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VOL. 83 • NO. 12

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

## Virtual career fair open to all job seekers

Highland Community College will be participating in a statewide virtual career fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 9.

HCC is one among 18 community colleges partnering with the Illinois Community College Career Services Professionals council and the Illinois Department of Employment Security to host the event virtually on Handshake at [www.tinyurl.com/YourFutureNow21](http://www.tinyurl.com/YourFutureNow21).

"I am optimistic that this virtual statewide career fair will have great value to the students, community members, and organizations that participate," Anthony Musso, Highland Career Services coordinator, said in

a news release. "It gives companies in our region an opportunity to speak with more students and community members who might have interest in relocating to Northwest Illinois."

Highland is the leading college in this group to transition to Handshake, an online job board platform for many universities nationwide.

The event is free for all job seekers in Illinois. All ages and backgrounds are welcome to be part of the career fair. Employers can participate for \$75 by registering at [tinyurl.com/IC3SP21](http://tinyurl.com/IC3SP21).

For more information, send an email to Musso at [anthony.musso@highland.edu](mailto:anthony.musso@highland.edu).

## One year into pandemic, Pritzker 'cautiously optimistic' about large-scale events

By Tim Kirsininkas  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, Gov. JB Pritzker on March 11 announced a new initiative focusing on vaccine access for rural parts of the state and said he is "cautiously optimistic" about future reopenings and public gatherings.

Speaking in a news conference at a mass vaccination site at Shabbona Middle School in Morris, Pritzker said he is encouraged that the state is "getting to the end" of the COVID-19 pandemic, but he continued to stress patience as the state works to vaccinate residents.

One week after announcing a vaccine equity initiative for urban areas and communities of color, the state on March 11 announced that it would also begin to direct federal deliveries of doses to nine downstate critical access hospitals. The nine locations include hospitals in downstate Christian, Ford, Hamilton, Logan, Mercer, Montgomery, Tazewell, Vermillion and Wayne

counties.

"Rural communities deserve the same protections from the virus that suburban and urban communities get," Pritzker said. "While national demand is still higher than national supply, my team is allocating what we receive from the federal government across the state as soon as we get it."

Public health officials announced that a total of 112,776 vaccine doses were administered across the state on March 10, the second consecutive day that more than 100,000 doses were administered in a single day.

The state's seven-day rolling average for doses administered stands at 98,116, the highest mark to date, while the seven-day rolling COVID-19 positivity rate stood at 2.2 percent, matching a pandemic low.

Last week, the city of Chicago announced both Chicago professional baseball teams will allow spectators

See EVENTS, Page 10

## FFA serves up dinner to go



Members and friends of the Pearl City FFA and FFA alumni served up hundreds of pork chop dinners at a March 13 drive-thru event at Pearl City High School. Above, Montana Sargent and Nicole Scefey finish loading to-go boxes with pork chops. Left, Cheyenne Handsaker and Aaliwah Whitney are all smiles as they show off the dinner offerings.

SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

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# State school board requests \$400 million funding increase, including K-12 boost

By Jerry Nowicki  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Illinois State Board of Education officials on March 8 made their case for an added \$362.1 million to the state's evidence-based funding formula and \$50 million in early childhood education grants, pushing back on the governor's proposal to keep state K-12 education funding flat next fiscal year.

In total, the board recommended a \$406 million, or 4.6 percent, increase in fiscal year 2022 in state general revenue funding, increasing the state's share of education funding to \$9.3 billion for the budget year that begins July 1.

"While the recommendation does not represent the full need of education, it is made in recognition of the state's current fiscal condition," ISBE Board Chair Darren Reisberg told a House education appropriations committee. "We strongly believe this budget recommendation is necessary to provide the resources our schools, educators and students need to continue to recover equitably from the COVID-19 pandemic."

The evidence-based funding model was passed in 2017 in an effort to direct new education funding to districts that were furthest away from funding adequacy based on a number of factors, including class sizes, local capacity to fund education and more. The formula created a target of \$350 million in new state funding to be pumped into K-12 education each year in an effort to have all districts at 90 percent of adequacy by 2027.

ISBE Superintendent Carmen Ayala told the committee that in fiscal year 2018, there were 168 school districts at or below 60 percent of funding adequacy. Three years later, only 10 districts are at or below that number.

But the COVID-19 pandemic scrapped new funding for the current fiscal year, and in his budget address

last month, the governor proposed taking the same approach in fiscal year 2022.

If the funding formula is to be successful in driving districts to the 90 percent adequacy target by 2027, Ayala said, the state would need to allocate an added \$799 million each year for the next six years. Thus, the \$362.1 million increase to the formula is the middle ground, according to ISBE officials.

Rep. Will Davis, a Democrat from suburban Homewood who was a lead negotiator in the House for the evidence-based formula in 2017, said there are "a number of" House Democrats "who are not happy with the governor's introduced budget" as it relates to the evidence-based funding formula.

He suggested the state should treat the funding increase as it does pension or bond debt, which is considered a baseline expense that other state spending should be built around.

"I'm just wondering if there's a way to change the conversation until we feel a little bit more obligated to fund it appropriately," he said "And that's at the minimum that we talked about, which is \$350 million."

Board officials also requested an added \$50 million in funding for early childhood block grants to allow an estimated 9,400 additional Illinois children to take part in the program in the upcoming fiscal year.

Board officials also argued for flat funding for transportation expenses for Illinois' public school districts, as opposed to a \$7.7 million reduction in that line item proposed by the governor.

ISBE also made requests for added funding for teacher recruiting and retention programs, some of which were initiated with federal coronavirus relief funding. An Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of

**See REQUEST, Page 7**

# College receives grant for continuing career pathways program

Highland Community College recently was awarded a grant of \$94,806 from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois for the continuation of the Linking Talent with Opportunity: A Regional Strategy project.

In 2018, Highland was awarded \$225,000 as part of a partnership with Rock Valley College. Highland pursued the grant for a second time to extend the work begun with the first award.

The grant allows Highland to continue providing area students with career pathways from high school to college, where they can earn a degree or certificate in multiple areas. The program also connects high school students directly with employers.

"This grant is not only a benefit for students, but also area businesses," Scott Anderson, vice president of business, technology and community programs at Highland, said in a news release. "Employers get to know the students before they graduate."

During the program, high school students will visit with local employers during a job shadow day where they have individual observation of daily tasks for a chosen profession while also networking and building a relationship with a local employer.

The community foundation "is an outstanding organization that desires to positively impact our region. HCC is very excited to continue our partnership with them," Anderson said. "We will continue creating customized career pathways that

students can pursue while in high school to meet the needs of the high-demand positions throughout Northwest Illinois."

The workforce paths allow students to continue their growth from high school into community college, helping them gain skills and the knowledge that will make them better employees in their chosen career path. The grant supports a curriculum that prepares students for college-level instruction.

"This grant continues our commitment to our students and community partners," Highland President Chris Kuberski said in the release. "This funding helps broaden students' awareness of growing career opportunities in the career and technical fields that will benefit the student and our local employers. "Also, it supports high school students in their efforts to achieve college readiness, particularly in math and English. Studies show that students who are well prepared in math and English are much more likely to complete a college degree. This program links our communities, students and employers in creating a stronger northwest Illinois workforce."

For more information about Highland and programs for high school students through dual credit or CollegeNOW courses, go online to [highland.edu](http://highland.edu).

For more information about the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, go online to [cfnil.org](http://cfnil.org).

# Basketball roundup

A roundup of high school basketball scores and notes received by The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide (all scores are from varsity games unless noted):

## Boys

- March 6, Stockton 38, Amboy 19  
Mitchel Coffey led the Blackhawks with 11 points. Bryce Smith had nine rebounds.
- March 8, Eastland 71, River Ridge 43
- March 10, Orangeville 62, Stockton 56

Both teams had three players in double digits. For Orangeville, the top scorers were Zach Baker with 15, Nathan Anderson with 15 and Brayden Cahoon with 12. For Stockton, Mitch-

el Coffey had 28 points, Ian Broshous had 14 and Caleb Mammoser had 11.

- March 10, junior varsity, Orangeville 28, Stockton 27 (overtime)
- March 12, Aquin 57, Le-Win 51  
Alex Daughenbaugh led scoring for Le-Win with 21 points, followed by Evan England with 14.
- March 12, Orangeville 47, Pecatonica 45  
Zach Baker, Brayden Cahoon and Nathan Anderson led scoring in the Orangeville victory, with 14, 12 and 10 points, respectively.
- March 12, junior varsity, Pecatonica 63, Orangeville 17

## Girls

- March 5, Stockton 80, Galena 76  
Tiana Timpe led the Blackhawks

with 32 points and 11 rebounds in the high-scoring contest. Kenze Haas and Brynn Haas also were in double figures, with 14 and 12 points, respectively.

- March 8, Stockton 66, Milledgeville 27

Brynn Haas was the top scorer for Stockton with 25 points. Tiana Timpe had 14 points.

- March 9, Stockton 57, Warren 22  
Tiana Timpe led the Blackhawks with 22 points, followed by Kenze Haas with 10.

For Warren, Sydni Sigafus and Emilie Slichenmyer each scored nine points.

- March 11, Stockton 74, Warren 49  
Stockton's Tiana Timpe scored a game-high 28 points in the landslide win. Morgan Blair had 14 points and Kiersten Winters had 12 points.

For Warren, Sydni Sigafus led scorers with 26 points, followed by Emilie Slichenmyer with 11 points.

- March 11, Pearl City 44, Le-Win 41

Cheyenne Handsaker led scoring for Pearl City with 14, followed by Sidney Wright with 9.



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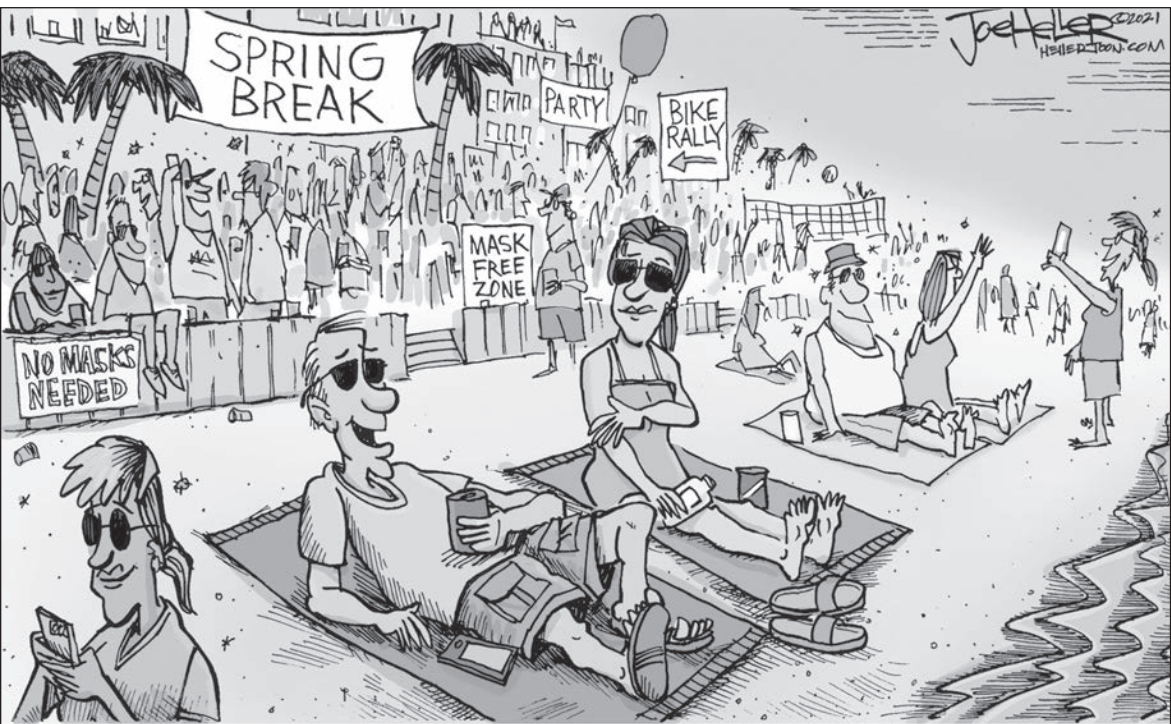
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When someone you love dearly dies here on earth, they are gone. But they are not gone. They are here. They are everywhere. And if you perceive very carefully, if you truly pay attention, they are right beside you, every step of the way.



By **JILL PERTLER**  
Columnist

You will feel it. You will hear it. You will sense it. You will know it to be true. If only you allow yourself to feel and know.

I feel you when I am falling asleep at night. When the cool pillow lies beneath my head and you hold my hand or gently kiss me the way only angels can do.

I know you are with me when sleep feels impossible and the night seems scary. I know you sit at my bedside, watching and loving me, when I finally do fall asleep.

I sense you when I am alone in a room and a cool breeze blows across my lips or my cheeks and I understand to the core of my being that you are with me and want me to know your presence.

I perceive you when I am in the company of others, but may feel alone because even when friends are present I still miss you and I hear you telling me that it is OK and I should join in and smile and laugh because that's how you remember me and that's how you want me to be.

I hear you when I am talking to

you silently and the house knocks in response to my thoughts. I hear you at home, in hotels, outside — anywhere. You find a way to reach my heart and I love that about you, about us.

I feel you in everyday moments. When I am putting my socks on, drying my hair, gathering laundry or planning dinner, because you want to be there for the everyday moments, however banal. You want to be with me and I feel that. I feel you.

I hear the songs you send me. They ring out in my head — usually just a line or two of lyrics and I have to look them up online in order to appreciate the beautiful messages you are sending me. I understand the effort that must take for you and I appreciate every note, every melody.

I know you are with me when I cry, which I do all too often. I know you want me to remember the happy memories, and I will get there, eventually. I know you want me to get to a better place so the memories

can be happy. I know you are trying to help me accomplish this.

I understand you are here, with me, but we are separated right now. And that separation feels small to you but immense to me. I am willing to bear that burden for now because as long as I am attached to you, I know I will be all right. As long as a part of you stays with me, I can survive.

I see you in the birds flying overhead or the ones you send to the tree outside our bedroom window. I see you in the clouds floating in the sky, or in the sunshine that warms my skin. I see you in twinkling lights or the ones you send to me as I sleep. I see your kind spirit and loving soul every day in everything and I am thankful for that.

I know how hard you are working right now to help me make sense out of a situation that makes no sense. I know you understand when I can't. I know you feel my pain when I cry. I know you wish you could take it away. I know you want me to go on

See **SLICES**, Page 4

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**Letter to the editor**

**State policy disrespects retired teachers**

In response to the article entitled, "Northwest Illinois school districts struggle with teacher, substitute shortages," I would like to address several issues about substitutes that were left out of the article.

I taught in Northwest Illinois for 16 years, yet was required to start at the beginning of the substitute process like anyone off the street. I had to pay additional fees to the state, pay out of pocket for a physical, and pay for fingerprinting for a criminal background check. It did not matter that I had been a certified teacher for more than 30 years. I was treated as if I was someone who had never stepped foot in a classroom.

In essence I had to pay for the privilege of substituting in the district that I had worked in for the past 16 years. This was just one more way for the State Department

of Education to get money out of their retired teachers and a very disrespectful way at that. It had previously been an accepted practice for a retired teacher to be able to substitute in their previous district by simply putting their name on a list.

The state wonders why there is a shortage. I do not believe that it is only because of the pandemic. The root issues are much deeper than that and the state will continue to lack substitutes if there are not changes. If they want baby sitters, then that's what they will have, ignoring a powerful resource of retired teachers who deserve more respect than they have been shown.

I substitute because I care about the teachers, children and families of my community and I will continue to do so as long as I am able.

Please do not let the state of Illinois off so easy.

Susan Erb  
Lena

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# Democratic Illinois officials applaud passage of federal stimulus

## 'American Rescue Plan' to send \$13.2 billion for state and local governments

By Peter Hancock  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Democratic state officials in Illinois applauded the final passage March 10 of President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion federal relief package, which includes billions of dollars in aid to cash-strapped state and local governments.

The "American Rescue Plan" passed the U.S. House on March 10, 220-211, largely along party lines. No Republicans voted in favor of the bill while only one Democrat voted against it.

The bill includes direct payments of up to \$1,400 for most Americans, which people should receive by the end of the month. But it also includes aid for state and local governments that suffered massive revenue losses after much of the U.S. economy was shut down last spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to U.S. Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, both Democrats, the bill will send \$7.5 billion directly to the state of Illinois. It also provides another \$5.5 billion for city and county governments in the state as well as another \$5 billion for Illinois K-12 schools.

"I am grateful to Senators Durbin, Duckworth, and our congressional delegation for making sure Congress took bold, swift action," Illinois House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, said in a statement. "Once guidelines are issued by federal authorities, I look forward to working with the Pritzker administration and our budget leaders on how to best appropriate these funds so they meet the needs of our most vulnerable communities. While I know the road to recovery will not be

easy, this bill gives us the funds necessary to simultaneously address this health and economic crisis."

The current fiscal year's budget, which lawmakers passed in May, was based on the assumption that Congress would pass a relief package for state and local governments and that Illinois voters in November would approve Gov. JB Pritzker's proposed constitutional amendment to allow for a graduated income tax.

But the tax amendment failed at the polls, and congressional Republicans, who held a majority in the U.S. Senate until the 2020 elections, firmly opposed providing fiscal aid to state and local governments. Those factors combined put the state's budget out of balance by roughly \$4.9 billion.

The state has since closed that gap, in part by borrowing \$2 billion from the Federal Reserve in December and in part because last year's tax filing deadline was pushed back from April 15 to July 15. But the state's economy has also recovered faster than expected and last week, the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability revised its estimate of base revenues upward by nearly \$2.9 billion, enough to close what had been a projected deficit.

"This financial relief is needed in Illinois to pay back billions of dollars we borrowed from the Federal Reserve that allowed us to cover the state's health care bills as we fight our way through this pandemic," Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza said in a statement.

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government.*

# Obituaries

## PAULA KLONTZ

Paula Klontz, 47, of Lena, Illinois, formerly of McConnell, Illinois, passed away at home on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021. Paula was born July 31, 1973, to Roger and Lonnie (Rickard) Klontz in Freeport, Illinois. She was married to Stephen Simpson (Tamera Simpson) for 10 years; together they had two children. Paula owned her own home cleaning business. All of her clients appreciated, loved and formed relationships with her. She was a passionate artist, always remodeling her home and refinishing furniture. She had a great sense of humor; her smile could brighten any



room she was in. Paula loved spending time with her family and her friends.

Paula is survived by her two children, Claudia (Matt Klein) Simpson of Lena and Henry (Abby

(Aleks) Petroski; two nieces, Tillie and Alexia; a nephew, William; her best friend, Sara Engels; and Curt Lawler.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Dalen.

A celebration of Paula's life will be held at Curt's home, 14668 E. Blackhawk Road, Kent, IL 61044, on March 20 between the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

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

## DOROTHY REES

Dorothy Ilene (Wise) Rees passed away on March 6, 2021, at the Lena Living Center in Lena, Illinois. Ilene was born Oct. 12, 1927, at home in Willow, Illinois, to Esther (Noll) and Leon Wise. The third of five daughters, she was raised in Willow on two farms, the first owned by her grandfather and the second by her father. Her childhood was filled with chores, music nights with the neighbors where her father played violin or guitar and sang, services at the Willow Methodist Church, classes at the Willow School and mischief with her sisters. Ilene graduated from Stockton High School a semester early, and joined her sister, Eula, in Rockford working at the American Cabinet Co. to earn money for nursing school. In March 1947, Ilene started a three-year nursing course at Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in Freeport, Illinois. Ilene graduated from nursing school in May 1950 and worked for Dr. Kortemeier, an ophthalmologist with a surgical practice in Freeport.



Donald C. Rees, on Oct. 10, 1953. At that time, she joined St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lena, where she remained a member. They had two children,

news. Ilene is survived by her husband, Donald; daughter, Susan (John Hofmann); sister, Joann Magee; two grandchildren, Aaron and Brent Rees; step-grandson, Eric Weeks; step-granddaughter, Rachel Hofmann; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and friends whom she held dear.

Ilene was preceded in death by her son, Dennis; granddaughter, Angella; her parents; and sisters, Bernice Bucher, Eula Hayden and Carol Buck.

A visitation was held March 9, 2021, at Leamon's Funeral Home in Lena, followed by a funeral service at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lena.

Interment was at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery.

Ilene's family is grateful for the kind and compassionate care provided by the staff at Monroe Clinic Hospice and the Lena Living Center.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established in Ilene's name.

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

## BONNIE SIGAFUS

Bonnie Lynn (Endress) Sigafus of Stockton passed away unexpectedly on March 5, 2021. She was born Feb. 4, 1957, the daughter of Eugene and Gloria (Schumacher) Endress. She married Dennis Sigafus on Aug. 19, 1978, in Massbach, Illinois. Bonnie graduated from Stockton High School with the class of 1975. She worked for Morgan Memorial Nursing home as a licensed dietitian for 30 years. She enjoyed reading, sewing, baking and nature watching.



Glen Burnie, Maryland, Angela (Horace) Robinson of Marshall, Missouri, Michelle (Matt) Lee of Platteville, Wisconsin, and Roxanne (Randy Schultz) Sigafus of Cuba City, Wisconsin; grandchildren, Dustin, Jozlan, Brice, Brianna and Kristen; great-granddaughter, Aliza; mother, Gloria Endress, of Stockton; sister, Linda Vick

of Freeport, Illinois; brother, Richard (Lindy) Endress of Tucson, Arizona; and special friend, Norm Evans.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her father, Eugene Endress; husband, Dennis Sigafus; and brother, Karl Endress.

A visitation and funeral service were held Thursday, March 11, 2021, at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. Interment will take place at Elmwood Cemetery in Warren, Illinois. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at [www.hermannfuneralhome.com](http://www.hermannfuneralhome.com).

She is survived by daughters, Patricia Holloway (Dave Kelly) of

## • Slices (Continued from page 3)

and do what I'm supposed to do and I know you are waiting for me. And right now that gets me through the day.

And I thank you for that. I love you. Now. Always. Forever.

*Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published*

*playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.*

# THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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# National AG Week



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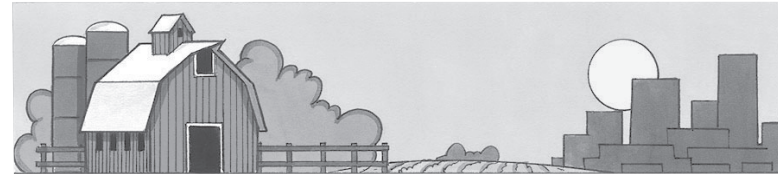


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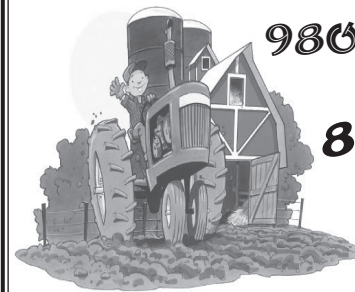
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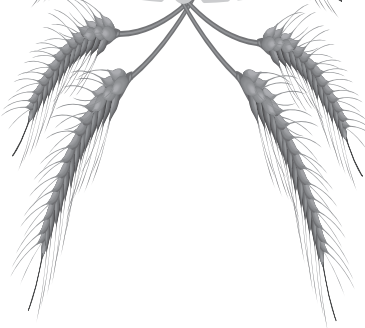


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# Request (Continued from page 2)

Schools survey released last month showed 77 percent of 591 surveyed Illinois school districts said they have a teacher shortage problem.

ISBE requested \$17 million for various programs aimed at addressing the shortage.

That included a \$5 million request for a grant program to "build educator pathways of study, beginning in high school." ISBE also requested \$1 million for the Teach for America program, and \$1.5 million to support candidates in the National Board Certification process, such as covering retake fees, renewal fees and mentor stipends.

"In Illinois, 44 percent of teachers leave their initial school of employment within their first two years, and by their fifth year of teaching, 25 to 30 percent have left the profession entirely," Ayala said.

ISBE has partnered with the Illinois Education Association and the Illinois Federation of Teachers on a virtual coach and mentor program, pairing new teachers with building mentors and virtual instructional coaches early in their careers in a retention effort. That's currently funded through \$6.5 million from the first federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES Act.

Ayala said the board is hoping to continue to use federal funds, but has requested a \$6.5 million appropriation to continue the program if the federal request is denied.

The budget request also includes \$3 million to help mentor and recruit aspiring principals to serve in underperforming schools.

"The program will focus on principals who identify as a member of significantly underrepresented demographic groups, such as Black or Hispanic principals," Ayala said.

The request also includes \$6 million in funding for de-escalation

training to "reduce the use of harmful disciplinary behavioral modification practices on students that are impacted by trauma."

Last year amid the COVID-19 pandemic, ISBE created a Student Care Department aimed at meeting the needs of students on an individual and collective basis. It was funded by the CARES Act as well, but the board requested another \$1.1 million should the federal government prevent further use of federal funds to continue the program.

"Specifically, the Student Care Department oversees and monitors all aspects of timeout and physical restraint and works to further reduce practices deemed harmful to students," Ayala said.

Board officials also noted the application process for a second round of federal COVID-19 relief through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief program is currently open. Grant applications were released last week, Ayala said.

If federal lawmakers approve a coronavirus relief package backed by President Joe Biden, that could result in another \$5 billion in ESSER funds for Illinois, according to ISBE Chief Financial Officer Robert Wolfe.

Ayala said 90 percent of ESSER second-round money goes to local districts to offset expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Another \$213 million is set aside to ISBE, much of which has been used to address the digital divide, Ayala

said.

Upon questioning from Republican Rep. Blaine Wilhour of Beecher City, Ayala said it is ISBE's priority to have students learning in person when it is safe, although it is still up to the local district as to whether they will bring students back to schools. She said 90 percent of public districts are operating in-person or hybrid schedules at this time.

Wilhour suggested tying funding to districts being open to in-person learning, but Ayala said ISBE is not considering such a proposal.

"We have worked very strongly throughout this entire pandemic in recognizing that we have 852 school districts across the state that are very unique and diverse and special,"

Ayala said. "And we have really worked at encouraging the in-person instruction as much as possible but needing to recognize that every community has their uniqueness to be able to come in fully in-person."

The ISBE committee proposal was an early step in the budgeting process, which usually goes through the end of May.

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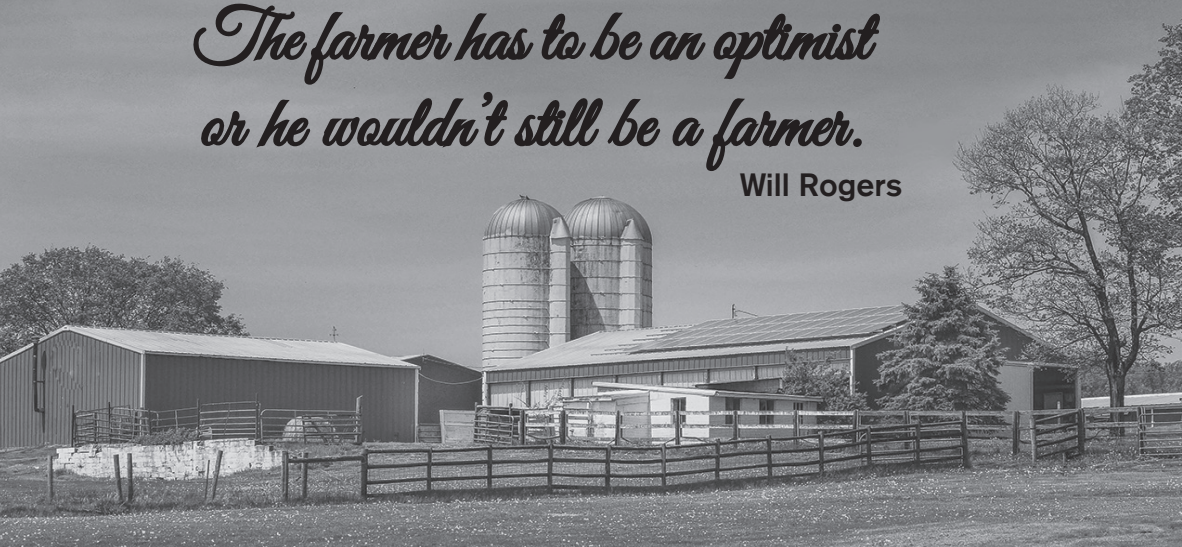
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## FFA serves up dinner to go

**Jordan Johnson and Destiny Haugh deliver meals to a waiting customer at the March 13 Pearl City FFA and FFA alumni pork chop dinner.**

SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO  
Shopper's Guide

# Orangeville hopes to play off experience, physicality

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Orangeville Broncos will be making the move to eight-man football later in the year, but for now, they have one season of 11-man competition left in the Northwest Upstate Illini Conference. Unfortunately, the last season before their transition comes with only six games and no conference championship. Still, the Orangeville Broncos are ready to attack the 2021 season in galloping fashion.

Although it was more than a year ago, the Broncos are coming off a 7-4 season where they reached the second round of the playoffs. It was their third consecutive season to reach the postseason. They return a number of starters from the 2019 team and their experience should be evident on the field this spring.

"We only graduated four seniors last year, but they leave big shoes to fill," said first-year head coach Steve Snider.

Snider said he is confident his guys can step up, however, as he explained their team strength, "is definitely our age. For a school with an enrollment of 101, it is nice to have 15 juniors and seniors on our roster. That does not happen very often.

"Every one of those juniors and seniors has gotten a lot of experience at the varsity level, and we even have two sophomores that received a lot of

varsity playing time last year as freshmen."

As a physical team, the Broncos should be strong up front, returning four of their starting offensive linemen in seniors Ethan Folgate, Chase Bowen and Jared Stubbe and junior Ryan Guy. They have plenty of experience protecting the specialty guys behind them, and their chemistry on the field should be a key to success.

Behind the line of scrimmage, the Broncos return their starting quarterback in senior Jack Doyle and should have an athletic backfield in senior running back Chase Jordan and senior fullback Cade Janecke. Snider's backfield should have plenty of depth, as he expects junior Carson Rote and sophomore Gunar Lobdell to get some playing time at running back as well.

The Broncos should be physical on defense with a strong group of linebackers in Jordan and Janecke. Their defensive front has a lot of experience and physicality inside, to go along with the 6-foot-4, 225-pound defensive end in Zach Baker. Physicality is key in the NUIC, and Orangeville's defensive front should be up for the task.

The Broncos will be back in action March 19 when they travel to East Dubuque. They will be away again for their second game, as they travel to Freeport High School to face off with the Lena-Winslow Panthers on a neutral site.

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# Library notes board vacancy, new books

Officials at the Lena Community District Library are seeking applicants for a vacancy on the library board. To get more information, stop by the library, 300 W. Mason St.

Library Director Brittany Gaulrapp notes several new books in the collection: "The Affair" by Danielle Steel, "Dark Sky" by CJ Box, "The Nature of Fragile Things" by Susan Meissner, "Blink of an Eye" by Roy Johansen, "Faithless in Death" by JD Robb, "Missing and Endangered" by

JA Jance, "The Paris Library" by Janet Skeslien Charles, "Serpentine" by Jonathan Kellerman, "Triple Chocolate Cheesecake Murder" by Joanne Fluke and "The Vineyard at Painted Moon" by Susan Mallery.

In addition, Easter grab-and-go craft packs are available at the library. Patrons are encouraged to send a photo of their creations or leave a comment on the library's Facebook page.

For more information, call 815-369-3180.

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# Eastland-Pearl City looks to highlight speed, overcome inexperience

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT  
The Eastland-Pearl City Wildcats football team is looking to bounce back after going 3-5 in 2019. Despite their record, it wasn't all that bad for the Wildcats last season. If you take away

the Lena-Winslow loss, EPC fell by a just a combined total of 18 points in their four other defeats.  
The Wildcats can't look back, however, as they will be a much different team on the field this season.  
"I think our biggest weakness will

be experience because we return only four starters," said third-year head coach Jared McNutt.  
Those returning starters should be key in the Wildcats' success, however. The EPC offense should look to ride on the talents of senior running back

Logan Krell, who was a First Team All-Conference running back in 2019. The Wildcats hope to open up some holes for Krell with senior Caden Kuberski on the offensive line and senior tight end Jase Sheffey leading the way up front.  
EPC will have a junior at quarterback in Kellen Henze, but he will be surrounded by senior talent in specialty positions with brothers Wyatt Baber at wide receiver and Kamden Baber in the backfield. McNutt plans to put all that athleticism to use, saying, "Speed will be our biggest strength this year."  
On defense, the Wildcats should be led by their linebacker group, as they have the athleticism to cover a lot of ground quickly. At inside linebacker they will have a pair of seniors in Kuberski and Bishop Groezinger. On the outside, they will have two more seniors in Sheffey and Riley Schauer. Together, the group of linebackers has a lot of experience playing together and should be a dominant force for the Wildcats' defense.

All in all, the Wildcats and coach McNutt are just happy to be back on the field.  
"It is a great feeling to get the guys back together," McNutt said. "They have been working hard in the weight room hoping for a season and now they get a chance. Our coaching staff is excited to get the ball rolling."  
McNutt said he knows that with such a young team and the peculiar details of this alternate spring season, it could take some time to find their identity.  
"I think it will be a slow start due to the fact that some teams are having a hard time finding a playing surface to practice and play games on, along with the overlap of basketball," he said. "Trying to minimize mental and simple mistakes will be a huge goal in week one."  
You can find the EPC Wildcats in action on Friday, March 26, when they host Amboy in their first game of the season. They will be away in week two as they travel to face off with West Carroll on Friday, April 2.

## Briefs

### Church offers curbside community meal

St. John's Lutheran Church in Pearl City will hold the March Community Grace Meal for curbside pickup from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Sunday, March 21.

The meal will be prepared and served by the Pearl City High School Servant Leadership team.

Meals must be ordered by 5 p.m. Friday, March 19, by calling 815-443-2215 or sending an email to prshad-min@gmail.com.

St. John's, 229 S. First St., offers worship services in person and online at 9 a.m. Sundays. To access the online service, go to StJohnsPearlCity.org or view it on the church Facebook page.

### Raffle benefits veterans, community

The Sons of the Lena American

Legion group is holding a Queen of Hearts raffle at 5 p.m. Saturdays at the Iron Horse Tap, 137 W. Railroad St., Lena.

Tickets will be available from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays at the Lena American Legion home, 314 W. Main St. They also will be available at the Iron Horse Tap.

The raffle amount goes up each week until a queen of hearts card is selected, at which time the pot starts over. Raffle proceeds will benefit veterans and the local community.

### Legion offers chance to meet candidates

The Lena American Legion will be hosting a Meet the Candidates event from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 27, at the Legion home, 314 W. Main St.

People are welcome to come in for a cup of coffee and talk with Steve

Buss and Chelsea White, who are running for village president in the April 6 election.

### Order period open for county's Spring Fish Sale

Officials at the Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District are taking orders for the Spring Fish Sale.

Channel catfish, albino catfish, largemouth bass, hybrid bluegill, redear sunfish, bluegill, black crappie, fat head minnows and grass carp are among the fish that can be ordered for stocking new and existing ponds.

Orders must be placed by Friday, April 9. Delivery will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 28, at the district office parking lot, 1620 S. Galena Ave., Freeport.

For an order form, go online to stephensonswcd.org or stop at the office. For more information, call 815-235-2141, extension 3.



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# • Events (Continued from front page)

at games with up to 20 percent capacity, and there is optimism for the return of summer events such as the Taste of Chicago and the Chicago Air and Water Show.

As of late last week, the state remained in Phase 4 of the Re-store Illinois reopening plan, which prevents gatherings of more than 50 people. Phase 5 is triggered when "either a vaccine is developed to prevent additional spread of COVID-19, a treatment option is readily available that ensures health care capacity is no longer a concern, or there are no new cases over a sustained peri-

od." When asked about the possibility of loosening restrictions on gatherings and potentially moving forward to the next phase of reopening, Pritzker said that he remains "cautiously optimistic" that larger-scale events could begin to take place later this year.

However, Pritzker noted that new variants of the virus that could be transmitted more easily were of concern and could prevent a widespread immediate reopening.

"I want to get to Phase 5 as fast as humanly possible," Pritzker

said. "We're being cautious, but I'm also cautiously optimistic. It's one of the reasons why we've begun to open up even more."

Pritzker expressed optimism that "medium-sized" gatherings could take place late this summer, including conventions and outdoor events, with safety precautions in place.

"We're going to keep moving as we can, based upon the guidance of the scientists," Pritzker added.

*Capitol News Illinois is a non-profit, nonpartisan news service covering state government.*

# 100th birthday

## Burrill Coppernoll

Burrill Coppernoll will be celebrating his 100th birthday on March 26. The family was planning on having a big party, but given the pandemic, we will need to celebrate differently. Please feel free to send Burrill a card to: Oakley Courts, Apt. 103, 3117 W. Kunkle Blvd., Freeport, IL 61032.

Burrill was born in Morseville and schooled at Rose Corner and Stockton High School. His older brother, John, encouraged his interest in aviation and flying airplanes. The two of them started the Stockton Airport, which was a registered airport until being decommissioned in the summer of 2020.

Burrill worked for the Illinois Depart-



ment of Aviation for more than 30 years, working in safety. He was married to Della Mae for 64 years until her death in 2011. He is the father to Nancy Coppernoll Reed (Michael) and Bill (Lisa) Coppernoll, with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

The snow has melted in the front yard, and the big piles at the end of my backyard are slowly dissolving. I know the 60-degree weather probably won't be back for a while, but I think we are turning our backs on winter. This week we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. I have a few more recipes and a standard one for Lent.

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- ½ C. Thousand Island dressing
- 4 slices Swiss cheese, cut into ½-inch strips
- 8 slices deli corned beef (thin slices)

Separate crescent dough into eight triangles.

Combine sauerkraut and salad dressing. Place two cheese strips across the short side of each triangle. Fold corned beef slices in half; place over cheese. Top with sauerkraut

mixture. Roll up each from the short side and place on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 375 for 10 to 15 minutes or until golden brown.

## Green Chopped Salad

This salad is great for March, the green month. It is a delicious and healthy salad filled with all kinds of green fruits and vegetables. If you don't have edamame, you could substitute frozen peas that you thaw before placing in the salad.

- 6 C. chopped salad greens, mixed
- 1 green Granny Smith apple finely chopped
- 1 C. chopped cucumber
- 1 C. shelled edamame
- ½ C. thinly sliced green onion
- 1 avocado, sliced
- 1 C. broccoli florets
- 1 C. green grapes, cut in half
- ½ C. pistachios, roughly chopped

## Dressing:

- 1/3 C. olive oil
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ½ t. Dijon mustard
- ½ t. maple syrup
- 2 T. of your favorite herbs (parsley, dill, basil, cilantro, thyme, rosemary, etc.)

1 small garlic clove, minced  
¼ t. salt  
1/8 t. pepper  
Place all dressing ingredients into a Mason jar and whisk together until combined and set aside. Place chopped greens into a large bowl; top with remaining salad ingredients. Drizzle salad with desired amount of dressing and toss until combined.

## Asparagus Salad

Asparagus makes a great salad.

This recipe uses the asparagus along with other vegetables and spices. If you don't like fennel or can't find it, you could substitute celery. You can also substitute green onions for the scallions. Sullivan's has been having some beautiful asparagus on sale.

- 2 bunches (1 lb. each) fresh asparagus, trimmed
- ¼ C. Champagne vinegar
- 2 T. minced shallot
- 2 T. chopped fresh parsley
- 1 T. chopped fresh dill
- 1 T. chopped fresh mint
- 2 T. honey
- 2 T. Dijon mustard
- ½ t. salt
- ½ t. pepper
- ¾ C. olive oil
- 1 bulb fennel, thinly sliced
- 1 C. sliced radishes
- ½ C. thinly sliced red onion
- 1 shallot, thinly sliced
- Toasted almonds

Bring a large pot of water to a boil over high heat; add asparagus. When water returns to a boil, immediately drain, and transfer asparagus to an ice water bath to stop the cooking process. Drain well and pat dry.

In a large bowl, combine vinegar and minced shallot; let stand for 15 minutes. Whisk parsley, dill, mint, honey, mustard, salt and pepper into vinegar mixture. Whisk in oil in a slow, steady stream until well combined. Stir asparagus, fennel, radishes, onion and sliced shallot into vinaigrette. Garnish with almonds.

## Corned Beef and Cabbage Soup

This soup is a great way to use up leftover corned beef. If you like

the soup and don't have any leftover corned beef, you can buy it from the deli thickly sliced.

- 1 onion, quartered
- 3 stalks celery, quartered
- 3 carrots, quartered
- 1 T. unsalted butter
- Heaping ¼ t. ground allspice
- 1 lb. plum tomatoes, halved
- 3 C. low sodium beef broth
- 4 C. chopped green cabbage (about ¼ of a medium head)
- ½ lb. Yukon gold potatoes, chopped
- ¾ C. quick-cooking barley
- ¼ lb. thickly sliced corned beef cut into strips

Salt and pepper to taste  
Pulse the onion, celery and carrots in a food processor until finely chopped. Melt the butter in a large stock pot over medium-high heat. Add the chopped vegetables and the

allspice; cook, stirring occasionally until the vegetables are slightly softened, about five minutes. Add the tomatoes to the food processor and pulse until finely chopped. Transfer the tomatoes to the pot and add the beef broth, cabbage, potatoes and barley and 4 C. water; cover and bring to a boil. Uncover; reduce the heat to medium low and simmer until the potatoes and barley are tender about 20 minutes. Stir in the corned beef and warm through; season with salt and pepper.

## Tuna Noodle Casserole

During Lent there has to be a tuna and noodle casserole. Many people think that it is one of those comfort foods like macaroni and cheese. This one is a little different because it uses

See KITCHEN, Page 13

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392051



# LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON WILSON EDWARDS, Plaintiff, vs. KATELYN STURTEVANT a/k/a KATELYN M. STURTEVANT, JOSHUA STURTEVANT, CITY OF FREEPORT, a Municipal Corporation, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No. 2020 CH 31 NOTICE OF SALE PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to a Judgment entered on the 30th day of December, 2020, David Snyders, Sheriff of Stephenson County or such other Deputy as may be sitting in his stead, will conduct a sale of the premises involved in this case as follows:

A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is:

Kim M. Casey  
HolmstromKennedyPC  
800 North Church Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-7071

The North 61 feet of the South 120 feet of Lots Nine (9) and Ten (10) in Block Eight (8) of Guiteau's Addition to the Town of Freeport, EXCEPT the West 100 feet thereof; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 1236-1242 South Float Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-020

Part of Lots Two (2) and Three (3) in Block Thirty-three (33) of Knowlton's Second Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the North line of said Lot 2, said point being 49 feet Westerly from the Northeast corner of said Lot 2; thence Westerly on and along the Northerly line of said Lots to a point 18 feet Westerly from the Northeast corner of said Lot 3; thence Southwesterly to a point on the South line of said Lot 3 which point is 25 feet Westerly from the Southeast corner of said Lot 3; thence Easterly on and along the Southerly lot lines to a point 56 feet Westerly from the Southeast corner of said Lot 2; thence Northeasterly to the Place of Beginning; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 11 West Dexter Street

Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-406-009  
The South 30 feet of Lot One (1) in Block Twenty-four (24) in Knowlton's Second Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 1110 South Cherry Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-380-008

Part of Lots One (1) and Two (2) in Block Six (6) in Guiteau's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, described as follows, to wit Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Block 6 and running thence South 81 feet thence East 100 feet thence North to the Southerly line of South Galena Avenue, thence Northwesterly on and along the line of said Block 6 and the Southerly line of said South Galena Avenue to the place of beginning; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, EXCEPT: A part of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 6 in Guiteau's Addition in the Original Town (now City) of Freeport, situated in the Southeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 27 North, Range 8 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Stephenson County, Illinois, described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin in the Northwest corner of said Lot 1; thence South 52 degrees 51 minutes 12 seconds East, 19.27 feet (Bearings assumed for description purposes only) on the Northeast line of said Lot 1, thence South 67 degrees 23 minutes 08 seconds West 16.20 feet to the West line of said Lot 1; thence North 1 degree 17 minutes 24 seconds West, 17.87 feet on said West line to the Point of Beginning; situated in the County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 1111 South High Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-001

The East 20 feet of Lot Eight (8) AND the West 20 feet of Lots Seven (7) and Nine (9) in Block Twelve (12) in Knowlton's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, EXCEPT, that part thereof conveyed by Warranty Deed dated June 30, 1922, executed by Mary S. Barber, unmarried, to Nellie C.B. Wolfe, said Deed recorded in the Recorder's Office of Stephenson County, Illinois, in Book 138 of Deeds, Page 149. Situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State

of Illinois.  
Common Address: 260 West Broadway Street, Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-403-012  
Lot Number Eight (8) in Block Number Seventeen (17) of Wright and Purinton's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, EXCEPTING the South 7 feet of Lot Seven (7) in Block Seventeen (17) of Wright and Purinton's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 482 South Float, Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-293-016

Part of Lot Twelve (12) in Block Thirty-two (32) in Knowlton's Second Addition to the Town, (now City) of Freeport, described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the West line of South Chicago Avenue (formerly Union Street) with the North line of said Lot and running thence West on and along the North line of said Lot, 130 feet thence South parallel with the West line of said South Chicago Avenue, 63 feet, thence East parallel with the North line of said Lot, 130 feet to the West line of said South Chicago Avenue, thence North on and along the West line of said South Chicago Avenue, 63 feet to the place of beginning; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 914 South Chicago Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-453-036

A part of Lots Six (6) and Seven (7) in Block Thirty-One (31) in the Original Town (now City) of Freeport, described as follows, to-wit: Commencing on the North line of Lot 6, 34 feet Westerly from the Northeast corner of said Lot 6; and running thence Westerly on the North line of Lots 6 and 7, 46 feet thence Southerly parallel with the East line of Lot 7, 120 feet to the alley; thence Easterly on and along the North line of the alley, 18 feet; thence Northerly parallel with the Easterly line of Lot 7, 40 feet; thence Easterly parallel with the North line of Lots 6 and 7, 28 feet; thence Northerly parallel with the East line of Lot 6, 80 feet to the Place of Beginning; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 307 West Spring Street,

Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-188-008  
D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Residences, single family and multi-family as designated on Exhibit A attached hereto.

This information is considered reliable but not warranted.

E. The time and place of the sale: April 1, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. on the 1st floor of the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

F. The terms of the sale are: to the highest and best bidder with Twenty-five (25%) percent cash or certified funds down and balance within 24-hours by cash or certified funds. Property is conveyed in an "AS IS" condition. Sale subject to Court approval. Ordinarily, buyer will not be entitled to possession of the property until thirty (30) days after confirmation of sale by the Court. SALE SUBJECT TO RIGHTS OF PARTIES IN POSSESSION.

G. No warranty is made as to the state of title. Title will be conveyed subject to any liens or encumbrances, as well as all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, and special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record.

The property is not open for inspection.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Dated at Rockford, Illinois, this 22nd day of February, 2021.  
Wilson Edwards, Plaintiff,  
BY: HolmstromKennedyPC  
His Attorneys,  
/s/Kim M. Casey  
Kim M. Casey ARDC #6181726  
HolmstromKennedyPC  
800 North Church Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-7071  
kcasey@hkrockford.com  
I3164771

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 3, 10 & 17, 2021)

390789

## VILLAGE OF LENA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 410 N Center St/204 W Ida St Faye & Ashley Heilman CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT VARIANCE FOR BUILDING UNITS

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., Lena, IL 61048.

The public hearing shall be for the purpose to consider granting a variance to Faye & Ashley Heilman to allow for up to 4 units in this residential unit.

Interested persons may appear and be heard regarding the proposed conditional use permit. The Village Board may subsequently consider the merits granting the conditional use permit variance for the number of units at its Monday, April 12, 2021 Village Board Meeting.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 17, 2021)

391832

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RUSH TOWNSHIP, JODAVIESS 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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 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 2020 Annual Town Meeting
  4. Report of Officers- Financial reports & statements
  5. Authorize transfer of funds
  6. Set time for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting
  7. Open forum
  8. Adjournment

Ben Wooden,  
Rush Township Clerk  
(Published in The Scoop Today March 17, 2021)

391843



**•Kitchen** (Continued from page 11)

frozen stir fry vegetables.  
 2 C. dried medium noodles  
 2 C. sliced mushrooms  
 1 C. loose-pack frozen broccoli stir-fry vegetables  
 1 T. oil  
 ¾ C. chopped onion  
 1 can cream of mushroom soup  
 ¾ C. milk  
 2 t. chopped fresh dill or ½ t. dried dill  
 ¼ t. salt  
 1 can (6 oz.) solid light tuna (packed in water), drained and broken into chunky flakes  
 2 T. grated Parmesan cheese  
 Parsley and dill  
 Preheat oven to 375. In a large saucepan, toss frozen vegetables with oil. Place noodles, mushrooms and onion in with the stir fry. Add water to cover the noodle mixture. Bring water to a boil and cook for three minutes. Drain and return to saucepan.

In a medium bowl, stir together soup, milk, dill and salt. Stir mixture into noodle mixture. Fold in tuna. Spoon mixture into a 2-quart casserole or baking dish that has been sprayed with cooking spray. Bake, covered, for 25 minutes. Uncover and sprinkle casserole with Parmesan. Bake, uncovered, for five minutes more or until heated through. Garnish with chopped parsley and dill.

**Pot of Gold Guinness Chocolate Cupcakes**

These cupcakes are a yummy chocolate with a flavor of Irish cream. If you can't find Guinness beer, use any stout bear. If you don't want to use beer, you can substitute a diet cola (don't use a regular cola) instead. Have a great treat of chocolate long after St. Patrick's Day.

2 C. flour  
 1 t. baking soda  
 1 t. baking powder  
 1 C. butter  
 1 C. Guinness stout  
 ¾ C. dark cocoa powder (Hershey's)  
 1 T. instant coffee granules  
 1½ C. sugar  
 ½ C. packed brown sugar  
 2 t. vanilla  
 3 eggs  
 ¾ C. sour cream

**Frosting:**  
 1½ C. butter, softened  
 5 C. powdered sugar  
 6 T. Irish cream liqueur or caramel flavor coffee creamer  
 1/3 C. butterscotch-caramel sauce (Mrs. Richardson's is the best brand)  
 ½ C. green sprinkles

Preheat the oven to 350. Line 24 muffin cups with cupcake liners. In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, baking powder and ¾ t. salt

Melt 1 C. butter in a saucepan over medium-low. Once butter is melted, remove from heat and stir in beer, cocoa powder, instant coffee and sugar. Continue stirring until smooth.

In the bowl of an electric mixer, combine brown sugar and 1 t. of vanilla. Add melted butter mixture and beat on medium-low until

cooled. Reduce to low. Add eggs one at a time, beating after each addition until eggs are incorporated. With mixer on medium, add flour mixture alternately with sour cream, beating until combined and scraping down the sides of the bowl as necessary. Divide batter evenly among muffin cups. (They may be nearly full). Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the centers comes out clean. Let cool in pan five minutes. Remove cupcakes to wire rack and let cool completely.

**Frosting:** In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat the softened butter on medium-high until creamy. Reduce speed, add powdered sugar, liqueur, caramel sauce and remaining teaspoon of vanilla. Increase speed to medium-high; beat until frosting is smooth and fluffy. Push the large end of a large pastry tip into the center of each cupcake; twist to remove a plug of cupcake. Set plugs aside. Fill each cupcake with about 1 t. of the sprinkles. Trim off half the cupcake plugs and place in holes to seal in sprinkles. Pipe or frost cupcakes. Recipe makes 24 cupcakes.

**Lemon Meltaways**

Both the cookies and the frosting are full of lemon. These cookies melt in your mouth, which is probably why they were named lemon meltaways!

¾ C. butter, softened  
 ½ C. powdered sugar  
 1 t. lemon juice  
 1¼ C. flour  
 ½ C. cornstarch

**Frosting:**  
 ¼ C. butter, softened  
 ¾ C. powdered sugar  
 1 t. grated lemon peel  
 1 t. lemon juice

1 to 3 drops yellow food coloring  
 In a bowl, beat butter and powdered sugar until blended. Beat in lemon juice. In a small bowl, whisk flour and cornstarch together; gradually beat into butter mixture. Divide dough in half; shape each part into an 8-inch-long roll. Wrap in plastic wrap; refrigerate two hours or until firm.

Preheat oven to 350. Unwrap and cut dough crosswise into ¼-inch slices. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake eight to 12 minutes, or until firm. Remove from pans to wire racks to cool completely.

**Frosting:** In a small bowl, beat butter and powdered sugar until smooth. Beat in lemon peel, lemon juice and food coloring. Spread over cookies.

**Final thoughts**

I finished putting spring decorations up, and I am now tackling spring cleaning. I don't know why I

didn't clean my china closet during the COVID lockdown, but I decided it needs to be taken apart and cleaned up. I guess because I wouldn't have anybody at my house, I figured why bother. Hopefully I can have some company after my final shot and Easter.

Basketball is finished, and volleyball and football are starting. My friends and relatives who live next to the football field have seen them practicing. I wonder how they will feel about everything upside down. I really think they will be glad to be able to play. Spring training for baseball is in full swing, and I am hoping some television station on my cable will carry regular season games.

Hope you all have a good week. Stay safe and healthy.

If you have found any spring recipes or any Lenten recipes, contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide, 240 W. Main St., Lena, IL 61048 or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 The regular monthly business meetings for the Township of Rush for the fiscal year 2021 – 2022 will be held at 7:00pm at the Rush Town Hall, 2999 North Canyon Park Rd., Stockton IL, on the following dates:  
 April 13, 2021  
 May 11, 2021  
 June 8, 2021  
 July 13, 2021  
 August 10, 2021  
 September 14, 2021  
 October 12, 2021  
 November 9, 2021  
 December 14, 2021  
 January 11, 2022  
 February 8, 2022  
 March 8, 2022  
 Ben Wooden,  
 Rush Township Clerk  
 (Published in The Scoop Today March 17, 2021)

391844

**— 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 1, 2021.**  
 Any questions call Jeff Spoerl - (815) 858-4045.  
 Submit bids to: Candis Albrecht,  
 313 Orange St., Elizabeth, IL 61028  
*(Liability Insurance is required)*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Rush Township Fuel Bid**  
 Rush Township is soliciting fuel bids for the period of June 1, 2021 – May31, 2022. Conditions of the bid:  
 1) The bidder will supply diesel fuel to Rush Township.  
 2) The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularity in any of the bids received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the Township.  
 3) Bid specifications may be obtained by calling Garrett Toay at 515.710.9055.  
 Bids are due at 3882 N Canyon Park Road, Stockton, IL 61085 by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.  
 Ben Wooden  
 Township Clerk  
 (Published in The Scoop Today March 17, 2021)

391907



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<p>1 <b>Chicken Alfredo</b>.....\$12 <i>with garlic bread</i></p> <p>2 <b>Roasted Pork Loins</b>.....\$12 <i>with mashed potatoes &amp; gravy &amp; house vegetables</i></p>	<p>- Wednesday Specials -</p> <p>1 <b>3 Tacos or Taco Salad</b>.....\$6</p> <p>2 <b>Lasagna</b>.....\$8 <i>with corn &amp; garlic bread</i></p>	<p>.....</p> <p><b>PRE-ORDERS STRONGLY REQUESTED</b></p>

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391740

**Stockton Community Unit School District #206**  
**Afternoon/Evening Custodian - Full Time**

Stockton Community Unit School District #206 currently has an immediate opening for a full-time afternoon/evening custodian during the school year and summer. This is a 12-month position with benefits. Starting pay is \$12.00 per hour. Benefits include medical, dental, vision and IMRF retirement. Career minded individuals who are detail-oriented and self-starters need only apply.

Please send a letter of interest and credentials to the Superintendent, James Bunting at Stockton School District, 540 N Rush St, Stockton, IL 61085. Applications accepted until position is filled. Stockton CUSD #206 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

391072

**Lena-Winslow School District** has immediate openings for **Route Bus Drivers** (AM, PM, or Both Shifts) for the 2020-2021 school year. Position is IMRF pension eligible. If interested, please contact Duane Reed, Transportation Director, at 815-668-0805 or email him at reedd@le-win.net. Applications accepted until positions are filled. Lena-Winslow CUSD #202 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

387177

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**Successful Candidate Qualifications:**

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- Emphasis on the teaching of fundamentals throughout all levels of the program
- Works successfully to develop individual players and utilize team strengths of each group of student-athletes
- Able to adjust planning and strategy to suit personnel on a season to season basis
- Ability to effectively make in-game adjustments
- Promote academics as a cornerstone of the basketball program
- Works with coaches in other sports to promote participation in multi-sports
- Models sportsmanship
- Strives to reach the potential of each player and team

**Application deadline:** Friday, April 2, 2021

**Application Process:** Please send letter of interest and resume outlining coaching accomplishments and coaching philosophy to Mrs. Casey Downey, High School Principal, 540 N. Rush St., Stockton, IL 61085 or email to casey.downey@stocktonschools.com

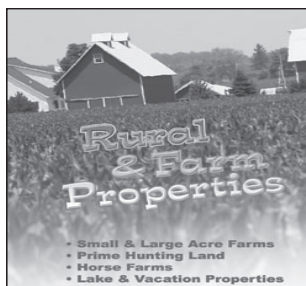
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# Forensic dentists rely on science to provide evidence

A forensic odontologist, or forensic dentist, specializes in obtaining, preserving, examining and presenting dental evidence in legal investigations and civil and criminal justice cases. Forensic dentists use this knowledge to assist both living and deceased victims.

Forensic dentists must remain impartial, relying only on the evidence and scientific research when submitting injury analysis reports or testifying in court in cases of suspected physical and/or sexual



By **DR. STEPHEN PETRAS**  
Illinois Licensed  
General Dentist

abuse and assault. As mentioned in previous columns, tooth enamel is the hardest substance in the human body. Because of this, teeth are usually the

only remains after extended periods of burial, exposure to chemicals, fires and other natural disasters.

Forensic dentists help identify bodies in mass tragedies such as terrorist attacks, tsunamis, hurricanes, plane crashes, fires and earthquakes. They are called in when a body is discovered and assist in resolving cold cases. They do this with the help of both antemortem and postmortem dental charts, X-rays, photographs, bite registrations, DNA and other distinguishing dental structures. Their efforts may either positively identify a victim or rule out the suspected identity of a missing person. Forensic dentists must remain objective, so they do not work directly with the victim or their family. However, when they are successful in identifying a victim, they give family members, who are frozen in grief and fear, the closure they need to move forward and begin to heal.

Dentists need to keep meticulous records to evaluate, plan, meet and maintain the oral health of their patients. In the event of a tragedy, the value of having accurate, comprehensive and up-to-date records in identifying a victim cannot be understated.

Of all the evidence forensic dentists gather, bite mark evidence is the most controversial and may not be accepted by the court unless coupled with other scientific evidence. Reasons for this include, but are not limited to, the fact that a perpetrator of a crime can have their crooked teeth straightened and previous methods of gathering bite evidence have been far too subjective. Forensics by its definition as "application of scientific knowledge to legal problems," requires the application of standardized, scientific research. To secure right-

ful convictions and avoid sending an innocent person to jail, evidence must be collected and presented using the highest level of objectivity accompanied by scientific research.

Efforts are being made by a number of forensic professionals to standardize the collection, preservation and presentation of bite evidence. Utilizing advanced technology is also helping to ensure that valid evidence is not dismissed. Perhaps the most famous case where bite evidence helped to secure a conviction is that of serial killer, Ted Bundy. Bundy had chipped and extremely crooked teeth and therefore a unique bite, which matched bite evidence from one of his victims.

*Dr. Stephen Petras is an Illinois-licensed general dentist at the Stockton Dental Center.*

## College news

### Stockton grad back as relief pitcher at UW-Whitewater

Stockton High School graduate Hayden Fox is back on the mound as the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater baseball team begins its 2021 season.

Fox, a junior at UW-Whitewater, is majoring in general business and marketing.

Fox made 14 relief appearances in 2019, finishing with 15 strikeouts and a 4.43 ERA in 22 1/3 innings, according to a news release from UW-Whitewater.

The Warhawks returned to the diamond for their first competition against an outside opponent in more than one year last week.

The team tallied a 2-1 record in three games played in Louisville, Kentucky, in February 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In its most recent full season (2019), UW-Whitewater finished with a 35-12 record, including a 21-3 mark in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season, after sweeping the WIAC regular season and tournament championships and reaching the NCAA Tournament for the 12th consecutive year and 22nd time overall.

Beginning March 20, the Warhawks play exclusively against WIAC opponents. Twenty-eight of

## Births

### Elizabeth Dawn Altfillisch

Elizabeth Dawn Altfillisch is the daughter of Catherine Altfillisch-Panos of Freeport, born on March 7, 2021, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport, Illinois. Grandparents are Rebeca Panos of Freeport and Jeff Altfillisch of Stockton. Great-grandparents are Jim and Sue Altfillisch and Joy Panos, all of Lena.

### Madeline Joy Thoren

Madeline Joy Thoren is the daughter of Christopher and Mollie Thoren of Elizabeth, born on March 6, 2021, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport, Illinois. Madeline joins a sister, Camille, 1. Grandparents are John and Mary Steele and Kelly and Michele Thoren, all of Elizabeth. Great-grandparents are Don and Luella Thoren and Janice Steele, all of Elizabeth.

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## REAL ESTATE LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF STEPHENSON  
WILSON EDWARDS,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
KATELYN STURTEVANT a/k/a  
KATELYN M. STURTEVANT,  
JOSHUA STURTEVANT,  
CITY OF FREEPORT, a Municipal  
Corporation, and UNKNOWN OWNERS  
and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.

Case No. 2020 CH 31  
NOTICE OF SALE  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to a Judgment entered on the 30th day of December, 2020, David Snyders, Sheriff of Stephenson County or such other Deputy as may be sitting in his stead, will conduct a sale of the premises involved in this case as follows:

A. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is:

Kim M. Casey  
HolmstromKennedyPC  
800 North Church Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-7071  
Common Address:  
1236-1242 South Float Avenue,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-020;  
Common Address:  
11 West Dexter Street  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-406-009;  
Common Address:  
1110 South Cherry Avenue,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-380-008;  
Common Address:  
1111 South High Avenue,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-001;  
Common Address:  
260 West Broadway Street,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-403-012;  
Common Address:  
482 South Float Avenue,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-293-016;  
Common Address:  
914 South Chicago Avenue,  
Freeport, IL 61032  
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-453-036;  
Common Address:  
307 West Spring Street,  
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-188-008;  
D. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Residences, single family and multi-family as designated on Exhibit A attached hereto.

This information is considered reliable but not warranted.

E. The time and place of the sale: April 1, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. on the 1st floor of the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

F. The terms of the sale are: to the highest and best bidder with Twenty-five (25%) percent cash or certified funds down and balance within 24-hours by cash or certified funds. Property is conveyed in an "AS IS" condition. Sale subject to Court approval. Ordinarily, buyer will not be entitled to possession of the property until thirty (30) days after confirmation of sale by the Court. SALE SUBJECT TO RIGHTS OF PARTIES IN POSSESSION.

G. No warranty is made as to the state of title. Title will be conveyed subject to any liens or encumbrances, as well as all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, and special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record.

The property is not open for inspection. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Dated at Rockford, Illinois, this 22nd day of February, 2021.  
Wilson Edwards, Plaintiff,  
BY: HolmstromKennedyPC  
His Attorneys,  
/s/Kim M. Casey  
Kim M. Casey ARDC #6181726  
HolmstromKennedyPC  
800 North Church Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-7071  
kcasey@hrockford.com  
13164771

(Published in The Shopper's Guide  
March 3, 10 & 17, 2021)



# Reigning champions Le-Win plow forward into spring football season

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers are coming off one of the best Class 1A seasons in Illinois state history. Going 14-0 and winning the 2019 state championship in blowout fashion, no one really came close to competing with that team.

Head Coach Ric Arand and his squad would hope to continue their winning streak, but they know a lot

of guys will have to step up if they want to fill the shoes left by last year's seniors. Teams lose seniors every year, but not every team loses the all-time NUIC rushing leader in Sean Ormiston and an All-State, Big 10 talent like Isaiah Bruce, all in the same year.

"Having that experience in the back field, Sean has been carrying the load for us since his freshman year — and Isaiah played a lot too,

as a freshman. Losing those two guys is obviously tough on anybody and certainly on us," Arand said.

Together, the duo combined for more than 3,000 yards rushing and 46 total touchdowns in 2019. Their impact was not only on the offensive side, however.

"Isaiah gave us so much on the line of scrimmage as a defensive end, he was able to run things down, so that is a tough kid to lose," Arand

said. "Sean had been a three and a half year player for us at linebacker and even last year, he was a guy we moved around a lot. He played a lot of safety for us in the playoffs and the state championship game.

"We can't replace either one of those guys. They did things that are so much different than probably anyone we will ever have again. Huge holes to fill, plus they are both great leaders."

Arand has a plan to move forward, though.

"We're going to replace those two on the offensive side of the ball by committee," Arand said. "We're probably going to rotate anywhere from five to seven running backs in there. So, we'll be real deep in the backfield."

Both Marey Roby and Jack Setterstrom showed a glimpse of their abilities in 2019 and should look to lead the way in the backfield this season.

"Jack and Marey have to pick up the majority of the touches there," Arand said. "(Marey) brings such a different dynamic that we really haven't had since his brother Rahveon was here, so he'll take up a big part of that load.

"... Jack should be a punishing runner at fullback for us, similar to what Sean was." Arand expects a number of newcomers and young guys to have opportunities, including Evan England, a recent transfer who Arand said will play all over for the Panthers.

Despite being known for the run, the Panthers have been able to take advantage of defenses playing stacked fronts in order to stop the run, by sneaking in a pass here and there. Junior quarterback Luke Benson, who has never lost a high school football game as a starter, returns as their leader. Benson provides their team with an asset they can rely on to make the right decisions.

"I think he gives us some great

leadership, he makes great decisions, he understands where people should be in our offense, and he just does the things we ask him to," Arand said. "He has gotten the ball to the right people."

The Panthers may not throw the ball often, but when they do, Benson takes advantage.

"He made big plays for us when the opportunity was there," Arand said.

Although the ball carriers get all the attention, Arand's physical style of offense often depends on the offensive line, and he said he is excited about what the team has up front this season. With Gennings Dunker leading the way, Arand has one of the state's best linemen to build around, but it will take some moving around.

"Maddex Sargent started for us at left tackle last year as a sophomore. We will move him to center this year, and hopefully him and Luke will be the quarterback/center combo for us for two seasons. That would be a lot less for me, as a coach, to worry about next year."

Senior Owen Kemple is expected to get his first varsity start at guard this season, with Cole Gerber making the transition to the offensive line to play the other guard position. Arand described Kemple as a "real good player and very physical," despite being a little on the smaller side.

The Panthers will have plenty of size on the offensive line this year, however, as Ross Stabenow and Tyler Croatt fill out the offensive front along with Gerber. Stabenow and Croatt are just slightly smaller than Dunker, who stands over 6'5".

"I look for those guys to be great up front," Arand said.

The Panthers will play their first game of the season on Friday, March 19, versus Princeton. On Saturday, March 27, they match up against a familiar opponent in the Orangeville Broncos at Freeport High School.

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