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VOL. 84 • NO. 1 YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2018

A piece of Stockton history fades to oblivion

By John Day
CORRESPONDENT

All across America bits and pieces of our collective history are lost each day. Old school houses, municipal buildings, once lavish apartment buildings and other structures fall into a state of disrepair and begin to crumble. Time, weather and neglect are the greatest enemies of these old buildings. These pieces of history are not the birthplace of some famous person or a battle field where an epic struggle took place. The bits of history we lose are the buildings, bridges or factories that were once an everyday part of the lives of those that had come and gone before us. For many of these grand old buildings time has begun to run out.

Dales Opera House in Stockton is a turn of the century structure that looms over Front Street. Inside, the floors creak loudly now as they have begun to bow. Parts of an old metal fire escape on an exterior wall is coming apart. The strength of the roof is questionable at best. The red brick walls have begun to buckle. Today, bright orange barricade fencing stretches from the curb to the corners of the building forcing passersby to avoid walking too closely along the front of the building in the event that bricks or other loose parts begin falling.

Bruce Marcure, the latest owner of the property is planning to demolish the building early in 2018. Marcure said, "I'm afraid that there's just no saving it. The cost of rebuilding the buckling walls, to prevent their falling down, is remarkable. There's a lot of issues with interior structural safety as well."

Marcure has been in the construction business his entire adult life. Having built houses, garages, commercial buildings and everything else associated with the trades he has an understanding of the limitations of renovation projects. Marcure said, "In the end it comes down to money. How much can you invest in a project like this? Eventually, you begin spending money that you'll never be

able to recover."

Warren Dixon who has done extensive research into the history of Stockton said, "Stephen Dales built the opera house in 1898. During the buildings lifetime, in addition to being a theatre, it housed a roller rink, bowling alley, archery range and a movie house showing silent films. In the late 1950's it was turned into an apartment building."

The opera house was a solid brick three story building. The face of the first floor opened into a lobby, business section, ticket booths and an entry way to the first level of theatre seating. The second and a part of the third levels were the balcony seating with a once stunning tin ceiling overhead. At the back of the building was a magnificent stage with a proscenium arch. The inner edge of the arch over the stage had been retro fitted with electric bulbs after the theatres lighting system was converted from gas to electric. The floor of the raised stage had been fitted with an escape, a door to allow actors to disappear when such an effect was needed.

Viewing the stage from the area where balcony seating once spread across the interior it's easy to imagine what it must have been like sitting there with gaslight flickering. Thoughts of Ford's theatre and Lincoln come to mind. The viewer might think that a performance of The Phantom of the Opera is about to begin. Some may think of what the Iroquois Theatre disaster of 1903 in Chicago must have been like. In fact, Marcure had pointed out charred floor joists underneath the stage where a long ago fire had once come close to destroying the building.

On both sides of the stage narrow curved stairways lead to small windowless rooms that were the places where actors "waited in the wings." The spaces were dressing rooms and off stage waiting areas. Holding a flashlight to the wall, Marcure pointed out some early 20th century graf-

See HISTORY, Page 15



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

AFS/International Club

River Ridge High School students who are part of the AFS/International Club hosted the exchange students in their homes for the weekend as part of their annual International Weekend which coincides with International Education Week.

Back Row: Xavier Herrera (Mexico), Shalini Sharma (India), Remy Grange (Switzerland), Edgar Cardenas (Colombia), Nanna Winkel (Denmark), Kilian Jung (Germany)

Middle Row: Marco Tomassi (Italy), Dana Hansen (Germany), Alec Coles (South Africa), Ella Holm (Sweden) Giulia Ice Sutthapan (Thailand)

Front Row: Sarah Wei (China) Hannah Wang (China), Valeria Tedone (Italy) Shad Ayoub (Palestine), Delia Giorgio (Switzerland)

Floor: Ku Thivakorakot (Thailand).

Ku Thivakorakot and Ice Sutthapan both wearing traditional clothing from Thailand, explained the significance of their flag to students, parents, and members of the local Adult Chapter of AFS during an evening program and talent show. Story on page 12



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Stockton American Legion and Boy Scout Troop 31 fund raiser

Stockton American Legion Post 449 and Boy Scout Troop 31 are holding a fund raiser during January. The Post and Troop will be taking orders for pasties, a pot pie type meal made with meat and vegetables all wrapped in a delicious dough. The pasties weigh 12 oz, and are made in Crystal Falls, MI on the Upper Peninsula. They will come frozen and require 60 minutes of baking at 350 degrees. Listed below are the different pasties offered and their main ingredients.

Beef - ground beef, potatoes, carrots, onions and spices

Beef and pork - ground beef, pork, potatoes, rutabaga, carrots, onions and spices

Cornish - ground beef, pork, potatoes, onions, carrots and spices

Italian pork - pork, potatoes, diced red peppers, onions, fennel seeds and spices

Chicken - Skinless ground chicken, potatoes, onions carrots, celery and spices

Vegetable - Potatoes, onions, car-

rots, broccoli, cauliflower, cheddar cheese and spices

Mexican - Beef taco meat, refried beans, potatoes, onions, garlic, red peppers

The Post will be taking orders at the post home located at 128 E. Front Street on Saturday, Jan. 13 and 20, from 9 a.m. to noon. Pasties can also be ordered through the scouts from Troop 31. The pasties will be available for pick up on Sunday, Jan. 28, from noon to 3 p.m. Pasties will cost \$5 each, payable at time of order. If you have any questions please call Mike Beatty at 947-2987.

Warren School District recognizes State Scholars

Warren Jr. / Sr. High School had four students recently named Illinois State Scholars. They include Rebecca Raab, Anna Riedl, Abigail Schick, and Mason Woodley.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

Scales Mound students Jess, Parker, Matt, Connor, Cameron prepare a noon meal by cutting up 100 pounds of potatoes that would be served during lunch and dinner.

Scales Mound students develop food insecurity understanding

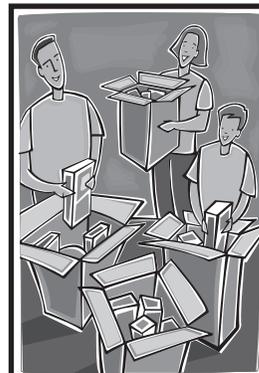
How to develop an understanding of food insecurity when feeling hungry means you got home late from ball practice? That was a question I pondered while planning a unit on poverty and food insecurity for the high school cultural geography class. The unit included reading ar-

ticles, watching videos, analyzing obstacles on how to address food insecurity in our world and discussing what can we do to help people in need. To bring closure to the unit students spent a day volunteering at the Dubuque Rescue Mission.

Students helped prep the noon

meal by cutting up 100 pounds of potatoes that would be served during lunch and dinner. Other students worked in the mission store straightening clothes and shelves or creating attractive displays of donated items for sale. The main activity of the day was serving lunch to the men and women who came to the mission for a hot meal. Usually the mission serves around 80 people at each meal, serving three meals daily.

A student questioned how is it determined who is in need of the free meal being offered. A good discussion took place about personal need, how is it determined when someone is in need, do people take advantage of free offerings. The day was a great eye opening experience for the students.



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Thank You

Words can't express the gratitude we (The Wiegman Family) feel for our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, church & community members, and area businesses that have supported us during this difficult time. Our hearts are overflowing with so much love and prayers.

We are so fortunate to have the love of our Wiegman and Bottigliero families as well as the support of our extended families and friends around us as we remember and lay to rest our Angel Natalie Marcella Wiegman.

We would like to express our heartfelt Thank You to everyone for the kind words, cards, flowers, gifts, visits, food, thoughts, prayers, and memorials during this time.

Special thanks to Casey's Funeral Home, Father Bernie Rott & the church community, Mercy Hospital / Medical Associates & their staff, Weber Meats, Gile Cheese, Thompson's IGA, and the florists' for the beautiful arrangements, all who helped with the funeral services, music, pictures, and set-up & clean up for the luncheon.

Thank you for making a difficult time a little more bearable.

May God Bless. With love: Ed, Rita, Josephine, and Natalie

304384

Adventure into the New Year

Sounding out to the Warren community and surrounding areas is a call for adventure and fun! A game night will be held at the Warren Township Public Library on Friday, Jan. 12, at 6. until 8 p.m. We will provide snacks and games such as Dungeons & Dragons and Werewolf, with Cards Against Humanity available to those who prefer something a bit simpler.

We request that participants be aged teen and up, with participants interested in Cards against Humanity 17+ due to the nature of the game. The Warren Township Public Library is located at 210 Burnett Ave., Warren, Illinois, and librarians can be reached at 815-745-2076.

New Illinois bicycle traffic laws go into effect January 1

Three new Illinois bicycle traffic laws will go into effect January 1. The most notable change in traffic law will allow drivers to pass bicycles in a no-passing zone in order to improve cyclist safety and traffic flow on the road. Under certain conditions when it's safe to do so, it will be legal for drivers to cross the a solid no-passing centerline into the oncoming lane in order to pass a cyclist by at least three feet, the minimum legal clearance.

The new legislation also officially legalizes bicycling on road shoulders, a common safety practice of cyclists, and allows cyclists to use a rear tail light instead of the legally required rear reflector when bicycling at night.

The traffic bill, House Bill 1784, was proposed by Ride Illinois, a non-profit bicycle advocacy organization dedicated to improving bicycling conditions and safety throughout the state. Filed back in January, HB1784 was sponsored and led through the General Assembly by State Rep. Tim Butler of Springfield and State Sen. Heather Steans of Chicago. The legislation unanimously passed both chambers in May, and was signed

into law by the governor in September. The new legislation goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2018.

"This new legislation legalizes some common motorist and bicyclist traffic practices," said Ed Barsotti, Ride Illinois' Chief Programs Officer. "The intent is to make the roads safer while improving car-bicycle interactions."

Long no-passing zones on two-lane roads commonly present a problem for drivers trying to legally pass a bicyclist with at least three feet of clearance. The travel lanes of most roads lack the width needed for drivers to safely and legally pass a cyclist with at least three feet of clearance while staying within the lane.

In this common situation, most motorists do cross solid centerlines to pass cyclists anyway. However, some drivers choose to pass the cyclist too closely to obey the no-passing zone, and in doing so, illegally squeeze by within the same, too-narrow lane - a scary maneuver sometimes leading to sideswipe crashes. For long no-passing zones, those drivers obeying both the no-passing zone and the three-foot passing law may not be able to pass a bicycle for

a long time.

Under the new law, a motorist may overtake and pass to the left of a bicycle in a no-passing zone when: (1) the bicycle is traveling at a speed of less than half of the posted speed limit; (2) the driver is able to overtake and pass the bicycle without exceeding the posted speed limit; and (3) there is sufficient distance to the left of the centerline. The driver must also pass with at least three feet clearance of the bicycle - a distance mandated by state law.

The new legislation also legalizes bicycling on shoulders, a common safety practice of biking. Illinois law largely restricts vehicles driving on a shoulder, with some specified exceptions (e.g. farm tractors and equipment), and the new law adds bicycles to the list of exceptions. Having this legal clarity will benefit cyclists as well as road agencies desiring to sign or otherwise designate bicycle routes having paved shoulders. Bicycling on shoulders is not required, however, as there are situations for which cyclists should not ride on a shoulder.

The last provision of the new legislation will allow cyclists to use a rear, red tail light instead of (or in ad-

dition to) the currently required rear, red reflector when bicycling at night. Today's improved bicycle light technology has much greater visibility than reflectors, and many bicyclists

solely use rear lights already. Eight states and the City of Chicago already allow either a light or reflector in their vehicle code, and Illinois will join the group beginning Jan. 1.

University of Illinois Extension Educators recognized for Small Farms Webinar Series

University of Illinois Extension Educators that serve Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties were recognized on a statewide level by University of Illinois Extension for their contributions to the Small Farms Winter Webinar series.

"The webinar series lets Extension Educators cover a particular topic for new and experienced fruit, vegetable, livestock, and other farmers," states Grant McCarty, Local Foods and Small Farms Extension Educator and one of the educators recognized for his contributions. "Many of the topics are those that have been presented in person locally but were

modified to be delivered statewide during the winter."

Each week, a Local Foods and Small Farms Educator, Horticulture Educator, or Energy and Environmental Stewardship Educator presents a different topic. Participants throughout the Midwest view these free webinars via their computer.

Along with McCarty, Jay Solomon, Energy and Environmental Stewardship Educator, and Candice Hart, Horticulture Educator, were recognized for the Team Excellence Award presented on November 30th at the University of Illinois Extension Annual Conference in Champaign.

Join FHN's Get FiTeam Challenge and boost your health in 2018

FHN's Get FiTeam Challenge is back for 2018! For just \$25 a person, teams of four can compete with other teams in a 12-week health and fitness program aimed at helping participants develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Prizes for winning teams include gift certificates to Hibbett Sports and Shopko.

The challenge officially begins Jan. 14, after all participants have had a chance to get a baseline screening to note height, weight, BMI, blood pressure, and cholesterol levels. (Final screenings will be held Saturday, Jan. 13, and there will not be "make up" screening dates.) Participants also will receive a Get FiTeam t-shirt at their baseline screening.

Throughout the challenge, teams will have access to healthy recipes,

health-related events and trial memberships at area health and fitness clubs. Teams will earn points for exercise, drinking enough water, and eating five servings of fruits and vegetables a day.

Prizes will be awarded throughout the challenge, and at the end of the competition, up to six teams will have a chance at grand prizes. Each participant in the team that has the largest percent of weight loss will win a \$250 gift certificate to Hibbett Sports, and the team that earns the most challenge points will get a \$250 gift certificate to Shopko for each team member.

For more information on FHN's Get FiTeam Challenge or to register, visit getfit.fhn.org. You can keep up with the challenge by Liking Get FiTeam Challenge on Facebook.



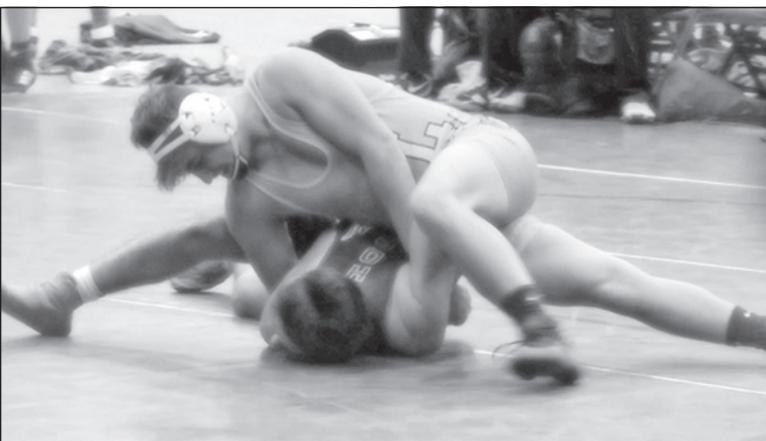
KAYLEE KUEHL PHOTOS

The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

PantherHawk wrestling

With another in a series of big wins, the Lena-Winslow/Stockton wrestlers can no longer slip under the Northwest Illinois wrestling radar.

PantherHawk wrestler Elijah Rowe seals the deal for the Lena-Winslow coop wrestling program at last week's Abe's Rumble tourney.



Lena-Winslow/Stockton PantherHawk wrestler Rahveon Valentine bests his opponent during last weekend's Abe's Rumble in Springfield.



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VIEWPOINT

USDA promises new SNAP flexibilities to promote self-sufficiency

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is promising increased cooperation with states in the operation of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to promote self-sufficiency, integrity in the program, and better customer service. To make these improvements, USDA intends to offer state agencies greater local control over SNAP, the safety net program that serves millions of eligible, low-income individ-

uals and families. Specifics on such flexibilities will be communicated to state agencies in the coming weeks.

"SNAP was created to provide people with the help they need to feed themselves and their families, but it was not intended to be a permanent lifestyle," said Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. "As a former Governor, I know first-hand how important it is for states to be given flexibility to achieve the desired goal

of self-sufficiency for people. We want to provide the nutrition people need, but we also want to help them transition from government programs, back to work, and into lives of independence."

The broad outlines of the coming flexibilities aimed at transitioning people into independence were described today by Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services Acting Deputy Under Secretary and Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Administrator Brandon Lipps to state human services officials as part of a meeting of the Secretaries' Innovation Group (SIG). SIG is a membership organization of state human service and workforce secretaries who share innovations and push for national solutions which favor healthy families, work, economic self-reliance, budget responsibility, and limited government.

The pledge to provide greater local control to help people achieve self-sufficiency echoed themes Lipps expressed in a letter (PDF, 527 KB) to all state SNAP commissioners last week. Lipps' letter listed the areas the new flexibilities will address:

Self-Sufficiency - The American dream has never been to live on government benefits. People who can work, should work. We must facilitate the transition for individuals and families to become independent, specifically by partnering with key stakeholders in the workforce development community and holding our recipients accountable for personal responsibility.

Integrity - We must ensure our programs are run with the utmost integrity. We will not tolerate waste, fraud, or abuse from those who seek to undermine our mission or who do not take their responsibility seriously.

Customer Service - Together, we must ensure that our programs serve SNAP participants well. In order to achieve a high degree of customer service, we at FNS must also provide States the flexibility to test new and better ways to administer our programs, recognizing that we are all accountable to the American taxpayer for the outcomes.

"We believe states are laboratories of innovation and seek to learn from you what works and what does not,"

Lipps wrote. "As necessary to address each of these focus areas, we will allow greater state flexibility in areas that do not increase costs to taxpayers or our various partners on the ground."

As FNS announces specific new flexibilities for promoting independence in the coming weeks, the agency will also continue to welcome additional ideas from the states that improve program integrity and best serve the participant and the American taxpayer. Guided by Secretary Perdue's direction to "do right and feed everyone," FNS will engage all relevant stakeholders throughout this process.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service administers 15 nutrition assistance programs that include the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and the Summer Food Service Program. Together, these programs comprise America's nutrition safety net. For more information, visit www.fns.usda.gov.

2017 Jo Daviess Christmas Bird Count results

On Dec. 19, 19 members of the Eagle Nature Foundation and the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation conducted the 54th Jo Daviess County National Audubon Society Christmas Count with six teams counting 3026 birds of 43 different species. The most common birds counted were 606 Starlings, 413 House Sparrows, 282 Canadian Geese, and 221 Crows. This count has been conducted every year since 1964 and Terrence Ingram has been the compiler.

The weather was mild, but that does not account for the fact that many bird species, which have during the past few years been killed by our current farming practices, which are killing the birds either by starvation or poisoning. There were almost no birds seen near the commercial corn and soybean fields. Woodland areas away from these commercial farm fields continued to have some of the birds which these counts have recorded in the past.

Commercial farmers have removed their fence lines which used to have shrubs, trees and plants, which were used by many species of birds for food and shelter. Many birds migrate into these areas, but are killed by the poisons left on the

plants from the summer sprays. So these new birds are seen for a short time, but soon disappear. In past years these birds could be seen in these areas almost all winter.

There is some concern that birds are also being killed from eating the contaminated food that is being fed to them in bird feeders. We know now that Roundup is being used as a desiccant on black sunflower plants before they are harvested, so glyphosate may still be on the seeds that are being fed to the birds. Feeder watchers have witnessed species such as Cardinals, Blue Jays, Doves, and sparrows gradually disappear from their feeders to be replaced by new ones.

Two thirds of the teams did not see a single Cardinal this year. Blue Jays were also very low in numbers as well as larks, juncos and Tree Sparrows. Eight species were only seen by one team out of six. Five species were only seen by two teams and five species were only seen by three teams. Only 13 species were seen by all six teams. The areas near the open farm fields had no birds, not a few,

See RESULTS, Page 6

Governor hears from farmers on agricultural advances, community needs

Gov. Bruce Rauner met last week with farmers at a southern Illinois roundtable to learn more about efforts to thwart nutrient loss and advanced agriculture production and management, and to hear about the effects of policy decisions on agri-business.

"Agriculture is not just our largest industry; it is Illinois' most important legacy," Rauner said. "That is why it is so important that we remain responsive to the people who own the state's 72,200 farms. We need their businesses to thrive and we need to help them grow by encouraging innovation and education."

The farmers and Rauner gathered at Big Prairie Farms, a 5,000-acre operation in Carmi owned by Kent and Melissa Williams. Carmi is located along the Little Wabash River in southeastern Illinois.

"It is exciting to see Governor Rauner reaching out to learn more about what is going on in agriculture in southern Illinois," Kent Williams said. "As with most farmers, I see the governor's agenda as a sense of hope for improvement and better things to come for Illinois."

About 26.7 million acres, or roughly 75 percent of the state's land total, are farmed in Illinois. The state is a leading producer of soybeans, corn and swine. And Illinois ranks third nationally in the export of agricultural commodities, with \$8.2 billion worth of goods shipped to other countries annually, according to the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Those gathered at Big Prairie Farms heard from White and Wayne County Farm Bureau Director Doug

Anderson and Michael Wilson from Wabash Valley Service Co., who showcased a recent study of nutrient loss in field tile.

The governor toured the Big Prairie Farms operation, where the Williamses use state-of-the-art technology and equipment to manage their crops and their business. The farm is White County's largest producer of soft red wheat.

Farmers in attendance at today's roundtable ran the gamut from small-

er-scale operators with side businesses to members of multigenerational farm families, a female farmer, a turkey producer and more.

"Agriculture is at the heart of our economy," said Rauner, who earlier this year declared a harvest emergency to help speed crop transportation after rain delays affected both planting and harvest. "My administration will continue to fight for a business climate that supports farmers and bolsters Illinois' economy."

Duckworth calls for investments in infrastructure, not giveaways for millionaires

At a recent Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee hearing, U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) questioned several key officials from the transportation industry about the critical need to upgrade America's rapidly aging infrastructure systems. She also called into question President Trump and Congressional Republicans' push for a tax reform bill that provides wealthy Americans and large corporations with tax cuts at the expense of the middle class instead of working to provide much-needed funding to modernize the country's transportation systems.

"My concern is that the President has secured now a \$1.5 trillion tax cut that is geared toward large corporations and the ultra-wealthy," Duckworth said at the hearing. "I hope that we can finally see the details of

President Trump's plan to rebuild our aging infrastructure. Unfortunately, the President and his allies have prioritized a trickle-down shell game over building up the middle class through the proven economic engine of infrastructure investment."

At the hearing, Duckworth also reiterated her call for President Trump to reveal his long-awaited plan that will overhaul and invest in America's infrastructure and transportation systems. This past October, Duckworth joined Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) and the Democratic members of the EPW Committee in asking the Trump Administration to finally reveal its infrastructure investment plan. However, the Trump Administration has yet to announce any infrastructure proposals that would fulfill the President's frequent campaign promise.

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ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

AGNES L. SCHLICK

Agnes L. Schlick, 92, of Freeport, formerly of Lena, IL passed away on Friday, Dec. 29, 2017 at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. She was born on Nov. 4, 1925 in Wheaton, IL to Fred and Otilia (Armbrust) Boerner. Agnes married John Schlick on Sept. 25, 1948 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Wheaton. In 1971, they moved to the Lena area, where she farmed alongside her husband John. She loved gardening, canning, and caring for the chickens. Agnes was a great cook, baking delicious bread and cakes. They retired from the farm in 1984. She was a past member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lena, and a current member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Freeport.



Agnes is survived by her children Fred (Mary) Schlick of Wheaton, Pauline (Rich) Carr of Freeport, Barbara (Lloyd) Wubbena of Shannon; four grandchildren Conor and Brian Schlick, Alicia (Matt) Wagner, and Adam (Whitney) Miller; three great-grandchildren Ava and Mya Wagner, and Cole Miller.

A visitation will be from 3-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, and again from 10 a.m. until time of services on Friday, Jan. 5, at St. Mark Catholic Church in Wheaton.

A mass of Christian burial will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 5, at St. Mark Catholic Church in Wheaton, IL.

Burial will be at St. John the Baptist Cemetery in Winfield, IL. Rev. Father Andrew Lewandowski will officiate the services.

A memorial has been established in her name.

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

DANIEL "BARNEY" K. REYNOLDS

Daniel "Barney" K. Reynolds, 64 of Lena passed away on Dec. 26, 2017 at his home in Lena surrounded by his loving family. Daniel was born on Sept. 11, 1953 in Dubuque, Iowa the son of Carl and Dorothy VanLent Reynolds. In 1979, He married Lissia Brown and joyfully welcomed a son, McAllister into their life. In 1992, he met Jeanette Koehler who became his loving partner until his passing. They enjoyed many happy years together living in Lena.



Daniel was employed for over 20 years by Pearl City Elevator until semi-retiring in 2015 and then work-

ing part-time for Coaches' Golf and Grill. He loved to mow and maintain the golf course. He was a very avid deer hunter and was always happiest "in the stand" often sitting dawn to dusk. Besides hunting, Barney enjoyed playing golf, trapping and playing cards with an occasional fishing trip thrown in.

Survivors include his son Mack Reynolds of New Glarus; his long time partner Jeanette Koehler of Lena; His father Carl (Billie) Reynolds of Monroe; his siblings- Doug Reynolds, Dave (Sue) Reynolds, Sharon Brinkmeier, and Steve (Barb) Reynolds all of Apple River, Tim (Nancy) Reynolds and Jeff (Laura) Reynolds of Warren, Melissa (Steve) Guth, Jackie (Jim) Fero, Casey Reynolds and Corry (Katie) Reynolds all of Wisconsin; Jeanette's children Leonard (Nora) Koehler of Lena, daughter-in-law Karen Koehler of Monroe, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother Dorothy Reynolds and Jeanette's son Larry Koehler in May 27, 2017.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL.

Father Michael Morrissey will officiate the services.

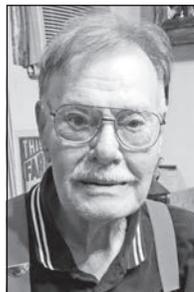
Burial will be at St. Josephs Cemetery in Apple River.

A memorial has been established in his name.

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

DELBERT KLUCK

Delbert Kluck, 79, of Loran, died on Dec. 25, 2017 after a long battle with prostate cancer. His final days were spent at the Stephenson Nursing Center surrounded by his family and friends. He was born on Oct. 8, 1938 to Dale and Virginia (Akins) Kluck. He married Janna Haan on Dec. 20, 1970.



He is survived by his wife; Janna of 47 years, two sons; Justin (Tina) of Kent, Nathan (Melissa) of Freeport, and daughter; Sarah of Pearl City.

five grandsons; Howie and Dustin Kluck, Alexander and Zackarey McDearmon, and Seth Mekeel, Brother; Donald (Janet) of Lena, sisters-in-law; Dora Kluck of Lake Summerset, and Paulette (Dan) Stitzel of Lanark, brother-in-law; Alvin (Kim) Haan of Chadwick, and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his; parents, Dale and Virginia Kluck, son; Christopher Lee Kluck, two brothers; Marsden (Sandy) Kluck and Raymond Kluck, two sisters; Janice Kay

and Jacqueline, father and mother-in-law Alex and Harriet Haan, brother-in-law; Leon (Mary) Haan.

Delbert was a charter member of Stephenson County Antique Engine Club, a member of the Freeport Moose Lodge #162 and Northwest Legion #57, where he earned his Fellowship Degree, and a member of the First United Methodist Church in Pearl City. His love for farming (especially milking cows) led him to his interest in IH Tractors. Delbert enjoyed spending time with his kids and grandsons, at sporting events and tractor pulls. He also enjoyed participating in tractor pulls and toy shows. His prize tractor belonged to his father, a 1940 Farmall M, which he and his sons restored, and he collected numerous model toys, tractors, and machinery. Delbert attended Lena High School, but volunteered for the draft, before graduating. He served in the Army from 1957-1959 in Germany at the same time as Elvis Presley with whom he was acquainted. Delbert farmed for several years and then he was employed by Newell Window Furnishings, and later by Thompsons Pearl Valley Eggs until his retirement.

Funeral services were held Dec. 30, at the First United Methodist Church, Pearl City.

Visitation was Dec. 29, at the Leamon Funeral Home, Lena.

Burial will be at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens, Freeport, IL.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his name.

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

ELEANOR JACOBSON

Eleanor Jacobson, 99, formerly of Glen Ellyn and Chicago, IL passed away on Christmas. Eleanor was born on July 9, 1918 in Chicago the daughter of John Ogurek and Laura Bartoli. She was a graduate of Tuley High School in Chicago. Eleanor married Paul Jacobson in Chicago on July 10, 1937. She had her own real estate company at Apple Canyon Lake. She was the president of the Jo Davies east MLS and Woman of the year for Apple Canyon Lake. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic

Church and served many years as an usher.

Survivors include her sons: Paul (Stevie Clark) Jacobson of Lake Forest, IL, Roy (Catherine) Jacobson of Paradise Valley, AZ, one grandson, eight granddaughters, seven great-grandchildren, two step grandchildren, four step great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, sister and brother.

A mass of Christian burial was held Dec. 29, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Apple River, IL.

Burial was at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Apple River, IL.

Father Andrew Skorbutt performed the services.

A memorial has been established in her name.

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

GENEVA A. STADEL

Geneva A. Stadel, age 86, of Lena, passed away Saturday, Dec. 23, 2017 at the Lena Living Center. She was born in Thompson, IL on Aug. 2, 1931 to the late Cecil and Josephine (Sour) Imel. Geneva married Dale Stadel on Sept. 14, 1957 in Lanark, IL.



She was a 1949 Graduate of Mouth Carroll High School and farmed with her husband in Stockton until retiring to Lena. She was a dedicated member of Calvary United Methodist Church and Calvary Methodist Women and served as membership secretary. Geneva was a member of the Stockton Women's Cub, was very active with Home Extension including the Eureka Unit for 45 years and county offices, as well as supporting events such as Market Days in Galena. She also participated in Good Sam Camping Club, Rural Youth, and a Square-Dancing team. She enjoyed traveling, gardening, sewing, needle work and was an exceptional baker.

After she and Dale sold their Guernsey cows, she took on other challenges such as getting the less fortunate access to home heating, helped seniors, and worked at Swiss Colony and Sears.

Geneva is survived by her husband, Dale of Lena; her two daughters, Joetta Stadel of Seattle, WA and Renee (Robert) Stadel Napper of Burbank, CA; and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Warren Imel; and sister, Betty Lartz.

A memorial service was held Dec. 30, at Calvary United Methodist Church in Stockton IL and her family received visitors before the service. Burial will occur at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the Calvary United Methodist Church. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

FHN calendar of events

Jan. 8

Living Through Grief 6 - 7:30 p.m.
FHN Memorial Hospital Cafeteria Dining Rooms - Lower Level
For more information, call 815-599-7240.

Jan. 10

Blood Pressure Screening 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, 625 County Lane, Lena
No cost or registration required; open to the public.

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Saturday 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
815-369-4974

WARREN HOURS:
Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
815-745-2294

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SUPPLEMENTS

Abraham Lincoln visits Lena-Winslow Elementary

George Buss, local Lincoln reenactor, entertained and educated students with his engaging portrayal of our nation's 16th president. Mr. Buss was successful in bringing Lincoln to life through his historically accurate attire, stories, and mannerisms. Students were very excited by the way he was able to talk about events which they had studied in their Social Studies lessons and how he was able to remain in character throughout the experience.

Alyssa Daughenbaugh shared she was very interested in learning more about the Emancipation Proclamation and the many changes it brought to our nation. Danika Dickey agreed, stating that she thought President Lincoln did an excellent job of explaining everything in a way which helped students understand the lessons to be learned from the Civil War. Raeger Sullivan was surprised that he was able to learn new and interesting things about the era that he had not known before. Several students were interested in the more personal side of Lincoln, learning that it was a letter from an eleven year old girl that gave him the impetus to grow his legendary beard. Both Lainey Knoll and Gavin Schiess shared that they thought it was interesting to

think about how medicine has changed since that time period. After learning that Lincoln's mother had died from drinking spoiled milk, they wondered what changes might have happened for Lincoln if he had not lost his mother. Today, antibiotics could have probably saved her, they all agreed.

Learning about the political "stumping" of the time, and how politicians would travel from town to town, giving speeches to the citizenry, Jackson Barrett was surprised to learn that the

first speech ever given by the President was shorter than two hours(!) in length. In comparison, The Gettysburg Address, which was shared by Mr. Lincoln, was written on less than two pages and has provided a lasting legacy to our nation. The students all agreed that having Abraham Lincoln stop in to talk in depth about the era was successful in bringing the experience to life for them. In return, the President was impressed by the depth of knowledge demonstrated by the stu-

dents. He could tell that many of them had read about his life even beyond the information learned at school. He said several students asked him about the letters in his hat and referenced the book, Mr. Lincoln's Hat. He summed up the experience, stating that the questions asked by the students were "stellar"; he could tell the students were not only enjoying the presentation but even more importantly, building real connections, and that is what true learning is all about!



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172881

• Results

(Continued from page 4)

but none at all. The teams had to get away from the farm fields to find any birds. This is not the way it was 40 or 50 years ago, when this count was first conducted.

For many years Mr. Ingram would predict what kind of winter it would be, based on the birds that had been seen on this count. This year the open water allowed several different waterfowl to be counted, but very few summer birds such as Robins were seen. Hardly any winter birds such as Horned Larks or Snow Buntings were seen. Based on what was seen this year, Mr. Ingram predicts we will have an average winter.

St. John's Lutheran Church

The season of the Epiphany begins on Saturday, Jan. 6. Pastor Ekstrand will hold an Epiphany worship service on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. The service will include Holy Communion and the Blessing of the Doors. Then you're invited to join us at St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City for the first Sunday of Epiphany on Sunday, Jan. 7, at 9 a.m. for worship. Following worship, Sunday School and Confirmation will meet at 10:15 a.m. The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet along with the Helping Hands Ministry. At 11 a.m. the SPLAT Youth and Parents will meet in the Youth and Family Center.

The Men's Breakfast will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at Little John's in Pearl City. The deadline for reports for the Annual Book are Jan. 3. The Joy Choir will resume rehearsals at 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 4. 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 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9.

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 mem-

ber of St. John's. Phone and email information below.

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.

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 prshad-min@gmail.com.

Willow/Kent UMC

Willow/Kent UMC will worship together Sunday Jan. 7, at Willow UMC at 9 a.m. Pastor Chuck Wolbers will be bringing the message "HAPPYPHANY NEW YEAR"- (all from the Holy Bible) so you all are invited and welcome and welcome to hear this message. Also to stay for the fellowship following. Bible

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

Willow UMC is located about 7 miles SE of Stockton, IL on Willow Rd. For more info; call Pastor Chuck at (262-308-2379).



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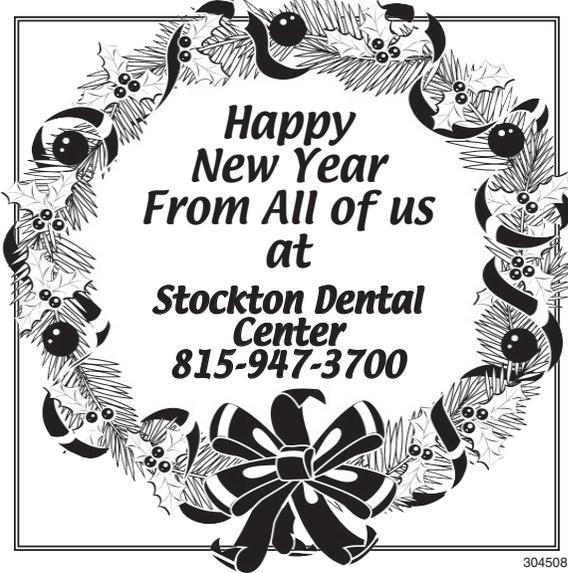


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Our Area Churches Welcome You

APPLE RIVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

102 E. Baldwin St., P.O. Box 188, Apple River, IL 61001
Pastor Libby Rutherford (815) 990-1428
 Church (815) 594-2223
 • *Sunday Worship – 9 a.m.*
 • Bible Study - Every Monday 9 a.m.
Friendly Folks - Casual Attire - Join Us!

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

315 W. Maple St., Stockton, IL 61085
Pastor Jonathan Singleton (815) 947-2414
 E-Mail: calvaryum@yahoo.com
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA STOCKTON

600 N. Main St., Stockton
 Rev. Susan Davenport (815) 947-2033
 E-Mail: clc600@frontier.com
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-Lutheran-Church-Stockton-IL>
 • *Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m.*
 • *Education for all ages*
Sun. 9:00 a.m. September - May
 • *Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.*
 • Confirmation Ministry
 Wednesdays 3:05 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 • Healing Services on 5th Weekends

EBENEZER – SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

P.O. Box 102, Pearl City, IL 61062
Pastor Randy Nicholas • 815-369-4511
Sunday Worship Alternates Monthly At the two churches
Find us on Facebook for location
 • *Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School follows worship*
 • Jan. worship is at Ebenezer-UCC Church
 5421 S. Stone Church Road

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF LENA

720 N. Freedom Street, Lena, IL 61048
Dr. Jim Erb, Pastor (815) 369-5591
Rev. Scott Wilson Associate Pastor of Youth
 • *Sunday Morning Worship – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.*
 • Awana Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
 • Junior & Senior High
 Youth Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
 • Listen to Pastor's weekly sermon at www.lenafreechurch.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

411 S. Main Street, Pearl City, IL 61062
 email: pcumc@aeroinc.net
 Find us on facebook at www.facebook.com/pcumcil
Pastor Matthew Smith (815) 443-2177
 • *Sunday Worship – 8:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – during worship after the children's message*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

309 S. Main Street, Elizabeth, IL 61028
 email: firstumcofelizabeth@gmail.com
Pastor Tiffany Garcea
 • *Sunday Worship - 8:45 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School - 8:00 a.m.*
 • Women's Faith Group -
 1st Tuesday monthly - 9:30 a.m.
We are handicapped accessible
Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/fumcelizabeth

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 East Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048
Pastor Miho Yasukawa
 (815) 369-5552
 • *Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:45 a.m. (Sept. - May)*
 • Piece Corps Quilters –
 Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH OF WOODBINE

1904 S. Vel Tera Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028
Pastor Michael Burdett (815) 858-3843
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*
 • Prayer meeting – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday services broadcasted at 11:30 a.m. on Radio WCCI 100.3 FM

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON

151 S. Main, Stockton, IL 61085
Pastor David McAusland - (815) 947-2986
 • *Sunday Morning Service – 10:00 a.m.*
(Church luncheon following morning service)
 • *Sunday Afternoon Service - 12:30 p.m.*
 • Bible Study & Prayer - Wednesday Evening 6:30 p.m.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

223 E. Front Avenue, Stockton, IL 61085
Father Mike Morrissey (815) 947-2545
 • *Saturday Evening Mass – 4:30 p.m.*
 • *Sunday Mass – 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.*
 • Reconciliation Saturday – 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.
 • Parish Hall for Rent – Seats 200

LENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

118 West Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048
Pastor Keri Rainsberger (815) 369-5291
 • *Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *Daily Dial-A-Devotion 815-369-4411*

McCONNELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 Hulbert Rd. P.O. Box 97, McConnell, IL 61050
<http://www.gbqm-umc.org/mcconnellumc>
mcconnellumc@yahoo.com
 "Like" us on Facebook
Pastor Matthew J. Smith (815) 868-2324
 • *Sunday Family Worship – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *Children's Ministries* Please call church for dates and times
 • United Methodist Women – 1:30 p.m. (1st Wednesday of each month)
 * *We are handicapped accessible*

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

8491 West Salem Road, Lena, IL 61048
 (Turn on Salem Road at Eleroy Rest Stop)
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 • *Adult & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *Bookworms Reading Group - 7:00 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month*

SCHAPVILLE ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

635 East Schapville Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028
Pastor Dottie Morizzo
 (815) 845-2272
 Cell (815) 238-0670
www.schapvillezion.org
 • *Sunday Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*
 • Bible Study Classes Available

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

536 E. Schapville Road, Scales Mound, IL 61054
Pastor Mark Oehlert
 (815) 970-4780 (cell)
 (815) 845-2061 (church)
 • *Sunday Worship – 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School (Sept. – May) – 8:45 a.m.*
 • Holy Communion is celebrated weekly.

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

608 East Railroad, Warren, IL 61087
Father Skrobutt (815) 745-2312
 • *Sunday Mass – 8:00 a.m.*
 • Reconciliation Sunday – 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
 625 Country Lane Drive, Lena, IL 61048
Rev. Rick Bader (815) 369-4035
 • *Saturday Evening Worship – 5:30 p.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.*
 • Blast Program at 9:00 a.m.
 • High School & Adult Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
 229 S. First St., Pearl City, IL 61062
www.stjohnspearlcity.org
Pastor Thomas Ekstrand (815) 443-2215
 • *Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00 a.m.*
 • Christian Education for all Ages - 10:15 a.m.
 Handicapped Accessible

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

8315 S. Massbach Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028
Pastor Lisa Burbank and Pastor Bruce Burbank
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 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*
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ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

105 West Webster, Apple River, IL 61001
Father Skrobutt (815) 745-2312
 • *Saturday Mass – 6:00 p.m.*
 • Reconciliation Saturday – 5:30 – 5:50 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

410 West Lena Street, Lena, IL 61048
Father Skrobutt (815) 369-2810
 • *Saturday Mass – 4:00 p.m.*
 • *Sunday Mass – 10:00 a.m.*
 • Reconciliation Saturday – 3:30 – 3:50 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Little Church with a Big Heart
 1334 Sunnyside Road, Kent, IL 61044
 1/2 mile north on Kent Road
Pastor Carole Andres (815) 232-4010
wogac@comcast.net
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Holy Communion every Sunday*
 • Women Meet at 9 a.m. on the 2nd Sunday
 • Chair Lift to Sanctuary

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

209 Clinton St., P.O. Box 445, Warren, IL 61087
Bryan Odeen Intern as Pastor
 (815)745-3444
www.stpaulswarren.org
 • *Saturday Worship – 5:00 p.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON

219 N. Pearl St., Stockton, IL 61085
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WARREN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Water & Jefferson St., Warren, IL
Pastor Roger Bronkema (815) 291-6261
 email: rbronkema18@gmail.com
 • *Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.*
 • Adult Sunday School before Worship
 • Children Sunday School - During the service
 Communion Every First Sunday
 * *Handicapped Accessible*

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Hudson & Benton St., Stockton, IL 61085
Pastor Chuck Wolbers (262) 308-2379
 • *Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
 • *Fellowship following service*
 • Adult Bible Studies Available
 • Communion Every 1st Sunday
 • Connections (meal and education for youth and adults) Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
 * *Handicapped Accessible*

WINSLOW GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

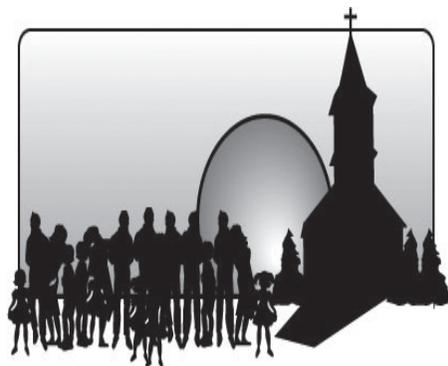
197 Carver Street, Winslow, IL 61089
Pastor Robert Patin (815) 230-1862
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.*
 • *Sunday Evening Service – 7:00 p.m.*
 • Prayer and Bible Study – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

YELLOW CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

12602 W. Dublin Road, Pearl City, IL
Pastor Ellis Boughton • 815-864-2049
 Email: ellis.boughton@live.com
 • *Sunday Services – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 9:15 a.m. (when available)*

ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH

10100 W. Sabin Church Rd., Pearl City, IL 61062
Worship Leader – Ed Curry (815) 541-3278
 • *Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School 10:15 a.m.*



Warriors look for big bounce in second half

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

There are still a few teams very much alive in the race for the NUIC-West Title and the Warren Lady Warriors hope to be able to be one of those invited to the varied conversation circles. At this point, things haven't quite come together as well as the team had hoped. With the calendar flip to 2018, there is a new chance to get a few more things in line and begin the climb up the conference ladder.

As 2017 came to a close, the Lady Warriors nearly got things going in the right direction, before the required season intermission. They picked up wins over some of their nearest neighbors, including Orangeville, Durand and Pecatonica. They played Stockton to a three-point decision, with the Blackhawks coming away with the 70-67 victory.

Following a loss to Eastland in the opener in the Polo Holiday Invitational, the Lady Warriors knocked off the host 59-50. Oregon helped close the Polo Tourney with a 20-point defeat of Warren, 54-34.

Now the Lady Warriors get set to turn all of their focus back on the race in the West. They begin the second half with a season mark of four games under .500 at 5-9. They are in search of their first NUIC victory and will play host to Pearl City this Friday night, Jan. 5, 2018. The Lady Wolves are 3-2 in the conference and 8-6 on the season. They've played just a little bit better than Warren has so far this

year, noticeably on the defensive side and have been rewarded with better conference position today, as a result.

With the same number of games in the books, 14, the Lady Warriors earn the slight edge on the offensive side in the winter season, second half opener at home against Pearl City. They have collected a

slightly higher scoring average per game, than Pearl City has. They can score enough to win. The Lady Warriors' defense has been susceptible though. The Lady Wolves have given up around ten points less per game. The difference highlights the 3-2 and 0-4 conference records.

Warren gets another shot at a win

on Monday, Jan. 8, but they will have to earn it on the road. The Orangeville Lady Broncos are 2-3 in the NUIC-North, but only carry a 3-12 season mark into the second half of the season.

The Lady Warriors could have a few problems with East Dubuque's band of athletes, when they get together next Saturday, Jan. 13. East

Dubuque started the 2018 portion of the winter schedule one game behind Eastland in the West and held a season mark of 12-2.

Warren returns home for their two-week journey to face River Ridge/Scales Mound on Tuesday Jan. 16 and then will prepare for back-to-back road matches at Milledgeville and Stockton.

Lady Blackhawks perfect Christmas gift

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

The holiday season is over and the Lady Blackhawks turn their battle plans back to the West this week. They had a perfect Christmas vacation and captured the Erie Christmas Invitational with a 4-0 mark.

Stockton starts play this week with a nearly perfect season mark. The Eastland Lady Cougars are the only team that has found the right combinations to beat the Lady Blackhawks. They won 60-50. Since then Stockton has won eight straight.

The Erie Invitational began on Wednesday, Dec. 27. Stockton stared down Taylor Ridge-Rockridge in the opener and rolled over the Lady Rockets 51-27. Stockton had an eight-point lead after one in the tournament opener and led by 14 at the break. A five-point third quarter allowed the Lady Rockets to stick around for a while. The Lady Blackawks opened the fourth in front by eleven, 28-17. They

padded the lead with 23 points in the fourth. Rockridge answered with ten. Stockton won 51-27.

Stockton didn't waste any time in their night two, tournament meeting with South Beloit. The Lady Blackhawks scored more in the first frame than the Lady Sobos collected all night. The 28-5 advantage grew to a nearly 40-point win, 63-21.

Game three went Stockton's way as well, but they had a little more difficulty working around the Erie Lady Cardinals defenders. The Lady Blackhawks held a 14-11 lead after one, but couldn't expand the one-shot advantage. Both teams chipped in eight in the second and at the half, the Lady Blackhawks were in front 22-19.

Erie played slightly better than Stockton did in the third quarter. They pushed the ball to the rim and collected 16 points in the period. Stockton scored one less, but still held the edge entering the fourth, up 37-35.

When teams take advantage of

breaking down defenses and hitting their free throw shots, they are probably going to pull out the close games. Stockton outscored Erie 15-5 in the fourth and won the match 52-40. They moved to 3-0 in the tournament and collected their seventh straight victory.

The Erie Holiday Invitational closed on Saturday, Dec. 29 and Stockton saved its best for last. They scored double-digit totals in each period and crossed the 20-point total twice in the 78-48 win over Kewanee Wethersfield. They Flying Geese copied the double-digit scoring effort, but couldn't get past 14 in any frame. The Lady Blackhawks built a ten-point lead

after one, 21-11 and maintained it through the half. As the third began, the double-digit lead remained with Stockton in front 35-25.

The Lady Blackhawks scored 25 points in the third quarter, easily outpacing Wethersfield's eleven-point effort. The advantage was 24 points with Stockton in control 60-36 with a period to play. They completed the tournament with the 30-point decision.

Stockton plays at East Dubuque this Friday night and then travels to Galena on Tuesday, Jan. 9. A home series of three in a row commences Thursday, Jan. 11 with the acceptance of an invitation to play by River Ridge/Scales Mound.

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association to hold January meeting

The Northwest Illinois Forestry Association (NIFA) board of directors will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. in the basement conference room of the Stockton Public Library, 140 West Benton Avenue.

Prior to the Board Meeting, local expert Marie McDonough of Marie's Wood Carvings of Stockton will demonstrate her work and discuss her business. Having opened her shop this summer, Marie uses

abrasive carving to create interesting figures and articles out of wood that are available in her store. Also, she gives lessons in the shop directly behind the store. It's another way to use and enjoy wood. The carving process will be demonstrated.

Following Marie McDonough's presentation, the NIFA board will continue to refine this year's schedule of events. As always, this meeting is open to the public.



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What Christmas Means To Me

By Lara Walters River
Ridge fourth grade

What Christmas Means to Me, By Thomas Harms, I know I love Christmas because I love my family, even when they drive me crazy. I like being warm and having presents under the tree. I love the happiness shared with my family Christmas is having a happy time with shelter and opening presents.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Vinny Polizzi, Christmas means to love everyone. It means to give to people and to get from people. It means to spend time with your family. It means to celebrate god's birthday. It means to be nice to everyone. It means to share your stuff. It means to not fight with people.

What Christmas Means To Me, By Deaven Lloyd, Christmas is the best time of the year! You know what I love about Christmas? I mean you get to give gifts to other people and the best part is you get gifts, too. You can go to door to door and sing Christmas carols like Deck the Halls and Old Saint Nick. I love Christmas! I wish you a Merry Christmas and I hope everyone has a Happy New Year!

What Christmas Means to Me, By Leah Spahn, What Christmas means to me is when you get lots of cozy hugs from your family. It also means that we get to celebrate how Jesus was born. I really love that we get presents. I really like candy canes, too. I love the fruity taste on most of them. I love how at church we do the mitten tree to remember a needy person. I love that Christmas is a beautiful time of year. I love Christmas because you spend a lot of time with your family.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Bindi Boop, What Christmas means to me is presents and cookies. I love presents because I love getting something new every year. I love cookies because I love the chocolate chips in the cookies. Something else I love is hot chocolate, after I go outside in the cold so I can warm up. I love sledding, too. It is so fun, but it is just so cold outside!!!! So I do love eating cookies, opening presents, drinking hot chocolate and sledding.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Matthew Ransom, Christmas is when you can meet your whole family. They come to decorate the Christmas tree and help us put Christmas ornaments up. Christmas is about presents. You can make presents for everybody. The presents are totally a secret. I am in a Christmas play at church. I am an angel. You say a prayer at dinner time.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Maddie Gonzalez, Christmas means a lot to me because you get to spend time with your family that you don't get to see as much. Also, you get to eat with them and open presents with them. So after that you can go play in the snow with your cousins and build snowmen. You can go sledding down a hill and go really fast or on with your cousin. So Christmas means to me that you get to spend more time with your family. You can go to your grandpa's house and open presents.

So that is what Christmas means to me. Also, eating a lot of food and dessert or ice cream. Christmas means getting a lot of presents and playing with them.

What Christmas Means To Me, By Seth Ries, I love Christmas. It's so fun! I go snowboarding and sledding. I really like the presents. I get to drink hot chocolate. I like decorat-

ing our house with Christmas things. I like the gingerbread cookies. I love spending time with my family, it's so fun! I like playing outside with my dog in the snow. I like building

big snow forts and having snowball fights. Christmas is so fun!

What Christmas Means to Me, By

See CHRISTMAS, Page 15

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Broncos banking on breaking loose in the East

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

Even with the regular season mark below the .500 level, the Orangeville Broncos boys' basketball team is still a major player in the race for the title of NUIC East's best.

Based on how the scheduling was put together, prior to the start of the 2017-2018 winter sports season, a lot of the more important conference matches weren't scheduled until the 2018 portion. Orangeville will be looking at a heavy NUIC-East influence through the month of January.

The Broncos snapped their season-long five-game losing streak in upset style. They knocked off one of the East leaders, Dakota. The Indians were out-gunned in their round two meeting in the Forrester Holiday Classic and Orangeville captured

the game with the 48-30 decision.

They have one conference loss and a lot of conference opponents on the schedule over the weeks ahead. They will get their chance to let loose their plans towards the East, soon. The Broncos have to deal with the Blackhawks first. The teams get together this Saturday, Jan. 6, in Stockton.

Five teams in the NUIC-East carried 1-0 marks into the calendar turn. Four other teams sat one game back in the loss column. The Orangeville Broncos are one of those teams looking to move up. With the number of conference matches lining up, they are in complete control of their own destiny. Efforts at practice are consistently being taken to assure the Broncos are better prepared to charge directly into conflict in the East. Orangeville entered 2018 with a 1-1 mark in the East. They face the conference, win-less Clippers on Wednesday, Jan. 10 before heading home for a Friday night meeting with Pecatonica. The Indians opened 2018 with a sub-.500

mark, similar to Stockton and Amboy. A possible modest win streak does seem to appear on the schedule

The Broncos opening stretch continues with a head-to-head meeting with Aquin next Thursday, Jan. 20, in Orangeville. The Bulldogs are one of the many teams leading the East with the loss-less mark. They are expected to be healthier and even more dangerous. Orangeville continues its significant home stretch with a conference clash with Durand on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Rock Valley College will host the Jan. 26 meeting with the Dakota Indians.

By the time the Broncos get into the February games and showdowns with Pecatonica, Dakota and Durand in succession, the season could have switched much more favorably, with the defending Regional Champion Broncos playing their best basketball of the season at just the right time.

The IHSA Class 1A and 2A State Basketball Championship Tournament begins the third week of February.

River Ridge Middle School students attend Multicultural Celebration Day

River Ridge Middle School students learned how small the world actually is when they attended their Multicultural Celebration Day on Nov. 17. Fifteen AFS (American Field Service) students from the AFS Northern Illinois and AFS South Central along with two Scales Mound students from ICES (International Cultural Exchange Services) presented workshops to Middle School students in an effort to demonstrate how alike people all over the world really are. Conversations about language, food, music, culture and many other subjects were discussed. It was truly an opportunity for Global Connections to be made! Thank you to our presenters for this wonderful opportunity.

River Ridge High School students who are part of the AFS/International Club hosted the exchange students in their homes for the weekend as part of their annual International Weekend which coincides with International Education Week. Weekend activities included a potluck dinner, talent show and sharing, shopping in Galena, bowling, The Mississippi River Walk, The Fenlon Elevator in Dubuque, The Apple River Fort in Elizabeth and a visit to a local farm in Elizabeth.



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Le-Win/Orangeville Speech Team

The Le-Win/Orangeville Speech Team, recently recorded their third straight top-ten finish in tournament competition. From left, Alysse Potter, Asa Lake, Jennifer Swedlund, Justin Malone, Maddie Meador, John Jurkovic, Abby Strominger, Lucas Schoaf

Panthers shoot for fifth in Forreston

By Chris Johnson
REPORTER

In the NUIC-West East Dubuque is the best of the bunch, at least in the early season. However, many teams are right on their heels and one of those squads expected to still make a lot of noise this season are the Lena-Winslow Panthers. They have a lot of talent and can knock the ball in from a lot of places on the court. The inside game is dominated by Isaiah Bruce.

The Forreston Holiday Tournament just wrapped up this past weekend and the Winnebago Indians came away with the top honor, but they only got there courtesy of a defeat of the Bruce-led Panthers.

Lena-Winslow gave the Indians their toughest battle of the tournament in their night two game, thought they still fell by eight points, 54-46. The loss pushed the Panthers into the fifth-place bracket and an eventual showdown with the Pearl City Wolves.

When the Forreston Tournament

opened the Panthers were issued the nine-seed, which was not an overly-favorable starting point. They were positioned against the eight-seed Aquin Bulldogs in the opener. The Freeport squad played a few men down and statistics seem to support that the outcome on opening night might have been different, had the eight-seed been at full power. Lena-Winslow pushed past Aquin 59-44 and into the second round meeting with the "to-be" champion Indians.

Lena-Winslow moved on to post-Christmas holiday tournament action on Wednesday, Dec. 27 as they played in the Erie Holiday Invitational. The regional games will run through Saturday, Dec. 30 to help wrap up the 2017 portion of the winter sports season.

On Jan. 19, when the East Dubuque Warriors head to Lena-Winslow, they will get their first chance to truly see where they stand in the West, as they take on a program that won over 30 games last year and hasn't won less than 20 games a season since 2012.

Jo Daviess County Sheriff issues phone scam warning

Jo Daviess County Sheriff Kevin Turner is warning the public about a possible telephone scam occurring in Jo Daviess County. The caller telephones a resident and will either

impersonate a family member who is in need of money, or will claim they are an attorney representing a family member who is in legal trouble and is in need of money. The scammer

will then attempt to convince the victim to wire a significant amount of money in order to help the family member.

Sheriff Turner urges the public to

exercise extreme caution if they receive telephone calls of this nature, and to not wire money to anyone unless they are absolutely certain of the identity of the recipient.

If anyone has experienced this, or a similar scam, please contact the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office (815-777-2141 or 800-373-7838), or your local police department.

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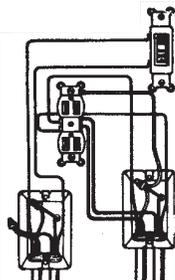
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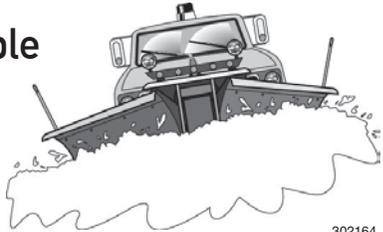
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To place an ad in our Business & Service Section...Call Laurie at (815) 369-4112

Warren Township Public Library adds new library services

On Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, the Warren Township Public Library will upgrade their membership in PrairieCat, a regional shared library catalog, providing new features to the library's patrons and enhanced services and efficiencies for library staff. The library received a grant from the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) to help with the upfront costs of this upgrade, including new public workstations at the library.

The PrairieCat online catalog includes nearly five million items from 127 libraries. The catalog provides easy searching, relevance ranking, and other tools to make finding items easier. Novelist and Goodreads are added services that provide additional information on materials and allow users to easily find their next great book online.

Warren Township PL library patrons in good standing can place holds on items right from the library's website 24/7 and can see at a glance if and where an item is

available. They can then have the item delivered directly to Warren Township Public Library through the RAILS delivery system, or can choose to go to the library owning the item to pick it up.

In My Account on PrairieCat, patrons can check account status, view their items checked out, and update their personal information online. They can renew materials online or over the phone. They can pay fines online via credit card. They can also suspend or cancel their own holds. And, they can store a list of titles read and create bibliographies to make research and classwork easier. Patrons can sign up to receive hold and overdue notices via email, phone or text message.

PrairieCat membership also benefits the library staff. Being part of a shared catalog greatly reduces the cost of making the library collection available online. The library benefits from centralized hardware, increased security, robust training, and technology and software sup-

port. Many more routine staff processes are automated, so library staff can focus more on patron support and services.

With Warren Township PL's upgrade, all public libraries in Jo Daviess County are now fully circulating members of PrairieCat. "This has been ten years in the making, to have all of our neighboring public libraries fully using PrairieCat, and

we couldn't be happier," said Susanna Ludwig, Director of the Galena Public Library District, and a member of the PrairieCat Administrative Council.

"PrairieCat is thrilled that Warren Township Public Library is upgrading their membership in PrairieCat," said Carolyn Coulter, Director of PrairieCat. "Shared library catalogs like PrairieCat are a wise use of re-

sources and improve the experience of Illinois' library users."

The Warren Township Public Library is located in Warren, Illinois. It serves a population of 1601 in the service area. The library circulates more than 11,000 items annually.

PrairieCat is an organization of 127 public, school, academic and special libraries across Northern Illinois. The organization provides libraries with access to online systems, support, and training to help them best serve their patrons and students. See more information at: <https://support.prairiecat.info/members>.

RAILS provides delivery, shared online catalogs, e-book services, continuing education programs, communication services, and other support to all types of libraries in northern and western Illinois. The system serves private, public, school, and university library members in a 27,000 square mile area. More information about RAILS is available at: www.railslibraries.info.

FHN Memorial Hospital restricting visitors to prevent spread of flu

During this heightened flu season, FHN is implementing the following visitor restrictions from the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) for visitors' health and safety as well as that of our patients and staff:

No visitors under age 18.
Only two (2) visitors per patient at one time.

Visitors with fever, cough, or sore throat should NOT visit. If they MUST, masks are required (and will be provided).

Patients hospitalized for flu may have visitors ONLY when necessary for emotional well-being or care.

Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette (cover coughs, tissue disposal immediately after using hand sanitizer) MUST be followed at all times.

These restrictions apply to ALL hospital patients, including OB and Pediatrics. All medical services remain available to patients of all ages

throughout FHN.

"We are putting these restrictions in place to protect our patients and their families as well as our staff during flu season," said FHN Infectious Disease Specialist and Medical Staff President Robert Geller, MD, MS, FACP, FIDSA.

"We would also like to remind people of all ages that proper hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes and staying home if you feel ill are the best ways to prevent the spread of flu," Dr. Geller said.

• Christmas (Continued from page 9)

Sarah Winter, What Christmas means to me is getting together with family. I like putting up a Christmas tree together. I like wrapping presents for people in need. I like doing the angel tree at church. My mom and I make homemade cookies for family and friends. I love Christmas!

What Christmas Means to Me, By Daphne Havens, It means to be nice. It means family gathers. It means to be happy. It means to have joy. It means to me that family has fun. It means to me that I have fun. I like that my friends have fun. It means that aunts and uncles have fun. It meant to me that cousins have fun. It is to have fun. It is fun to build snowballs, snow forts and have snowball fights. I like that have I friends. that I have fun with opening presents and getting toys to play with. You will have toys to play with and be happy playing with your toys. Your friends will come over and play. Family that you don't see often will come over. Have fun with them while you can!

What Christmas Means to Me, By Averi Rolwes, I think Christmas is special because you get to spend time with you family. Christmas is Jesus's birthday. You get to see family close and far away from you. You only get to have Christmas once a year. I love that you get to wrap up presents for other people. You get to help put up the Christmas tree. You also get to put the ornaments up on the tree. You put Christmas lights on your house with your family. That is what Christmas means to me.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Sawyer Fry, I think Christmas is a special holiday because you get to see your cousins. Christmas is my favorite holiday because it is a cozy and warm inside. I like to go sledding. Sometimes I like to drink hot cocoa. Christmas is fun because you get to give people stuff. Christmas is fun when you get to open presents with your family.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Loran Ahmedi, Christmas is about new toys every year. With all the

new toys I get to do lots of different things. For example, with my new game I bounce a ball to match a design. I love Christmas because it's about being together. The one main important thing I love about Christmas is because sharing all the love with everyone. It's the best time of year to listen to everyone sing Christmas songs. It puts a smile on my face. Mostly what Christmas means to me is being thankful for my new heart and all the nurses and doctors that took care of me.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Aaron Diehl, What Christmas means to me is getting presents and drinking hot cocoa. I like getting presents because my family is creative. I like making presents, too. It's fun. I like spending time with family. I like snow and to go sledding in the winter with my family and friends.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Jaime Miller, Christmas means to me is that I like giving things to people that live in the nursing home. Like the gifts that I get. I get to play in the snow and build snowmen. I get hot chocolate after I am done playing outside. I like open one present before Christmas. I love to give presents to my family.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Kaitlynn Foley, I think Christmas is really fun because I love to hang out with my family. Hot cocoa is super good on cold days and snowy days, too. I love to sit down in my PJs watching TV with my mom. I love to open presents. I love to eat all of my candy in my room. I can't wait for Christmas.

What Christmas Means to Me, By Caylee Allen, What Christmas means to me is that you get to celebrate Jesus's birthday. You get to spend time with your family and you get presents to share. You can give to the people that don't have a home. You and your family can give your presents to the people that don't get presents. You get to see Santa and tell him what you want for Christmas. That is what Christmas means to me.

College News

Area students named to Columbia College Fall Semester dean's list

The following students from this area were recently named to the Columbia College dean's list for the Fall Semester (August - December 2017):

Jessica Peight-Lena, Peggy Kempe-Pearl City, Samuel Venhuizen-Stockton

• History

(Continued from front page)

fiti left behind by actors. Some actors left less than kind remarks and one actor doodled a cartoon.

With the costs involved that are needed just to keep the building standing and the cost of bringing it up to today's standards for occupancy, Marcure has made the decision to level the old opera house. Marcure said, "It's sad to think about this place coming down, but it's a town safety issue on one hand and economics on the other. Anything being renovated today has to be up to code. That means handicap accessible, sprinkler systems and all new wiring. On the practical side, that means electronics like wifi and other internet capabilities. The time has come for Dales Opera House to fade away and become a distant memory.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF LETTING**

**Jo Daviess County Highway Department
1 Commercial Dr., Ste. 3
Hanover, IL 61041**

The Jo Daviess County Highway Department is seeking bids for a new 2018 tandem rear axle 6x4 Dump Truck Chassis. Bids will be accepted at the County Highway Department until 10:30 A.M., January 18, 2018, and publicly opened and read at that time.

Specifications are available at the office of the County Engineer, 1 Commercial Drive, Suite 3, Hanover, Illinois. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

304565

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304564

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At the Apple River Event Center Apple River, IL

7 pm show followed by

“DISC MAN” DJ

TWO SHOWS
1 PM - MATINEE
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**FOOD AVAILABLE -
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Matinee Show: \$10 Students • \$15 Adults OR 2 Adults for \$25
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- ★ Scales Mound Sinclair
- ★ Southside Pub
- ★ Full Throttle Powersports
- ★ Stockton Travel Center
- ★ Smiley's Pub
- ★ Stockholders Saloon
- ★ Hixster's Bar & Grill

To make donations or buy advanced tickets contact Brian Sanders at 815-541-1030,
Adam Wurster at 815-238-5103 or Mike Blair at 815-541-3512