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VOL. 80 • NO. 2

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018



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Perfect attendance

Recognized for perfect attendance in the second quarter are Lena-Winslow third graders Bottom: Grace Bastendorff, Brendyn Smith, Adelynn Anderson, Addison Pieper, Lillian Werhane

Top: Jackson Noller, Dane Rose, Kaydan Yount, Kaiden Harner, Dayton Hutmacher, Brianna Fye



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Straight As

Hard work paid off for this group of Lena Winslow third graders. Recognized for Straight A work in the second quarter are: Bottom: Jax Korte, Kayden Goeke, Brianna Edler, Shaylen Smith

Top: Nikolai Cornwell, Gavin Kaiser, Emily Engel, Ian Geiseman, Ryder Schulz, Addison Pieper, Lillian Werhane, Brianna Fye

Orangeville Broncos begin second half climb

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

With January games well underway, the Orangeville Broncos get the chance to look at where they are and how far up they can climb in the NUIC-East. They have plenty of games to work with in their

attempts to get some things going in the right direction.

The Broncos opened the week looking at teams from Durand, Milledgeville and Polo all off to good starts. Orangeville dealt with Stockton last week and followed it up with a visit to Amboy on

Wednesday, Jan. 10. Over the next week the conference race is invigorated as the Broncos look at their best chance to move up and knock some area rivals down.

At the turn Four teams carried unbeaten East marks. Three others were a game back in the loss column and two more just one game behind them. It's wide open. The numbers say the chances are very good for Orangeville, if they can generate a few more points. They've averaged 44 a night in the East race. It's below the curve, currently.

Polo has averaged over 70 points a night. Freeport Aquin has been almost as strong with a nightly, 62 points per average mark. Milled-

geville, Dakota and Amboy are just over 50 per night, so a little more generated offense could lead to some needed breathing room.

This Friday night the Pecatonica Indians visit Orangeville and it opens a four-game home stand for the Broncos. The priming of a win streak can sometimes start with even less. The Indians average less nightly on offense than Orangeville does and have given up over 20 point more per meeting. It gets much harder next week.

For Orangeville to contend or think about contending for the NUIC-East, they have to be able to beat very strong area combatants and they get their chance starting with Freeport Aquin on Saturday,

Jan. 20. The Broncos play host to Durand on Tuesday, Jan. 23 before closing the home stand with a Friday visit from front-runner Dakota.

As January ends, February opens with immediate payback opportunities. The Pecatonica Indians host Orangeville on Feb. 1 with the Broncos heading home for a rematch with Dakota on Feb. 3. Durand plays host on Tuesday, Feb. 6 and Aquin returns the favor on Thursday, Feb. 8.

Matches against Warren, Ashton-Franklin Center and Polo help close the 2017-2018 winter sports, regular season, with the IHSA Class 1A and 2A Boys' Basketball State Championship Tournament beginning the following Monday.

American Legion Auxiliary schedules annual Pie Baking Contest

The American Legion Auxiliary will be holding the annual Pie Baking Contest on Saturday, Jan. 27, and Soup Tasting on Sunday, Jan. 28.

On Saturday, the American Legion Auxiliary Units of the Thirteenth District will be hosting the pie baking contest. Fruit pies should be delivered to the American Legion Home in Lena between 10 and Noon. Pies will be judged and cash prizes will be awarded. We need ladies and gentlemen to get out their rolling pins and submit a pie for

judging.

On Sunday, the Units will once again sponsor an activity from 11 to 2:30. The Tenth Annual Soup Tasting will feature over twenty different soups and dessert for \$7 for adults (\$6.50 if bought in advance) and \$3 for children under 10.

Come join us for a weekend of fun. The American Legion Home is located 316 West Main Street in Lena, across from the historical water tower. For questions or tickets, please call: 233-9078 or 369-4684

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Panthers primed for proper pursuit of the West

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

There are many teams in the NUIC-West that are going to worry about the Lena-Winslow Panthers, now that the second half of the boys' basketball season has begun. The Panthers have pushed through a productive post, school-in-session, session, which included a strong run at the Forrester Holiday Champion Winnebago Indians and the Title in the Erie Christmas Classic.

The Panthers entered 2018 as one of the hottest teams in the league.

They lost one time in December and that was to the State-ranked Winnebago Indians. Now they can look at the NUIC-West and firmly-affix their gazes at a legitimate run at the conference crown. Lena-Winslow sits with four others within a one-loss mark of the lead. Galena is 2-9 on the season, but only registered a limited NUIC-West results-schedule.

The Panthers moved into 2018 with a win over Stockton. The Blackhawks fell in Stephenson County 52-47, on Jan. 4, giving the West rival credit towards its three-loss, conference start.

The Panthers faced River Ridge on the road on Saturday, Jan. 6. The Wildcats have been strong and took down one of the co-conference contenders recently, East Dubuque, by a point, 41-40. The Panthers traveled to Pearl City on Tuesday, Jan. 9. Details of that contest are unavailable at this time.

This Friday night's game at home gives the Panthers a good shot at an important conference win. Galena hasn't had a lot of conference matches registered this season yet, but has recently brought things back under control, following a December slide that saw them lose six of their previous

seven matches.

The Pirates' streak ended as 2017 closed, in a 49-44 win over Potosi, Wi., on Dec. 29. Out of conference matches against Baster Springs and Shullsburg were attended to, before the Pirates readied themselves for this Friday night's meeting at Lena.

Friday, Jan. 19, will be important for the Panthers. They will face East Dubuque and they will be taking on a program that is credited with having won 20 or more games every year, since 2009, with the exception of the 2011-2012 season. They closed last year with a 31-3 mark and a Super

Sectional appearance.

The Warriors have played great in recent late January and early February games. They can score a lot and can run the floor. They are similar to one of the only teams to beat the Panthers this year, Winnebago.

In Forrester, statistics showed that the Panthers gave the Indians their best game of their Holiday Tournament. Those same numbers say East Dubuque might get a good idea of what they might have to deal, if they want to advance in this year's State Tournament, beginning in about a month.

Pearl City schedules Development Meeting

On Wednesday Jan. 24, the general public is invited to attend a meeting to start discussion on the development of the newly created greenspace brought about by the FEMA flood buyout program. Information about past flood aid to residents, presentation of the greenspace area, guidelines on any

possible development in that area will be presented. A time for questions and answers from those who attend will be available. This informational meeting is sponsored by the Pearl City Development Committee. The meeting will be held at the Pearl City Fire Station beginning at 7 p.m.

Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension to hold January meeting

The Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will hold its January meeting Thursday evening, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Pearl City Public Library in Pearl City, Illinois. Roll call will be, "Your Birthday Month". The lesson on "No Waste Kitchen" will be given

by Michelle Boyer. Karen Pohl and Joyce Bonnet will serve refreshments. The food collection this month will be taken to the Pearl City Food Pantry. Anyone interested in any of the lessons that are given or just want to see what we do are invited to come and join us.



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Random Acts of Kindness

Mrs. Brouhard's Third Grade class at Pearl City recently completed their December Random Acts of Kindness challenge. Students were challenged to complete one random act of kindness every day in December. In addition to the challenge, the students voted to skip the traditional grab bag gift exchange at their class Christmas party. Instead, they pooled their money together and made a donation to Heifer International. The class raised enough money to donate a pig and a flock of chicks.

Thank you to the Lena Lions Club and the Lena Church Area Co-op for the lovely fruit and plate of cookies. Very good and appreciated! God's blessings to all.
Joyce Edler
305015

Thank you to the Lena Area Churches and the Lions Club for the plate of cookies and box of fruit.
Irene Broaddus
304993



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Santa books

Pearl City fifth grader Madison Roach reads her Santa story to Lilyann Strohecker and Graci Vanderheyden.

THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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Stockton Community Unit School District #206 regular BOE meeting minutes

The regular meeting of the Stockton Community Unit School District #206 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Library. Members present included Roger Groezinger, Kim Mapes, Neill Cahill, Nicole Haas, Todd Vincent, and Deb Gille. Member Kirk Schubert was absent. The regular and closed session minutes for Nov. 20, were approved 6-0 following a motion by Vincent and second by Haas. Bills totaling \$119,831.63 were approved for payment 6-0 following a motion by Mapes and second by Cahill. The financial report was approved 6-0 following a motion by Groezinger and second by Mapes.

In his superintendent's report, Dr. Gilliland stated that preparation for teacher negotiations have begun. In her good news report, Principal Downey congratulated December students of the week Austin Westover, Kendra Scace, Kameron Dick, Zachary Meyers, and Echo Taylor. Mrs. Downey also congratulated the class of 2018 Illinois State Scholars Jeremiah Hermann and Hunter Houseman-Eddings, Ramsey Schulz for making ILMEA All-State Choir, NHS for sponsoring a food drive competition, and commended the band and chorus for outstanding performances at the Winter Concert on Dec. 6. Mrs. Downey also said thank you for an anonymous \$100 donation the High School received. In her administrative report, Mrs. Downey reported on staff continuing to work on curriculum alignment on

the December First School Improvement Day and that first semester finals are scheduled for Dec. 20 - 22. In his good news report, Mr. Fox congratulated the following Blackhawk of the Month: Kyla Arnold/fifth grade; Kristian Adleman/sixth grade; Lauren Kehl/seventh grade; Austin Eisfeller/eighth grade; and congratulated Middle School band and chorus students for great performances at the Winter Concert on Dec. 6. In his administrative report Mr. Fox congratulated students and staff for all their hard work in the first semester, thanked volunteers that worked in the PTO book fair, reported that the sixth grade went to Rockford University for a program by the Rockford Dance Company and watched a portion of the Nutcracker, seventh and eighth grade students viewed the movie Wonder at the Lindo Theatre, and reported that he had attended a Student Growth Academy at the ROE and attended the CTE Academy National Art Honor Society Exhibit in Freeport to see exhibits by Linzy Friedlein, Echo Taylor, and Zachary Reed. Art teacher Mrs. Ramey is a sponsor of the CTE National Art Honor Society. In her good news report, Principal Colleen Fox reported on the following: the Elementary School Concert on Dec. 14, was a great success and the fourth grade went to see the movie Wonder at the Lindo Theatre on Dec. 8. In her administrative report, Mrs. Fox commended staff and students for the great progress in all areas of

learning during the first semester, Ms. Thompson and Mrs. Offenheiser for presenting at the Raising Student Achievement Conference on Dec. 4th, Title I reading program for hosting the Pajama Reading Night on Dec. 12, and thanked all of the middle school and high school students that volunteered their help for the Pajama Night activities. Mrs. Fox reported on the CTEA minutes. The building and grounds committee reported the following information: explanation of the new heating units in the middle school and health and life safety electrical updates that are required for the High School and the Elementary School.

In new business, the board took the following action:

Approved tax year 2018 levy 6-0 following a motion by Mapes and second by Gille.

Approved Stephenson Service Company for Biodiesel and Propane fuel and Saunders Oil Company for unleaded fuel 5-0 following a motion by Haas and a second by Gille. Member Groezinger abstained.

Directed architect to draw plans for electrical updates at the High School to be completed in the summer of 2018 for 800 and 1600 service 6-0 following a motion by Mapes and second by Haas.

Approved High School stage curtain repairs with outside donations 6-0 following a motion by Groezinger and second by Cahill.

Approved Bank Resolution to remove Dr. Gilliland and Connie Hill

from the signature card and add Colleen Fox and Casey Downey 6-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Mapes.

The board voted to go into closed session under the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 for the purpose of appointment, employment, compensation, performance of personnel, and matters relating to students at 7:34 p.m. 6-0 following a motion by Mapes and second by Groezinger. The board voted to return to open

session at 8:04 p.m. 6-0 following a motion by Vincent and second by Mapes.

Under continued new business, the board took the following action:

Approved contract of Superintendent/Elementary Principal elect Colleen Fox at a salary of \$112,000 effective July 1, 2018 6-0 following a motion by Groezinger and second by Cahill.

The board adjourned at 8:06 p.m. following a motion by Groezinger.



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Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency 2018 LIHEAP, PIPP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency has funding from the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to assist 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.

No new PIPP applications will be taken after December 31, 2017. LIHEAP applications will be taken until May 31, 2018 or until funding is exhausted.

Effective December 1, 2017 all income eligible households may schedule an appointment to apply for assistance with their heating utilities.

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

- NCAA 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
- German-American State Bank - German Valley

Income Guidelines: To qualify, a household must have a 30 day gross income at or below 150% of the federal poverty level shown below for 30 days prior to and including the application date.

- 1 person household - \$1,508
 - 2 person household - \$2,030
 - 3 person household - \$2,553
 - 4 person household - \$3,075
- Add \$522.50 for each additional person in the household

**** The following documents will be required to apply for assistance ****

- 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.
- Current heat and electric bills issued.
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services.
- Copy of current lease or rent receipt.
- Proof of homeownership, tax bill or title (for mobile home), is required for weatherization assistance.



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Stockton HS Class of '67

29 members of the Stockton High School Class of 1967 held their 50 yr class reunion at Blackhawk Run Golf course on Sept. 23.

1st row - Steve Luke, Kenny Tucker, Peggy (Kunz) Krahrmer, Phyllis (Orth)Mc Neil

2nd row: Penny (Bonjour) Anderson Cindy (Blair) Foulkes, Cathy (Pierce) Brandenburg, Nancy (Clay) Breed, Diane (Gutzmer) Ackerman, Janice (Pierce) Wilkinson, Linda (Heikens) Davies, Lynnette (Clark) Zitzke, Charlene (Schultz) Boldt, Linda (Becker) Schmitt

3rd Row: Donnie Carroll, Wayne Leitzen, Jerry Below, Mike Petsche, Randy Polhill, Bill Krahrmer, Richard Steinestel

4th Row- Bill Borsdorf, Steve Reese, Ray Croffoot, Carl Winter, Tom Stiefel, Burt Streicher, Jim Schubert, Oliver Hager

Monroe Clinic celebrates elite 5-Star Medicare Rating

Monroe Clinic caregivers are seeing stars as they greet the New Year! The newest report published on Medicare.gov revealed Monroe Clinic has achieved an overall 5-Star Rating from Medicare's Hospital Compare program—the highest possible score.

A long-time advocate for Hospital Compare's transparent healthcare quality reporting, CEO Mike Sanders recently shared the news with staff and leadership. The 5-star rating places Monroe Clinic in an elite group of healthcare performers.

"After being notified through a preview report, I was able to share the news with our board and the 1,220 employees who helped us reach this benchmark of excellence. With the arrival of the New Year, we have an added reason to celebrate our roles as care-

givers living our mission and bringing our best to the communities through God's healing spirit," said Sanders.

Sanders explained the updated data will soon be available on Medicare.gov's Hospital Compare database, which allows visitors to enter their zip code then search and compare ratings from area hospitals.

Why 5 Stars is a "really big deal." "For this period only 7 % percent of the nation's hospitals earned a 5-star rating from Medicare in all areas measured. It's a rating standard that includes the review of over 4,500 hospitals nationwide. Only 337 hospitals achieve the top, 5-star overall rating. It's a really big deal!" said Mike Sanders, Monroe Clinic President & CEO.

Sanders encourages patients to go to Medicare.gov and acquaint themselves

with Hospital Compare tool, which includes an overall star rating of the nation's hospitals, as well as individual ratings for specific quality factors including: patient experience, safety, effectiveness of care, patient re-admissions, efficient use of medical imaging, timeliness of care, and mortality.

"We've remained transparent by publicly reporting Monroe Clinic quality measures for years. It's an effective way for us to stay accountable to our mission and to our customers," said Sanders.

Medicare's system is modeled after the star rating system used by hotels, restaurants and other service industries where consumers choose higher star rating facilities to help ensure the best experience possible.

"The same concept of providing

consumers with information applies to Medicare's star rating," Sanders said. "But instead of customer reviews of who has the most comfortable bed or best continental breakfast, Medicare ratings are based on performance data that demonstrates how healthcare organizations deliver care to their customers."

Drawing back the curtain on local healthcare's quality measures

Hospital Compare was created through the efforts of Medicare and the Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA). The HQA was a public-private collaboration established in December 2002 to promote reporting on hospital quality

of care.

Even as consumers are sometimes overwhelmed by the rankings and awards, these achievement recognitions serve an important purpose in the healthcare industry. Chelsea Hardacre, Monroe Clinic Quality Director explained the Hospital Compare database has a direct and multi-dimensional impact on patients and the care they receive.

While community perception is usually the leading decider of local healthcare quality, the 5-star rating system

See RATING, Page 9

Durbin speaks with CDC Director about deadly situation at Quincy Veterans' Home

U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) spoke last week with Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Dr. Brenda Fitzgerald about the Illinois Veterans' Home (IVH) Quincy and the continued outbreaks of Legionnaires' disease, which have taken the lives of 13 veterans and residents over the past three years. During

today's call, Dr. Fitzgerald noted that CDC staff visited IVH Quincy in early December and took samples. The laboratory results from those tests will be completed in "early January" and, at that time, CDC assured Durbin they will make recommendations on what next steps are appropriate for the veterans, residents, and infrastructure at

IVH Quincy.

"What has taken place at the veterans' home in Quincy over the past three years is nothing short of a scandal and an insult to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line to fight for our freedoms. There have been a series of unacceptable errors by Governor Rauner and his Administration—including a refusal to publicly disclose, in a timely manner, confirmed cases of Legionnaire's at IVH Quincy and a refusal to engage with national public health agencies and experts sooner—and it is time for them to stop. We need solutions, not cover-ups. Our veterans and their families deserve better," said Durbin.

In early December, Durbin and Duckworth requested the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a review of Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) oversight of nursing home care across the country, including in state veterans' homes such as Quincy. Today, that request was approved.

Legionnaires' disease is a severe, often lethal, form of pneumonia. It's caused by the bacterium Legionella pneumophila found in both potable and non-potable water systems. Each year, an estimated 10,000 to 18,000 people are infected with the Legionella bacteria in the United States.

Eleven families are now suing the state for negligence.

Farm bill program supports rural businesses

By Anna Johnson
CENTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS

Rural entrepreneurs are often important members of their communities. The upcoming farm bill offers a significant opportunity to support those entrepreneurs and their rural businesses through the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program.

Created in the 1985 farm bill, the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program provides funds to third parties, such as nongovernmental organizations and community development financial institutions, to provide training, technical assistance, and loans to rural entrepreneurs. Many entrepreneurs served by this program are unable to access capital through traditional means.

One beneficiary of the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program is Chatterbox Brews, a restaurant in Tekamah, Nebraska, a town with a population of 1,730. Owners Cindy Chatt and Britney Hansen saw an op-

portunity to invest in Cindy's rural hometown and to give back to the community by offering a new type of establishment, a brewpub serving craft beers and homestyle food.

With support from the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program, loan experts from the Center for Rural Affairs provided the two entrepreneurs with one-on-one counseling and technical assistance to secure financing and realize their dream.

Today, Chatterbox Brews is thriving with daily lunch specials and a seasonal farmers market. And, neighbors are responding. The excitement has spurred even more development in the rural community.

Chatterbox Brew's success is just one instance of a main street business gaining momentum, thanks to the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program. The farm bill program supports small businesses and helps keep rural communities, like Tekamah, vibrant.

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Illinoisans give \$36 million to scholarships on First Day

Thousands of children in need in Illinois will be getting an opportunity to choose where they will be attending school thanks to the new scholarship program signed into law by Governor Bruce Rauner. The first day of donations saw a jaw-dropping \$36 million – a great start for a program that will provide quality education to children across the state.

Gov. Bruce Rauner announced Wednesday taxpayers pledged more than \$36 million for private school scholarships on the first day donors became eligible for the state tax credit.

Tuesday was the first day individuals and corporations could pledge money and apply for the tax credit, which is worth 75 percent of their donation, up to \$1 million. The state caps eligible annual donations at \$100 million.

Students who come from households with an annual income below 300 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$73,000 for a family

of four, can apply for the scholarships beginning Jan. 24.

Sacred Heart-Griffin High School will have volunteers on hand at the school Jan. 24 to help people with the application process. The funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis, the school announced in a letter on its website.

Lawmakers have estimated it will provide scholarships for 6,000 to 10,000 students statewide to attend private schools.

Zach Wichmann, director of government relations for the Springfield-based Catholic Conference of Illinois, said the early numbers show there is a lot of interest.

"I think the fact we had such a good day on the first day of donations shows there is a real need and real desire for a program like this that can directly help low-income families," Wichmann said. "As kids get enrolled in school and are doing well, I think the program's popularity will only grow."

K-Mart to pay over \$1 million for overbilling Illinois Medicaid customers

Illinois has joined with other states and the federal government to settle allegations that Kmart Corporation, owned by Sears Holdings Management Corporation (Kmart), charged the Medicaid program more than its usual and customary charge for certain drugs. Under the Settlement Agreement, Kmart agreed to pay a total settlement of \$1,062,893.81 to resolve the overbilling allegations in Illinois. The settlement proceeds will be shared between the Federal and state governments.

In the mid-2000s, Kmart, along with many other pharmacies, began offering discounted generic drugs to their cash paying customers (typically \$4 for a thirty day supply). Kmart

began its Retail Maintenance Program (RMP) by charging \$15 for a ninety day supply. The program was later expanded to include thirty and sixty day supplies. Although some pharmacies with similar programs gave federal health care programs the benefits of these prices, it was alleged that Kmart did not. Rather, Kmart billed and received \$5 from Medicaid for a prescription that cash paying customers could purchase for \$4. As a result of Kmart's actions, Kmart received reimbursement amounts from Medicare, Medicaid and other federal healthcare programs that were higher than it was entitled to receive in violation of federal and state false claims statutes.

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CHURCH NEWS

Rockford Interfaith Council President to present musical

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m., Phyllis Peterson, President of the Rockford Interfaith Council, will be presenting her mini musical "Louis Timothy, the Giant Invisible Turtle", a one hour program with discussion about the topics of "Anger, Feelings, and Boundaries." Louis Timothy has become a giant turtle because he is stuffing all his angry feelings inside; and he's become invisible because he is afraid to tell others what he needs. Come and hear how Louis Timothy comes to a conclusion about sharing through intimate songs that express what he needs and feels;

and how he learns to set boundaries with others.

Phyllis Peterson is an accomplished storyteller and vocalist. She is an international speaker who travels the world teaching about Authority of Self (under God), Boundaries, Protective Behaviors for Children, and the Importance of the development of a Feeling Language in Children and Adults. She has been called a "Modern day Mary Poppins" by youth in Africa.

Come to the home of Ann and Dick Rundall, 413 Stiles Parkway, Rockford, 61102 for this enlightening Program.

SSM Health and CSA complete sponsorship transfer of Agnesian HealthCare and Monroe Clinic

(The Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA) and SSM Health announced today they've successfully completed a transfer of sponsorship of CSA's health care ministries. Agnesian HealthCare, based in Fond du Lac, Wis., and Monroe Clinic, based in Monroe, Wis., are now part of SSM Health. Patients and residents will continue to receive the high-quality compassionate care they've come to know and expect from Agnesian HealthCare and Monroe Clinic, but also benefit from the additional expertise, resources and extensive network of specialists provided by SSM Health.

The announcement marks the union of three highly-regarded and mission-driven organizations who share a commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of Catholic healthcare and providing high-quality, affordable healthcare services to meet the needs of the patients and communities they serve.

"We are excited and proud to have the talented and dedicated employees and physicians of Agnesian HealthCare and Monroe Clinic become part of SSM Health," said Laura S. Kaiser, President and CEO of SSM Health. "This partnership is a natural fit and we look forward to working together to further improve access and enhance quality of care in Wisconsin."

The decision to pursue a sponsorship transfer was initiated and guided by CSA, who established the health ministries more than a century ago. Changes in the Wisconsin payer and provider markets, combined with the changing demographics of the Congregation, led CSA to consider how to best uphold the legacy of its healthcare ministries and maintain the level of care that patients and communities expect.

"As sponsors and partners in ministry with Agnesian Healthcare

and Monroe Clinic, CSA has experienced 120 years of continuous blessings," said Sister Jean Steffes, General Superior of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes. "Sharing in the mission of Jesus with all those serving and being served through these vital and vibrant ministries has been a privilege beyond measure. We know that Agnesian HealthCare and Monroe Clinic will continue into a future of dynamic growth and depth of mission with SSM Health."

Agnesian HealthCare, Monroe Clinic and their affiliates will adopt the SSM Health brand, while also honoring their legacy names. The brand transition is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

With the completion of the sponsorship transfer, SSM Health's integrated health care delivery network in Wisconsin now extends into Northern Illinois and includes seven hospitals, 10 post-acute facilities, and more than 85 physician offices and other outpatient care sites, as well as a health plan and pharmacy benefit management company. In addition, the health system now has about 14,000 employees and physicians in Wisconsin - and more than 40,000 across the Midwest.

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Junior and Senior High
Youth Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Listen to pastor's weekly sermon
at www.lenafreechurch.org

289317

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will gather for worship on Jan. 14, at Good Shepherd, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to worship on this Second Sunday of Epiphany with Holy Communion. Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship. All Sunday School children will gather for Sunday School Opening at 10:45am followed by learning, Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

On Wednesday Jan. 17, 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! At 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday Confirmation students in seventh and eighth grade will meet for learning, fun, prayer, and fellowship

On Thursday Jan. 18, Good Shepherd will be at the Friendship Center for Devotions and Dessert at 1 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call the church at 815-369-5552.

Kent/Willow United Methodist Churches

The Kent/Willow UMC will worship together Sunday Jan. 14, at 9 a.m. at Kent UMC. Pastor Chuck Wolbers will be bringing the Bible based message and all are invited and welcome to hear him. And also to stay for the fellowship following.

Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. studying from the Holy Bible, all are invited and welcome to this time too.

Kent UMC is located right in the town of Kent, IL. For more information, please call the Pastor at 262-308-2379

St. John's Lutheran Church

You're invited to join us at St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City for the Second Sunday of Epiphany on Sunday, Jan. 14, at 9 a.m. for worship. Following worship, Sunday School and Confirmation will meet at 10:15 a.m. The Property Committee, Stewardship/Outreach Committee and the Memorial/Finance Committee will all meet following worship. The SPOTS Youth group will meet at 11 a.m. in the Youth and Family Center.

The Monday Evening Bible Study will resume on Jan. 8, and the Thursday morning Bible Study will resume on Jan. 11. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Jan. 9th. The Christian Education Committee will meet at 5:30 pm on Jan. 10. The Women's Gathering will hold their monthly Bible Study on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at St. John's. The morning will begin with fellowship at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Bible Study and a brief meeting. All those willing to help assemble the Annual Books should meet at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 18, for assembly.

Conor Flanagan from Heyworth, Illinois, won the Calendar drawing on Jan. 3. Congratulations to Conor! It's not too late. St. John's is selling 2018 calendars with an opportunity to win a \$200 drawing each week. If you are interested in purchasing a calendar for \$30, please contact the church office or any member of St. John's. Phone and email information below.

Need a place to hold an event in Pearl City? The main hall at St. John's is available for rent. Call the church for more information and availability.

St. John's Lutheran Church is at 229 S. First Street, Pearl City, Illinois. The office phone number is 815-443-2215(mornings). All are invited to our weekly worship services and youth to our Sunday School and youth ministries. You may also email at prshadmin@gmail.com.

Evangelical Free Church of Lena offers new precept Bible study

A new precept bible study will begin at the Evangelical Free Church of Lena on Jan. 15, at 9 a.m. How do you know if you're really born again? What does it mean to be holy, to love God? Find answers to these and other questions as you take a look back at the fundamentals of Christian beliefs in this study of 1 John. Books are \$15 and newcomers are always welcome. Call the church office, 815-369-5591, for more information.



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ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

CONNIE GARMAN

Connie Garman, age 70, of Rockford, Illinois, formerly of Hanover, Illinois, passed away Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 at home. A funeral Service will be held at 12 noon, Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 at the Hanover United Methodist Church. Burial will take place in Evergreen Cemetery, Hanover. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Connie was born on Dec. 3, 1947 in Hanover, the daughter of Melvin and Lorraine (Ryder) Callahan. She attended Hanover High School, graduating with the Class of 1966. She married James Garman on Jan. 4, 1986.

Connie worked in the retail industry for most of her life. She was a board member of All Saints Episcopal Church in McAlester, Oklahoma. She enjoyed working in the yard, flower gardening, decorating her home, and shopping with her grandkids.

Connie will be dearly missed by her husband James; one son, Bryce (Mandy) Herrington of South Beloit, Illinois; three grandchildren; and one

brother, Jerry (Dawn) Callahan of Hanover. She is preceded in death by her parents, Melvin and Lorraine

DUANE THOMAS KLOEPPING

Duane Thomas Kloeping Age 46, passed away suddenly from heart failure Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017. Duane was born March 11, 1971 in Freeport, IL, the son of Thomas Kloeping and Larry Bilgri Ellison. He graduated Freeport High and worked at Lender Tree Service, Park Hills Nursing Home, and Wal-mart. He was married to Sara (Kloeping) DeWall for ten years and had two children Tanika (25) and Tyler (21).

He enjoyed watching his children at Special Olympic events and he always had a smile on his face.

He is survived by his two children, Tanika & Tyler Kloeping (Freeport, IL), father Tom Kloeping (wife Deb) (Lena, IL) and mother Larry Bilgri Ellison (husband Dave) (Lena, IL), brothers: Paul Kloeping (wife



Patricia, nieces Michaella, Paisley & Parker) (Leonardtown, MD), Joshua Kloeping & Lauren Franecski (Scottsdale, AZ), sister Jennifer Kloeping & Jesse Peters (nieces Julia & Cieara)(Freeport, IL) and step-brothers Shawn Bilgri (wife Fabiola & niece Paulina) (Madison, WI), and Justin Bilgri (wife Michelle, nephews Joey & Jake) (Dallas, TX). And his Grandparents: Wayne Long (Elizabeth) and Sylvia Nelson (Freeport) and various Aunts, Uncles, and Cousins.

Duane was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Flo & Lee Kloeping and maternal grandfather, Dale V Nelson.

A memorial fund for Salvation Army has been established in his name.

A memorial service for Mr. Kloeping was held Jan. 3, with funeral services following at Burke Tubbs Funeral Home.

Please sign Duane's guestbook and share a memory at www.burketubbs.com

HAZEL F. RAAB

Hazel F. Raab, age 85 of Pearl City passed away Friday, Jan. 5, 2018 at FHN Memorial Hospital surrounded by her family. She was born Sept. 20, 1932 to the late Sherman and Abby (Holcomb) Bonnell. Hazel married Wayne Raab on Jan. 6, 1953. He died Sept. 1, 2001.

She was a graduate of Lanark High School and a longtime member of

Berremen Church of God. She enjoyed reading, playing cards with her sister, Nada and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her son, Brian (Mardi) Raab; her daughters, Rhonda (Tony) Holland, Bonnie (Jim) Kuhse, Darla (John) Korth and Tina (Joe) Flynn; her sisters, Nada Sweely, Eleanor Croffoot and Myrna Kennedy; her 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and one 1 great great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Wayne, daughter Lorrie, 3 brothers and 2 sisters.

The funeral service was held Jan. 8, at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. Visitation was Jan. 7, also at the funeral home. Interment will take place at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport, IL. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

JOAN KAY REITER

Joan Kay Reiter, 72, of Lena died on Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017 at the Lena Living Center. She was the daughter of Waldo and Marjorie (Kleckler) Reiter. Joan was born on Nov. 4, 1945 at home near Pearl City and attended Centennial Grade School for two years and then Lena Grade



School; graduating from Le-Win in 1963. As a child, Joan was active in 4-H and enjoyed reading and painting-by-number. As an adult, Joan couldn't get enough of traveling, visiting most states including Alaska and Hawaii and countries in Europe. Joan worked in the office at Newell Companies for several years, as a pharmacy technician at Freeport Memorial Hospital, and several years at Stephenson Nursing Center before retiring.

Joan is survived by her brother Gary (Sandra) Reiter of Rockford; nephews Steve ("Sam") Reiter of Davis and Brent (Tracey) Reiter of Seward; great-nephews Codi Reiter and his daughter Mattison, and Andy and Harrison Reiter of Seward. J

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, and her parents.

Per Joan's request, there will be no visitation.

Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena.

Burial will be at Lena Burial Park. A memorial has been established for the Lena Fire Department.

The family wishes to thank Shirley Wachter for her friendship, commitment, care and compassion towards our sister and aunt, Joan.

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

School; graduating from Le-Win in 1963. As a child, Joan was active in 4-H and enjoyed reading and painting-by-number. As an adult, Joan couldn't get enough of traveling, visiting most states including Alaska and Hawaii and countries in Europe. Joan worked in the office at Newell Companies for several years, as a pharmacy technician at Freeport Memorial Hospital, and several years at Stephenson Nursing Center before retiring.

Joan is survived by her brother Gary (Sandra) Reiter of Rockford; nephews Steve ("Sam") Reiter of Davis and Brent (Tracey) Reiter of Seward; great-nephews Codi Reiter and his daughter Mattison, and Andy and Harrison Reiter of Seward. J

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Per Joan's request, there will be no visitation.

Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena.

Burial will be at Lena Burial Park. A memorial has been established for the Lena Fire Department.

The family wishes to thank Shirley Wachter for her friendship, commitment, care and compassion towards our sister and aunt, Joan.

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

LOIS JOY EHREDT

Lois Joy Ehredt, age 90, passed peacefully from this life into eternal life with her Lord Jesus Christ on Jan. 2, 2018 at Advocate Condell Memorial Hospital in Libertyville, Illinois. She was surrounded by her loving family. She will be lovingly missed by her family and those who knew her.

Lois was born on Aug. 26, 1927 to Anton and Margaretha (Randecker) Kehl in Massbach, Illinois. She was the eldest of two girls born to this family. She grew up on the farm in Massbach and attended Oakland School through the eighth grade.

She attended the Rural Youth Meetings in Elizabeth where she met and fell in love with LeRoy E. Ehredt. They were married on March 31, 1951 at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. They first lived in Massbach and later moved to the Pearl City area making their final home on Raders Road. To this marriage were added three children: Dale, Lynnette and Daryl. Lois was a caring mother, farmwife and also a cook at the Oasis Restaurant and at St. Francis School for Exceptional Children.

She is survived by her three children: Dale (Shireen) Ehredt of Du-



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Pearl City Lady Wolves work past Pecatonica Lady Indians

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

The Pearl City Lady Wolves visited Pecatonica on Saturday, Jan. 6 and didn't quite have everything in place, the way they had hoped. The host Lady Indians held on for a 13-point win, 44-31.

The loss slowed the run the visitors had been on since an early December meeting with Lena-Winslow. Pearl City had won five of its previous six matches. Galena picked up an early Christmas gift in a 54-43 win on Dec. 21. Other than that, Pearl City was perfect.

The second half of the winter sports season opened on Jan. 3 for

Pearl City and they pulled down a better than two-to-one differential-win over the Polo Lady Marcos. Warren fell later. The Lady Warriors slipped back in the standings with the 53-36 defeat at the hand of the front-running Lady Wolves.

On Monday, Jan. 8, the Milledgeville Lady Missiles visited Pearl City and presented an opportunity for the Lady Wolves to get things back on line. Milledgeville opened the week with a .500 mark on the season and a two-games-under .500 mark in the NUIC-North., but they carried a comparable scoring for-and-against average.

On Thursday the West returns

with vengeance. A conference-race influencing showdown at Lena-Winslow opens the schedule. A loss by the Panthers could effectively remove them from talk of Titles. It would give them their fifth West defeat and put them five games behind Eastland and at least three games back of four or five teams fighting for second place.

Pearl City will have a scheduled tournament appearance this Saturday. They will participate in Man-

ny's Shootout at West Carroll High School before they head back to the West and the start of a two-game home stand against the Galena Pirates on Tuesday, Jan. 16 and Freeport Aquin. The Bulldogs are the best in the North. They are 7-0 in head-to-head battles and have only lost three games all season. Aquin and Pearl City face off next Saturday. A meeting with Dakota two days later helps move through the brief journey in the North.

The first month of 2018 will close close with three West meetings, with three teams in the hunt with Pearl City. On Jan. 25 East Dubuque visits and on Jan. 27 the Lady Wolves start a two-game swing with River Ridge/Scales Mound and Stockton on Jan. 30.

February opens with a final look at conference foes, before the field is set for the IHSA Class 1A and 2A Girls' Basketball State Championship Tournament.

Pearl City Technowolves move on to state

On Saturday, Dec. 16, the Pearl City Technowolves Lego League team traveled to Eisenhower Middle School in Rockford, IL for the FLL regional qualifier.

Team members include students from fifth-eighth grades: Cody Pitts, Jordan Johnson, Addison Bremmer, Jayden Downs, Jacob Lieb, Miranda Posey, Jackson Corbin, Natalie Greene, and Kendra Kuhlemeier; they are coached by Mike Tresemer and Sandy Scott. After an exciting day, the team won the following

awards: Project Award for their skit/invention "PharmDetective," a special coaster to detect pharmaceuticals in tap water, and the Highest Table Score Award for completing missions on the tournament table to earn 125 points, all using the student-built and programmed robot. For the first time since the team began about 12 years ago, they qualified to compete at one of the state tournaments to be held in Elgin or Champaign in January, 2018. Congrats to the Technowolves from Pearl City School!



COURTESY PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

The Technowolves pose with a Lego mascot, clockwise from far left: Cody Pitts, Jacob Lieb, Jordan Johnson, Jackson Corbin, Jayden Downs, Natalie Greene, Miranda Posey, Kendra Kuhlemeier, and Addison Bremmer



Technowolves, Miranda Posey, Addison Bremmer, Cody Pitts, Kendra Kuhlemeier, Jacob Lieb, Natalie Greene, Jayden Downs, Jackson Corbin, and Jordan Johnson perform their skit for the "PharmDetective."

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas with family and friends. God decided to dust us with a little snow, and that made everything beautiful. The New Year has begun, and there are some good recipes for winter, Super Bowl entertaining, and weeknight meals.

The first appetizer is for a blue cheese flavored onion dip. I have

had traditional onion dip, which I sometimes get a craving for, but never have I had one with the blue cheese flavor. It is great on vegetables and pita chips.

Blue Cheese Onion Dip

2 C. sour cream
2/3 C. mayonnaise
2 T. onion soup mix
1 garlic clove, minced
1 C. crumbled blue cheese
1/2 C. chopped walnuts or pecans, toasted

Fresh vegetables
Mix the sour cream, mayo, onion soup, and garlic until blended; stir in the cheese. Refrigerate, covered, until flavors are blended, at least 2 hours. To serve, top with nuts and serve with vegetables.

I love spinach artichoke cheese dip, so why not serve it stuffed in mushrooms? They are great as an appetizer, and it looks as if you have been slaving away making them.

Spinach Artichoke Stuffed Mushrooms

3 oz. cream cheese, softened
1/2 C. mayonnaise
1/2 C. sour cream
3/4 t. garlic salt
1 can (14 oz.) water-packed artichoke hearts, rinsed, drained and chopped

1 pkg. (19 oz.) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeeze dry
1/3 C. shredded mozzarella cheese
3 T. shredded Parmesan cheese
30-35 large fresh mushrooms, stems removed

Parmesan cheese to garnish
Preheat the oven to 400. Mix the cream cheese, mayo, sour cream and garlic salt together in a bowl. Stir in artichoke hearts, spinach, mozzarella cheese, and 3 T. Parmesan cheese.

Place the mushrooms on a foil-lined baking sheet, stem side up. Spoon about 1 T. filling into each. Top with additional Parmesan cheese if desired. Bake until mushrooms are tender, 16-20 minutes.

If you have a vegetarian in your family, this soup is great. Just be sure you use the vegetable broth and not the chicken broth. This soup is great with a salad and crusty bread. Put it together the night before in the crockpot liner, put it in the fridge, and put it in the cooker in the morning before leaving for work. Supper is ready 45 minutes after you come home.

Italian Vegetable and Pasta Soup

1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen whole kernel

corn
1 C. chopped onion
1 C. chopped carrots
1 C. halved and sliced small zucchini
2 cloves of garlic, minced
6 C. vegetable broth or chicken broth
1 can (6 oz.) tomato paste with basil, garlic, and oregano
1/2 t. salt
1/2 t. dried basil, crushed
1 pkg. (9 oz.) frozen green beans
1 C. dried tiny shell macaroni
2 T. fresh parsley chopped
2-3 t. finely shredded Parmesan cheese

In a 3 1/2 to 5 quart slow cooker, combine the corn, onion, carrots, zucchini, and garlic. Stir in broth, tomato paste, salt, and basil. Cover and cook on low setting for 7-8 hours or on high for 4 hours. If using low-heat setting, turn to high-heat setting. Stir in frozen green beans and macaroni. Cover and cook for 45 minutes more. Before serving, stir in parsley. Sprinkle each serving with cheese.

This chicken soup is a bit different than just a vegetable chicken soup or a chicken and noodle. The barley makes it just a little heartier. The recipe calls for Savoy cabbage. It is a much milder form of green cabbage in taste. You can substitute green cabbage for the Savoy. If you get a chance to try the Savoy, I think you will like it.

Chicken and Barley Soup

3 T. extra-virgin olive oil
2 carrots, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
2 stalks of celery, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
1/2 C. chopped onions

1/2 small head Savoy cabbage, chopped
2 t. paprika, plus more for topping
4 C. chicken broth
2 1/2 C. chopped rotisserie chicken, skin discarded
1/2 C. quick-cooking barley
1/4 C. sour cream
2 T. chopped fresh dill
Salt and pepper to taste

Heat the olive oil in a medium Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the carrots, celery, and onion and cook, stirring occasionally until the onion softens, about 3-4 minutes. Add the cabbage, paprika, 1/2 t. salt and 1/4 t. pepper and stir to coat. Increase the heat to medium high and cook, stirring often, until the cabbage is wilted and the vegetables start browning, about 4-5 minutes. Add 2 C. water, chicken broth and chopped chicken to the pot; bring to a simmer. Add the barley and cover and simmer until tender, about 10 minutes, season with salt and pepper. Divide the soup among bowls and top with sour cream, dill and paprika.

This easy recipe for a week night supper is great to plan ahead. You use the rotisserie chicken, so the prep time is cut in half. You make it in a pie plate, and some people might call it a quiche; however it is hearty enough for the men in your family.

Chicken Broccoli Bake

2 large eggs
1 C. milk
1/2 C. baking mix (Bisquick)
1/2 t. salt
1/4 t. pepper
4 C. frozen broccoli florets, thawed and drained (about 9 oz.)
1 C. shredded rotisserie chicken,

skin removed
1 small onion, chopped
1/2 C. shredded cheddar cheese, divided

Preheat the oven to 400. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, baking mix, salt, and pepper. Stir in the broccoli, chicken, onion, and 1/4 cup cheese. Transfer to a greased 9-inch pie plate. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake until golden brown and a knife inserted near the center comes out clean, 15-20 minutes. Let casserole stand 10 minutes before serving.

This next recipe is for an easy weeknight dinner that is made right on the stove top. You could cook the pasta and ground beef the night before, so all you have to do is put it together in the skillet.

Stovetop Cheeseburger Pasta

1 pkg. (16 oz.) penne pasta
1 lb. ground beef
1/4 C. butter cubed
1/2 C. flour
2 C. milk
1 1/4 C. beef broth
1 T. Worcestershire
1 t. ground mustard
2 cans (14 1/2 oz. each) diced tomatoes, drained

4 green onions, chopped
3 C. shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese, divided
2/3 C. grated Parmesan cheese, divided

Cook pasta according to the package directions and drain. In a Dutch oven, cook and crumble the beef un-

See KITCHEN, Page 12

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COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Le-Win's Seventh Grade champions

The Lena-Winslow Seventh Grade undefeated basketball team went 23 - 0 to become conference and tournament champions.

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December Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing winners

Winners for the month of December in the Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing are found below. Daily cash prizes between \$50 and \$250 are awarded for 365 days from Oct. 1, 2017 – Sept. 30, 2018 to those donating for a ticket. A ticket can win multiple times throughout the year.

Twelve organizations and five additional subcontracting organizations from JoDaviess, Carroll & Stephenson County sponsor the Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing, a cooperative fundraiser. Sponsoring organizations include: Caring Com-

munity of Elizabeth, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Freeport Dance Team, Galena Music Boosters, Hanover Alumni Association, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters, River Ridge Education Association, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Stockton Strong, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters. Sub-contracting organizations include: Elizabeth Historical Society, Galena Elks Scholarship Committee, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Scales Mound

Travelers and Volunteer Hospice of Northwest Illinois.

NWILDD December 2017 Winners

- 1st . Friday . \$50 – Michael Murphy, Galena
- 2nd . Saturday . \$50 – Marit Peeters, Galena
- 3rd . Sunday . \$50 – Dennis Hancock, Stockton
- 4th . Monday . \$50 – Eric Offenheiser, Stockton
- 5th . Tuesday . \$50 – Mio Vilalobos, Savanna
- 6th . Wednesday . \$50 – Dennis Hancock, Stockton
- 7th . Thursday . \$50 – Steve Rothscald, Pearl City
- 8th . Friday . \$50 – Dennis Story, Galena
- 9th . Saturday . \$50 – Monica Klippert, Hanover
- 10th . Sunday . \$50 – Joe Meade, Thomson
- 11th . Monday . \$50 – Michele Thoren, Elizabeth
- 12th . Tuesday . \$50 – Andrea Linden, Apple River
- 13th . Wednesday . \$50 – Scott & Anne Walker, Denver, CO
- 14th . Thursday . \$50 – Beth Schneider, Pearl City
- 15th . Friday . \$50 – Ted Richmond, Hanover
- 16th . Saturday . \$50 – Ron Farrington, Lena
- 17th . Sunday . \$50 – Ryne Plager, Freeport
- 18th . Monday . \$50 – Brandon Brown, Elizabeth
- 19th . Tuesday . \$50 – Alexander Marcure, Stockton
- 20th . Wednesday . \$50 – Neil Noller, Lena
- 21st . Thursday . \$50 – Brian & Patti Pierce, Stockton
- 22nd . Friday . \$50 – Edith Dwinells, Stockton
- 23rd . Saturday . \$50 – Lucas Bremmer, Pearl City
- 24th . Sunday . \$150 – Dean Robinson, Thomson
- 25th . Monday . \$250 – Pat Tierney, Elizabeth
- 26th . Tuesday . \$50 – Line Kuzniar, Hanover
- 27th . Wednesday . \$50 – Janet Carlson, Galena
- 28th . Thursday . \$50 – Tiffany Vorderstrasse, St Joseph, MO
- 29th . Friday . \$50 – Mary Wild, Hanover
- 30th . Saturday . \$50 – Warren United Methodist Church
- 31st . Sunday . \$50 – Michele Morrison, Freeport

•Obits (Continued from page 2)

rand, IL; Lynnette (Donald) Blasing of Brimfield, IL and Daryl (Linda) Ehredt of Juda, WI. She is also survived by eight grandchildren: Jennifer and Peter Michaelides of Mundelein, IL; Jason and Ellen Blasing of Ashland City, TN; Joyelle Blasing and Jennine Blasing of Peoria, IL; Joylynn Blasing and Jamison Blasing of Brimfield, IL. There were three step-grandchildren: Richard (Shari) Curran of Monroe, WI; Eric (Candy) Curran of Shannon, IL; Jason (Jessie) Curran of Juda, WI. She also had one great-grandchild and seven step-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by: her husband – LeRoy Ehredt who recently passed away on Nov. 5, 2017, her parents – Anton and Margaretha Kehl, and a sister – Lucille who died at the age of six years old.

Lois was a woman with a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ and demonstrated this through her prayers and love for her family. She lovingly cared for her husband, LeRoy, in their home during the final years of his life. She enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She regularly attend-

•Rating

(Continued from page 4)

helps empower patients to understand health care performance through a truly objective lens.

“The information collected by Medicare is evidence-driven and quantifiable. The database includes every hospital in the nation, but users can localize the information simply by entering their zip code. It speaks to real life patient experiences and outcomes. It also includes survey results, which offer patients an influential platform from which to evaluate their experience. It’s available to the public while keeping hospitals informed, motivated and accountable to the people who are trusting them with their health care,” said Hardacre.

ed the Cedarville Emmanuel Church.

There will be a visitation on Friday, Jan. 12, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Hermann Funeral Home in Pearl City. The funeral service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 10:30 a.m. at Cedarville Emmanuel Church in Cedarville with a visitation beginning at 9:30. Interment will take place at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport following the service. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

MARCIA HAVENS

Marcia Havens, age 59, of Elizabeth, Illinois, passed away Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018 at Mercy Medical Center in Dubuque, Iowa. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the United Methodist Church in Elizabeth. Burial will take place in St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery in Elizabeth. Visitation was Jan. 9, at Law-Jones Funeral in Elizabeth. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Safe Haven Humane Society in Elizabeth or University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center in Marcia’s memory. Family and friends are invited to share in Marcia’s life at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Marcia was born on June 6, 1958, the daughter of Irvin L. and Dorothy (Wickler) Stadel in Freeport, Illinois. She attended Elizabeth High School. Marcia worked at the Elizabeth Nursing Home as a cook for 40 years.

Marcia enjoyed going for car rides and eating out especially when she had retired. Most of all, Marcia treasured the time she spent with family especially her two grandchildren and her cat Ozzy.

Marcia is survived by her daughter,

Kelli (Dean) Vielhuber of Columbia City, Indiana; son, Cole (Katie) Havens of Elizabeth; two grandchildren, Piper and Levi Havens; brother, Jeffrey (Connie) Stadel of Lena, Illinois; two nieces and a nephew. Marcia was preceded in death by her parents.



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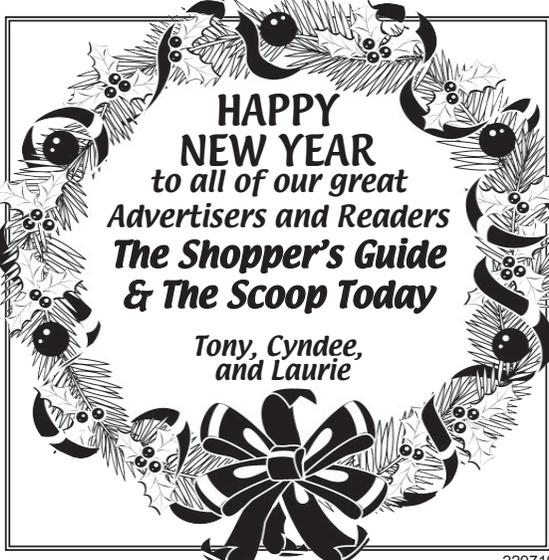
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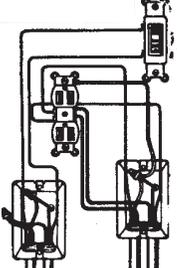
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FROZEN DRINK MACHINE! Used SaniServ A4011N Soft Serve Ice Cream, Frozen Yogurt, Smoothie, and Frozen Drink Machine, **\$1,500 OBO.** Originally bought to use as a soft serve ice cream machine, but Pressures are set for Slush or smoothie

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til no longer pink. Remove from the pan and drain.

In a skillet, melt butter over low heat, stir in flour until smooth. Cook until lightly browned, about 2-3 minutes. Slowly add the milk and broth, Worcestershire sauce and mustard. Cook and stir until thickened. Stir in tomatoes, and simmer, covered, for 5 minutes. Stir in onions, pasta and beef; heat through. Stir in half of each cheese. Place in serving bowl or platter and sprinkle with remaining cheeses.

If you like coconut, you will love these no-bake layer bars. Enjoy the bars that taste like Almond Joy

Bars—you use the candy bars for garnish.

Chocolate-Coconut Layer Bars

¾ C. butter, cubed
 3 C. Oreo cookie crumbs
 2 C. coconut
 ½ C. cream of coconut
Filling:

½ C. butter, softened
 2 T. cream of coconut
 ¼ t. coconut extract
 3 C. powdered sugar
 1-2 T. milk

Topping:
 1½ C. semisweet chocolate chips
 4 t. canola oil

3 Mounds candy bars, coarsely chopped (optional)

Microwave butter on high until melted, stir until smooth. Stir in cookie crumbs, coconut and cream of coconut until blended--mixture will be set. Spread onto the bottom of an ungreased 9 x 13 pan. Refrigerate until set, about 30 minutes.

Filling: beat butter, cream of coconut and extract until smooth. Gradually beat in powdered sugar and enough milk to reach a spreading consistency. Spread over the crust.

Topping: microwave chocolate chips and oil until melted, stir until

smooth. Cool slightly and spread over the filling. Sprinkle with chopped candy bars. Refrigerate.

These easy snickerdoodle bars make a small pan, so you aren't stuck with lots of bars left. They are yummy cinnamon and sugar bars that are easy to make with all of the ingredients in your cupboards.

Snickerdoodle Blondie Bars

1 C. butter, softened
 2 C. packed brown sugar
 3 t. vanilla extract
 2 large eggs
 2 2/3 C. flour

2 t. baking powder
 1 t. cinnamon
 ¼ t. nutmeg
 ½ t. salt
Topping:
 1½ t. sugar
 ½ t. cinnamon

Preheat the oven to 350. Cream the butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in vanilla and eggs, one at a time. In another bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, spices and salt; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Spread into a greased 9-inchesquare pan. Mix the topping ingredients and sprinkle over the top. Bake until set and golden brown, 35-40 minutes. Cool completely in the pan on a wire rack. Cut into bars.

I mentioned before Christmas that I will be taking a break. By the time this column comes out, I hope I am recuperating from my surgery. I am looking forward to a better 2018 with less pain and more energy. Thank you for all the good wishes after my last surgery. I am looking for some winter recipes and appetizers for the New Year, some good winter soups, and recipes for a Super Bowl Party because I am hopeful that I will be back writing in time for you to use them.

If you have any new, old or interesting 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@rvpublising.com.

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LEGALS

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION

Public Notice is hereby given that on **December 18, 2017**, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephenson County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: **Outlier Custom Fabrication** located at **566 Cedar Creek Rd., Freeport, IL 60132.**

Dated December 18, 2017
 VICI R. OTTE
 Stephenson County Clerk
 by **NICOLE L. SHERE**
 Deputy

(Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Dec. 27, 2017,
 Jan 3 & 10, 2018)