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Shopper's Guide

**Fall Festival
5K Run/Walk
Sat., Sept. 10, 2016**

Race starts at 8:30 a.m. at Lions Park
Registration is at 7:30 a.m.



Register at LCPD

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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2016

Lena Lions Club 66th Annual Fall Festival slated for Sept. 9 and 10

With autumn just around the corner, the Lena Lions 66th Annual Fall Festival, known as "The Cadillac of Small Town Festivals", will be held in downtown Lena on Sept. 9 and 10.

Free entertainment on Friday – 7 p.m. – Mississippi Man - Larry Michael, along with Debra Kay, will be singing their hearts out at the Lena Fall Festival. Larry has brought his special form of entertainment to millions of folks here in the Midwest via River Boats, Casinos, and local venues playing banjo, fiddle and guitar, not to mention helping thousands of people celebrate their own special events. Larry Michael has also had the fortune of having his music air on country radio stations worldwide, and has two songs doing very well in the country music charts in Europe. Debra Kay started entertaining with Larry about ten years ago. Since then, she has won the hearts of countless people. She has been working as a lead singer and back up harmony singer with Larry. The two of them will bring a mixture of music to you with a kick.

The featured free entertainment at 7 and 9 p.m. on Saturday evening is Maddmen – back by popular demand! They are seasoned veterans of the Northwest Illinois music scene who have been rockin' out since the '60s. Want '50s and '60s country or down and funky blues? They take you there! Travel down memory

lane with their smooth harmonies and interpretive covers of artists like The Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, and Johnny Cash. Bring it up with The Beatles, The Searchers, Chuck Berry, Jimmy Reed and other artists of that great time in our musical history. They do it all. The current Maddmen are an advanced incarnation of the Nomadds, a wildly popular local garage band from the '60s whose music continues to thrive today. Members of the group are: Lee Garner, Dean Kuehl, Deny Kuhl, Jim Martin, Kevin Trost and Lena's very own Chris Robinson.

The Lena Lions will sell raffle tickets (5200 available) for the 2016 Ford Fusion S (4 door sedan) to be given away on Saturday at approximately 11 p.m. The tickets will cost \$10 per ticket or 3 for \$20. A \$400 Lena Money Gift Certificate will be second prize and a \$200 Lena Money gift Certificate will be third prize. This year a 2016 Polaris Ranger 570 LED EPS, sunset red (3700 tickets available) will also be raffled. A \$200 Lena Money Gift Certificate will be second prize and a \$100 Lena Money gift Certificate will be third prize. Tickets are again \$10 per chance or 3 for \$20. Drawing will be at the same time as the car drawing.

Skidders Amusements will return

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 2

Panthers peril is Pearl City's pleasure

By Chris Johnson
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The importance of a 28-14 win, enjoyed by the Eastland-Pearl City Wildcats over the defending NUIC Northwest Champion Lena-Winslow Panthers, may not be known until October. But, it will mean something.

The Wildcats closed the 2015 season with a 2-7 mark. This isn't something that sat well with Head Coach Randy Asche or his team.

Last season, the defense didn't play as well as it had in the past and the offense wasn't finding an offense that was winning the important conference battles

That turned around on Friday night as EPC took control early and kept the Panthers running game in neutral.

Through the first half, the ground game netted less than 30 yards for Lena-Winslow. It improved in the second half, but by then the Wildcats had secured control.

The Panthers were getting beat at the line.

Three things have the possibility to stand out, leading others, in determining which teams are best built to be champion.

The Lena-Winslow Panthers en-

See **PERIL**, Page 2



TRACY SIEGNER PHOTO Shopper's Guide

All eyes will be on Lena, Illinois September 9 and 10 as the Lena Lions Club kick off the sixty-sixth annual "Cadillac of Small Town Festivals"



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Pearl City Board of Education regular meeting for Aug. 17, 2016

President Bremmer called the Regular Meeting to order @ 6:30 pm.

After Roll Call the Board approved the Aug. 17, 2016 amended agenda.

Recognition of Guests and public comments were allowed. Two comments were made.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the minutes

from the July 20, 2016 Regular Board Meeting minutes; July 20, 2016 closed session minutes, and approval of bills and payroll through Aug. 10, 2016.

The Board received communications from the PTO.

New Business:

Discussed the Ag Building and decided to continue to move forward with cleaning and placing equipment

within the building up for auction.

Approved a building usage request by the Cub Scouts for the Blue and Gold banquet on March 5, 2017, Spaghetti Dinner Prep on April 5, 2017, and the Spaghetti dinner on April 6, 2017.

Approved sending two board members to the Triple I conference on Nov. 18-20, 2016.

Discussed potential professional

development through the Highland Community College Business Institute on Diversity training.

Discussed the 2016-17 tentative budget noting that there is a reduction in expenditures by \$228,263. It was also noted that revenue also decreased by \$74,868. The presented budget was deficit by \$10,563. Multiple board members would like to make additional reductions so that the budget is balanced for the Public Hearing approved to be held on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 6:20 pm. The presented budget will be on display for 30 days.

Approved a TIF Extension in the Village of Pearl City for an additional 12 years. It is noted that the school will still receive all tax dollars from the TIF to be used for capital outlay projects.

Approved the Superintendent goals as presented for 2016-17.

Approved Brian Bull as a football volunteer for 2016-17.

Approved Morgan Curry as a full time employee in the daycare.

Approved Darrel Pauley as the head baseball coach for 2016-17.

Approved Tim Pauley, Ryne

Plager, Jace Kempel, John Schroeder, and Blake Voss as baseball volunteers.

Approved Chelsea Tillis as a one on one aide.

Approved Kristi Fransen as an assistant golf coach.

Held a first reading of the following policies: 2:70, 2:70-E, 2:120-E1, 2:120-E2, 2:240-E1, 2:240-E2, 2:240-E3, 4:15-AP, 4:15-E2, 4:15-E3, 4:140-E1, 4:140-E2, 5:40-AP, 5:170-AP3, 5:240-AP, 6:100, 6:100-AP, 6:100-E1, 6:100-E2, 6:190-AP, 6:235, 6:235-AP1, 6:235-AP1-E1, 6:235-AP1-E2, 6:235-AP2, 6:235-E4, 6:250-AP, 7:10, 7:10-AP, 7:10-E, 7:270, 7:270-AP1, 7:270-AP2, 7:270-E7, 7:285-AP, 7:340, 7:340-AP1, 7:340-AP1-E1, 8:90, 8:110. Five Year Review are as follows: 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:130, 2:250-E3, 3:10, 3:30, 3:30-E, 3:70-AP, 4:15-E1, 4:80, 4:140-AP, 4:140-E3, 5:125-E, 5:150, 5:150-AP, 5:170-AP1, 5:170-AP2, 5:170-E1, 6:120-AP4, 6:235-E3, 6:255, 6:260, 6:260-E, 7:280, 7:285, 8:95-E1, 8:95-E2.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



TONY CARTON PHOTO Shopper's Guide

The Lena-Winslow Panthers football team lost Friday's away conference game against Pearl City-Eastland by a score of 28-14.

• Peril (Continued from front page)

entered the season carrying a memory of a defense, rated by many, as second to none.

The run game is a staple of any team's offensive attack plan and that is no different for Ric Arand and his Panthers.

Punishing opponents for thinking they should be on the field with you, or carrying an "attitude", with you as you play your game, indicates a path towards a title.

A team has to believe it can win. The Panthers could not run the ball against the Wildcats front five.

EPC was pounding blockers and attacking from three-headed points, as a halftime lead was secured.

The passing game worked, at times for Lena-Winslow, as they

found the end zone courtesy of direction gained through the air.

In the pit, however, on Friday night, the passing game wouldn't help Lena-Winslow the 2016 season opener.

This Friday night, the Panthers are home to host the Pecatonica Indians, who also fell in their season opener, 27-6, to East Dubuque.

The secret to beating Pecatonica will be the ability to stop the run.

If Lena-Winslow relies on the same attack strategy it used against EPC, it should see different results.

Eastland-Pearl City remains home this Friday night as they host West Carroll in Friday night action.

The Thunder lost to the Dakota Indians in their season opener, 14-0.

As week one sits, locked-into the books, the NUIC separation has begun.

EPC, Dakota, East Dubuque and Amboy stand in front 1-0 on the season and 1-0 in the NUIC.

Forreston won its opening round game, in a cross-conference clash over Ashton-Franklin Center, to also sit, 1-0 on the season.

Lena-Winslow should move back to the pack this Friday night, as they take on Pecatonica in their week two game.

Galena, who just fell in its opener, could be joining Pecatonica with a bottom view room heading into its week three game, however, as they prepare to take on the Cardinals in Forreston this Friday night.

• Festival (Continued from front page)

for the 57th year with carnival rides for all ages in the downtown parking lot. Merchandise Bingo and Ham Stand, Lion's operated long time favorites of festival attendees, will be in their usual places on Main Street. Please Note: No pets will be allowed on the midway except for service dogs for people with disabilities.

There will be food galore with the Le-Win Sports Association Food Stand and the Knights of Columbus filling their usual spots. All time favorites like cotton candy, elephant ears, Boy Scout lemonade shake-ups, ice cream and soft drinks will be here also.

Back again this year, butterfly pork chop sandwiches and pork chops on a stick

Serving Friday evening begins at 6 p.m. And following the parade on Saturday

In downtown Lena on Center Street - next to the FHN clinic

Cost is \$4 for pork chop sandwich or pork chop on a stick

The theme of this year's parade is "Lena Strong with Pride". The 100+ unit parade will be stepping off from the Dietz Old School Apartments (old Grade School) at 12 noon on Saturday Sept. 10. A flyover by the Freeport Pilot's Association will again start off our parade - taking the same route through town as previous years. Several high school bands and colorful church floats, Scout

and 4-H groups, antique and classic cars and antique tractors, along with area fire trucks will be featured. We are encouraging the kids to decorate their bikes and participate in the parade! Parade entry registration starts at 9 a.m. (No 4-wheel drive tractors, duals, or semis. Need valid driver's license to drive tractor.) "Look for the "pork chops on a stick" during the parade.

The Annual Horse Show and Judging will be held at the north end of Lena Cemetery beginning at 9:30 a.m. - prior to kickoff of the parade.

Parade registration and information: Jeff Stamm (815) 369-5572 or Bill Crichton (815) 369-4946.

To keep in shape, the Lena Community Park District is sponsoring the Fall Festival 5k Run/Walk on Saturday, Sept. 10, starting from Lions Park at 8:30 a.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Pre-register by Aug. 26 for \$15 and receive a t-shirt at the run. After Aug. 26, the cost is \$20. Call park office at 369-5351 with questions.

For a full weekend of great food, hometown fun and entertainment, come to the Lena Lions Fall Festival on Sept. 9 and 10 in downtown Lena.

Festival Chairman: Kirk Polhill (815) 275-3371

Street/Vendor Chairman: Don Brown (815) 369-4832

Adv/Pr: Chairman: Marcia Meyers (815) 821-2300.

THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

"Committed to the communities we serve"

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Cards with beautiful flowers, religious thoughts, poems, words of good wishes and personal writings were sent to me for my 90th birthday. It was all so much enjoyed! To know I have so many friends who thought of me is overwhelming! My thanks and blessings to all of you!

LOIS WIELE



PEOPLE READ US
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Saving our pollinators

By Terrence N. Ingram
 EDITOR OF SMALL BEEKEEPERS
 JOURNAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
 THE EAGLE NATURE FOUNDATION

Lately the news has been filled with people, organizations and government agencies that have been trying to save our pollinators by planting a few plants for the use of these insects, or at least trying to raise money using this issue as a gimmick. These efforts are commendable, but they are not solving the problem. They are only making people feel good.

To solve the problem we have to address the problem. The basic problem is the current farming practices that are proposed by our own Dept. of Agriculture and followed by big farmers who think that is the way they need to go. That includes razing the land by removing the trees, brush and plants from all fence rows and waterways, and mowing all non crop land, thus removing the plants that our pollinators need and the constant heavy spraying of Roundup, Neonicotinoids and Fungicides on all their corn and soybean ground.

Some years ago when I complained to the Illinois Dept. of Ag. about my bees being killed by these sprays, their only response was that they could find no illegal use of pesticides near my bees. Legal or illegal, my bees were being killed, and still are to this day. For 20 years now I have been researching the bee kills from these sprays that are constantly occurring in my area.

Many of these poisons which are being dropped from the air are killing, not only the plants that are in the fields, but those near the fields (up to 1/4 mile away) as well. Some of them, especially the fungicides, that are aerial sprayed on our corn fields each year in July are killing the birds also. This year, even though no fields were sprayed that were closer than 1/2 mile from home, we lost many of the insect eating birds that had been in our yard all spring and summer. This year we lost house wrens, chimney swifts, brown thrashers, robins, blue jays, woodpeckers, goldfinches and red-winged blackbirds. During this same spray last year we lost all of the birds in the area. It took two weeks before new birds were able to start to move back into the area. This year we still have a few birds that can still be seen in our yard, so not all of them were killed.

This July spray of fungicide affected many insects as well. We lost our honeybee field force (the adult bees bringing nectar and pollen) into the hives for over two weeks. Some weaker hives, which did not have a surplus of honey, have died from starvation. Some queens were killed, some of which were young and had only been laying eggs for about a week. My strong colonies have gone from producing one to three pounds of surplus a day to losing as much as two to three pounds a day for the past two weeks. Beekeepers who are exposed to this kind of loss for too many years in a row cannot survive, so without beekeepers we will not have honeybees, and then we will not have the pollination that is

needed for our many crops, including many vegetables and fruits.

People are planting common milkweed to help the Monarch Butterfly, but not as fast as our farmers are killing them. Why should the Highway Dept. be wasting money planting milkweed on our roadsides, when the spray drifting from the fields on the other side of the fences are killing them? This spraying has to be stopped, if we are to save our insects!

I have many, many common milkweed plants in our prairie which look fine except there are no flower heads on them. The Roundup spray that was applied to the corn fields 500 feet away floated over to these plants and crippled their reproduction. Without flowers there can be no seeds and without seeds there will be no plants in the future.

These sprays are devastating. They are nothing, but poisons that are affecting all of us. If these sprays are killing the birds and insects that are around all of us, then they are also affecting us. Just think how many, many more cancers are being found in almost every family in our local communities. Some day we will finally wake up and discover that the root cause of most of these cancers were the poisons that were being put on our crop fields all around us as recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

Why do we just sit still and let the large corporate farmers around us poison the air we breathe and the water we drink, just so they can make a larger profit. We are already supporting them with the crop insurance programs and disaster payments they all enjoy. Why should we be letting them poison us all at the same time?

Area artists participate in upcoming Northwest Scenic Art Loop event

By Laurinda Woolcock-Howe
 CORRESPONDENT

ARRT abounds in Jo Daviess County. What is ARRT you may ask? All River Road Talent, or ARRT, "is a collective of experienced, professional artists and artisans dedicated to getting their work in front of more people more often," according to the organization's Facebook page. How do they do this? With the Northwest Illinois Scenic Art Loop, and there are no fancy acronyms for that. In fact, this weekend a leg of the art loop will be working to promote ARRT.

One of the artists featured in this weekend's art loop is Amy Laskye with Amy May Photography in Stockton.

Laskye has always had a love of photography and design. She talks of a time when she was on the high school year book with 35 mm film, and her first digital camera with a floppy disk, but things took a different turn in college since the school she attended didn't offer a photography program. She started as a Graphic Design Major with a Photography Minor, but quickly realized she did not have a talent for drawing and switched her major to Microbiology. The love was there, though. Laskye used a point and shoot camera, "Which allowed me to shoot everything and anything, but lacked the ability to be creative with my images."

Four years ago she bought her



COURTESY PHOTO *The Scoop Today*

One of the artists featured in this weekend's art loop is Amy Laskye with Amy May Photography in Stockton.

first DSLR camera (digital single-lens reflex camera) and then studied and learned to create the images she wanted.

Last year she purchased her first full frame camera to take her photography to the next level and now takes landscape, as well as, portrait photos.

Laskye said she wants her art to appeal to a diverse audience. She has some favorite photos of old barns, and she has a couple of black and white portraits of clients that she says speak to her. She enjoys taking pictures of the outdoors and events, but, "I am focusing on portraiture as I enjoy working with people. I enjoy capturing my clients' spirit and making them feel beautiful," said Laskye. "When you love something you naturally want

to know more. You immerse yourself in the way of life of someone you admire."

Laskye will tell you she has no idols, but when asked if she has any mentors, she was quick to mention Larry Backe of Apple River Canyon Photography and Henry Matthiessen III of Stoned Art. "Larry has been my mentor for years," she said. "His ability to capture both nature and people inspires me to learn more. Henry has been mentoring me for over a year in landscape photography. He is a master with the camera, and I always learn something from him." Backe and Matthiessen are also part of ARRT and will be part of this weekend's Northwest Scenic Art Loop event.

Amy May Photography has a studio above, Ink and Paper, in downtown Stockton. She takes portraits there and also shows her art.

For more information about Amy May Photography, please visit www.amymayphotography.com or her Facebook page. For more information about ARRT and this weekend's Northwest Illinois Scenic Art Loop event, please visit www.allriverroad-talent.com or the ARRT Facebook page.

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Fall Tractor Ride and Show

Hosted by the Gary Schreiner Family
Date: Saturday September 10th, 2016
Where: Stagecoach Trail Storage • Lena, IL

We will be registering tractors and riders that would like to be in the Fall Festival Parade. Please be at the Storage Units before 11:30 for registration if you would like to be in the parade.

Tractor ride starts at the Storage Units shortly after the end of the Fall Festival parade. We will return from the parade route and re-group to start a beautiful ride through Stephenson County.

Bring your tractors early to display them. Feel free to bring tractors to the Storage Units Thursday 9/8 or Friday 9/9.

Join us for a great time! For any questions call Gary Schreiner at 815-297-5920 or Lori Logemann at 815-238-4501

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VIEWPOINT

From the Desk of Illinois State Representative Brian W. Stewart

All of us who live in Northwest Illinois know that speeding on U.S. 20 is risky business. Why? Because Illinois State Police District 16 Headquarters is located in Pectonica, and State Troopers patrol on that stretch of road.

Now, imagine if U.S. 20 had little to no state police patrolling the roadway. Do you suppose there would be more speeding or less speeding on U.S. 20 if this were the case? Obviously, in this hypothetical instance, if there were very few state troopers on 20, then many of us would notice and may take advantage of the situation. But how ridiculous would it be if people were to say "Because there haven't been many tickets written along that stretch of road, then that must mean people are not speeding."

I believe this to be the very same case with voter fraud. So many people are so quick to say "Voter fraud is virtually nonexistent because we have very few documented cases of this happening."

Well, if you leave the door open for fraud, some people will inevitably

take advantage of the situation. In terms of curbing voter fraud, I believe that the state and federal governments are doing little to change this, and recent proposals actually make matters worse.

When you couple this with the fact that there is very little oversight, this becomes a major issue. If there is no real system in place to monitor legitimate votes versus illegitimate votes, then how can you say that there is no problem?

Those who know me well know that I am emphatic about one thing when it comes to elections – everyone should vote! Voting is perhaps one of the most sacred American rights, but it also happens to be the most squandered American right. I'm sure you have all heard the often said phrase "Brave men and women died for your right to vote." It's true, every man and woman over the age of 18 has the right to vote, but every man and woman also deserves to know that his or her vote is protected from fraud.

That is why I voted against a bill that would have automatically

registered to vote those who were applying for a driver's license in Illinois. Keep in mind, Illinois recently extended the right to obtain a driver's license to those in the country illegally. Though this will not implicitly allow illegal immigrants the right to vote in U.S. elections, it still opens the door to yet another avenue for voter fraud.

I support the spirit of the automatic voter registration law, but not the law in its current form. For me to support such a measure, I would need to see that voters' rights are safeguarded.

Currently, electoral rolls and the process by which we cast our votes need significant reforms. It is literally easier for an individual to commit voter fraud than it is for that same individual to buy a beer, because to purchase alcohol you have to show an I.D.

The Heritage Foundation keeps a running tally of over 300 recent voter fraud cases. These account for thousands and thousands of illegal votes, but some will still insist that this is too small a sampling to

require any action. Honestly, I'm amazed that these cases were even found, because the current system does not provide any true checks, so the fact that these were even found is astonishing.

Did you know that Illinois has 17 counties in which there are more registered voters than there are people eligible to vote? Cook County may have the most deceased voters (See the article "Election Fraud Chicago Style" in a February 14 post in Salon), but the worst offender is actually Franklin County which has 190% representation of voters eligible to vote. This is according to a Reboot Illinois article that painstakingly combed through county election data to highlight chronic errors and voter fraud.

Just last week a video distributed by Project Veritas showed Hillary Clinton campaign staffers purposely defying election laws in Nevada. The same investigator, James O'Keefe, who exposes just how easy it is to commit voter fraud, was able to obtain the ballots of several high profile Michigan fig-

ures. He was told he did not need any form of identification to request the ballot of Marshall Mathers (a.k.a. Eminem), Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, as well as other high profile figures. He stopped short of actually committing fraud himself, but he did this to expose the utterly flawed system of verifying individual voter's authenticity.

In closing, I want to reiterate that I fully support making voting more accessible. But more importantly, I support preserving the sacredness of your individual vote. Once that is achieved, then we can talk about automatic voter registration. But for now, let's keep at least one safeguard in place, because your rights and your vote deserve to be defended.

As Thomas Paine said, "Voting is the right upon which all other rights depend."

As always, you can reach me or Sally at (815) 232-0774 or e-mail us at repstewart@gmail.com. You can also visit my website at www.repbbrianstewart.com or on Facebook.

State universities' mounting financial woes burdening Illinois students, taxpayers

By Vimbai Chikomo

ILLINOIS NEWS NETWORK

As college students across Illinois' public universities made their way to their respective campuses, they may realize just how little of their tuition is going directly toward instructional spending for the 2016-17 academic year.

A 2014 analysis of higher education funding by the Illinois Department of Insurance revealed significant amounts of the state funds public universities receive are directed toward funding university retiree pensions.

The report went on to state that \$6.9 billion in tax-based funding has subsidized university pensions over the

past decade, with \$1.51 billion spent in 2014 alone. Because state universities received \$1.24 billion in general state aid that year, student tuition payments covered the \$270 million pension subsidy shortfall.

Equally alarming is the fact state universities' administrative costs have skyrocketed.

State Rep. Dan Brady, R-Bloomington, said one of the driving forces behind this increase is state universities trying to be competitive in the higher education field to retain faculty and staff, which has become difficult to do given the state's well-documented financial troubles.

Nonetheless, the board of trustees at

each state university has a responsibility to taxpayers, he said.

"It's the fiduciary responsibility of trustees to speak for the taxpayers when it comes to the operations of the university, salaries and staff," said Brady, who sits on the House Appropriations-Higher Education Committee.

According to the 2015 Senate Democratic Caucus Investigative Report on Executive Compensation at Illinois Higher Education Institutions, the number of employees hired by state colleges and universities to manage or administer people, programs and regulations, "has continued unabated in recent years, increasing 50 percent faster than the number of instructors between 2001 and 2011," based on data collected by the U.S. Department of Education.

To pay salaries and provide benefits to all administrators, universities have raised tuition rates, forcing students to dig even deeper into their pockets to absorb the costs. This, in turn, increases pressure for some students to take on student loans and service that debt as they begin their careers.

According to the report, the growth in revenue from increased tuition

rates, "has been used to support an increasingly larger bureaucracy and excessive administrative salaries," evidenced by the need for increased state contributions to cover the pension and health care costs of administrative growth.

"But as colleges and universities have had more money to spend, spending for instructional resources – that is, paying faculty – has not kept pace with the dramatic increase in spending on administrative and staff resources," according to the report.

Highlighted in the Senate report was a comprehensive study by the Delta Cost Project in 2010 that found that, between 1998 and 2008, spending on administration and staff support in the nation's higher education institutions increased by almost 36 percent, while instructional spending increased only 22 percent.

Trying to maintain that level of spending has landed some universities in financial quicksand.

The Chicago Tribune recently reported that, since the beginning of the year, Chicago State University has laid off nearly 400 employees and paid \$2.2 million in severance pay because of a long-standing school policy mandating one year's notice before

termination of an employee or a payout for the time.

Although required, the amount is considered generous when compared to severance packages the majority of schools provide in other states.

When taxpayer dollars aren't enough to cover universities' spending, the financial responsibility shifts to students.

Between 2005 and 2015, tuition increased 71 percent at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus, partially due to decreased state-government funding. The University of Illinois system saw a \$36 million (5.2 percent) reduction in state funding during that time period.

According to the Senate report, in 2011, the University of Illinois employed 4,301 full-time faculty and 2,549 administrators—the most among Illinois' public universities.

By 2015, a university brochure placed the number of University of Illinois faculty at 6,068, and administrative staff and academic professionals at 7,632—three times higher than the number of administrative staff four years earlier.

"We've combatted (tuition hikes) by having, for two years in a row, tuition freezes for in-state residents," said Tom Hardy, executive director of the University of Illinois' Office for University Relations. "And (University of Illinois President Timothy Killeen) recently talked about doing that again next year."

University of Illinois' tuition and fees in 2015-16 for Illinois residents were \$15,630 to \$20,634, according to the university's website.

"The time is upon us to have discussions of consolidation in higher education much like has occurred over the years in K-12," Brady said.



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Jo Daviess County Democrats to hold September meeting in Stockton

The Jo Daviess County Democrats will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 1, at the Bottle Shed, 320 E. North Ave., Stockton. The agenda will include efforts to build the party from the ground up in every precinct in the county, and support Democrats at local, state and federal elections in November. All in-

terested voters are invited to attend.

The group meets regularly at 7 p.m., on the first Thursday of each month at various locations throughout the county. For more information on all activities of the Jo Daviess County Democrats, go to www.facebook.com/groups/JoDems.

ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

"BETTY" ELIZABETH ANNA MEEKER

"Betty" Elizabeth Anna Meeker age 81, passed away on Sunday Aug. 21, 2016 at the Lena Living Center. She was born on April 28, 1935 to Oscar and Marie (Stadel) Schubert. Betty married Harold Meeker on Oct. 18, 1968 in Freeport, IL. She was a member of the Lena United Methodist Church.

Betty is survived by her husband Harold Meeker of Lena, brother-in-law Fred (Ardie) Meeker of Dubuque, IA, son Don Meeker of Colorado, daughter, Lynn (Meeker) Seffrood of Colorado Springs, Co, son David (Diane) Lawbaugh of Franklin, TN and son Michael (Annette) Meeker of Epworth, IA, six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, two brothers; Randall (Cindy) Schubert and Richard (Lydia) Schubert both of Lena, two sisters; Nancy (J.D.) Clemmons of Rockford, and Sally (Ronald) Buchenau of Lena, and many nieces and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her son; Jim Meeker, her parents; Oscar Sr. & Marie Schubert, Fred & Elma Meeker, one sister; Alta Schubert (Vern) Becker, five brothers; Oscar Jr. (Neva) Schubert, James (Irene) Schubert, Dale (Bernice) Schubert, Roger (Orpha) Schubert and Gary (Lorraine) Schubert.

Private family services will be held.

Cremations rites have been accorded.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for the Lena United Methodist Church.

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

MARIE JANE STRAMPE

Marie Jane Strampe, age 94 of Stockton, IL, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2016 at Presence St. Joseph Center in Freeport, IL. She was born March 6, 1922 in Scales



Mound, IL to the late Leo and Shirley (Trevanthen) Werner. She married Robert Strampe during WWII.

Jane graduated from Elizabeth High School in 1938. During WWII she worked as a fireman at Savanna Army Depo as well as on the family farm and Burgess Battery where she retired after 25 years. She enjoyed many things including the Chicago Bears, Nascar, growing flowers, knitting mittens, crafting, and reading.

She is survived by daughters, JoAnne (Gary) Johnson of Eden Prairie, MN, and Robin (Raymond) Wonders of Stockton, IL; Sisters, Nancy (Dwayne) Cole of Grand Rapids, MI, and Mary Ann Stadel of

Elizabeth, IL; Grandchildren, Dan (Rachel) Conrad of Fargo, ND, David (Missy) Conrad of Moorhead, MN, Joseph (Kayla) Conrad of Elk River, MN, Tacey (Tony) Smestad Blaine, MN, Chantell Ramberg of Fargo, ND and Michelle Johnson of Fargo, ND; Great Grandchildren, T.J. Conrad, Parker Conrad, Mallory Conrad, Charlie Conrad, Abby Conrad, Kellen Conrad, Sophia Mott, Nora Smestad, Max Smestad, and Leila Ramberg. She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Jim Werner; Sisters, Betty Davis and Rusty Hesselbacher.

The funeral service was held August 29, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton. There was a visitation before to the service beginning. Interment took place at Holy Cross Catholic cemetery in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared with her family at www.her-mannfuneralhome.com.

JEAN WENZEL

Jean Wenzel, 87, of Lena, passed away suddenly on Aug. 21, 2016. She was born on Aug. 4, 1929 to Thomas & Luellen Nolan. The family was separated at the death of their mother when Jean was two years old. Years later the siblings reunited and had many wonderful family gatherings over the years.

Edwin and Jean (Nolan) Wenzel were married on Feb. 18, 1948, at Amity Lutheran Church in Lena. They farmed over 30 years in the McConnell/Waddams Grove area. After raising her children, Jean worked for the Lena Veterinarian Clinic and then for many years as a secretary at in the Lena-Winslow School District. Jean was a lifetime and very active member of Good Shepherd Lutheran church in Lena. She enjoyed china painting, playing cards, spending time with friends and especially her family. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were some of her great-



est treasurers. Jean is survived by son, Duane (Sherry) Wenzel of Freeport, daughter, Marcia (Gary) Meyers of Lena, and son, Rev. Dennis (Donna) Wenzel of Plymouth, Indiana; grandchildren Scott(Jill), Jeff (Lindsay), Tim (Leslie), Daniel (Kristin) Wenzel, Lynn Meyers (Cindy Miller), Laurie (Jeremy) Hysten, Brenda (Justin) Pathmann, Michael (Tricia) Meyers, Eric (Dawn) Wenzel; great-grandchildren, Brandon, Brittany, Deacon, Natalie Wenzel, Emily, Michelle, Noah Meyers, Ethan Pathmann, Hannah Hysten, Joshua and Seth Wenzel and Brad and Sara Nelson. Jean is also survived by brother-in-law, Lee Wenzel, sister-in-laws, Marion Fahr, Virginia Miller, Lucille Nolan, her foster sister, Vivian (Gene) Hesselbacher, and special friend, Jim Swain.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Edwin, brothers, Ray, Don, Orville, LeRoy, Carson Nolan; sisters Nelda Schlegel and Dorothy Snider and foster sister, Kathleen Shumaker.

Services were held Aug. 26, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena. Pastor Dennis Wenzel and Pastor Art Stees will be officiating. Burial will be at Chapel Hill. A memorial has been established for Good Shepherd Church and the American Heart Association. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

IRMA J. "JEANIE" WILEY

Irma J. "Jeanie" Wiley age 84, of East Dubuque, Illinois, formerly of Elizabeth, Illinois, lived her life to make others happy. At the age of 84, she passed away at Brookfield Rehab in Brookfield, Wisconsin. A Celebration of Jeanie's life will be held at 12 p.m. noon on Thursday, Sept. 1, at Law-Jones Funeral Home in Elizabeth. Burial of ashes will take place in the Elizabeth Cemetery. A memorial gathering will be held from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the Celebration of Life Service. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Food Basket in Elizabeth in Jeanie's memory. Friends and family are invited to share in Jeanie's life at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Jeanie was born in Elizabeth, on Jan. 23, 1932, the daughter of Earl and Loretta (Bonhoff) Williams. She

attended Elizabeth High School and graduated with the Class of 1949. She later attended Beauty School in Rockford, Illinois. Jeanie worked as a hairdresser for Marie's Beauty Salon in Elizabeth for many years. She married James Wiley in 1951, they farmed in Hanover for a few years, they also ran the Tower Motel in Dickeyville, Wisconsin and later bought the Bent Prop Boat Harbor and Bar in East Dubuque. Jeanie and James later divorced. She later met her longtime companion Dallas Mulgrew. Jeanie helped Dallas with the Mulgrew Liquor Store in East Dubuque. They spent many years together until Dallas's passing.

Jeanie enjoyed gardening, fishing, bird watching and bowling. She was a member of the Terripan Ridge Riders. Jeanie always loved an excuse to cook something special for her family and always cherished the time she spent making something special for her family.

Jeanie will be lovingly remembered by her daughter, Sue (Jim) Sandstrom of Brookfield; two grandchildren, Casey and Joshua Sandstrom; a sister-in-law, Judy Williams of Elizabeth. Jeanie was preceded in death by her parents; longtime companion, Dallas; daughter, Cynthia Wiley-Edwards; grandson, Lukas and a brother, Ken Williams.

Reunion

Bonjour family schedules annual reunion

The annual Bonjour reunion will be on Sunday, Sept. 4. The pot luck dinner will begin at 12 Noon at Meridian Park in Warren IL at the shelter house behind the Lutheran Church.

Please bring your own table service and dish(s) to pass. Coffee and water will be available. Contact number: (815) 745-2557

Births

EVERLY CORBIN

Alicia and Michael Corbin of Pearl City, Ill. are the parents of a daughter Everly Laine Corbin born Thursday Aug. 18, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport, Ill. Everly has two brothers Miles Corbin, 6 and Jackson Corbin, 9. Grandparents are Veronica Clair of Pearl City and Gary Clair and Vickie Hansen both of Lena, Ill. Great grandmother is Pearl Hobson of Riverdale, MD.

COLTON HIRNEISEN

Cheri and Erik Hirneisen Sr. of Freeport, Ill. are the parents of son Colton Harry Lee Hirneisen born Wednesday Aug. 24, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport, Ill. Colton joins a brother Erik Hirneisen Jr., 2. Grandparents are Robin Montgomery and Dana Wybourn of Lena, Ill., Wendy and Eddy Marshall of Lakeland, Fla., Louise Hirneisen and James Leiteritz and Ken Hirneisen all of Winter Haven Fla.

COLT MICHEL

Catey (Hicks) and Steven Michel of Fort Knox KY are the parents of a son Colt Silas Michel born Thursday Aug. 4, 2016. Colt joins a sister Falcitcy, 2 1/2.



Grandparents are Terry Michel and Chief and Becky Myers all of Stockton, Ill. and Dan and Sara Hicks of Apple River, Ill. Great grandparents are Pam Hicks and Carol and Jim Brown all of Warren, Ill., Kathryn and Rod Broshous of Stockton and Elmer Miller of Pearl City, Ill. Great great grandparents are Winnifred Luke and Harold Gallegher of Apple River and Bernice Cox of Lena, Ill.

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CHURCH NEWS

Nonviolent politics to be the focus of next World Day of Peace

By Elise Harris
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The theme Pope Francis selected for the 2017 World Day of Peace focuses on nonviolence as a political solution to what he has frequently termed a "piecemeal World War III" being waged throughout the globe.

"Violence and Peace are at the origin of two opposite ways to building society," an Aug. 26 com-

munique from the Vatican's Council for Justice and Peace announcing the theme read.

"The proliferation of hotbeds of violence produces most serious negative social consequences... Peace, by contrast, promotes social positive consequences and it allows the achievement of real progress."

Therefore, "we should act within what is possible, and negotiate ways of peace even where they

seem tortuous and impractical," the message attached to the theme said.

By doing so, non-violence can take on "a more comprehensive and new meaning" composed not only of mere desire or a moral rejection of violence, barriers and destructive impulses, but also "of a realistic political method that gives rise to hope."

Titled "Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace," the theme for 2017's World Day of Peace marks the 50th anniversary of the celebration, and the fourth of Pope Francis' pontificate.

Instituted by Bl. Pope Paul VI in 1968, the World Day of Peace is celebrated each year on the first day of January. The Pope gives a special message for the occasion, which is sent to all foreign ministers around the world, and which also indicates the Holy See's diplomatic tone during the coming year.

So far Pope Francis' messages have focused on themes close to his heart, such as fraternity, an end to slavery, including forced labor and human trafficking, as well as overcoming indifference on both an individual and a political level.

His messages for the event have consistently included bold pastoral and political advice for both ecclesial and international leaders, including his push for the abolition of the death penalty and amnesty for prisoners convicted of political offenses.

In the communique introducing the 2017 theme, it was stressed that nonviolence as a political strategy is "based on the primacy of law."

If the equal rights and dignity of each individual are respected without discrimination, "then non-violence, understood as a political method, can constitute a realistic way to overcome arm conflicts."

Pope Francis' aim in choosing this theme, the statement read, is to show "a path of hope" that's proportionate to the context of today's global circumstances.

"In this way, the settlement of

Stockton Wesley United Methodist Church schedules Rally Sunday events

Stockton Wesley United Methodist Church will host Rally Sunday, a Sunday for welcoming people back to church after the summer vacations, on Sept. 11, during the regular worship time at 10:45. We will also be blessing the backpacks for all the students that day. Spark Sunday School will be starting again at 9:30. Please come and join us and check us out. Everyone is welcome; our doors are open to all who wish to enter in. For information please call (815) 601- 6742. Check us out on Facebook - Stockton Wesley United Methodist Church or on our website www.stocktonwumc.org

disputes may be reached through negotiation without then degenerating into armed conflict." With this perspective in mind, the cultural identity of different peoples will be respected, and the idea that some are "morally superior" to others will be overcome.

The statement cautioned that nonviolence isn't the same as remaining indifferent to tragedies,

but rather implies a recognition "of the primacy of diplomacy over the noise of arms."

"Arms trade is so widespread that it is generally underestimated," the statement read, adding that illegal arms trafficking supports "not a few world's conflicts," and nonviolence as a political style "can and must do much to stem this scourge."



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Thank you for the memories

Rick Dittmar and a number of Dittmar family members came to the Elizabeth Nursing Home and Grand View Estates Assisted Living and donated a dozens upon dozens of ears of fresh sweet corn raised on Dittmar Family Farms for the facility's residents and staff. Not only did the folks appreciate getting the corn to eat, but since many of the Assisted Living residents grew up celebrating sweet corn season, they were excited to try their hands at husking the corn! They would get a bunch done and ask for more. Thank you Rick and family for creating a memorable experience for the nursing home and assisted living residents.

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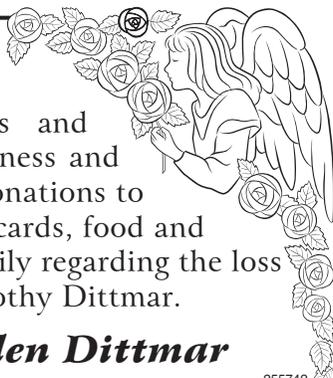
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Our hearts are full of gratitude when we say many thanks to family members, friends and neighbors for all acts of kindness and sympathy: prayers, flowers, donations to Ayden's memorial, cards, gas cards, food and kind words spoken to our family regarding the loss of our son Ayden Timothy Dittmar.

The Family of Ayden Dittmar



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will gather for worship on Sept. 4, at 118 East Mason Street, Lena, at 9:30 a.m. as they welcome their new pastor, Miho Kasukawa. All are invited to worship on this Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion. Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship.

On Wednesday Sept. 7, at 8 a.m. the Piece Corps Quilters will work together to craft quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are always looking for more people to help tie quilts and sew. No previous quilting experience is necessary. Come join the fun and make a difference in the world!

On Thursday Sept. 8, The Friendship Club will meet at 12 p.m. at Good Shepherd for a Potluck and entertainment from "Dean Werkheiser."

On Friday Sept. 9 and Saturday Sept. 10, Good Shepherd will host the Hospitality Tent at the Lena Fall Festival.

The congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lena will head out into the community for "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday on September 25. Brothers and sisters in Christ of all ages from Good Shepherd and any interested community members will join hands to serve together following worship on September 25. The serving teams will spread out at project sites throughout Lena. There will be serving opportunities for all ages and abilities. If you are interested in joining in this day of service as a volunteer, contact the Good Shepherd church office at (815) 369-5552 so that you can be assigned to a project team.

People serve throughout their families, workplaces, community organizations, neighborhoods, and more every day. "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday is a fun opportunity to join hands and serve shoulder to shoulder together.

Kent/Willow United Methodist Churches

Kent/Willow UMC will worship together at Kent UMC at 9 a.m. on Sunday Sept. 4, (Labor Day week end); all are invited and welcome to hear Pastor Brenda Morris' message. This is also Holy Communion Sunday and all are welcome; no one is refused to commune, then everyone is welcome to stay for the fellowship.

Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. studying from the Holy Bible; all are invited and welcome to this time of learning/expressions.

Kent/Willow UMC is located right in the town of Kent, IL; for more information, please call (815) 601-6742.

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City will hold their worship service on Sunday, Sept. 4. Pastor Thomas Ekstrand will lead the worship service beginning at 9 a.m. The service will be followed by fellowship and a meeting for the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

St. John's is hosting a community wide Luminary Walk on Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Homecoming Boulevard (by the American Legion) to remember the events of 911, as well as, to honor Veterans, Members of the Armed Forces and all First Responders: firefighters, police and EMTs. Interested in volunteering for this special event? Contact St. John's at (815) 443-2215.

Rally Day "Boot Camp" will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11 immediately following worship. All Sunday School youth are asked to "enlist" soon. All Sunday School youth, parents and anyone interested may attend! Sunday School and Confirmation classes will begin on Sept. 18.

You're welcome to play Mexican Train Dominoes on Tuesday, Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. at St. John's. The Men of the Congregation are invited to have breakfast with Pastor Ekstrand on Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 7:30 a.m. at Little John's in Pearl City. The Christian Education Committee will also meet on Sept. 7, but at 7:30 p.m.

Planning ahead for fall: St. John's will begin a Saturday evening worship service at 5:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 10. Also, bible studies will resume on Monday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m. and on Thursday, Sept. 15, at 9:30 a.m. Members and non-members alike are welcome to attend. Bible Studies are held in the Conference Room and the lower level East entrance will be open.

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

This week we had a bit of fall weather; the weather people are telling us that we could be in a pattern for a cool down. We will wait to see if that is really true. I have seen Labor Day weather that is beastly hot, and I have worn a sweatshirt another time. I am grateful we have not had tornados and the dreadful flooding that has plagued the South. I can't believe that after this column comes out, we will be in September and Labor Day. Where did August go? We continue to feature many of the foods of the season as well as some labor-saving foods for a quick preparation.

The first recipe this week is for a dip that you could use for a Labor Day celebration. It uses sun dried tomatoes from a jar, canned artichoke hearts and frozen spinach. It is creamy and good tasting; the bacon really adds to the flavor.

Sun-dried tomato, Spinach, and Bacon Dip

- 1 container (16 oz.) sour cream
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 1/2 C. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 C. unsalted butter
- 1 can (14 oz.) artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen, chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 1 jar (7 oz.) oil packed sun dried tomatoes, drained and chopped
- 6 slices bacon, chopped and cooked until crisp

Tortilla chips
In a medium saucepan, cook sour cream, cream cheese, parmesan, and butter over medium heat, stirring frequently until melted and smooth. Stir in the artichokes, spinach, tomatoes, and bacon, and cook until heated through. Serve warm with chips.

Once again Barb Wire had beautiful green beans at the Farmer's Market. I know I am spoiled and really am not looking forward to frozen green beans instead of fresh. I will cook with them when I can. This salad has a little kick to it with the Dijon, but it also has the fresh flavor of lemon. The sliced almonds make it special. I also had never thought of using a salad spinner to get rid of the excess water. I have used the salad spinner for lettuce, but nothing else. Yes, you can teach an old dog new tricks.

Green Bean Salad

- 2 lbs. green beans, trimmed and cut into 1 1/2-inch lengths
- 1 green onion, minced
- 1 T. Dijon mustard
- 1 T. grated lemon zest plus 3 T.

juice
1 garlic clove, minced
1/4 C. extra-virgin olive oil
8 radishes, trimmed and sliced thin
3 T. minced fresh dill
1/2 C. sliced almonds, toasted
Bring 4 quarts water to a boil in a large pot. Fill a large bowl half-way with ice and water. Add the beans and 1 tablespoon of salt to the boiling water and cook until crisp tender, about 6 minutes. Drain the green beans and place in ice bath to cool. Drain again and transfer to a salad spinner, and spin dry. (The blanched and ice-bathed beans can be refrigerated for up to 2 days.)

Whisk the onions, mustard, lemon zest and juice, garlic, and 1 1/2 teaspoons of salt together in a large bowl. Slowly whisk in the oil until incorporated. Toss the radishes, dill and green beans with the dressing and let sit for 30 minutes or up to 2 hours, stirring occasionally. Stir in the almonds. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Barb also had some great squash at the stand this week. A lot of people have their own squash, and in my observations I have never heard of people having just a small amount of squash. This recipe is a new way to make a rather abundant vegetable. The sage spice gives it a unique taste. You can use Panko bread crumbs for an even crunchier top. Enjoy a different way to eat a standard vegetable.

Butternut Squash Gratin

- 4 T. Extra-virgin olive oil
 - 1/4 C. bread crumbs
 - 2 lbs. onions, halved and sliced thin
 - 1/4 C. water
 - 4 t. chopped fresh sage or 2 t. of dried sage
 - 2 garlic cloves, minced
 - 4 lbs. butternut squash
 - 1/4 C. minced fresh parsley
 - 1 t. grated lemon zest
 - Salt and pepper
- Preheat oven to 425. Grease a 9 x 13 baking dish. Combine 1 tablespoon oil and bread crumbs in a 12-inch skillet and toast over medium high heat, stirring frequently, until golden brown, about 3 minutes. Transfer to a bowl and stir in 1/2 t.

salt and 1/4 t. pepper; set aside.
Heat 3 tablespoon of oil in the skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add onions, 1/2 t. salt and 1/4 t. pepper and cook, stirring frequently, until soft and golden brown, about 30 minutes. Add 2 tablespoons of water and cook, scraping up any browned bits, until water is evaporated, about 5 minutes. Add remaining 2 tablespoons of water and cook until onions are caramelized and water is evaporated, about 5 minutes longer. Add 2 teaspoons of sage and garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds; set aside

Trim ends from the squash and peel. Cut in half lengthwise, then quarter each half lengthwise and remove seeds. Cut each piece into 1/4 inch thick slices—about 11 cups. Toss squash with remaining tablespoons of oil, remaining 2 teaspoons of sage, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon of pepper together in a large bowl. Arrange half of the squash evenly in baking dish. Spread half of the onion mixture evenly over the squash. Arrange remaining squash evenly over the onion mixture. Spread remaining onion mixture evenly over the squash.

Cover the baking dish with aluminum foil and bake until squash is nearly tender, about 40 minutes. Sprinkle bread crumb mixture over the top and continue to bake, uncovered, until squash is tender, about 15 minutes longer. Transfer dish to wire rack. Combine parsley and lemon zest in a bowl and sprinkle over the gratin

There are many peppers around this year also. I think it might be because of all the rain. You can use red, green, or yellow peppers for this dish. It is a vegetarian dish because it uses black beans and rice. You could use it as a side rather than a main dish. It is good any way you serve it.

Mexican Stuffed Peppers

- 4 large peppers (red or green)
- 1 T. olive oil
- 1/2 C. chopped onion
- 2 C. cooked rice
- 1 can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can diced tomatoes

- 2 t. chili powder
- 1/2 t. garlic powder
- 1 t. salt
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) shredded Mexican cheese blend

Preheat the oven to 350. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Cut off the tops of the peppers and scoop out the seeds and ribs from the cavities discarding the insides. Cook the peppers in boiling water until slightly softened, 3-4 minutes. Drain.

Heat the oil in a skillet over medium heat. Cook the onion, stirring until softened and transparent, about 5-10 minutes. Stir together the onion, rice beans, and tomatoes in a large bowl. Stir in chili powder, garlic powder and salt. Fold in 1 1/2 cups of the cheese. Divide the rice mixture evenly among the bell peppers, about 1 1/3 cups each. Put the peppers in a 9 x 9 baking dish, and sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Bake until cheese is melted and bubbling about 30 minutes.

One of my friends made this cake that has a rather unique combination of pineapple, bananas, and pecans. It has a hint of cinnamon and the great taste of vanilla. It is a beautiful cake when placed on a pedestal cake stand. It takes a little time, but is worth it in the end.

Hummingbird Cake

- 2 (8 oz.) cans crushed pineapple in juice
- 3 C. flour

- 2 t. baking powder
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. cinnamon
- 1 t. salt
- 2 C. sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 1 C. oil
- 2 C. ripe, bananas, peeled and mashed
- 1 1/2 C. pecans, toasted and chopped
- 2 t. vanilla
- Frosting
- 20 T. unsalted butter, softened
- 5 C. powdered sugar
- 2 1/2 t. vanilla
- 1/2 t. salt
- 20 oz. cream cheese, chilled and cut into 20 equal pieces
- 1/2 C. pecans, toasted and chopped

Cake:

Place oven rack in middle position and preheat oven to 350. Grease 2 light-colored 9-inch round cake pans, lined with parchment paper; grease parchment and flour pans. Drain the pineapple in fine-mesh strainer set over a bowl, pressing to remove juice. Pour juice into small saucepan and cook over medium heat until reduced to 1/3 cup, about 5 minutes; set aside

Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt in a separate bowl. In a separate bowl, whisk the sugar and eggs together.

See KITCHEN, Page 8

Airyonna Willson says:



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\$5,000 in scholarships awarded to 4-H dairy enthusiasts

Twenty-eight Illinois 4-H and FFA dairy project members participated in the 2016 Superior Young Dairy Producer Award program held Aug. 21, during the Illinois State Fair in Springfield. The purpose of the contest is to create an educational activity which promotes youth development, career development, and personal growth through increased knowledge of the dairy industry.

Dairy is one of five separate contests held each year during the state fair. Other award areas include horse, beef cattle, sheep and swine. In total \$25,000 is awarded annually in the five contests. This year, the lifetime total dollars awarded topped the half-million-dollar mark for the 21-year history of the Superior Young Producer program.

The Illinois 4-H Foundation manages the distribution of funds to support the scholarships which are provided by Archer Daniels Midland. The winners also received plaques sponsored by the Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeders Association and Illinois State Fair.

The five overall winners from the

dairy participants each receive a \$1,000 college scholarship. They are Emma Carlson, Kirkland - Boone County; Hadley Ehlers, Campbell Hill - Randolph County; Charlie Elliott, Freeport - Stephenson County; Bria Koester, Dakota - Stephenson County; and Patrick Tegeler, Effingham - Effingham County. "We are very proud of Charlie and Bria. They both compete on the local 4-H dairy teams and have done an outstanding job this year," said Lori Tessoroff, Stephenson County 4-H Program Coordinator.

This three-phase competition emphasizes the youth's knowledge of the dairy industry. The first phase was a dairy management test relating to dairy nutrition, health, reproduction, milk marketing and other dairy related information. The top three contestants for this phase included Emma Carlson, Hadley Ehlers and Morgan Olbrich, Harvard - McHenry County.

The second phase was a three station skill-a-thon on various aspects of the dairy industry. Contestants had to identify dairy feeds, understand DHI information, and identify



COURTESY PHOTO THE SCOOP TODAY/SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Winners of the 2016 Superior Young Dairy Producer Award program were announced Aug. 21 during the Illinois State Fair in Springfield. The top five winners receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The Illinois 4-H Foundation manages the distribution of funds to support the scholarships which are provided by Archer Daniels Midland. Pictured, left to right, are Charlie Elliott; Bria Koester; Hadley Ehlers; Lisa Diaz, Illinois 4-H assistant dean and director; Emma Carlson; and Patrick Tegeler.

dairy equipment. The top three contestants in the skill-a-thon included Hadley Ehlers, Patrick Tegeler, Olivia Telgmann, Strasburg - Shelby County.

The third phase of the Superior Young Dairy Producer Contest was a judging contest. The judging phase consisted of animal selection

by placing four classes of dairy cows and two classes of heifers. The top three contestants for this phase included Megan Exner, Kirkland - Boone County; Dawn Irwin, Beason - Logan County; and Bria Koester.

This year marked the 21st consecutive year for the Superior Young Dairy Producer Award Pro-

gram which has provided \$105,000 in college scholarships to Illinois dairy youth since its inception. Participants must be current 4-H or FFA dairy project members in Illinois. The program is developed and conducted by Dave Fischer, University of Illinois Extension 4-H dairy program coordinator.

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•Kitchen (Continued from page 7)

Whisk the oil in the egg mixture. Stir in bananas, pecans, vanilla, drained pineapple, and reduced pineapple juice. Stir in the flour mixture until just combined.

Divide the batter evenly between the prepared pans and smooth the tops with a rubber spatula. Bake until dark golden brown on top and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 50-55 minutes, rotating the pans halfway through the baking. Let the cakes cool in pans on wire rack for 20 minutes. Remove cakes from pans and discard the parchment; let cool completely on the rack for about 2 hours.

Frosting:

Using a mixer beat the butter, powdered sugar, vanilla, and salt together on low speed until smooth, scraping down the sides of the bowl. Increase

the speed to medium-low, add the cream cheese 1 piece at a time, and mix until smooth; continue to mix for 2 minutes.

Place one of the cake layers on cake plate. Spread the frosting evenly over the cake right to the edge of the cake. Add the next layer and spread the frosting over that layer to the edge of the cake. Spread the sides and the top of the cake evenly. Sprinkle with the pecans. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours before serving.

After celebrating my class reunion and entertaining my high school friend, I was ready for a rest! It takes a while to get things put back together. I also defrosted my basement freezer. That is one summer job finished. It will soon be time to put away summer and get out fall. I really love fall, so I hope we have

some real fall weather (not the hot, hot weather that moves directly into cold). As I said earlier, we will be into September and baseball will wind down, and football will begin. I have my first volleyball game this week. I am looking forward to watching that sport. Don't forget to visit Barb at the Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings. If you don't have your own garden, she has just what you want and need. We continue to look for garden vegetable recipes. Any ideas on using egg plant, kohlrabi, tomatoes, squash, or zucchini? Any ideas on cooking with peaches and apples? If you have any recipes to share, you can contact us in person, by mail, or email us at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 213 S. Center St. or email scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.



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Lovin' the new playground

Students at Lena-Winslow Elementary love the new playground equipment. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. We live in an awesome community who works together to accomplish amazing things!

Clarence Mitchell Library observes Banned Books Week

Highland Community College's Clarence Mitchell Library is pleased to offer a program for Banned Books Week at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 2, in room M-120. Banned Books Week is recognized from Sept. 25 to Oct. 1. The library will host a screening of the film, "To Begin the World Over Again: The Life of Thomas Paine." This 73-minute film of actor Ian Ruskin's acclaimed one-man play has gathered praise from around the world.

Banned books week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read, and highlighting the value of free and open access to information. The American Revolutionary, Thomas Paine, is best known for his tracts, "Declaration of the

Rights of Man," and "Common Sense," both of which were banned repeatedly in the American colonies and in countries throughout the world, due to the revolutionary nature of the ideas Paine advocated. Come; learn more about this American revolutionary and his contribution to our American ideals of justice, liberty and freedoms of speech and religion.

The event is free and open to all audiences. Room M-120 is located on the first floor of the Marvin Burt Liberal Arts Center (building M on campus maps) at Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Road in Freeport. For more information, contact Laura Watson at (815) 599-3456 or laura.watson@highland.edu.

Aj's Lena Maid Meats Cookouts!

Both Fri & Sat this year!

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Lena Historical Society

Friday, September 2 - 11am - 1pm

Lena United Methodist Church Men's Group

Saturday, September 3 - 11am - 1pm

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- 4.) Secure Pets



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Thanks for reading the Shopper's Guide

NEW LISTING



DAKOTA - YOUR SEARCH IS OVER!

Come and experience this functional, updated, move in ready small town home. This home features three bedrooms and two full baths. The floor plan is very open and inviting. The room sizes are generous. The updates and maintenance has been done with a great amount of care. New carpet through much of the home. The kitchen was new in 2012 with plenty of cabinet/counter space and it features knotty alder cabinets which are truly beautiful. Both bathrooms were new in 2011. The furnace and central air was new in 2012. Feldco windows throughout the home was new in 2007. Other newer items are roof (2014) which was a complete tear off/replacement, water softener (2016), and water heater (2015). Other features of this home is a roomy 2 stall attached garage, a central vacuum system, and a very roomy full basement that is partially finished with a great deal of more square footage that could be finished to meet your needs. Both the front and back yard is landscaped quite nicely. If your family requires extra square footage, this home may be a great fit for you. Priced at \$145,000

PRICE REDUCED



LENA - REDUCED \$10,000 - ENJOY THE 2,179 SQUARE FOOTAGE THAT WELCOMES YOU

to this very nice spacious home. Features a formal living room with bay window, open area with a family room wood burning fireplace, dining area with built in desk, oak kitchen with breakfast bar. Beautiful oversized sunroom with vaulted ceilings and a gas log fireplace with patio doors to large deck. Main floor laundry/mud room, newer roof. Located on large, nicely landscaped lot on a quiet cul-de-sac in Fairway Hills Subdivision. Many other features to appreciate on this property. New Price \$152,000

PRICE REDUCED



WINSLOW - PRICE REDUCED \$10,000 - 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! New Price \$259,900



FREEPORT - REDUCED \$10,100 - THIS HOME HAS IT ALL.

It is a 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath ranch style house close to town but secluded on its own 5 wooded acres. Many mature trees and close to the Yellow Creek but outside of any flood plains. Entertaining would be a breeze with the very large living room and updated kitchen. The home also has 2 enclosed porches and a large deck that overlooks the park like back yard. It has a full, dry walk out basement that is partially finished, but still has many possibilities. But that isn't all! It has an attached 4 stall heated garage with ample room for a shop area. This is a beautiful home with a great floor plan that sits on 5 acres with a huge garage. What more could you ask for? New Price \$169,900



FREEPORT - REDUCED \$5,000 - FRONTAGE ON BUSINESS 20

close to Freeport and Hwy. 20. Zoned M1 Commercial/light manufacturing. 30 x 40 frame building. Vinyl siding. Concrete floor, overhead and walk-in door. 200 amp service, 3 phase on pole, 3" gas line. New Price \$74,900

OTHER PROPERTIES



LENA - QUALITY SHOWS IN THIS NEW CONSTRUCTION

home in Oak View Terrace Subdivision, from the custom hickory kitchen to the fully finished exposed lower level! You will want to call this house home. Vaulted ceilings in the open floor plan living, dining and kitchen. Kitchen has corian countertop and island with snack bar. Dining room has french doors that open into the season's room with patio door to deck. The home has 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 16 x 47 family room with 9' ceiling. Master bedroom has walk in closet, master bath with tile walk in shower and double bowl vanity. Too much to mention . . . call today to set up your private showing. Priced under \$90 a sq. ft. Where can you get new for that cost now days? Agent related to seller. Priced at \$274,900

OTHER PROPERTIES



WINSLOW - MOTIVATED SELLER - LARGE YARD

with access to back yard from basement. Home features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, spacious eat in kitchen, dining room, living room, office/toy room, breezeway and main floor laundry. Roof has been replaced and the exterior of the home stained and trim painted, upstairs bedrooms new carpet and paint 2014, kitchen and bath/laundry room remodeled 7/8 years ago. Call today to see this home in the Le-Win School District. Priced at \$65,000



WINSLOW - WELL CARED FOR COUNTRY HOME

in Le-Win School district. Main floor features large entry, open living room and dining room, kitchen, summer kitchen, main floor bedroom being used as office/home gym, laundry and half bath. Upstairs is a sitting area, three bedrooms and a full bath. Beautiful wood floors add to the character of this home. Walk up attic perfect for storage or make more living space. Barn with 2 stalls for parking, storage space and a lean too. Newers include new roof in 2014, exterior doors and 8 windows. Priced at \$82,500



LENA - NICE HOME ON LARGE LOT - 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 stall attached garage.

Updates include central air 2014, wood flooring in living room and dining room, covered front porch and sidewalk in 2013, new electric updated to circuit breakers 6/15. Roof 13 years old and furnace 8 years old. Priced at \$105,000

CALL US TODAY FOR A SHOWING ON ANY OF THESE PROPERTIES



WINSLOW - COUNTRY VIEWS, LE-WIN SCHOOLS!

This 3 bedroom, 1 bath home has a spacious living room with wood burning fireplace, den/family room/office and a large dining room with double set of French doors leading to the deck. Kitchen and master bedroom have vaulted ceilings. Built ins in the hallway and den. Master bedroom has double closet. New roof in 2010. Priced at \$74,500



LENA - BREATHTAKING ENTRY, FLOOR TO VAULTED CEILING

culture stone gas fireplace in living room, open floor plan. Family room has brick gas fireplace, patio doors out to deck overlooking wooded back yard. Dining room has french doors to the deck also. Kitchen has double oven, cooktop, abundance of cabinets, pantry with roll outs. There is a craft/laundry room with patio doors to the back yard and a service door to the side yard. Up the open stairway you will find the office lit by 3 skylights, 2 secondary bedrooms with built in desk areas, hall bath and master suite. The master suite has a whirlpool tub, shower and double bowl vanity. 3 stall garage has second entrance to the basement and 2 service doors. Unfinished basement is roughed in for another bath. Decks, firepit and gazebo round out this amazing property on .8 of an acre. Priced at \$275,000

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First day of school

Lena-Winslow Third Graders soared into a new school year by releasing balloons. They are anxiously waiting for the balloons to be found and their location reported. A huge thank you to Lena Sullivan's for their generous donation of helium for the 75 balloon release.

Annual Anniversary Sale

See our Clearance Table!

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ATTENTION ALL LADIES

We have great power within our grasp!
God has given us the power of prayer.

Please join together with other women in our community watch the movie War Room together and study five lessons on prayer.

Scripture says that if we have the faith the size of a mustard seed we can move mountains

We have "mountains" in our lives, marriages, families, communities, country and world that are bigger than us.

God is at work in the world.

Let's come together and learn how we can band together and pray.

Starting Date: Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Tuesdays through October 11, 2016

Where: Evangelical Free Church of Lena

720 Freedom Street

Lena, IL

Call 815-369-5591 to let us know you are coming

Please call Suzy at 815-541-9788 with any questions

SO MANY OF OUR BATTLES CAN BE FOUGHT THROUGH PRAYER!

FFA Alumni to hold Pork Chop Dinner fundraiser

Stockton FFA Alumni will hold its Seventh Annual Pork Chop Dinner Drive-Thru Fundraiser on Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the Stockton High School parking lot. The meal, which will be packaged for carryout, will include one or two pork chops, potatoes, apple sauce, and a dinner roll.

Ticket costs are \$8 for a one pork chop dinner and \$10 for a two pork chop dinners. Tickets should be purchased in advance as there will be a limited number of meals available the day of the event. All tickets may be obtained by contacting a Stockton FFA Alumni Member or Rick Duchow via e-mail rduchow@frontier.com.

Tickets will also be sold at all home Football and Volleyball events up until the date of the dinner.

The Stockton FFA Alumni would like to take this opportunity to thank the Stockton Community for the continued support of agriculture education and the FFA.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

The Stockton FFA Alumni will hold its Seventh Annual Pork Chop Dinner Drive-Thru Fundraiser on Wednesday, September 21st, 2016 in the Stockton High School parking lot.

Timber Lake Playhouse favorites return for 'Patsy Cline' musical

Timber Lake Playhouse, the professional summer theatre of north-west Illinois, presents a special musical production, Always ... Patsy Cline, Sept. 9 through 18. The popular musical will play over two weekends for eight performances only.

The cast includes Harmony France as Patsy Cline and Sarah Larson as Louise. Ms. France has been seen at TLP in Almost Heaven: The Songs of John Denver earlier this year, and she was featured in Big River in 2015. Ms. Larson was a resident performer in 2013, playing Marian in The Music Man. She was also featured in A Chorus Line, Tuesdays With Morrie, Unnecessary Farce and Spama-lot.

Tickets for Always ... Patsy Cline are \$17-\$25. Dueling Pianos tickets are only \$20. For show times and reservations, visit www.timberlakeplayhouse.org or call (815) 244-2035. The playhouse is located at 8215 Black Oak Road in rural Mount Carroll.



TONIA BLAIR PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

The Mat Open "Blackhawk" Fun Run/Walk will take place Sept. 17, at Blackhawk Run Golf Course in Stockton. Children can run the kids course at 8:45 a.m.

Third Annual 5k Fun Run/Walk at Blackhawk Run Golf Course held in conjunction with the Mat Paisley Open

The Mat Open "Blackhawk" Fun Run/Walk will take place Sept. 17, at Blackhawk Run Golf Course in Stockton. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. with the race starting at 9 a.m. Children can run the kids course at 8:45 a.m.

This 5k cross country course will begin and end at the golf course club house. Organizers encourage

runners and walkers to have fun and enjoy the beautiful view! There will be prizes awarded for the best dressed "Blackhawk." Registration for adults is \$30, youth 17 and under is \$20, and the Kids Fun Run is only \$5 per child. Like the proceeds from the Mat Paisley Open, the proceeds from this event will benefit local non-profit and youth organizations.

The Mat Paisley Open is in its fifteenth year and will also be held Sat., Sept. 17. This event was created to celebrate the memory of Mathew Paisley of Stockton, IL. Over the years, the Mat Paisley Open has raised funds for organizations such as: The Smile Train, Stockton EMS, Stockton Fire Dept., Tyler's Justice Center for Children, Stockton/Warren track team, Stockton Youth Football, the Mat Paisley Memorial Scholarship, Stockton Park District/Stockton Athletics, Stockton Renegades wrestling, as well as other charitable organizations. Recently, money was donated to help purchase the new scoreboard at John O'Boyle Field and new cheer uniforms for the Stockton 39ers cheer team.

To obtain a race and golf registration information. Please visit TheMatOpen.com or Facebook.com/theMatOpen. Questions? Call Marty Paisley at (573) 375-0573

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College News

Heather Elizabeth Gahm named to Dean's List at Evangel University

Heather Elizabeth Gahm, student of Greg & Kathy Gahm of Lena, IL, has been named to the spring 2016 Dean's List at Evangel University, Springfield, Mo.

During the spring semester, Gahm was a freshman with a major in Art.

Full-time students who have earned a grade point average of 3.6 or higher on a 4.0 scale are eligible to be on the Dean's List.

Highland student-athletes receive All-American recognition

Six Highland Community College student-athletes were named Academic Student-Athlete Awarded recipients by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Timothy Dawson of Clinton, Iowa and Bethany Shuman of Orangeville were named Superior Academic Achievement Award recipients. This requires a 3.80-3.99 GPA.

Timothy Dawson, who was on the men's bowling team, had a 3.83 GPA and is attending the University of Iowa to study Mechanical Engineering.

Bethany Shuman, who played volleyball for Highland, is going to Illinois State University to study Elementary Education. She had a 3.92 GPA.

Chris Arnold, Miranda Grisham, Hanna Metzger, and Courtney Walker were Exemplary Academic Achievement Award recipients. This requires a 3.60-3.79 GPA.

Chris Arnold of Warren played men's golf and had a 3.70 GPA. He is attending Northern Illinois University to study Marketing.

Miranda Grisham of Lanark played women's basketball and had a 3.75 GPA. She is attending Illinois State University to study Animal Science.

Hanna Metzger of Forreston. She played volleyball and had a 3.83 GPA. She is attending St. Ambrose University as an Occupational Therapy major.

Courtney Walker of Lanark played women's basketball and had a 3.75 GPA. She has obtained her Life Insurance License and owns Symmetry Financial Group.

Clarence Mitchell

Library at HCC presents Constitution Day program

Highland Community College's Clarence Mitchell Library is pleased to offer a program for Constitution Day. A panel will discuss issues of free speech, freedom of the press, and how to be aware of your own "information bubble" in a digital age. "Election 2016: Free Speech, Freedom of the Press and Your Information Bubble" will take place at 12 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16 in the Clarence

COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Building a bug collection

Seventh grade science students are busy again this year collecting bugs for their bug collection project. "There is nothing like the smell of a box of dead bugs," said Mr. Lobdell!! The picture above shows a few of the students, Connor, Marey, Zack, and Mikhail that took part in this project. Mrs. Matz introduces the taxonomic rank (domain, kingdom, phylum, order, etc) to the students during this unit and then has students catch and display them as part of the lesson.



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In consideration for the right to participate, entrants, participants, and spectators, by execution of the entry form, expressly release and discharge all representatives connected with this event of/and from any and unknown suffered to entrant and entrant's property.

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LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
Stillman BancCorp, N.A. PLAINTIFF
Vs.

Brad Thompson a/k/a Bradley J. Thompson; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Curtis E. Richardson; Mike Richardson; Christine Richardson; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Kip Meyers, as Special Representative for Curtis E. Richardson (Deceased)
DEFENDANTS

16CH 00056
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:
 Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Curtis E. Richardson
 Unknown Owners and Nonrecord 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:
COMMONLY KNOWN AS:
 13006 N. Coon Road
 Orangeville, IL 61060
 and which said Mortgage was

made by:
 Curtis E. Richardson executed the mortgage, however this individual is deceased and is not named as a defendant in this lawsuit
 the Mortgagor(s), to Stillman BancCorp, N.A., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, as Document No. 201000115700; 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,
 Nathan A. Luy
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 15 North Galena
 Freeport, IL 61032
 on or before September 16, 2016, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES,

P.C.
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100
 Burr Ridge, IL 60527
 (630) 794-5300
 DuPage # 15170
 Winnebago # 531
 Our File No. 14-16-06860
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
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(Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Aug. 17, 24 & 31, 2016)
 253941

16-079565
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION PLAINTIFF,
 -vs-
JANET L. YOUNG A/K/A JANET YOUNG A/K/A J. YOUNG A/K/A JANET L. HARMS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
DEFENDANTS
 16 CH 59

PUBLICATION NOTICE
 The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you Janet L. Young a/k/a Janet Young a/k/a J. Young a/k/a Janet L. Harms and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants; Unknown Occupants.
 Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Stephenson County, by the said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
LOT 7 IN BLOCK 1 OF SCHMELTZER'S ADDITION TO THE TOWN (NOW VILLAGE) OF ROCK GROVE, SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF ROCK GROVE, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS; ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED MARCH 2, 1857 IN BOOK Y OF DEEDS, PAGE 134.
 Commonly known as 5048 East Rock Grove Road, Rock City, IL 61070
 Permanent Index No.: 15-05-31-351-005
 and which said Mortgage was made by Janet L. Young Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for Century 21 (R) Mortgage Corporation (SM) as Mortgagee, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, Document No. 200900101886, Book No. 163, Page No. 1722.
 And for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of the said Court against you as provided by law, and that the suit is now pending.
 Now therefore, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Stephenson County, in the City of Freeport, Illinois, on or before the 30th day after the first publication of this notice which is September 23, 2016. Default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.
 Clerk
 Shapiro Kreisman & Associates, LLC
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
 Bannockburn, IL 60015
 (847) 291-1717
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THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO

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 I701851
 (Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2016)
 254806

NOTICE
 Lena-Winslow CUSD #202 Board of Education in Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties announces the availability of the Tentative Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. The budget will be available for public inspection online at Le-Win.net or at the District Office, 401 Fremont Street, Lena, IL during normal school hours beginning on Wednesday, August 24th.
 The Board of Education will hold a public hearing regarding the Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Le-Win Junior High School library at 517 Fremont Street, Lena, Illinois.
 Pete Conway
 Secretary
 Board of Education
 (Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Aug. 31, 2016)
 255099

TOWNSHIP OF LORAN ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

The undersigned, Supervisor/Treasurer of the Township of Loran, County of Stephenson, Illinois, hereby submits the following Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2015 and ending March 31, 2016.
REVENUE SUMMARY: Illinois Power Market \$1,990.77, Stephenson County Treasurer \$225,377.06, State Bank of Pearl City \$942.47, State of Illinois Comptroller \$7,201.16, TOIRMA \$1,314.00, Village of Pearl City TIF \$14,561.52, Other Income \$832.79, **TOTAL REVENUES: \$252,219.77.**
COMPENSATION SUMMARY: Under \$9,999.99: Road: Robert Gipe, Wyatt Gipe, Terry Kempel, Kirk Knoup, Kyle Kraft, Austin LaBudde, Duane LaBudde, Mike Palmer. Town: Kenneth Baldauf, Jim Brandt, Marvin Edler, Deb Foust, Bill Kuhlemeier, Scott Sheffey. **Between \$10,000.00 and \$43,000.00:** Patrick LaBudde, Shane Gipe. **TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$73,353.67.**
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY: Barry's Collision Center \$6,933.17, Birkey's Farm Store \$1,584.38, Bushman's Service \$5,058.94, Conmat \$1,529.71, Doc's Excavating \$2,931.14, Fisher Excavating \$2,762.12, Florence Township \$2,006.50, Gipe Trucking \$5,445.00, Heavy Equipment \$4,261.37, IMRF \$10,292.81, John Deere Financial \$7,682.50, Johnson Service Inc. \$8,180.00, Lancaster Township \$1,862.50, Pearl City Elevator \$12,709.93, Randecker Enterprises \$2,200.00, Sloan Implement \$3,661.30, TOIRMA \$8,894.00, U.S. Treasury \$5,008.61. **All other disbursements \$1,500.00 and under: \$27,400.53. TOTAL VENDORS: \$120,404.51.**

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	General Town Cemetery & Relief Funds	General Road Permanent Road Joint Bridge Equipment & Building	TOTALS
BEGINNING BALANCES	\$155,062.35	\$187,282.08	\$342,344.43
REVENUES	\$ 93,841.33	\$158,378.44	\$252,219.77
EXPENDITURES	\$ 87,182.59	\$106,575.59	\$193,758.18
ENDING BALANCES	\$161,721.09	\$239,084.93	\$400,806.02

Subscribed and Sworn on this 15th day of July, 2016.

/s/ Marvin Edler
 Marvin Edler
 Supervisor/Treasurer
 /s/ Deb Foust
 Deb Foust
 Clerk

I, Deb Foust, Clerk of Loran Township, Stephenson County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Aug. 31, 2016)

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COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Scales Mound schools celebrate first days of school

Teachers and staff welcomed back students to Scales Mound Elementary, Junior High, and High School on Aug. 24. Students excitedly found their classrooms as teachers helped them with school supplies and lockers. Dr. Wiederholt met with each of the junior high and high school classes to answer questions and set the stage for a successful new year. After a day of introductions and goal setting the students and staff are ready to get into the regular daily schedule.



AMY MAY PHOTOGRAPHY
The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Stockton wins season opener

The Stockton Blackhawks football team won Friday's home conference game against Oran-geville by a score of 68-6.

Lena American Legion Auxiliary stage September meeting

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 7, at 316 W. Main Street. The delegates who attended Illini Girl State will be present to report on their experience. Members will be at the Lena Fall Festival doing voter's registration and address changes for Stephenson County. Dues will be collected at this meeting. We will be collecting stocking caps and gloves for the veterans. Tray favors will be made following the meeting. Carol Buss is in charge of the social hour.

COUNTRY MARKET

Labor Day Weekend
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255026

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Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Announces the 2017 LIHEAP, PIPP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency has funding from the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to assist the residents of Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties with home heating utility costs through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and Weatherization Programs.

LIHEAP clients with ComEd and /or Nicor Gas as utility providers may have the option of choosing between the traditional DVP one-time payment or PIPP. The choices will be explained to clients during their application visit. To qualify for Weatherization assistance, you must apply for and be approved for LIHEAP/PIPP.

Beginning Thursday, September 1, 2016, income eligible seniors (age 60 and older) and people receiving social security disability benefits may call to schedule an appointment to apply for assistance.

Starting October 3rd, income eligible households without home energy service (**are disconnected from their primary and /or secondary heating utility**) and families with **children age 5 and under** may also call to schedule an appointment to apply.

Starting November 1st, all other low- income eligible households may apply.

Eligible households may call 800-883-1111 or 815-232-3141 from 8:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. to schedule an appointment to apply for assistance at one of the following locations.

NICAA Main Office- Freeport Stockton Banking Center
Warren Township Library Hanover Village Hall
Citizens State Bank of Lena East Dubuque Library
Illinois Bank & Trust- Galena Downtown

Income Guidelines To qualify, a household must have income at or below the levels shown on the chart for 30 days including the application date.

# of people in Household	30 day Gross Income
1	\$1,485
2	\$2,003
3	\$2,520
4	\$3,038

Add \$520 for each additional person.

****You must bring the following documentation with you to your appointment. If you are missing these documents, your appointment will be rescheduled.****

- Social Security Cards for all members of the household
- Proof of all gross income for all household members for 30 days including the application date including pay check stubs, SSA/SSI/SSD current benefit letters, pension/retirement statements, child support, unemployment reports, TANF/AABD/Township GA assistance notices, self employment reports, and proof of zero income
- Top portion of current heat and electric bills issued
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services
- A signed copy of current lease or proof of homeownership (tax bill or title for mobile home) is required to apply for weatherization assistance

The Scoop Today & The Shopper's Guide

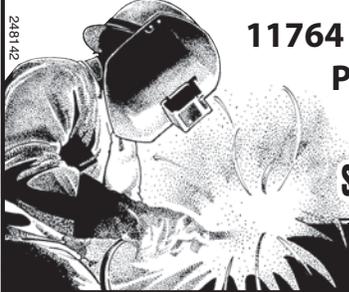
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Help Wanted

Employment Opportunity **Stockton High School** Position: **High School Special Education Aide** Hours: 8:00 am-3:15 pm Start Date: Tuesday, September 6, 2016 Salary: Competitive Application deadline: Thursday, September 1, 2016 Send letter of application and credentials to: Casey Downey, High School Principal Stockton High School 540 N Rush Street Stockton, Illinois 61085

Employment Opportunity: Are you interested in helping individual with disabilities learn skills and abilities to help them be more independent in their home and in the community?

We have openings in Galena and Stockton for staff that can work in a small home environment helping people cook, clean, do their laundry, learn social skills and go into the community for movies, concerts, fishing, shopping and many other events. We provide paid training in Galena and have openings currently for full time, part time and substitute hours. Our substitute staff can make their own schedules to fit into their own busy lives. Full Time Positions offers PTO, Health, Dental and Life Insurance. 403B Plan also available Part Time Positions offer PTO Must be at least 21 years of age, Have a High School diploma or GED equivalent, Valid driver's license No Experience Necessary Contact us today at: 815-777-9525 x 101

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NOTICE The Village of Lena is accepting applications for part-time **winter snow plowing** help. This will be on an "on call" basis requiring a CDL and experience. Applications are available at Village Hall 122 E. Main St. E.O.E.

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- Barn Helpers and Farm Labor
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- DRIVER*
- SPOTTER*

*Requires CDL-A, 2 years of verifiable driving experience in a tractor/trailer, clean MVR.

All positions offer medical and dental coverage and IRA matching when eligible, as well as vacation time.

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. APPLY in person to fill out application at

Pearl Valley Farms or send resume to: 968 S Kent Rd., Pearl City, IL 61062



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Apply at Mulligan's Bar & Grill in Lena or call (815) 369-9713

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Continued growth within our group of weekly newspapers and shoppers has caused the need for additional graphic designers at our Delavan, Wis. facility. Part-time and possibly full-time positions are available. Proficiency in Adobe InDesign necessary; prior newspaper experience preferred. Email resume with salary requirements to suez@standardpress.com

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BOWEN OIL COMPANY

is looking for Managers, Asst. Managers and Cashiers at all Boco Convenience Stores: Gratiot, Monroe, Orangeville, Winslow, Pearl City, Lena, Freeport, Seward and Durand. Inquire within at Spirit of Lena or call (608) 345-3857.

Education

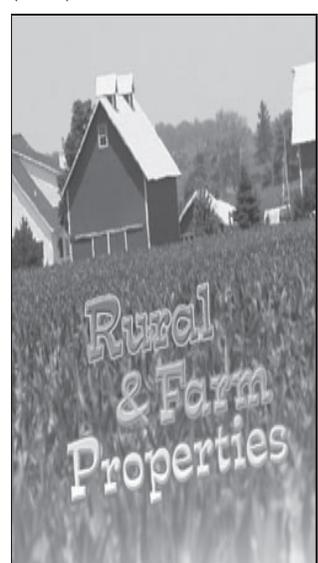
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2nd & 3rd Shift Robotic Welders \$19-\$25/hr

Immediate openings for robotic welders in manufacturing. Successful applicants will have vocational training or equivalent experience in GMAW welding or robotic operations. **Position eligible for \$1000 sign on bonus.**

1st & 2nd Shift Truck Equipment Installation \$17-\$25/hr

Employees needed to install truck equipment per work instructions or schematics. Previous experience/training in automotive, industrial or agricultural machinery and welding required. Electrical & hydraulic experience a plus.

Position eligible for \$1000 sign on bonus.

3rd Shift Maintenance \$18-\$20/hr

Immediate opening in our Maintenance Dept. to troubleshoot, repair and maintain production equipment and maintain facility. Experience/training in commercial electrical wiring, electrical print reading, computerized equipment operations and relevant electrical codes required.

1st Shift Material Handlers \$12.35-\$13.35/hr

Immediate openings for material handlers to pull and stage parts; duties to include dispersing parts and maintaining inventory in fast-paced environment. Previous forklift experience required. Individual should have good communication skills, a good mechanical aptitude, be detail-oriented and willing to work outdoors.

2nd & 3rd Shift Machine Operator – Press Brake \$13.35-\$15.35/hr

Immediate opening in our machine operating area to operate CNC controlled metal forming, cutting and bending machines. Previous machine operating and knowledge of blueprint reading preferred. Vocational training in metal forming machinery a plus.

1st & 2nd Shift Assembly \$13.35-\$14.85/hr

Assembly position openings to assemble V-boxes and plows in our Snow & Ice Department. Previous experience or training in vehicle or agricultural mechanics preferred. Successful candidate must have mechanical ability and be self-directed.

1st Shift Manufacturing Supervisor

Responsible for identifying, developing and implementing manufacturing methods and processes to meet production schedules and objectives including safety, quality & efficiency targets, production and cost improvement. Observes workers to ensure compliance with standards for a safe, productive environment. Responsible for employee performance appraisal and discipline. Must have ability to solve practical problems and deal with variables where only limited product standardization exists. Previous supervisory and/or floor leadership experience in manufacturing required.

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Real Estate

Apartments

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Houses/Town/Condos

FARM HOUSE ON 20 ACRES in Stockton 3BDR, 1BA. Barn & pasture available. Available October 1st \$650/mo 312-720-3759

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Other Real Estate

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familiar/ status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-900-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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For Sale

Lena Garage Sales

804 S LOGAN ST HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE Fri. 9/2/16 8am – 8pm Sat. 9/3/16 8am – 4pm Love Seat, matching love seat, couch; dining table/chairs; oak sofa table; computer desk; Antiques: cut glassware; carnival glass; ¾ walnut bed custom mattress; oak carved highchair; late 1800s cradle; oak lighted hutch; crocks; small bench. Lamps; small appliances; 30qt electric roaster; miscellaneous kitchen; books, tapes, cookbooks; crafts; fall, Christmas decorations; Halloween costumes; Air hockey table; trampoline; aquarium; Old windows; 15 gal primer paint. Exercise equipment. Shoes, ladies size 8. Many more items perfect for starter, college apartments. Too much too list

Adoption

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 855-390-6047 (MCN)

Announcements

DISCLAIMER NOTICE This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

HERO MILES - to find out more about how you can help our service members, veterans and their families in their time of need, visit the Fisher House website at www.fisherhouse.org

FOR ASSISTANCE AT THE STOCKTON FOOD PANTRY
 Call Darlene 947-3624,
 Sally 947-3239, Bonnie 947-3793,
 Sharon 218-556-3822,
 or Ilene at 947-3797 156411

For Sale

Misc. For Sale

TRAILER SALE! 14,000 lb. w/ dovetail Skidloader trailers "FREE 10 ply Spare tire" and Save \$400.00 off normal pricing. 10 different sizes of DUMP trailers. 6'X12' V-nose, ramp door Cargo \$2,750.00; 7'X16' \$4,169.00; 515-972-4554 www.FortDodgeTrailerWorld.com for inventory & prices! (MCN)

YALE FORK LIFT 8,000lbs, \$1,800, 847-438-4092.

Notice

CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. Ads canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers, but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

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Boulevard Bash



TONY CARTON PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

Members of area Korean Veterans organizations participated in Saturday's The Boulevard Bash parade in downtown Pearl City.

Kayla Albrecht made a delicious array of baked goods and brought them to market on Saturday during the Pearl City parade. Albrecht is preparing to run a marathon and is raising funds in support of Team World Vision, an organization dedicated to activating partnerships and community engagement to bring clean water to people around the world while helping create fullness of life for children in need.

Lena Library

Sign up for Story Hour at the Lena Library
August 22nd thru September 12th



After School Program
Kindergarten - 5th Grade
Mondays 3:30 - 4:30

Story Hour Times
Preschool Ages 3-5
Tuesdays 10:30 - 11:30
Preschool Ages 3-5
Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:30

Story Hour will begin Tuesday September 13th
Hope to see you there!
Any questions, call 815-369-3180

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Gemma Musser was a featured participant in Saturday's Boulevard Bash parade in downtown Pearl City.

• News

(Continued from page 11)

Mitchell Library at Highland Community College.

Panelists include Kate Perkins, English and Journalism instructor and advisor for the Highland Chronicle, Jim Phillips, interim dean of Humanities, Social Sciences and Fine Arts, Jim Yeager, Speech and Mass Communications instructor, and Andy Dvorak, instructor of History and Political Science.

The event is free and open to all audiences. The Clarence Mitchell Library is located on the second floor of the Marvin-Burt Liberal Arts Center at Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Road in Freeport. For more information, contact Laura Watson at (815) 599-3456 or laura.watson@highland.edu.

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September 11 - Baked Ham
September 18 - Stuffed Chop
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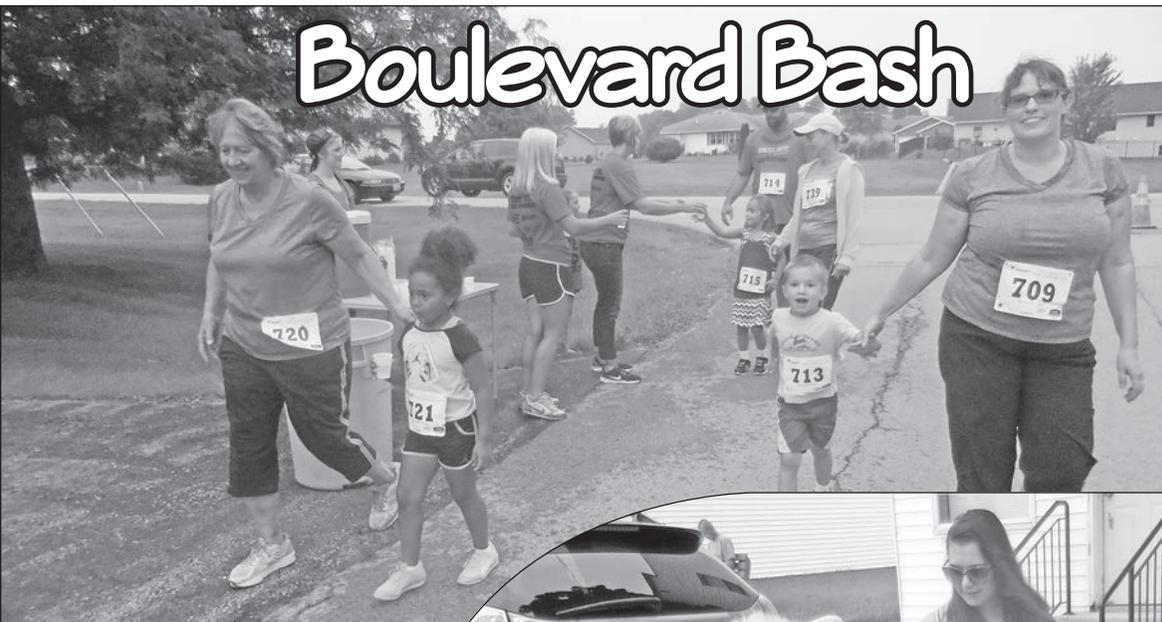
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Boulevard Bash

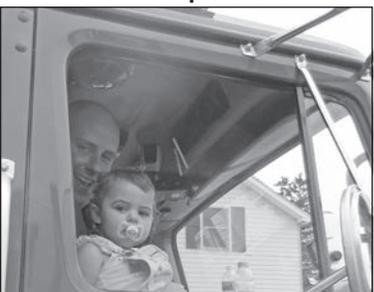


TONY CARTON PHOTOS SHOPPER'S GUIDE
Amelia Hass and her grandmother Brenda walked The Boulevard Bash Fun Run/Walk Saturday morning with four year old Jred Dinderman and his mom Amanda.

(Right) This little lady had a big hug for the famed Pearl City Wildcat during Saturday's Boulevard Bash parade in downtown Pearl City.



When the Pearl City Fire Department brought out the big machines for Saturday's Boulevard Bash parade they brought a number of their favorite young ladies to dress up the event.



Somebody special got a ride in a Pearl City fire truck during the Boulevard Bash parade in downtown Pearl City on Saturday.

Pearl City Public Library is seeking trustees



Send letter of interest to
 Board of Trustees
 Pearl City Public Library
 P.O. Box 158
 Pearl City, IL 61062



Next board meeting will be Tues., Sept. 6 at 7 p.m.



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- Oscar Mayer Wieners (Excludes Beef & Cheese) • 16 oz. • **2/\$3.00**
- Oscar Mayer Smokie Links • 14 oz. • **2/\$3.00**
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- Shurfine Deli Sliced Roast Beef • **\$6.99/lb.**
- Mrs. Gerry's Deli Fresh Macaroni, Cole Slaw or Potato Salad • **\$1.39/lb.**

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- Red or Green Seedless Grapes • **\$1.69/lb.**
- Michigan Paula Red or Ginger Gold Apples • 3 lb. Bag • **2/\$5.00**
- Sweet Sweet Onions • **89¢/lb.**
- Bartlett Pears • **\$1.29/lb.**

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- Eggo Waffles • 12.3 oz. • **\$1.99**
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- Shurfine Non Dairy Whipped Topping • 8 oz. • **89¢**
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- Shurfine Sweet Relish • 16 oz. • **99¢**
- Country Time Lemonade • 8 qt. • **\$1.99**
- Betty Crocker Suddenly Salad • 6.5-7.5 oz. • **99¢**
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What is a Soil and Water Conservation District?

Currently, there has been a great deal of publicity concerning the financial plight of Illinois' 97 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). There have also been a few questions regarding the value of the SWCDs. To those few who don't understand the SWCD or what it does, please let us take a few moments of your time to provide some information. Illinois' SWCDs were organized as a result of the huge dust

storms that originated in the western states and covered the country to the eastern seaboard in the 1930s. Their main purpose was, and still is, to offer assistance to the public to protect our soil, water and related resources. In establishing the legislation allowing for the creation of the SWCDs the Illinois General Assembly stated as its purpose: "The General Assembly declares it to be in the public interest to provide (a)

for the conservation of the soil, soil resources, water and water resources of this State, (b) for the control and prevention of soil erosion, (c) for the prevention of air and water pollution, and (d) for the prevention of erosion, floodwater and sediment damages, and thereby to conserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintaining the navigability of rivers and harbors, conserve wild life and forests, protect the tax base, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of this State."

The first SWCD in Illinois, the Shiloh-O'Fallon Conservation District, was organized in St. Clair County July 22, 1938. The last was Sangamon County on Feb. 18, 1959. Currently, the 97 SWCDs cover the entire state, including the City of Chicago.

SWCDs are classified as local units of government "Special Districts" without the authority to tax for general operating funds. In fact, SWCDs are the only unit of government established throughout the state with no taxing authority and must therefore rely on the Illinois General Assembly for their operating funds.

SWCDs, in most counties throughout the state, share an office with two USDA agencies, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA). This relationship

has a long history and has worked well for Illinois Agricultural producers. FSA administers the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and federal portion of CREP and agricultural producer support programs. NRCS administers EQIP, WHIP, CSP and provides the technical assistance necessary to implement these various programs. The SWCD assists both agencies by providing assistance in setting local priorities based on needs expressed by the public, performing compliance checks for FSA, providing technical and administrative assistance for NRCS and administering the state's Conservation Practices Cost Share Program which can be utilized by producers to obtain financial assistance for conservation practices that other cost share programs may not offer. SWCDs do not have the authority to grant exemptions nor make programmatic decisions affecting FSA or NRCS programs but often provide public input and suggestions for modifications that will better address local needs and conditions.

SWCDs also work with other federal agencies, as well as state agencies, local municipalities and units of government and private industry and organizations, to help implement programs benefiting wildlife, water quality, carbon sequestration, environmental and natural resource education, cultural resources, forestry, wetlands, urban development, community planning, watershed

planning, flood control, reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus to waterways and many other focus areas. In most cases, the SWCD is the only organization that can provide this kind of assistance.

SWCDs in the Illinois River Basin hold more than 1,000 permanent CREP contracts. These are contracts with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources which provide annual payments to the landowners in exchange for setting aside environmentally sensitive lands that will provide wildlife habitat, soil erosion control and water quality benefits on a permanent basis. SWCDs are the only entity currently having the authority and the ability to administer the program payments and required compliance checks.

A total of 20 SWCDs currently perform site investigations to monitor Illinois Environmental Protection Agency permit compliance by developers in 23 counties. Four SWCDs perform a similar function for the US Army Corps of Engineers in five counties where urban development is occurring adjacent to wetland areas. Two SWCDs are currently working with the O'Hare airport expansion project, helping contractors perform their earth moving and construction activities in a manner that keeps sediment out of storm drains thereby reducing treatment, removal and disposal expense as part of the City of Chicago's O'Hare Modernization Program.

SWCDs throughout the state are involved in educational program efforts, with FFA, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, in elementary schools and through sponsorship of the national high school Envirothon competition.

SWCDs, all across the State, are holding meetings and educating communities, landowners and the like on the loss of nitrogen and phosphorus to our waterways. This is part of the effort outlined in the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (NLRS) that was developed by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Agriculture and various other Agricultural and Environmental Organizations.

Illinois' SWCDs perform a myriad of tasks and program initiatives that make information and resources available to all of the people of Illinois to help them make wise choices and informed decisions concerning the natural resources and the well-being of the population.

Obviously this is merely a sample of activities performed and programs administered by the 97 SWCDs. Would you like to know more? Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District and ask how you can become a partner to help yourself and your community. Even more important right now, contact your state Senator and Representative and ask them to provide funding so that all 97 soil and water conservation districts can continue to quietly do the work that they have been doing and have been charged to do by the General Assembly some 70 years ago.

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