabin, then it will need to be calm enough to be carried through security. In the baggage area, your pet may get hot or cold, so the health of the pet needs to be good to enable them to withstand that."

No matter the occasion, knowing how to safely travel with your pet is a must. Whether you're traveling by car or airline, it is important to first consider the health and safety of your pet.

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. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.

Community Supper

Wednesday, January 20 ~ 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
 All ages welcome! No cost - no obligation.

1st Annual Little Mr. and Miss Winterfest Contest

Monday, January 25 ~ 6:30 p.m. at the Lena Living Center. Child must reside in the Le-Win School District. Stop by or call Lena Living Center to get a registration. Registration due by Jan. 19th.

Senior Bingo

Thursday, January 28th
 Complimentary Lunch at 12:30 p.m.
 Bingo at 1:00 p.m.
 Both events at Lena Living Center



Card Making Class

(Sponsored by Lifelong Learning at Highland Community College)
 Tuesday, February 16 ~ 1:00-3:00 p.m.
 at the Doll Apt. Community Room.
 Register through Highland Community College by Feb. 8 by calling 815-599-3403, cost \$10

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The Sprague-Inman Unit to host brunch

LENA — The Sprague-Inman Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary in Lena invites all area female veterans to attend a brunch in their honor on Saturday, Feb. 13, at 9:30 a.m. This will be held at the American Legion Home in

Lena on West Main Street across from the old historical water tower. Reservations are necessary. Please call 815-369-4684 and leave a message with your name and phone number to reserve a spot by Feb. 8.

Illinois manufacturing continues to lag

By Mark Fitton
Illinois News Network

SPRINGFIELD — Noting some hard numbers from November, Illinois manufacturers say they're watching Springfield for decisions on taxes and spending as they keep battling in a worldwide marketplace.

While Illinois gained a few jobs in November, they weren't in manufacturing.

Although the state added about 400 jobs in November, the unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 5.7 percent, according to the Illinois Department of Employment Security. That compares to a national rate of 5.0 percent for the same period.

Jeff Mays, director of IDES, said the increase in the unemployment rate was attributable to more people entering the labor force to look for work. And while the department noted all non-farm employment was up year-to-year with a job gain of about 35,700, manufacturing jobs continued to lag.

Manufacturing showed a year-to-year job loss of about 12,800 jobs.

"Illinois' average job growth since the employment recovery began in January 2010 remains below the national average, and employment will not recover

• PANTHERS

Continued from page 1

East Dubuque was led by Culbertson who scored 16 points and Feyen who tallied 15.

Outside of Haight and Temperly, East Dubuque's defense shut down the attack plan thrown at them by Lena-Winslow.

The Panthers dropped the decision and prepared for a match against Eastland on Saturday, Jan. 16.

Eastland started strong and closed with a nine-point win, 52-43.

Temperly scored eleven points in the match, leading the Lady Panthers.

Eastland was led by Doubler, who scored 23 points.

Only four games remain in the regular season for Lena-Winslow and the schedule does not appear favorable as they are scheduled to face Pearl City, in a potentially winnable match, on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

On Jan. 22, Galena pays a visit and on Jan. 25, the Lady Panthers travel to conference leader Durand for a possible Regional contest preview.

The 2015-2016 regular season closes with a Jan. 28 rematch with River Ridge/Scales Mound traveling to Lena.

from the 2007-2009 recession until January 2017," according to IDES analysts.

"The manufacturing and mining industries continue to hemorrhage middle class jobs, while our neighboring states continue to grow," said Jim Schultz, director of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

"We need to significantly reform our state's business climate if we want to reverse the flow of manufacturing jobs out of Illinois and start growing again," Schultz said. While Illinois manufacturers certainly compete with other Midwestern makers, they also compete with manufacturers in countries including Mexico and China, he

said.

The slow-growing economy also means small- and medium-sized manufacturers that survived The Great Recession are hesitant to add jobs unless they know demand will likely sustain those positions, said Kim Maisch, Illinois director for the National Federation of Independent Business.

"It's not that things are horrible, but many small business owners are very afraid to put on jobs they may not need. They don't want to get caught like that again after they've seen so many fellow business owners go out of business," Maisch said.

Manufacturers concerns about the economy may be well

Lena Living Center to host first annual Little Miss and Mr. Winterfest

LENA — Lena Living Center, in cooperation with Winterfest, is proud to present the 1st Annual "Little Miss & Mr. Winterfest". Contestants are welcome to register that are: between the ages of 3 yrs and up to 5 grade and are part of the Le-Win School district. Entry forms are available at the Lena Living Center office. The event will be held on Monday Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Living Center. The 2016 "Little Miss & Mr. Winterfest" will be expected to

attend the "Blizzard Ball" on Sat. Jan. 30 as well as represent "Winterfest" in the Lena Fall Festival Parade and the Lighted Hometown Christmas Parade. The public is invited to attend the contest. Refreshments will be provided. Lena Living Center provides rehabilitation Medicare therapy in private Medicare suites, long term care, and respite care at their facility located at 1010 S Logan in Lena, IL. Registration for the contest WAS due by Jan. 19.



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founded.

"Measures of consumer attitudes and sentiment have weakened in recent months," the state's Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, noted in its November report.

There's some fear the nation's manufacturing sector is already

in recession and, "in Illinois, many face the prospects of higher property taxes as well as the prospect that any state budget solution may necessitate higher state income taxes, while in Cook County they will face a sharp increase in sales and a myriad of other taxes," the commission reported.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



WINSLOW - REDUCED \$8,000 - COUNTRY - NICE COUNTRY LOCATION on 7

acres M/L. Surrounded by timber on 2 sides, fenced-in pasture, garden and garden shed. Located on hard surface road and asphalt driveway. Several black walnut trees and an abundant of wildlife (turkey, deer, etc.) 3 bedroom, 2 bath, ranch home, main floor laundry and 2 stall attached garage with a nice amount of storage. Updates include newer hidden fastener steel roof and mudded drywall throughout most of the home, kitchen backsplash, oak window sills, oak beams, oak crown molding and water softener. Property heats very efficiently. This home is in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) call for details. A MUST SEE!!
Priced at \$157,000



LENA - MOVE IN READY BI-LEVEL, features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, eat-in kitchen with door to

deck and back yard, living room, family room and another lower level room. Laundry room with storage space. There is a 2 stall detached garage. Newers include some floor coverings, interior paint, furnace, air, water heater, replacement windows, roof and exterior doors.
Priced at \$83,500



WINSLOW - COUNTRY - PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP in this 3 bedroom, 3 bath home located

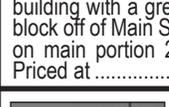
on 10.33 acres M/L. Large oak kitchen with built-in kitchen china cabinet and desk. The kitchen recently had a cork floor installed. New dishwasher and range. Large living room with laminate wood floors. Split bedroom plan. Exposed walk-out lower level has spacious L-shaped family room and full bath. 2 stall attached garage with storage area. 46' x 63' pole shed, pasture for the animals of your choice. Year round creek. Lots of garden space. A MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE!
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Pearl City students build strong community bonds

It is not unusual to see older students sitting next to a younger student in Pearl City Schools. A variety of activities take place regularly to help build a strong community. Students read, play games, help with skill practice, act as mentors and just have fun together. We have a unique situation where students from Pre-K to Twelfth grade are all in the same building, making interacting with each other very easy. Building a strong caring community is important to us in Pearl City.



Courtesy photo

Volunteer Hospice of Northwest Illinois offers training classes

STOCKTON — What do you know about Hospice? Have you ever asked these questions – How do I know when to call Hospice? Are all Hospices the same? How does Hospice help? Have you ever thought that you would be interested in working as a hospice volunteer?

These questions and more will be addressed at the Hospice Training classes scheduled to be held by Volunteer Hospice of Northwest Illinois, Inc. This training class will help answer questions and serve as training for those interested in serving as a volunteer with our organization. Our training program will give you a better understanding of the needs of someone with a terminal illness and their caregiver and also the grieving process that people or you yourself experience. As a trained volunteer you would be qualified to work with direct client care, our bereavement program, Friendly Visitor Program, perform clerical duties in the office or help with various fundraising events.

This training program is scheduled to begin on Monday, Feb. 22, and will be held each Monday through March 21, from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Hospice office at 105 S. Main Street, Stockton. Call the office at 815-947-3260 to reserve your spot. If you would like information on our training program, but cannot attend this training as scheduled, please call to make other arrangements.

• UP-DATE

Continued from page 8

ment was put forward; it would be monthly.

A big "Thank You" to Joan Holm, Val Stocks and Sandra Wolfrom for the decorating the tree for The Festival of Trees. Shirley Miller painted some wooden snowmen for the club; they were used around town "Thank You" Shirley.

A big "Thank You" to the Social Committee: Georgette Planting (chr.), Carol Bomjour and Clara Blair for putting together a great lunch.

Our next meeting will be Jan. 26, at 1:30 p.m. and our guest will be Dr. Elizabeth Stocks on Herbs. Sounds interesting; hope to see everyone there.

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Le-Win/Orangeville Speech team posts results from ninth annual tournament

LENA — Nine years ago, the Lena-Winslow High School Speech Team “crossed the Rubicon”. Crossing the Rubicon is a reference to Roman general Julius Caesar’s decision to cross the Rubicon River in northern Italy as part of his plans to take over the Roman Republic. But, the phrase has come to mean making a decision that is irreversible. The ‘Rubicon’ that the team crossed was creating the first annual Le-Win Speech tournament, joining the Northern Illinois circuit of other such tournaments that has included sites in Rochelle, DeKalb, Fulton, Freeport, Byron, and Rockford. Because once that first tournament was over and the day was done, the team knew that hosting its own tournament was a decision that could not be reversed. It provided a much-needed venue for the speech teams in Northwest Illinois that otherwise would have to travel an hour or longer to compete on Saturday mornings.

Le-Win High School was the site of its on Jan. 9, now called the Le-Win/Orangeville Invitational to reflect the cooperative arrangement Lena-Winslow has with Orangeville High School. The speech



Courtesy photo

Lena-Winslow/Orangeville speech team hosts first annual invitational speech tournament. (front row from left)- Asa Lake, Eiley MacDougall, Rachael Wybourn, Noah Asche, Lilly Rowley (middle row from left)- Hope Enck, April Woolcock, Lucas Boomgarden, John Jurkovic, Jake Fox (back row from left)- Michael Sutter, Alec Aurand, Sophia Jurkovic, Ella Brunner Not present- Adisyn Hoff, Iris Trimble, and Justin Malon

contest attracted 126 students from twelve schools competing in 14 speaking categories. And, as has become commonplace this season, the Le-Win/Orangeville team won its share of awards and captured three first-place prizes: Dramatic

Duet Acting (Sophia Jurkovic/Rachael Wybourn), Humorous Duet Acting (Asa Lake/Eiley MacDougall), and Impromptu (Hope Enck). Claiming his first varsity award of the year was Le-Win junior Michael Sutter, who won fifth place in

Poetry Reading with a powerful selection of poems dealing with the plight of Viet Nam veterans. And, for the second straight week, the novice (first-year competitors) duet of Lilly Rowley and Ella Brunner won sixth place in Varsity Dramat-

ic Duet Acting, portraying a pair of sisters dealing with the effects of their grandfather’s Alzheimer’s Disease.

Sophia Jurkovic continued her winning ways with a varsity award in Dramatic Interpretation as did her brother, John, in Original Comedy. Other Le-Win and Orangeville students who came away with medals or ribbons that day were Alec Aurand, Noah Asche, and Lucas Boomgarden. In addition to Sophia Jurkovic, Lake, Brunner, and Rowley also won a second award in another speaking category.

Next up for the Le-Win/Orangeville team is the prestigious two-day Downers Grove South tournament, to be held Jan. 22 and 23. The DGS tournament attracts many of the biggest and best speech teams from all over Illinois. Our team has fared very well in that contest over the years, even claiming a tournament champion in 2012 when State Speech Finalist Allie Long finished first in Prose Reading. Following Downers Grove, the team travels to Rockford Auburn before heading into the IHSA State Series, which begins with Regionals at Byron High School on Feb. 6.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Wednesdays:** Manny's \$1.25 TACO Night— \$1 Domestic Tap Beer
- **Jan 30th:** UGLY-SWEATER-PARTY & SHRIMP BOIL - All You Can Eat with red potatoes and corn. Serving starts at 4:00 with D'Man DJ from 8-12. You know you have an ugly sweater in your closet!
- **Jan. 31st:** Sleigh Riding Party Stockton Strong 1-4
- **NFL PLAYOFF GAME DAY SPECIALS!** \$2 domestic beers & \$3 well drinks \$10 Lg. single topping Manny's pizza & 1/2 price Appetizers (Manny's 815-947-2575)
- **Feb. 7th:** NFL Big Game Party!
- **FEB. 14th:** Valentine's Day Dinner! Details and more events to follow.

See our Black Hawk Run Facebook page.

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13 WREX to launch new Sunday show

ROCKFORD — 13 WREX is launching a new 30-minute show called "13 In Focus" that will be centered on politics, local issues and positive happenings in the Rockford area.

The new show will air every Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m., directly preceding the Today Show, and will replace the long-standing "13 Cares" program. 13 News Anchors Sean Muserallo and Kristin Crowley will be the primary hosts of the new program

"2016 is a very important year for people in the State-line and we want to provide a show that helps educate and inform residents about all that goes on in our great communities," said Josh Morgan, News Director at 13 WREX. "From local politics, to divisive city and county issues, to community transformation, this show will take an in-depth look at the area's biggest news stories."

"13 In Focus" had its debut Sunday, Jan. 10 with a debate-

style episode involving the two Republican candidates running for Winnebago County Board Chairman. Incumbent Board Chairman Scott Christensen and Rock Valley College Board Chairman Frank Haney will answer questions on why they both believe they should be the county's next leader.

"13 In Focus" will continue to host candidates for major races from across Winnebago, Boone, Stephenson, Ogle and Lee counties through the March 15 primary election.

If you have a topic that you would like to be highlighted on "13 In Focus," you can contact the WREX Newsroom at (815) 335-2710, or send an email to news@wrex.com.

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A little levity to lighten your day

What's the difference between a chicken and a turkey? A chicken celebrates Thanksgiving.

Local Groups Invited to Support Financial Literacy

STATELINE — Several local banks and credit unions, non-profits, schools and libraries, and governmental organizations are joining forces to address financial literacy in the Jo Daviess and Stephenson County area this spring. They will be working together to present financial workshops on everything from basic savings tips to advanced money management strategies

Money Smart Week is an annual public awareness campaign created in 2002 by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. It provides financial education programs through the collaboration of local organizations who register with the Federal Reserve to become Money Smart Week partners. Partners work together to plan and promote events including the Money Smart Kid Essay contest for grades sixth through eighth.

All Money Smart Week events are free of commercial marketing, making them a safe place for consumers to get information on a wide range of financial topics.

Money Smart Week 2016 will be from April 23 to April 30. Monthly planning meetings will bring partners together to choose topics for events, identify financial sponsors, and plan for media coverage.

The local Jo Daviess-Stephenson County Money Smart Week planning team for 2016 is led by co-chairs Diane Reinhold from the University of Illinois Extension and Julie Smith from Cornerstone Credit Union.

Any organizations interested in participating in Money Smart Week – by providing a site for events, presenting a financial workshop, promoting events, or sponsoring events, providing media coverage, or supplying prizes for student contests – are invited to attend the next planning meeting on Friday, Jan. 15 from 10 – 11 a.m. at the Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas Street, Freeport, IL.

For more information about becoming involved in Money Smart Week, contact Diane Reinhold at 815-235-4125 or Julie Smith at 815-266-4402.



Specials Good

Thursday, January 21st - Tuesday, January 26th

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- ~ Pork Butt Roast • **\$1.69/lb.**
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- Foldgers Instant Decaf Coffee • **8 oz. • \$3.99**
- Nature Valley Trail Mix Granola Bars • **7.4 oz. • 2/\$4.00**
- Shurfine Saltine Crackers • **16 oz. • \$1.29**
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Freeport Downtown Development Foundation names 2015 volunteer award winners

FREEPORT — The Freeport Downtown Development Foundation (FDDF) honors volunteers each year with three awards. They are please to announce the 2015 winners.

The Rising Star Award is given to an outstanding 'up and coming' volunteer in the community. It recognizes an indi-

vidual who stepped up to help downtown move forward. This year, the award was given to Nick Jupin. Nick helped organize two downtown events and was pivotal to their success.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an individual who has made it their mission to help downtown

thrive. Ronnie Bush was named this year's winner after leading the 3rd Ward for the City of Freeport, volunteering at events, and serving on the FDDF board of directors and committees for many years.

Michele Massoth was named The Jack Myers Volunteer of the Year. This award is given to an individual whose outstanding work made a substantial difference in downtown. Michele leads the Riverfront Business District committee, who were part of the pretzel shaped bike racks, shared bike lane, orange banners, welcome stone, landscaping, and attraction map that were all completed in 2015.

FDDF has over 300 volunteers that put in many hours each year. The FDDF board of directors and staff would like to thank every one of them for their help promoting downtown and for working hard to make it a wonderful place to be.

Freeport's downtown is the core of the economic health of the city. With over 200 businesses, it is FDDF's goal that the downtown district be a prime place to live, work, shop, and enjoy. Interested volunteers can contact the office at 815-232-9000.

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Form #5SPDA.10.1.2014

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

LENA — Once again we are spending the weekend in the big deep freeze. It is the time of the year where you just want some warm for your tummy (and maybe a little sweet too) and a good book. The recipes this week are varied. There is an appetizer for the Super Bowl party, an easy fruit salad, a bone warming soup, a nice entrée, and some yummy desserts.

The first recipe this week is for an appetizer for the Super Bowl party you are planning. This recipe is an easy one. If you want the whole thing with more spice, use spicy Italian sausage. Remember that A.J.'s Lena Maid Meats have the best sausage around. It is not full of grease, so you have a lot of meat left in the pan after browning. The olives and mushrooms make this a delicious appetizer.

Sausage Cups

Refrigerated pastry for a 2-crust pie
1 lb. pork sausage
6 green onions, chopped
1 T. butter
½ C. chopped canned mushrooms
¼ C. thinly sliced stuffed olives
¾ t. salt
¼ t. pepper
¼ C. flour
2 C. heavy whipping cream
1 C. shredded Swiss cheese

Chopped stuffed olives for garnish

On a lightly floured surface, roll pastry to 1/8 inch thickness. Cut with a 2½ inch round cookie cutter. Press onto bottom and up sides of greased miniature muffin cups. Bake at 400 for 6-8 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove from pans to cool on wire racks.

In a skillet, brown sausage; drain well and set aside. In the same skillet, sauté the onions in the butter until tender. Add mushrooms, sliced olives, salt and pepper; Sprinkle with flour and add the cream; bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Stir in the sausage and reduce the heat; simmer until thickened, about 5-10 minutes, stirring constantly. Spoon into pastry cups; sprinkle with cheese

Place on an ungreased baking sheets and bake at 350 for 10 minutes or until cheese is melted. Garnish with chopped olives. Serve hot.

I bought and received some pretty nice fruit this holiday season. This recipe is an easy one to make with some of that fruit you might have. You could substitute Clementines or oranges for the tangerines in this salad. You can make this salad in any season, and it will go with just about anything.

Citrus Fruit Salad

½ C. heavy whipping cream
¾ C. vanilla yogurt
5 C. fresh pineapple, peeled and cubed
5 tangerines, peeled and separated into segments
1 medium grapefruit, peeled and sectioned
½ C. chopped pecans, toasted
To toast nuts: bake in a shallow pan in a 350 oven for 5-10 minutes or cook in a skillet over low heat until lightly browned, stirring occasionally.

In a large bowl, beat the cream until stiff peaks form. Fold in yogurt. Just before serving, add fruit and stir gently to combine. Sprinkle with toasted pecans.

This great soup for a cold day mixes the beef with the spinach to make something tasty as well as being healthy. I think the bow tie pasta makes for a great looking bowl of soup. Warm up some night with this easy to make soup.

Spinach and Beef Soup

1 lb. ground beef
3 garlic cloves, minced
½ C. diced onions
½ C. diced celery
¼ C. chopped green peppers
2 cartons (32 oz. each) beef broth
2 cans (14½ oz. each) diced tomatoes
1 t. dried basil
½ t. pepper
½ t. dried oregano
¼ t. salt
3 C. uncooked bow tie pasta
4 C. fresh spinach, coarsely chopped
Grated Parmesan cheese

In a large stockpot, cook beef, onions, celery, green pepper and garlic over medium heat 6-8 minutes or until beef is no longer pink, breaking up beef into crumbles; drain. Stir in beef broth, tomatoes and seasonings and bring to a boil. Stir in pasta and return to a boil. Cook, uncovered, 7-10 minutes or until pasta is tender. Stir in spinach until wilted. Sprinkle each serving with cheese.

Got any leftover ham? This casserole will help you use it up. It has only a few ingredients that meld together for a great taste. Pair this casserole with the fruit salad and some crusty bread, and you have a great entrée for a winter night.

Ham and Swiss Baked Penne

2 ½ C. uncooked penne pasta
3 T. butter
3 T. flour
2 C. milk
1 C. half-and-half cream
1½ C. shredded Swiss cheese
½ C. shredded Colby cheese
2 C. cubed fully cooked ham
Topping
¼ C. seasoned bread crumbs
¼ C. grated Parmesan cheese
2 T. butter, melted

Preheat the oven to 375. Cook pasta according to package directions for al dente; drain.

In a large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth; gradually whisk in milk and half and half. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir 1-2 minutes or until thickened. Gradually stir in Swiss and Colby cheese until melted. Add ham and drained pasta; toss to coat.

Transfer to a greased 11 x 7 baking dish. In a small bowl, mix the topping ingredients and sprinkle over the pasta. Bake, uncovered, 15-20 minutes or until bubbly.

This next recipe can be used for a special occasion or just as a nice dessert. You really get some help with the cake by using a cake mix. Be sure that you use the proper size Bundt pan. If you are anti alcohol, this cake does use some rum; however, the liquor will be baked out of it, and the taste will remain.

Pina Colada Bundt Cake

1 pkg. white cake mix (Betty Crocker Extra Moist is really good)
1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant coconut cream pudding mix
1 C. canola oil
¾ C. water
2 eggs
¼ C. rum
1 C. crushed pineapple, drained
Glaze:
2 C. powdered sugar, divided
2 T. unsweetened pineapple juice
¼ C. cream of coconut
1 T. rum
¼ C. flaked coconut

Preheat the oven to 350. Grease and flour a 10-inch fluted tube pan.

In a large bowl, combine the cake mix, pudding, oil, water, eggs and rum; beat on low speed for 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Stir in pineapple. Transfer batter to prepared pan. Bake 45-50 minutes or until a toothpick

inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan 15 minutes before removing to a wire rack.

In a small bowl, mix 1 cup powdered sugar and pineapple juice; brush over warm cake. Cool cake completely

In another bowl, mix remaining powdered sugar, cream of coconut and rum; drizzle over the cake and sprinkle with coconut.

Note: Look for cream of coconut in the bakery or liquor section. To remove cakes easily, use solid shortening to grease plain and fluted tube pans.

The last recipe is for a great dessert bar cookie. It has the goodness of cranberries with the healthy addition of oatmeal. Enjoy these easy to make and good tasting bar cookies. This recipe will be a keeper.

Sour Cream and Cranberry Bars

3 large egg yolks
1 ½ C. sour cream
1 C. sugar
3 T. cornstarch
1/8 t. salt
1 C. dried cranberries
1 t. vanilla

Crust:

1 C. butter, softened
1 C. sugar
2 t. vanilla
1¾ C. flour
1 1/3 C. quick-cooking oats
1 t. salt
1 t. baking soda
1 C. flaked coconut

Preheat the oven to 350. In the top of a double boiler or a metal bowl over simmering water, whisk the eggs, sour cream, sugar, cornstarch, and salt until blended. Stir in the cranberries. Cook and stir 15-20 minutes until mixture is thickened. Remove from the heat and stir in the vanilla.

In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in vanilla. In another bowl, whisk the flour, oats, salt and baking soda; gradually beat into the creamed mixture. Stir in coconut. Reserve half of the dough for topping. Press remaining onto bottom of a greased 9 x 13 pan. Bake 8-10 minutes or until set.

Spread sour cream mixture over the crust; crumble reserved dough over the top. Bake 25-30 minutes or until filling is set and top is golden brown. Cool in pan on a wire rack. Cut into bars.

The Super Bowl playoffs continue—last week was a

Stephenson County Nutrient Management Forum slated for February

FREEPORT — Area farmers and landowners are encouraged to mark their calendar for Tuesday, Feb. 2, for a comprehensive Nutrient Management Forum. This timely and informative program will highlight strategies for managing fertility and nutrient placement, soil health, split fertilizer applications, and a review of the latest research, regulations and programs.

The Nutrient Management Forum will include speakers and displays on a wide variety of agronomic and conservation interests. Improving production while reducing fertilizer and soil loss will be the theme of the forum. Confirmed to be on the program are Lauren Lurkins, Illinois Farm Bureau Director of Natural and Environmental Resources; Jean Payne, Executive Director of the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association; Julie Armstrong,

Director of the Illinois Nutrient Resource Education Council; John Musser, Stephenson Service Company Certified Crop Advisor; Mark Jackson, USDA Natural Resources & Conservation Service; and Russ Higgins, University of Illinois Extension Commercial Agriculture Educator.

The Nutrient Management Forum is coordinated by Stephenson County Farm Bureau, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Stephenson County Soil and Water District, and University of Illinois Extension. The forum will be held at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, 210 W. Spring Street, Freeport and will run from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. with lunch provided. Reservations are required to attend, so please call (815) 232-3186 or e-mail scfboff@aeroinc.net by Jan. 28 to sign up for this event.

Le-Win High School announced second term Principal's Honor Roll

LENA — A student who receives a 4.0 and above, with no actual grade below an A, will be listed on the "Principal's" List. A student who has a grade point of 3.99 to 3.67 and no actual grade below an A- will be listed on the "High Honors" list. A student who has a grade point of 3.67 to 2.67 and no actual grade below a B- will be listed on the "Honors" list.

COLLEGE NEWS

UW-La Crosse announces fall 2015 Dean's List

LA CROSSE, WI — The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for the fall semester of the 2015-16 academic year, ending December 2015.

Austin Mancosky, Biology Major of Lena

Qualification for the Dean's List is limited to students who have attained outstanding academic achievement. To be eligible, students must have earned not less than a 3.5 semester grade point average and have carried a minimum of 12 credits.

UW-La Crosse, founded in 1909, is one of the 13 four-year institutions in the University of Wisconsin System. UWL has more than 10,400 full and part-time students enrolled in 43 undergraduate majors, 17 master's degree offerings and three certificate programs.

Heather Owen named to Dean's List at Bob Jones University

GREENVILLE, SC — Heather Owen, a Senior Nursing major of Orangeville, was among approximately 890 Bob Jones University students named to the Fall 2015 Dean's List. The Dean's List recognizes students who earn a 3.00-3.74 GPA.

Located in Greenville, South Carolina, Bob Jones University is a biblically faithful, Christian liberal arts university focused on educating the whole person to reflect and serve Christ. BJU offers a unique blend of rigorous academic programs, discipleship, and character and leadership development. We are committed to the truth of Scripture and to pursuing excellence in all we do.

BJU provides over 100 undergraduate and graduate programs in religion, education, fine arts and communication, arts and science, and business. BJU has nearly 3,000 students from nearly every state and more than 40 countries.

Freshmen

Adriana Curran
Maleah Linden
Kendall Lobdell
Meagan Mader
Olivia Matz
Megan Packard

Sophomores

Kenneth Broge
Tom Forntheil
Asa Lake
Amber Madigan
Madison Scace
Evan Vorwald

Juniors

Nathanael Bayer
Marissa Buss
Hope Enck
Lillian Schierloh

Seniors

McKenzie Chapman
Ariel Daws
Dorthea Fiedler
Taylor Haas
Ellie Kent
Jordon Oellerich
Michael Packard
Lana Parkinson
Marissa Runkle
Morghana Scace
Kendra Snyder
McKenzie Temperly
Evan Voreis

High Honors Honor Roll

Freshmen

Kelly Geyer
Parker Magee
Jacquelyn Moest
Christina Schubert

Kendra Setterstrom
Iris Trimble

Sophomores

Grace Bidlingmaier
Viola Kluck
Taylor Koppien
Noah Milder

Juniors

Bailey Baldauf
Lucas Lawson
Cole Oberle
Meghan Scace
Elainna Simpson
Allison Weegens

Seniors

Madelyne Arand
Elizabeth Kaiser
Nicole Moest
Noah Peight
Michaela Stich
Aslan Stouffer
Cassidi Tippett

Honors Honor Roll

Freshmen

Bradyn Almasy
Cade Benson
Elizabeth Brunner
Shawn Capp
Aidan Cruz
Darren Dameier
Carson Diddens
Boone Durham
Rebecca Edler
Keegan Gyland
Jessica Kaiser
Ethan Kleckler
Brooke Knoup
Ian Kuehl
Sydney Lindquist
Ashley Pennington

Emily Pontnack
Lillian Rowley
Isabel Schoaf
Matthew Stampfli
Sean Tootelian
Sophie Tootelian
Rachel Young
Ana Zinke

Sophomores

Jared Barthel
Emma Bower
Ty Chrisman
Alexondria Edler
Lauren Flynn
Lauren Guy
Reid Huneke
Eli Lingle
Owen Peight
Acacia Schulz
Noah Trumpy
Noah Ugalde
Rahveon Valentine
April Woolcock

Juniors

Colton Brinker
Trey Chenong
Jacob Diddens
Victoria Gahm
Kayleigh Gerber
Brock Gobeli
Brianna Haight
Tanner Lawfer
Payden Lingle
Bailey Litow
Elijah Sandy
Sondra Winters
Morgan Zinke

Seniors

Dylan Daws
Brendan Eilders
Noah Holmes

Tony Knoup
Joseph Milliken
Joseph Robinson
Alexandra Seiple
Benjamin Simpson
Allison Stockton
Christopher Stockton
Rahkeem Valentine
Kylea Wallace
Rachael Wybourn

BIRTH

Joshua Frazier

HANOVER — Bill and Miranda Frazier of Hanover are the parents of a son Joshua John Frazier born Friday Jan. 8, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport, Ill. Joshua has two brothers Joseph, 5 and William, 19. Grandparents are Geraldine Frazier of Mt. Greenwood, Ill. and Bill and Rita Frazier of Fulton, Ill.

RECIPES

Continued from page 16

heart breaker for some fans because of the closeness of the games. We continue to look for Super Bowl party recipes. We will also be looking for some good eats and treats for Valentine's Day. If you have some recipes to share for either of those occasions, you can contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 213 S. Center St. or by email atscoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

Stockton High School announces semester honor rolls

STOCKTON — Second Quarter High Honor Roll (All A's)

Grade 9: Jennifer Hatfield, Lindan Legel, Hannah Smith

Grade 10: Caleb Bergeman, Kelsey King

Grade 11: Hannah Brudi, Jill Harmston, Heather Musser, Maranda Schaney

Grade 12: Nikki Bourland, Zachery Lacher, Rene Powers

Second Quarter Honor Roll (3.0 Quarter Standard GPA & No D's)

Grade 9: Walker Arand, Jenna Beneventi, Raeann Bergman, Caitlin Breuer, Colin Dvorak, Nick Ege, Ellen Fox, Natalie Freese, Avery Imel, Allison Kehl, Drake Oppold, Stanlee Rillie, Chase Rowe, Kendall Schulz, Alex Staver, Erin Vanderheyden, Alyssa Vincent, Abigail Weber, Kara Wickler, Kiley Wickler, Cecelia Zink

Grade 10: Treasure Adams, Kaylee Broshous, Payton Broshous, Kaitlin Enright, Gabe Ertmer, Megan Gille, Jeremiah Hermann, Joshua Kappes, Brooke Larson, Vera McGovern, Emily Offenheiser, Bryce Platt, Shawn Powers, Ramsey Schulz, Aspyr Stewart, Gavin Strain, Brenden Westphal, Francis York

Grade 11: Kailyn Bauer, Mikayla Baysinger, Alexis Bowser, Kai Bowser, Shayna Bowser, Addiah Broshous, Rachel Cook, Dylan Curtiss, Aaron Dvorak, Thomas

Eden, Kyle Ege, Quinn Eshleman, Courtney Haas, Avery Hayes, Peyton Keefer, Olivia Kepner, Gavin Kraemer, Chad Larson, Molly Neebel, Dylan Oppold, Lauryn Schubert, Taylor Timpe, Austin Vincent

Grade 12: Zachary Arndt, Dan Barch, Kyler Broshous, Alyssa Dehn, Steven Deininger, Kati Eden, Tanner Finn, Drew Groezinger, Kaila Haas, Hayden Hayes, Kristen Krippendorf, Sidney Kuehl, Emily Larson, Jacob Lawfer, Abby Lloyd, Kaylee Morgan, Dan Offenheiser, Courtney Randecker, Kaitlyn Reusch, Jace Springer, Lindsey Volling, Kara Wright

First Semester High Honor Roll (All A's)

Grade 9: Jennifer Hatfield, Lindan Legel, Hannah Smith

Grade 10: Caleb Bergeman, Megan Gille, Jeremiah Hermann, Kelsey King

Grade 11: Hannah Brudi, Jill Harmston, Heather Musser, Maranda Schaney

Grade 12: Nikki Bourland, Zachery Lacher, Rene Powers

First Semester Honor Roll (3.0 Semester Standard GPA & No D's)

Grade 9: Walker Arand, Jenna Beneventi, Raeann Bergman, Caitlin Breuer, Colin Dvorak, Nick Ege, Ellen Fox, Natalie Freese, Avery Imel, Allison Kehl, Drake

Oppold, Stanlee Rillie, Chase Rowe, Kendall Schulz, Alex Staver, Erin Vanderheyden, Alyssa Vincent, Abigail Weber, Kara Wickler, Kiley Wickler, Cecelia Zink

Grade 10: Treasure Adams, Kaylee Broshous, Payton Broshous, Kaitlin Enright, Kali Haas, Hunter Houseman-Eddings, Luke Huschitt, Joshua Kappes, Vera McGovern, Bryce Platt, Shawn Powers, Ramsey Schulz, Aspyr Stewart, Gavin Strain, Emma Vanderheyden, Brenden Westphal, Francis York

Grade 11: Kailyn Bauer, Mikayla Baysinger, Alexis Bowser, Kai Bowser, Shayna Bowser, Addiah Broshous, Rachel Cook, Dylan Curtiss, Aaron Dvorak, Thomas Eden, Kyle Ege, Quinn Eshleman, Hayden Fox, Courtney Haas, Dillon Hatfield, Olivia Kepner, Gavin Kraemer, Chad Larson, Tyler Larson, Preston Legel, Dylan Oppold, Lauryn Schubert, Taylor Timpe, Austin Vincent

Grade 12: Zachary Arndt, Dan Barch, Kyler Broshous, Dominic Carton, Alissa Dehn, Steven Deininger, Kati Eden, Tanner Finn, Drew Groezinger, Kaila Haas, Hayden Hayes, Kristen Krippendorf, Sidney Kuehl, Emily Larson, Jacob Lawfer, Abigail Lloyd, Kaylee Morgan, Stephanie Nadig, Cassidy Newman, Dan Offenheiser, Courtney Randecker, Kaitlyn Reusch, Jace Springer, Braden Staver, Lindsey Volling, Kara Wright

Year in Review



Ink & Paper owner Amy Laskye shows Charlie and Lily Siegner how dimensional eyeglasses can alter their perception of a piece of art created to change when viewed through specialized eye ware. The prints and the glasses are available at Laskye's downtown Stockton shop.



(Left) The grandchildren of Jerry and Bonnie Curran of Lena especially enjoy the knight in shining armor found by their grandparents while documenting the history of their home on Railroad St.



Tracy Siegner photos
It appears Charlie Siegner found several add-ons for his Christmas list when he came to Elizabeth to shop at the new Dollar Store.

Stockton's 122nd Fireman's Ball



*Saturday, January 23rd
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Team Member _____

Team Member _____

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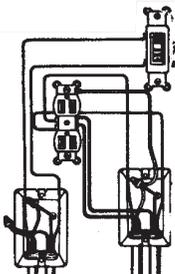
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Shopper's Guide

202704

Real Estate

Apartments

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IN LENA 2BDR 2nd floor apartment. Appliances furnished. \$400/mo. 815-369-2827

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Other Real Estate

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 Sally 947-3239, Bonnie 947-3793,
 Sharon 218-556-3822,
 or Ilene at 947-3797

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Please contact 815-238-0850. Experience is a must.

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2000 CHEVY MALIBU runs good, good condition, \$900 OBO Call 262-496-8807.

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2002 DODGE DAKOTA 170k, 3.9V6, \$2,500, Call for more info 847-921-0741.

2002 FORD FOCUS runs great, \$550, Call Rick 414-416-9280.

2004 BUICK LASABRE Excellent condition. 75,000 orig. miles. Asking \$6200. 608-862-3421

2005 FORD FIVE HUNDRED 112K silver, gray cloth interior, new tires, brakes, \$5,000 OBO (262) 989-4112

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1960'S ALIS-CHALMERS WD runs & restorable, cycle mower, \$1,000 OBO Call 262-206-2302; after 5 pm Call 815-482-9011.

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2006 SOFTTAIL STANDARD, 600 miles. New Bars, Bags, Pipes, Mirrors, Tank Panel. Security System. 200 rear tire. \$11,500/OBO. Call after 5:30PM. 262-767-1904

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WANTED OLD JAPANESE MOTORCYCLES KAWASAKI Z1-900 (1972-75), KZ900, KZ1000 (1976-1982), Z1R, KZ1000MK2 (1979,80), W1-650, H1-500 (1969-72), H2-750 (1972-1975), S1-250, S2-350, S3-400, KH250, KH400, SUZUKI GS400, GT380, HONDA CB750K (1969-1976), CBX1000 (1979,80) CASH !! 1-800-772-1142, 1-310-721-0726 usa@classicrunners.com

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1994 Z28 CAMARO 6-speed aluminum heads, t-top, \$3,800 OBO Call 262-206-3435.

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SPORTS CARS Avenger Ford GT40 & Laser Porsche 917 reproduction sports cars. Nice! Call for details. 847-838-1916.

Sport Utilities

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Trucks & Trailers

1985 FORD F600 16' contractors dump, gas engine, newer paint job, needs minor electrical work, \$5,000 OBO Call 847-921-0741.

1995 4 PLACE ALUMINUM snowmobile trailer, \$2,000 OBO Call for more info 847-921-0741.

2001 DODGE DAKOTA quad cab 4x4, well maintained, 70k mi. on motor & trans., \$3,200, 815-988-4636.

2005 SILVERADO 4X4 2500 HD Crew Cab. Cap, running boards and bed liner. 142 K. \$13,000. (262)835-9524.

2006 GMC 2500 HD 4 X 4 77K, 6.0 V8, auto, a/c, regular cab, 8 ft box, \$16,900. 262-210-8080.

2012 COLORADO with cap. 37,400 miles. \$11,500 OBO 815-238-8638

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2004 FORD FREESTAR van, dependable, 161K highway miles, \$4000/OBO - 608-289-1616

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Illinois residents finding the exits

By Mark Fitton
Illinois News Network

SPRINGFIELD — The door to Illinois continues to swing outward more often than it does inward.

New data released by the U.S. Census bureau showed that in terms of domestic migration — people moving about within the United States — Illinois saw roughly 105,200 more people leave than arrive.

Even when offset by a gain of more than 37,600 by way of international migration, Illinois still ended up about 67,500 in the negative column.

With natural growth (births minus deaths) counted, Illinois showed a net population loss of nearly 22,200 people, or about 0.17 percent of its population.

Of the 50 states, Illinois was the top population loser. Other states showing a net loss of population were Connecticut (-3,876); Maine (-928); Mississippi (-1,110); New Mexico, (-458); Vermont, (-725) and West Virginia (-4,623).

In terms of domestic migration, the only state besides Illinois to show a six-figure loss was New York at nearly 158,000. The Empire State, however, showed a net population increase thanks to natural growth and international migration.

Illinois' immediate neighbors showed smaller losses to domestic migration than did the Prairie State. Wisconsin had the largest loss of the five bordering states with about 15,570. All five of Illinois' neighbors showed small net gains in population. Those increases were Indiana at 21,800; Iowa at 14,418; Wisconsin at 11,905; Kentucky at 12,475; and Missouri at 19,845.

Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration on Tuesday said the census data "is another indication that shows Illinois needs to grow its economy and create jobs through the structural reforms outlined by Governor Rauner that include a property tax freeze, tort reform and workers' comp reform."

"Businesses — especially manufacturers — are ignoring Illinois as a place to grow

their companies because of the economic climate," Rauner spokeswoman Catherine Kelly said in an email.

A spokesman for House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, said the data from the Census Bureau offered no analysis, and he chose not to offer analysis. A spokeswoman for Senate President John Cullerton, D-Chicago, said she was studying the data.

David Yepsen, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, said Illinois rugged economic conditions is certainly one reason it's losing population, although not the only one. For instance, Yepsen said, people should also remember that trends in domestic migration are running from the Midwest and New England toward the South and the West. Part of that likely translates to job availability, but parts are also likely attributable to better climates and to retiree movement Yepsen said.

But the business and tax climate in Illinois is volatile, Yepsen said, and while "businesses don't like taxes, they hate uncertainty."

Tuesday's data shows that states posting big gains in total net migration included Florida at 332,000; Texas at 271,600; California at 103,500; Washington at 68,700 and North Carolina at 63,200.

In terms of growth by percentage of population, oil-rich North Dakota led the nation by adding an estimated 16,890 residents, or roughly 2.3 percent.

Total population growth for the United States was estimated at 2.51 million. The South showed an increase of roughly 1.39 million people, while the West saw an increase of about 865,600. Smaller gains were reported for the Northeast, about 112,600, and for the Midwest, about 145,300.

The data released Tuesday is from the bureau's annual estimates on population changes, and the latest report takes into account the period from July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2015.

Last year's December report

indicated Illinois lost nearly 10,000 residents from its population from July 1, 2013, to July 1, 2014. Tuesday's data showed the Census Bureau bringing that number down to about 7,400.

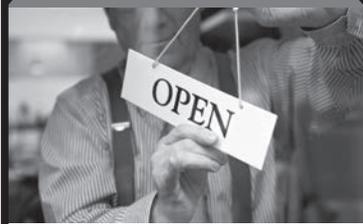
Note: An earlier version of this story reported Iowa as the only Illinois border state to post a net gain in population. The article has been corrected to reflect that all five of Illinois' immediate neighbors showed small net gains in population.

A little levity to lighten your day

A man was driving with his wife in the passenger seat when He was stopped by the police. The man asked the policeman why he was stopped and the policeman said you were going 55 in a 45 zone. The man said he was only going 45 when his wife leaned over and told the officer that he was right that her husband was going 55. The officer then said you also ran a red light. The man said he did not, that the light was yellow. His wife again leaned over and told the officer that he was right, that the light was red. The officer said do you two always not get along. The wife said we never get along when he has been drinking.

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LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEEN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS FIFTH THIRD BANK, AN OHIO BANKING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, Vs. MICHELLE BLUST; ESTATE OF DAVID K. BLUST; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF DAVID K. BLUST; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

15 CH 78

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

MICHELLE BLUST ESTATE OF DAVID K. BLUST

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF DAVID K. BLUST

UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:

THE WEST 95 FEET OF LOT 1 IN BLOCK 5 OF KIMBALL'S ADDITION TO THE TOWN (NOW VILLAGE) OF LENA. SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF LENA, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

COMMONLY KNOWN AS 505 Oak Street, Lena, IL 61048 PIN # 11-07-32-285-009

and which said Mortgage was made by:

MICHELLE BLUST A MARRIED PERSON, the Mortgagor(s), to Fifth Third Bank as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, as Document No. 200300049976; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,

Ellen I. Pettijohn Clerk of the Circuit Court 200 East Knox Street, Morrison, IL 61270-2819

on or before February 5, 2016, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN AC-

CORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 223 W. Jackson Boulevard, Ste. 610

Chicago, IL 60606

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act you are advised that this law firm is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Our File No.: C15-24997 I680672

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 6, 13 & 20, 2016)

230501

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION

Public Notice is hereby given that on **January 12, 2016**, 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: **Sweeping Treasures** located at **615 S. Burchard Ave., Freeport, IL 61032**.

Dated January 12, 2016

VICI R. OTTE Stephenson County Clerk by HB

Heather Becker Deputy (Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 2016)

231629

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION

Public Notice is hereby given that on **January 8, 2016**, 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: **TS Welding and Fabricating** located at **261 W Empire St., Freeport, IL 61032**.

Dated January 8, 2016

VICI R. OTTE Stephenson County Clerk by DEBORAH A. SMITH Deputy

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 2016)

231954

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231127

EZSELLUSA Estate Tag Sale

We Sell for you! THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Estate Garage Tag Sale January 21-22-23 8:00am to 6:00pm.

Sale includes primitive furniture, antiques, collectibles, books, household items, furniture, and decorative items. Due to the remote location of home & cabin, the contents have been moved to our "In Store Estate Sale" at the Emporium & Cargo Hold.

563-556-1249 **EZ Sell USA Emporium,** Find us on Facebook
2560 Dodge Street, Dubuque, IA

231933

Year in Review



Justin and Lisa Walters, Jug's Main Street Tap has quickly become an Elizabeth mainstay and the restaurant and bar stayed busy well into the night on Shop Small Saturday



The Homan Family (Chris, Jason, Kory and Robin, Heidi with baby Isabella, Addison, Carrie & Bob) was more than ready to take a break from shopping small and enjoy lunch at the Brew and Chew in Pearl City

Tracy Siegner photos

Orangeville to host post prom spaghetti supper

ORANGEVILLE — Don't miss the spaghetti supper post prom fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 23 from 4-7 p.m. in the Orangeville High School Cafeteria.

Cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and children 12 and under.

The meal includes spaghetti and meat sauce, salad, bread, dessert and beverage.

Come eat then stay for the high school boys' basketball game vs. Pecatonica at 6 p.m.



Yellow Creek Quilt Design co-owner Vicki Olsen shows off a puzzle that is just one of the many gift ideas available at the Pearl City store.

FINAL DAYS! JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

ALL FURNITURE ITEMS SEE ADDED DISCOUNTS OFF SALE PRICES

- Living Room • Dining Room
- Bedroom • Office
- Kitchen • Storage

See our Blue Tag Items for Huge Discounts!
Also look for our Red Tag Final Markdowns!

King Koil Mattress Sets starting as low as \$179.95
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Flexsteel Sofa's are on Clearance Sale Priced Starting at **\$799.95**

BUY NOW & PAY WITH TAX RETURN! See store for details.

Rite-Way 20 E. Stephenson St. Downtown Freeport 815-235-4911 Mon.-Fri. 9-6 • Sat. 9-4 rite-way.info

HEIGHT'S FINANCE 90 days same as cash
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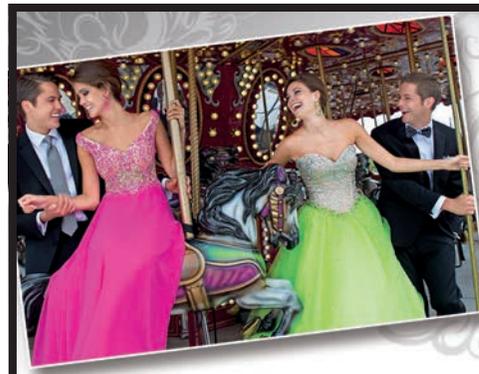
Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District schedules election

STATELINE — To all owners and occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District, notice is hereby given that an Annual Election of Directors will be held on Feb. 3, from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District Office in Freeport. Three directors will be elected to each serve a two-year term on the Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of the State of Illinois.

All persons, firms, or corporations who hold legal title or who are in legal possession of any land lying within the boundaries of the said

district are eligible to vote at said election, whether as lessee, renter, tenant, or otherwise. Only such person, firms, or corporations are eligible to vote.

Absentee balloting will be available to those who are unable to attend the Election of Directors. Absentee ballots can be requested beginning Jan. 12. All absentee ballots must be completed by Jan. 29. For additional information or to request an absentee ballot, please contact the Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District, located at 1620 S. Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL or by phone (815) 235-2161 Ext. 3.



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