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VOL. 87 • NO. 30

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2021

Mark your calendar for Lena Lions Fall Festival

Planning is underway for the 70th annual Lena Lions Fall Festival, set for Friday, Sept. 10 and Saturday, Sept. 11, in downtown Lena.

According to a news release, some highlights of this year's event will include:

• Live music, with Just For Kicks on Friday night and Cross Cut on Saturday.

Just For Kicks plays hits from the 1960s to today, including tunes from CCR, Steve Miller, The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Tom Petty and more. Cross Cut plays everything from oldies to rock to polkas and "getting people involved in the performance is just part of the show," the release said.

• A 50/50 cash raffle, with 5,000 tickets sold for \$10 each, and separate raffle tickets for a chance to win a Polaris ATV and Lena Money gift certificates.

• Carnival rides in the downtown parking lot provided by Skinner's Amusements.

• A variety of food offerings from the Lions, Le-Win Sports Association and the Knights of Columbus.

• The annual parade with a theme of "Traditions Must Go On." The parade will step off at noon Sept. 11 from the Dietz Old School Apartments with a flyover by the Freeport Pilots Association.

More than 100 units are expected for the parade, with fire trucks, church floats, antique tractors and more. Children are encouraged to decorate their bikes and participate in the parade.

For parade registration and information, contact Jeff Stamm at 815-541-2658 or Bill Crichton at 815-291-9361.

• The Fall Festival 5K Run/Walk sponsored by the Lena Community Park District on Sept. 11. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m., with the run/walk at 8:30 a.m. Call 815-369-5351 for more information.

Ready for fun Stephenson County Fair opens July 27

By Katelyn Black
CORRESPONDENT

The Stephenson County Fair is back in town Tuesday, July 27, through Saturday, July 31.

Due to the pandemic, the Stephenson County Fair Association canceled the 2020 fair.

This year's revived event includes Saturday lawn mower races, a Thursday calf-scramble for the kids, truck and tractor pulls, a carnival complete with 22 rides, food vendors, pageants, live entertainment, a livestock show every night, 4-H competitions and face painting.

Organizers ask that people social distance and sanitize their hands regularly at the hand-washing stations on the grounds. Masks are not required to attend the fair, but there will be a free vaccination clinic from noon to 9 p.m. all week, according to Lori Tessendorf, executive manager of the Stephenson County Fair Association.

Beyond the vaccination clinic, Tessendorf said there's a lot of things different about the fair this year — including a new carnival company, an axe-throwing event, an escape room and a lumberjack show.

The C.D.A.C. carnival opens at 5 p.m. July 27 through July 30 and at 1 p.m. July 31.

The axe-throwing and escape room will be open from 6

p.m. to 9 p.m. July 27 through July 30 and from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. July 31.

The free lumberjack shows are set for 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 27 through July 30 and for 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. July 31.

With things slowly getting back to normal, Tessendorf said she has high hopes for the 2021 fair.

"We are expecting a great turnout. We have lots of registrations for livestock and non-livestock exhibitors, a full

commercial vendor building and a plethora of food stands to satisfy everyone's fair-food cravings," she said. "We are just excited to be able to have the fair this year.

"People are anxious to get out and participate in activities and events again, and we are thrilled to be able to welcome everyone to the Stephenson County Fairgrounds."

The grandstand lineup includes:

• 6 p.m. July 27, Midwest Summer Nationals Tractor &

Truck Pull

• 7 p.m. July 28, Midwest Summer Nationals Tractor & Truck Pull

• 6 p.m. July 29, Youth Night, including celebrity showmanship, chicken scramble, mutton busting and more

• 6 p.m. July 30, Demo Derby

• 6 p.m. July 31, Lawn Mower Races and Tough Truck Challenge

For details about the fair schedule and prices, go online to stephensoncountyfair.org.



PHOTO COURTESY STEPHENSON COUNTY FAIR *Shopper's Guide*

Carnival rides are sure to attract fair-goers of all ages at this year's Stephenson County Fair, which opens Tuesday, July 27, in Freeport.



PHOTO COURTESY STEPHENSON COUNTY FAIR *Shopper's Guide*

Young people from around the county will be showing their knowledge and hard work by exhibiting animals at the Stephenson County Fair next week. Most of the judging for junior animal exhibitors will take place on Wednesday, July 28.

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Slices of life

Lucky potluck dish proves too popular

The term "potluck" was coined over 500 years ago, putting a label on the concept of a communal meal where each guest brings a dish to share. The idea was that if everyone brought a little something, there'd be a little something for everyone. The practice caught on and has been flourishing in church basements ever since.

The feast known as potluck conjures up images of casseroles, slow cookers, pans of brownies, peanut butter krispie bars and, of course, jello. Lots and lots of jello.

Although I am able to make jello, I don't often offer it up at potlucks. I prefer getting creative with savory dishes and therein lies my downfall. I am a potluck failure.

I start with the best intentions. I fully plan to make a dish that fits in amidst the chicken and rice casseroles and baked bean hot dishes. Then I start cooking.

When I'm in the kitchen, I get caught up in the moment. I find it impossible to follow a recipe and instead practice the "little bit of this, little bit of that" system of cooking. I call it the energizer method, because I tend to keep going



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

and going.

My youngest son summed up my culinary technique best when he said, "I wish you'd just make us food. Your problem is you always have to add ingredients."

He's right. I can't help myself. I like to push the flavor envelope. This is suitable for an exotic spread, but probably not as appropriate for your typical potluck.

So, when I attend one of these communal meals, I fill my plate; I fill my stomach; and I leave with a casserole dish that is (regrettably) also full.

This has gone on for years. I was beginning to think when it came to potlucks I had none of the second syllable. Until, quite unexpectedly, I discovered a potluck triumph in a tomato salad called bruschetta. I made the dish for a family reunion earlier this summer and the bowl not only emptied, but people

requested the recipe. Of course, these people were my relatives; their taste buds may be genetically similar to mine. Still, it felt good.

I was empowered.

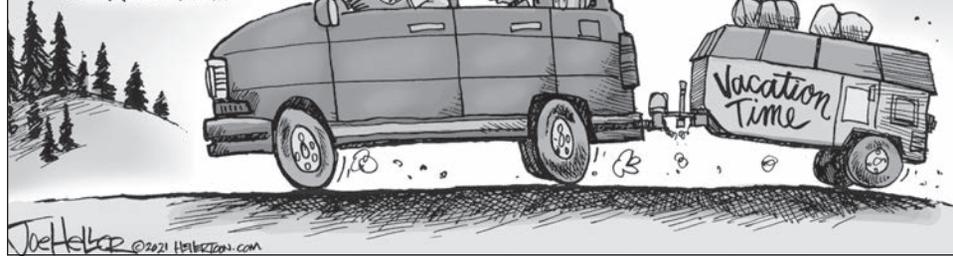
It was logical for me to want to share the joy of my bruschetta at a second potluck with friends last week. The night before the event, I chopped the tomatoes, added the ingredients, both secret (green olive juice) and not-so-secret (garlic). I put the bowl in the fridge to allow the flavors to mingle — sort of like guests do at a potluck.

The next day, I prepared to dazzle with my dish. Slices of chewy, crusty bread went on a platter to act as a base for the tomato-licious salad. When I opened the fridge, however, there wasn't a tomato chunk in sight. My bruschetta had gone missing. Not missing as in pushed to the back of the shelf behind the milk; missing as in vanished. Disappeared. Nowhere to be found.

Certainly I was mistaken. I looked again. I opened the freezer. I checked the sink. Even searched the dishwasher. There was no bruschetta — or evidence of bruschetta — anywhere.

See SLICES, Page 4

THE WAY THE VACCINATION RATE IS GOING, WE WON'T REACH HERD IMMUNITY SOON. BUT OUR FAMILY DOESN'T NEED MASKS 'CAUSE WE FINISHED OUR SHOTS! THE COUNTRY IS CLOSE, BUT WE'RE NOT QUITE THERE YET. SO, LET'S KEEP GOING WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HAND SANITIZER, AS WELL AS...



In my opinion

Illinois food supply remains strong

By Richard Guebert Jr.
CONTRIBUTOR

The summer of 2021 includes a long to-do list as restrictions have been lifted and people take to the roads for summer vacations and family reunions.

While we missed many events in 2020, we also learned a lot in our 15 months of being cooped up.

Now is a good time to reflect. What did you learn throughout the pandemic? What did you miss, and what could you live without?

Had it not been for the pandemic, would families

have rediscovered time to prepare a home-cooked dinner, sit together at the kitchen table and make conversation over a delicious meal?

Or open up family cookbooks and actually learn how to make grandma's famous cinnamon rolls and realize that it takes time to let the dough rise?

The common denominator of each of these scenarios: Food.

And it all starts with a farmer.

In the United States, we never ran out of food. We may

have tightened supplies on certain items, but by no means are we doing without. Farmers have continued to grow and restock the food supply chain.

A complex food supply chain worked day and night to keep the flow of goods moving as quickly as possible.

We continued to farm, keep people fed and clothed and helped those who couldn't feed themselves.

Some people needed assistance accessing food because they lost their job or couldn't work, but we never experienced a food shortage.

People stepped up to make sure food banks and pantries were stocked. And we developed a way to distribute food in a way that didn't involve contact.

You don't know what you've got until it is not accessible. We, as a society, have become accustomed to "if you want it, go get it and buy it." Almost 16 months later, there are some instances of car lots that don't have the inventory we expect. As consumers stocked up on meat, deep freezers became hard to come by.

Every week another story about inflation concerns or rising prices makes headlines. Beef and bacon prices, for instance, have reached new record retail highs.

The good news? Just as farmers grew and restocked the food supply chain during the pandemic, they will continue those efforts in the future.

Richard Guebert Jr. is president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This op-ed was distributed through a cooperative project between the Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association.

SAVE • THE • DATE

Celebration of Life

for

Daniel K. Reed

Given by the Reed Family

Due to restrictions from the Covid pandemic last year, our family was unable to have a celebration of life for Danny like we had hoped for.

Everyone's health and well being is important to us. Now that we feel it is safe for everyone, we ask that you come join us in Danny's home town to celebrate Danny's life.

People coming together for a very special person to share stories, our memories and remember all the good times we had with him!

When: Saturday, Sept. 25 at 3 p.m.

Where: Iron Horse Tap
137 W. Railroad St., Lena, IL
(Food and drink provided)



Celebration of life for Danny Reed

Saturday, July 24 from 9 a.m. till whenever
6035 E. Stagecoach Trail, Apple River, IL 61001

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Bike/Car ride

Noon - Hog Roast

(food & drinks provided till gone, then BYOB)

2 p.m. - Music by Mr. Ed

8 p.m. Music by Sons of Samm

Come anytime to celebrate and reminisce the good times and joy that Danny brought to everyone

399734



Oh no! Say it ain't so! Larry's turning the big 8-0!

He's not the kind to want a gift or flower, so let's bombard him with a card shower for his birthday on July 30!

Jeff, Beth, Kylie, Zack & all your extended family.

Send cards to:
Larry Maaske
PO Box 261,
Lena, IL 61048



Walk with a Doc focuses on education, exercise

FHN is participating in the nationwide Walk with a Doc program, which gives people a chance to take a walk and learn about their health from a local health care professional.

The first FHN Walk with a Doc will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, July 24, by the conces-

sion stand at Krape Park, 1799 S. Park Blvd. in Freeport.

"This free 45- to 60-minute walk is a safe, fun, family- and pet-friendly way to get some steps, learn about health and meet new friends," according to an FHN news release.

All attendees at the first

Walk with a Doc will receive their choice of a free T-shirt or pedometer while supplies last.

FHN behavioral health nurse practitioner Misty DeHaven, is the host for the first walk. In coming weeks, the schedule and topics include:

- July 31, imaging and breast health with registered nurses Katie Alvarado and Jess Harweger
- Aug. 7 – ear, nose and throat with Dr. Terry Donat
- Aug. 14, family medicine with family nurse practitioner Tamisha Bonvillain
- Aug. 21, podiatry and wound care with Dr. Roland Tolliver
- Aug. 28, stroke awareness with registered nurse Tracy Love
- Sept. 4, surgery with Dr. Javeria Qureshi

A complete schedule and more information about Walk with a Doc is available by going online to www.fhn.org/WWAD.

The events are intended to educate and provide an opportunity for healthy exercise. Participants should contact their primary health care provider about specific health questions or concerns.

Governor signs 53 bills into law

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Public high schools in Illinois will soon be required to teach students how to access and evaluate various kinds of news and social media they see online and elsewhere as part of their regular curriculum.

That was among the 53 bills that Gov. JB Pritzker signed July 9, bringing the total number of bills signed from the current General Assembly so far this year to 97.

Media literacy

House Bill 234 provides that starting in the 2022-'23 school year, all public high schools will provide a unit of instruction on media literacy that will include instruction on how to access information and evaluate the trustworthiness of its source; analyzing and evaluating media messages; creating media messages; assessing how media messages trigger emotions and behavior; and social responsibility.

The State Board of Education is tasked with preparing and distributing instructional resources and making professional learning opportunities available for educators.

The bill was sponsored by Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez, D-Cicero, and Sen. Karina Villa, D-West Chicago. It passed both chambers largely along party lines: 68-44 in the House, and 42-15 in the Senate.

Animal products

Another new law makes it illegal to import into Illinois, with the intent of selling, any body parts or products made from a long list of endangered and exotic species.

Illinois, like many states, has long banned the importation of ivory and rhinoceros horns. Under House Bill 395, the list of animals whose parts or products are banned from being imported is expanded to include cheetahs, elephants, giraffes, great apes, hippopotami, jaguars, leopards, lions, monk seals, narwhals, pangolins, rays or sharks, rhinos, sea turtles, tigers, walruses, whales or any other species listed in the Convention on International Trade or listed as threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

The bill was sponsored by Rep. Martin Moylan, D-Des Plaines, and Sen. Linda Holmes, D-Aurora. It passed the House, 113-1, and the Senate, 57-0.

Test scores

Illinois residents applying for admission to public colleges and universities in the state will no longer be required to submit SAT or ACT scores as part of their application starting in January 2022.

House Bill 226, known as the Higher Education Fair Admissions Act, requires

See BILLS, Page 4



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

Admire the prairie while learning more about it

The volunteer Friends of Wapello group will host An Afternoon on the Prairie: The Story of Wapello at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 22. Attendees should meet at the pavilion next to the parking lot at the Wapello Land & Water Reserve, 8642 Illinois Route 84 south, Hanover. After brief introductions, attendees will head out to various stations along the trails, where experts will discuss topics such as prairie ecology and diversity, the role of fire in land management, bumblebee and insect surveys and more. In addition to the educational offerings, participants will get to enjoy the prairie in full bloom, "a sight not be missed," according to a news release. The event is free and no RSVP is required. The 170-plus-acre reserve, managed by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, is open daily dawn to dusk and is free to visit. For more information, go online to www.jdcf.org.

LENA-WINSLOW ALL SCHOOL REGISTRATION

ONLINE OR IN-PERSON THIS YEAR!

ALL FAMILIES WILL NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY TO REGISTER

Online Registration for all students in the Lena-Winslow District will start on August 1 and must be completed by August 11 at midnight.

Registration will be online through the Parent Portal or IN-PERSON August 4 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and August 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please remember:

1. All families must provide PROOF OF RESIDENCY (3 documents in total) which includes but is not limited to recent property tax bill, mortgage papers, driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, etc. Two documents will be required if a Category II document. A more complete list can be found on the le-win.net webpage.

2. All students entering Pre-K, JK or Kindergarten, Sixth, and Ninth grades, and any student entering from out-of-state must present a completed physical examination form by the first day of school. Completed dental exams for JK or Kindergarten, Second and Sixth grades are also required. Local doctors and dentists have these forms in their offices or they can be found under the registration tab at le-win.net.

Fees and lunch money: Fees and lunch money can be paid online through the portal or in-person at any of the building offices. You may also send a check to the District Office, 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL, 61048. Please call Darcy Schierloh at 815-668-0800 if you have any questions.

The first day of school will be Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Dismissal time will be 1 p.m. for the first day.

If you have questions, please call one of the building secretaries at the phone numbers listed below:

Elementary building secretaries: 815-668-0809 or 815-668-0810

Junior High building secretary: 815-668-0818

High School building secretaries: 815-668-0822 or 815-668-0821

THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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Obituary

BERNARD 'BERNIE' SCHRECK

Bernard "Bernie" Schreck left his earthly body behind on July 13, 2021, when his spirit joined family and friends in heaven.

Bernie was born July 17, 1949, in Elizabeth, Illinois, to Doug and Hazel Schreck. He attended schools in Elizabeth, Stockton and Warren, Illinois. He graduated from Elizabeth High School in 1967 and enlisted in the Navy that same year. He served as a bosun's mate aboard the destroyer USS St. Paul. After his discharge from the Navy, he returned to Illinois but spent a few years going between Illinois and Washington state.



He eventually settled in Chehalis, Washington, where he resided until his death. He attended Centralia College, earning an associates of arts degree in forestry.

In his growing-up years, he worked on farms around the northern Illinois area, baling hay, milking, feeding, etc. As an adult, he worked at a variety of jobs, including being a "duck trucker," fighting fire for the DNR, building ambulances and production work. Until his cancer diagnosis, he

was custodian at St. John's Lutheran Church, where he was also a member.

Bernie was known for his silly sense of humor and always seemed to have a quick comeback or funny quip. He loved to tease his nieces and nephews and they loved him all the more for it. We were all hit with one of his punch lines at one time or another. He was also known as being incredibly kind, especially toward children.

In his early years, he played baseball and softball, playing Little League baseball and softball when he was in the Navy aboard the USS St. Paul. He did a lot of hunting (squirrels, some deer) and

fishing (all kinds).

He loved watching football and was a fan of the San Francisco 49ers growing up, then switched to Chicago Bears. We all knew him as a dedicated Seahawks fan (Go Hawks!).

He volunteered as a cabin leader at Camp Bethel in Hoquiam, and worked and volunteered as a cook, maintenance worker and whatever was asked of him. During his first year of being a cabin leader, he noticed that during mail call, there were a lot of sad faces on kids who didn't receive mail. He took it upon himself to hand-write a note to every kid in camp just so they could have mail too.

That's the kind of thing Bernie would do!

Bernie was preceded in death by his parents, Douglas and Hazel Schreck; and niece, Kelly Schreck. He is survived by his brother, Bob (Dorothy) Schreck of Stockton, Illinois; sisters, Diane Foley and Linda Lowery of Chehalis, Washington; nephews and nieces, Rob (Caryn) Foley, Rhonda (Mike) Morgan, Ryan Foley and Renell (Joe) Norquist of Chehalis, Mike (Jamie) Schreck of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Cammie (Dave) Ringo of Madison, Wisconsin, Mike (Lori) Lowery of Leesport, Pennsylvania, Shawn (Miriam) Lowery of Portersville, Pennsylvania, and Erin (Nick) Nelson of Wenatchee, Washington; 15 great nieces and nephews;

one great-great niece and one great-great nephew. Bernie also leaves behind a rich list of friends!

A memorial service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, in Chehalis at 11 a.m. Aug. 7, 2021, with a reception to follow. You are encouraged to wear your favorite Seahawk gear.

Internment will be at Tahoma National Cemetery at 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 9. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Newell-Horlerling's Mortuary, Centralia, Washington.

Memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, 2190 Jackson Highway, Chehalis, WA 98532.

Bernie would want you to know, "I'm so glad you all got to see me!"

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

Service Corner

400270

• Slices (Continued from page 2)

My potluck was imminent and I didn't have time (or ingredients) to make another batch. Meanwhile, my stomach was as empty as my salad bowl.

The situation forced me into an abyss far worse than attending a potluck with a dish that doesn't get tasted — attending a potluck with no dish at all. Did I dare even go?

To potluck or not potluck, that was the question.

My stomach won in the end. I attended the party ready and willing to consume a piece of humble pie. Turns out there was no need. The good thing about potlucks is there is always an overabundance of

food — and friendly people.

I never did find my bruschetta. In a house filled with hungry teenagers, I guess a prudent mom might want to think about labeling sacred potluck items as "Do not touch," so as to avoid midnight snack raids. Live and learn.

I used to believe I was a potluck failure. Now I know better. I also know there are far worse things in life, not the least of which might be losing your bruschetta.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

• Bills (Continued from page 3)

all public higher education institutions to adopt a "test optional" policy for admissions, meaning they may not require students to submit standardized test scores, but may allow students to do so if they choose.

The bill was sponsored by Rep. LaToya Greenwood, D-East St. Louis, and Sen. Christopher Belt, D-Cahokia Heights. It passed the House, 109-8, and the Senate, 45-9.

undershirts or leggings. Any modifications, however, may not interfere with the student's movement or pose a safety hazard to the student or other athletes or players. There are also limits on how headgear can be modified.

Students who choose to modify their uniforms are responsible for all of the additional costs, unless the school chooses to cover the cost.

School zones

Drivers passing through school zones will have to slow down a little earlier on school days under another bill Pritzker signed into law.

House Bill 343, by Rep. Mark Batinick, R-Plainfield, and Sen. Meg Loughran Cappel, D-Shorewood, provides that special speed limits around schools will begin at 6:30 a.m. instead of 7 a.m. The new law takes effect immediately.

The bill passed both chambers unanimously.

Team uniforms

Student athletes in both public and nonpublic schools are now allowed to alter their athletic or team uniforms for purposes of modesty, in accordance with their religion, cultural values or modesty preferences.

House Bill 120, which was sponsored by Rep. Will Guzzardi, D-Chicago, and Sen. Laura Murphy, D-Des Plaines, provides that modifications can include such things as hijabs,

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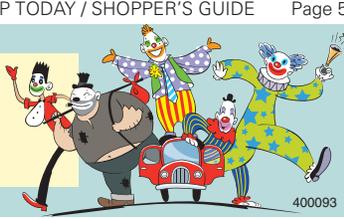
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Getting ready for Lena festival

Just For Kicks is part of the entertainment lineup at the upcoming Lena Lions Fall Festival, set for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sept. 11. The local band will play a variety of hits in downtown Lena on Sept. 10.

Pritzker has 'no plans' for added mitigations

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

The wide availability of COVID-19 vaccines has changed the state's approach for mitigating the virus' spread statewide and in schools.

For school districts, that means suggested rather than required guidance, with an emphasis on local control in imposing mitigations.

For the governor's office, that means there are "no plans" to reinstate some of the mitigation measures and economic shutdowns that were commonplace earlier in the pandemic.

"Restore Illinois mitigations that were enacted during the height of the pandemic allowed for safe and proven infection prevention measures since no vaccine was available," a spokesperson for the governor's office said in a July 16 email. "Currently there is no plan to implement any additional mitigations now that there is an abundance of vaccine available and accessible across Illinois. We encourage all Illinoisans ages 12+ to get vaccinated as soon as possible."

Previously, if a region had a positivity rate of 8 percent or higher for three days, the governor's office and Illinois Department of Public Health had a menu of mitigations they could put in place, such as closure of indoor dining and capacity restrictions at businesses. But, because of the vaccine's availability, those options aren't currently on the table, even as positivity rates rise in some areas and a more contagious variant of the virus spreads.

The state's guidance currently "recommends" face coverings in public indoor places for those who are unvaccinated, while masks are required on public transportation and in medical facilities.

The "recommended" masking guidance will be the same for schools after the state fully adopted U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance recently. Schools are also encouraged to maintain 3 feet of distance between each student.

"Pursuant to CDC guidance, Illinois school districts have local control over how they should work with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed in their area by monitoring levels of community transmission and local vaccine coverage, and using screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools," an Illinois State Board of Education spokesperson said in an email.

In accordance with other CDC guidelines, masks will still be required for all passengers on school buses, re-

gardless of the school's mask policies.

Otherwise, districts are encouraged to take a "layered" mitigation approach, accompanying masking and distancing with "screening testing, cohorting, improved ventilation, handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when sick with symptoms of infectious illness including COVID-19, and regular cleaning," according to the CDC.

The guidance also recommends that if school administrators remove any prevention strategies based on local conditions, they should do so "one at a time and monitor closely (with adequate testing through the school and/or community) for any increases in COVID-19 cases."

Free testing programs are available to Illinois schools through IDPH, while districts can also use federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funding for screening testing as well, according to ISBE.

Operationally, ISBE has regulatory authority to reduce the recognition status of any school district exhibiting "deficiencies that present a health hazard or a danger to students or staff," pursuant to state law, according to the spokesperson. But the state board is not invoking that authority.

"ISBE is not currently taking any recognition action against any school districts. We will continue to support school districts in aligning with the new CDC guidance," the spokesperson said.

State Superintendent of

Education Dr. Carmen Ayala issued a declaration requiring resumption of in-person learning this school year, provided remote instruction is made available for students under quarantine.

"All our students deserve to return safely in-person to schools this fall," Ayala said in a news release. "With vaccination rates continually rising and unprecedented federal funding to support safe in-person learning, and mitigations such as contact tracing and increased ventilation in place in schools, we are fully confident in the safety of in-person learning this fall."

Districts should also promote vaccination, which is "currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic," according to the guidance.

Currently, only one of three vaccines being administered in the U.S. is approved for use in children — the two-dose Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, which has been approved for those 12 and older.

According to IDPH, approximately 55 percent of Illinoisans 12 and older had been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of July 16, while 71 percent have received at least one dose.

The vaccination pace in Illinois has slowed, however. About half of the state's population was fully vaccinated as of July 16, but positivity rates were on the rise as well.

IDPH maintains a website that tracks county-level metrics through which schools can monitor community spread based on test positivity rates, new cases per 100,000, youth case increases and other metrics. It measures risks based on scale of minimal to moderate to substantial.

The metrics are updated weekly based on the previous week's transmission rates, and 13 counties had triggered a warning level as of July 10, up from seven the previous week.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide.



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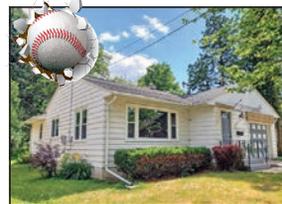
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PHOTO SUBMITTED Shopper's Guide

The congregation of Red Oak United Methodist Church, 6381 High St., Freeport, is celebrating the church's 130th anniversary later this month.

Church celebrates 130 years

Members of Red Oak United Methodist Church in Freeport will be celebrating "130 years of Christian work and tradition" on July 31, according to a church news release.

Members of Red Oak United Methodist Church in Freeport will be celebrating "130 years of Christian work and tradition" on July 31, according to a church news release.

According to the release: The church history dates back to July 31, 1891, when it was organized in the home of S.E. Crowell. The Rev. J. H. Hicks was the circuit pastor with Orangeville.

The basement of the church was installed in 1971 and a new fellowship hall and deck were constructed in June 2016.

In 1891, Matthew Meyers, owner of the Meyers Brothers Lumber Yard in Scioto Mills, donated the half-acre of land to build the church. The building was to be 26-by-40 and ground was broken on Sept. 19, 1891. The church cornerstone was laid Oct. 31, 1891.

"But it was with the cooperation from people of Red Oak that the church was built. That group effort and cooperation continues with the congregation today," the news release said. "They keep the values its founding fathers had and it is strong in its beliefs."

In 1925 they started a new circuit with Cedarville. There were hitching posts for horses and people came by horse

The Rev. Gary Rich has led the church since July 2016. Rich also leads Cedarville United Methodist Church, which is a sister church.

All are welcome at the weekly services at Red Oak UMC, which are held at 9 a.m. Sundays.

Briefs

Cookout helps auxiliary aid veterans, community

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will be manning the cookout at Sullivan's in Lena from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 31.

Proceeds from food sales will help the auxiliary support veterans, children and the community.

Lena church hosts Life Line Screening event

St. John's Lutheran Church in Lena will host a Life Line Screening event on Thursday, Aug. 5, at the church, 625 Country Lane.

Area residents can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other serious conditions through screening.

Preregistration is required for screening and costs vary depending on age and risk factors. To schedule a screening, call 877-237-1287 or go online to www.lifelinescreening.com.

Church invites people to service, hayride

Services are held in-person and via Facebook Live at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St., Lena. Masks and social distancing are sug-

gested for in-person attendees who have not been vaccinated.

In addition, the church's Never Too Young group will host a kickoff event at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 25, at the Hudik Farm for a hayride, bonfire, and fellowship. Anyone is welcome; attendees should bring a side dish and a lawn chair. Brats and burgers will be provided.

For more information about the church and its events, go online to goodshepherdlena.org or facebook.com/GSL-CLenaIL or call 815-369-5552.

Salvation Army notes summer kettle collection

Volunteers will collect donations for the local Salvation Army during Christmas in July bell-ringing events in Freeport.

On Friday, July 23, red kettle donations will be accepted at the Freeport Walmart, where police and fire department volunteers have a friendly challenge to see which group can raise the most money.

Bell-ringers also will collect donations on Friday, July 23, and Saturday, July 24, at Cub Foods, Farm & Fleet and Sullivan's.

Free training set for school food workers

The University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois State Board of Education will offer free professional development training for school nutrition professionals next month.

The training will be offered at three different locations:

- 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Aug. 3, at Pearl City High School
- 8 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Aug. 4, at Pecatonica High School
- 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Aug. 5, at South Beloit High School

Per CDC requirements for schools, social distancing will be in place and masks will be required. The training provides three hours of USDA Professional Standards credits for the 2021-'22 school year.

Preregistration is required and space is limited. To learn more, call 815-235-4125 or go online to go.illinois.edu/jsw.

FHN accepts scholarship applications

FHN is offering several scholarships for students in

the FHN service area who are pursuing careers in health care:

- Healthcare Career Scholarship Program, up to three \$1,000 scholarships
- Diversity Healthcare Career Scholarship Program, one \$1,000 scholarship
- Volunteer Resource Scholarship Program, one \$1,000 scholarship to an active member of the FHN Student Volunteer Program with a minimum of 40 volunteer hours

The deadline for all applicants is Friday, Sept. 3. For more information and application forms for each scholarship, go online to www.fhn.org/scholarships.



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The Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency (NICAA) will be accepting names of contractors interested in participating in the 2022 Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program.

All contractors interested in receiving a bid package must return the completed Notification Package by 3 p.m. on July 30 to: NICAA, Attn: Weatherization Department, 27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032

The Notification of Interest to bid package is available by calling 815-232-3141 ext. 111 or by visiting the NICAA office at 27 S. State Ave. Ste 102, Freeport, IL 61032.

NICAA is an equal opportunity employer. Small, minority, and female owned businesses are encouraged to apply.

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Inside Out Vegetable Dip

These bite-sized veggie snacks are fun to eat — even kids like them. You can change the dip flavor by adding herbs that your family really likes.

- 2 large cucumbers
- 16 cherry or grape tomatoes
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- ¼ C. chopped green onion
- 2 T. finely chopped celery
- 1 T. finely chopped carrot
- 1 t. garlic powder
- ½ t. salt
- 1 t. dill weed

Peel strips from cucumbers to create decorative edges if desired; cut into ½-inch slices. Finely chop 2 slices; set aside. With a small spoon, scoop some of the seeds from the remaining slices.

Cut a thin slice from the bottoms of tomatoes to allow them to rest flat. Cut a thin slice from the tops of the tomatoes; scoop out pulp, leaving a ¼-inch shell. Invert tomatoes on a paper towel to

drain.

In a large bowl, combine the cream cheese, vegetables, seasonings and chopped cucumber. Fill tomatoes and cucumber slices with cream cheese mixture, about 1 t. in each. Refrigerate at least an hour before serving.

Chicken Strawberry Spinach Salad

This salad is a great luncheon salad. You can omit the chicken, and just serve the salad as a side. A.J.'s has frozen chicken strips that are perfect for this salad. You can get any number of poppy seed dressings. Enjoy this refreshing summer salad.

- ¾ lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts cut into strips
- ¼ C. chicken broth
- ¼ C. poppy seed salad dressing, divided
- 2 C. baby spinach
- 1 C. torn romaine
- 1 C. sliced strawberries
- ¼ C. sliced almonds, toasted

Place chicken in double thickness of heavy duty foil. Combine broth and 1 T. poppy seed dressing; spoon over chicken. Fold edges of foil around chicken mixture leaving the center open. Bake in a 350-oven for 30 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink. Remove from oven and cool completely.

In a large salad bowl, combine the spinach, romaine and strawberries. Add chicken and the remaining poppy seed dressing; toss to coat. Sprinkle with almonds.

Pork Chops with Tomatoes and Peaches

I have had peaches and a cheese sauce with ham, but this dish has pork chops with a roasted side of peaches and tomatoes. Sometimes when you have cooked something for a long time, you want something really different. This dish will do just that to pork chops. Try this barbeque (my favorite is Sweet Baby

Ray's Honey) edition of pork chops.

- ½ C. barbeque sauce
- ½ C. firmly packed brown sugar

- 1 T. fresh minced oregano or 1 t. dried oregano
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 bone-in center-cut pork chops (¾ to 1 inch thick)
- 2 T. olive oil
- 2 T. fresh lime juice
- 1 T. honey
- 1 t. salt, divided
- 2 fresh peaches, halved, pitted and cut into 6 wedges each
- 2 green tomatoes, cut into 12 wedges each (you can substitute red tomatoes)
- ½ small red onion, cut into wedges

2 T. chopped fresh chives or green onions

In a large resealable plastic bag, combine barbecue sauce, brown sugar, oregano and garlic; add pork chops. Seal bag, turning to coat chops. Refrigerate for two hours.

In a medium bowl, whisk together oil, lime juice, honey

and ½ t. salt; stir in peaches, tomatoes and onion. Let stand while chops are marinating. Preheat the oven to 425. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Remove pork chops from bag and discard the marinade. Place pork on one side of prepared pan; sprinkle with remaining teaspoon of salt. Drain liquid from peach mixture, and reserve. Place peach mixture on other side of pan. Bake until meat thermometer inserted in thickest portion of the pork registers 145, about 20 minutes. Add chives to reserved peach liquid. Drizzle onto peaches and tomatoes before serving.

Stir-Fried Chicken with Asparagus

Sometimes you want a quick, light supper. This chicken dish will be that main dish you are looking for. I mentioned in the salad recipe

See KITCHEN, Page 9



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- **Tuesday 6:00pm** - Heavy Unlimited Super Stock Tractors, Super Farm Tractors, Light Unlimited Super Stock Tractors and Limited Pro Stock Tractors - 6+ \$10.00
- **Wednesday 7:00pm** - Pro Stock Tractors, Limited Pro Tractors, Light Limited Super Stock Tractors, 640 Pro Farm Tractors and Pro Stock Diesel Trucks - 6+ \$10.00
- **Thursday:** Youth & Family Night 6 pm - Celebrity Showmanship, Scrambles, Friend of the Fair, Mutton Busting - FREE Admission
- **Friday:** Robbo's Extreme Demo Derby 6 pm - 6+ \$10.00
- **Saturday:** Lawn Mower Races and Tough Truck Challenge (public welcome to compete) 6 pm - 18+ \$5.00
- **Entertainment Tent:** Hoo Haven, Storytime with The Queen, Star Ambulance Demo, Freeport Rural Fire Dept. Extrication Demo, bands and so much more
- **Daily Events:** Great Lakes Lumberjack Show, Axe Throwing, Escape Room, Fabulous Faces - Face Painting - Tues. thru Sat.
- **FREE Beer Garden w/ Local Bands (families welcome):** Thurs/Fri/Sat - 8 pm - Entertainment Tent

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•Kitchen (Continued from page 8)

that A.J.'s Lena Maid Meats has wonderful chicken tenders. They are in the frozen case. I use them for a lot of things, and this recipe will showcase both chicken and asparagus.

- 6 T. soy sauce
- ¾ C. chicken broth
- 2 T. dry sherry
- 1 T. cornstarch
- 2 t. packed brown sugar
- 2 t. canola oil
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 T. canola oil
- 1½ bunches (about 1½ lbs.) asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- Kosher salt
- ½ lbs. skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 C. cooked brown rice

Whisk the soy sauce, chicken broth, sherry, cornstarch, brown sugar, 2 t. canola oil and garlic in a small bowl.

Heat a large skillet or wok over medium-high heat. Add 1 T. canola oil to the skillet and heat until simmering. Add the asparagus; season with ½ t. salt and cook, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned and crisp tender, about four minutes. Remove the asparagus to a large plate.

Heat the remaining canola oil in the skillet until simmering. Add the chicken and cook, stirring halfway through, until browned, five to six minutes. Stir in the soy sauce mixture and simmer until thickened slightly, 30 seconds to one minute. Add the asparagus and toss to coat in the sauce; season with salt. Serve with the brown rice.

Strawberry Oat Pecan Cookies

I think I was on a blueberry kick last week; this week I am on strawberries. Try this unique way to get some oatmeal cookies with a lot of flavor.

- 2/3 C. unsalted butter, softened
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 t. vanilla
- 1 egg
- 3½ C. flour
- 1 t. baking powder
- ½ t. salt
- ½ C. old-fashioned oats
- ½ C. chopped pecans
- ¼ C. chopped fresh strawberries
- 2 T. powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 400. Line baking sheets with parchment paper. In a large bowl, beat butter, sugar and vanilla with a mixer at medium speed until fluffy, three to four minutes, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Beat in eggs.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour on low speed; gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture, beating until combined. Beat in oats and pecans. Pat strawberries dry with a paper towel; stir into dough just until combined.

Do not over beat. Using a 1½-inch scoop, scoop dough and place 1 inch apart on prepared pans. Bake until lightly browned, 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool on pans for five minutes. Remove from pans, and let cool completely on wire racks. Sift with powdered sugar before serving.

Berries and Crème Cake

This great little cake is easy to make because the base is a cake mix. You could substitute blueberries or blackberries for the strawberries. You would need to change out the preserves also. I think you could use a regular yellow cake mix and double the ingredients for two layers. It might be great to make a strawberry and a blueberry one.

1 baked yellow cake layer (Jiffy yellow cake mix makes one layer)

- 1 pkg. (5.1 oz.) instant vanilla pudding mix
- ½ C. milk
- ½ t. grated orange zest
- ½ C. thawed frozen whipped topping from 8 oz. container
- 1/3 C. strawberry preserves, melted

Make cake according to package directions. If necessary, trim top of cake layer to level. Place layer in bottom of springform pan. In bowl, whisk together pudding mix and milk for two minutes; stir

in grated orange zest. Fold in whipped topping; spread over cake.

Cover pan; chill until firm, about four hours. Remove side of pan; transfer cake to serving plate. In bowl, combine strawberries and strawberry preserves. Spoon over cake.

Final thoughts

We were able to get in both of our aqua size classes this past week. The pool water was terrific, and if you have arthritis, water exercise is wonderful.

Music in the park is on both Saturday and Sunday evenings. The Saturday concerts are the Christian concerts that are usually held at the lake. The Sunday concerts are sponsored by the park district and feature different kinds of music. Last week the music was from the 1960s and the '70s. I went down memory lane because it was my high school and college music. Check the website for the week's offerings. I mentioned before that we have great music for free. (You can also get a soft serve ice cream cone before 7 p.m.)

Happy cooking! If you have any 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 713 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE VILLAGE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR

MAY 1, 2021 TO APRIL 30, 2022

ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON

THE 13th DAY OF JULY, 2021

PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD

OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON, JO DAVIESS COUNTY, THIS 14th DAY OF JULY, 2021

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS CERTIFICATE

I, STEFANIE HATLEY, certify that I am the duly appointed and acting municipal deputy clerk of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, Illinois.

I further certify that on July 13th, 2021, the Corporate Authorities of the above municipality passed and approved Ordinance #713, entitled, "Appropriation Ordinance", which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet form of Ordinance #713, including the Ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared and a copy of the Ordinance was posted in the municipal building, commencing July 14th, 2021, and continuing for at least 10 days thereafter. Copies of the Ordinance are also available for public inspection upon request in the office of the municipal clerk.

DATED at Stockton, Illinois this 14th day of July, 2021.

Stefanie Hatley
Village Deputy Clerk
(Published in
The Scoop Today
July 21, 2021)

400173

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY
- IN PROBATE

In Re the Matter of the Estate of:
Friedrich R. Gschweng,
Deceased.

No. 2021 p 86
**NOTICE FOR
PUBLICATION -
CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of Friedrich R. Gschweng, of Reno, Nevada. Letters of Office were issued on July 6, 2021, to:

**LaHoma Kay
White Fischer
P.O. Box 596
Glenbrook, NV 89413**

as independent Executor of the Estate of Friedrich R. Gschweng, whose attorney is

**Anthony V. Coon
Attorney At Law
10 N. Galena Ave.,
Ste. 210**

Freeport, Illinois 61032

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4), any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a Petition To Terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 29, 2022, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Date: July 12, 2021

LaHoma Kay
White Fischer
Executor

By: **Anthony V. Coon,
Attorney At Law**

Anthony V. Coon,
#6269568
Attorney at Law
10 N. Galena Ave.,
Ste. 210
Freeport, IL 61032
815-235-2212
Fax 815-232-5500
tonycoonlaw@aol.com

(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
July 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 2021)

399980

IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE 15TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY

15 North Galena Avenue,
FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
Lorraine L. Marsh,
DECEASED.

21 P 84

Notice is given to creditors of the death of the above named decedent. Letters of office were issued to Deborah A. Hermann, 3394 Moonstone Lane, Melbourne, Florida 32940, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is SJ Chapman, Bielski Chapman, Ltd., 123 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2300, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

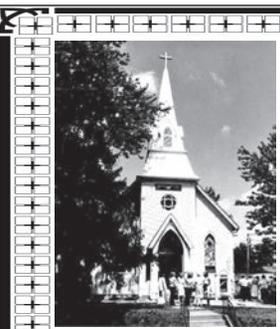
Claims against the estate may be filed with the clerk or with the representative, or both, on or before January 14, 2022, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is 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 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinois-courts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinois-courts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

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(Published in
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399798



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Lena-Winslow School District has an opening for the 2021-2022 school year for a Cook in the Elementary/JH kitchen. This 9-month position is 7 hrs/day at \$11.50/hr. Please send letter of interest and credentials to

Andy Lobdell, Principal,
Lena Winslow Junior High School,
517 Fremont St.,
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Applications accepted until position is filled.
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398237

The Pearl City School District is looking for two bus drivers to serve as substitute drivers throughout the school year. Bus drivers need to have passed the school bus driver course and test as well as registered with the Regional Office of Education.

If you are interested, please contact the Pearl City District Office 815-443-2715.

398240

real estate

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398985

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Know the triggers to help avoid mouth sores

There are a variety of mouth sores that can develop in and around your oral cavity. These can be caused by an irritation, an underlying medical condition or as the result of a bacterial, viral or fungal infection.



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

If you notice any change in your mouth, such as a growth or lump, swelling, white patches, red patches that bleed easily or frequently, sores that do not heal after one to two weeks, painful or swollen gums, recurring sores, sores on the side of the tongue, or difficulty chewing or swallowing, make an appointment with your dentist. Keep in mind that a mouth sore does not have to itch or be painful to be harmful. Conversely, some of the most painful and annoying sores, such as cold sores and canker sores, are generally not a sign of a serious condition and usually resolve themselves within seven to 10 days. Today's column will address these two lesions.

Experiences a tingling or burning sensation before the cold sore blisters form. These fluid-filled blisters then erupt and leak before they scab over and heal. The fluid in these blisters contains the herpes virus and is highly contagious. To avoid transferring this disease to others you must not touch or scratch these lesions, do not share food, drinks or utensils and avoid kissing or

intimacy until the lesions are fully healed.

To avoid re-infecting yourself, discard your toothbrush after the sores are fully healed, as the virus can survive for up to a week after that.

There is no cure for herpes. Once you experience a herpes infection, the virus stays dormant in your body until reactivated by a trigger, such as stress, fatigue, illness, fever or prolonged sun and/or wind exposure. As with canker sores, treatment is aimed at symptom relief and immune support.

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

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Canker sores

Canker sores begin as a red bump that develops into an ulcerated sore with a white, gray or yellow center and a flat red border. There may be one or several of these small ulcers found in the mouth. Most of the time people will experience a tingling or burning sensation before the sores appear.

While canker sores are not contagious, they are painful, and they tend to periodically recur. The exact cause of canker sores is not known, but frequent recurrences may indicate an iron or vitamin deficiency, a weakened immune system or other underlying medical condition.

There is no permanent cure for canker sores, so treatment is aimed at relieving the symptoms, supporting the immune system and avoiding known triggers. Triggers include certain medications; allergies; stress; fatigue; hot, spicy and acidic foods; tongue or cheek biting; injuries or irritations from orthodontic wires; chipped or broken teeth; sore spots on dentures; and food lacerations.

Cold sores

Unlike canker sores, cold sores (sometimes referred to as fever blisters) are contagious and science knows what causes them. Cold sores are painful, fluid filled blisters that are the result of a herpes infection. They usually occur on the lips and skin around the lips, but can occur on the gums, tongue and bony roof of the mouth.

Like canker sores, the affected person usually expe-

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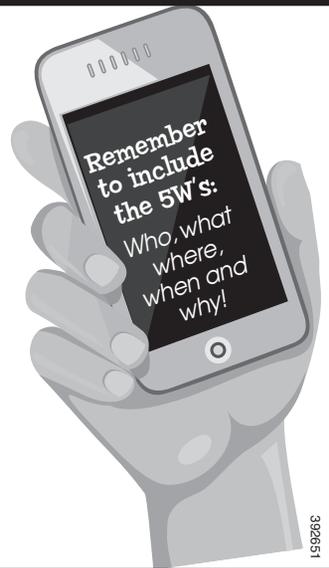
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Visit www.fhn.org/jodaviess to take a video tour of the new center.

To schedule an appointment with Michael McFadden, MD or Terri Groezinger, PA-C, please call **815-947-3211**.

