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VOL. 85 • NO. 12

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

## 2019 mid-winter bald eagle count results

By Terrence Ingram  
 ENF EXEC. DIRECTOR

The Eagle Nature Foundation has just released the results of its 59th year of conducting the Mid-Winter Bald Eagle Count. This year's count continues to document the downward trend of the bald eagle population in the Midwest.

A total of 873 bald eagles were counted in this year's count with only 175 immatures recorded. This compares to 1,156 total bald eagles counted last year with 230 immatures recorded. We generally have to go back to the early 1960s to find numbers any lower than this year's. The final results would have been much worse except for two dams being blessed with the presence of a bald eagle community of close to 100 birds on the day of the count.

Even though the eagle numbers were low, the numbers of volunteers counting the birds are probably 6 to 10 times greater than they were in the 1960s when the late Elton Fawks was compiling the count. Mr. Terrence Ingram has been participating in the count ever since it started, and has been compiling the count ever since Elton Fawks passed away. Each year we get new volunteers to count the bald eagles in their own areas.

This count is conducted in basically a two hour period on Saturday of Count Weekend. This short time frame is designed to yield as accurate a number as possible and eliminate duplication of birds moving from one count area to another, as they fly 60 to 80 miles per hour. A community of wintering bald eagles has a feeding territory of about 250 square miles, so in one day they could possibly be seen by several different counters within those 250 square miles. In that two hour period, volunteers from Minnesota and Wisconsin to Tennessee and Nebraska travel many miles in their own areas in search for the bald eagles wintering near them.

When the bald eagle population was at its peak in the past, this count

had recorded as many as over 4,000 total bald eagles and over 1,000 immatures. The bald eagle population in the Midwest gradually increased from the 1960s until the first decade of the 2000s. Ever since then it has been on a fairly general decline, with each year fewer birds being seen than were seen the year before. But this is the first year when some volunteers stated that they had driven their regular count routes without seeing a single eagle.

Some of the Lockmasters of the dams on the Mississippi give us hourly counts which they have conducted during the two days of the count. This is tremendously helpful in monitoring the migration and movements of the birds. Between morning and afternoon some dams will experience a great increase or decrease in the birds present. Looking at the counts for the dams either upstream or downstream from them a person can see in which direction the birds are moving during the two days.

Other bald eagle counts are recording a low number of bald eagles as well. For years the US Army Corps of Engineers has conducted weekly bald eagle counts at 12 dams along the Mississippi River from Dubuque, IA to Saverton, MO. Last year the numbers of bald eagles they saw were low, but this year they only saw a total of about 1/5 of last year's count. For 30 years, the Ferry Bluff Council has conducted bi-weekly counts of bald eagles using nighttime community roosts along the Wisconsin River. The number of eagles seen by their volunteers this winter was the lowest they had seen in all the years of their count history.

Where are the eagles??? The Wisconsin DNR is claiming that now there are a record number of bald eagle nests in the state. Why aren't those nests producing young eagles to be seen in the winter? We need to discover the cause for this discrepancy before the bald eagle population reaches a point of no return.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

### Blackhawk Way

Stockton Elementary students earn prizes for being a Little Blackhawk. Great job on following the Blackhawk Way.

## Tyler's Justice Center for Children's Fifth Annual Men Who Cook

Tyler's Justice Center for Children holding its Fifth Annual Men Who Cook fundraiser on Saturday, April 6, at the Freeport Masonic Temple from 5-8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time for \$20, or for \$25 at the door on the night of the event. Children 12 years old and under are free! The event will include a silent auction, raffles, cash bar and plenty to eat! Men Who Cook is a

casual, family-friendly event featuring local men preparing bite-sized samples of their favorite dishes to benefit Tyler's Justice Center for Children. There is a cash prize for the top three dishes. For more ticket information, or if you are interested in being a cook at this event, please contact Missy Lyons or Kendra Mosley at Tyler's Justice Center at 815-947-6030.



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# Jo Daviess County SWCD tree sale is underway

The Jo Daviess County Soil and Water Conservation District is now accepting orders for the 2019 annual tree and shrub sale and will continue to take orders through March 8.

Delivery is planned for Thursday, April 11.

Evergreens include American Arborvitae, Fraser Fir, White Pine, Colorado Blue Spruce, and Norway Spruce.

Deciduous trees include Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Burr Oak, Kentucky Coffeetree, Red Oak, Sugar Maple, Sycamore, Swamp White Oak, and White Oak.

Shrubs include American Hazelnut, Highbush Cranberry, Lilac, Red Osier Dogwood, and Roughleaf Dogwood.

Orders forms can be picked up at the District Office: 227 N. Main Street, Elizabeth or on-line at [www.jdswcd.com](http://www.jdswcd.com), emailing [mindy.pratt@il.nacdnet.net](mailto:mindy.pratt@il.nacdnet.net) or by calling 815-858-3418 ext. 3.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

## Light notes

Miss Gray's first grade, students learn that they can communicate using light. They used flashlights to send messages to their friends.

# Stockton's Hayden Fox earns spot on 2019 UW-Whitewater Baseball Roster

Hayden Fox, a native of Stockton, IL, and graduate of Stockton High School, will compete for the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater baseball team during the 2019 season, which begins this Friday.

Fox, a freshman at UW-Whitewater, is majoring in business.

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater baseball team looks to continue its recent run of success at the conference, regional and national levels in 2019 as it begins its new season this Friday and Saturday with

three games at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Ala.

Last season, the Warhawks claimed their 11th straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament, won the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship and finished with a 33-8 record, including a 20-4 mark against WIAC opponents. The team finished at No. 7 in the American Baseball Coaches Association/Collegiate Baseball NCAA Division

III Poll and ninth in the D3baseball.com/National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Top 25.

Coming off that campaign, UW-Whitewater is ranked second in preseason polls from Collegiate Baseball and the NCBWA/D3baseball.com and looks to contend for its 19th WIAC championship.

The Warhawks face Spalding (Ky.) and North Park (Ill.) on Friday and Huntingdon on Saturday to open the new campaign.

After more than a month without games scheduled, UW-Whitewater returns to the diamond March 20 against Division II West Florida at Blue Wahoos Stadium in Pensacola, Fla. The team plays games against St. Thomas (Minn.) on March 21-22 in Pensacola before heading southeast to Auburndale to play four more, including contests against Kalamazoo (Mich.), Middlebury (Vt.), Franklin (Ind.) and Elmhurst (Ill.).

The Warhawks are scheduled to play their home opener March 30 against perennial regional contender St. Scholastica (Minn.), and welcome No. 18 UW-Oshkosh to Miller Stadium on April 6-7 for a four-game WIAC set

After a visit to UW-Platteville on April 10 for a doubleheader, UW-Whitewater plays its next 10 games at Miller Stadium, including single contests against St. Norbert (April 11) and Concordia Wisconsin (April 17) and four-game series against UW-Stout (April 13-14) and Finlandia (April 19-20).

The Warhawks play their next eight games on the road - UW-Plat-

teville (April 23), UW-La Crosse (April 27-28) and Ripon (May 1) - before hosting UW-Stevens Point in a four-game set on May 3-4 to wrap up the regular season.

The WIAC Championship is slated for May 10-11 at the regular season champion. The NCAA Tournament begins May 16-20 with regionals, continues on May 24-26 with super regionals and concludes May 31-June 5 with the eight-team NCAA Championship in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

John Vodenlich, who is in his 16th season as head coach, returns five positional starters, one starting pitcher and several other pitchers with both starting and relief experience.

## Rhonda McPeck

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## Bridgeman sentenced in Jo Daviess County

Jo Daviess County State's Attorney, John D. Hay would like to inform the public of the following information. On March 6, Terry L. Bridgeman, of Warren, Illinois pled guilty as part of a plea agreement to the charge of Unlawful Possession of Weapons by a Felon, which is a Class 3 Felony. As a result of his plea of guilty, Mr. Bridgeman was sentenced by Judge Kevin Ward to two years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Bridgeman will be placed on Mandatory Supervised Release (formerly known as Parole) for one (1) year.

The Warren Police Department handled the investigation of this case.

## Bertucci sentenced in Jo Daviess County

Jo Daviess County State's Attorney, John D. Hay would like to inform the public of the following information. On March 14, 2019, Michael Bertucci of Freeport, Illinois was sentenced as part of a plea agreement to the charge of Residential Burglary, which is a Class 1 Felony. As a result of his plea of guilty, Mr. Bertucci was sentenced by Judge William A. Kelly to 5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Following his sentence, Bertucci will be placed on Mandatory Supervised Release (formerly known as Parole) for two (2) years.

The Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office handled the investigation of this case.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

## Spelling champions

Stockton Spelling Bee winners from the district spelling bee on Feb 1st. Pictured left to right: Mr. Fox, principal, Landon Warner, 2nd place winner, Ashlyn Schubert, 3rd place alternate, and Dominick Bilich, 1st place winner. The 1st and 2nd place winners will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee in Pearl City on Feb. 19.

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COURTESY PHOTO *The Scoop Today*

## Lions Clubs

Recently eighth graders helped the Stockton and Warren Lions Clubs collect more than 250 pairs of used eye glasses to be donated or recycled to help people in need. Pictured here is the Stockton eighth grade class and principal Fox. The eighth grade would like to thank the Lions Club for sponsoring a pizza party recognizing their hard work.



Support the amazing talents of these young people.



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTOS *The Scoop Today*



Allison Kehl and Connor Hayes rehearse their parts.

## Beauty and the Beast

Stockton High School presents *Beauty and the Beast* on March 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale this week. \$6 per person, children 10 and under \$3. Contact Stockton High School for more information.



(Right) Abby Weber does an amazing job as set designer and stage manager for the Stockton High School presentation of *Beauty and the Beast*.

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# Census explainer: Hard to count communities

By Grant Morgan  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

With up to two Illinois congressional seats and \$1 billion or more in federal funding on the line if Illinois' population is not correctly counted in the 2020 census, nonprofit groups warn that changes to the census format this year could exacerbate an undercount in already hard-to-reach communities. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 16 percent of Illinoisans live in "hard to count," or HTC, communities, which require greater resources for the Census Bureau to reach and are the most likely to be undercounted.

While HTC communities can be found across the state, they each have defining characteristics that make an undercount likely, and include rural, low-income, high-immigrant and homeless populations, as well as children, renters, and ethnic or racial minorities.

These communities are prevalent in large pockets of Chicago and surrounding Cook County; urban centers around the state including Peoria, Springfield, Bloomington-Normal, Decatur and Metro East; and more rural areas, especially in southern Il-

## Broad Ideas closing show

Each of us is a collection of stories; happenings that when strung together, carry us from birth to death. Ordinary people rarely get a chance to tell our stories. That opportunity is generally saved for the rich and famous. We choose to empower all women to recognize their strength and talent. Tales of significant lives will be shared through poetry, essay, and storytelling at Spoken Word, the closing event of the Broad Ideas 2019 Art Show, Sunday, March 31, 4 p.m. at the Galena Center for the Arts. For more information, visit [broadideas.org](http://broadideas.org). Free babysitting is provided.

Be present to honor and celebrate these women who write, talk and dance their way through daily life.

linois, like Carbondale, Cairo and various southern counties, according to an article by Shawn Healy, head of the Robert R. McCormick Democracy Program.

Advocates warn that a number of national factors – including moving the census online and adding a question about a resident's citizenship status – could make full participation even more difficult to achieve.

The census goes online  
In 2020, for the first time, the U.S. Census Bureau will accept responses online. While every household will still be sent mailings, 80 percent of them will be invitations to complete the census online, rather than census forms to fill out and send back.

More traditional outreach methods, including mailed forms and in-person visits, are planned for the other 20 percent.

Griselda Vega Samuel, an attorney at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund who also sits on the state's Complete Count Commission for census outreach, said lack of internet access and fear of data breaches could make online participation less likely across the state, not just in hard-to-count areas.

"Given our current climate, people are really scared to put their personal information online. And in the more rural parts of the state, broadband is an issue," she said.

Samuel's fears seem to be corroborated by a City University of New York study which shows 18 percent of Illinoisans have no internet or have only dial-up access.

In southern Illinois' Pope County, for example, 41 percent of residents have no or poor internet access. While only 54 percent of county households returned initial census forms in 2010, an internet-based census could further limit response rates, depending on how the Bureau approaches mailings there.

This will increase the need for outreach in southern Illinois, said Anita Banerji, director of the Democracy Initiative at the nonprofit Forefront, which is leading a coalition of more

than 40 local and statewide organizations on census outreach in Illinois.

"We need to focus a little more on central and southern Illinois for these reasons," Banerji said, adding that Chicago already has some "groups and lawmakers that are really in the fight" against an undercount.

Still, for those who do get it online, "there are thousands of cybersecurity risks that are out there as well," Banerji said. "The Bureau needs to spend time making sure the data is well protected and safe."

That's a tall task, Banerji added, considering the Census Bureau's funding has been flat or underfunded since 2010, causing the cancellation of two out of three test runs for the online format leading up to the real thing.

The citizenship question  
Since communities with high immigrant populations are often considered hard to count, the potential addition of a question asking about a resident's immigration status is another obstacle to full participation.

"The question causes fear in many immigrant communities, mixed-status families, and communities of color," Banerji said. "And not just in Chicago, either. Think about the orchard fields in Carbondale, the undocumented communities around Peoria – those folks will be impacted too."

Two federal judges have already ruled against the Trump administration's inclusion of the question on the 2020 census, and the U.S. Supreme Court is set to hear one of these cases on April 23.

While this will likely decide the matter, Banerji said until the decision is final, it is difficult for her group to plan specific outreach efforts in communities that will be most adversely affected by low turnout numbers.

"Forefront would not like for the question to be on the form," Banerji said. "But we need to know what those questions are, sooner rather than later, so that communities are armed

## College news

### Iowa State University announces fall 2018 Dean's List

Approximately 9,752 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the fall semester 2018 Dean's List.

Students named to the Dean's List must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Students from the Scoop/Shopper area include:

Madelyn Anne Cocagne of Apple River, 1, Pre-Athletic Training

Jacob Reid Lawfer of Kent, 4, Agricultural Systems Technology

Tanner Lawfer of Lena, 2, Agricultural Systems Technology

Jordon E. Oellerich of Lena, 4, Agricultural and Life Sciences Education

Nathan Edward Lott of Pearl City, 3, Agricultural Systems Technology  
Vera Lynne McGovern of Stockton, 1, Early Childhood Education

with the right and the best information."

Still, Banerji said, "there's a huge mistrust of government, and that sentiment across the country is so strong," so outreach efforts will need to focus on the fact that personal data, including citizenship status, is mandated to be kept private under law.

The state's own census outreach commission also acknowledged this problem in its first report from November 2018, saying that "the need to clarify that participation in the census will not result in the further investigation of an individual's life is the greatest obstacle facing the Commission and its members."

Other factors  
National factors are not the only thing threatening an undercount of Illinoisans in 2020. According to Vega Samuel, the top three HTC communities, in general, are renters, children ages 0-5, and low-income families.

"So that's a big chunk of the state,"

## Bustos welcomes EPA rule for year-round E15

Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (IL-17) – a member of both the House Agriculture and Appropriations Committees – released the following statement after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a proposed rule that would allow for E15, a fuel blend with 15 percent ethanol, to be sold year-round:

"During my time in Congress, I've urged presidents of both parties to fight for our biofuels industry and have consistently pushed for year-round E15," Congresswoman Bustos said. "President Trump promised this rule more than two years ago and the uncertainty from its delay has hurt producers in an already struggling farm economy, which has been further damaged by the president's reckless trade war. While I wish this announcement had come sooner, I applaud the White House for finally taking this commonsense step that

she said. "And it doesn't matter if you're in Chicago or the southern parts."

According to Banerji's data from Forefront, about 100,000 children up to age 5 were not counted in the 2010 census in Cook County alone. This matches up to the U.S. Census Bureau's own data, which says 4.6 percent of children aged 0 to 4 were missed in the 2010 census nationally.

"When they get the census form in their household, a lot of folks don't always think about the children being accounted for," Banerji said. "They don't think about everybody that's under that roof – they usually think it's only themselves and their significant other."

Other communities, including racial and ethnic minorities and young mobile persons, have been historically undercounted as well. In 2010, for example, the Census Bureau estimates that 1.5 percent of African-Americans were not counted.

will help farmers and consumers across the Heartland. As this process continues, I will remain vigilant for any additional actions the administration may pursue that would undermine this important rulemaking by further providing secret waivers or other handouts to big oil."

### Background

Congresswoman Bustos has long been a champion of biofuels, the Renewable Fuel Standard and year-round E15 to grow our agricultural economy. Previously, she spoke out against the EPA's secret use of waivers to big oil companies to undermine the biofuel industry and will continue to advocate for more transparency and accountability from the agency. Just last year, Congresswoman Bustos wrote to President Trump urging him to honor his pledge to deliver on year-round E15 and stressed its importance to Illinois producers.

## Edward Jones ranks highest in investor satisfaction

Financial services firm Edward Jones ranks highest in investor satisfaction with full service brokerage firms, according to the J.D. Power 2019 U.S. Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study(SM), the firm recently announced.

The study measures overall investor satisfaction with 18 full service investment firms based on eight factors, including financial advisor, account information, investment performance, firm interaction, product offerings, commissions and fees, information resources, and problem resolution. The firm scored 853 in overall satisfaction, 18 points over the industry average.

"What a great honor it is to be recognized for what matters most, which is making a difference in the lives of our clients," said Edward

Jones Managing Partner Penny Pennington. "We illustrate the value of the Edward Jones client experience every day and help our clients achieve financially what is most important to them. We can bring something truly special to clients who experience us. This is why we exist."

Edward Jones ranked highest in investor satisfaction by J.D. Power in 2015 (tied), 2012, 2010, 2009, 2007-2005, and in a tie in 2002, when the study began.

The 2019 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study is based on responses from more than 4,629 investors who primarily invest with one of the 18 firms included in the study. The majority of the study was fielded in December 2018. For more information, visit [jdpower.com/awards](http://jdpower.com/awards).

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# ON THE RECORD

## Obituaries

### ETHEL L. LOBDELL

Ethel L. Lobdell, 100, of Lena passed away on Friday March 15, 2019, at the Lena Living Center. She was born on Jan. 22, 1919 to Hugo and Melissa (Albright) Neebel in Kent, IL. She married William Lobdell in 1938 and spent 57 wonderful years together. Ethel worked at Crum & Forster as a receptionist doing clerical work for many years. She tended to her gardens regularly, as well as baking and cooking, hosting many gatherings, and spending as much time with her family as she could.

She was an avid reader, sang in the home extension choir and was also a member of the Stephenson County Home Extension group. She was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Women's Guild and was a long time member of the Sorority Beta Sigma Phi chapter- Delta Mu. Ethel enjoyed playing cards, and belonged to a card club. She was also a milking competition champion as a young woman in Pearl City.

She is survived by her nieces and nephews; Kurtis (Jeannie) Bares, Suellyn (Kevin) Tritz, Christine (George) Skizas, Richard (Loyce)



Bares, Nancy (LeRoy) McDonnell, Ann (Larry) Beetham; 23 grand nieces and nephews, and 37 great grand-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband and daughter, Rita, in 2014.

Visitation was held on Sunday, March 17, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL.

Funeral Services were held on Monday, March 18, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lena, IL.

Pastor Miho Yasukawa will officiate the services.

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

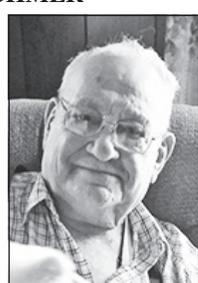
A memorial has been established in her name.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.leamonfh.com](http://www.leamonfh.com).

### JOSEPH J. KROHMER

Joseph J. Krohmer, age 92 of Stockton, IL passed away Sunday, March 10, 2019 at home. He was born March 26, 1926 in Lenox, IA to the late John and Marie (Wurster) Krohmer. Joe married Lorene Hubb on April 16, 1948 in Stockton. Lorene passed away Nov. 4, 2001.

Joe was a member of Wesley



United Methodist Church in Stockton, American Legion and Stockton VFW. He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict where he spent time in Korea and Japan. He owned and operated the Shell Station in Stockton in the early 60's. Joe was employed for 28 years at the Freeport Ford Garage. He was a Ford man through and through. He had a love for cars and would often be found tinkering in the garage. Most of all, Joe loved spending time with his family and granddogs, Floyd and Jazi.

He is survived by his son, Harlan (Lisa) Krohmer of Machesney Park, IL; his daughter, Marleen (Jim) Bower of Mt. Carroll, IL; his brother, James (Carol) Krohmer of Stockton; his sisters, Mae Krohmer of Austin, TX and Dorothy Reed of Austin, TX; his grandchildren, Brittany Krohmer, Hali Bower, and Jodi (Larry) Luebke; his great grandchildren, Breanna, Jamie, Jayce, Hunter and Clayton; and his great great grandchildren, Johan, Jevy and Jaelyn. He was preceded in death by his parents and wife.

The visitation and funeral service was held Saturday, March 16, at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. Interment will take place at Ladies Union Cemetery in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established for FHN Hospice and the Stockton Ambulance Service. Condolences may be left with Joe's family at [www.hermannfuneralhome.com](http://www.hermannfuneralhome.com).

## FHN Hospice offers Early Grief group

This spring, FHN Hospice is offering a support group for people coping with the first nine months after a loss.

"Managing Early Grief: The First Nine Months after a Loss" is a nine-week group that will meet from 6 - 8 p.m. Wednesdays beginning March 20 at FHN Hospice, 773 W. Lincoln Bou-

levard, Suite 403 in Freeport.

The group is designed for anyone who has lost a loved one in the past nine months. Participants will learn about and share their grief with others who have also recently lost a loved one. This supportive environment will help participants to better understand their grief experience.

Topics to be discussed include how grief affects us; the physical side of grief; moving through grief; coping skills; growing through grief; coping with holidays and special days; and looking ahead to the future.

There is no charge to participate in the Managing Early Grief group, but registration is required. For more information or to register, call FHN Hospice at 815-599-7240.

FHN also offers two ongoing grief support groups, open to anyone in the community who has lost a loved one:

First Steps Grief Group, a bereavement group for anyone who has exper-

rienced a loss, meets from 10 - 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. The group offers support as the first steps are taken in dealing with a loss.

Living Through Grief meets from 6 - 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. This group uses videos, books, speakers and discussions to help participants learn more about the grief process, share their stories of loss and regain hope for healing. This group provides a confidential place to talk about thoughts and feelings as well as to learn about grief.

Both of these ongoing groups are open-ended and new members are welcome at any time. Both groups meet at FHN Memorial Hospital, 1045 W. Stephenson Street in Freeport. There is no charge to participate and registration is not necessary. For more information on either group, contact FHN Pastoral Care at 815-599-7240.

## Monroe Clinic recognized as a 2019 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital

Monroe Clinic has been named a one of the 2019 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals in the United States by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. Regarded as one of the industry's most significant designations of performance excellence, the annual Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals award is based upon the results of the Hospital Strength INDEX® from iVantage Health Analytics. Monroe Clinic has earned this recognition every year since 2016.

"While winning awards is not the mission of Monroe Clinic, it is satisfying to know that the hard work and initiative shown by our team is recognized by healthcare peers at a national level," said Mike Sanders, President of Monroe Clinic. "Our caregivers and the support teams work hard to provide excellence at every level in order to best serve our patients and community. That is our mission and our motivation."

Hospitals recognized as a Top 100 facility scored in the top 100 among all rural and community hospitals nationally. Now in its ninth year, the INDEX leverages 50 rural-relevant indicators across eight pillars of hospital strength (i.e. Inpatient Market Share, Outpatient Market Share, Cost, Charge, Quality, Outcomes, Patient Perspective and Financial Stability) to determine an overall score for each hospital. Each of the INDEX's 50 indicators is culled from publicly-available data sources.

"In an era of increased complexity and uncertainty, Top 100 hospitals have established themselves as a bellwether for rural provider performance," said Michael Topchik, National Leader of The Chartis Center for Rural Health. "Top 100 status is a real indicator of how proactive these hospitals are when it comes to pushing for performance improvement in areas such as quality, outcomes, patient safety, market share and finance."

## GCGS April meeting features Erie Canal

On April 6, Duane Freitag of Green Dale WI will present "Coming to Green County on the Erie Canal" to the Green County Genealogical Society. He will tell how the famed canal was used by European immigrants in the 1800's as they traveled from New York City to Milwaukee and on to Green County. The program will include a discussion of building the canal as well as some of the families who came from Switzerland in 1846, went west on the canal, and settled in New Glarus. Freitag, a retired reporter and editor for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, is a native of New Glarus and has written several books about the Swiss of Green County.

The Green County Genealogical Society meeting will be held in the second floor meeting room of the Monroe Public Library at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 6. Refreshments are available for 15 minutes before the meeting. Visitors are always welcome and there is no cost to attend. You may call Sharon Mitchell (815-868-2416) or Donna Kjendlie (608-

921-1537) if you have questions. Please leave a message if we are not available to answer.

The GCGS Research Center (located in lower level of the Monroe Public Library) is again available to the public for research. Research Center hours are: Tuesdays and third Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and first Saturday after the meeting from 1 to 3 p.m. or by appointment by calling 608-921-1537. Main holdings are on Green County. Both Rock and Lafayette Counties are well represented as well as several other counties, states, countries, and ethnic groups. A large clipping collection of births, marriages and obituaries is available. Volunteers are on staff to help with your research.

26 years ago on March 14, 1993, a great woman died. That woman was my grandmother  
**ORA LYONS**

It's amazing how special people can make their way into your heart and memory. I was only 5 years old, but Grandma Lyons shares some of my warmest memories. She left a huge impression on me. Her love & compassion amazed me and set a standard for me. Now at the age of 31

I still think of her and miss her greatly.  
Her Grandson,  
Chad Quandt 340290

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# CHURCH NEWS



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

## Holy Cross

Participants in the Holy Cross Religious Education program celebrate St Patrick's weekend.

## Join us for dominos

Tired of this winter weather? Looking for something to do? Come join in the fun and play Dominos with us – Dominos, Chicken Foot or Mexican Train on Wednesday, March 27, at 1 p.m. at the Volunteer Visitors Office, 105 S Main St, Stockton.

To RSVP call 815-947-3260 and bring a friend. This event is sponsored by Volunteer Visitors of Northwest Illinois and Senior Resource Center.

## Best trees for planting

The Northwest Illinois Forestry Association will hold its Annual Dinner Meeting at the Church of God in Mt. Carroll on Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. The featured speaker, IDNR District Forester Steve Felt, will discuss forest soils and selecting the best tree species for planting based on the soils and site characteristics.

Steve holds a degree in forestry with a minor in soil science from the University of Illinois and has served as district forester for 37 years. Previously, he was the Henry County soil scientist working with SCS to complete the county's soil survey. In addition, he has served as president of the International Walnut Council which promotes cultivation of fine hardwoods, as well as founding member and secretary of the Walnut Council's Illinois chapter. The Walnut Council has recognized his outstanding efforts to educate woodland owners. He was also the state coordinator for the American

Chestnut Foundation, and was recently elected chairman of the Illinois Tree Farm Committee. He travels extensively throughout the state and the country on his own time to promote forest management and the successful propagation of fine hardwood timber. For recreation, he enjoys planting trees like the 38,000 hardwoods he planted on his property along the Green River in Henry County.

With a dinner reservation, the fee is \$12 for members and their guests, \$15 for non-members. Without a reservation, it is \$15 for members, and \$18 for non-members. Fees are collected at the door. Reservations can be made by phone at 815-232-2032 or by email at kbeach@fehr-graham.com.

The Church of God is located at 816 S. Clay Street, Mount Carroll, Illinois. Clay Street is Route 78 and the Church is just north of Route 52/64 on the east side of Clay.

### Calvary United Methodist Church

Calvary Church in Stockton will host a special treat for the community on Sunday, March 24 at 7 pm. The Bluegrass Express, a traditional and contemporary bluegrass and gospel band will be performing for the third meeting of the Calvary-Wesley Joint Lenten Series. The band was originally begun in 1980 by the father-son team of Gary and Greg Underwood. The members today include Gary Underwood, a retired Stockton science teacher, son Greg, grandson Jacob, plus Nate Burie.

Gary plays guitar and fiddle and was instrumental in starting the group, while Greg plays mandolin plus guitar and has written many of the original songs they play. Jacob plays banjo and mandolin and has been a full time band member since age 11, and has won many awards with the banjo. Nate Burie is one of the finest mandolin players in the music today, and a seasoned veteran, having toured the United States, Canada and Europe with his family band, "The Burie Family."

A free-will offering will be taken. The public is invited to attend.

### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will gather for worship on March 24, at Good Shepherd, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to worship on this Third Sunday of Lent with Holy Communion. The reading is from Luke 13 about the parable of the fig tree. After the service there will be fellowship hour with refreshments and treats. All Sunday School children will gather for Sunday School beginning at 10:45 a.m. with opening songs followed by learning Bible stories, games, puppets, and prayer. Confirmation class will meet at 11 a.m.

On Wednesday, March 27, at 8 a.m. the Piece Corps Quilters will work together to craft quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are always looking for more people to help tie quilts and sew. No previous quilting experience is necessary. Come join the fun and make a difference in the world.

All are invited on Wednesday, March 27, at 12 p.m. as St. Joseph Catholic Church will be hosting the Ecumenical Lenten Soup & Sandwich Luncheon.

On Wednesday, March 27, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites the community of all ages to join them for a mid-week Lenten supper and worship. We will read the Psalm from the Sunday together. No preparation is necessary. Anyone at any stage in one's walk of life is welcome to join. Supper starts at 5:30 p.m., and the service starts at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please call the church at 815-369-5552.

### Willow/Kent United Methodist Churches

The Willow/Kent United Methodist Churches will worship together Sunday, March 24, at Willow UMC at 9 a.m. Pastor Chuck Wolbers will be bringing the message. All are invited and welcome to stay for fellowship. Sunday School is at 10:30 am. We are studying from the Upper Room.

All are invited and welcome to this time too. Willow UMC is located seven miles SE of Stockton, IL on Willow Road.

For more information, please call Pastor Chuck at 815-947-2541.

### Nora Community Baptist Church

The Nora Community Baptist Church located at 133 W. Chestnut (Frontage Road); Nora IL will hold a Worship and Prayer Service at 11 a.m. Sunday March 24.

Rev Ernest Wilber Pastor began a series of messages on Prophetic Dispensations and

Events leading up to the Second Advent of Christ, His return to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

### Salem United Church of Christ

Worship with us at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 W. Salem Road, near Lena, on the Third Sunday of Lent, March 24, at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Randal Nicholas will preach his sermon, "Bad Credit? No Sweat" from Isaiah 55:1-9. Adult's and children's Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. The Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group meets on Wednesday, March 27, at 8 a.m. at the Beltline Cafe, 325 W. South St., in Freeport.

### St. John's Lutheran Church (Pearl City)

You're invited to join us at St. John's for worship on Sunday, March 24 for the Third Sunday in Lent. The service will include the Joy Choir. Sunday School, Confirmation classes and Young Adult hour will also meet after worship.

Midweek Lenten services will be held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. This year's midweek services will include a civil war themed drama titled, "The Disciplines of Lent: Turning Back to Our Lord." The second week on March 20, is titled Emptying (Fasting). Joel 2:12 "Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning..." On Dec. 11, 1862, Chaplain Barrett speaks with a civilian living on a farm across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg, Virginia. She reflects on the devastation inflicted upon her land (which had been the childhood home of George Washington), and what she and her husband have given up for the sake of their own well-being and convictions. Chaplain Barrett then discusses with several of his own soldiers how he has used the self-emptying of Christ as an example for himself, giving up the comforts of his own home and parish in order to help bring freedom to others.

Stations of the Cross will be held at Noon on Fridays at St. John's during Lent.

Congratulations to Rebecca Neis, Mt Carroll, IL, for winning the \$200 Calendar Raffle drawing on March 10.

Save the date for a Community Family Fun Night to be held on Saturday, March 30 at St. John's starting at 5 p.m. BBQ sandwiches to be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. The evening will include euchre, dominoes, bags and a movie.

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

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

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Youth Group Wednesdays  
Jr. High - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.  
Sr. High - 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Listen to pastor's weekly sermon  
at [www.lenafreechurch.org](http://www.lenafreechurch.org)

337676

### In loving Memory of ORA Lyons

We do not need a special day to bring you to our minds. The days we do not think of you are very hard to find. Each morning when we awake we know that you are gone. And no one knows the heartache as we try to carry on. Our hearts still ache with sadness and secret tears still flow. What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. Our thoughts are always with you, your place no one can fill. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. There will always be a heartache, and often silent tears.

But always a precious memory of the days you were here. If tears would make a staircase and heartache make a lane, we'd walk the path to heaven and bring you home again. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain, to walk with us throughout our lives, until we meet again.

Love, Her Children & Grandchildren

108279

# 4-H and Extension Foundation announce Pork Chop Dinner

The Stephenson County 4-H and Extension Foundation announces its Annual Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser, which will be held on Sunday, April 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Eagles Club in Freeport, 1200 W. Galena Ave and feature a 6 oz. pork chop sandwich. The Stephenson County Pork Producers will be doing the grilling, featuring their special seasoning. Potato salad or chips, cheese from local cheese producers, applesauce, drink, and dessert is also on the menu. Two serving lines and special carry out line will be available.

The dinner is planned by a committee of Foundation members and other 4-H volunteers, and donations from local businesses and restaurants help make it possible and profitable. "For the past eleven years, this dinner has been one of the major fundraisers for the Foundation, and it is a special, very social event," stated Bonnie Campbell, President of the Foundation Board and Davis Rockets 4-H Leader. "Each year," she continued, 4-H members and volunteers work together serving food, running the silent auction, and talking with supporters." In addition to providing a delicious meal, supporters of 4-H and Extension have an opportunity to learn more about activities and programs in the county, and see many of their friends.

Advanced tickets are \$6 and may be purchased from members of Stephenson County 4-H Clubs or at the U of I Extension Office, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd, Freeport, until March 22. After that, tickets will be sold at the door for \$7 and hot dog meal tickets will be available at the door only and not sold prior to the event. Many area restaurants and businesses have provided items for the meal and silent auction, and the Foundation appreciates their support.

There will be a silent auction with gift baskets created by 4-H clubs and other opportunities to support local 4-H clubs. All proceeds will benefit the Stephenson County 4-H and Extension Foundation and stay in Stephenson County. For more information or questions, please call the University of Illinois Extension-Stephenson County at 815-235-4125.

# Master Gardener Training planned for Elizabeth

The University of Illinois Extension is accepting applications to participate in the 2019 Master Gardener Training Program. Training classes will be held at the Extension office in Elizabeth (204 Vine St., Elizabeth, IL) beginning June 6th. Classes will be 9 am – 3:30 pm every Thursday through August 29. The training classes cover topics such as basic botany, soils health, trees and shrubs, vegetables, fruits, insects, and pesticide safety.

Master Gardeners are individuals with an interest in horticulture willing to participate in 60 hours of classes taught by University of Illinois Horticulture Educators. After completing the training, volunteers

provide 60 hours of service on local projects through the Extension Office. A number of volunteer projects exist in Jo Daviess County which includes youth and adult educational programs, garden design and community beautification programs, and a speakers bureau. The cost of the training is \$150.00, which covers 60 hours of instruction, a textbook, and other class materials. Applicants will complete an interview prior to the class.

For more information, call the University of Illinois Extension Office in Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273. Materials are also available on the webpage at [go.illinois.edu/jsw/](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw/).

# Superfoods to the Rescue

Today, many people are looking to find healthier ways to live. They are being more intentional about getting the recommended 150 minutes of physical activity a week and choosing healthier foods.

Have you heard the term "superfoods" lately? Depending upon where you live, this may be a term you have not yet heard much about. Perhaps you have heard the term, but are not quite sure what it means? The term superfood is basically a marketing term used to describe foods with supposed health benefits. And although marketers like to use this buzz-word, there is a lot to be said for these colorful and healthful

foods. Join University of Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Educator, Diane Reinhold, for a workshop called: Superfoods to the Rescue. During this workshop learn what are examples of superfoods, what's so super about them, and if you should include them in your daily diet?

Superfoods to the Rescue will be held Thursday, April 11, from 1-3 p.m. at the Senior Activity Center, 216 E. Stephenson Street, Freeport. To register, call the U of I Extension at 815-235-4125 or visit us at [go.illinois.edu/jsw/](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw/) to register on-line. There is a \$5 registration fee. Registration deadline is April 8.

# Boys and Girls Science Siestas scheduled for April

"Science Siesta is once again being offered this year for both boys and girls," said Johnna Jennings, University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Educator. "This year we will be offering a Science Siesta event just for boys on Friday, April 12 to Saturday, April 13, and another Science Siesta just for girls on Friday, April 26 to Saturday, April 27 both at the Discovery Center Children's Museum in Rockford," said Jennings. Both of these events are open to any youth in 4th to 6th grades and youth do not need to be in 4-H to attend.

"Both events will be action-packed programs that combine hands-on science, an opportunity to meet real scientists, to learn about a particular field of science and to spend an awesome night in a museum. This is an

excellent program and we are excited to have the opportunity to offer it once again," said Jennings.

At Science Siesta the participants will interact with scientists in science career fields from throughout northern Illinois. The scientists will share information about their background and involve the youth in activities that they might complete in their work every day.

Following the face-to-face interaction with the scientists, youth participate in activities based on the "Wonderwise" curriculum developed by the University of Nebraska, and from experts in the field. This curriculum highlights the work of scientists and then translates their work into hands-on science-based activities, which are fun and engaging. Participants may choose one of three workshop

tracks for breakout sessions. Their choices for this year include activities related to Rainforest Ecologist, Space Geologist, or Technology Specialist.

Both events will begin with registration at 5 p.m. on Friday and will conclude with checkout at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. The registration fee is \$40 per participant which covers pizza, snack, breakfast, admission to the Discovery Center Children's Museum, a t-shirt and all hands-on activities. The University of Illinois Extension is providing this program, which is open to all boys and girls in 4th-6th grades. For additional information, as well as to register for Science Siesta go to the University of Illinois Extension website at <https://go.illinois.edu/ScienceSiesta> or call (815) 758-8194.

# Ain't Misbehavin' Dog Club: dogs learn obedience, kids learn responsibility

Big dogs, small dogs, furry dogs... all dogs! University of Illinois Extension has a new opportunity for youth. Dogs are considered "man's best friend" and play an important role in many households across the globe. The "Ain't Misbehavin'" Dog Club will offer youth the opportunity to learn to feed, care for, and keep a dog healthy; groom and train your dog; and be a responsible dog owner. All youth, 8-18 years of age, are invited to participate in this exciting, hands-on club. Participants not do not need to be a 4-H member to attend. Youth will meet approximately six meetings between March-July. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 27, at the Jo Daviess County Extension Office located at 204 Vine Street in Elizabeth. The first meeting, which will be an introductory meeting, will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. No dogs will be in attendance at the first meeting.

"When I started the dog project, I was eight years old and terrified of dogs. Over the next few years, the project taught me discipline, responsibility, hard work, and patience. I

developed friendships and a sense of confidence. I did ten years in the project, including numerous county fair wins, but ultimately culminating in five straight years of placing in State Fair showmanship, a 3rd place finish in State Fair agility, and winning an obedience class. After I finished exhibiting, I remained a leader in the project. As I moved to a new county, I wanted to get involved with 4-H. I've done several 4-H projects, but the dog project is the one I believe most shaped me into who I am today," states Shelby

Miller. Miller is an Indiana 4-H Alum and leader of the Dog Club. "When I received Shelby's phone call, I knew right away that Shelby was going to be a wonderful addition to our program. Shelby is very passionate about animals, enthusiastic about 4-H, very knowledgeable, and funny! The kids will love working with her," said Angela Miller, 4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator.

To participate in this club, call 815-858-2273 or visit us online at [go.illinois.edu/jsw/](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw/).

# College news

## Fall 2018 University of Dubuque Dean's List

The University of Dubuque congratulates the following students on being appointed to the Fall Semester 2018 Academic Dean's List: Thomas Gorgosz of Elizabeth, Hope Enck of McConnell, Jaycee Bennett of Nora, Kaylee Broshous, Kati Eden, Megan Gille, Caeden Upmann, and Kara Wright all of Stockton.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for that semester.

The University of Dubuque is a private university offering undergraduate, graduate, and theological seminary degrees as well as other educational opportunities with the intention of educating and forming the whole person. Founded in 1852, UD is home to over 2,300 students. Visit [www.dbq.edu](http://www.dbq.edu).



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*Airyonna Willson says:*

**For your Real Estate needs, call THIS gal!!!**



**Freeport** - 217 acres. 175 tillable, awesome hunting and fishing! Pec river adjoins property. \$1,518,783.



**Pearl City** - 40 acres! - 32 A's tillable, balance in timber (with trails) and pasture. Stream & hunting ground! \$260,000



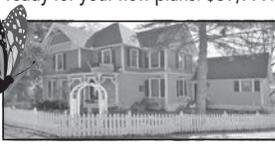
**Pearl City** - 79.44 acres. Approximately 74 acres tillable. Tilling done. Small CRP income for waterways. \$794,320.



**Pearl City** - 85 acres! 48 tillable, 35 acres timber, steady stream. Crop it, pasture it or hunt it. Trophy bucks harvested off this property! \$488,750.



**Pearl City** - 2.58 acre site, with out buildings, just outside of town! Incredible views and ready for your new plans! \$39,999.



**Elizabeth** - 5 bedroom, Victorian style home on 3 city lots! Gorgeous woodwork, walk-in pantry. Formal Dining Room. Embellished gas fireplace. New heating unit, 2019. \$159,900.



**Pearl City** - 45 acres - prime hunting ground! 29 A's timber, 16 tillable. Trophy-worthy Whitetail deer harvested here! \$225,000.

# Highland Community College hosts annual Job Fair

The 2019 Highland Community College Job Fair is 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, and from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, March 28, in the Newell Room, located on the second floor of the Student/Conference Center at Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport, Ill.

Current students, graduates and area residents seeking employment are invited to attend. This free event is an excellent networking opportunity for job seekers, typically featuring more than 20 employers in northern Illinois. Business casual attire is highly recommended at the Job Fair.

Breakout sessions to be held are: Job Seeker Strategies: ask employers about best practices

5 to 5: 50 p.m. and 6 to 6:50 p.m. Wednesday, March 27  
10 to 10:50 p.m. Thursday, March 28  
11 to 11:50 p.m. Thursday, March 28

Post-Fair retreat: social media ethics, interviewing skills and more 9 a.m. to Noon Friday, March 29  
Participating employers are:  
160 Driving Academy  
Able Home Health  
Caravel Autism Health  
Colony Brands, Inc.  
Columbia College

DD Homes  
E. D. Etnyre & Co.  
FHN  
Freeport Park District  
Freeport School District #145  
Honeywell  
Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services  
Manpower  
Medina Nursing Center  
MetLife Auto and Home  
Nationwide Inbound Inc.  
Pearl City Elevator  
Quest Industrial LLC  
Star Manufacturing

Stephenson Nursing Center  
White Pines Ranch  
Willowglen Academy  
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office

To register visit [www.collegecentral.com/highland](http://www.collegecentral.com/highland)

For more information or to register as a vendor, call 815-599-3678. All buildings are ADA accessible.

## Casino Royale FHN Gala Tickets available now

FHN is offering a special pre-sale on tickets for this year's Festival of Trees Gala - Casino Royale. It's the first "clue" in FHN's fun spy thriller lead-up to this year's Gala.

The event, set for the evening of Friday, Nov. 22 at Freeport's Grand River Hall, will feature a huge hors d'oeuvres buffet, music, dancing, and a holiday silent auction as well as James Bond-quality casino games from roulette to blackjack.

Through March 29, tickets are \$65/single or \$120/pair. (After that date, the price goes up to \$75/single and \$130/pair.) Reserve your spot

online at [www.fhn.org/gala](http://www.fhn.org/gala) or come in to M45 Marketing Services, 524 W. Stephenson Street in Freeport.

The evening's proceeds will help provide funding for FHN Family Counseling Center's new behavioral health stabilization project. The wide-ranging project aims to continue and expand available therapies and programs to help people across the region through life's challenges.

Watch for other spy-worthy clues, ideas, and activities leading up to Casino Royale to keep the game afoot between now and November!

## Food Fight against Cancer set for April 5

Friends of the Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital are bringing back their popular fundraiser, Food Fight Against Cancer, with a colorful twist for 2019.

The event will be held from 6 - 10 p.m. Friday, April 5 at Grand River Hall, 101 S. Liberty Avenue in Freeport. This year's theme is The Colors of Cancer, and guests are encouraged to wear the color or colors that represent a type of cancer that has touched their lives. (A chart is available at <http://bit.ly/FoodFightColors>.)

Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and desserts from local caterers, restaurants, and bakeries, and Rockford's own Harmony Road will perform music from the '70s to present-day. A cash bar will be available.

Thanks to Premier Sponsor McPherson Law Offices, all proceeds from the evening will benefit the Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital, which provides cutting-edge care close to home for northwest Illinois cancer patients.

Tickets for the evening are \$35/single or \$65 for a couple. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.fhn.org/foodfight](http://www.fhn.org/foodfight) or call the FHN Foundation office at 815-599-6441. This event is presented by friends of the Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital.

## Striking Success for Children bowling event

Friends of the FHN Family Counseling Center are sponsoring a fun, family-friendly bowling fundraiser to help fund programs for area at-risk youth.

Striking Success for Children will make its debut Thursday, April 25, with registration beginning at 5 p.m. at 4 Seasons Bowling Center, 1100 W. Galena Avenue in Freeport. The evening's theme is Rocking Through the Decades, and participants are encouraged to dress as their favorite band or singer.

Teams of up to 6 people can participate; the entry fee for each person is \$50, which can be raised or donated.

(Fundraising sheets can be downloaded at [www.fhn.org/striking-success](http://www.fhn.org/striking-success). Individuals who raise \$100 or more will receive a Striking Success for Children t-shirt; those who raise \$250 or more will receive a hooded sweatshirt. Donations must be pledged and submitted by April 12 to receive a t-shirt or sweatshirt.

All proceeds raised will support the youth served through the FHN Family Counseling Center. Sign up or make a contribution at [www.fhn.org/striking-success](http://www.fhn.org/striking-success); for more information, contact the FHN Foundation at 815-599-6900 or email [hjordan1@fhn.org](mailto:hjordan1@fhn.org).

## Free Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties screenings

Early Learning Academy, your local school district, and the Regional Office of Education will again be offering free screenings for all children birth to five. Children eligible for preschool screening must turn three years old on or before Sept. 1, 2019. Are you unsure if you want to send your child to preschool in the fall? Come to the screening anyway - we want to ensure that all eligible children are screened. Whether you decide to send your child to a public or private school or to no school at all, we'd still love to see you at a screening. It's free and only takes an hour. Call your local school district to set up a preschool screening appointment today.

Birth- Age three, screening appointments can be made by calling Family Ties at 815-747-3192 or FHN Parent Enrichment Program at 815-599-7300

Preschool Screening Schedule  
**Orangeville**, April 12, please call for appointment times, 815-789-4450

**Pearl City**, 815-443-2715, 100 Summit Street, Pearl City, March 14, 8 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

**Lena**, March 4, 5, 6, 7, 815-369-3104, 401 Fremont, Lena, 4: 8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., 5: 10:15 a.m. - 4 p.m., 6: 8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., 7: as needed

**Stockton**, 815-947-3321, 236 N Pearl Street, Stockton, March 20 & 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Warren, April 2 & 3, please call for appointment times, 815-745-2653

**Scales Mound**, 815-845-2215, 210 Main Street, Scales Mound, March 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**River Ridge**, 815-858-9005, 4141 IL Rte. 84 S, Hanover, March 18: 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., 19: 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

### Register Now for a FREE Preschool Screening

For all students **NOT** currently enrolled in Early Learning Academy (formerly known as Family Ties) or Learning Ties programs.

All children **MUST** be screened through Stockton School District to enroll in Stockton Preschool.

**Dates:** Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21

**Location:** Stockton Elementary School  
236 North Pearl Street, Stockton, IL 61085

**Call:** (815)947-3321 to schedule an appointment.

Screening is required for all children turning 3 on or before 9/1/2019. The screening takes approximately one hour and includes checks of progress in the areas of language, motor skills, general development, vision, and hearing.

Please bring your child's **certified birth certificate** from the courthouse, **physical** and a copy of your child's **immunization record**.

All preschool age children residing in the Stockton School District are eligible.

Screening is also available for children 0 - 3 on March 20 from 9 - 12.

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## FHN offers Safe Sitter® Class for teens

Students in grades 6 - 8 can learn the babysitting basics - including first aid and rescue skills - at an upcoming FHN class.

Safe Sitter® Essentials teaches child care skills, safety skills, and first aid and rescue skills as well as life and business skills. The instructor-led class features games and role-playing exercises, and students will use manikins to practice rescue skills. Registration is open for the next class, set for 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 25 at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport.

The full-day course is \$45, which includes a Safe Sitter Essentials Student Handbook and completion card. Financial assistance is available for eligible students; call 815-599-6707 for more information and to determine eligibility. Students may bring a sack lunch or purchase lunch at Café FHN.

For more information or to register for Safe Sitter Essentials, visit [www.fhn.org/safesitter](http://www.fhn.org/safesitter).

## Pediatric First Aid, CPR Class

Learn first aid, CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) use specific to infants and children at a special Heartsaver® Pediatric First Aid course at FHN.

The course is open to the public and will cover first aid basics including controlling bleeding and bandaging, burns, heat- or cold-related injuries, poison emergencies, and fractures and sprains, as well as CPR and AED use, and what to do in case of choking.

The course will be offered from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. The cost is \$60, which includes the Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid CPR AED Student Workbook and a CPR certification card that is valid for two years.

To register online or learn more, visit [www.fhn.org/heartssaver-pediatric-first-aid](http://www.fhn.org/heartssaver-pediatric-first-aid) or contact the FHN Center of Innovative Learning at [coil@fhn.org](mailto:coil@fhn.org).

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

**Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau offering \$250 towards R.O.P.S. Purchase.** The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau would like to offer funds to reimburse farmers for purchasing ROPS (Rollover Protective Structures.) Fifty-five percent of farm tractors in Illinois do not have a cab or ROPS (Rollover Protection Structure.) Only 1 in 5 victims will survive a tractor rollover accident. The leading cause of farm related deaths in Illinois is tractor rollover accidents. They account for more than 30% of farm related deaths.

ROPS help protect farmers and family members from being crushed in the event of a tractor turnover or rollover. Safety Chairman, Dan Robbe, states that "Safety is a priority of the farm bureau, and we would like to encourage our members to install ROPS on their tractors". Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau members who purchase a ROPS could receive a reimbursement of \$250 towards the purchase of a ROPS (Six rebates are available). To receive the \$250, members would need to bring in their paid invoice to the Farm Bureau office in Eliza-

beth. Customers would be responsible for the cost, freight, and installation which are available through the dealer. If you have been thinking about putting a ROPS on one of your tractors - now is the time! For more information about this program, or to become a



Annette Eggers

member of our organization, contact the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau office at 815-858-2235 or email jdcfbmgr@blkhawk.net.

**Mark your calendars:** the spring cover crop field day is set for Friday, April 5th. Look for more details to come. Hopefully by then the weather will be much improved and spring will be in full swing. I know all of us are more than ready!!

**Farm Bureau members** can access additional member benefits and discounts when they're on the go with the membership benefit web platform and iPhone App.

This platform gives our members added discounts on hotels, theme parks, restaurants, movies and everything in between. Best of all, the app shows both local and national discounts, and can even notify members when they're near a business that offers discounts.

To access the web platform at <https://ilfb.abenity.com>, members must create an account and provide their Illinois Farm Bureau membership ID number. Members can also go to the iPhone App Store, search IL Farm Bureau Membership Benefits and download the app on their iPhone or iPad. Once downloaded, members may customize the app to include frequently used offers; search offers by business name, location and category; and provide instant in-store discounts at nearby restaurants and retailers.

Members who have questions about the app or additional Illinois Farm Bureau member benefits may contact our office or the Illinois Farm Bureau Membership Call Center at 309-557-2689.

**Ag Fun Fact:** One bushel of wheat will produce 73 one-pound loaves of bread.

## 23rd Annual Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair

The twenty-third annual Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Jane Addams Community Center, 430 W. Washington Street in Cedarville, Illinois. The Fiber Art Fair is a celebration of fiber and the fiber arts with workshops, demonstrations of spinning and weaving, vendors offering fibers for spinning plus finished yarn, dyes, books, gifts, equipment, handmade soap and baskets and supplies for spinning, weaving, knitting, felting, dyeing, tatting and crochet.

Admission to the event is \$2 for adults and free for children under 12. There is plenty for every level of spinner and weaver, but you don't need any spinning or weaving experience to learn, watch, shop and enjoy!

Hands-on workshops are available. Workshops are one to three hours long and the cost ranges from \$10 to \$70.

Workshops are "Cordmaking: 3 Ways" with Janus Rose to learn the ancient art of cordmaking; "Kumihimo 201" with Anita Cleary & Kathryn Raistrick to create braid jewelry;

"Spinning Cotton on an Akha Spindle" with John & Cyndy Hunter to learn to spin on a mid-whorl Akha spindle; "Locker Hooking" with Julie Sword to create a hot pad made from old t-shirts; "Take an Old Lady for a Spin (Antique Wheels)" with Tami Mulder to practice spinning on an antique spinning wheels; "Cotton Towel Weaving: Log Cabin Pattern on a Rigid Heddle Loom" with Anne Sammons to warp and weave on a rigid heddle loom; "Weave-It: Small Looms, Big Fun" with Jeanie Hawkey to weave a pincushion on a small loom; and "The Strands of Shearing" with Carrie St. Clair for a symposium to get the most out of your shearing.

Throughout the day the "To Dye For" dye kitchen will be available as a walk-in activity to dye yarn multiple colors. Students of all ages should plan to spend from 10 to 20 minutes to paint their own uniquely dyed skein of yarn. The cost ranges from \$5 to \$15 depending on the size of the skein of yarn you choose.

At 1 p.m. the Drop Spindle Contest will take place. Spinners have been using drop spindles since an-

cient times, and they remain a great first step for new spinners and a favorite among many experienced spinners. Participants will learn how to spin wool on a drop spindle, then test their new skill with a contest. The Drop Spindle Contest is free, and prizes will be awarded. No experience is needed and participants will be separated by age (youth and adult) and experience (beginners and experienced).

Participants can register for workshops online at [www.scfiberartfair.com](http://www.scfiberartfair.com). A brochure with a mail-in registration form can be found at the same website, on the Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair facebook page, or by contacting Suzy Beggin at [Suzy@SuzyBeggin.com](mailto:Suzy@SuzyBeggin.com) or 815-541-0897. Workshop registration will be available on the day of the Fiber Art Fair if space is available, but preregistration is recommended.

## Explore Ridin' the Rails at Discovery Center

Bundle up your bundle and jump on board for a day all about trains and life on the railroad during Ridin' the Rails, Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Enjoy stories, songs, history, and humor as local storyteller Dawn DiVenti shares her real-life train adventures! These 45-minute performances will be at 11 a.m. and again at 2 p.m.

Know as "The Hobo Queen," Dawn DiVenti leads an otherwise conventional life. DiVenti, who has a master's degree in library informa-

tion science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, uses her background to informally teach hobo history. The hobo era peaked in the Depression, when men had to travel to find work. Today hoboing is a lifestyle by choice.

In addition to enjoying The Hobo Queen's performances, children can also create their own train whistles and engineer hats. The performances and all activities are included with Thomas & Friends™ admission: \$11 Public; \$1 Members. Free to children ages 1 and younger.

## Stockton School District April 2 school bond referendum

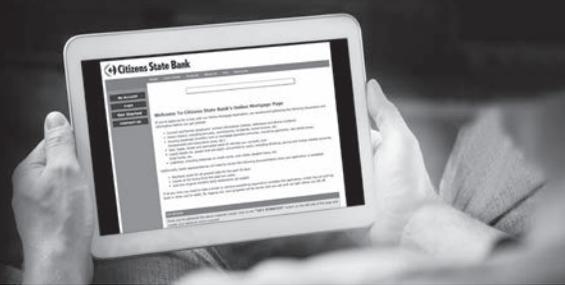
By Casey Downey  
STOCKTON HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Our School District is currently facing the challenge of maintaining aging facilities with extremely limited funding. The School District conducted a comprehensive study to determine and prioritize the needs for the facilities. This was partially completed through a state mandated process. The outcome showed that there are significant code, maintenance, ADA issues, safety and security needs. A Task Force of community members and responses from a School District-wide survey taken at the end of December and first part of January showed that the majority of people in our District support moving to one campus. The Stockton School Board has decided to ask the community to make the final decision of what needs to happen moving forward for our schools. Given state funding parameters for school districts, the Stockton School District is not able to self-fund for the building issues that exist. That is why the Stockton School Board decided to place three building referendum option questions on the ballot in April.

Every community has multiple components that are required to thrive. The school is the heart of the community. Great schools attract and retain great teachers that provide quality instruction for students that in turn create opportunities during their educational journey and beyond. Schools must continue to evolve not just for the students of today, but for the students of the future as well.

If you are undecided, please get informed. There are Town Hall meetings scheduled for March 21, and March 26, at the Stockton Elementary School Gym at 7:00 pm for community members to gain information about the situation. You can also find information on the Stockton School District website at [www.stocktonschools.com](http://www.stocktonschools.com).

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# HCC Foundation introduces new event

Carrying on with the successful tradition of fundraising, the Highland Community College Foundation is making a transition from the Shindig to the Highland Community College Gala, planned for Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Wagner House in Freeport, Ill.

For eight years the Highland Community College Foundation has raised over \$400,000 from the Foundation's annual fundraising event. The tradition of the event started in 2011 and has varied themes and locations from western to flapper. At-

tendees have always enjoyed a hearty meal, music, silent and live auction.

"The HCC Foundation's Shindig has been a long-standing, community event and we thank everyone who has been a part of it," said Jeff Reinke, Highland Community College Foundation Executive Director. "Our vision of transitioning to the Gala is to focus on the Highland mission, and highlight Highland programs while engaging alumni and corporations throughout the district."

The Foundation thrives on partnerships with organizations, corpo-

rations, and individuals throughout the district to develop mutually advantageous strategies to meet the educational and training needs of the community. Money raised from this event help fund programs at Highland.

At the inaugural Gala, the Foundation will recognize individuals and corporate partners that demonstrate shared responsibility in transforming the lives of the students through accessible, affordable, and rigorous learning experiences. The fundraising event will continue with the tradi-

tional dinner, entertainment, live and silent auction as well as the \$5,000 in five minutes for the H.O.P.E. student emergency fund. There will be room for 330 guests, a dinner, auctions and live entertainment.

The Gala will rely on past successes and incorporate key components from the previous Foundation events. The highlight of the evening will be recognition of an individual with the inaugural "Lifetime Achievement Award", honoring someone who has had a lasting impact on Highland Community College and its success.

In addition, the Foundation will host an Alumni Reception on campus the night prior to the Gala (Friday,

Nov. 1). The event will recognize alumni highlighted by a campus-wide open house.

"By featuring both the Alumni Reception and the Gala on back-to-back nights, we will be creating a HCC Weekend, offering everyone the opportunity to see the campus, and be part of an exciting weekend," said Reinke. "This will truly give Highland the opportunity to highlight its mission of shaping the future of our communities by providing quality education and learning opportunities through programs and services that encourage the personal and professional growth of the people of northwestern Illinois."

## Applications available for Farm Bureau scholarships

The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Foundation is again awarding scholarships this year to students who are majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, vocational or an ag-related course of study. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of exceptional scholastic ability. To be eligible you must be a Jo Daviess County Farm

Bureau member, spouse of a member or member's child. You must be accepted for enrollment or be enrolled at an accredited college, university, community college or vocational/technical school. For the general scholarship, applicants must have at least second year status, be enrolled as a full-time student and must ex-

hibit potential for successful completion of course of study. The second scholarship is for those attending Highland Community College and majoring in an ag-related field. For more information and/or an application, go to [www.jodaviesscfb.com/scholarships/](http://www.jodaviesscfb.com/scholarships/). Application deadline is March 1, 2019.

## New name ... same exceptional service

Beggin Tipp Lamm LLC and BTL Capital Management are excited to announce the debut of the companies' new, combined name - Lucas Group.

Beggin Tipp Lamm and BTL Capital Management's continued growth led to the decision to bring the businesses together under one umbrella called the Lucas Group to serve clients even better.

Beggin Tipp Lamm is now Lucas Group CPAs + Advisors

BTL Capital Management is now Lucas Group Financial Advisors

While the names are changing, Lucas Group will continue to provide the same exceptional financial services clients have come to expect.

In addition to the name change, Lucas Group is debuting its online Client Center, providing clients highly secure and convenient access to financial documents anytime, anywhere using a tablet or mobile device and the ability to collaborate

with Lucas Group CPAs in real time. **About Lucas Group CPAs + Advisors (Freeport, IL)**

Since 2010, Lucas Group CPAs + Advisors have provided trusted accounting and advisory services for individuals and businesses. In addition to tax planning and auditing, we provide expert guidance including payroll and tax compliance and business consulting for a variety of industries such as government and non-profits, manufacturing, attorneys, agriculture and more. For more information, please visit [www.lucasgroupcpas.com](http://www.lucasgroupcpas.com).

**About Lucas Group Financial Advisors (Rockford, IL)**

Lucas Group Financial Advisors are an independent, fee-only wealth management firm specializing in helping financially established families, trust funds, retirement plans and non-profit organizations build, preserve and transfer wealth. For more information, please visit [www.lucasgroupfinancial.com](http://www.lucasgroupfinancial.com).



## Apple Canyon Lake Job Fair

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12 - 3 pm**

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All positions

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**Pro Shop - \$9/hr start**

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**Maintenance - \$10/hr start**

Groundskeeping, Custodial

**Marina - \$9.25/hr start**

Cashier, Fuel Attendant

Boat Rental Attendant

**Pool/Beach - \$10/hr start**

Lifeguards (Certification class offered prior to season)

**Safety & Security - \$13/hr start**

Officers (Must be First Responder)

**Get information and download application at  
[www.applecanyonlake.org/careers](http://www.applecanyonlake.org/careers).**

## Regional Transportation Committee Meeting notice – Region 1

The next Regional Transportation Committee meeting for Region 1 (Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties) will be held on Thursday, March 28, at 10 a.m. at Regional Design Center, Region 1 Planning Council located at 313 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101. Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend as well as anyone that is interested in public transit.

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

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

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



# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

We finally had some warmer weather to melt some snow. I know it is black and ugly, but I am ready. With the warmth is the rain, and with the rain comes water out of banks and in basements. The wind is whistling away as I write this—some of that March coming in like a lion weather. However, I am hoping we might have more than two fifty degree days in a row. This week's recipes are for those who need to have some meatless meals. Enjoy some vegetables, some fish, and some pasta.

The first recipe is for a pasta salad that is easy to make and pretty too. You can use any kind of pasta, but I think the bow tie pasta is pretty in a pasta salad. The winter tomatoes—on the vine tomatoes—are not too bad. Sullivan's have them all of the time, and they come from Rochelle. I like the fact they are not coming all the way across the county; they have to be fresher and taste better.

## Tomato Pasta Salad

- 1 tomato, diced
- 2 T. diced red onion
- 1 T. white wine vinegar
- 1 T. olive oil
- 2 t. chopped basil
- 2 C. cooked bow tie pasta

Combine the tomato, onion, vinegar, oil and basil; toss with pasta and season with salt and pepper.

This soup recipe uses some beans, barley, vegetables, and cabbage (I do know that cabbage is a vegetable, but cabbage is really the main event in this soup). It is a pretty hearty soup, and the addition of the V8 Juice makes it full of good and healthy things. The vegetable juice gives it a bit more substance than just plain tomato juice. As is with many soups, this one tastes better two days later than right after it is first made. The beauty of this soup is that it is made in a slow cooker.

## Cabbage Barley Soup

- 1 C. dried brown lentils, rinsed
- ½ C. medium pearl barley
- 3 medium carrots, chopped
- 2 celery ribs, chopped
- ½ t. poultry seasoning
- ¼ t. pepper
- 1 bottle (46 oz.) V8 Juice
- 4 C. water
- 4 C. shredded cabbage
- ½ lb. sliced fresh mushrooms
- ¾ t. salt

Place the lentils, barley, carrots, celery, seasonings, juice and water in a 5 or 6 qt. slow cooker. Add cabbage and cook, covered, on low until lentils are tender, 6 to 8 hours. Stir in mushrooms and salt. Cook covered, on low until mushrooms are tender,

15 to 20 minutes. Serves 8

What is more often made during Lent than tuna casserole? This is a pretty standard tuna casserole, and you need to use at least 2 % or whole milk in order for it to taste really good. I use the Amish noodles, and they come in various sizes—wide, kluski, extra wide—just about any size you want.

## Tuna Noodle Casserole

- 1 can cream of celery soup
- ½ C. milk
- 2 C. wide noodles, cooked
- 1 C. frozen peas, thawed
- 1 can (6 oz.) water packed tuna, drained and flaked
- 1 jar (2 oz.) pimentos, drained
- 2 t. bread crumbs
- 1 T. butter, melted

In a large bowl, combine soup and milk until smooth. Add the noodles, peas, tuna and pimentos; mix well. Pour into a 1½ qt. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Bake, uncovered, at 400 for 25 minutes. Toss bread crumbs and butter; sprinkle over the top. Bake until golden brown, about 5 minutes. Serves 4

We are getting ready for "March Madness." NCAA brackets will soon be out, and television (at least CBS) will be showing nothing but the games. If you are living with someone in your house that is a big fan, you either have to join them or leave for the weekend. The following recipe is for basketball cupcakes. They really do look like basketballs and are full of chocolate. Two weeks in a row I have given you chocolate cupcakes. It is a good thing that Easter and spring are approaching; white cupcakes will be more in demand!

## Triple Chocolate

### Basketball Cupcakes

- 1 C. flour
- ½ t. salt
- ½ t. baking soda
- ½ C. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1½ t. instant espresso powder
- ¾ C. whole milk
- 1 C. sugar
- ¾ C. oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 t. vanilla
- Frosting and Topping
- 6 oz. bittersweet chocolate chopped
- 2 sticks unsalted butter at room temperature
- Pinch of salt
- ¼ C. powdered sugar
- 1 T. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 t. whole milk
- 1 t. vanilla
- 8 oz. white chocolate chopped
- 2 T. oil
- ½ t. orange gel food coloring

Preheat the oven to 350. Line a 12 cup muffin pan with paper liners; set aside. Whisk the flour, salt and baking soda in a medium bowl. Whisk the cocoa powder and espresso powder in a large bowl. Heat the milk in a small saucepan over medium heat until hot but not simmering; whisk into the coco mixture until smooth. Whisk in the sugar until dissolved, then the oil, eggs, and vanilla. Whisk in the flour mixture until just com-

binated. Divide the batter among the prepared muffin cups, filling each about two thirds full. Bake until a toothpick inserted into the centers comes out clean, about 20 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes in the pan, then remove to a rack to cool completely.

Frosting:

Put 4 ounces of bittersweet chocolate in a microwave safe bowl and microwave in 1 minute intervals, stirring occasionally, until smooth. Let cool to room temperature. Beat the butter and salt in a large bowl with a mixer on medium-high speed until fluffy, about 2 minutes. Reduce the mixer speed to low and gradually beat in the powdered sugar; increase the speed to medium-high and beat until light and fluffy again about 2 to 3 minutes. Beat in cocoa powder, milk and vanilla until smooth. Beat in melted chocolate until very fluffy and smooth, 2 to 3 minutes. Frost the cupcakes using an offset spatula to mound the frosting into smooth rounded domes. Refrigerate until the frosting is firm about 30 minutes.

Combine the white chocolate and 1½ T. of oil in a microwave safe bowl. Combine the remaining 2 oz. bittersweet chocolate and ½ T. oil in a small microwave-safe bowl. Microwave each chocolate separately in 30 second intervals, stirring occasionally, until melted and smooth. Stir the orange gel food coloring into the white chocolate. Transfer to a shallow bowl or glass measuring cup; let cool slightly. Let bittersweet chocolate mixture cool until it is thick enough to pipe, then transfer to a resealable plastic bag and snip a small corner. One at a time, turn each cupcake upside down and dip the top in the chocolate mixture; rotate to coat and let excess drip off. Turn right-side up and pipe lines of bittersweet chocolate to look like the seams of a basketball. Let set at room temperature, about 10 minutes.

For those of you who are not chocolate lovers, this next strawberry bar will fill your sweet tooth without so much as a smidgen of chocolate. You can use your own strawberry jam or some from the store. Enjoy these yummy (and they do have oatmeal, so maybe they are considered healthier) bars.

## Strawberry Pecan Oat Bars

- 1½ C. flour
- 1 C. old fashioned oats
- 1 C. chopped pecans
- ½ C. firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 t. kosher salt
- ¼ t. baking soda
- ¾ C. unsalted butter, melted
- Strawberry jam

Preheat the oven to 350. Line a 9-inch square baking pan with parchment paper, letting excess extend over the sides of the pan. Spray parchment with baking spray with flour. In a large bowl, stir together the flour, oats, pecans, brown sugar, salt, and baking soda. Add melted butter, stirring until mixture is crumbly. Reserve 1 cup of the crumble. Press the remaining mixture into bottom of prepared pan.

Spread strawberry jam onto crust in pan; sprinkle with reserved cup of oat mixture, squeezing together in hands to create clumps.

Bake until golden brown and bubbly, 55 minutes to 1 hour. Let cool in pan for 20 minutes; refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour. Using excess parchment as handles, remove from pan, and cut into bars. Refrigerate in an airtight container for up to 2 days.

The Ides of March have come and gone; St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated; and the snow is starting to melt. I would say that things

are looking up. The tracksters had their first meet this week—it was an indoor one—but I still think that it bodes well for us that spring is going to come soon. We continue to ask for some Lenten recipes, so we are looking for meatless and fish recipes. We are also looking for some strawberry and lemon dessert as well as Easter ham recipes.

If you would like to share any recipes, 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

## Jo Daviess County felony drug arrest

On Sunday, March 17, at approximately 0308 hours Jo Daviess County Deputy conducted at traffic stop in the area of Highway 20 just east of rural Elizabeth for improper lane usage. Upon approaching the vehicle the Deputy could smell the odor of cannabis coming from the vehicle. The driver Saud A. Almunar and passenger Anthony D. Underwood were both detained and search of the vehicle was conducted. During the search of the vehicle the Deputy

located approximately 49 grams of prepackaged cannabis, a scale and multiple items of drug paraphernalia. Both Almunar and Underwood were placed under arrest and transported the Jo Daviess County Jail were both were charged with Unlawful Delivery of Cannabis, Possession of Cannabis, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Almunar also received a traffic citation for improper lane usage. This incident remains under investigation



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# Stockton High School second quarter honor roll

## Second Quarter High Honor Roll (All A's)

Grade 9: Maria Bender, Joseph Brudi, Justin Eden, Jenna Haas, Caleb Mammoser, Morgan McPeek, Kayden Schubert

Grade 10: Adriana Curtiss, Jason Hermann, Kaylee Luke

Grade 11: Haley Brudi, Jamie Eden, Winston McPeek

Grade 12: Nicholas Ege, Alexander Staver

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

Grade 9: Ian Broshous, Matthew Cook, Hannah Deininger, Vanessa

Ernst, Owen Groshans, Kenze Haas, Cierra Mapes, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Callie Roberts, Raeann Roberts, Kassadie Sullivan

Grade 10: Elise Adleman, Kaylee Allen, Kamden Baber, Wyatt Baber, Taylor Broshous, Mitchel Coffey, Lucas Crome, Madelynn Ertmer, Andrew Haas, Case Harmston, Hunter Hille, James Hille, Hayley Johnson, Ivannie Jones, Janet Katzenberger, Madison Lara, Cheyenne Mapes, Patrick Mensendike, Alyssa Randecker, Chandler Reifsteck, Simon Rillie, Bryce Smith, Tiana Timpe, Emma Westaby, Kiersten Winters

Grade 11: Tyler Barch, Cody

Breuer, Kaige Brown, Garrett Buske, Ethan Cook, Zachary Cook, Elizabeth Eisfeller, Kenna Haas, Bryant Keefer, Andrew McGovern, Alyssa Meade, Kendra Scace, Cody Schultz, Rawley Schulz, Austin Senn, Tessa Tucker, Austin Westover, Katie Wright

Grade 12: Jenna Beneventi, Raeann Bergman, Caitlin Breuer, Elodie Dufour, Colin Dvorak, Ellen Fox, Linzy Friedlein, Jennifer Hatfield, Arianna Hayes, Allison Kehl, Hayley Lantz, Lindan Legel, Zachary Newman, Drake Oppold, Robert Reifsteck, Addie Rice, Stanlee Rillie, Kendall Schulz, Hannah Smith, Erin Vanderheyden, Alyssa Vincent, Briana Voss,

Breuer, Kaige Brown, Garrett Buske, Ethan Cook, Zachary Cook, Elizabeth Eisfeller, Kenna Haas, Bryant Keefer, Andrew McGovern, Alyssa Meade, Kendra Scace, Cody Schultz, Rawley Schulz, Austin Senn, Tessa Tucker, Austin Westover, Katie Wright

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Grade 9: Ian Broshous, Hannah Deininger, Vanessa Ernst, Owen Groshans, Kenze Haas, Braden Jones, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Callie Roberts, Raeann Roberts, Kassadie Sullivan

Grade 10: Elise Adleman, Kaylee Allen, Kamden Baber, Wyatt Baber, Taylor Broshous, Mitchel Coffey, Lucas Crome, Madelynn Ertmer, Andrew Haas, Hunter Hille, James Hille, Hayley Johnson, Ivannie Jones, Madison Lara, Cheyenne Mapes, Patrick Mensendike, Alyssa Randecker, Simon Rillie, Bryce Smith, Tiana Timpe, Kiersten Winters

Grade 11: Tyler Barch, Cody Breuer, Kaige Brown, Garrett Buske, Ethan Cook, Zachary Cook, Mia D'Antonio, Elizabeth Eisfeller, Marc Gabel, Kenna Haas, Bryant Keefer, Andrew McGovern, Alyssa Meade, Kendra Scace, Cody Schultz, Rawley Schulz, Austin Senn, Tessa Tucker,

Abigail Weber, Kara Wickler, Cecelia Zink

## First Semester High Honor Roll (All A's)

Grade 9: Maria Bender, Joseph Brudi, Matthew Cook, Justin Eden, Jenna Haas, Caleb Mammoser, Morgan McPeek, Kayden Schubert

Grade 10: Adriana Curtiss, Case Harmston, Jason Hermann, Kaylee Luke, Chandler Reifsteck

Grade 11: Haley Brudi, Jamie Eden, Winston McPeek

Grade 12: Jennifer Hatfield

Grade 9: Ian Broshous, Hannah Deininger, Vanessa Ernst, Owen Groshans, Kenze Haas, Braden Jones, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Callie Roberts, Raeann Roberts, Kassadie Sullivan

Grade 10: Elise Adleman, Kaylee Allen, Kamden Baber, Wyatt Baber, Taylor Broshous, Mitchel Coffey, Lucas Crome, Madelynn Ertmer, Andrew Haas, Hunter Hille, James Hille, Hayley Johnson, Ivannie Jones, Madison Lara, Cheyenne Mapes, Patrick Mensendike, Alyssa Randecker, Simon Rillie, Bryce Smith, Tiana Timpe, Kiersten Winters

Grade 11: Tyler Barch, Cody Breuer, Kaige Brown, Garrett Buske, Ethan Cook, Zachary Cook, Mia D'Antonio, Elizabeth Eisfeller, Marc Gabel, Kenna Haas, Bryant Keefer, Andrew McGovern, Alyssa Meade, Kendra Scace, Cody Schultz, Rawley Schulz, Austin Senn, Tessa Tucker,

Grade 12: Jenna Beneventi, Raeann Bergman, Caitlin Breuer, Elodie Dufour, Colin Dvorak, Ellen Fox, Linzy Friedlein, Jennifer Hatfield, Arianna Hayes, Allison Kehl, Hayley Lantz, Lindan Legel, Zachary Newman, Drake Oppold, Robert Reifsteck, Addie Rice, Stanlee Rillie, Kendall Schulz, Hannah Smith, Erin Vanderheyden, Alyssa Vincent, Briana Voss,

Austin Westover, Katie Wright

Grade 12: Walker Arand, Jenna Beneventi, Raeann Bergman, Caitlin Breuer, Elodie Dufour, Colin Dvorak, Nicholas Ege, Ellen Fox, Natalie Freese, Linzy Friedlein, Arianna Hayes, Connor Hayes, Allison Kehl, Hayley Lantz, Lindan Legel, Zachary Newman, Drake Oppold, Robert Reifsteck, Addie Rice, Stanlee Rillie, Kendall Schulz, Hannah Smith, Alexander Staver, Echo Taylor, Erin Vanderheyden, Alyssa Vincent, Briana Voss, Abigail Weber, Kara Wickler, Cecelia Zink

Grade 10: Adriana Curtiss, Case Harmston, Jason Hermann, Kaylee Luke, Chandler Reifsteck

Grade 11: Haley Brudi, Jamie Eden, Winston McPeek

Grade 12: Jennifer Hatfield

Grade 9: Ian Broshous, Hannah Deininger, Vanessa Ernst, Owen Groshans, Kenze Haas, Braden Jones, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Callie Roberts, Raeann Roberts, Kassadie Sullivan

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# Preparing for gardening season

The University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists have been busy putting together several gardening programs to help shake away the winter blues and start thinking of spring. This series will begin with an after school session for youth and continue with three consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning March 27, for all ages. To kick things off there will be a youth class on "Starting Your Garden Seeds" to be held at Stockton Library. Youth will be taught how to start seeds at home that can later be planted into the garden. This is the beginning of a youth gardening series that will teach how to grow, tend to, harvest and create meals with garden produce. This class is open to all youth and will be held on Tuesday, March 19, at the Stockton Library, 140 W. Benton, Stockton, IL. The class will begin at 3:30 p.m. and conclude by 4:30. There is no cost to attend this event.

"From Seed to Success: Growing Cut Flowers at Home" will be presented by Drew Groezinger, 4-H alum and owner of Clara Joyce Flowers in Stockton. Drew will cov-

er the basics of successful seed germination, transplanting tips, as well as growing and harvesting pointers. This class will be held on Wednesday, March 27 beginning at 6 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension office, 204 N Vine St., Elizabeth, IL. There will be a \$10 charge to attend this event.

Coming up next will be "Backyard Composting," featuring Don Klinger, U of I Extension Master Gardener. This will be a brief but comprehensive overview of composting for the small gardener. Topics that will be covered include basic equipment, techniques, along with dos and do nots and of course - vermicomposting. Frequently asked questions will be answered as well. This class will be held on Wednesday, April 3 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension office, 204 N Vine St., Elizabeth, IL. There is no cost to attend this event.

And the last of this spring series will be "Improving Soil Health" with Art Scheele, U of I Extension Master Gardener. Art will share the how, what, and when to fertilize, what is proper tillage, what affect do herbi-

cides, pesticides, and other "cides" have on the soil, what are some of the common practices that are detrimental/beneficial to soil life, and much, much more. This class will be held on Wednesday, April 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension office, 204 N Vine St., Elizabeth, IL. There is no cost to attend this event.

Planning is underway for a similar series of class offerings in the fall. Wednesday, September 25 "Selecting and Growing Garlic" presented by Drew Groezinger is the first class we have scheduled so far.

For more information, call the University of Illinois Extension Office in Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273 or visit us at [go.illinois.edu/jsw](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw).

## Warren Women's Club update

Our guest was Sue Janecke Of Steppin' Out here in town. She told us about different types of fur and which ones were the best to work with. The information she told us about was very interesting. Thank You, Sue for joining us.

President Sandy Wolfram started the meeting with the Collect, The Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of America the Beautiful. Reports from the committees were requested and then we went onto old and new business.

Shirley Miller announced the shows available for the Spring Trip. They are Mama Mia Wednesday 7-24, Man from La Mancha Wednesday 8-14, Steel Magnolias

Wednesday 8-28. Shirley will have more information at the meeting.

Mary Cheslock sent a sympathy card to the Ruth Winter Family, get well cards were sent to Barbara Ellingson and to Sharon Cahill. The Ruth Winter family sent a Thank You card with a donation, Thank you to the Winter Family.

Thank You to the Social Committee; Darlene Smith, Cindy Brinker and Georgette Planting for a great lunch.

Our next meeting will be on March 26, at the Community Building at 12 Noon. The program will be about the Jo Daviess County Fair. Please attend the meeting; see you there.

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## Portrait of the Month



**Vrstal**  
**Photography**  
wishes  
**Bobbie & Albert**  
**Scheider a**  
**Happy 40th**  
**Anniversary!**

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**[schramchiropractic.com](http://schramchiropractic.com)**

*NIU students: see our website for our DeKalb office*



## NARFE schedules March meeting

The Noon lunch meeting of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) will be on Thursday, March 21, at Manny's in Savanna. Historian Steve Rep will be the guest speaker. To RSVP or for new attendees not on permanent list, contact Jorene Lieb for more information at 815-541-4105.

## Counterfeit bill notice

Area police departments have received reports of Counterfeit Twenty (\$20) and One Hundred (\$100) bills being passed in the area. A couple of local banks have received the suspected counterfeit bills, generally in bank deposits from businesses. If you suspect the bill may be counterfeit, please contact your police department.

## The Strands of Shearing

Take a Workshop at the Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair on Saturday, April 13, covering the subtleties of shearing, join us as we cover topics like: Making the most of your Shearing service; Preparation, Wool and the Micrometer, Selecting a Shearer, and so much more.

The Strands of Shearing  
2 to 4 p.m., \$40  
Carrie St. Clair  
Harvest Moon  
Minimum five Students / Maximum 35

Register online or click here to view the brochure and mail in your workshop registration. See you in April.

## Kumihimo 201

Take a Workshop at the Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair on Saturday, April 13. Learn to use a square Kumihimo loom to make a flat braid. No experience needed. Beginners are welcome as are children 6-8 who are accompanied by an adult.

Kumihimo 201  
9 to 10:30 am; \$25  
Anita Cleary and Kathryn Rais-trick of Jubilee Farm (New Berlin)

Minimum 1 Student / Maximum 25, please register online: [www.scfi-berartfair.com](http://www.scfi-berartfair.com)  
See you in April!

# All-Conference Boys

By Trent Scheidegger  
REPORTER

The NUIC West recently announced their all conference teams, and they are dominated by local seniors. In fact, twelve of thirteen first and second team selections in the West were seniors.

River Ridge placed two athletes on the West's list. Senior Ben Crist was a leader for the Wildcats all season long and hustled on both ends of the court. Crist's play was enough to earn himself a second team all-conference selection in his final season with River Ridge. Fellow Senior Kameron Kiley was also a leader for the Wildcats. Kiley earned an Honorable Mention all-conference selection in the west. River Ridge will have a tough time replacing these seniors.

Scales Mound also placed two athletes on the West all-conference list. Senior Sam Townsend was a bright spot for the Hornets. His hustle and effort earned himself a second team all-conference selection. The Hornets have an athlete who should be a leader for years to come, in freshman Ben Werner. In just his first season of varsity basketball Werner played

well enough to earn an all-conference honorable mention and will look to carry his experience over to next season when he becomes even more of a leader for the team.

Despite just a 2-9 conference record, the Warren Warriors will look to compete more next season when junior Ethan Williams returns for his senior season. Williams played an important role for the Warrior offense all season long, and his efforts were enough to earn himself a second team all-conference selection.

Finally, Stockton placed two athletes of their own on the all-conference list. Senior Alex Staver, who was an incredible shooter for the Blackhawks this season, shot his way to a second team all-conference selection. Staver was one of the area's best three point shooters and he definitely deserves the recognition. Fellow senior Robbie Reifsteck earned himself an honorable mention. Reifsteck often led the team in the stats that don't stick out as one of their best rebounders and defenders. The Blackhawks will struggle to replace these two seniors, as kids with that kind of heart and hustle can be hard to find.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

## Stockton Renegade Wrestling

Congratulations to the two Stockton Renegade state placers! Congratulations Garrett on your second place finish and Griffin on placing eighth.

# Regional Spelling Bee thank you

A big THANK YOU to the following individuals and businesses that contributed to the Regional Spelling Bee Fund making it possible to send our winner to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.

**SPONSORS:** Carroll County Review, Galena Gazette, Journal Standard, Mirror Democrat, Prairie Advocate, The Flash, The Scoop Today, Village Voices, M45 Marketing Services/FHN, Valentine & Barbara Feiner, M45 Marketing Services, Stained Glass by Mickie, Kim Rampenthal, Jeff & Sally Wagner, Terry & Christy Charles, Carol E. Johnson, United Hairlines, Donald & Linda Kness, Richard & Joyce Tolbert, State Bank of Freeport, State Bank of Pearl City, Andrew & Kelly Chesney, Bonnie Scheider, Dean Gerbick, Eastland Fabrication LLC,

Gerald & Patricia Volkers, St. Johns Lutheran Church of Lena, McCoy Insurance Services Inc, Tri-State Porta Potty Inc, Furst-McNess, Illinois Bank & Trust, Tim & Kyong Cavanaugh, Adkins Energy LLC Lena Veterinary Clinic/Chapin, Sutter, Chapin LTD, Lena Masonic Lodge, Ted & Marilee Odendahl, Aero Group Inc., Marie Stiefel, Abraham & Peggy Trone, Hoskins Building Center Inc., Country Financial/Thomas Edler,

Stockton FFA Alumni, Citizens State Bank (Lena, Stockton, Freeport), Chadwick Women's Club, Hughes Resources, Engel's Jewelry and Gifts, Karen Niemeier, Stephen F. Petras D.M.D/Stockton Dental Center, B Squared Concrete Inc, Village of Thomson, Community Bank, Stephenson County Retired Teachers Association, Jeff & Karen Nelson,

Stockton Cheese Inc/Brewster Dairy Inc, Stagecoach Trail Storage/Gary & Aileen Schreiner, Jo-Carroll Energy, Pretzel City Shop, Pearl City Lions Club, Tim & Rhonda Schoeny, Antiques Etcetera/

Bette Altensey, Robert & Vicki Stretton, Lanark Lions Club, William & Margaret Buckley, Law-Jones Funeral Homes, Pearl City Elevator Inc, Eastland Feed & Grain/Roger & Kathy Coulthard, Lena Lions Club

Prizes donated by: Merriam-Webster • Regional Office of Education Jay Sugarman, Chairman & CEO of iStar Financial • Hexco Academic Scripps National Spelling Bee • Encyclopedia Britannica

Regional Spelling Bee is coordinated by the Carroll, Jo Daviess & Stephenson County Regional Office of Education

## Highland offers Rider Cards for student transportation to campus

Jo Daviess County Transit (JDCT) is making transportation available to Highland students to offer rides to the Freeport campus to attend classes. Rider Cards may be purchased at the J. Rosemary Shockey Bookstore at Highland Community College. The punch card costs \$10.

It is a curb-to-curb pick up for a cost of \$1 per one-way ride for Highland students. Financial aid may be used to purchase the Rider Cards. Jo Daviess County Transit is a federal and state subsidized public transportation system operated by The Workshop with support from Jo Daviess County Board, Townships and Illinois Department of Transportation.

Jo Daviess County Transit (JDCT) operates a demand responsive service. There are no fixed routes or designated stops for getting on or off the vehicles. Service animals are allowed on the vehicles; persons using respirators or portable oxygen will not be denied.

Rides are only scheduled upon request. Passengers must call 815-777-8088 at least 24 hours in advance, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to schedule transportation. Cancellations should be made 24 hours in advance or as soon as possible, with a minimum one hour notice. In cases of inclement weather, JDCT will contact passengers on an individual basis.

## College news

### Highland announces Fall 2018 Dean's List Highest Honors

Lena: Laurel A. Flynn, Kayleigh R. Gerber, Sierra E. Maurer, Meghan R. Scace, Christina J. Schubert, Abbygale M. Strominger  
Orangeville: Jamie M. Watson  
Pearl City: Gwen D. Heimerdinger  
Stockton: Aaron J. Dvorak, Courtney E. Haas, Heather N. Musser  
Warren: Kyle J. Wolff  
Winslow: Brian C. Dorsey

**High Honors**  
Caroline M. Giuffre, Noellani C. Hodges, Sabree A. Hull  
Lena: Trevor W. Aurand, Jake R. Diddens, Kelsey A. Goeke, Reid K. Huneke, Sophia E. Jurkovic, Asa A. Lake, Jordan M. Lee, Cole P. Oberle, Noah P. Peight, Owen D. Peight, Isaac M. Shelly, Allison P. Weegens  
Orangeville: Ethan G. Bilgri, Kelsey L. Bollon, Dylan R. Dietmei-

er, Makenzie L. Robieson  
Pearl City: Amber A. Baumgartner, Taylor R. Brudi, Tori J. Clark, Taylor L. Hillman, Kendra L. Melville, Kilynn A. Perdue, Sean G. Reed, Matthew P. Werkheiser  
Stockton: Mikayla H. Baysinger, Hayden E. Hayes, Michelle L. Johnson, Ramsey P. Schulz, Emma J. Vanderheyden, Brenden K. Westphal  
Warren: Shawn M. Knauer, Kirsten D. Kopp  
Winslow: Amber N. Marinkovich

**Honors**  
Hanover: Bradley J. Bell  
Lena: Alec A. Aurand, Ryan C. Brumfield, Alexandria C. Edler, Hannah E. Obert, April M. Woolcock  
Nora: Carter S. Kubat  
Orangeville: Haley B. Obert  
Stockton: Jessica M. Miller, Natasha L. Rowe, Tabetha E. Thommen  
Warren: Noah R. Folks, Zachery J. Sperry, Madison R. Tesmer, Austin M. Williams  
Winslow: Sydni C. Aebly, Michael J. Jones, Noah J. Trumpy

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019**  
**SCHRADERS' SPRING CONSIGNMENT**  
5995 IL 75 E., Dakota, IL  
Selling tractors, field machinery, livestock equipment, fencing, shop & lawn equipment, building materials, hay & straw, cars & trucks.  
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Not responsible for accidents.  
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507 E. MAIN ST. • LENA  
**SUNDAY, March 24, 2019 - 10:00 A.M.**  
**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES:** walnut dresser w/marble top; child's oak rocker; cast base organ stool; park bench; aluminum loungers; lawn art bicycle; Oscar Schmidt guitar; 45rpm record player; Ball Bearing display; mantle clock; copper horse statue; padlocks; adv items; records; gun literature; cookbooks; comic books; Star Wars Halloween masks & Pez dispensers; farm toys; Nascar & Die-Cast vehicles; Hot Wheels & Matchbox vehicles; action figures; primitive kt items; crockery items; cookie jars; coffee jars; Fire King; Pyrex; ref. dishes; painted dishes; glassware; Frankoma pcs; Lady head vases; knic-knacs; beer glasses & openers; A&W mugs; blue fruit jars; zinc lids.  
**HOUSEHOLD & MISC. ITEMS:** LIKE NEW Filter Queen canister vacuum; iron aquarium stand; lg area rug; Craftsman bench lathe; Craftsman 17" weed eater; 6-gal shop vac.  
**HUNTING SUPPLIES:** 12V DC Coleman coolers; camo hunting blind; camo hunting clothes & more.  
**TERMS: CASH or GOOD CHECK**  
**LOBDELL AUCTION SERVICE - 815-238-0832**  
**IL LICENSE #440000644 - www.lobdellauctionservice.com**

# River Ridge Middle and High School honor rolls

## River Ridge Middle School – Second Quarter Honor Roll

4.00+ Tavian Bryan, Addison Albrecht, Kathryn Cobine, Graci Vanderheyden

3.50 - 3.999 Philip Glenn, Dawson Kloss, Lauren Kloss, Jamie Schnitzler, Torey Winter, Emily Wurster, Millicent Boden, Avery Engle, Morgan Flynn, Lynnea Groezinger, Arthur Horn, Jack Middendorf,

Micaela Miller, Amie Richmond, Benjamin Richmond, Ty Spahn, Evelyn Walters, David Buck, Kayla Diehl, Brynn Fry, Laiken Haas, Nathan Haas, Isabella Haring

3.00 – 3.499 Camdyn Bauer, Heaven Brotherton, Cora Dittmar, Sam Grzeslo, Cameron Harris, Faith Hartman, Maddox Knauer, Landis

Longmore, Nicholas Schnitzler, Emma Smallwood, Celia Turner, Emma Walters, Macey Fulton, Dolan Geerts, Tyson Heidenreich, Lucas Holland, Matthew Johnson, Katherine Leonard, Gwendoline Miller, Cora Ritchie, George Winter, Ian Wachter, Wendy Weimerskirk, Joseph Winter

## River Ridge High School – Second Quarter Honor Roll

4.00+ Brea Christopher, Benjamin Crist, Lazime Limani, Megan Ludwig, Wyatt Potter, Bennett Reese, Allison Sollars, Jacob Speer, Brianna Boop, Madeline Klippert, Julianna Kuzniar, Dylan Landwer, Andrew Merkle, Tayden Patterson, Joseph Tippett, Kathryn Walters, Livia Haas, Mary Scott, Libbey

Shellenberger, Margaret Cahill, Kari Conklin, Kali Crusilla, Leanna Scott 3.50 - 3.999 Kameron Kiley,

Drew Kloss, Micah Knauer, Maya Nicholas, Nicholas Parr, Mary Frances Tracey Laura Wills, Lydia Groezinger, Abby Richmond, Madison Stulc, Xavier Bryan, Greta Dittmar, Bryton Engle, Julia Finazzo, Riley Finn, Adam Holcomb, Kaitlin Kilgore, Emma Kloss, Sarah Pratt, Caleb Rhodes, Charlie Schnitzler, Conner Tippett, Caden Albrecht, Ashley Carroll, Bethany Diederich, Erica Doms, Dominic Geerts, Amber Hupperich, Olivia Leonard, Ajdar Limani, Fallon Miller, Steven Moris, Ann Navarro-Garcia, Makayla Rodgers

3.00 – 3.499 Benjamin Bastian, Kara Conklin, Kaeshawn Diaz, Brady Haring, Reese Miller, Isabella Motta, Alexander Nesbit, James Sullivan, Tabria Thomas, Patrick Cahill, Derek Lehman, Sara Miller, Hunter

Coker, Trevor Grube, Kylie Hiher, Danae Kloss, Liam Ortmeier, Mauricio Sanchez, Jarrett Schoenhaar, Jacob Sollars, Jacob Veltkamp, Brian Cahill, Ashton Eisenberg, Breyton Fry, Owen Holcomb, Avri Miller, Bryan Miller, Travis Slattery, Aaron Smith

## River Ridge High School – Semester One Honor Roll

4.00+ Brea Christopher, Benjamin Crist, Kamron Kiley, Lazime Limani, Wyatt Potter, Allison Sollars, Lydia Groezinger, Madeline Klippert, Julianna Kuzniar, Dylan Landwer, Andrew Merkle, Tayden Patterson, Joseph Tippett, Kathryn Walters, Livia Haas, Mary Scott, Libbey Shellenberger, Margaret Cahill, Ashley Carroll, Kali Crusilla, Fallon Miller, Leanna Scott

3.50 - 3.999 Drew Kloss, Micah Knauer, Megan Ludwig, Isabella Motta, Maya Nicholas, Nicholas Parr, Bennett Reese, Jacob Speer,

Mary Frances Tracey, Laura Wills, Brianna Boop, Patrick Cahill, Abby Richmond, Madison Stulc, Xavier Bryan, Greta Dittmar, Bryton Engle, Julia Finazzo, Riley Finn, Adam Holcomb, Kaitlin Kilgore, Danae Kloss, Sarah Pratt, Caleb Rhodes, Charlie Schnitzler, Conner Tippett, Caden Albrecht, Kari Conklin, Bethany Diederich, Dominic Geerts, Amber Hupperich, Olivia Leonard, Ajdar Limani, Steven Moris, Anna Navarro-Garcia, Makayla Rodgers

3.00 – 3.499 Benjamin Bastian, Kara Conklin, Kaeshawn Diaz, Brady Haring, Alexander Nesbit, James Sullivan, Tabria Thomas, Derek Lehman, Sara Miller, Hunter Coker, Trevor Grube, Kylie Hiher, Emma Kloss, Mauricia Sanchez, Jarrett Schoenhaar, Jacob Veltkamp, Brian Cahill, Erica Doms, Ashton Eisenberg, Owen Holcomb, Avri Miller, Travis Slattery, Aaron Smith.

## Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency PY19 LIHEAP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

PY19 LIHEAP assistance is available from October 1, 2018 until May 31, 2019 or until funding is exhausted.

If you have not applied for LIHEAP assistance during this program year which began October 1, 2018 or were previously denied for assistance, you may call the office to set up an appointment to apply.

If you have received LIHEAP assistance but now have a disconnect notice on your gas and/or electric bill, you may call the office to see if you are eligible for additional assistance.

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

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

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

- 1 person household - \$1,518
- 2 person household - \$2,058
- 3 person household - \$2,598
- 4 person household - \$3,138

Add \$540 for each additional person in the household

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

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

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency  
27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032  
Phone: 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 • www.nicaa.org

34177

## Highland recognizes Career and Technical Education month

Highland Community College joins community colleges throughout the state to celebrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month in February. The month long promotion is an integral component for business and community partners to work alongside Highland Community College to make CTE programs

## University of Illinois Extension's Small Farms Winter Webinar Series announced

Tomato production, agroforestry, industrial hemp production, soil health, and digital marketing are some of the topics to be covered in this year's Small Farms Winter Webinar Series. Presented by the University of Illinois Extension, these free webinars allow participants to learn about new and emerging topics in a one-hour presentation.

"Each year, we try to determine topics for small farms that will help them grow a new crop, expand their operation, and implement new management practices," states Grant McCarty, Local Foods Systems and Small Farms Educator for Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties. "You can register online to listen to all of them or pick and choose".

The Small Farms Winter Webinar Series is held each Thursday from 12-1 p.m. until April 4. Topics vary each week. To listen to the free webinars, participants register online and a link will be sent to their email. On the Thursday of that webinar, participants will sign in from their home computers. You can also stream these when they become available on YouTube.

To sign up for the Small Farms Winter Webinar Series, please visit <http://go.aces.illinois.edu/SmallFarmWinterWebinar>. For additional questions, please feel free to contact Grant McCarty at 815-986-4357 or [gmccarty@illinois.edu](mailto:gmccarty@illinois.edu)

exceptional.

Student Services hosted a "Lunch and Learn" for area high school seniors on Monday, Feb. 18 in the Student/Conference Center at the college.

This is an opportunity for students who are interested in Health Care, Automotive, Auto Body, Cosmetology or Agriculture programs. Tours will be made available for those interested in seeing more of Highland.

"CTE day at Highland is a good way to give area students and others looking to further their education with an in-depth exploration to a core career pathway," said Scott Anderson, Vice President of Business, Technology, and Community Pro-

grams. "When considering a technical career, exposure is the key."

CTE prepares individuals for high-skill, in-demand employment that furthers the overall competitiveness of global education. Last year, nearly two-thirds of all community college graduates in Illinois earned a CTE degree or certificate. These programs offer students flexible scheduling, work-based learning and a chance to earn credentials to provide a pathway from education to employment, not only for high school graduates but for returning adults, workers, and veterans.

See HIGHLAND, Page 15



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today

## Poultry proficiency

Congratulations to Haley Brudi for advancing to Districts in Proficiencies in the area of poultry.

# Final piece of the Gateway to Galena preserved with sale of 150-acre Richardson Farm to JDCF

A two-decade quest to preserve one of the most scenic natural areas in the tristate region came to a successful close on December 21 when the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) purchased a 150-acre addition to the Horseshoe Mound Preserve from the Richardson Family, quadrupling the size of the preserve. This acquisition marks the capstone of a community-driven effort to preserve this iconic landmark in the Galena area and successfully concludes a long-running chapter in

JDCF's history.

In 1996, just three years after JDCF was founded, a group of area citizens approached the Foundation about protecting what is now Galena Gateway Park, which at that time was under the threat of commercial development. Several citizens joined JDCF and created what was interestingly named the Horseshoe Mound Scenic Preservation Committee, a nod to the prominence of this unique geologic feature. But it was in 1998 that momentum around

land preservation along the "Gateway to Galena" really took off, following the actions of people such as the late Patricia Richardson, who protected the northern part of her family's farm on Horseshoe Mound from development by placing a conservation easement on the land.

That move led to significant efforts to preserve the rest of the scenic view in the area, which included a donation of 25 acres of land by former Galena Mayor Robert Buehler to JDCF in 1998. In 2008, JDCF purchased the original 40-acre Horseshoe Mound Preserve and purchased the now 180-acre Galena Gateway Park in 2010 and 2016. In total 390 acres have been preserved in a complex of land running from the top of Horseshoe Mound to the banks of the Galena River over the past twenty-two years.

"It is apropos that the preservation of this Galena Gateway complex all started with Pat Richardson and is now coming to completion with her sons Larry and Tom Richardson's actions 20 years later - honoring their mother's legacy. They deserve a lot of recognition for choosing to put their land in conservation, for-

ever preserving this special landmark of statewide significance," said Steve Barg, Executive Director of JDCF. "I hope local residents reach out to the Richardsons and say thanks."

Volunteers from JDCF's Galena Area Land Enthusiasts (GALE) have already started oak woodland restoration work on the Richardson addition to Horseshoe Mound preserve and will be joined by others from the Northwest Illinois Prairie Enthusiasts and AmeriCorps as work progresses on the very visible west-facing slopes of the mound along Highway 20. Other parts of the site will continue to be farmed as they have been for decades. Larry and Jackie Richardson will continue to own and live in their home on the property built in 1995.

There will be no public access to the site from Highway 20. However, the public will be able to enjoy the addition by entering through the original 40-acre Horseshoe Mound Preserve at 1679 N. Blackjack Road about 1.5 miles south of Highway 20. A new pedestrian trail will open this spring, showcasing the amazing views and unique rock outcroppings

that, in part, make this property so special. "I am sure that area residents and visitors alike will embrace the addition to Horseshoe Mound as much as they have the original preserve," added Barg.

There are many people who have contributed along the way, but today JDCF thanks the Richardson Family for their vision and the Grand Victoria Foundation and the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation which provided funding for the acquisition. No tax dollars have been used for this acquisition or the restoration and maintenance of Horseshoe Mound Preserve.

JDCF is a member-supported 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 such as community favorites Casper Bluff, Wapello Land and Water Reserve, and Horseshoe Mound Preserve. For more information about JDCF, please visit their office at 126 N Main Street, Elizabeth IL, or contact them at [www.jdcf.org](http://www.jdcf.org), or [info@jdcf.org](mailto:info@jdcf.org).

## • Highland (Continued from page 14)

Success in CTE programming is amplified by academic support services, work-based learning opportunities, and business engagement. CTE's reach in Illinois' workforce continues to be expansive; currently, there are more than 4,200 different CTE program offerings across the community college system.

ICCB Executive Director Dr. Brian Durham, said, "Career and technical education programs are at the core of the community college's mission to provide educational opportunities tai-

lored to local business and industry needs. These programs lead students into high demand careers in growing fields such as healthcare or cybersecurity that pay very well."

For more information about postsecondary career and technical education programs and services at Highland Community College, contact Scott Anderson at 815-599-3604 or [scott.anderson@highland.edu](mailto:scott.anderson@highland.edu). To learn more about statewide career and technical education initiatives throughout Illinois, visit [www.iccb.org/cte](http://www.iccb.org/cte).

## The Scoop Today & The Shopper's Guide

# Service Corner

**DeVoe License & Title Service**  
216 W. Main • Lena  
815-369-5549  
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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**TORO**

**NOTICE OF SALE OF FARM REAL ESTATE BY SEALED BID**  
**MARY ANN MOKROS TRUST**

The following three parcels of real estate are offered for sale by sealed bid.

**Parcel 1:** 80 acres m/l (PIN No. 11-06-27-300-002) located in the South Half of the Southwest Quarter, Section 27, West Point Township, Stephenson County, Illinois, with a site address of 15998 W. Main Road, Lena, IL 61048.

**Parcel 2:** 62.46 acres m/l (PIN No. 11-06-25-200-003) located in part of the West Half of the Northeast Quarter, Section 25, West Point Township, Stephenson County, Illinois, with a site address of W. Coomber Road, Lena, IL 61048.

**Parcel 3:** 35 acres m/l (PIN No. 11-06-24-400-003) located in part of the South Half of the Southeast Quarter, Section 24, West Point Township, Stephenson County, Illinois, with a site address of W. Coomber Road, Lena, IL 61048.

**Sale Method:** Each Parcel is offered separately for sale by sealed bid auction. Bids must be submitted on a Bid Form provided by Seller. Bids shall be subject to all terms and conditions stated in this Notice and those contained on the Bid Form. Bids must be received by Seller at the law office of **Fishburn Whiton Thruman, 8 East Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032** by no later than **4:00 p.m. on April 3, 2019**. No bid will be allowed to be withdrawn, for any reason, after it has been deposited with Seller. Bids will be opened by Seller on **April 4, 2019**, starting at **10:00 a.m. at Citizens State Bank, 102 West Main Street, Lena, IL 61048**. Only persons who have submitted bids and/or their representative shall have the right to attend the opening of the bids. SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS. In the event there are two or more bids for the exact same amount, Seller reserves the right to reject all bids, accept any bid, or allow one or more bidders to raise their bid. A successful bidder shall sign a written Contract for Purchase on April 4, 2019, immediately following the conclusion of the bidding process. The Contract for Purchase will be prepared by Seller's attorneys, and the terms of the Contract for Purchase are not negotiable.

**General Contract Terms:** A down payment, by certified funds, of 10% of the accepted bid amount is required upon signing the Contract for Purchase, with the balance due in cash at closing, with the closing set no later than April 30, 2019, or as otherwise mutually agreed. The Contract for Purchase shall NOT be contingent upon a purchaser obtaining financing or any other purchaser contingencies. Purchaser shall receive a credit at closing for the 2018 real estate taxes, which are payable in 2019. Real estate taxes for the year 2019, which are payable in 2020, shall be prorated as of the date of closing. Seller will pay for an owner's title insurance policy in the amount of the sale price, subject to standard and usual exceptions. The sale of each Parcel is subject to any and all easements, covenants, conditions and restrictions of record, and are offered for sale without any representation as to zoning, quality or quantity of title. No survey will be provided. Seller makes no warranties as to the condition of the properties, express or implied, and the purchaser agrees to accept possession of the property in "AS IS" condition. Additional standard and customary terms will be included in the Contract for Purchase.

**Possession:** Possession will transfer at the time of closing. Full possession is available for the 2019 crop year. Parcel 1 contains a mobile home, and the successful purchaser has the sole responsibility and expense of evicting any individuals presently in possession thereof.

**Inspection:** Each prospective bidder is responsible for conducting at their own expense and risk their own independent investigation and due diligence concerning each Parcel. No party shall be deemed to be invited to the properties by virtue of this Notice.

**Disclaimer:** All information contained in this Notice shall be subject to independent verification by all parties relying upon it. No liability for its errors or omissions is assumed by the Seller. The acreages as listed in this Notice are estimates taken from the County Assessor's records, and all references to quantity of acreage are approximate and for description only and are not warranties of any kind or effect as to the quantity of each Parcel.

**Blank Bid Forms may be obtained from Seller's attorney:**

Fishburn Whiton Thruman  
 8 East Stephenson Street  
 Freeport, IL 61032  
 Phone 815-235-2511

# 4-H Camp – change your child's life!

Registration for 4-H Camp 2019 is open! 4-H Camp is set for June 10-14, at Rock River Christian Camp, Polo, IL. Sign up today to get your child in on all of the amazing fun!

4-H Camp is a five-day, four-night residential camping experience that is conducted cooperatively by University of Illinois Extension staff in Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago Counties and the professional staff at RRCC.

Historically, parents have sent their children to 4-H Camp for a variety of reasons: to have fun, to make new friends, to develop new skills, to be physically active and to appreciate nature. 4-H Camp is about way more than one week of fun. Sending your child to 4-H Camp will allow them to create memories they will carry with them through adulthood. 4-H camp teaches youth to make good decisions, build their self-confidence, become independent and gain the ability to work well with others. These skills will help youth develop into strong adult leaders. In addition, 4-H camp counselors devote much of their personal time to ensure today's campers have the same great experience they did as children.

Campers at 4-H Camp will check-in from 6-6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 10, and checkout from 6-6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 14. During camp week, youth will engage in a variety of activities designed to challenge,

educate and entertain. Two or three free-choice periods will be offered daily and will include options such as hiking, shooting sports, arts and crafts, crate stacking, team building challenges, zip-lining, swimming, and more. Evening activities will be provided by the 4-H camp counselors and include campfires, a games night and a dance. It is guaranteed to be a blast!

4-H Camp is open to ALL boys and girls, ages 8-14 by June 10. 4-H membership is not required; however, all participants will be expected to comply with the same high behavior standards expected of 4-H'ers. Youth need to be interested and excited to have a week of outdoor fun, away from television and technology.

Cost is \$250 for 4-H members and \$270 for non-4-H members until March 1. After that date, the price goes up to \$50. All camp fees must be paid in full by May 20. Download a camper application online at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/bdo> or register online at <http://go.illinois.edu/4HSummerCamp>. You may also call the Extension Office in Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273. Slots for boys and girls cabins will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

## Broad Ideas Arts Show announces scholarship

The Broad Ideas planning committee is committed to creating opportunities for artistic exploration. Because of this overarching goal and the generosity of donors, the Broads are excited to announce that our 2019 event will include a scholarship!

"It is our hope that the Broad Ideas show at the Galena Center for the Arts held during March, Women's month, will help all people find their voices and tell their stories. In order to foster further growth in artistic expression, the Broads from Broad Ideas would like to offer a \$500.00 scholarship to support to a visual artist, writer or musician who is developing their art, and is participating in the 2019 Broad Ideas Show. This scholarship can be used for classes, supplies, babysitters or for any purpose that helps applicants grow in their art."

Please go to [www.broadideas.org](http://www.broadideas.org) for more details.

## College news

### UW-La Crosse announces January 2019 graduates

The following area students completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in January: Benjamin LaVoie of Apple River, Bachelor of Science, Biology Major; Biomedical Science Concentration

UW-La Crosse, founded in 1909, is one of the 13 four-year institutions in the University of Wisconsin System. UWL has more than 10,500 full and part-time students enrolled in 101 undergraduate, 28 graduate and two doctoral academic programs.

your source for on-line news:  
 **RVPNEWS.COM**

**— PUBLIC NOTICE —**

**NOTICE - ACCEPTING MOWING BIDS**

We are now accepting bids for mowing the Elizabeth Cemetery & Old Log Church.

***Bids should be per mowing.***

***Deadline to submit bids is April 6, 2019.***

Any questions call Jeff Spoerl - (815) 858-4045.

Submit bids to: Candis Albrecht,  
 313 Orange St., Elizabeth, IL 61028  
*(Liability Insurance is required)*

# Illinois State Police Director announces improvements to FOID revocation and enforcement processes

With the strong support of Governor JB Pritzker, the Illinois State Police (ISP) is taking wide ranging steps to improve operations, firearms services processes, and information sharing to aid law enforcement officials statewide with enforcement of Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card revocation laws. These first steps are part of ISP's continued commitment to improving the enforcement of existing gun laws in Illinois.

"While the weaknesses of our nation's background check system remain daunting, we must take whatever steps we can, large and small, to strengthen the fabric of these systems because any improvement could be the one that makes the difference," said Brendan F. Kelly, Acting Director of the Illinois State Police. "While we simply cannot do it alone, we must increase sharing of information, the quality and value of information shared, and most importantly enforcement. Mailed letters are not enough."

## ISP Information Sharing

Access to firearms data within the Department and outside the Department by law enforcement agencies and state's attorneys cannot be limited and siloed at the expense of public safety. FOID revocation and Firearm Transfer Inquiry Program (FTIP) data must be readily accessible to all Illinois law enforcement agencies. To that end:

- The ISP Firearms Services Bureau is providing the entire current list of individuals with revoked FOID cards to every District and Zone Commander within the ISP.

- Every ISP Patrol and Zone Commander has been instructed by the Director to deliver to each sheriff, police chief, and state's attorney in their respective zone a current electronic list of all individuals with revoked FOID cards within each jurisdiction and confirm receipt of the list.

- The Firearm Services Bureau has been directed to share FOID card revocation data and FTIP data with the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center (STIC) for appropriate dissemination to state and local law enforcement.

- The Firearm Services Bureau has been directed to require its IT vendor to modify the secure law enforcement web portal to include a FOID revocation list accessible 24/7 to all Illinois law enforcement with a mechanism to log each agency's date of access.

- The Department is working with our federal partners to ascertain the scope of criminal cases that may have a federal identification number associated with a fingerprint record, but no correlating state identification number for Illinois.

- The Department is working with state entities like the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) to determine if funding to law enforcement agencies and courts can be tied to substantial compliance with criminal record submission re-

quirements.

## Quality and Value of Information Provided by ISP

Firearms Services Bureau eligibility determinations for FOID, Firearm Concealed Carry Licenses (FCCL), and FTIP must be standardized, thorough, and inspected. Furthermore, thousands of general notices that simply indicate an individual has a revoked FOID card are not useful data in a law enforcement environment with unending demands and limited manpower. Potential threats can only be assessed and prioritized if law enforcement has useful context and detail. To that end:

- The Firearms Services Bureau has been directed to require all firearms eligibility analysts to follow a standardized FOID/CCL protocol and a comprehensive checklist when conducting and completing FOID/CCL application reviews.

- The Firearms Services Bureau has been directed to increase quality assurance measures for FOID, FCCL, and FTIP transactions to include random reanalysis of approvals, scrutinizing those samples, reporting results to the Director monthly, and taking immediate corrective action as needed.

- The Firearms Services Bureau has enhanced the FOID revocation list shared with all law enforcement to indicate if the revoked FOID has been returned and/or if a Firearm Disposition Report has been submitted to ISP. This information is critical for law enforcement to determine whether a revoked FOID card holder has complied with Illinois law.

- The Firearm Services Bureau has enhanced the FOID revocation list shared with all law enforcement by adding descriptors that include the reason for revocation, such as a felony charge, a clear and present danger determination, an order of protection, mental health prohibitor, or other regulatory reasons for revocation. This will enable law enforcement to properly vet and triage the law enforcement response for a revoked FOID card.

- The Firearms Services Bureau has enhanced the FOID revocation list shared with all law enforcement to include FTIP history which indicates firearm purchase history as well as the number of firearm purchases utilizing FTIP.

## Increasing Enforcement

Enforcement must be increased through greater training and awareness among law enforcement stakeholders of FOID laws and penalties, use of FOID data in routine law enforcement, and implementation of specialized gun violence task forces. To that end:

- The Director is working with sheriffs, police chiefs, and state's attorneys to increase awareness of FOID provisions and penalties. The ISP Academy has been directed to review current training of new cadets as well recurring training requirements regarding FOID laws and up-

date as needed.

- The Director's designee on the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) will encourage ILETSB to review local police training requirements on FOID laws.

- ISP officers in Patrol within each District have been directed to always query FOID revocation status when conducting patrol enforcement activity.

- ISP officers in Investigations within each Zone have been directed to always query FOID revocation status when conducting an investigation.

- The ISP Communication Services Bureau has been directed to require all telecommunicators to query FOID revocation status when officers are conducting enforcement or investigation activity.

- The Firearms Services Bureau has been directed to provide each ISP Investigative Zone with a list of revoked individuals who may have provided false information on a FOID or CCL application to determine if an investigation and request for charges of Forgery may be warranted on a case-by-case basis.

- Each Zone Commander has been directed to review the most current revocation list with local state's attorneys to determine if investigation and citation for violation of various FOID laws is warranted on a case-by-case basis.

- The Division of Operations has been directed to immediately triage the FOID revocation list by Zone, develop a plan of action for the

## Sarah Heller earns COUNTRY Financial Million Dollar Round Table membership

COUNTRY Financial representative Sarah Heller, of Stockton has earned membership in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT).

"It is a great honor to receive this MDRT recognition," said Heller. "I feel privileged to be included in this prestigious association of business and community leaders representing more than 500 companies and 72 countries."

MDRT is an international, independent association of nearly 66,000 leading sales professionals in the life insurance business. MDRT members demonstrate exceptional product knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding customer service. The Round

Table's membership represents the top life insurance and financial service professionals worldwide.

Heller began her career with COUNTRY Financial in 2015.

Her office is located at 123 W. Front Avenue in Stockton, IL. The office phone number is 815-947-3293.

highest risk individuals, work with sheriffs and local police to plan enforcement actions as appropriate, work with state's attorneys to seek search warrants as appropriate, and conduct ISP-only enforcement operations as appropriate.

- The Division of Operations has been directed to plan for more specialized enforcement over the long term. In late January 2019, the Office of the Governor requested from ISP the funding, manpower, and new cadet requirements necessary to establish a potential gun violence task force that would include FOID related enforcement to be submitted as part of the budget for FY 2020. That proposal was submitted February 8 and included in the Governor's budget proposal.

## LEGALS

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RUSH TOWNSHIP, JO DAVIESS COUNTY

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and residents of the Township of Rush in the County of Jo Daviess and the State of Illinois that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019, being the second Tuesday of the month, at the hour of 7:30 pm., at the Rush Town Hall, 2999 North Canyon Park Rd., Stockton IL., for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of said Township. After a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in the pursuance of the law, come before the meeting, and especially to consider and decide the following;

#### Agenda

1. Elect a moderator
2. Set the moderator's salary
3. Approve the minutes from the 2018 Annual Town Meeting
4. Report of Officers- Financial reports & statements
5. Authorize transfer of funds
6. Set time for the 2020 Annual Town Meeting
7. Open forum
8. Adjournment

Ben Wooden,  
Rush Township Clerk  
(Published in The Scoop Today  
March 20, 2019)

341049

### LEGAL NOTICE

In compliance with The Open Meetings Act, the Nora-Rush-Warren Multi-Township Assessment Board will meet at the Warren Township Office, 719—5<sup>th</sup> Street, Warren,

- As part of these efforts, Gun Liaison Officers will be designated in every Investigative Zone to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies, coordinate FOID revocation details with an emphasis on getting guns out of the hands of the most dangerous individuals and ensuring information regarding FOID card revocations is shared with local law enforcement agencies on an ongoing basis.

This is an aggressive, exhaustive effort within existing ISP manpower and statutory parameters. The ISP Office of Governmental Affairs and Public Information Office have been directed to provide any and all available information to the public and policy makers as further action is considered by the legislature.

Illinois 61087, on the following dates for the current fiscal year:

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. (Close of fiscal year)

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. Budget hearing)

Tuesday, September 3, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. (Levy hearing)

Diane Rogers, Clerk-Treasurer  
(Published in The Scoop Today  
March 20, 2019)

341076

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters and residents of the Township of Pleasant Valley, in the County of Jo Daviess and the State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019**

Being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Township Building for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of said Township; and after a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following:

#### AGENDA

Call to order

Election of Moderator  
Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting

Annual Financial Reports

Open forum

Closing

Rena Eden,  
Town Clerk  
(Published in The Scoop Today  
March 20, 2019)

340847

# FRIDAY FISH FRY



**Side Track Inn**  
**All You Can Eat Cod**  
 Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Try out other delicious Seafood Items.  
 Mouth-watering Regular menu also available

Includes choice of potato, salad, relish tray and sweet rolls  
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274207

**ROUTE 20 BAR & GRILL**  
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 Corner of Bypass 20 & Highway 20 - At the Stoplight.

**Fish Fry**  
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 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

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- Salmon

105711

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339582

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**815-745-3333**

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339593

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**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT** Baked or fried Alaskan Pike - \$12.95  
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# Senior Resource Center Director retires after 6 years

After serving almost six years, Senior Resource Center Executive Director Sue Lambert has announced her retirement. Lambert stepped down as executive director on Feb. 15 but will remain as the training coordinator until June 30. In her new role, she will assist staff in enhancing services and in writing grant applications.

"On behalf of the board and staff at the Senior Resource Center, we are grateful to Sue for the leadership that

she has displayed during her time with the SRC," said Senior Resource Center Board of Directors President Jim Ferrar. "She has helped move the organization forward, and we are now well-positioned to serve the next generation of seniors."

Lambert accepted the position of Senior Resource Center executive director in May 2013. During her tenure, she orchestrated the purchase of the two downtown Freepport buildings that have become the Se-

nior Resource Center Campus. The organization now owns property and has been able to expand the quality and quantity of its program offerings. The Jo Daviess County office also moved to a larger facility in Hanover.

Under Lambert's direction, the Senior Resource Center has grown its transportation services to a fleet of 17 vehicles that serve the entire county. She also brought to Freepport the services of a podiatrist who is

used by hundreds of seniors in the area.

Lambert reflected on her career at the Senior Resource Center.

"For me, working at the Senior Resource Center has always been about service -- ensuring we were offering the programs and providing the service that seniors in Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties needed. Fulfilling that part of our mission has always been paramount and has driven every decision we have made. That's what has brought us to where we are today.

"The Senior Resource Center also has benefited from a tremendous amount of support. Our achievements are because our board, committee members, volunteers, staff, donors and, most importantly, participants, all believed in what we accomplished. We encourage everyone to remain with us and continue their support. I truly believe the best is yet to come for the Senior Resource Center."

Two current staff members are succeeding Lambert as co-executive directors. Each specializes in specif-

ic areas at the Senior Resource Center. Sonja Shoemaker will be the new executive director, Social Services and Outreach and Kevin Countryman will be the new executive director, Transportation and Facilities.

"The Senior Resource Center and community will certainly miss the exceptional work that Sue has performed for this community, and we wish her well in her future endeavors," Ferrar said.

In retirement, Lambert plans to travel with her husband and spend more time with family.

The Senior Resource Center offers programs, education and activities for people 50 and beyond, their families and caregivers in Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties. The programs include Adult Protective Services, AARP Tax-Aide, Information & Assistance, Money Management Program, Community Care Program, Transit and Education & Activities.

For more information or other questions about the Senior Resource Center, call 815-235-9777 or go to the center's website, [www.seniorresourcecenter.net](http://www.seniorresourcecenter.net).

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Thank You!  
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## Ten tax-planning tips for 2019

Compiled by Tony Carton  
EDITOR

It's time to start strategizing about how you'll handle your federal tax bill, and it's even more complicated this year because multiple changes to tax rules have gone into effect.

State and local tax deductions are now capped at \$10,000, estate tax exemptions have doubled, home equity debt can no longer be deducted under some circumstances and tax brackets have changed. Consumers should consider getting an earlier start to avoid any hiccups or confusion next year when your return is due.

Check out these 10 tax-planning tips to prep now – and save later.

1. Consider "bunching" deductions

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which took effect for the 2018 tax year, increased the amount of the standard deduction from \$6,500 to \$12,000 for individuals, \$9,550 to \$18,000 for heads of households, and from \$13,000 to \$24,000 for married couples filing jointly. Those who don't have enough deductions to exceed that threshold take the standard deduction instead.

2. Max out your retirement plan contributions

Maxing out your retirement plan reduces your taxable income, which will reduce your tax bill. In 2018, the maximum 401(k) contribution is \$18,500, or \$24,500 if you are age 50 or over.

3. Take your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)

Individuals who are age 70 and a half or older with retirement accounts need to take the required minimum distributions by the end of this year. If not, they might face a heavy tax penalty of 50 percent of the required amount. This applies to both 401(k)s and IRAs.

4. Engage in tax-loss harvesting  
Under IRS rules, you have to pay

taxes on any investment gain you realize in the year. Tax-loss harvesting is a strategy that involves selling poor performers in your portfolio to offset gains.

5. Take advantage of annual exclusion gifts

This year, the maximum amount of gift tax exemption increased from \$14,000 to \$15,000. This means you can give up to that amount to a family member without having to pay a gift tax.

6. Do some charitable giving

Charitable giving doesn't only take form in cash contributions; you can also donate items to local charities and write their market values off as an itemized deduction on your taxes. Depending on the charity, you can donate things like gently used clothing, furniture, working electronics and more.

7. Get your health care coverage in order

Moraif warns consumers that although the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 eliminated the individual penalty for not having health insurance, it doesn't go into effect until 2020; the penalty for not being insured will continue to be enforced this year.

8. Defer your income

Those who get a year-end bonus might want to consider waiting to take it until the following year, if their employer allows this. By delaying the income, you postpone additional taxes for 2018.

9. Update your beneficiary designations

While this doesn't affect your taxes now, it could affect the taxes of your loved ones in the future.

10. Protect yourself from fraud  
Whenever you're filing documents with sensitive information like your Social Security number, it's imperative to take the necessary precautions to prevent your data from being compromised.

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