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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5, 2018

Elizabeth celebrates 'Christmas in the Village'

By John Day
REPORTER

During the first weekend in December the town of Elizabeth celebrates the beginning of the holiday season with their annual Christmas in the Village event.

Merri Sevey, President of the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce said, "We've been having this event for about 10 years. As in years past, we had a live nativity, a craft fair, Christmas tree contest and more. The proceeds from our Soup and Baked Goods Sale will be given to the Free Community Meal and River Ridge Backpack Programs."

Local merchants benefit from the influx of visitors during this weekend event. Jodi Korte has been the owner operator of the E Town Coffer Shop for the past two years.

"This is one of our busiest weekends," Korte said. "There are a lot of people coming through town and a good number come into our store. In addition to high quality coffee and pastries we have light lunches. Our wine room is well stocked and the wines we offer are unique. The wines we have on the shelf won't be found in convenience stores or typical grocery stores. I select products that are local. By local, I mean wines that come from family businesses that own the land and vineyards where the grapes are grown. We'll be sponsoring a wine tasting event on Dec. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. Something new for us are fresh pies served by the slice every Friday."

At the Apple River Fort the new Site Interpreter, Elizabeth Papp is getting ready for her first 1832 Christmas on the Illinois frontier. Papp, who comes from the St. Louis area took over responsibilities at the fort this past May. She holds a master's degree in History Administration from Eastern Illinois University.

"Things have been interesting," Papp said. "There's an awful lot of history here. The volunteers and reenactors are wonderful people. I wish we had more of them. We're going to be doing some things at the Interpretation Center to make the history we offer to the public more

contemporary. I also want to use the small log cabin that sits below the fort to present some of the history of lead mining in this area and the immigrants that came here in hopes of prospering from that industry. But for the moment, we're going to be celebrating a German Christmas."

Traveling back in time, the people in the Apple River Fort are beginning to make ready for Christmas. In the small cabin at the back of the fort Don and Crystal Mason portray a German couple who have immigrated to the United States in the 1830's, fleeing an oppressive regime and searching for economic freedom in the led mining industry. The dismal weather hasn't dampened the couple's spirits as they begin decorating the cabin for Weihnachten, which is the German word for Christmas.

"In our time the Tannenbaum, the Christmas tree, was freshly cut and short enough to be stood on a table," Crystal Mason said from her spot in front of a warm, open hearth. "Small burning candles were placed on the



Levi and Piper Havens brought their parents Katie and Cole to visit Santa and see the model train displays at the Chicago Great Western Railway Depot in Elizabeth.

See VILLAGE, Page 15

Warren and River Ridge/Scales Mound face off

By Trent Scheidegger
REPORTER

Warren Girls Head Coach Kelsie Johnson is looking to turn things around for the Warriors. In just her second year as Head Coach, Johnson understands there will be some -growing pains along the way. After going 7-21 last season, it certainly won't get any easier for the Warriors as they lost three All Conference Honorable Mention Award Winners to graduation. Johnson acknowledged that a team weakness will be their inexperience, saying "I lost a lot of offensive threats."

Despite their inexperience, Johnson believes that the team is growing well in her system as they will be more accustomed this year. Height will also be an advantage for the Lady Warriors. Johnson hopes that more team activities will help the girls learn to work and build together on

their goal of growing fundamentally.

In one of their first conference matchups of the season, the Warriors were in for a battle with Dave Wiegel's River Ridge/Scales Mound squad.

The Warriors found themselves down 15-12 as Wildcats freshman Morgan Shetler provided the team with seven points early on. Reese Miller had an impressive first-half as well with six points of her own, the Wildcats led the Warriors 27-24. Brinkmier provided nearly all of the offense for Warren in the first-half as she had 14 of the teams 24 total

points.

The Wildcats had a huge third quarter in which they were able to open up their lead despite the close-fought first-half. Wildcat Seniors Trinity Law and Tabria Thomas were able to combine for 11 of the teams 20 points in the third. The Wildcat defense was impressive as they managed to hold the Warriors to just eight third-quarter points. Raab scored 6sixof the Warriors eight third-quarter points, four of which came from the free throw line as she went 4-4 on the evening.

The Warriors had their best quar-

ter of the night in the fourth as they dropped 14, it just wouldn't be enough to erase their deficit following the third-quarter. Warren fell by a final score of 46-65 as the Wildcats moved on to a 2-0 start to their regular season.

Brinkmier finished the evening with 18 points, followed by Griffin who had 10 points of her own for the Warriors. River Ridge/Scales Mound had four players reach double digits as Reese Miller and Tabria Thomas each finished with 14, while Morgan Shetler dropped 12, and Claire Wiene had 10.

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SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTOS The Scoop Today

Shop Small Saturday

After making her Shop Small Saturday selection, Stephanie Krok is all set and Lauren McKee of Savvy Scavengers is happy to complete the purchase.



Cindy Lou Who and friends bring life to one of the Living Window displays in downtown Stockton.



Marie McDonough, the owner of Marie's Wood Carvings, is getting products ready for the holiday and has been working on this Eagle project. It is half scale and is absolutely beautiful.



Fritz Nursery is a great place to find that perfect Christmas décor. Donna McCormick found some great gifts there for her Christmas list and Deb is happy to help wrap them.

THE SCOOP TODAY

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Eliana Rowe is happy with the jacket that her mom, Jodi found for her at Glad Rags in Stockton.

SOS+ to host Annual Christmas Party

On Thursday, Dec. 13, SOS+ (Senior Outreach of Stockton and surrounding areas) will gather at Calvary UM Fellowship Hall for their Annual Christmas Potluck/Sing-along Party. All seniors are invited to come and enjoy the festivities. We begin at 12 Noon with our annual Pot Luck dinner followed by the a good ole fashion Christmas sing-along. If the seniors have been extra good this year, Good Ole St. Nick himself may just pay a surprise visit. Topping off the day will be our favorite and most interesting White Elephant gift exchange. All seniors of Stockton and local areas are invited to join our Christmas Celebration. The meeting will start at 12, Noon in Stockton's Calvary's UM Fellowship Hall. All we ask you to bring is a dish to pass

and a white elephant gift for the fun-filled Christmas gift exchange.

SOS+ (Senior Outreach of Stockton and surrounding areas) is a volunteer ministry providing programs and fellowship to our area seniors. There are no costs to join; a free will offering is taken at each meeting which helps in providing interesting and educational programs throughout the year. Volunteers are much needed. If you would like to volunteer to help or volunteer to entertain, please let us know. We are proud to say, "SOS+ is rounding out its 14th year and going strong".

Because of the unpredictable inclement weather, there will be no SOS+ meetings in January and February of 2019. Resuming on March 14, 2019, SOS+ will start its year of

monthly programs with a big celebration of the senior outreach's 15th year anniversary. Back to entertain our seniors by special requests will be our friend and guest, musician Les Wilson of Prophetstown, IL. Les is a self taught musician who will entertain us with 50's, 60's, little bit country and little bit rock-n-roll music.

Under the vision of Pastor Kwadwo Ntim to create a program of outreach for our seniors, SOS+ (Senior Outreach of Stockton plus surrounding areas) came to be with its first program held at the Country Inns and Suites in March, 2004. 50 seniors gathered to kick-off this outreach program. Completing its fourteen year, we continue to seek new and interesting programs for our seniors. Join us for our December 13th Christmas party and

make sure to mark your calendars for March 14, 2019, our 15th Year Celebration. More information about the Anniversary Celebration will come in the new year.

The senior outreach program (SOS+) is always looking for volunteers to help us reach out to our seniors. If you are one who would like to join the planning committee team

of volunteers, share your talents or have suggestions for upcoming programs, please feel free to call Mary Feltmeyer 815-297-5425, Nancy Rice 815-947-3683 or Shirley Toepfer 815-947-3639. If you are one of our seniors who are in need of a ride to the programs, please be sure to call one of these ladies. We would be delighted to accommodate you.

Forestry threat to be discussed

The Northwest Illinois Forestry Association (NIFA) will meet on Tuesday evening, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m., at the Stockton Public Library, to learn of a significant forest threat and to continue planning events for 2019.

With reports of at least two gypsy moth infestations in Jo Daviess County, NIFA has asked Olivia Rauen, Forester for the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf), to discuss the insect's appearance, life cycle, preferred tree species, and treatment options. This may help

landowners to spot the insect's egg masses.

The following agenda meeting will finalize a list of tours and events for next year. Both members and the public are welcome to provide their input and suggestions.

The Stockton Public Library is located at 140 West Benton Avenue, Stockton, Illinois. NIFA is a non-profit landowner organization dedicated to educating members and the public about forestry issues and benefits.

Volunteers needed for bald eagle count

The Eagle Nature Foundation (ENF) is seeking volunteers to help with its 59th Annual Mid-Winter Bald Eagle Count to be conducted on Jan. 26 and 27, 2019. This annual bald eagle count is being conducted throughout the Midwest from Northern Minnesota to Louisiana. To eliminate duplication the count is actually a three hour count on Saturday, with Sunday being used only if weather, or health, does not allow a person or organization to count the bald eagles in their own locality on the official count day. At least 90% of the eagles will be counted before 11 a.m. on Saturday, the 26. Each year some counters start the day by counting the bald eagles that may be seen leaving their nighttime roosts, while it is still so dark that the birds are only silhouettes flying overhead. Some conservation organizations use teams to count the bald eagles as a project for their club. Counters have used cars, boats and airplanes to count the bald eagles during past counts.

This annual count was started and coordinated for 20 years by the late Elton Fawks from Moline, IL. Terrence Ingram, President of ENF, from Apple River, has been the coordinator of the count for the past 38 years. Mr. Ingram states, "This count has been the most important bald eagle count in the nation for many years. It was the results of this count in the early 1960's that truly documented the decline of the bald eagle in the nation. Now this count is the only accurate record of how our eagles are reproducing in the Midwest. Since the USFW removed the bald eagle from the Endangered Species List in 2007, there has been no funding for agencies to be involved in monitoring the bald eagle's reproduction. Most all of their reproduction records are just estimates, or extrapolations, of how many young have been raised. This count helps document what percentage of these young birds have survived."

The last few years have documented a low percentage of immatures being seen during this count. This is actually lower than the same low percentage that the count had recorded in the mid to late 1960's. In fact, the 5-year average of immatures in

the late 1960's was 28.5%, while the last 5-year average was only 27.6%. The cause for this low percentage of documented immatures on this count is unknown and any suggestions about a cause have been purely speculative. It could be that the immatures are living somewhere else, or something could actually be affecting their survival: such as starvation; poisoning by chemicals, such as Roundup or Neonicotinoids; or a disease, such as West Nile Virus; or many of the young may be getting killed by vehicle collisions or wind turbines.

Organizations and volunteers for this count are needed all across the Midwest. ENF would like to document the bald eagles that may be found all along the Mississippi Riv-

er, from Minnesota to Louisiana, as well as along the Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Rock, Pecatonica, Des Moines, Iowa, Skunk, Cedar, Turkey, Maquoketa and Wisconsin Rivers, as well as many of the historic inland wintering areas, which the bald eagle still uses.

Anyone interested in helping with this research to document our changing bald eagle population by counting the bald eagles in their own area on Jan. 26 or 27, should contact Mr. Ingram at ENF, 300 East Hickory Street, Apple River, IL 61001 or phone 815-594-2306 to get the necessary count forms and to receive their area assignment. Contacting Mr. Ingram and getting your area assigned must be done in advance of the count date, Jan. 26.

Story Hour with Santa

By Mary Stayner
STORY HOUR WITH SANTA
COORDINATOR

Story Hour with Santa, a program developed by the Northwestern Illinois Reading Council, will celebrate 20 years this year. It all began with a dream in 1998, by then president, Mary Stayner. She awoke from her sleep and said, "Santa can read!" And that is exactly what this program has encouraged since its inception. Throughout Northwest Illinois, Santa and his counterparts, AKA St. Nicholas, Mrs. Claus, elves, etc. have been visiting local libraries where they read a story or two and share their love of reading with children. The program has evolved into a very rewarding and successful venture in supporting literacy in our area.

Once again, the program will reach out to libraries in the area - Elizabeth, Mt. Carroll, Pearl City, Savanna, Stockton, Thomson, and Warren. Several of the libraries will welcome Santa Claus himself, while others will receive visits from Mrs. Claus, Father Christmas, and even a few elves. Each visit is filled with holiday cheer and excitement as children gather to hear stories read by their beloved Santa and friends. Each child is warmly welcomed to share their Christmas wishes and have a

holiday snack or treat. The children are then invited to choose a book from Santa via Northwestern Illinois Reading Council. Each year over 200 children receive books from Santa. Their little eyes just sparkle as they enthusiastically choose a book... from Santa. What a joy it is to share the love of reading!

Northwestern Illinois Reading Council is committed to supporting literacy efforts in their little corner of the state and is very appreciative of the guidance and encouragement received from the Illinois Reading Council. Check with your local library for their schedule of appearances and make plans to visit the library to see a wonderful role model in action.

Story Hour with Santa Claus schedule

Elizabeth Public Library
Saturday, Dec. 1 - 1 to 2 p.m.
Pearl City Park Dist. Rec. Bldg.

Monday, Dec. 3 - 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Stockton Public Library
Saturday, Dec. 8 - 10 to 11 a.m.
Warren Public Library

Saturday, Dec. 15 - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Apple River Township and Apple River Township Road District.

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Apple River Township and Apple River Township Road District for 2018 will be held on December 12th, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Apple River Township Building.
Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact James C. Goken, Township Supervisor, at 2704 E. Stagecoach Trail, Apple River, IL. 61001. Phone # (815) 492-2137
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2017 were \$48,893.52. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$56,227.00. This represents a 15 % increase over the previous year.
The Road District and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2017 were \$69,489.24. The proposed Road District and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$79,912.00. This represents a 15 % increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2017 were \$0.00
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2018 are \$0.00. This represents a 0% increase over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2017 were \$118,382.76. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$136,139.00. This represents a 15% increase over the previous year.

(Published in The Scoop Today Dec. 5, 2018)

Reforming our criminal justice system

By Senator Dick Durbin
U.S. SENATOR

Today, the United States of America holds more prisoners, by far, than any other country in the world. Our overcrowded federal prisons consume one quarter of the Justice Department's discretionary budget. This undermines other important priorities, like preventing crime and treating drug addiction.

The largest increase in the federal prison population is nonviolent drug offenders, and this is largely because of inflexible mandatory minimum sentences. These mandatory penalties don't allow judges to distinguish between drug kingpins - who should be our focus - and lower-level offenders. They also have a disproportionately negative impact on ra-

cial minorities. This isn't fair, it isn't smart, and it isn't an effective way to protect public safety.

In 2010, I authored the bipartisan Fair Sentencing Act to fix the unfair disparity in our crack and powder cocaine sentencing laws. For the last several years I have been working with a bipartisan coalition of Republican and Democratic Senators to take the next step in reforming our federal drug sentencing laws. Our effort took a big step forward when President Donald Trump announced his support for our bipartisan criminal justice reform bill this month.

The revised First Step Act that I introduced with Republican Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa includes reforms that would reduce federal mandatory minimum penalties in a

targeted way. It does not repeal any mandatory minimum sentences, and we do not lower any maximum sentences. We would simply allow federal judges to determine, on a case-by-case basis, when the harshest penalties should apply.

Our bill is supported by the Fraternal Order of Police, the National District Attorneys Association, and the ACLU. Congress should pass this bipartisan legislation to relieve our overcrowded prisons, redirect funding to our most pressing law enforcement efforts, help keep our communities safe, and ensure the integrity of our justice system. This is the best chance in a generation to make meaningful changes in our federal drug sentencing laws. We cannot waste it.

Around the Northern Hills with Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Manager Annette Eggers

This past weekend I travelled into Chicago with our Jo Daviess County delegates to the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting. The delegates from across the state worked hard to determine the changes and additions to Illinois Farm Bureau's policy. This is what is so great about the farm bureau, it is truly a grassroots effort. Would you like to know how the policy development process works? Feel free to give me a call.

Bonus Cash towards the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2018/2019 MY Ford vehicle, if they have a non-Ford/Lincoln or Mercury vehicle registered in the household that is 1995 or newer. Saving \$1,000 is a pretty good deal for your investment in a farm bureau membership! Again, this offer is for a limited time, so contact your local Ford dealer or our office for the full details.

only receive on scholarship. For the full details, go the IAA Foundation website. The application period runs from December 1, 2018 through Feb. 1, 2019. The past two years Jo Daviess County has had a winner, so I encourage everyone to apply!

Ag Fun Fact:

There are 25-30 million Christmas trees sold in the United States each year.

IAA Foundation Scholarships.

Do you know of a student that is majoring in an ag-related career? Children of Illinois Farm Bureau members are eligible to apply for scholarships through the IAA Foundation. This year, the IAA Foundation offers 72 awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500. Applicants may apply for more than one, but can

Are you in the market for a new vehicle?

Don't forget that Ford offers farm bureau members a \$500 rebate on purchases of new vehicles. PLUS, now through January 2, 2019 members who qualify for the Farm Bureau e-Certificate offer will be eligible to receive an additional \$500 Conquest

Congresswoman Bustos statement on EPA's Renewable Volume Obligations for 2019

Congresswoman Cheri Bustos, member of the House Agriculture Committee issued the following statement on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed renewable volume obliga-

tions for 2019.

"I am pleased to see that this Administration is finally taking its commitment to the Renewable Fuel Standard seriously, however there is a lot of work to be done to reverse the damage they've already inflicted on the RFS," said Congresswoman Bustos. "Biofuels play an integral part of Illinois' economy and today's proposal will help protect this market for our family farmers. However, their propos-

al fails to account for the waivers handed out to big oil companies under Administrator Pruitt's watch. Furthermore, we are still waiting for the Administration to make good on their promise to make E15 gasoline available year round. I am glad to see the Administration is taking a step in the right direction to repair their trust with our hard-working farmers, but more must be done."

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Phone scam alert

By Kevin Turner
JO DAVIESS COUNTY SHERIFF

Jo Daviess County Sheriff Kevin Turner is warning the public about a possible telephone scam occurring in Jo Daviess County. The SCAMMER telephones a resident and will impersonate an officer with the Social Security Office. The scammer will then attempt to convince the victim that there will be legal action brought against them, and to wire a significant amount of money or obtain personal information.

Sheriff Turner urges the public to exercise extreme caution if they receive telephone calls of this nature, and to not wire money or give out personal information 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.

ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

HANNA SUE WESTFALL

Hanna Sue Westfall was born on Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 at 5:57 a.m. and passed away at 8:36 p.m.



Daughter of Randall and Brenda Westfall of Rodney, Michigan, Hanna was born en route to Spectrum Hospital Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Baby Hanna gave us a full day to enjoy her and be loved, surrounded by close family and friends creating memories. She smiled, stretched her arms and legs, and cooed. Her very brief life is hard to grasp, but her daring entrance into this world, life filled with overwhelming joy and love, and most peaceful transition to her heavenly home will be her unforgettable story. She was fitted for angel's wings due to complications associated with Trisomy 13.

She is survived by her father and mother, one sister, Heidi (5), and one brother, Hewyt (2), and her maternal grandmother Linda Simler of Lena, Illinois and paternal grandfather Jerry Westfall of Greenville, Ohio; aunt Jennifer (Mike) Waymire, aunt Beth (Michael) Gordon, aunt Brittany Simler, and cousins Hayley Penka and Paisley Waymire.

She is also survived by great-grandparents Albert and Betty Simler of Freeport, Illinois, Wayne Derrer of Lanark, Illinois and Martha Baker of Troy, Ohio. She is preceded in death by grandparents Connie Westfall and Duane Simler and great-grandparents Fairy Derrer, William and Patricia Westfall, Walter Brumbaugh, and Howard Baker.

A Celebration of Life service was held Nov. 27, at the Freeport Church of the Brethren with interment following at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport. Condolences may be shared at www.walkermortuary.com.

LAVONNE J. PETERS (AADSON)

Lavonne J. Peters (Aadson), age 90, of Hanover, Illinois passed away Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, at Big

Meadows, in Savanna, Illinois. A visitation and funeral services were held Dec. 3, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hanover. Burial will take place in Evergreen Cemetery in Hanover. A memorial fund has been established in Lavonne's memory. Family and friends are invited to share in Lavonne's life at www.lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Lavonne was born May 11, 1928, in Bradley, South Dakota, the daughter of Selah and Blanche (Neal) Fryett. Lavonne married Eldon Aadson on Nov. 10, 1946. They later divorced, and Lavonne married Henry Peters on April 16, 1979. Henry passed away in Hot Springs, South Dakota.

Lavonne worked at Black Hills Army Depot doing secretary and line work. She was a secretary for Veteran's Administrations in Hot Springs, South Dakota. She later became a homemaker. She was a member of the Hanover VFW Auxiliary and St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hanover. She enjoyed cross-stitching, crocheting, and making crafts.

Lavonne will be dearly missed by her son Douglas (Tanya) Aadson of Bradenton, Florida; two daughters, Debra (Lyle) Zigler of Hanover, Illinois and Beverly (John) Sweeney of Sarasota, Florida; five grandchildren and five great grandchildren; two brothers, Howard (Joyce) Fryett of Spokane, Washington and Roger (Dorothy) Fryett of Hutchinson, Kansas; sister Phyllis Yardley of Pharr, Texas. Lavonne is preceded in death by her parents Selah and Blanche, husbands, Eldon and Henry, daughter Kathleen Krantz, an infant daughter Mary Jo Aadson, a brother-in-law, Roger Yardley.

WAYNE E. LYTLE

Wayne E. Lytle, 72, of Stockton passed away on Nov. 19, 2018 at Monroe Hospital. He was born on June 20, 1946 in Freeport to Glenn and Ardith (Kerr) Lytle. He married Shirley Bergemann on April 23, 1966 at Lena United Methodist Church.

He graduated from Le-Win High School in 1964 and attended Greer Technical Institute in Chicago.

Wayne was proud to have served his country in the Army National Guard.

Wayne served on the Stockton Fire Dept. for 19 years (1980-1999) and was Fire Chief for several years. He was also on the 911 board and helped with implementing the Jo Daviess County 911 system.

He enjoyed walleye fishing in MN with his fishing buddies and most family vacations were spent on the lake in MN where he could listen to the loons. He loved NASCAR racing and spent many hours working on Keith Simmon's car getting it ready for that next Freeport race. He was very proud of his son and daughter's accomplishments and dearly loved his grandchildren. He had a rich and rewarding life and he will be missed so much by his family.

He is survived by his wife Shirley of Stockton; daughter Becky (Tom) Williams of Monroe; son Brian (Amanda) Lytle of Stockton; grandchildren Kayla and Evan Beyer and Kyle, Gaige and Zander Lytle; brother and sister-in-law John (Anne) Lytle of Lena; brother-in-law and sister-in-laws Marc (Sharon) Mason of Middleton, WI and Jim (Jan) Charckon of Freeport; nieces Dawn, Corteney, Andrea and Katie and great-nephew Chance.

He was preceded in death by his

parents.

Cremation rights have been accorded and a simple graveside service at Lena Cemetery is planned for late spring for family and close friends, per his request.

If anyone wishes to make a donation, the family asks that you consider making a donation to the Stockton Fire Dept. in Wayne's name.

ELIZABETH ANN RENTER

Elizabeth Ann Renter, 32, formerly of Lena, IL passed away on Nov. 17, 2018. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena. A visitation will be from 9 a.m. until time of services. Rev. Rick Bader will perform the services. A memorial has been established in her name. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

GRACE EPLING THOMAS

Grace Epling Thomas passed away in her home on Nov. 25, 2018, at the beautiful age of 91.

Grace was born in Freeport, Illinois, in 1927. In 1947 she married her high school sweetheart, Stanley Thomas of Dakota, Illinois, and they raised three children on their farms: Steve (Barbara),

Suzanne (Craig McCormick), and Terry (Barb). They have eight grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Grace created a beautiful home for her family and enjoyed working in her many vegetable and flower gardens. She generously shared her many hostas and flowering plants, and she kept her freezers full of homegrown veggies for her family. Until her last day, she kept up with current world events, and she was skilled at computer research. But perhaps her favorite love was books. Grace loved reading about all topics, particularly world cultures. Her living room is a whole library of interesting books: everything from spelunking to mountain climbing to Russian and New York City history.

Grace is preceded in death by her husband of 67 years and their granddaughter Jody Thomas Abouchaca. In lieu of a memorial service, Grace would like you to smell a flower, be respectful of nature, and be kind to each other. For those who would like to honor her with a memorial, donations could be made to St Jude Children's Hospital.

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

ADD 'EM UP and SAVE!



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10 years at our Freeport location
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Donald Krug

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334000

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Pastor Jonathan Singleton (815) 947-2414
 E-Mail: calvaryum@yahoo.com
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 • *Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.*

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Rev. Roger Hurlbut (815) 947-2033
 E-Mail: clc600@frontier.com
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-Lutheran-Church-Stockton-IL>
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 • *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.
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Pastor Randy Nicholas • 815-369-4511
Sunday Worship Alternates Monthly
At the two churches
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 • *Sunday School follows worship*
 • Dec. worship is at Ebenezer-UCC Church
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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

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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 - 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School - 8:15 a.m.*
 • Women's Faith Group -
 1st Tuesday monthly - 9:30 a.m.
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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

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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*

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 • *Children's Ministries* Please call church
 for dates and times
 • United Methodist Women – 1:30 p.m.
 (1st Wednesday of each month)
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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

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635 East Schapville Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028
Pastor Dotie 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
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(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
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ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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209 Clinton St., P.O. Box 445,
 Warren, IL 61087
Bryan Odeen Intern as Pastor
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www.stpaulswarren.org
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 • *Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*

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 • Children Sunday School - During the service
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WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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 Stockton, IL 61085
Pastor Chuck Wolbers (262) 308-2379
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 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
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 and adults) Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
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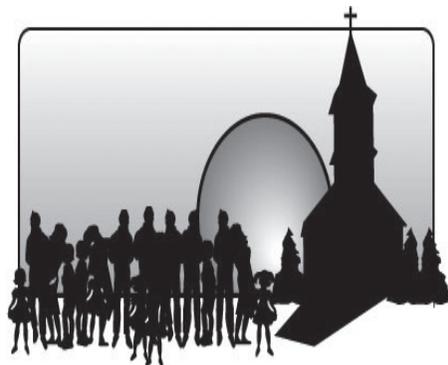
197 Carver Street, Winslow, IL 61089
Pastor Robert Patin (815) 230-1862
608-669-5770
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.*
 • Prayer and Bible Study – Wednesdays at
 6:30 p.m. in Home

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.*





TONY CARTON PHOTOS *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*

Lena's Hometown "Vintage Christmas"

(Above)
The Duncan family from the McConnell area work on their Christmas craft projects in the Lena Library.



The Grinch, Cindy Lou Who and Grinch paramour Martha May Whovier entertain guests at Sweetie Me Candy & Gift Shop in downtown Lena.

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Saturday, Dec. 8 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Festival of Trees display, Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Queen Jessica Williams helping youngsters make Snow people ornaments, Stockton memorabilia for sale, Wa Tan Ye club selling nuts and candies and the train running.

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CHRISTMAS WALK 2018

Christmas Around the World

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7
5:30PM

DECEMBER 7 & 8 | STOCKTON, IL

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 8

10am-2pm:

Join us as we make Stockton glow by lighting the Chamber's giant tree! Crowning of Little Jack Frost & Miss Merry Christmas by the tree. Caroling, cookies and cocoa will be provided!
(Special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!)

- 10-11am- Story Hour with Santa @ Stockton Township Library - sponsored by Northwest Illinois Reading Council
- 11am- Santa arrives by Fire Truck to Main St. Parties & Events
- 11am-1pm- Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus @ Main St. Parties & Events - picture opportunities, cocoa and treats provided
- 10am-2pm- Gift Wrapping Station @ Main St. Parties & Events - free gift wrapping for purchases made from Stockton businesses. Wrapping supplies provided by the Chamber, volunteer wrappers provided by Kreider Services
- 10am-2pm- 2nd Annual Festival of Trees @ Stockton Heritage Museum
- 11am-2pm- Horse Drawn Carriage Rides sponsored by Illinois Bank & Trust and SilkRug Stables across from Casey's (weather dependent)
- 11am-2pm- Bowling For A Buck @ Stockton Bowling Lanes (proceeds go to Stockton Food Pantry)
- 11am-2pm- Kids Coloring Contest @ Stockton Bowling Lanes - come vote for your favorite picture (proceeds go to Stockton Music Boosters)
- 10am-2pm- Vendors + Crafts @ Community Funding & Planning/FurstStaffing buildings on Main St. - shop local for crafts, cash & carry gifts, treats and more
- 10am-2pm- Punch Card Business Viewing & Activities - fill punch cards and win prizes to be drawn when visiting participating locations around town!

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Lena dodged the snow bullet last weekend. I talked to my cousin in Arizona, and she was teasing me about shoveling snow. She is from Rockford and had heard about their six inches. I told her that we in western Stephenson County live right. There was no shoveling for us. I am sure it will catch up with us sometime, so I had better be a little more humble. One of my friends suggested that I devote the first week's column in December to Christmas cookies. I used her suggestion. Some of the cookies are different from the usual ones, and I will include one of my favorites also. If you aren't into cookies, you might want to skip this week's reading.

This first recipe is for a ginger cookie. We always had ginger cookies at Christmas time. This recipe is a tribute to Mrs. Hahn, who made the best ginger cookies in the world. This one is a little easier than hers, and it makes a good sized cookie. This recipe is for the molasses lovers in the crowd.

Ginger Spiced Cookies

- ¾ C. unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ C. sugar
- ¼ C. firmly packed dark brown

- sugar
- 1 large egg
- ¼ C. molasses
- 2 C. flour
- 2 t. ground ginger
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ¾ t. salt
- ¼ t. ground nutmeg

Preheat oven to 350. Line baking sheets with parchment paper. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter and both sugars at medium speed until fluffy, 3-4 minutes, stopping to scrape sides of the bowl. Add egg, beating until well combined. Add the molasses, beating until well combined.

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, ginger, baking soda, cinnamon, salt and nutmeg with mixer on low speed, gradually add the flour mixture to the butter mixture, beating just until combined. Using a ½ tablespoon scoop, scoop dough into mounds. Roll each mound into a ball and roll balls in turbine sugar, if desired. Place on prepared pans. Bake until edges are lightly browned, 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool on pans for 2 minutes. Remove from pans, and let cool completely on wire racks.

One of my dear friends passed away earlier this year, and she used to make candy cane cookies. She didn't share the recipe with me, but this one uses different colored dough just like her candy cane cookies. This cookie is both red and green, and takes a little work, but it is worth it.

Christmas Pinwheel Cookies

- 2/3 C. unsalted butter, softened

- 2/3 C. sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 t. vanilla
- 1¾ C. flour
- ½ t. salt
- ¼ t. baking soda
- ¼ t. red gel food coloring
- ¼ t. green gel food coloring

In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter and sugar at medium speed until creamy, 3 to 4 minutes, stopping to scrape sides of the bowl. Add the egg, beating well. Beat in vanilla.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, salt, and baking soda. With mixer on low speed, gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture, beating until combined. Divide dough into thirds.

Return one-third of dough to stand mixer. With mixer on medium-low speed, add red food coloring, beating until well combined. Repeat the procedure with another one-third of dough and green food coloring. Leave remaining one-third of dough as is. Shape dough into disks and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Roll each portion of dough between 2 sheets of parchment paper into a 6-inch square. Refrigerate between parchments for 15 minutes.

Remove parchment from top of red dough, bottom of white dough, and both sides of green dough. Place dough layers one on top of the other with red on bottom and white on top. Roll dough between parchment paper into a 12 x 8 inch rectangle. Remove top sheet of parchment paper. Starting at one long side, tightly roll up dough, jelly roll style. Wrap log in parchment paper and freeze for one hour.

Preheat the oven to 350. Line 2

baking sheets with parchment paper. Cut dough into ½ inch thick slices. Roll edges of slices in sanding sugar, if desired. Place 1 inch apart on prepared pans. Bake until set, 8-10 minutes. Let cool on pans for 1 minute. Remove from pans and let cool completely on wire racks.

If you are into making bars, this tasty cherry cookie bar is a good one for a cookie plate. The filling is made from sweet cherries which you can buy frozen. You can use Bing cherries or dark cherries if you wish. Cherries and almonds are a good flavor combination. Enjoy a little different cookie bar for the holidays.

Cherry Cookie Bars

Filling

- 4 C. sweet cherries, pitted and halved
- 1/3 C. sugar
- 2 t. cornstarch
- 1/8 t. almond extract

Dough

- 2½ C. flour
- 1 ½ t. baking powder
- ¼ t. salt
- 2 sticks salted butter, softened
- 1 C. sugar
- Grated zest of 1 orange
- 1 large egg plus 1 egg yolk
- ½ t. vanilla
- 2 T. milk

Glaze

- 1 C. powdered sugar
 - Grated zest of 1 lemon
 - 1 T. whole milk (more if needed)
- Preheat the oven to 350. Filling: combine the cherries, sugar, cornstarch and almond in a bowl and let stand while you make the dough.

Dough: Sift the flour, baking powder and salt into a medium bowl; set aside. Cream the butter, sugar and

orange zest in a mixer fitted with the paddle attachment on medium-high speed until combined, about 2 minutes. Add the egg, egg yolk and vanilla and mix until fully incorporated, about 1 minute. Add the dry ingredients in three batches, alternating with the milk, and beat until the dough comes together (it will be soft).

Press two-thirds of the dough into a 9 x 13 pan sprayed with cooking spray. Pour the cherry filling and any juices on top and spread it out. Crumble the remaining dough over the filling. Bake until the cherries are bubbly and the dough is golden, about 35 minutes. Transfer to a rack to cool completely, about 1 hour. Glaze: Combine the powdered sugar, lemon zest and milk in a medium bowl until smooth; thin with more milk if necessary. Drizzle on the bars and cut into squares.

Almost everything tastes good using sweetened condensed milk. This is an easy chocolate cookie recipe that will be a hit for the chocolate lovers.

Turtle Cookies

- 4 T. unsalted butter, melted
 - 1 pkg. (12 oz.) semisweet chocolate chips
 - 1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk
 - 1 t. vanilla
 - 1 C. flour
 - 1½ C. chopped pecans, toasted
 - 1¼ C. caramel bits
 - Icing
 - 1 C semisweet chocolate chips
 - 2 t. butter
- Preheat the oven to 350. Micro-

See KITCHEN, Page 16



Holiday Gift Guide



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Soil Fertility Webinar offered by U of I Extension Offices

Commercial Agriculture Educators Jesse Soule, Phillip Alberti, and Talon Becker will be hosting the annual Soil Fertility Webinar sponsored by University of Illinois Extension on Feb. 28, 2019.

This webinar will be hosted in the U of I Extension Offices in Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties. Presentations will be delivered via PowerPoint and web conferencing from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

“Those in attendance will hear about the latest University of Illinois research on the long term effects of crop rotation and tillage, as well as the relationship between cover crops and soil nitrogen availability. Other presenters from the University of Wisconsin, Western Illinois University, and the Illinois SWCD will discuss nutrient loss on tile drained land, nutrient management in organic systems, and a farmer-led program to improve soil health,” says Jesse Soule, U of I

Extension Educator.

Presentations include:

- Managing Phosphorus Loss in Tile Systems Aaron Pape, University of Wisconsin Discovery Farms, Tile Drainage Education Coordinator

- Cover Crops and Soil N Availability in Corn & Soybean Systems Lowell Gentry, University of Illinois, Principal Research Specialist in Agriculture

- Long term Crop Rotation and Tillage Effects on Soil GHG Emissions and Crop Production in Illinois

Gevan Behnke, University of Illinois, Senior Research Specialist

- S.T.A.R. A Farmer-Led Program to Reduce Nutrient and Soil Losses and Improve Soil Health

Bruce Henrikson, Champaign SWCD, Special Projects Coordinator

- Understanding and Extending Organic Nutrient Management Concepts

Joel Gruver, Western Illinois

University, Associate Professor of Soil Science & Sustainable Agriculture.

Registration is \$45 per person for Certified Crop Advisors who want to obtain continuing education units (CEU) and \$15 for those

that wish to attend but not obtain CEUs. Registration costs includes lunch. Pre-registration is required by February 25. To Register: go.illinois.edu/jsw or call your local Extension office: Jo Daviess County (815) 858-2273, Stephenson

County (815) 235-4125, Winnebago County (815) 986-4357

Certified Crop Advisors will receive 4.5 continuing education units in Nutrient Management and Soil and Water Management by attending this seminar.

JDCF accepting nominations for Conservation Leadership Award

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) is accepting nominations for the Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award, which will be presented at the Foundation’s annual meeting in early 2019. An individual, organization, governmental entity, educational institution, or business that has demonstrated creativity and/or leadership in the preservation, restoration, or stewardship of natural areas and/or Native American cultural resources, or has a strong history of promoting an understanding of the natural world in Northwest Illinois, particularly Jo Daviess County, is eligible. Nominees may have

also shown financial leadership that supports land conservation. Priority will be given to nominees with distinguished lifetime accomplishments and impact made in the service area of the Foundation. JDCF’s Executive Committee seeks nominations annually beginning in October each year and uses the above criteria to make its selection. Nominations are due by Dec. 31. Current staff and board members of JDCF are not eligible. A nomination form can be found at www.jdcf.org.

The Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award is named after JDCF’s long-time board member and past Board President and

Vice President, Nancy Hamill Winter. Formerly a Stockton resident Nancy dedicated much of her adult life to the preservation and care of natural habitats and the Native American cultural heritage of Northern Illinois. The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation is a local non-profit whose mission is to preserve land for the lasting well-being of people and wildlife. JDCF owns several beautiful and unique preserves that are open to the public for hiking, wildlife viewing, and picnicking. For more information about JDCF, please visit their office at 126 N Main Street, Elizabeth IL, or contact them at www.jdcf.org, or info@jdcf.org.

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Sam Townsend battles in the middle of the paint getting up for two plus the foul.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTOS *The Scoop Today*

Wildcat basketball

Ben Werner gets up over the Bulldogs defender adding two to the board.



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO *The Scoop Today*

Stockton Varsity Basketball

Cody Schultz aims to put some points on the board for the Stockton Blackhawks.



Cameron Ziarko makes his way for the side jumper good for two.



COURTESY PHOTO *The Scoop Today*

Le-Win/Stockton wrestling

A big win is always a great way to start the year and have PantherHawk seniors and their parents honored. PantherHawks 84 - AFC 0. PantherHawks 70 - Stillman Valley 3

LEGALS

NOTICE TO PETROLEUM DEALERS

Sealed proposals for the purchase of premium diesel fuel and unleaded gasoline will be received by the Apple River Township Board at the Apple River Township office, until 7:00 P.M. December 12th, 2018.

Proposed materials purchases are diesel fuel and unleaded gasoline.

Specifications and proposals may be obtained by contacting the Apple River Township Supervisor or writing to the following address:

Apple River Township
James C. Goken / Supervisor
2704 E. Stagecoach Trail
Apple River, IL. 61001-9714
The Apple River Township Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive technicalities.

By order of the Apple River Township Board and James C. Goken, Township Supervisor.
(Published in *The Scoop Today* Dec. 5, 2018)

333986

Public Notice

The Chief County Assessment Officer for Jo Daviess County will be holding the Annual Township Assessor's meeting on Monday, December 10, 2018 in the County Board Room on the 3rd floor of the Jo Daviess County Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to hand out guidelines, workbooks and exemption forms for the 2019 assessment year.

Donna M. Berlage
Chief County Assessment Officer
(Published in *The Scoop Today* Dec. 5, 2018)

334017



Frosh/Soph Blackhawk basketball

Stockton Frosh/Soph Blackhawks Hunter Hille, Wyatt Baber and Caleb Mammoser do their best to block a shot from Polo.



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO
The Scoop Today

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The tour includes the homes of:
 Dan and Sarah Todd, 606 N. Center
 Sheila Bowden, 209 Walnut Street
 Bill and Toni Bollon, 412 Freedom
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason.

**TOUR HOURS: FRIDAY, DEC. 7, 4:30-7 PM
 AND SATURDAY, DEC. 8, 10 AM-2 PM.**

This event is sponsored by the Lena Business and Professional Association.



333955

PantherHawks dominate Senior Night mat

By Trent Scheidegger
 REPORTER

The LeWin PantherHawks Wrestling squad hosted AFC and Stillman Valley last Tuesday for their senior night.

The Pantherhawks came away with a pretty dominant win in their matches against AFC. AFC was forced to take a dozen forfeits in their meet, leaving room for just two matches, both of which the Panther-

Hawks would win by pin. Jason Hermann (145) and Brady Stich (220) took home those pins, giving LeWin/Stockton an 84-0 victory over AFC.

The Stillman Valley roster matched up much better, allowing for some more action in the meet.

The PantherHawks would still win with an impressive score, however, as the team finished with nine pins, as well as four major decisions over Stillman Valley.

Jason Hermann bumped up to the 152 weight class this match, but still took home the win with an 11-3 Major decision, putting him at 2-0 for the evening.

Zach White (106), Simon Rillie (120), Nate Noller (126), and Case Harmston (160) were just a few of the PantherHawk wrestlers who finished with impressive pins over Stillman Valley. LeWin/Stockton finished the match with an impressive score of 70-3 as the team went 2-0 on the day.

Overall it was in incredibly successful Senior Night for the PantherHawks, as the only loss they took came by way of a 5-1 decision for Brady Stich, who finished 1-1 on the evening.

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*NOTE: Connie quilted & collected quilts for over 20 years. If you are a quilter or collect vintage quilts, this is one auction you don't want to miss. This is a large auction with some items being sold individually and some in group lots. **QUILTS & KITS:** 50+ vintage quilts; vintage quilt tops & blocks; SEVERAL wool kits from Primitive Gatherings & Buttermilk Basin; (200+) quilt kits w/patterns; MANY quilt kits w/o patterns; **VERY LARGE SELECTION** of fat quarters to yardages of Civil War, Shirting, Reproductions & Kansas Troubles; **LARGE QUANTITY** of fabrics incl. Moda, Windham, Marcus Brothers, Andover, RJR & more; **LARGE SELECTION** of fabric bundles, jellyrolls, charm packets & collections; White model 534 Superlock & other sewing machines; quantity of quilting & sewing supplies & books; Longaberger baskets. **TERMS: CASH or GOOD CHECK***

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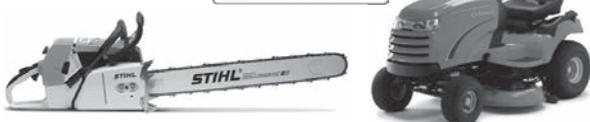
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Announcements

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COURTESY PHOTOS *The Scoop Today*

Sharing cultures

The River Ridge Middle School spent an afternoon learning about various cultures and the strength of diversity in their very own Multicultural Celebration Day.” American Field Service (AFS) and International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES) students from around the globe shared their cultures and countries.

Left to right: Kantemir (Kyrgyzstan), Tomo Fujita (Japan), Antonia Macchiavello Salvo (Chile), Matilde Sacavern (Portugal), Isabella Motta (Italy), Klara Rosengren (Sweden), Nattima Rungsai (Thailand), Jean-Luis Haase (Germany), Ren Hasegawa (Japan), Carlo Quatraro (Italy), Tallest young man in back row: Jakub (Slovakia)



River Ridge Middle School studied various cultures and the strength of diversity in their own “Multicultural Celebration Day.” Here, Ren from Japan helps Cameron Harris create a frog from origami.

River Ridge High School announces Illinois State Scholars

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping to make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, confers this prestigious recognition to top Illinois high

school students annually. This year, more than 21,000 honorees join the other top students who have been honored for their academic achievements since the designation was first introduced in 1958.

Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top ten percent of high school seniors from 757 high schools across the state. Illinois State Scholars are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth semester class rank.

Benjamin Crist son of Doctor G. Allen & Sandy Crist

Nicholas Parr son of Mike Parr and Lisa Parr

Wyatt Potter son of Jeff & Brenda Potter

“In this 60th year of the Illinois State Scholar Program, we commend another class of outstanding students that will lead us into the future,” said Eric Zarnikow, executive director of ISAC. “Congratulations to these Scholars for their hard work and accomplishments, and congratulations to the families, principals, teachers, counselors, coaches, mentors, and all of the other individuals who not only help our students find the path that will allow them to flourish, but also support them every step of the way.”

While the State Scholar recognition does not include a monetary prize, honorees will receive a congratulatory letter from ISAC and a personalized Certificate of Achievement. Honorees can also download a digital Illinois State Scholar badge that can be displayed on their online profiles and social media platforms, and shared with high school counselors, prospective colleges, employers, family members and others. A complete list of the 2019-20 Illinois State Scholars can be found on ISAC’s website.



American Field Service (AFS) and International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES) students from around the globe shared their cultures and countries with River Ridge Middle School students.

Here, Arianna Pedrin learns to write her name using the language of Thailand.

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Joe Nack, Attorney for sellers
 For more info or viewing call Dean 815-291-5720
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CTE Academy National Art Honor Society Art Show opens

The CTE Academy National Art Honor Society Art Show is back! Members picked “Under the Sea” for their theme this year. Current students, former NAHS members, and chapter sponsors all made artwork around this topic and now have it ready to share with the world. Next week, the officers will install the artwork at the Freeport Art Museum and then host an Opening on Dec. 6, from 5-7 p.m. Light refreshments will be served, and all young artists will be on hand to talk about their work. Under the Sea will be on display at the Freeport Art Museum, located at 121 N Harlem Ave. from Dec. 1,– Jan. 4, 2019.

This year’s NAHS chapter includes: Echo Taylor (President) Stockton Senior, Sammi Digman (Vice President) Galena Senior, Linzy Friedlein (Secretary) Stockton Senior, CJ Cowell (Treasurer) River Ridge Junior, Jasmine Dewey – Stockton Senior, Casey Williams – Stockton Junior, McKenzie Bader – Scales Mound Sophomore, Maddi Anderson – Scales Mound Freshman, Jordan Bordner – Scales Mound Freshman, Bella Cole – Scales Mound Freshman, Hunter Curtiss – Scales Mound Freshman, and Lexi Weirup – Scales Mound Freshman. Chapter sponsors are Irene Thraen-Borowski (Graphics teacher at the CTE Academy), Dorothy Ramey (Stockton Art teacher), and Sara Wentz (Scales Mound Art teacher). For additional information contact Irene at irene@cteacademy.net or 815-858-2203.

Scales Mound CUSD #211 October BOE meeting summary

On Monday, Oct. 15, 2018, Scales Mound CUSD #211 held its regularly scheduled School Board meeting at 7 p.m. in the school library. Kyle DeMus of the auditing firm of Benning Group, LLC, presented the annual District audit. Mr. DeMus indicated that the district had a clean audit and an expected financial rating of 4.0, which is the highest rating available to school districts.

The Board also heard a presentation from Mrs. Jenny Raab and Mrs. Karen Montgomery on an up-

coming Halloween Family Reading Night. The District is excited to welcome author Aaron Reynolds to present to the elementary and junior high school students during the day, and to parents and students in the evening. Junior high students will participate in a "break-out" activity during the family reading night to earn a key to enter the haunted high school sponsored by the high school boys' basketball team.

Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Raab also presented information regarding the new elementary schedule

and guided reading program. With the help of second graders Matthew Duerr and Madison Wurm, the teachers demonstrated how the students use the Daily 5. The program mixes individual reading, group reading, and writing.

In other action, the Board approved a proposal to create a tri-op cooperative with Benton, Scales Mound, and Shullsburg School Districts for H.S. football. The proposal now goes to the principals and

athletic directors of the Wisconsin conference for approval.

The Board also approved setting the following dates for public hearings and end of the year activities:

Public Hearing for a tuition waiver on Nov. 19, at 7 p.m.

Public Hearing for the 2019 Tax Levy on Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.

Senior Awards Night on May 16, 2019, at 7 p.m.

H.S. Graduation on May 17, 2019, at 7 p.m.

J.H. Promotional Ceremony on May 21, 2019, at 7 p.m. (Tentative - pending no snow days)

Finally the Board accepted the recommendation of the Facilities Committee to seek proposals to refinish and rebrand the main gym floor and to paint the gym and bleachers in the summer of 2019.

The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting will be on Monday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in the District's library.

Highland ECE students hold a fundraiser for books to area students

Highland students in the Intro to Early Childhood Education (ECE) classes raised enough money to disperse books to 12 area teachers for a book a month to a total of 335 students from area schools in the Highland Community College district through the end of the school year.

The service project was the idea of Melissa Johnson, Early Childhood Education Coordinator at Highland. It was through a Facebook post she saw for a similar program that prompted her to take the idea to her students. Johnson credits Peggy Tell, a kindergarten teacher in the Freeport school district, who teaches part-time at the college, for the inspiration.

Each Highland student was assigned a teacher and was in charge of recruiting sponsors for the books, which are purchased through Scholastic Books. The amount of money raised was \$3,015. The cost per book per student is \$1 a month, for a total of \$9 a school year. Teachers are able to set up accounts with Scholastic

Books. The added bonus is with each book purchased, points are earned to buy more books.

Kendra Rinehart of German Valley is a student in Intro to Early Childhood Education and a pre-school teacher in German Valley. Rinehart said when she heard about the book program, she was excited to help children learn through books.

"This was a special service project and my students in German Valley are really into books, and I like the idea of starting young children with a love of reading," Rinehart said. "To take home a book a month is about making their day, and they love it."

Johnson added, "Many parents cannot afford books for their children, and the Highland ECE students took the idea and ran with it."

For more on Early Childhood Education classes at Highland and the new Early Childhood Development Online degree, contact Melissa Johnson at melissa.johnson@highland.edu or 815-599-3486.efits.

• Village (Continued from front page)

branches amongst ornaments. Many of the of the ornaments are simple globes or small images of fruits and vegetables made of a special candy."

"That candy is called Marzipan," Don Mason said. "Marzipan is made from almond flour, sugar and egg white. The almonds are blanched in hot water, the skin is removed and then finely ground and mixed with the egg white and sugar to make a paste. Once the paste is set, it can be shaped into any figure, but it's our tradition to make the ornaments look like fruits and vegetables or simple spheres. We then color the shapes with vegetable dyes."

In other parts of the fort soldiers keep watch for marauding Indians

and trappers sort the pelts of the animals they've taken. Food is being prepared and some women sit by a fire spinning wool.

Winter hours at the Fort and Interpretive Center where special holiday gift items are on sale are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until dusk. The Center can be reached at 815-858-2028. The E Town Coffee Shop on Main Street in Elizabeth is open Monday through Saturday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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*Memorials-Did you know? Donors can give a gift as a tribute in memory of a loved one. The Stockton Education Foundation would be honored to receive such contributions.

•Kitchen (Continued from page 9)

wave butter on high until melted. Add chocolate chips and condensed milk; microwave until chips are melted, stirring every 30 seconds. Stir in vanilla. Add flour and mix well. Stir in nuts and caramel bits. Drop dough by tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto parchment paper-lined baking sheets. Bake until edges are set, 7-9 minutes. Cool on pans for 2 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool completely.

For icing, microwave chocolate chips and butter on high until melted. Drizzle over cooled cookies.

My Czech friend would say that these are not truly Kolach cookies, but they are a simplified version that is still pretty good (they are also Polish and not Czech!) If you are into fruit filled cookies, these are great substitutes for the real thing.

Polish Kolacky Cookies

2 C. flour
2 t. baking powder
1 C. butter, softened
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, soft-

ened
2 T. sugar
1/3 C. each apricot and raspberry cake and pastry filling
¼ C. powdered sugar
Combine flour and baking powder in a separate bowl. Beat butter, cream cheese and sugar in a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Divide dough into thirds; shape each into a ball. Flatten each ball slightly; wrap separately in plastic wrap. Refrigerate 1 hour.

Preheat the oven to 350. Roll out 1 ball of dough into 1/8 inch thickness on a lightly floured surface. Cut into 2 inch squares, rerolling trimmings as necessary. Spoon about ½ t. pastry filling onto the center of each square. Use fingertip to lightly moisten 2 opposite corners of each dough square with water and then overlap corners in center and press together to seal. Place filling sides up and 1 inch apart on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Repeat with remaining dough. Bake 13 to 15 minutes or until lightly browned.

Cool on baking sheets for 3 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool completely. Sprinkle lightly with powdered sugar before serving.

This recipe makes a chocolate thumbprint cookie rather than the traditional one. It uses cocoa powder and chopped milk chocolate as well as chocolate chips. Enjoy this new taste on an old favorite.

Chocolate Peppermint Thumbprint Cookies

1 C. plus 2 T. flour
1/3 C. unsweetened cocoa powder
¾ t. baking soda
½ t. salt
1¼ sticks salted butter, softened
1 C. sugar
1 large egg
1½ t. vanilla extract
¾ C. semisweet chocolate chips
4 oz. milk chocolate, chopped
Crushed peppermint candies

Sift the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt into a large bowl and set aside. In the bowl of a mixer, cream the butter and sugar on medium-high speed until fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla and mix until combined. Reduce speed to low and add the flour mixture in two batches, beating until just combined after each addition. Mix in the chocolate chips.

Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Scoop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough and roll into smooth round balls. Place 2 inches apart on the baking sheets. Refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour or overnight. Preheat the oven to 350. Bake the cookies until just set, 9-11

minutes. Let cool slightly, then press the handle of a wooden spoon into the center of each cookie to make a small indentation. Remove the cookies to a rack to cool completely.

Melt the milk chocolate in the microwave in 30 second intervals, stirring. Spoon about ½ teaspoon of the melted chocolate into the center of each cookie and top with crushed peppermints. Let set.

These are my tried and true thumbprint cookies. They are great for those people who can't have eggs because there are very few cookies that don't use eggs. Remember you start them in a cold oven at 250.

Lenore's Thumb Print Cookies

2 sticks of unsalted butter
4 T. sugar
2 C. ground pecans
2 C. flour
1 t. vanilla
1 t. salt

Frosting

½ stick of unsalted butter, softened
4 oz. cream cheese, softened
2 C. powdered sugar
1 t. vanilla
A few drops of food coloring

Cream room temperature butter and sugar. Add the rest of the ingredients. Shape into small balls and put on ungreased cookie sheet. Press with your thumb. Place cookie sheets in a cold oven. Bake at 250 for one hour. When cool frost with cream cheese frosting or drop jelly or jam in the print. Store in a cool place. These freeze well and also keep (if you don't eat them all) well

for several weeks.

I started this column in the afternoon, and sure enough the snow came by evening. I guess I tempted fate with the first paragraph. I hope you all enjoyed the business association's parade and open houses this past weekend. The tree is lighted and things look festive downtown. Breakfast with Santa is Saturday, and it is always a good time for the little ones. Be sure you stop in our beautiful stores and look around. We also have the wonderful food stores—cheese and meat that is great at any time.

We continue to look for Christmas recipes—cookies, main dishes, and appetizers. If you would like to share, please send them in. You can contact us in person, by mail, or email us at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 213 S. Center St. or email scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

Birth

Madison Grace Hammer

Charity and Mitchell Hammer of Shannon, IL are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Madison Grace Hammer born on Nov. 26, 2018 at FHN Memorial Hospital Freeport, IL. Grandparents are Joe & Mary Hammer of Shannon, IL; Cevin Brenner of Freeport, IL; and Kitty Boulder of Winslow, IL. Madison joins brothers Mitchell, Matthew, and Michael at home.

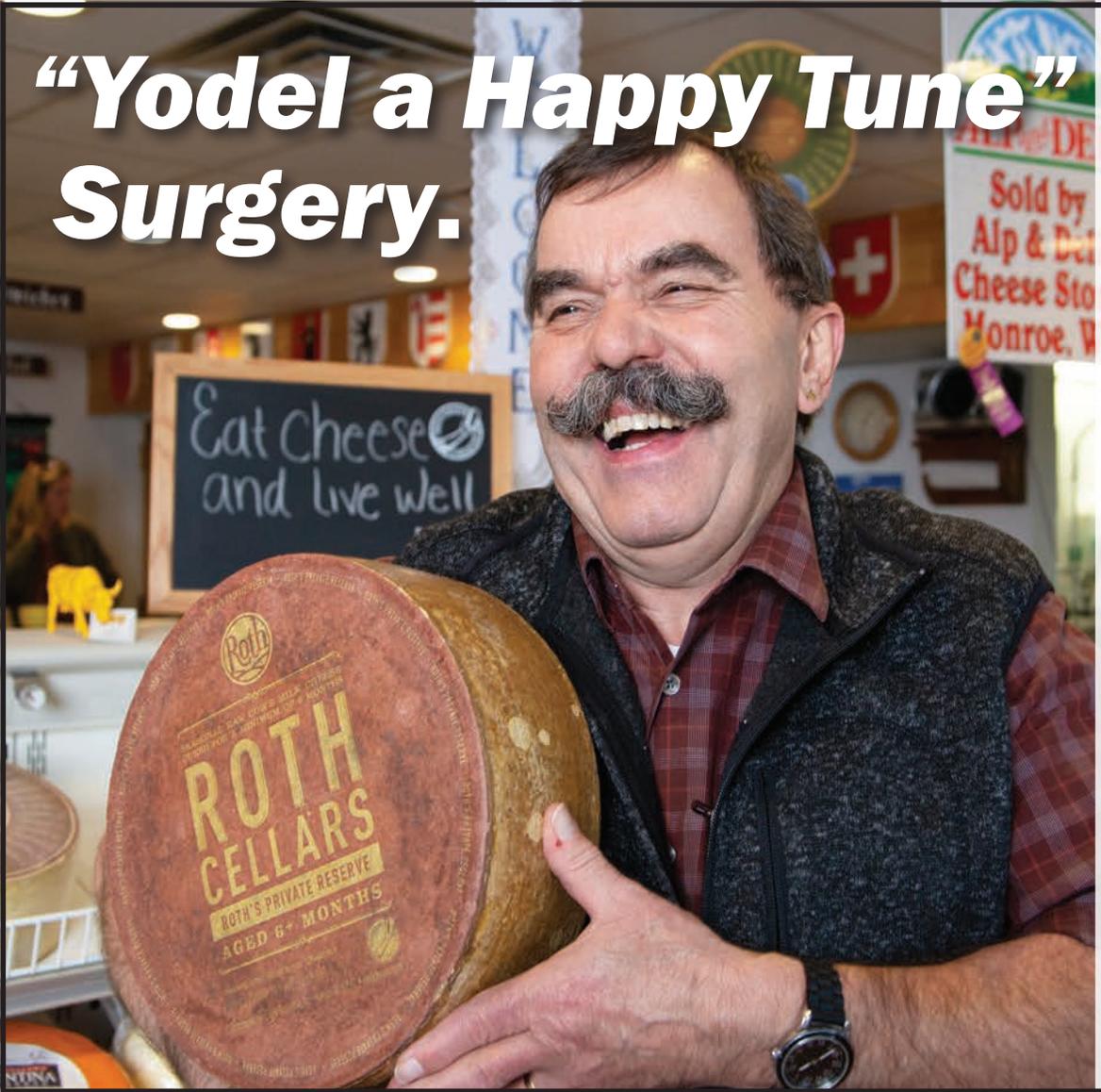
VNWIL host Holiday Zentangle Class

Join us for our Holiday Zentangle Class, taught by CZT (Certified Zentangle Teacher), Mary Stayner on Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 9:30 a.m. at the Volunteer Visitors of NW IL office at 105 S Main St, Stockton, IL. We will be learning some festive holiday tangles to make gift bags and greeting cards as well as revisiting some of our favorites. All materials will be provided for your tangling adventure. Donations are appreciated.

Feel free to bring a holiday snack to share.

This relaxing and mindful artistic form is truly rewarding. There is no prior experience necessary and we welcome new "tangles" each month, so plan to join us as we continue our journey.

Please call us at 815-947-3260 or email at volhospice@mediacomb.net to reserve your place by Monday, Dec. 17.



"Yodel a Happy Tune" Surgery.

“ My hip was so painful that it changed my personality. Now I am happy to be pain free, working and smiling again! ”

Tony Zraggen, New Glarus, WI

For Tony the hip pain had become constant. Over time the cheese store work he had always loved became a painful chore. Finally, when pain stole his desire to break into a spontaneous yodel, Tony knew it was time to connect with Monroe Clinic's Ortho team.

A little over a week after his hip replacement surgery, Tony was walking a couple of miles daily. In two weeks he was back at the cheese store—yodeling, working and enjoying his everyday life with gusto.

Monroe Clinic—helping patients like Tony get from where they are to where they want to be.

Where do you want to be?

Monroe Clinic

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