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VOL. 82 • NO. 2

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8, 2020

Pearl City FFA to hold Pork Chop Dinner

The Pearl City FFA will hold a Pork Chop Dinner on Friday, Jan. 24, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Pearl City High School Cafeteria. Tickets can be purchased from members of the Pearl City FFA or at the door. The dinner will include a pork chop sandwich, chips, cookie and drink for \$7.

The Pearl City FFA & FFA Alumni host this dinner annually to raise funds to benefit the Pearl City FFA.

The funds will be used to help students attend leadership trainings, camps, state and national conventions as well as judging competitions and contests. A silent auction will also be held during the dinner. Please join us in supporting the Pearl City FFA!



COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Fury vs. Warbirds

Girls co-op fought to a 3-1 victory over the Fond du Lac Warbirds in the Wisconsin Girls Prep Hockey's Game of the Week, and Orangeville's Malone brought an assist on the Fury's third goal of the game.

Panthers out shoot Hornets in out-of-conference matchup

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTSWRITER

Last weekend, the Lena-Winslow Panthers made the trip over to Scales Mound to face off with the Hornets in an out-of-conference matchup. Prior to the game on Saturday, the Hornets carried an 8-4 record. The Panthers, coming out of the North, were 10-3 and looking for their second straight win.

Saturday was an opportunity for the Panthers, not only to improve, but to make a statement over a successful over a tough Hornets team coming out of the West. Prior to Saturday's game, head coach Kyle Benson shared his thoughts on the season thus far. "I am happy with how our team has played up to this point. We have competed hard every night, and we are still getting better every day." Benson said. He also acknowledged their room for improvement, saying "Our defense is ahead of our offense

at this point, but with more practice reps I expect our offense to catch up very soon." Benson commended his squads' ability to improve, saying "I really like the attitude and the work ethic of our team."

The Panthers showed some offensive improvement immediately as they put up sixteen points in the opening quarter against the Hornets. Five first quarter points from Sean Ormiston and another four from Kolton Heun helped the Panthers take a 16-6 into the second.

The Lena-Winslow offense was just as impressive in the second quarter as they combined for another fifteen points. Ormiston hit a trio of jumpers and Alex Daughenbaugh drained a three pointer to help the Panthers go up big. The Hornets found some rhythm of their own in the second quarter, when Vandigo and Shetler both hit three pointers. Still, Lena-Winslow held a fifteen-

teen-point deficit over the Hornets, up 31-16 as they went into halftime.

Isaiah Bruce was the Panther who caught fire in the third quarter. Bruce tallied eight points in the quarter, including a converted and-one at the free throw line. Heun also had his best quarter of the night, dropping six points to help extend the Panthers' lead even further. For the second time on Saturday, the Scales Mound offense was held to just six points in a quarter.

The tight team defense and high-powered offense allowed the Panthers to take a nearly insurmountable lead into the fourth, up 50-22.

The Hornets were able to rally and

put up some late points, but it would not be enough to comeback as Lena-Winslow went on to win 54-42. The win was the eleventh of the season for Le-Win, as they pushed their record to 11-3.

Sean Ormiston wound up leading the team with fifteen points. Isaiah Bruce was close behind with fourteen of his own. The Panthers had three scorers reach double digits as Kolton Heun rounds out the top three with twelve points of his own. There was plenty of scoring to go around, once again, and coach Benson acknowledged how nice that is for his team. "It benefits us to have so many options in terms of scoring for us.

Relying on one or two players can be dangerous, so our balance should carry us even if one or two guys are struggling to score." Benson said. He also complimented his team's chemistry, saying "Our players compliment each other very well."

This has been evident as there is a different Panther on top of the stat's sheet nearly every, single game. When a team shuts down one guy, another one steps up. The offensive balance has allowed coach Benson to attack his opponent's defensive weaknesses each and every game. Paired with their fast-paced defense,

See MATCHUP, Page 2

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FDR To visit GCGS February meeting

Come to the February 1 meeting of the Green County Genealogical Society to experience "A Morning With FDR." Ed O'Brien, a retired educator and historic re-enactor, will visit our meeting as Franklin D. Roosevelt. He will tell us about his early life, the events that led him to the White House, and the hard times that faced the American people during his terms as president. Elected during the Great Depression, FDR created a series of vast programs to address economic and employment concerns. He used press conferences and radio to take his messages to the people and restore confidence in the government. He again used his communication skills to rally the nation after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The only president elected to four terms, FDR was also the only president that almost a generation of Americans knew.

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, Feb. 1. 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 able to answer so we can return your call.

The GCGS Research Center (located in lower level of the Monroe Public Library) is available to the public for research. Normal Research Center hours after January break are Tuesdays and third Saturdays 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.

CONTACT to offer Mental Health First Aid Training

CONTACT of Northern Illinois, with help from Stephenson County 100 Women Who Care and Davis Mental Health Group will be offering two FREE Mental Health First Aid Trainings in January. Mental Health First Aid teaches how to be the initial help for someone who may be developing a mental health problem or be in a mental health crisis. You will learn how to approach, help and connect the individual to the services available. Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020 we will be offering an Adult Training at the Freeport Public Library from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2020 we will be offering a Youth Training (for adults that work with youth) at the Freeport Public Library from

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. In addition to these two free trainings in partnership with Monroe Clinic, CONTACT will be offering Youth Mental Health First Aid at the reduced rate of \$25. (A \$25. savings) on Friday, Jan. 17, 2020 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Senior Resource Center (lunch provided). Pre-registration is required for all trainings. If you are interested in the Jan. 16 - adult or Jan. 25 - youth please call CONTACT at 815-233-4357 for a registration form or log on to www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org and sign up on line. For Friday, Jan. 17, please contact Tammie at 608-324-2639 or email her at tammie.jamiska@ssmhealth.com. We look forward to seeing you in class!

FHN news

FHN welcomes new nurse practitioner, Lutz

FHN is proud to announce that board-certified nurse practitioner Heather Lutz, FNP-BC, is welcoming new patients at her practice in the Family Medicine department of the FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills in Freeport.

Lutz may be a familiar face; she has cared for many patients as a nurse in the Emergency Department at FHN Memorial Hospital since 2009.

Lutz was awarded FHN's Advanced Practice Scholarship and earned her master's degree and family nurse practitioner certification at Saint Anthony College of Nursing in Rockford. She holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

To make an appointment with Lutz, call the FHN Family Medicine department at 815-599-7170. For more information on care available at FHN or our Advanced Practice

Scholarship, visit www.fhn.org.

FHN welcomes new nurse practitioner, Verner

FHN is proud to announce that board-certified nurse practitioner Tamisha Verner, FNP-BC, is welcoming new patients at her practice in the Med/Peds department of the FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills in Freeport.

Verner is a familiar face; she has cared for women and their babies in FHN Memorial Hospital's Obstetrics department since 2003. She is a breastfeeding advocate and an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant.

Verner was awarded FHN's Advanced Practice Scholarship and earned her master's degree and family nurse practitioner certification at Saint Anthony College of Nursing in Rockford. She holds a bachelor's degree from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., and an associate's degree in nursing from Highland Com-

munity College.

She has served as the Doula Liaison between FHN and the Stephenson County Health Department. She's a Freeport native and proud Freeport High School graduate, and loves giving back to her community by volunteering at many different events.

To make an appointment with Verner, call the FHN Med/Peds department at 815-599-7790. For more information on care available at FHN or our Advanced Practice Scholarship, visit www.fhn.org.

Family Medicine Physician Lucio Martinez, MD

returns to FHN

FHN is pleased to announce that family medicine physician Lucio Martinez, MD has returned and is welcoming new patients at the FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills in Freeport.

Dr. Martinez cared for patients of all ages for 20 years at the FHN Family Healthcare Center - Forreton. He also has served as part of FHN's hospitalist team.

He holds a medical degree from Rush Medical College in Chicago, and served his residency at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill.

To make an appointment with Dr. Martinez, call his office at FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills at 815-599-7740. He will see patients in the Internal Medicine department on the first floor. Visit www.fhn.org for more information on Dr. Martinez and family medicine services available at FHN.

A night to honor Ed Curry

Join the Pearl City FFA and FFA Alumni for the Ed Curry Memorial Night to be held at Pearl City School on Monday, Jan. 13. The night will honor Ed's memory and recognize his many years of dedicated service to the FFA on a local and state wide level. A chili meal will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The meal will include a bowl of chili with all the fixings and a drink for \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The Lady Wolves will be taking on the RR/SM Wildcats that evening. There will be a quilt raffle and half-time activities. All proceeds from the event will go to the Ed Curry Memorial Fund.

Matchup

(Continued from front page)

it is a good combination for winning and has led the Panthers to their 11-3 record.

Following a key, conference matchup with Dakota on Monday, the Panthers have another two important games coming up as they host Forreton and Orangeville this week. The Panthers are right in the middle of a four-game stretch of playing on their home court. It is a key part of their schedule in which the Panthers should look to take advantage of, in order to put their team in a key spot as the season heats up.



LBPA PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Happy New Year

Have you stopped by to say Happy New Year to the folks at the Lena Mercantile Company?

I want to thank the Lena Lions and area church co-operative for the fruit and cookies.

Bless you with a Happy, Healthy New Year,
Joyce Edler

THANKS for remembering us: Lena Lions and the Ladies Groups for the fruit and cookie plates. God Bless.

Shirley Larson and Cheri Madigan

THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

It is hard to believe that we are finished with one decade and starting another. I wonder how long it will take me to stop writing 2019 on my checks. It was a nice New Year's Eve and Day because the weather wasn't bitterly cold. This week's recipes include using some of those leftovers from the holidays.

If you have some leftover ham, this soup is a good one to make. If you wanted to add mushrooms to this soup, that would be a good addition. If you have no white wine, use extra chicken broth. I always use the low sodium chicken broth. It would be really good to use it in this soup because there are plenty of "salty" ingredients.

Ham and Wild Rice Soup

- 2 C. diced cooked ham
- 1 C. chopped carrots
- ¾ C. uncooked wild rice (not the quick cooking or canned)
- ½ C. chopped onion
- 1 can chicken broth
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- ¼ t. pepper
- 3 C. water
- 1 C. half and half
- 2 T. white wine

¼ C. chopped fresh parsley
 Spray a 3 or 4 quart slow cooker with cooking spray. Mix the ham, carrots, wild rice, onion, chicken broth, soup, pepper, and water together in the cooker. Cover and cook on Low for 7-8 hours. Stir in half-and-half, wine, and parsley. Increase heat to High setting. Cover and cook 10-15 minutes or until hot. Serve with a green salad and hot bread.

The next soup recipe comes from Donna Albrecht in the *St. John's Massbach Cookbook*. It is for Minestrone Soup. I have looked at many minestrone soup recipes, and this one seems to be cooking friendly. I like this soup because I cannot eat corn, and you can leave the can of corn out. You could omit any vegetables you didn't really like. It is also an opportunity to use some of that frozen zucchini you have put away.

Donna's Minestrone Soup

- 1 lb. ground beef
 - ½ large onion, finely chopped
 - ½ clove garlic, finely chopped
 - 1 can (14 oz.) tomatoes
 - 1 can kidney beans
 - 1 can whole kernel corn
 - 1 stalk of celery, chopped
 - 1 C. shredded cabbage
 - 1 small zucchini, sliced to about 1 C.
 - ½ C. uncooked elbow macaroni
 - 1 C. water
 - ¼ C. red wine
 - 1 t. instant beef bouillon
 - ½ t. salt
 - 1 t. Italian seasoning
 - Grated Parmesan cheese
- Cook and stir ground beef, onion, and garlic in a Dutch oven until the meat is brown. Drain off excess fat. Stir in tomatoes with liquid, kidney

beans with liquid, corn with liquid, and remaining ingredients except the cheese. Heat mixture until it is boiling. Reduce heat and cover. Simmer the soup, stirring occasionally until macaroni and vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes. Serve hot and sprinkle each bowl with grated cheese. This soup tastes great with acrusty bread. I also use the light kidney beans; I think you could use either light or dark. If you are a vegetarian, you could substitute the bouillon for vegetable bouillon and omit the meat. You might also want to use a V-8 juice instead of the can of tomatoes.

The next recipe is for an apple salad. This recipe can be used as a side to a soup or casserole, or you can use it as a dessert. I like the crunch of the celery, pecans, and dried cranberries. If you are not a raisin lover, you could omit them. I like to use the golden raisins.

Apple Salad

- 3 medium red apples, diced
- ½ C. chopped celery
- ¼ C. chopped pecans
- ¼ C. dried cranberries
- ¼ C. miniature marshmallows
- 2 T. raisins
- ¾ C. whipped topping
- ¼ C. sour cream

In a large bowl, combine the apples, celery, pecans, cranberries, marshmallows and raisins. Combine whipped topping and sour cream.

Spoon over the apple mixture and toss to coat. I like to use Fuji or Braeburn apples because they are crisper than Red Delicious apples.

Several years ago, I received a Minnesota cookbook from a friend. I have given you recipes from it before. The reason I like this casserole is because it uses a lot of interesting beans. Beans are supposed to be really good for you, and there are plenty of them in this recipe. This dish is really easy and uses one of my very favorite ingredients, butter beans.

3-Bean Beef Hot Dish

- 1 lb. ground beef
- ½ lb. bacon, chopped
- 1 C. chopped onion
- ½ C. catsup
- 1 t. salt
- 2 t. vinegar
- ½ C. brown sugar
- 2 t. prepared mustard (yellow mustard)
- 1 can (15 oz.) butter beans, drained
- 1 can (18 oz.) oven baked beans
- 2 cans (16 oz.) kidney beans, drained

Preheat the oven to 350. In a saucepan, brown beef, bacon and onions. Stir until beef is browned and drain any excess fat. Mix together all ingredients. Pour mixture into a greased 3½ quart baking dish. Cover with lid or foil and bake 40 minutes. You can make this dish as a side by leaving out the ground beef; however, by including the meat you have a

whole meal.

These bars are a little bit lighter than a lot of bars that we had for Christmas. The almond flavoring is subtle, but it is there. If you do not like almond, these bars are not for you; however, if you are an almond lover like me, they are a keeper. They are easy, and the recipe makes a lot.

Almond Poppy Seed Bars

- 2¼ C. sugar
- 1 ½ C. milk
- 1 C. oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 T. vanilla extract
- 1½ t. almond extract
- 3 C. flour
- 4½ t. poppy seeds
- 1½ t. baking powder
- ½ t. salt
- Creamy Frosting
- 3 C. powdered sugar
- 1/3 C. butter, melted
- 3 T. milk

Preheat the oven to 350. Lightly grease a 15 x 10 baking pan (I used my jelly roll pan). In a large bowl, beat sugar, milk, oil, eggs, vanilla, and almond extract at medium speed until smooth. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, poppy seeds, baking powder and salt. Gradually add the flour mixture to the sugar mixture and beat until smooth. Spoon

See KITCHEN, Page 9

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Dispensaries report smooth rollout of legalized cannabis

By Peter Hancock
 CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
 The first day of legal sales of recreational cannabis in Illinois went "extraordinarily well," according to one industry representative, with total sales on Jan. 1 of nearly \$3.2

million.
 "I just I cannot express the gratitude from the dispensary operators to our customers about their courtesy and civility and patience. It was really a lovely, very successful rollout, I think, on the first day,"

Pamela Althoff, executive director of the Cannabis Business Association of Illinois, said in an interview Thursday.

On New Year's Day, Illinois became the 11th state to allow legal sales of recreational cannabis to adults.

As the clock ticked down to midnight on New Year's Eve, many dispensaries were reporting long lines outside their stores, in some cases stretching around their block.

The much-anticipated event was made possible by passage of a new law during the 2019 legislative session, the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, which legalized the sale, possession and use of cannabis for people 21 and older.

Former state Sen. Toi Hutchinson, an architect of that law who now serves as Gov. J.B. Pritzker's senior advisor for cannabis control, reported during a news conference Thursday that dispensaries across the state conducted 77,128 transactions on Jan. 1, with sales totaling more than \$3.1 million.

That happened despite a few snags on the opening day of sales, Althoff said.

First, she said, there were glitches in the software that dispensaries use at the point of sale, which contributed to long wait times. Previously, dispensaries were allowed to sell only to qualified medical patients, but now they must keep close track of both medical and recreational sales, which are taxed differently.

Adjustments made by the soft-

ware company to address that change, Althoff said, caused a few problems.

"There were a few glitches, not everywhere, but in a few of the dispensaries," she said. "... But my understanding is that they were rapidly corrected. But it did add to some of the wait times that people experienced."

In addition, she said, many dispensary operators had made design changes to their stores to accommodate a larger retail clientele, but state officials had not yet inspected all of those changes and some dispensaries were unable to open for recreational sales on Jan. 1.

And then there were issues of supply. Under the new law, Althoff said, medical dispensaries, which were the first to receive licenses for recreational sales, are required to keep a 30-day supply of cannabis products for their medical customers, leaving only a limited amount of inventory available for recreational customers.

She said supply shortages are expected to continue until April or May, when cultivation centers that have been licensed to grow recreational cannabis reap their first crop.

Meanwhile, state officials remain busy implementing other parts of the bill. On Tuesday, Dec. 31, Pritzker issued 11,017 pardons that will lead to the expungement of records for people with low-level cannabis convictions. Eventually, Pritzker's office said, more than 700,000

criminal records will be expunged under the new law.

Thursday, Jan. 2, marked the deadline for people to submit applications for the next wave of dispensary licenses. As many as 75 new licenses will be issued May 1, with priority being given to "social equity" applicants - people with previous cannabis convictions, their families and people from areas of the state with high crime or child poverty rates.

A share of the revenue the state receives from recreational cannabis sales is ear-marked for the new "Restore, Reinvest, and R new Program" to fund community projects in neighborhoods that, in Hutchinson's words, "have been hardest hit by the war on drugs."

Other revenue is earmarked for a Cannabis Business Development Fund that will provide grants and low-interest loans to social equity applicants to help pay part of the startup cost of launching a cannabis-related business.

Save the Date!

Happy New Year! Your first task of the new year should be to circle Saturday, April 11 on your new 2020 calendar for the Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair!

Our show is always the second Saturday in April, and that means that the 2020 event will be the Saturday before Easter Sunday. We plan to highlight spinning bunny fur to "hop" into the Easter fun!

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency PY20 LIHEAP, PIPP and Weatherization Assistance Programs

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

Effective January 1, 2020 LIHEAP clients may apply for the Direct Vendor (DVP) one time payment assistance only. **No new PIPP applications will be taken after December 31, 2019.**

Starting Dec. 2, 2019, all income eligible households may schedule an appointment to apply for assistance with their heating utilities. LIHEAP applications will be taken until May 31, 2020 or until funding is exhausted.

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

- 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 the level shown below for 30 days prior to and including the application date.

- 1 person household - \$1,561
 - 2 person household - \$2,114
 - 3 person household - \$2,666
 - 4 person household - \$3,219
- Add \$553 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. **No other document can be accepted as proof of social security number.**
- 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
- Complete current heat and electric bills and disconnect notices you may have received.
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services
- Copy of current lease or rent receipt
- Proof of Homeownership (Title for Mobile Homes) and tax bill are required for weatherization assistance.

PY 20 LIHEAP Emergency Furnace Program

An Emergency Furnace Assistance Program is available for LIHEAP households of Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties who are **homeowners** and whose **existing** heating systems are not functioning or have been red-tagged by their utility.

The purpose of the LIHEAP Furnace program is to restore heat to the household and is available from October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020 or until funds have been exhausted.

Priority periods for the LIHEAP Emergency Furnace Program are the following:

Starting Dec. 2, 2019 all income eligible households may apply for emergency furnace assistance.

To qualify for the LIHEAP Emergency Furnace Program, the household must first apply for and be approved for LIHEAP assistance.

The household must have active service with both primary and secondary heating utilities. Households and disconnected utilities are not eligible for this assistance.

In addition to LIHEAP documents, the following homeownership documentation must be provided:

1. Copy of real estate tax bill
 AND
 2. One or more of the following:
 - Copy of warranty deed, contract for deed, or quit claim deed (all of these must be stamped and registered with the county clerk)
 - Copy of current mortgage statement
 - Copy of the original Mobile Home title
- Please call 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 to make an appointment for assistance.

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ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

JEWELL KEITH

Jewell Keith, age 93, of Lena, formerly of McConnell, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family Jan. 1, 2020. She was born on March 25, 1926 at home to Lester and Sara



(Stabenow) Cross. She graduated from Winslow High School. Jewell married Royal Smith and he preceded her in death, then she married Leo "Tubby" Kleckler and he preceded her in death. Jewell worked at W.T. Rawleigh, Buena Vista Cheese Factory, and then retired from McNess in 1991. Jewell was a member of the McConnell Auxiliary. She enjoyed cooking, baking, and in her younger years she enjoyed bowling, euchre, and roller skating. She also liked country music and bus trips to the casinos. Howard and Jewell built a cabin on Lake Red Stone that she enjoyed visiting. She is survived by Sandy Sciutto, Cedarville, IL, daughter- Pam (Ron) Schrader of Lena, IL, grandchildren; Macey Koehn of Madison, WI, and Shelley Koehn of Denver, CO.

She is preceded in death by Mike and Tony Sciutto, her parents, husbands- Royal, "Tubby", and Howard, Brother and sister-in-law Roger and Myrna Cross. The River Queens are now reunited.

Visitation was held at Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL on Sunday Jan. 5.

Funeral Service was held Jan. 6, at the McConnell United Methodist in McConnell, IL.

Graveside ceremonies were held following the service at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport, IL.

A luncheon followed at the McConnell American Legion Hall.

Ernie Stabenow performed the services.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

ROY LEE STARK

Roy Lee Stark, age 75, a long-time Alameda, CA resident, passed away peacefully Dec. 24, 2019 in Warren, IL.



He was born on October 22, 1944 in Twin Falls, ID to Neal and Judy (Forrester) Stark. Roy and his wife have resided in Lakewood Ranch, Florida since retirement.

An avid sailor, Roy and family were often seen sailing the waters of San Francisco Bay in his beloved boat, the Jenny Wren. His passion for cooking is legendary along with his famous lamb dinners at the Balena Bay Yacht Club and for family events. He was later a member of the Oakland Yacht Club. With a twinkle in his eye, he loved to tease the girls

and enjoy cigars with the guys. He was loved by all who knew him.

He graduated from Paola High School, Paola, KS and held an MBA Degree from Emporia State University, Emporia, KS where he was president of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

He had a long and distinguished sales career in the tech industry with customers that brought him all over the world.

Roy is survived by his wife of 40 years, Marsha (Balbach); his beloved daughter, Jennifer (Chicago, IL); sister, Nolene (Afton, OK); mother-in-law Jane Balbach (Warren, IL); sisters-in-law, Mary Stark (Clifton, MO); Sandra (Tom) Shea (Janesville, WI); Jean (Chris) Beeler (Freeport, IL); nieces and nephews, and great nieces.

He was preceded in death by his son Richard, his brother Wesley and his parents, Neal and Judy Stark and his father-in-law John Balbach (Warren, IL).

Graveside services will be private. Please share a memory or condolence with the family at www.leamon@mchsi.com.

A celebration of life is being scheduled in California later this year.

SHARON KAY UNDERWOOD

Sharon Kay Underwood, age 73 of Stockton, IL went home to be with the Lord on Friday Dec. 27, 2019 at Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County in Darlington, WI. She was born Feb. 1, 1946 in Peoria, IL, the daughter of the late John and Clarinda (Walker) Huston. She was

a 1965 Graduate of Reed Custer High School. Sharon married Gary Underwood on Nov. 19, 1966. Together they celebrated 53 years of marriage.



She spent the first several years of marriage as a dedicated, loving, caring, generous and compassionate wife and mother. Later on, she shared her talents with other business in the community, including managing the local Casey's store, working for Sullivan's Foods, and spending the last 23 years of her professional career in the banking industry. After retirement, she cherished spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren.

She always enjoyed being in church on Sunday and was most recently a member of the Nora Community Baptist Church in Nora, IL. She enjoyed flowers, butterflies, hummingbirds and playing cards with friends. Cooking was her specialty. She delighted in the opportunity to prepare delicious meals for family and friends on any occasion. Most of all she loved spending time with her family.

She will be dearly missed by her husband Gary Underwood of Stockton, IL; sons Greg (Michelle) of Elizabeth, IL, Grant (Aimee) of Jewell, IA, and Garth (Sarah) of Williams Bay, WI; Grandchildren

Jacob, Katie, Emily, Jared, Garrett (Jessica), Gillian (James Gasaway), Nathan and Brayden; great-granddaughter Violet; Brother David (Bonnie) Huston of Wilmington, IL; sister Suzanne (Jim) Johnston of Wilmington, IL; and sister-in-law Vivian (Tom) Lay of Fort Myers, FL. She was preceded in death by her parents, 3 sisters and a brother.

A visitation was held on Wednesday, Jan. 1, at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. The funeral service was Thursday Jan. 2, at Nora Community Baptist Church in Nora, IL. Interment took place at the Morseville Cemetery in rural Stockton, IL. A luncheon followed the services at the Stockton Park House in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established in her name. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

2020 brings increased state benefits for seniors

The Illinois Department of Aging says it's using new, higher income limits to determine eligibility for the state's Benefit Access Program as of Jan. 1. The program includes discounts on license plates, the Seniors Ride Free Benefit and the Persons with Disability Free Transit Ride Benefit.

Under the new guidelines, single-person households will qualify if they earn less than \$33,562 in annual income. That's up from \$27,610 last year.

GET FITEAM CHALLENGE

Happy New Year!

Is your New Year's resolution health and fitness related?



The challenge kicks off on January 26, with baseline screens* being held at FHN Burchard Hills Facility Lower Level on:

January 22, 2020 10 am-1 pm	January 23, 2020 3 pm-6 pm	January 25, 2020 8 am-11 am
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*You must attend one of the scheduled baseline screens in order to have your points count. Please schedule your screen early to be sure to get the date and time that works best for your schedule. **There will not be "make up" screening dates.**

If you have a resolution to be more fit in 2020, FHN's Get FiTeam Challenge is here for you!

For just \$25 each, you and three of your friends/family members will compete with other four-person teams in a 12-week program timed to help you be in better health for all of your summer activities. You'll earn points for exercise, drinking plenty of water, and eating five servings of fruits and vegetables every day. At a baseline screen, you will confirm your current height, weight, blood pressure and cholesterol level. Throughout the challenge, you will receive challenge updates, healthy recipes, and invitations to health-related events. You will also be able to take advantage of trial memberships only for Get FiTeam members at local health and fitness clubs. When all is said and done, the top teams of the competition will win great prizes!

Get your team together and Get Fi!
Register online at getfit.fhn.org
beginning January 6.

For more information call us at

1-877-6000-FHN, ext. 901, or email us at getfit@fhn.org.



Get FiTeam



We're here, for you.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

River Ridge Agriculture Department

Students in the horticulture class made wreaths to help celebrate the Christmas season. Pictured from left to right are: Aaron Smith, Ben Brenner, Makayla Rodgers and Eternity James.

College news

Highland Fall 2019 dean's list

Highland Community College proudly announces the dean's list for the Fall 2019 Semester. Students who have completed 12 credit hours or more during the semester and have a minimum of a 3.25 grade point average (GPA), based on a 4.0 scale, are included on the dean's list. Highest Honors are awarded to students with a perfect 4.0 GPA. High Honors distinction is given to students with a 3.50 to 3.99 GPA, and Honors students have earned a GPA between 3.25 and 3.49.

Highest Honors

Elizabeth: Nicholas R. Ege
 Lena: Trevor W. Aurand, Cade M. Benson, Mark B. Diddens, Rebecca M. Edler, Rosemarie E. Evans, Taylor L. Hillman, Asa A. Lake, Abbygale M. Strominger
 Orangeville: Megan M. Davis, Dylan R. Dietmeier, Hannah E. Holland, Jamie M. Watson
 Pearl City: Breann M. Adamson, Amanda J. Baldauf, Korissa A. Blasing, Tori J. Clark, Mackenzie A. Endress, Gwen D. Heimerdinger
 Stockton: Laura L. Caswell, Jennifer A. Hatfield, Brenden K. Westphal

Warren: Celeste J. Mosconi
 Winslow: Sydni C. Aebly

High Honors

Apple River: Juliana R. Campbell
 Elizabeth: Rhett L. Geisz
 Orangeville: Caitlin E. Chapman
 Pearl City: William K. Werkheiser
 Scales Mound: Kristy M. Kruger, McKenna R. Peart
 Stockton: Jeremiah R. Hermann, Lindan M. Legel, Abigail M. Weber, April M. Woolcock
 Warren: Brandyn J. Curran
 Winslow: Brett M. Scott

Honors

Apple River: Carolyn M. Karlow
 Elizabeth: Connor D. Brown, Mary Frances D. Tracey
 Lena: Kaviersia L. Barber, Rebecca L. Diffenderfer, Amber G. Heinrich, Emily A. Pontnack
 Orangeville: Raegan L. Bass
 Stockton: Walker E. Arand, Haylie M. Ford, Linzy M. Friedlein, Natasha L. Rowe, Ramsey P. Schulz, Hannah E. Smith
 Warren: Autumn M. Flynn, Madison R. Tesmer

General primary information for the elderly and disabled

By Angela Kaiser
 JO DAVIESS COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

Voting assistance will be available at all polling places in Jo Daviess County for voters who are either temporarily or permanently physically incapacitated, or over the age of 65 at the March 17, 2020 General Primary Election, according to County Clerk Angela Kaiser.

"If you wish to go to the polls, but need assistance," Kaiser noted, "arrangements can be made to vote from your car once you arrive. Please call the County Clerk's Office at 815-777-0161 no later than Monday, Mar. 16 to make these arrangements."

Voting by mail is another alternative for all voters. Applications for voting by mail are now available from the County Clerk's Office, however mailing and delivery of ballots does not begin until Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020. All applications for voting by mail must be received in the Clerk's office by Thursday, Mar. 12, 2020.

Voting assistance is also available inside the polling place from someone who accompanies the voter or from an election judge of each political party.

Early Voting by personal appearance in the County Clerk's Office is another option for all registered voters.

Anyone may come and vote in the Jo Daviess County Clerk's Office, 330 N. Bench St., Galena, between Thursday, Feb. 6 through Monday, Mar. 16 on weekdays from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and on Saturday, Mar. 14 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

Tuesday, Feb. 18, is the last day that new voter registrations or name/address changes can be taken and still allow the voter to vote at the polls. "Registrations can be taken at my office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday," Kaiser added, "and deputy registrars are located throughout the county. Registrations or changes can be made at most libraries and several other business locations."

State law does allow grace period registration and transfer of registration from Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020 through Tuesday, Mar. 17, 2020. Grace period registration is conducted only in the County Clerk's Office and requires the individual to vote at the time of registration.

Please be prepared to show two forms of identification, with at least one having your current address.

For more information on registering to vote, voting assistance, or early voting, please call the County Clerk's office at 815-777-0161 or inquire at 330 N. Bench St., Galena 61036.

Illinois health departments warn of cannabis risks

Nine health departments in northern Illinois issued a warning Friday on the potential dangers of recreational cannabis.

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Don't use cannabis if pregnant or breastfeeding. Using cannabis can affect the health of your baby. Cannabis use during pregnancy is linked to low birth weight babies and may harm the growth and development of your baby's brain. Because of the way cannabis is stored and released in the body, your baby could be exposed through breast milk even after you stop using cannabis.

Youth and The Developing Brain

Cannabis use can cause problems with short term memory, learning, and even intelligence. Your brain continues to develop until age 25 and studies have shown that cannabis use in young people can impair development. The purchase and use of cannabis is illegal for those under 21.

Mental Health Impacts

Cannabis can be an addictive drug. One (1) in 10 users will become addicted. THC is the chemical in cannabis that makes you feel "high." Higher

THC concentrations have been linked to increased risk for addiction. Regular use of cannabis increases your risk for anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia.

Impacts on The Lung and Heart

Smoking cannabis can harm lung tissue and cause damage to small blood vessels. Smoke from cannabis contains many of the same toxins and carcinogens as tobacco smoke.

Know the Facts and Keep Others Safe

Before using cannabis, know the facts and keep others safe. Using cannabis or other THC products can impair your judgment. Do not drive or perform other tasks that could be a risk if you have used cannabis. Just because it is legal, does not mean it is allowed by your employer. Using cannabis could cost you your job. Make sure that children and pets do not have access to cannabis. Protect kids from secondhand smoke. Think about those around you before you use and avoid exposing others without their knowledge and consent.

For more information on the health risks, go to <https://www.prevention.org/lets-talk-cannabis>.

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Jo Daviess County Farm Service Agency lists county committee election results

Jo Daviess County U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED) Cory C. Casens announced that County Committee elections are over and the ballots have been counted.

Rod Rogers of Stockton, IL was elected to represent local administrative area (LAA) #2. Greg Thoren of Stockton, IL will be the 1st Alternate with John Creighton of Lena, IL serv-

ing as the second alternate.

"County Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA," said CED Casens. "They help deliver programs at the county level and work to serve the needs of local producers. All recently elected County Committee members will take office in January 2020, and will be joining the existing committee members Ann Heller of Galena, IL, and Dean Groezinger of Elizabeth,

IL." Every FSA office is required to have a County Committee, and they are made up of local farmers who are elected by local farmers.

Nearly 7,800 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of County Committee seats are up for election each year. County Committee members impact the administration of FSA within a community by applying their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs, conservation programs, indemnity and disaster programs, emergency programs and eligibility.

County Committee members impact producers through their decision making and help shape the culture of a local FSA office. They also ensure the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties and are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. Members conduct hearings and reviews as requested by the State Committee, ensure socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmers and ranchers are fairly represented, make recommendations to the State Committee on existing programs, monitor changes in farm programs and inform farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs. They also assist with outreach and inform underserved producers such as beginning farmers and ranchers about FSA opportunities.

Monroe Clinic to sponsor 'Mental Health First Aid' trainings

Did you know you are more likely to encounter someone in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack? By learning the signs, you can help.

Monroe Clinic will sponsor two 'Mental Health First Aid' trainings in January. The first opportunity is geared toward helping youth and takes place on Friday, Jan. 17, at the Senior Resource Center, 206 E. Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL. The second opportunity is geared toward helping adults and takes place on

Wednesday, Jan. 29, in the Monroe Clinic St. Clare Conference Center, lobby level, Clinic entrance.

Similar to First Aid and CPR, Mental Health First Aid teaches community members how to better identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses. The training takes place from 8am to 4:30pm, with registration starting at 7:30 a.m.

Anyone can take the 'Mental Health First Aid' course – first responders, students, school staff, leaders of faith communities, human resource professionals, or any local citizens.

A \$25 fee includes the training, continental breakfast and lunch. To register for this event, please contact Tammie Jamiska at 608-324-2639 or tammie.jamiska@ssmhealth.com.

Freeport Rotary Club to hold fundraising event

The Freeport Rotary Club is holding an upcoming event to raise funds for the youth in our community. Applebee's in Freeport will be the site of a Flapjack Fundraiser from 8 – 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11. Tickets for the event are \$5 each. All funds raised will support the Rotary Scholarship Fund. For tickets, contact Tonya Thayer at thayer@fhn.org or call Tonya at 815-599-7213.

Each year, the Freeport Rotary Club supports local youth by holding a special Holiday luncheon for Freeport Public School Students, scholarships for graduating seniors and offering shoes to students in need. Additionally, the Rotary are supporting the Children's Hands-On Museum by providing bookshelves in the Spring of 2020.

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Rev. Scott Wilson
Assoc. Pastor of Youth

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Sunday School/ABF 8:45 a.m.
AWANA-Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.
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

337676

CHURCH NEWS

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will gather for worship on Jan. 12, at Good Shepherd, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to worship on this Baptism of our Lord Sunday with Holy Communion. Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship. All Sunday School children will gather for Sunday School Opening at 10:45 a.m. followed by learning, Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

On Tuesday Jan. 14, at 9:45 a.m. Good Shepherd will meet for Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center. Come and make a joyful noise to the Lord together.

On Wednesday Jan. 15, at 8 a.m. the Piece Corps Quilters will work together to craft quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are always looking for more people to help tie quilts and sew. No previous quilting experience is necessary. Come join the fun and make a difference in the world! On Thursday Jan. 16, Good Shepherd will be at the Friendship Center for Devotions and Dessert at 1 p.m.

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

Salem United Church of Christ (Lena)

The sermon for the worship service Jan. 12, at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 W. Salem Road, Lena, is titled "What's Your Why?" and is based on scripture from Isaiah 42:1-9. Sunday School for adults and children begins at 9:30 a.m. and worship is at 10:30 a.m. Items being collected for the Lena Food Pantry in January are packaged cookies: Oreos, sandwich cookies of all kinds, vanilla wafers, chocolate chip cookies, etc.

Bookworms Reading Group will meet at Sharon Hummermeier's home with Faith Brookman as hostess on Monday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. Joy Gerbode will lead the discussion of "Bookshop of Yesteryears" by Amy Meyerson.

The Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group will meet for breakfast at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Stella's in Stockton.

St. John's Lutheran Church (Pearl City)

You're welcome to celebrate the First Sunday of Epiphany on Jan. 12 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Pearl City. The service will be led by Pastor Ekstrand. The Stewardship & Outreach and the Memorial & Finance Committees will both meet after worship. Sunday School and Confirmation will be held after worship. First Communion Class for fourth graders will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 12 and 19. They will receive their First Communion during worship on Jan. 26.

Ellie Maaskie, Yorkville, IL, won the \$200 Calendar Raffle drawing on Dec. 29, 2019. That is the final drawing for the Calendar Raffles.

The Bible Studies have resumed at St. John's on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. and on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Both Bible Studies are held in the Conference Room and it is handicap accessible. The Monday evening Bible Study will begin "The Growth of the Church" with accounts from the Epistles on Monday, Jan. 13. The Thursday morning Bible Study will continue with St. Luke's Gospel.

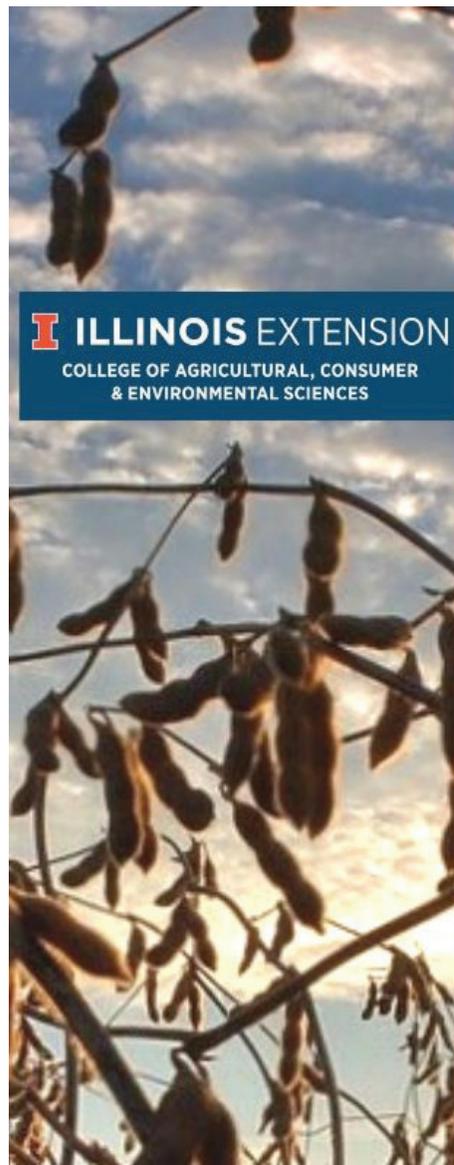
The Women's Gathering will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at St. John's at 9:45 a.m. The morning will begin with fellowship and continue with the Bible Study and announcements.

The January Grace Meal provided with funding by the Freeport Community Foundation will be held on Jan. 19. The meal will be a meatloaf dinner.

The Annual Congregational Meeting for St. John's will be held immediately following worship on Jan. 26.

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.



Tuesday, January 14, 2020 NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AGRONOMY SUMMIT

8:30 AM - 3:00PM

The theme for this year's conference is Updates in Nutrient and Pest Management in corn and soybeans.

For Certified Crop Advisors,
4 CEU's will be available.

Hosted by University of Illinois
Extension at
Highland Community College,
Student Conference Center,
2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL

\$30 Registration Fee
To Register Call Us At 815-235-4125
Or Visit Us Online At
go.illinois.edu/AgSummit

Highland agriculture shines bright at Illinois PAS Conference

Highland agriculture students came away numerous awards at the Illinois Professional Agriculture Students (PAS) Conference at Lincoln Land Community College on Nov. 22-23 in Springfield.

The 22 Highland students are part of a national student organization that provides opportunities for college agriculture students to experience individual growth, leadership and career preparation through competition and cooperative activities.

Over the two-day conference, students competed in individual and team contests highlighting a variety of agriculture career opportunities. The students also networked with industry professionals and other Illinois college students.

"I'm excited for all the students that participated in the conference," said Justin Ebert, Highland Agriculture instructor. "Each student's accomplishments are a reflection of their time and commitment to achieving career success in the agriculture industry."

Individual competitions, Nov. 22 results

In the days leading up to the competitions, students prepared resumes, career planning projects, lesson plans, and sales presentations. During the conference, students then spent the day showcasing their talents to a panel of judges in their respective career areas. Listed below are Highland student participants, their home town and awards they received.

Charleese Faulkner, (Milledgeville), Agribusiness Management Plan, 3rd Place
Danielle Hagemann (Mt. Morris),

Administration Interview – 3rd Place
Gwen Heimerdinger (Pearl City), Agricultural Education Demonstration – 1st Place

Agricultural Education Interview – 2nd Place

Collegiate Discussion Meet
Katie Hoffman (Savanna), Feed & Animal Health Interview – 3rd Place

Brooklynn Hollis (German Valley), Dairy Production Interview – 1st Place
Rebecca Hough (Mt. Morris), Agricultural Sales Presentation – 1st Place

Alec Tipton (Savanna), Agribusiness Management Plan – 2nd Place
Natalie Wilkinson (Thomson), Agribusiness Sales Interview

Benjamin Woessner (Shannon), Livestock Production Interview

Hannah Woessner (Shannon), Ruminant Animal Systems Plan – 1st Place

Ana Zinke (Winslow), Non-Ruminant Animal Systems Plan – 2nd Place
Team competitions, Nov. 23 results

During team competitions, students took individual exams in their subject area and worked with their teammates to respond to current event issues, make presentations on controversial topics, and solve industry specific production problems. Below are the Highland teams, individuals with home town, and awards:

Dairy Specialist, 2nd Place--Jared Dickman (Lanark), 2nd Place Individual; Brooklynn Hollis (German Valley); Carli Reeverts (Dakota)

Equine Specialist, 1st Place--Katie Hoffman, Savanna, 1st Place Individual; Kristy Kruger (Scales Mound) 2nd Place Individual; Kassandra Heitkam (Dakota)

Landscape Horticulture – 2nd Place Natalie Wilkinson, Shelby Judd (Milledgeville), Rebecca Hough, Kassandra Heitkam

Soil Specialist --Leland Houzenga (Fulton), Shane Houzenga (Fulton), Reid Huneke (Lena), Kristy Kruger, Andy Gustafson (Byron), Lucas Boomgarden (Freeport)

Crop Specialist--Natalie Wilkinson, Leland Houzenga, Lucas Boomgarden, Charleese Faulkner, Shane Houzenga, Reid Huneke

Floriculture Specialist – 2nd Place

Shelby Judd, Rebecca Hough, Elizabeth Oltmanns (Oregon)

Beef Specialist --Danielle Hagemann, Benjamin Woessner, Hannah Woessner

Swine Specialist – 3rd Place -- Ana Zinke - 1st Place Individual, Gwen Heimerdinger, Katie Hoffman

Election of PAS Officers
Students held a business session and elected officers for the upcoming year. Gwen Heimerdinger, Pearl City, was elected as the 2019-2020 Illinois PAS Presidents. Gwen and her officer

FDR To Visit GCGS February Meeting

Come to the February 1 meeting of the Green County Genealogical Society to experience "A Morning With FDR." Ed O'Brien, a retired educator and historic re-enactor, will visit our meeting as Franklin D. Roosevelt.

FDR will tell us about his early life, the events that led him to the White House, and the hard times that faced the American people during his terms as president. Elected during the Great Depression, FDR created a series of vast programs to address economic and employment concerns. He used press conferences and radio to take his messages to the people and restore confidence in the government. He again used his communication skills to rally the nation

Updates in Nutrient and Weed Management Focus of Agronomy Summit

The 2019 growing season was one of the most challenging years in recent memory for crop producers in Illinois. A cold, wet spring prevented us from getting into the field to conduct scheduled operations resulting in many acres which were not planted. For the crop that did get planted, extensive late-season rainfall delayed us in getting it out. Things were far from perfect this year as a wide array of issues popped up throughout the growing season to cause problems for producers including nutrient deficiencies, insect pest and disease issues, and weed escapes among others. The situations we found ourselves in, and the decisions which were made can have lasting impacts on our production systems moving forward. In the hopes of answering producers' questions and providing the most up to date research in the region, the Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit will be held at Highland Community College Conference Center in Freeport on Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The theme for this year's conference is *Updates in Nutrient and Pest Management. For Certified Crop Advisors*, five CEU's will be available, including the categories of nutrient and pest management. Our 2020 agenda for the regional program includes the following topics and presenters:

- *Updates in Pest Management*—Dr. Nicholas Seiter, Research Assistant Professor and Field Crop Entomologist, University of Illinois
- *Updates on 2 Years of Waterhemp and Dicamba Research*—Rodrigo Werle, Assistant Professor and

team will spend time throughout the year promoting PAS at colleges and businesses across the state of Illinois. Gwen is a sophomore student at Highland Community College majoring in Agricultural Education. She plans to transfer next year to complete her bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education.

"It is an extreme honor to be elected to a state office and Gwen will do a tremendous job advocating for agricultural education," said Monica Pierce, Highland Ag instructor.

after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The only president elected to four terms, FDR was also the only president that almost a generation of Americans knew.

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, Feb. 1. 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 able to answer so we can return your

Extension Cropping Systems Weed Scientist, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- *2020 Forage Update*—Laura Lant, Agronomist, Midwest Grass and Forage
- *Tar Spot and Southern Rust: Corn Diseases to Keep on Your Radar*—Dr. Nathan Kleczewski, Research Assistant Professor and Field Crop Pathologist, University of Illinois
- *Data Intensive Farm Management*—Daniel Smith, Nutrient and Pest Management Extension Specialist, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

While this event is most suited for our producers, there will be CEU's available for our Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs), including the categories of nutrient and pest management. Those interested in viewing a complete agenda or attending the summit may register online at go.illinois.edu/AgSummit or by calling the University of Illinois Extension, Stephenson County at 815-235-4125.

The cost of the program is \$30, which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Pre-registrations are encouraged due to limited seating. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the Extension Office, early requests are strongly encouraged to allow enough time for meeting your access needs. For additional questions, contact Phillip Alberti, Crop Science Educator with University of Illinois Extension in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at palberti@illinois.edu, 815-599-3644 or on Twitter (@NorthernILCrops).



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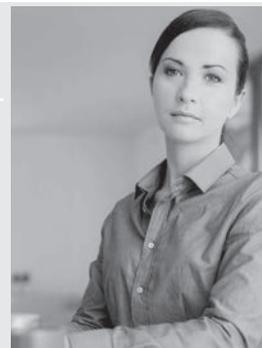
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36274

•Kitchen (Continued from page 3)

the dough into the prepared pan (it is stiff). Bake for 20-25 minutes or until toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Cool slightly. Mix the frosting ingredients in a small bowl and frost the warm bars. I also think you could use the standard cream cheese frosting on these bars, and it would be good. I also sprinkled sliced almonds over the top, and the bars looked great.

The former recipe was a little bit lighter, but the following one is full of decadence. The brownies have chopped semisweet chocolate and roasted peanuts, and the frosting has peanut butter. Do not use crunchy peanut butter because the frosting won't spread the way it should.

Peanut Butter Candy Brownies

- 1 C. unsalted butter, softened
- 2 C. sugar
- 2 t. vanilla

- 4 large eggs
- 1½ C. flour
- 1 C. unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ t. baking powder
- ½ t. salt
- ½ C. chopped semisweet chocolate
- ½ C. chopped roasted salted peanuts

Frosting:

- 1 C. creamy peanut butter
- ¼ C. unsalted butter, softened
- 1 C. powdered sugar
- 1 to 2 T. warm milk

Preheat the oven to 350. Spray bottom of a 9 x 13 baking pan with baking spray with flour. Brownies: in a large bowl, beat butter, sugar, and vanilla with a mixer at medium speed until fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, cocoa, baking powder, and salt. Gradually add flour mixture

to butter mixture, beating just until combined. (Batter will be thick.) Add chocolate and peanuts, beating just until combined. Spread batter in the prepared pan.

Bake until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out with a few moist crumbs, about 23 minutes. Let cool completely in pan on a wire rack.

Frosting: in a medium bowl, beat peanut butter and butter with a mixer at medium speed until smooth. Gradually add powdered sugar and milk, beating just until smooth. Spread onto brownie; garnish with chopped chocolate peanut butter candy and chopped salted peanuts.

We are charging into January. The sales will continue, the returns will be made, and we are hoping to keep the weather we have had the last few weeks. We will continue to feature some soups this month, so if you find a good one, please

pass it on. If you have any recipes you think we would like, contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's

Kitchens, *Shopper's Guide* at 213 S. Center St. or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.



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Application deadline: February 28, 2020.

Application Process: Please send cover letter, resume, transcripts, 3 letters of recommendation, and a copy of Illinois Teaching License to Mrs. Casey Downey, High School Principal, 540 N. Rush St., Stockton, IL 61085 or email to casey.downey@stocktonschools.com.

364263

Village Clerk

The Village of Stockton, is accepting applications for a full-time Village Clerk.

Good organizational skills required for managing Village documents which include preparing board agendas, taking minutes at all meetings, payment of monthly invoices, administering TIF applications and Zoning procedures, responding to FOIA requests, notary public duties, as well as interacting with the public at Village Hall and dealing with many day to day items that occur – too numerous to list. Detailed job description available.

Benefits include paid medical, dental, vision insurance, vacation, sick days, IMRF retirement. Must reside within 25 miles of village limits.

Submit resume with references to the Village of Stockton, 155 W. Front Avenue, PO Box 186, Stockton, IL 61085 by January 31, 2020.

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Eagle Nature Foundation seeks eagle count volunteers

The Eagle Nature Foundation needs volunteers to help with its 60th Annual Mid-Winter Bald Eagle Count to be conducted on January 25 and 26, 2020. This annual bald eagle count is being conducted throughout the Midwest from Northern Minnesota to Louisiana. To eliminate duplication the count is actually a three-hour count on Saturday, with Sunday being used only if weather, or health, does not allow a person or organization to count the

bald eagles in their own locality on the official count day. At least 90% of the eagles will be counted before 11 a.m. on Saturday, the 25. Each year some counters start the day by counting the bald eagles that may be seen leaving their nighttime roosts, while it is still so dark that the birds are only silhouettes flying overhead. Some conservation organizations use teams to count the bald eagles as a project for their club. Counters have used cars, boats and air-

planes to count the bald eagles during past counts.

This annual count was started and coordinated for 23 years by the late Elton Fawks from Moline, IL. Terrence Ingram, President of ENF, from Apple River, has been the coordinator of the count for the past 47 years. Mr. Ingram states, This count has been the most important bald eagle count in the nation for many, many years. It was the results of this count in the early 1960s

that truly documented the decline of the bald eagle in the nation. Now this count is the only accurate record of how our eagles are reproducing in the Midwest. Since the USFW removed the bald eagle from the Endangered Species List in 2007, there has been no funding for agencies to be involved in monitoring the bald eagles reproduction. Most all of their reproduction records are just estimates, or extrapolations, of how many young have been raised. This count helps document what percentage of those young birds have survived.

The last few years have documented a low number of immatures being seen during this count. This number is actually lower than the low number that the count had recorded in the mid to late 1960s. The cause for the low number of documented immatures on this count is unknown and any suggestions about a cause have been purely speculative. It could be that the immatures are wintering somewhere else, or something could actually be affecting their survival: such as starvation; poisoning by chemicals, such as Roundup

or Neonicotinoids; or a disease, such as West Nile Virus; or many of the young may be getting killed by vehicle collisions or wind turbines.

Organizations and volunteers for this count are needed all across the Midwest. ENF would like to document the bald eagles that may be found all along the Mississippi River, from Minnesota to Louisiana, as well as along the Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Rock, Pecatonica, Des Moines, Iowa, Skunk Cedar, Turkey, Maquoketa and Wisconsin Rivers, as well as many of the historic inland wintering areas, which the bald eagle still uses.

Anyone interested in helping with this research to document our changing bald eagle population by counting the bald eagles in their own area on Jan. 25th or 26th, should contact Mr. Ingram at ENF, 300 East Hickory Street, Apple River, IL 61001 or phone 815-594-2306 to get the necessary count forms and to receive their area assignment. Contacting Mr. Ingram and getting your area assigned must be done in advance of the count date, Jan. 25.

How do you talk about climate change?

By Hendrica Regez
#GALENAGREENTEAM

The climate crisis is in the news daily, but does everyone really understand what causes the problem?

First of all, this is not a partisan issue. Not too long ago both parties agreed that climate change is a global threat that needs to be addressed. Then there came a giant misinformation campaign to discredit the science. Over a billion dollars were spent on lobbying, advertising and paying a few scientists to denounce what the majority of their peers agree on. After years of being manipulated and being lied to by authorities about anything from health to wars it is no wonder that the public is skeptical! Thank goodness we have physics and the incorruptible laws of nature.

To put it simply: carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere. They absorb radiation from the sun which has been reflected off the earth, and then re-emit this radiation in all directions, reflecting some of it back onto the earth. The more greenhouse gases, the more this heats it up. The finding that more CO2 in the atmosphere will warm the climate dates back to the 1890s. Anyone who owns a greenhouse will tell you that it doesn't take much to overheat the structure and kill everything inside — just ask my friends who tried to raise tilapia in their greenhouse and weren't able to bring down the temperature fast enough.

The earth's atmosphere is a very complex system with mechanisms and feedback loops to keep everything in balance. It took billions of years for this system to stabilize to the point where it can support life as we know

it. Before the 18th century when humans in the industrial west began to burn coal, oil and gas, our atmosphere typically contained about 280 parts per million of carbon dioxide.

Those are the conditions "on which civilization developed and to which life on earth is adapted." Now, as the use of fossil fuels spreads through the world, the amount of carbon in the atmosphere is skyrocketing — we're now well over 415 parts per million of CO2 in the atmosphere for the first time in at least 2.5 million years and the levels keep climbing... Keeping fossil fuels in the ground is the most important step we can take to prevent further climate change!

350.org, an organization dedicated to "A Fast & Just Transition to 100% Renewable Energy", states: "Right now, annual global average temperature is about 1° Celsius (1.9°F) hotter than pre-industrial levels. The world's scientists confirmed in the 2018 IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report that at the current rate, the world could cross 1.5°C hotter as soon as 2030. That's only a decade from now, well within the lifespan of most people alive today. 1.5°C might not sound like a big increase in temperature, but it's the difference between life and death for thousands of people. 1°C of warming has already resulted in devastating impacts across the planet. Global grain yields have declined by 10 percent from heatwaves and floods connected to climate change, unleashing hunger and displacement. Over 1 million people living near coasts have been forced from their homes due to rising seas and stronger storms, and millions more are expected to flee in the coming years. The IPCC states the

difference between 1.5°C and 2°C of global temperature rise could mean well over 10 million more migrants from sea-level rise.

Climate change science leaves no room for doubt. The 2018 IPCC report has confirmed what we've known for decades: increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events is a result of climate change."

What should we do? One of the presidential candidates notes that "The three industries contributing to the most carbon dioxide emissions in the United States right now are the building industry, the electric power industry and the oil industry." With time for technological fixes running out, we know we need to make drastic changes to all our systems. Some suggest we walk, ride bikes and plant carrots! But individual action is not enough; we also need to take on corporate power and be politically engaged. We have to change our culture and yes, we also need to set good examples with our individual acts of conservation. It is too easy and simplistic to blame the building industry, the power companies and the oil industry, when we are buying what they are selling.

I could go on about our carbon budget, carbon footprints, fossil fuel subsidies, UN Sustainable Development Goals, etc., but this is probably enough for now. Just a note about myself: nobody is paying me to talk about climate change. On the contrary, most people would rather I didn't mention it.

My concern comes from my connection with the natural world. I grieve for all the species lost, the climate refugees and the lands destroyed by floods and fires.

Jo Daviess County Farm Service Agency lists county committee election results

Jo Daviess County U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED) Cory C. Casens announced that County Committee elections are over and the ballots have been counted.

Rod Rogers of Stockton, IL was elected to represent local administrative area (LAA) #2. Greg Thoren of Stockton, IL will be the 1st Alternate with John Creighton of Lena, IL serving as the second alternate.

"County Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA," said CED Casens. "They help deliver programs at the county level and work to serve the needs of local producers. All recently elected County Committee members will take office in January 2020, and

will be joining the existing committee members Ann Heller of Galena, IL, and Dean Groezinger of Elizabeth, IL." Every FSA office is required to have a County Committee, and they are made up of local farmers who are elected by local farmers.

Nearly 7,800 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of County Committee seats are up for election each year. County Committee members impact the administration of FSA within a community by applying their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs, conservation programs, indemnity and disaster programs, emergency programs and

eligibility.

County Committee members impact producers through their decision making and help shape the culture of a local FSA office. They also ensure the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties and are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. Members conduct hearings and reviews as requested by the State Committee, ensure socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmers and ranchers are fairly represented, make recommendations to the State Committee on existing programs, monitor changes in farm programs and inform farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs. They also assist with outreach and inform underserved producers such as beginning farmers and ranchers about FSA opportunities.

Intro to Apple Tree Pruning: the older and neglected

University of Illinois Extension Local Foods and Small Farms Educator Grant McCarty will teach Intro to Apple Tree Pruning: The Older and Neglected on Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020. The class will be held twice that day, 10 a.m. to Noon and again from 6 to 8 p.m. in room 210 of the Highland Community College Student Conference Center (Building H), 2998 W Pearl City Road, Freeport (use parking lot A). Registration cost for this program is \$5 and pre-registration is required by Monday, Jan. 20. To register or for more information on this program, visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw or call us at 815-235-4125.

You may have inherited property

that has a number of mature apple trees. You may also have ignored and neglected your apple trees for a number of years. Whichever category you fall into, it is not too late to get your trees on the path towards productive yields.

This course will go into the decisions you need to make when it comes to getting mature apple trees back into shape over the next couple of years. Topics to be covered include when to let go of trees, basics of seasonal/older pruning, disease/insect management, choices of tools, making the first cuts of a multi-year process, and working through visual examples of trees that have been neglected.



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