

# the Scoop Today

## River Ridge FFA members earn degrees, chapter honors at state

The River Ridge High School FFA chapter was well-represented at the June 1 Illinois State FFA Convention, as four students earned their state FFA degree and an alumnus earned the American FFA degree. The convention was held in three locations, with River Ridge students attending the event in Bloomington.

Connor Brown, a 2019 River Ridge graduate, became only the 13<sup>th</sup> River Ridge FFA member to earn the American degree since 1931.

Brown continued keeping his record books up to date in order to qualify for his American degree this year.

In addition to individual achievements, the River Ridge chapter was named the section winner in the Harvest For All Campaign and earned silver status on its National Chapter Award. The National Chapter Award recognizes chapters that have achieved in the areas of "building communities, strengthening agriculture and growing leaders," according to the release.

The FFA Greenhands, freshman FFA members, competed in the State Greenhand Quiz Bowl contest and placed ninth overall. Team members were Cora Boop, Avery Engle, Isaac Rife, Arthur Horn and Lucas Holland.

Charlie Schnitzler (beef placement), Trevor Grube (turf grass management placement), Kari Conklin (fruit production placement) and Ashley Carroll (swine entrepreneurship) earned their state degrees this year. Typically, only about 2 percent of students achieve this honor, according to a news release.

Students must have a minimum of two years of a completed record book, have 25 community service hours, have a satisfactory scholastic record and have earned/productively invested at least \$1,500 in their project.



PHOTO SUBMITTED *The Scoop Today*  
**River Ridge High School FFA members were recognized for earning their state FFA degrees at the recent state convention. Pictured from left are Trevor Grube, Kari Conklin, Ashley Carroll and Charlie Schnitzler.**

## Pritzker signs redistricting plans for state legislative, appellate court districts

By Peter Hancock  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Gov. JB Pritzker signed a pair of bills June 4 that redraw state legislative and appellate court districts, despite the fact that official U.S. Census data needed to ensure equal representation has not yet been delivered.

In a statement, Pritzker said he signed the measures after reviewing the maps to make sure they complied with state and federal law by ensuring minority representation.

"Illinois' strength is in our diversity, and these maps help to ensure that communities that have been left out and left behind have fair representation in our government," Pritzker said in the statement. "These district boundaries align with both the federal and state Voting Rights Acts, which help to ensure our diverse communities have electoral power and fair representation."

Reaction to Pritzker's announcement was swift. House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch called the signing "a win for the people of this great state."

"With Governor Pritzker's signature, people of Illinois can be confident in a legislative map that is reflective of the diversity that we see in every corner of our state," Welch said. "Not only does this map adhere

**See PLANS, Page 12**

## Wildcats fall in regionals, Warhawks move on

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Warren-Stockton Warhawks had a fantastic regular season in 2021. The team finished with an overall record of 19-1 and ended the season with an 8-2 win over Forreston that pushed their winning streak to seven games. The record was good enough to get them a bye in the opening round of regionals, where they would face the winners of the Galena vs. River Ridge-Scales Mound game.

The RR-SM Wildcats struggled through most of 2021 as they tried to find their identity with little varsity experience on the roster. They

finished their regular season with a record of 5-13-1. The Wildcats finally picked up some momentum as the season came to a close, as they went 3-2 in their last five scheduled games.

RR-SM hoped their momentum would carry over into the postseason, where they would face off with the Galena Pirates, who held a record of 4-7, according to Maxpreps.

The June 2 regionals featured an exciting pitching duel between the Wildcats' Maddox Knauer and Galena's Ethan Hefel. Both guys brought their strikeout pitches with them, putting the pres-

sure on hitting in what would be a low-scoring affair.

After both teams posted goose eggs in the first two innings, the Pirates took a 2-0 advantage in the bottom of the third when a double and a defensive error allowed them to score the first runs of the game. They would extend their lead to 3-0 in the bottom of the fourth.

RR-SM had solid pitching on the mound from Knauer, as he did his best to keep his team in the game. They had little offensive support, however, as they managed to score just one run the entire game.

**See REGIONALS, Page 12**



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO *The Scoop Today*  
**Warren-Stockton Warhawks player Alex Marsden steals third with time to spare during the regional semi-final game Friday against Galena. The Warhawks won the game 10-0 in just five innings to move on to the regional finals.**





PHOTO SUBMITTED *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*

In addition to providing shelter for dogs and cats, Safe Haven Humane Society in Elizabeth provides pet food to four area food pantries.

## Humane society expands pet food donations

The Safe Haven Humane Society in Elizabeth recently expanded its donations of dog and cat food to four area food banks.

Safe Haven began the donation program in 2018 as a way to help keep local animals in their homes and out of shelters by providing free meals.

As need has increased over the last year, pantry organizers have made gallon-size plastic bags of cat and dog food available at pantries in Elizabeth, Stockton, Galena and — most recently — Hanover.

“Safe Haven’s pet food bank aligns with our mission of promoting humane treatment of animals, whether they are in the shelter or out in the community,” Deb Kelly, Safe Haven board secretary, said in a news release.

“The United Churches of Galena Food Pantry is grateful for the pet food supplied by Safe Haven, which has proven to be very popular with our clients,” pantry volunteer Laurie Mattas said in the release.

Donations of cat or dog food may be dropped off at Safe Haven, 1471 U.S. Highway 20 West, Elizabeth. Volunteers also are needed to drive supplies to area food banks on distribution days.

For more information, call Anne Marie James at 815-858-2265.

Safe Haven’s mission is to provide a temporary haven and treatment for adoptable cats and dogs, place them in suitable homes, increase awareness of the humane treatment of animals and promote spay/neuter programs to reduce the overpopulation of cats and dogs in Jo Daviess County.

In 2020, the shelter adopted out 69 cats and 80 dogs into forever homes.

For more information, stop by the shelter or go online to [www.safehavenforpets.org](http://www.safehavenforpets.org).

# Daily Drawing names May winners

Organizers of the Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing have announced the May winners.

The Daily Drawing is a drawing for 365 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2021, to those donating for a ticket. More than \$21,000 is paid out to ticket-holders during the year, with cash prizes varying between \$50 and \$250.

A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it is drawn.

Sixteen organizations from Jo Daviess, Carroll and Stephenson counties work together on the Daily Drawing:

Caring Community of Elizabeth, Dakota Athletic Boosters, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Eastland Music Boosters, Elizabeth Historical Society, Galena Elks Scholarship, Galena Key Club, Galena Travelers, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boost-

ers, Scales Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

The May winners are: Heather Millard of Potosi, Wisconsin, Emily Dykstra of Albany, Jane Bergman of Stockton, Beaver Miller of Mount Carroll, Kim Falk of Savanna, Alison Hille of Pearl City, Jack Wirtz of Hanover, Cory Walters of Elizabeth, Sheila Ertmer of Elizabeth, Connie Allendorf of Galena, Rich Nieland of Dubuque, Iowa, Layne Bidlingmaier of

Winslow, Terry Whalen of Apple River, Chuck Hoppe of Stockton, Ruth Frutig of Elizabeth, Robert Winter of Elizabeth, Joyce Nieman of Stockton, Kristie Alvarado of East Dubuque, Janet Roberts of Elizabeth, Andrea Walker of Lanark, Mike Moyer of Freeport, Cathy McDermott-Nowak of Pearl City, Barb Smith of Galena, Alice Mathey of Sycamore, Billie Jo Runkle of Pearl City, Wendy Scholbrock of Potosi, Barb Zigler of Geneseo, Bob Lyvers of Lena, Sharon Popp of Lena and Tim Sheridan of Dubuque.

## Legislator touts literacy with summer reading program

State Rep. Andrew Chesney, R-Freeport, recently launched his third annual Summer Reading Club program for children in the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative District who are finishing first through fifth grades.

The program is offered to encourage students to read over the summer and promote the lifelong benefits of literacy.

“Students who read over the summer enter the school year in the fall ahead of students who do not read over the summer. This is a fun way for students to be rewarded for simply reading eight books over their summer break and returning a form signed by a parent or guardian,” Chesney said in a news release. “It’s important for all of us to encourage students to get ahead by becoming better readers, especially this year when students are set back by remote learning challenges due to COVID.”

Pamphlets are being electronically distributed now to schools and libraries, and paper forms are also available



PHOTO SUBMITTED *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*

State Rep. Andrew Chesney, R-Freeport, is sponsoring a free program to encourage area children to keep reading throughout summer vacation.

via direct mail upon request. In addition, families may opt to complete the form by going online to [repchesney.com](http://repchesney.com).

Participation in Chesney’s program can overlap with

any other summer reading program offered through area libraries, schools or other organizations. Participating students have until Aug. 2 to read their eight books and will

receive recognition and a treat to reward them for their summer reading.

The 89<sup>th</sup> District includes all of Jo Daviess and Stephenson counties.

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# Slices of life

## Choose gratitude, especially when things are tough

Life can seem complicated sometimes. Because it is. There are responsibilities and deadlines. Work is demanding. Home life is demanding. There are never enough hours in the day — or the night for that matter. Sleep deprivation is real. The threat of COVID is real. For more than a year we



By **JILL PERTLER**  
Columnist

have been social distancing and masking up and staying home and often alone and calling that our new life.

Our new normal.

I've had my share of pain and suffering in the last six months. At times I've been a full-blown pity party. I'll readily acknowledge that fact.

But after going through it all, I've decided to focus on gratitude. We all have things to be grateful for, even in our darkest hours. A matching pair of socks. The sunrise or sunset. Puppy breath. There is always something good in every day, even if it is the tiniest and most inconsequential of good, or not so good.

I had a eureka this morning, when contemplating gratitude and what I had to be thankful for.

It came to me like a swoosh (although not of the Nike variety). It swooshed upon me like the wind or the sunshine. It whispered in my ear while shouting to my heart. The whole idea was obvious but had been elusive to me.

I've embraced gratitude my whole life. I've been a proponent. But I didn't get it. Until now. Ready? Because this is big.

Gratitude isn't just for the good times. Or even the mini good times. Or for the good times, at all.

When gratitude is most important, most crucial, most valuable — is during the tough times. During hardships. When things don't go our way. When we want to cry. Heck, when we want to wail, because our hour, our day, our month,

our life feels just that bad.

It's exactly then where the really huge life lessons come in. That's when we have the opportunity to grow astronomically. It's when we have the opportunity to literally blow our own minds.

I've experienced a few of these "mind blows" in the last few weeks. Coming to a realization of something so obvious yet so elusive rocks your world and is nothing short of astounding.

I've been trying to sell my house, but that hasn't happened with the swiftness I'd hoped. I'm grateful for this.

It's taught me flexibility. It's given me a new outlook on priorities, not to mention control (or lack thereof). It's made me re-evaluate the togetherness of my family. It's beckoned my creativity. It's helped me understand the importance of living in the moment. It's given me the opportunity to decide how I'm going to perceive this situation.

I choose gratitude. Six months ago I lost

my husband of 33 years. How do you find gratitude in that? With effort. Sometimes with great effort. But you can find a way. I have found a way.

He loved me truly, madly, deeply, and those feelings were reciprocated on my end. We never questioned that. We still love each other; that will never end. I feel him every day. He is close. He is waiting for me. We experienced a love of lifetimes. Most people don't get that privilege, but we did. We are soul mates; I have absolutely no doubt about that. He is happy and in a wonderful place; I have no doubt about that, either.

My husband not being here, physically, is a great loss for sure. And I could sink deep into it. It's tempting, sometimes. But no one wins with that outcome. Certainly not me.

My husband may no longer be here physically, but gratitude brings him closer. I can feel it. I can feel him. We are just apart for now, for the moment. And that moment is brief

when compared to a love that is eternal. I choose gratitude for all that we had and all that we still have.

Life isn't always easy. It often isn't easy. We all have hardships and pain and days when the sky is dark and up seems down and down seems up. When you find yourself downtrodden and feeling low, remember you aren't alone. We all struggle. And we all have a choice in the face of adversity — we choose how we perceive and respond to our own situation. I humbly ask you to consider gratitude as an option.

Dare to look up and see the sunshine and blue skies — even on the darkest of days.

With love and gratitude aimed your way.

*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.*

### July 6 election set for corn marketing board

Jon Rosenstiel of Pearl City is the District 2 candidate for the Illinois Corn Marketing Board.

Producers will vote July 6 to determine members of the corn board and other Illinois commodity boards, according to a news release from the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

District 2 of the Illinois Corn Marketing Board includes Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Carroll and Ogle counties.

Voting is eligible to anyone who produces and markets corn. Ballots may be cast at county Extension offices during regular operating hours.

Producers who are unable to vote at an Extension office on July 6 may request an absentee ballot by sending an email to David.Humphreys@Illinois.gov or calling 217-524-1083. Absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m. June 30.

"I strongly encourage producers to take advantage of this opportunity to participate in decisions affecting the future of their industry," Illinois Department of Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II said in the release. "Commodity boards decide which industry promotions and research projects get funded with state checkoff dollars, and the best way for producers to have a voice in how those dollars are spent is by going to the polls July 6."

Checkoff dollars come from assessments levied at the first point of sale. State law sets assessment for corn at five-eighths of 1 cent per bushel.



### THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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# Obituaries

## KENNETH W. GRITZMAKER

Kenneth "Ken" W. Gritzmaker, 73, of Lena, Illinois, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, May 29, 2021. He was born April 17, 1948, to Lee and Inez (Brandt) Gritzmaker in Monroe, Wisconsin. He married Mary Anne Knoll on July 15, 1967, in Martin-town, Wisconsin. Ken served his country in the U.S., Army from 1968 to 1969, where he was stationed in Germany. He then worked for Honeywell in Freeport until he retired in 2005.

Ken enjoyed watching NA-SCAR, especially Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Sr.; fishing with his best friends, Terry and Anthony; deer hunting; gardening; playing cards, especially with his grandchildren; trips to Red Wing, Minnesota, to gamble; and traveling to almost all 50 states with Mary Anne.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne, of Lena; daughters, Rhonda (Tom) Ostendorf of Freeport, Illinois, and Jamie (Brian) Eilders of Lena; grandchildren, Kendra (Pat-



rick) Hol-land, Brandon Ostendorf, Alyssa Ostendorf, Brian (Jennifer) Wy-bourn, Jordan (Cora) Eilders,

Brendan Eilders and Brady Eilders; great-grandchildren, Brooklyn, Madison, Emmett, Colt, and Duke; siblings, Gary (Paula) Gritzmaker, Alan Gritzmaker and Mary Payne; and brother-in-law, Vernon Tearman.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Willis Gritzmaker; and sister, Jean Tearman.

A visitation and funeral service were held Saturday, June 5, 2021, at Lena United Methodist Church in Lena, with the Rev. Keri Rainsberger officiating.

Burial will take place at Lena Burial Park in Lena.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

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

## GERALD A. BOGENRIEF SR.

Gerald A. Bogenrief Sr., 82, of Warren, Illinois, passed away surrounded by his family on Saturday, May 29, 2021, at Presence St Joseph Center in Freeport, Illinois. He was born on July 3, 1938, to George and Elizabeth Bogenrief in Rockford, Illinois. He married Carla Williams on Oct. 2, 1980, in Rockford and together they raised three children.

Gerald served his country in the U.S. Army, serving two tours in Vietnam. He worked for Essex Wire for 42 years before retiring. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, hunting and spending time with family, especially grandchildren.

He is survived by his children, Josh (Brandy) Williams of Browntown, Wisconsin, Jen Townsend of Freeport and Dawn Griffin of Warren; grandchildren, Justin, Heidi, Tyler, Charles, Hera, Claudia (Chet) and Dayinera; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Carla; and

grandson, Chad.

A visitation and funeral service were held Friday, June 4, 2021, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren. Keri Rainsberger will officiate the service.

# Lawmakers pass \$42.3 billion budget after 2 a.m.

## Federal money to fund housing, violence prevention, capital projects

By Peter Hancock  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Illinois lawmakers worked into the early hours of June 1 to pass a \$42.3 billion state budget plan for the upcoming fiscal year that Democrats say would fully fund K-12 education and the state's pension obligations while also paying down a sizeable portion of the state's debt.

Lawmakers have been working on the budget since Gov. JB Pritzker delivered his proposal in February, and it passed on mostly partisan lines.

The job became easier with better-than-expected tax collections this year as well as passage of the federal American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA, which will provide about \$8.1 billion that the state can spend over the next four fiscal years.

Lawmakers said they plan to use the money for one-time projects such as affordable housing development, public health improvements, violence prevention programs and infrastructure projects.

Republicans, however, complained that the infrastructure spending was entirely directed by Democrats.

Presenting the budget to a committee May 31, House Majority Leader Greg Harris, D-Chicago, contrasted the situation Illinois faces now with the dire conditions it faced one year ago at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Here we sit today. We are back in our state Capitol," he said. "We have vaccines. The world is beginning to open back up. We are seeing a bright, sunny day outside and there's a lot to talk about that we have accomplished in the last year as a state that has put the state of Illinois in a far more stable place financially and a responsible place fiscally."

## Highlights of proposed budget

Highlights of the proposed budget include increasing funding for the evidence-based funding plan for K-12 public schools by \$350 million, bringing the total to \$9.2 billion.

It also calls for spending about \$7.5 billion in state

general revenues on Medicaid, plus another \$7.4 billion for other human services; \$1.9 billion for higher education; another \$1.9 billion for public safety; and \$1.4 billion for

general services.

In addition to those regular items, Harris said, the plan calls for spending about \$2.5

See BUDGET, Page 11



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## Presenting a symbol of remembrance

Keighlyn Schulz, the Lena American Legion Auxiliary Miss Poppy, recently presented a poppy to village of Lena President Steve Buss.



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# Hornets beat Panthers, fall to Forreston

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

With little varsity experience on the regular after missing the 2020 season, the Scales Mound-River Ridge Hornets softball co-op spent much of their 2021 campaign trying to find an identity, while continuing to develop their game.

After starting the season 2-11, the Hornets managed to find some momentum as their season came to a close. The team went 3-1 in their last four games, including a postseason win over Lena-Winslow, prior to facing off with Forreston in regionals.

On June 1, the Hornets closed out their regular season with an 11-9 win over West Carroll, sending them into the postseason on a high note, despite having an overall record of 4-12. Still, they came into the June 2 game against the Panthers as slight favorites, as Le-Win sat just behind them at 3-12. The Hornets knew it would not be an easy task, however, as they fell to the Panthers 16-11 in their regular season matchup.

This time around, the Hornets wasted no time getting on the scoreboard as they rallied for three runs in the top of the first. Thanks to a pair of walks and a single by Livia Haas, the Hornets had the bases loaded with no outs to start the game. After a run was walked in to make it 2-0, Taylor Korte singled to left field, bringing in Haas to score and giving SM-RR the 3-0 lead.

The Panthers would re-

spond with a run in the bottom half, however, keeping it a two-score game. Le-Win would eventually tie the game with two more runs in the bottom of the third inning thanks to a double and a sacrifice fly. With the game tied at 3-3, the Hornets and Panthers were set up for an exciting finish.

The Hornets would quickly take the lead back when Georgia Vandigo singled to left, bringing in Emily Wurster to score their fourth run of the game.

SM-RR had perhaps their best inning of the game in the top of the sixth. Sydney Driscoll and Wurster hit back-to-back singles, giving them another scoring opportunity. Mickayla Bass came through with a triple to left field, bringing in two runs to score and putting the Hornets up 6-3. Moments later, Bass continued to show her hustle as she scored on a passed ball to go up by four runs.

The Panthers would claw their way back into the game, however. With two runs in the bottom of the sixth and two more in the bottom of the seventh, Le-Win was able to tie the game and force extra innings.

In the top of the eighth, the Hornets' first two batters went down on strikeouts. Just when it seemed like all of the momentum had switched into Le-Win's hands, Bass singled to shortstop, keeping the Hornets' hope alive. Vandigo then came through with a double to

See HORNETS, Page 12

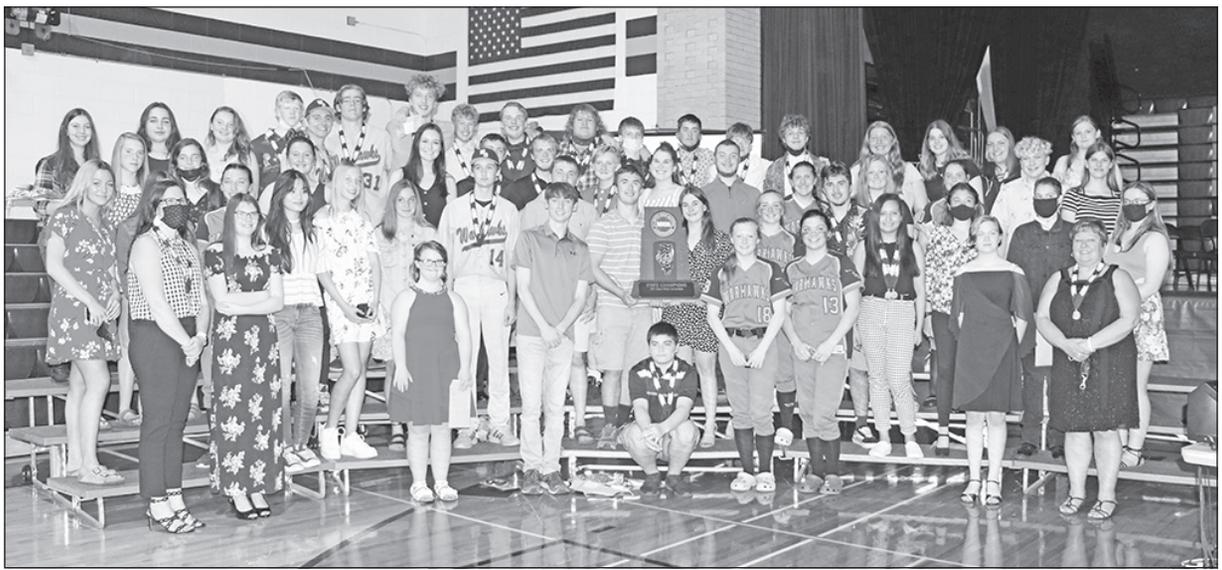


PHOTO SUBMITTED The Scoop Today

## State honor is music to their ears

Stockton High School band and choir members gather for a photo after the Stockton High School Music Department earned the title of state champions in the Illinois Class C Sweepstakes. Lori Dittmar is the band director and Lana Crandall is the choir director.

# High school students notch honors

Officials at Stockton High School have noted students named to the honor rolls for the fourth quarter and the second semester.

Students on the high honor roll earned all A's. Students on the honor roll earned at least a 3.0 GPA with no "D" grades.

### Fourth quarter high honor roll

- Seniors: Mitchel Coffey, Adriana Curtiss, Madelynn Ertmer, Case Harmann, Jason Hermann, Bryce Smith
- Juniors: Maria Bender, Joseph Brudi, Kayden Schubert
- Sophomores: Katherine Crome, Skylar Davis, Dustin Oppold, Ryley Schultz
- Freshmen: Dominick Bilich, Carson McPeek, Nevaeh Peterson, Camerin Vincent, Leah Warner

### Fourth quarter honor roll

- Seniors: Elise Adleman, Taylor Broshous, Lucas Crome, Andrew Haas, Hunter Hille, James Hille, Hayley Johnson, Ivannie Jones, Gavin Keeffer, Madison Lara, Kaylee Luke, Alyssa Randecker, Jaden Rice, Simon Rillie, Tiana Timpe, Emma Westaby
- Juniors: Jared Berge-man, Charles Breed, Ian Broshous, Austin Chumbler, Matthew Cook, Ashton Davis, Justin Eden, Austin Eissfeller, Vanessa Ernst, Keaton Graves, Owen Groshans, Brynn Haas, Jenna Haas, Kenze Haas, Caleb Mammoser, Morgan McPeek, Andrew Mensendike, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Connor Vincent, Trace Williamson
- Sophomores: Morgan Blair, Dawson Broshous, Jackson Curtiss, Madeline Harbach, Olivia Harnish, Noah Hess, Dayton Julius, Olivia Keeffer, Lauren Kehl, Kyla Kurek, David Lancaster, Garrett Luke, Griffin Luke, Parker Luke, Emily Paul, Zane Preston, Kyleigh Reusch, Lita Schmoll, Whitney Sullivan, Ella Wacker-

lin, Abigail Wilkinson

- Freshmen: Kristian Adleman, Lily Baker, Anthony Bilich, Abby Chumbler, Jared Dvorak, Addison Ernst, Izabella Ertmer, Braden Freese, Bennett Graves, Gracie Keleher, Lincoln Legel, Offenheiser, Gracie Raab, Ashlyn Schubert, Lydia Schuldt, Gabrielle VenHuizen, Mavrick Winters

### Second semester high honor roll

- Seniors: Mitchel Coffey, Adriana Curtiss, Case Harmann, Jason Hermann
- Juniors: Maria Bender, Joseph Brudi, Kayden Schubert
- Sophomores: Katherine Crome, Kyla Kurek, Dustin Oppold, Ryley Schultz
- Freshmen: Anthony Bilich, Dominick Bilich, Bennett Graves, Carson McPeek, Nevaeh Peterson, Ashlyn Schubert, Camerin Vincent, Leah Warner

### Second semester honor roll

- Seniors: Elise Adleman, Taylor Broshous, Lucas Crome, Madelynn Ertmer, Andrew Haas, Hunter

Hille, James Hille, Camren Hofman, Hayley Johnson, Ivannie Jones, Gavin Keeffer, Konnor Laity, Madison Lara, Kaylee Luke, Patrick Mensendike, Alyssa Randecker, Jaden Rice, Simon Rillie, Bryce Smith, Tiana Timpe, Emma Westaby, Estersten Winters

• Juniors: Jared Berge-man, Charles Breed, Ian Broshous, Austin Chumbler, Matthew Cook, Ashton Davis, Justin Eden, Austin Eissfeller, Vanessa Ernst, Keaton Graves, Owen Groshans, Brynn Haas, Jenna Haas, Kenze Haas, Caleb Mammoser, Morgan McPeek, Andrew Mensendike, Diana Montalvo, Elijah Rice, Kassadie Sullivan, Connor Vincent, Trace Williamson

• Sophomores: Morgan Blair, Dawson Broshous, Jackson Curtiss, Skylar Davis, Madeline Harbach, Olivia Harnish, Noah Hess, Dayton Julius, Olivia Keeffer, Lauren Kehl, David Lancaster, Garrett Luke, Griffin Luke, Parker Luke, Emily Paul, Zane Preston, Kyleigh Reusch, Lita Schmoll, Whitney Sullivan, Ella Wackerlin, Abigail Wilkinson

• Freshmen: Kristian Adleman, Lily Baker, Abby Chumber, Jared Dvorak, Addison Ernst, Izabella Ertmer, Braden Freese, Brady Haas, Michael Haas, Karl Hubb, Lincoln Legel, Madalyn Marcure, Hope Mulholland, Drake Offenheiser, Gracie Raab, Maece Rice, Lydia Schuldt, Colby Tucker, Gabrielle VenHuizen, Mavrick Winters

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Financial Advisor  
640 W. South St., #4  
Freeport, IL 61032  
815-616-5955

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# Briefs

## Annual Stockton run/walk set for July 3

The Stockton Chamber of Commerce will host the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Stockton 5K/10K Run-Walk on Saturday, July 3, near the Stockton Park.

Registration will be in front of the park district pool starting at 7 a.m. The 10K race will begin at 8 a.m., with the 5K race beginning at 8:05 a.m.

The race will include on-course entertainment, after-race snacks, instant race results and free access to the Stockton pool after the event.

To register, go online to [runsignup.com/Race/IL/Stockton/Stockton5k](https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Stockton/Stockton5k). For more information, go online to [facebook.com/stockton5k10k](https://facebook.com/stockton5k10k).

## Grant boosts fresh produce program

JDLF Gives recently received a \$5,000 community grant from the T. Colin Campbell Center for Nutrition Studies. JDLF Gives is the nonprofit arm of Jo Daviess Local Foods, an online farmers market that delivers throughout the county.

The grant will allow JDLF Gives to continue its Farm

to Food Pantry program, through which customers make donations that allow farmers to be paid for vegetables delivered to area food pantries.

Cindy Tegtmeier, chair of JDLF Gives, is “dedicated to bringing fresh, local produce to people in need,” JDLF administrator Erin Keyser said in a news release. “This program will also benefit our local farmers, so it’s a win-win for everyone involved.”

“We can’t wait to expand the Farm to Food Pantry program this summer and fall.”

For more information, go online to [jdlf.org](https://jdlf.org).

## Senior center hosts genealogy session

The Senior Resource Center is hosting a Mayflower genealogy program via Zoom at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, June 10.

To register, go to <https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJAqceyvqD4iGdS38fOd-guD61-WfAHngeJyQ> or email Julie at the Senior Resource Center at [jhilliger@srctr.org](mailto:jhilliger@srctr.org).

Cary Stone-Greenstein of the Illinois Mayflower Society will talk about proving a line of descent by accessing various resources and records.

For more information, call 815-235-9777.

## A happy day at Glad Rags



A grand reopening and ribbon cutting were held May 29 at Glad Rags Resale Boutique in Stockton. Pictured from the left are Marci Schubert of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce, Rose Noble of Visit Galena, Glad Rags owner Gloria Benson, building owner Marquita Brown and Mary Stayner, who owns the soon-to-be-reopened bowling alley nearby. Brown has worked on improving and preserving the 1890s building in which Glad Rags is located since she purchased it in 2018.

JESSICA TESSENDORF PHOTOS  
The Scoop Today

Glad Rags Resale Boutique owner Gloria Benson, center, chats during a grand reopening event May 29. The business is housed in an historic building on South Main Street in Stockton.



## Stockton students earn semester honors

Officials at Stockton Middle School recently released the honor roll list for the second semester:

### Fifth grade

• High honors: Delanee Adleman, Kellen Breed, Emma Eisfeller, Mason Henderson, Jarrett Johnson, Sadie Johnson, Aiden Larson, Wuenceslao Montalvo, Maxwell Schultdt, Samuel Sikora

• Honors: Daniel Beltran, Daniela Beltran, Leonardo Brenner, Cheyenne Campbell, Sophia Compton, Evelyn Craft, Daxton Drane, Veronika Drane, Lexus Gaylor, Wesley Gile, Adam Haas, Emma Haas, Weston Haas, Khannon Jones, Margaret LaLond, Madelyn Libberton, Alice McGovern, Stella McGovern, Sawyer McPeek, Payne Mercer, Gabriela Montalvo, Ezri Moore, Maddalyn Nowvick, Cooper Raab, Payton Raisbeck, Andi Randecker, Alyssa Reed, Slayten Shockey, Emelia Steien, Natalee Sullivan, Makai Thoman, Isaias Vazquez, Chance VenHuizen, Cohen Wampfler, Deacon Zink

### Sixth grade

• High honors: Arianna

Arand, Amelia Ernst, Di-  
anne McIntosh

• Honors: Alexis Bennett, Carter Blair, Lucas Brenner, Dannyn Broshous, Deryn Broshous, Isaiah Carter, Jazmine Curtiss, Raiyn Dauphin, Logan Dreyer, Lucas Dreyer, Brody Gardner, Isaha Glass, Payton Goswick, Morgan Haas, Taylor Haas, Maddison Heffernan, Isaac Hullinger, Delaney Julius, Isabella Kilburg, Quinn Larson, Haley Leitzen, Hanna Leitzen, Jackson Martin, Ireland Mensendike, Eden Moore, Evelyn Noller, Walker Olson, Karmon Parsley, Madalynn Perry, Zada Preston, Caitlynn Robledo, Lola Rose, Kameron Rowe, Cullen Schubert, Leighton Simpson, Owen Stich, Addison Thornton, Kaydra Wright

### Seventh grade

• High honors: Adrienne Baker, Kaylynn Brunner, Eli Larson, Jake Marek, Oliver McPeek, Marjerie Pilapil, Gunnar Stich

• Honors: Tegan Arnold, Emma Aurand, Anna Blair, Piper Brown, Paige Chumbler, Reece Demeter, Mark Detwiler, Wesley Drane,

Ian Eisfeller, Olivia Ernst, Mauricio Glass, Allyson Haas, Reese Hoffner, Ayden Hullinger, Kiegan Jones, Aiden Kurek, Noah Larson, Jeremiah Luke, John Mensendike, Hunter Mulholland, Cody Noller, Gavin Offenheiser, Chelsea Olson, Rileigh Peterson, Cyler Pieper, Jon Randecker, Robert Rillie, Gynelle Rowe, Arya Scott, Sadie Vanderheyden, Jace Vincent, Avery Wackerlin, Hailey Weipert, Ari Zink, Blake Zink, Isabella Zuck

### Eighth grade

• High honors: Kyla Arnold, Dylann Broshous, Emily Broshous, Masyn Cahill, Elijah Haas, Kyle Haas, Jacob Harbach, Veyah Luke, Madalyn Mammoser, Kendra Robledo, Lillian Sikora, Ethan Steien, Landon Warner, Kacy Wright

• Honors: Raul Arreola-Vega, Jackson Coffey, Shirley Cook, Emma Demeter, Bryce Grube, Amber Haas, Ava Hess, Samuel Hille, Bricie Hoffner, Annastyn Larson, Dillon McIntosh, Javier Montalvo, Marley Morgan, Keagen Westphal, Katelyn Winters

## HAPPY HOUR



Erica Gerber

Jeremy Woodle

Come out to Lena Living Center to meet our new Marketer and Administrator. Friday, June 11 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the circle drive. Drinks and refreshments served to go. 1010 S. Logan St, Lena IL 61048

# LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup>  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
JO DAVIESS COUNTY  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF  
ROGER R. BEHRENS,  
Deceased.

2021P23

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION – UNKNOWN HEIRS & CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Roger R. Behrens. Letters of Office were issued to Carol Ann Staver, of 127 W. Prairie Ave., Stockton, IL 61085, as Executor, whose attorney of record is Ronald Paja, 116 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 124, Stockton, IL 61085.

Notice is given to unknown persons who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a Will and whose name(s) or address(es) is/are not stated in the Petition to admit the Will to probate that the Decedent's Will was admitted to probate by court order dated May 17, 2021. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will

in open Court or other evidence, as provided in §5/6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You also have the right under §5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the Court within 6 months after admission of the Will to probate.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Jo Daviess County Courthouse, 330 N. Bench St., Galena, IL 61036, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 1, 2021, or if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by §5/18-3 of the Probate Act, (755 ILCS 5/18-3), the date stated in that Notice. Any claim not timely filed will be barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit: [efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp](http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp) or talk with the Circuit Clerk's office, 815-777-0037.

DATED: May \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

CAROL ANN STAVER,  
Executor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
RONALD PAJA  
Attorney at Law  
116 S. Main St.  
P.O. Box 124  
Stockton, IL 61085  
(815) 947-3396  
(815) 947-3397 [Fax]  
[pajalaw@mchsi.com](mailto:pajalaw@mchsi.com)  
(Published in  
The Scoop Today  
May 26, June 2 & 9, 2021)  
396635

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE  
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT  
STEPHENSON COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF  
JAMES L. FANE  
DECEASED.

IN PROBATE  
NO: 2020 P 111

## NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of James L. Fane.

Letters of Office were issued on March 10, 2021, to Sandra J. Sutton, as Independent Administrator of the Estate, whose address is 820 E. Wyandotte, Freeport, Illinois, and whose attorney is William E. Sisler, 10 N. Galena Avenue, Suite 210, Freeport, Illinois 61032.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois, 61032 or with the Independent administrator of the Estate, or both, on or before (six months after 1st publication or three months from date of notice to known claimants) and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the administrator of the Estate and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Nate Luy  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
June 2, 9 & 16, 2021)  
397225

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup>  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
STEPHENSON  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS,  
In Probate

IN THE ESTATE OF:  
MARJORIE ANN  
AXELSON,  
deceased

Case No. 2021 P 20  
CLAIM NOTICE  
TO: CREDITORS AND  
CLAIMANTS

1. Notice is hereby given of the death of MARJORIE ANN AXELSON who died January 1, 2021, a resident of Davis, Illinois.

2. Letters of Office were issued on February 25, 2021 to CYNTHIA G. MADIGAN, Independent Administrator for the estate.

3. The attorney for the estate is Paul J. Huber, 226 Lake Summerset Rd., Davis, IL 61019

4. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at 15 N. Galena, Freeport, IL 61032 or with the Executors, or both, on or before November 26, 2021, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that

period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney with 10 days after it has been filed.

Paul J. Huber, attorney  
for the Administrator  
Paul J. Huber, No. 6192970  
Attorney for the Executors  
226 Lake Summerset Rd.  
Davis, IL 61019  
(815) 248-4000  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 26, June 2 & 9, 2021)  
396359

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT FOR THE 15<sup>TH</sup>  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STEPHENSON COUNTY  
- FREEPORT, ILLINOIS  
Illinois Housing  
Development Authority  
PLAINTIFF  
Vs.

Amanda White; et. al.  
DEFENDANTS

No. 2020CH43  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S  
SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS  
HEREBY GIVEN that  
pursuant to a Judgment of  
Foreclosure and Sale entered  
in the above cause on 02/23/2021, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on July 22, 2021 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 24 IN BLOCK 2  
OF GRANT'S ADDITION  
TO THE CITY OF FREEPORT;  
SITUATED  
IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT,  
STEPHENSON  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN 18-13-36-203-019  
Improved with Residential

COMMONLY KNOWN  
AS: 316 N. Whistler Ave  
Freeport, IL 61032

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not

to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

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.

For information: Exam-

ine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-20-05687. I3170204

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
June 9, 16 & 23, 2021)  
397458

## Notice of Public Hearing on Warren Township Budget

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for Town purposes of Warren Township in the County of Jo Daviess, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2022 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Warren Township Building. Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at Warren Township at 7:00 p.m. on June 8, 2021 and that final hearing and action on this ordinance will be taken at 7:15 p.m. on June 8, 2021.

Supervisor – Laura Busch  
Clerk – Donna Ernst  
(Published in  
The Scoop Today  
June 9, 2021)  
397386

## Notice of Public Hearing on Warren Road District Budget

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for road purposes of Warren Township in the County of Jo Daviess, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2022 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Warren Township Building. Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at Warren Township Building at 7:00 p.m. on June 8, 2021 and that final hearing and action on this ordinance will be taken at 7:15 p.m. on June 8, 2021.

Supervisor – Laura Busch  
Clerk – Donna Ernst  
(Published in  
The Scoop Today  
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397387

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# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Summer has arrived; we finally have hot days for doing things outside (like swimming, fishing and boating). The sunny days are great for outside activities.

The recipes for this week can be used for cooking out or eating in. Enjoy cooking this week.

## Creamy Pecan Coleslaw

This interesting coleslaw has a delicious creamy dressing that doesn't use mayo. The crunch of the pecans gives it a different flavor. You can buy shredded carrots if you don't want to cut the matchsticks. You can also use bagged coleslaw for easy preparation.

- 1 C. sour cream
- 1/4 C. buttermilk
- 2 T. honey
- 2 T. apple cider vinegar
- 1 t. salt
- 1/2 t. pepper
- 1 small head green cabbage trimmed and shredded (about 2 lbs.)
- 1 C. matchstick carrots
- 1 C. sliced celery
- 4 green onions, sliced
- 1/2 C. chopped toasted pecans

In a large bowl, whisk together sour cream, buttermilk, honey, vinegar, salt and pepper; stir in cabbage, carrots, celery and green onions. Cover and refrigerate for one hour before serving. Stir in pecans before serving.

## Green Bean and Asparagus Casserole

I never thought of putting these two vegetables together, but this casserole melds the two "greens" into a tasty side dish. (For an added green, there are peas too!)

- 1/4 C. sliced mushrooms
- 1 lb. green beans, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/2 lb. asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 T. olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1/2 C. fresh or frozen peas (thawed)
- Salt

**Sauce:**  
4 T. unsalted butter  
1/2 sweet onion, finely chopped  
1/4 C. flour  
1 C. milk  
1 C. chicken broth  
1/2 C. canned cream of mushroom soup  
2 t. soy sauce  
1/2 C. grated Monterey Jack cheese

1/4 C grated Parmesan plus more for topping

2 T. panko  
Fried onion rings for topping

Heat oven to 400. Prepare vegetables; bring medium saucepan of salted water to a boil. Add green beans; cook for two minutes. Using a slotted spoon, remove beans and set aside. Bring water to a boil again and add asparagus to water and cook until bright green — about 10 seconds. Drain well and set aside.

Heat oil in medium skillet on medium. Add garlic and cook until just starting to turn golden brown, then add peas, mushrooms, asparagus and beans; season with salt and cook, tossing two minutes. Transfer to plate to cool.

Sauce: Melt 1 T. butter in medium saucepan on medium. Add onion and cook, stirring occasionally until translucent, about three minutes. Add remaining 3 T. butter and melt; sprinkle flour and cook, stirring flour and cooking until a golden brown, three to five minutes. Whisk in milk, stock and soup; add soy sauce until combined and cook until starting to simmer. Add in cheese and stir. Remove from heat. Prepare a 2-quart casserole dish with cooking spray, spread the vegetables in the bottom of the dish. Pour the sauce over the vegetables. Sprinkle with panko and a bit of Parmesan. Bake until filling is bubbling, 20 to 25 minutes. Sprinkle with fried onions if desired.

## Pork Chops and Apricot Rice

My favorite way to eat pork chops is grilled or baked. I don't have breading on grilled and just a little on baked; however, this recipe is one I had a long time ago at a teacher's potluck. I hadn't made it in a long time. I use the Uncle Ben's fast cook recipe for rice. Enjoy this unique tasting apricot recipe.

- 1 C. long grain white rice
- 1/4 C. dried apricots (about 8), chopped
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 T. olive oil
- 4 bone-in pork chops, about 1 inch thick
- Salt and pepper
- 1/3 C. dry white wine or chicken broth
- 1/2 C. apricot jam

Cook rice per package directions, adding in apricots to saucepan along with rice. When cooked, fluff with a fork and fold in onions.

Heat oil in large skillet on medium. Season pork with salt and pepper and cook until golden brown and cooked through, six to eight minutes per side. Transfer to plates. Add wine or broth to skillet and cook, scraping any

browned bits from the bottom, about one minute. Whisk in apricot jam and cook until melted. Serve over pork chops with rice.

## Hearty Chicken Enchiladas

You can add corn, rice or refried beans to this casserole for even more flavor. It is an easily prepared casserole that the whole family will enjoy.

- 1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 2 cans (15 oz. each) enchilada sauce
- 1 can (4 oz.) chopped green chiles
- 1 can (15 oz.) black beans, rinsed and drained

8 flour tortilla tortillas (6 inch)

1 C. shredded Mexican cheese blend

Toppings; shredded lettuce, Pico de Gallo and sliced avocado

In a 3-quart slow cooker, combine chicken, enchilada sauce and chiles. Cook on low for six to eight hours or until chicken is tender. Remove chicken and shred. Reserve 3 1/2 C. cooking juices. Pour remaining juices into a bowl and add beans and chicken.

Prepare two 8-by-8 baking dishes with cooking spray. Add 1/2 cup reserved juices to each. Place 1/2 cup of chicken mixture down the center of

each tortilla. Sprinkle with cheese. Roll up tortillas and place four tortillas, seam side down, in baking dishes. Pour remaining reserved juices over the top of each dish and sprinkle with cheese. Cover one with foil and place in freezer for up to three months. Cover second dish and place in a preheated 350-degree oven for 20 minutes. Uncover and cook until cheese is browned, about five minutes. Serve with toppings.

## Fresh Strawberry Sheet Cake

If you need a delicious cake that features lots of fresh strawberries, try this straw-

berry cake. The yummy cake is topped with a different kind of cream cheese frosting.

- 1 C. unsalted butter, softened
- 2 C plus 1 T. sugar, divided
- 3 large eggs
- 2 t. fresh lemon juice
- 2 t. vanilla
- 3 C. cake flour
- 2 T. strawberry gelatin
- 3/4 t. baking powder
- 1/2 t. baking soda
- 1/4 t. salt
- 3/4 C. buttermilk
- 1/2 C. crushed fresh strawberries
- 1/2 C. sliced fresh strawberries

See KITCHEN, Page 11

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

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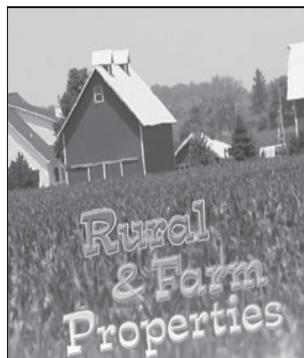
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# •Kitchen

(Continued from page 9)

½ C. diced fresh strawberries

Preheat the oven to 350. Spray a 9-by 13 baking dish with baking spray with flour.

In a medium bowl, beat butter and 2 C. sugar with a mixer at medium speed until fluffy, two to three minutes, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in lemon juice and vanilla.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, gelatin, baking powder, baking soda and salt. With mixer on low speed, gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture, beating just until combined. Stir in crushed strawberries. Pour batter into prepared pan. Top with diced strawberries. In a small bowl, stir together sliced strawberries and remaining 1 T. sugar; reserve in refrigerator. Bake until a wooden pick inserted in the center comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes. Let cool completely on a wire rack. Spread cream cheese frosting on cake; spoon sliced strawberries onto frosting. Serve immediately.

**Cream Cheese Frosting**  
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened  
½ C. heavy whipping cream  
1 t. vanilla  
¼ C. powdered sugar  
In a large bowl, beat cream cheese with a mixer at medium speed until creamy. In a medium bowl, beat cream and vanilla with a mixer at medium-high speed until soft peaks form. Reduce mixer speed to low; gradually add powdered sugar, beating until soft peaks form. Gently fold whipped cream into cream cheese until combined. Use immediately.

**Final thoughts**  
I started my aquasize class this week. The pool and park area are beautiful, and the weather has been great. For me, summer has officially started. I celebrated with friends on Memorial Day; we had all kinds of picnic food and lots of laughter. It was great to be “normal” again. Just a reminder that the Lake Le-Aqua-Na Park Ministry concerts are at 6:30 p.m. Saturdays at Lions Park until the lake reopens. This week is the Dave Ruter Ministries. We continue to look for some good strawberry recipes. If you have any early summer 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.

# •Budget

(Continued from page 5)

billion of the ARPA money Illinois expects to receive. Of that, \$1.5 billion would go for things like economic recovery programs to help businesses hardest hit by the pandemic, public health, affordable housing and violence prevention programs like after-school activities, and summer youth employment.

Another \$1 billion of the ARPA funds would be directed into the ongoing Rebuild Illinois capital improvements program to accelerate some of the projects slated for construction.

That stirred controversy in a House committee when Rep. Tom Demmer, of Dixon, the Republican caucus’ chief budget negotiator, asked how the \$1 billion in capital projects had been selected.

“Through the normal process by which all capital costs of projects are chosen,” Harris said. “Members make

requests and departments make requests, and they are fulfilled within an order depending on the category. For instance, IDOT has a five-year plan, members might have a request where they have a first, second third priority. And as funds are available, they would be funded.”

Demmer then asked whether any of the requests had come from Republican lawmakers and Harris replied that he didn’t know of any.

“We have a billion dollars of new capital projects that have been available, but it appears that it was only known that those projects were available or eligible for requests from Senate Democratic and House Democratic caucuses,” Demmer said.

“Certainly would be happy to talk,” Harris replied.

Demmer raised the same concerns during the floor vote.

Harris also said the pro-

posal calls for paying down about \$2 billion of bonded indebtedness as well as paying off all of the state’s internal, or “interfund” borrowing.

Republicans opposed the plan because it also relies on eliminating or delaying the implementation of roughly \$660 million worth of corporate tax cuts and business incentives, which Democrats have termed corporate “loop-holes.”

One of those calls for delaying any further phase-out of the corporate franchise tax, which was a concession Democrats had made to Republicans in 2019 to reach bipartisan agreement on the budget and a \$45 billion “Rebuild Illinois” capital improvements plan.

## Budget bill passes just before midnight

The budget bill passed the House minutes before

midnight, 72-24. But it took until the early hours of Tuesday morning, June 1, for the package to come up for a vote in the Senate, thereby triggering a constitutional requirement that it pass by at least a three-fifths majority, or 36 votes.

It passed the Senate with 37 votes after a short debate during which Sen. Chapin Rose, R-Mahomet, called it “an unparalleled spending spree of epic proportions.”

He specifically noted the limited contributions to the state’s unemployment trust fund, which he said had a deficit of about \$5 billion due to the COVID-19 pandemic, while the budget only contributes about \$100 million to that.

“You know who makes up that difference? I know your

side of the aisle will say, “The employer. The businessman will eat that difference,”” He said. “Wrong. Who picks that up? The employee that doesn’t get re-hired, that’s who picks it up. The employee that’s laid off. That’s who eats that sandwich.”

But Sen. Elgie Sims, D-Chicago, who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, defended the spending plan for its investments in health care, youth employment and a host of other services.

“This budget absolutely funds our priorities,” he said, “because we are fighting for individuals who cannot fight for themselves.”

The budget package next goes to Pritzker for his consideration.

# REAL ESTATE LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS Illinois Housing Development Authority PLAINTIFF Vs. Amanda White; et. al. DEFENDANTS

No. 2020CH43 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 02/23/2021, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on July 22, 2021 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

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For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff’s attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-20-05687. I3170204

(Published in The Shopper’s Guide June 9, 16 & 23, 2021)

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Please keep my paper coming:

# Plans (Continued from front page)

to state and federal laws, but it is a product of more than 50 public hearings where citizens came to tell us what their communities look like to them."

But Republican Sen. Jason Barickman, of Bloomington, the minority spokesman on the Senate Redistricting Committee, accused Pritzker of going back on his campaign pledge to support an independent mapmaking process.

"The people of Illinois deserve a fair, transparent process that allows them to choose their representatives in government," Barickman said. "Pritzker turned his back on them and chose instead to use his signature to further enshrine the broken status quo of politicians picking their voters."

The redistricting process is highly political, even in a normal year, because it gives the majority party the ability to draw district maps that will favor them for the next decade.

But it was especially heated in the General Assembly this year, not just because the release of detailed census data has been delayed, but because, as a candidate running in 2018, Pritzker supported creating an independent redistricting commission — the so-called "Fair Maps" proposal — and had vowed to veto any maps drawn by lawmakers or their staffers.

"No one twisted this arm to say what he said," Republican

Congressman Rodney Davis, R-Taylorville, said during a news conference June 3 in Springfield. "No one told him, 'You have to make this pledge.' No one told Gov. Pritzker when he was campaigning, that he needed to campaign and be in favor of a fair map process."

During a separate interview June 3, however, Pritzker said the opportunity to create an independent commission had passed and that Republicans were trying to delay the process for their own political advantage.

"They (the General Assembly) took off the table a constitutional amendment for an independent redistricting commission. That never happened in the legislature," Pritzker said in a phone interview with Capitol News Illinois. "So then you're left with, the two sides really need to work together, whether that was in a construct of an independent commission or just working in a bipartisan fashion. The Republicans seemed not to be interested in doing that."

"What they really wanted was a map that favors them," Pritzker continued. "You know, they don't like to say that, but that's what they were after."

Under the Illinois Constitution, lawmakers have until June 30 to approve a redistricting plan. After that, the process goes to an eight-member bipartisan commission. If that commission fails to approve maps by Aug. 10, a ninth member is added,

who could come from either party, by drawing a name out of a hat, and that commission is given until Oct. 5 to come up with new maps.

Because the 2020 census data will not be available until after the June 30 deadline for lawmakers to approve maps, Democratic leaders in the General Assembly moved forward using population estimates from the previous five years of data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

Republicans, along with several voting rights advocacy groups that included CHANGE Illinois, the League of Women Voters, Common Cause Illinois and others, had cautioned against that method, arguing that ACS data is subject to a margin of sampling error and that it tends to undercount certain subsets of the population.

"As was evident from the final redistricting hearings and statements issued in response to the Illinois General Assembly's map proposals, diverse communities across the state — representing Black, Latinx, Asian-American, Muslim, Jewish, elderly, young, urban, and rural — rejected these maps,"

Madeline Doubek, executive director of CHANGE Illinois, said in a statement. "These maps do not give us equitable representation for the next 10 years. These maps signed by Governor Pritzker simply do not reflect the community input so many Illinoisans tried repeatedly to give to their elected officials."

During a virtual news

conference June 4, Senate Republican Leader Dan McConchie, of Hawthorn Woods, said the GOP would "use every tool at our disposal to return power to the people once again," but he stopped short of saying Republicans would back a legal challenge to the maps.

"We're going to examine all the options."

Pritzker, meanwhile, has said he anticipates a legal challenge. But he also said lawmakers could return in the fall to make adjustments to the maps once the official census data arrives.

"I do expect the Legislature would revisit the maps if the census data that comes out is significantly different or out of the bounds of the ACS data," he said. "The census data is going to come out in August, so we'll know more then. So I think it was prudent. I know the Republicans are already planning to sue. That's their goal. Their goal is just to throw a wrench into the process hoping to get their own map."

The legislative redistricting bill is Senate Amendment 1 to House Bill 2777. The judicial redistricting bill is House Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 642.

In addition to those measures, Pritzker also signed House Amendment 1 to SB 2661, which redraws districts for the Cook County Board of Review, a body that hears property tax appeals in Cook County.

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

# Regionals (Continued from front page)

That run came in the top of the fifth, when a single by Jacob Deurr and a pair of walks had the bases loaded, giving the Wildcats their first real scoring threat of the game. Deurr was able to score on a passed ball, erasing the zero from their run column. That was as far as the inning would get, however, as a strikeout put an end to the Wildcats' momentum.

The Pirates would shut down RR-SM for the remainder of the game, as the Wildcats eventually fell by a score of 3-1. Knauer pitched another gem, throwing six innings with 12 strikeouts and allowing just six hits. Knauer kept them close, but it was not enough to earn the win, as two unearned runs wound up costing the Wildcats. The offense struggled to produce runs as they combined for just two hits, coming off the bats of Deurr and Thomas Lange.

Following the win, the Pirates were able to move on to the semifinals to face off with

the Warhawks on Friday, June 5. The Warhawks were the clear favorites as one of the better teams in the state.

Warren-Stockton came in looking like a well-oiled machine, as they were nearly perfect on both sides of the ball.

Austin Chumbler, Andrew Mensendike and Brady Broshous pitched for the Warhawks, combining for a shutout of the Pirates. Thanks to the immaculate pitching, the Warhawks did not need much offensive support, but they got it anyway. Warren-Stockton combined for 10 hits on the day, most of which came in the fourth inning, when the offense exploded for seven runs.

With the 10-0 lead, the Warhawks were able to put an end to their first regionals game in just five innings as the 10-run mercy rule came into play. The win set the Warhawks up to face off with the Orangeville Broncos in the final round of regionals on Monday, June 7 (after The Scoop's press time).

# Hornets (Continued from page 6)

left field, bringing in Bass and giving SM-RR an 8-7 lead in extras.

The Panthers loaded bases in the bottom half, but a double play turned by Wurster and Vandigo would bring an end to an 8-7 Hornets victory.

Bass led the way offensively, going 2-for-4 with two RBIs and three runs scored. Haas was 2-for-5 with one RBI and one run scored. Wurster finished the game 1-for-4 with a walk and three runs scored.

Bass was in the pitcher's circle for all eight innings. Despite allowing eight hits and walking 10, she was able to rely on her defense behind

her to do just enough to hold on for the win.

The Hornets went on to face off with a tough Forrester team in the next round of regionals. Although they fell by a score of 15-0, they can still hang their hat on the way they ended their season and earned a post-season victory over the Panthers.

# College news

Several area students were named to the spring semester dean's list:

## Stockton

- Quinn Eshleman, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
- Kendara Leanne Scace, Iowa State University. Scace is a second-year student studying political science.

## Elizabeth

- Christopher R. Schnitzler, Iowa State University. Schnitzler is a fourth-year student studying chemical engineering.

## Hanover

- Julianna M. Kuzniar, Iowa State University. Kuzniar is a second-year student studying kinesiology and health.
- Madison Marie Stulc, Iowa State University. Stulc is a second-year student in the College of Liberal Arts and Science.

## Apple River

- Victoria Brown, University of the Cumberland (also named to the president's list)

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